



# DelaMensa

Volume 34, Number 6

June 2008

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## EXCOMMunication - May, 2008

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Wow, it's June already? I can hardly believe how quickly this year is passing – one month from now and I'll be partying it up in Denver at the Annual Gathering. Who else is going? Drop me a line and let me know if you'll be at the AG also! I can't wait. And, in case you don't know, yours truly is chairing the 2010 AG in Detroit, Michigan! You'll certainly want to be at that AG, so if you aren't going this year, think about next year, in Pittsburgh (driving distance!) and then you'll be nice and primed for mine in Detroit!

The ExComm is working hard to set up some fabulous summer events. Check out the calendar for some unique opportunities, including the long-awaited visit to the CSI lab, and a Drive-In movie night! If you haven't made it out to an event yet, what's stopping you now? If you have any ideas for neat events, bring them on! Just email or call me and we will make it happen.

We could use help with a few volunteer positions, so if you'd like to share an hour or two of your time a month with Delaware Mensa, let me know. I need proctors, a downstate coordinator, an assistant newsletter editor, and contributors to the newsletter. Please consider helping us out.

DM

### Directory of Local Officers

LocSec	Maria Sawczuk	302-893-5118	legalady@magpage.com
1st Councilor	Cindi Basner	302-738-3326	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	Frances Joseph	302-994-6347	
Downstate Coord	<b>Vacant: Volunteer Needed</b>		
Editor	Keith Johnson	302-242-8201	keith.johnson@hughes.net
RVC-2	Leah Kinder	302-222-2357	bluepointjive@gmail.com, RVC2@us.mensa.org

All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.

*Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860)*

## Coming Events

### SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2008 - Games Day

Leah and LD Kinder invite you to their home in Felton for a day of games, food and fun, from 1:00 pm until we get tired. House favorites include Beyond Balderdash, Cranium, Scrabble and Trivial Pursuit, or bring your own game, if you have a special favorite. Snacks and soft drinks will be served.

DATE: Sunday, June 8, 2008

TIME: 1:00 p.m. `til ??

PLACE: Leah's and LD's House, Felton (please RSVP for directions)

To RSVP, e-mail Leah at [bluepointjive@gmail.com](mailto:bluepointjive@gmail.com) or call 302-222-2357. Please RSVP so we know how many people to expect.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2008 - Delaware CSI Lab

It's finally come to fruition! We are touring the new State Police CSI lab! On June 12, we will tour the Forensic Firearms Services Unit, 1575 McKee Road, Suite 104, Dover, DE 19904. The tour starts at 6:00 pm. All those attending MUST RSVPs by Tuesday, June 10. We must give a count to the Officer in charge before the event. Non-Mensans, as always, are welcome. If you know anyone who might be interested in joining, this would be a good event to bring them to. **RSVP to Maria at 302-893-5118 or [legalady@magpage.com](mailto:legalady@magpage.com).**

DATE: Thursday, June 12, 2008

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: DE State Police "Forensic Firearms Services Unit, 1575 McKee Road, Suite 104, Dover

·réunion·Festversammlung·σύννοση·**sammankomst**·**ebop**·جمع·kokous·vergadering·**GENNYESEDES**·zebranie·riunione·gadrv·  
...gathering!



Delaware Mensa's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual RG will explore "Language" in all forms.  
**September 12-14, 2008 – Newark, DE**

*Dictionaries, computers, runes, ASL, learning languages.*

Enjoy an expanded games room, 24-hour hospitality, and poolside entertainment with last year's hit, Todd Chappelle!

*A buffet breakfast is included for all hotel guests!*

**Registration Fee(s):**

\$45 through July 7, 2008  
\$50 through August 15, 2008  
\$60 thereafter (and at door)

*Make checks payable to:*  
Delaware Mensa

*Send checks to:*  
Dee Richardson  
3101 Duncan Road  
Wilmington, DE 19808

*Or online registration at:*  
**<http://www.delaware.us.mensa.org/rg08.htm>**

**Hotels:**

*TownePlace Suites by Marriott*  
410 Eagle Run Road  
(I-95 and Route 273)  
Newark, DE 19702  
302-369-6212 x0 or 888-236-2427

*Hotel Rates:*

Single Suites \$89/night  
Double Suites \$99/night  
One Bedroom Suites \$149/night

Room rates guaranteed until 8/15/08  
*Hotel Reservation Code: Delaware Mensa*

Last year's gathering was a great success, so we're looking forward to seeing new and familiar faces this year.  
Don't delay, *registro hoy!*

-----Detach and send with registration-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people registering: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount included: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) on badge(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it)

*By John Grover*

Blending the juices of two or more grape varieties is a time honored method of producing great wines. The famous wines of Bordeaux are frequently combinations of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and often other varieties. The idea is to combine the best attributes of each grape; and, then, to create a wine better than the sum of its parts. Of course, the French are not the only vintners who perform magic with this technique.

This month's wine is the 2002 Terra Unica Reserva from the Valencia region of Spain. This medium bodied red wine is produced by Bodegas El Villar and imported by Monsieur Touton. It blends the robust fruit of the Tempranillo grape with the smoothness of Monastrell. It conveys a full plum fruit flavor with a long finish and just a hint of oak. This wine goes well with Mediterranean inspired dishes such as the Crock Pot (That's what we have always called this particular cooking appliance.) recipe below. It was a real find at only \$9 a bottle.

**Springtime Lamb with Asparagus** (from "Slow Cooking: the best cuisine is never rushed" by Linda Doeser, Barnes and Noble Publishing, 2006)

Ingredients: 2 tbsp sunflower oil; one onion, thinly sliced; 2 garlic cloves, very finely chopped; 2 lb 4 oz boneless shoulder of lamb cut into 1 inch cubes; 8 oz asparagus spears; 1 1/4 cups chicken stock; 4 tbsp lemon juice; 2/3 cup heavy cream; salt and pepper

Heat the oil in a large heavy skillet. Add the onion and cook over a medium heat, stirring occasionally for five minutes until softened. Add the garlic and lamb and cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes until the lamb is lightly

browned all over.

Meanwhile trim off (the woody ends) and reserve the tips of the asparagus spears. Cut the stalks into 2-3 pieces. Add the stock and lemon juice to the skillet, season with salt and pepper, and bring to a boil. Lower the heat, add the asparagus stalks, and simmer for two minutes. Transfer the mixture to the slow cooker. Cover and cook on low for 7 hours until the lamb is tender.

About 20 minutes before you intend to serve, cook the reserved asparagus tips in a pan of lightly salted boiling water for 5 minutes. Drain well, then combine with the cream. Spoon the cream mixture on top of the lamb mixture but do not stir it in. Re-cover the slow cooker and cook on high for 15-20 minutes to heat through before serving. This recipe serves 6. It goes well with rice, couscous or crusty peasant bread. Then you will want to run out and buy the cook book.

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at [jgrover@berk.com](mailto:jgrover@berk.com). I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

*John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.*

In the End, we will remember not the words  
of our enemies, but the silence of our  
friends.

*Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)*

## Celebrations

**Correction: Last month we reported that member Paul Stitik had a birthday on May 4th. We were in error by 4 months 13 days, and apologize for the confusion. We didn't mean to rush you, Paul; birthdays come soon enough on their own.**

As of April 31, we had 152 members (if you haven't renewed, please do so now)

### A Happy Birthday to these Mensans with a birthday this month:

Name	Birthday
William Mace	6/4
John Williams, III	6/7
Shawn Hale	6/11
Jesse Conard	6/12
Richard Schneider	6/14
Ronald Baldwin	6/16
Steven Shisler	6/20

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

### Congratulations, and a Happy Mensaversary to these mem-

Name	Member since:
Fran Joseph	1977 (30 years!!!)
Shawn Hale	1989
Ann Warner	1991
Joan Sorflaten	1994
Eric Wolf	2003
Matthew Latocha	2004
Anthony McGuire	2007

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to  
New member Ben Kagen of Bear

## EVERY MONTH EVENTS!

Join Delaware Mensa this fall at one of our many fun events. Time to pull out those calendars!

### FIRST WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night THIRD WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

Join Delaware Mensa from 6 to 8 pm, on the First (Dover) and Third (Bear) Wednesdays of each month for some after-work cocktails and a little friendly competition as we play another round of NTN Trivia. You've probably seen NTN Trivia at a favorite bar or restaurant. It's a nationwide trivia network, with rounds of games played 24 hours a day. If you've never played before, it's highly addictive! Come out and see what it's all about, and challenge your fellow Mensans.

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Road (Route 113), **Dover** (across from former Blue Hen Mall) To RSVP, e-mail Leah at [bluepointjive@gmail.com](mailto:bluepointjive@gmail.com).

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, **Bear**. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at [legalady@magpage.com](mailto:legalady@magpage.com) or call 302-893-5118.

### SECOND MONDAY Downtown Lunch Bunch

The Delaware Mensa LunchBunch will meet from about 11:45 to 1:15 at ED OLIVER HOUSE. Formerly the Terrace at Greenhill, the restaurant is located at ED "Porky" OLIVER Golf Club, 800 N. DuPont Road, Wilmington. 302-571-9041. Meet us there for lunch and stimulating conversation.

There is plenty of parking, and it's not too far from downtown. (**Second Monday of each month**)

For further information, contact Dee Richardson, 302-892-2299, [busydeee@comcast.net](mailto:busydeee@comcast.net)

### TUESDAY, June 10, 2008: DOWNSTATE DOWN - Dining Out With Nerds

Come out and support our newest monthly event – Downstate DOWN – Dining Out With Nerds. Leah Kinder will pick a different ethnic restaurant each month. Broaden your culinary horizons, share some stories, and have fun with your fellow Mensans.

DATE: Tuesday, June 10, 2008

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: Viet Kieu Vietnamese Restaurant, 510 Jeffric Blvd., Dover. To RSVP: e-mail Leah at [bluepointjive@gmail.com](mailto:bluepointjive@gmail.com), or call 302-222-2357. **(WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS EVENT!)**

### LAST SATURDAY Philosophy and Discussion Group

Here's a new recurring event for Delaware Mensa. John Slomski and Dr. Deb Gleason host a monthly Philosophy & Discussion Group at their home in Boothwyn, PA, which is a stone's throw from the Delaware State line. Join us, and Delaware Valley Mensa (DVM) on the last Saturday of each month, at 8 pm, for good conversation. Bring your most nagging philosophical questions, and maybe munchies.

PLACE: John and Deb's home in Boothwyn. To RSVP and get directions, contact John or Deb at [doctordeb@copper.net](mailto:doctordeb@copper.net), or call 610-485-2745.

## Delaware Mensa Calendar

*Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!*

Wed, June 4	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. It worked so well we're holding it twice a month. <b>First Wednesday of each month</b> we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at <a href="mailto:bluepointjive@gmail.com">bluepointjive@gmail.com</a> .
Mon, June 9	11:30—? Downtown Lunch Bunch meet at the Ed Oliver House, at the Golf club, 800 N DuPont Rd, Wilmington, for lunch and stimulating conversation. ( <b>Second Monday</b> ) Info: Dee Richardson at 302-892-2299
Tues, June 10	6:00 to pm, Downstate DOWN (Dining Out With Nerds). Viet Kieu Vietnamese Restaurant, 510 Jeffric Blvd., Dover. RSVP with Leah at <a href="mailto:bluepointjive@gmail.com">bluepointjive@gmail.com</a> , or call 302-222-2357
Thur, June 12	6 pm, Tour of Delaware CSI Lab. Meet at the Forensic Firearms Services Unit, 1575 McKee Road, Suite 104, Dover. <b>MUST RSVP to Maria at 302-893-5118 or <a href="mailto:legalady@magpage.com">legalady@magpage.com</a></b>
Wed, June 18	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, Bear. <b>Third Wednesday of each month</b> . For info or to RSVP, e-mail Maria at <a href="mailto:legalady@magpage.com">legalady@magpage.com</a> or call 302-893-5118.
Sat, June 28	8 pm, Philosophy and Discussion Group at John and Deb's house. <b>Last Saturday of each month</b> . For info and directions, John or Deb at <a href="mailto:doctordeb@copper.net">doctordeb@copper.net</a> , or 610-485-2745.

*Your event here!!*

DM

## Report from a First Time RG Attendee

By Lynda Evans, reprinted with permission, previously published in the San Diego Mensan, May 2008

When I first joined Mensa, I was afraid to go to a Regional Gathering, otherwise known as an RG. I went to various other monthly events, mostly the Thursday lunch at the Spice House, usually with some trepidation, but the idea of attending an RG struck terror in my heart. As a shy person, I dreaded events where I anticipated not knowing anyone there. It was just last year, shortly after rejoining Mensa after a break of a few years, that I decided to attend the San Diego RG last May. Joan Johnson, in particular, encouraged me to give it a try, and because of her positive words, I agreed to at least go to the Friday night get-together. It turned out that I had such a nice time, I came back the next day as well, and spent the whole day at the RG.

The whole event was low-key, but interesting and fun. I met old friends and made some new friends. I listened to fascinating talks, heard tuneful singers, played a fun trivia game, played poker, and talked to lots of nice people. I helped out in the kitchen, and as a result, I met Joan's sister which turned out to be the highlight of the weekend for me. I did not sleep at the camp, but was a day tripper. (I'm not a big fan of camping and really prefer to sleep in my own bed!)

Attending the San Diego RG gave me enough confidence to try another local area RG, and I chose to go to an RG in Los Angeles. That RG was held in a hotel, which made it different from the San Diego RG, and it was also a lot of fun. And I really didn't know anyone there, except for a

few others from San Diego! I learned some new things, attended interesting talks and other fun activities, and met interesting people.

I will be attending the Annual Gathering (AG) this year in Denver. Am I nervous? Yes, a little, but I know at least three or four people who will be there, so there will be a few familiar faces. Plus, I found that most Mensans are friendly and nice, so I'm more confident about going to Mensa events.

What about this year's San Diego RG? You bet I'm going to be there! I will be day tripping, of course, and I am also giving a couple of talks. On Friday evening, I will be hosting a chocolate tasting. You'll hear some chocolate history, learn how to taste chocolate, and actually taste some different chocolates. My two favorite chocolates will be part of the tasting, of course. What are those, you ask? Well, come on Friday night to find out and taste them for yourself. On Sunday morning, I will be giving a talk about tattoos. I will talk about tattoo history, give tips on what to do and what not to do when getting a tattoo, and show pictures of some interesting tattoos. Do you have a tattoo? Wish you had one? Would never get one, but find the subject fascinating? Come and learn more at the RG.

This year's RG program looks great, with lots of activities for most every taste, some well-known speakers, good food and fun, fun, fun! I encourage you to come and dip your toe into the RG pool. I'm glad I finally did.

Contact: [bamababesandiego@yahoo.com](mailto:bamababesandiego@yahoo.com)

## EXCOMM Minutes

On May 13, 2008, the ExComm meeting was convened at 7 pm at Maria's house.

The first order of business was meeting schedules for the summer. It was agreed we would hold a Games Day (followed by Crabs) at Leah's on June 8th. We will schedule a trip to the Diamond State Drive-in in Felton on July 19 (Saturday). We don't know what will be playing, or what the weather will be, but that's our date. An event for August was tabled, for lack of good ideas.

Second order of business was Membership. Alex will send out letters to lapsed members, asking them to renew. The National Office prospect tracking system was discussed. It gives us a better way to track the progress of people who have expressed interest in joining Mensa. Nicole scheduled a mid-week testing session (May 27), but plans for a second session downstate were postponed, because the available dates coincided with the Dover race weekend. Scheduling testing sessions during the RG was discussed.

The final order of business was discussion of RG planning. Several speakers have signed up, so far, speaking on Runes, ASL, Dictionaries, Learning Languages, and Flow-

ers. A few more are needed. We tentatively agreed that speakers will receive one free admission to the RG. Ideas or volunteers are needed.

We have a flyer made up. It will be sent out to nearby newsletter editors, as well as area colleges and other potential member groups.

Todd Chappelle, a hit from last year, will be back for entertainment, Saturday night. His work was recognized by Best of Delaware as Comedy Album of the Year, and Song of the Year.

We are looking for some kind of giveaway item for registration. Repeating the bandana from last year won't work. Other ideas are needed.

We plan to have two rooms for games this year, as everyone agreed games was squeezed too tightly last year.

We will again have two rooms for Hospitality.

Online registration for the RG is enabled. Go to <http://www.delaware.us.mensa.org/rg08.htm>

Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

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**

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# June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> New Moon	<b>4</b> Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Games Day	<b>9</b> Lunch Bunch	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Delaware CSI Lab Visit	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Dining Out With Nerds	<b>18</b> Full Moon Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> DelaMensa Deadline	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Philosophy Discussion
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>					