



DelaMensa

Volume 38, Number 1

January 2012

<u>Inside:</u>	
Editors Column	1
RVC Column	1
Calendar	2
Article	2
Birthdays	3

Steve's Corner

By Steve Michel

Happy New Year! Wait, it's a new year already? I don't know about you, but another year has seemed to fly by. The holidays came and went and the new year is under-way. In addition to the plethora of college bowl games and the pro football play-offs, there's that big game next month. And basketball started again (in case you didn't notice [I only noticed because I heard about it on the news while traveling on Christmas]). And another couple holi-days – as if we haven't had enough of those recently.

And we have a new activity to look forward. There is now a "Chat 'N Chew" event. This month, and probably for the foreseeable future, it will be at Trader's Cove in old New Castle. A speaker, games, snacks / food and beverages. Check the Events page on the DEM web site for details.

We've selected the topics for the Leadership Development Workshop (LDW). There will be presentations on PR for Mensa, Recruitment and Retention, Getting People In-volved, and Welcoming New Members. There will be more details on the DEM website when they are available (they may even be updated already). We are looking to hold the LDW at, hopefully, the Newark Library or the Brandywine Library – but those details are still being worked out.

Directory of Local Officers

LocSec	Steve Michel	302 832-2665	sdm1177@yahoo.com
1st Councilor	Cindi Basner	302-898-0093	lightintheclouds15@yahoo.com
2nd Councilor	Alexis Campbell	302-234-0563	alexis.campbell@comcast.net
Treasurer	Dee Richardson	302-892-2299	busydeee@comcast.net
Proctor Coord	Nicole Perefegé	302-345-9526	perefegelow@gmail.com
Downstate Coord	Vacant: Volunteer Needed		
Editor	Keith Johnson	302-242-8201	keith.johnson@hughes.net
RVC-2	Marc Lederman	717-308-1221	RVC2@us.mensa.org

Do you or someone you know live "down state"? (Down state being considered Kent and Sussex) Why down state? We seem to have a number of monthly events – trivia, tea, lunch – and other activities that cater to the northern members. We are looking for someone to be a point of contact and coordinator of an event or two and or a monthly event (and it doesn't have to be trivia either). There are no out of pocket expenses related to being a down state coordinator and no obligation to conduct any event inside your home. If you or someone you know is possibly interested, please contact me or any member of the ExComm.

Here's to a safe and healthy Happy New Leap Year!



It's time to renew your Mensa membership. Renew online at www.us.mensa.org/renew or call 888/294-8035 ext. 199

Please visit our Web site at <http://delaware.us.mensa.org/index.htm> for updates

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

- Wed, Jan 4 [NEW] 6 to 8 pm, Games Night, at Traders Cove, Penn's Place, 206 Delaware St, Old New Castle. [Not a Mensa event] **First Wednesday of each month**. Bring a game, or just join the group. For info, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
- Mon, Jan 9 11:30—? Second Monday Lunch Bunch –New Location– Purebread Deli in Greenville, north of Wilmington on Rt 52, for lunch and stimulating conversation. Info: Dee Richardson at 302-892-2299
- Sat, Jan 14 1:30 pm, Afternoon Tea, at the British Bell Tea Room, Peoples Plaza, Glasgow DE. Please RSVP to Maria - legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. Also, Check out <http://www.britishbelltea.com/> for more info!
- Sun, Jan 15 5-11 pm, Maria's Birthday Party, tickets \$30, fundraiser for Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, J.B. McGinnes Pub, 519 East Basin Road, New Castle. For info, contact Maria - legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
- Tues, Jan 17 6 to 8 pm, Dinner meeting, "Living History," presented by Michael Connolly. Join us for dinner and a talk at Traders Cove, Penn's Place, 206 Delaware St, Old New Castle. For info, contact Maria - legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
- Wed, Feb 1 6 to 8 pm, Games Night, at Traders Cove, Penn's Place, 206 Delaware St, Old New Castle. [Not a Mensa event] **First Wednesday of each month**. Bring a game
- Tues, Feb 7 [NEW DAY] 6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at [Stewart's Brew Pub](#), Governor's Square, Route 40, Bear. **Third Tuesday of each month**. For info or to RSVP, e-mail Steve at sdm1177@yahoo.com or call (302) 832-2665.

Your event here!!

DM

Why I Renew

By: Maria Sawczuk, Delaware Mensa

I have a friend who is considering dropping his Mensa membership, and he asked my opinion. He said spending \$60+ a year seemed silly. He finds so many things "wrong" with Mensa – so many things he'd like to fix. He doesn't go to RGs that much anymore, and could always go as a guest of someone else if he wanted to. He went on to list a number of reasons, all of which were pretty valid. And he ended with "besides, I've met enough friends through Mensa, and I'm sure I won't lose them if I don't renew." I then said: "I'm sure glad you hadn't thought of doing this eight years ago – if you had, I never would have met one of my dearest friends."

You see, I do not renew my Mensa membership every year because I am active in the organization – there are plenty of other organizations to which I can lend my time. It's not because I want to attend RGs or other local or national events – I could do that as a guest of others. It's not because I want to use the discounts Mensa offers – heck, half the time I forget to use them! It's not even because I want to meet new friends – I have a lot of friends. I don't even renew because I believe in the organization wholeheartedly – I find a lot of things "wrong" too.

I renew my Mensa membership every year to repay my debt to Mensa. I have met some awesome people through Mensa. People whose paths I would never have otherwise crossed – from Cleveland, Baton Rouge, New Hampshire, Austin, New Jersey – and even from Philadelphia and Delaware – whom I am proud to call my best friends. Even if I never meet another person through

Mensa, my life has been truly blessed by the presence of these men and women. And to me, that alone is worth sixty-some dollars a year.

So I will never drop my membership. In fact, one of these days I will likely purchase a lifetime membership so I don't have to even think about renewals anymore. It's a small price to pay for the treasures Mensa has brought me.



Celebrations

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Alexis C Campbell	10-Jan
Geoffrey R Weyer	13-Jan
Thomas P Desmond	14-Jan
James D Carroll	14-Jan
Michael Anthony Ross	19-Jan
Maria Aprile Sawczuk	20-Jan
Judith Armstrong	21-Jan
Todd E Hauser	24-Jan
Douglas Alan Hyde	25-Jan
Jodi L Walker	30-Jan

(And also to those who don't wish to have their birthdays published)

Congratulations, and a Happy Mensaversary to these members who celebrate their Mensa anniversary this month:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Member since:</u>
Judith Armstrong	1966
Robert Abel MD	1979
George Edward Majors	1980
Richard Joseph Hartland	1984
David Moak	2003
Kari Goral	2003
John W Carson	2003
Harry F Albert	2004
Thomas R Keane	2004
Terrance B Blanch	2004
Jennifer A Heth	2004
James Lee	2006
Beverly Wright	2009
Jeffrey 'Thom' Hawkins	2010
Robert E Cox	2011

MARIA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

By Maria Sawczuk

It's the most wonderful time of the year - My Birthday!!
And this year's party will be the best yet! Mark your calendars because we're not Monkeeing around!

Come out and help us fight Leukemia and other Blood Cancers while enjoying great music by Shoe Suede Blues, featuring former Monkee PETER TORK, with special guest Todd Chappelle!

Sunday, January 15 - 5:00pm - 11:00pm (it's the day before MLK Day, so don't worry about staying out late!)

Location: J.B. McGinnes Pub, 519 East Basin Road, New Castle, Delaware

Once again, we're doing a fundraiser for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Tickets are \$30, which includes a free buffet, and two drink tickets. There will also be a Silent Auction and Raffle.



Please feel free to invite your friends! For those out-of-towners, or those who just want to make a getaway of it, stay with us at the Doubletree Downtown Wilmington, one of our gracious sponsors. We have a block of rooms for only \$109/night, plus tax.

Make your reservations directly with the hotel using this link:

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/I/ILGDTDT-LEU-20120115/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Mensa is an international society whose sole membership requirement is a score in the top two percent of the general population on an approved intelligence test. It is non-profit, has no religious or political affiliations, and promotes no official positions. Send address changes and requests for information to: **American Mensa Ltd., National Office, 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington TX 76006-6013, 817-607-0060, e-mail:** AmericanMensa@mensa.org. DelaMensa is the official publication of Delaware Mensa, local group number 197 of American Mensa Ltd. *Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors, and should not be construed as official opinions of either American Mensa Ltd. Or Delaware Mensa.* Manuscripts and letters are welcome, but must be original and unpublished. Reprints will be considered if accompanied by written permission from the copyright holder. All submissions must be signed, although the name of the author will be withheld upon request. Deadlines are shown on the calendar included in the newsletter. All submissions should be sent to the Editor at the address listed in the directory on page 1.



Editor:
Keith Johnson
181 Proctors Purchase
Hartly DE 19953

**Postmaster: Send change of address notification to:
American Mensa Ltd.
National Office
1229 Corporate Dr. West
Arlington TX 76006-6103**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

This newsletter is sent to members of Delaware Mensa each month (more or less), but is also going out to prospective members who have qualified for membership. If you are one of those prospective members, allow me to add another invitation to you to join Mensa. The organization is both big and small, you can enjoy it at whatever level suits you.

January 2012

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 Games Night at Trader's Cove	5	6	7
8	9 Lunch Bunch Full Moon	10	11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day	12	13	14
15 Maria Sawczuk Day	16 MLK Day	17 Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night-Bear	18	19	20	21
22	23 Chinese New Year New Moon	24 DelaMensa Deadline	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				