



DelaMensa

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March 2013

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Steve's Corner

By Steve Michel

So how is it that something so big and important can be crippled by a partial power outage? Oh, yes, I'm talking about the Big Game...

As mentioned last month, the new by-laws are finalized. They are out for vote. If you missed the ballot in last month's newsletter, you can get a copy of it in the newsletter on-line, or you can vote with the form on-line and submit it via e-mail.

March bring us the official beginning to spring. The weather will start getting warmer, the trees will start budding and the grass will start growing... oh, and the lawn will have to be mowed. Great, probably one of the only things I don't like about the nice weather: yard work. Admittedly, it does keep me naturally healthier, so there's that going for it at least.

March also bring us March Madness. That's probably the only interest I have in the sport too. I'm more of a football watcher. And how many of you would have heard of Gon-

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zaga University if it weren't for the tournament? Not that there is anything wrong with GU...

And now our RG is only six months away. Wow – this year is going by pretty fast already. Taxes are due in six weeks too!

For the next couple of months, we still don't have too many ancillary activities planned other than the usual lunch bunch, trivia and tea. If you would like to participate in, host, or suggest some sort of social gather, please feel free to let me or any member of the ExComm know.

Marc My Words

by Marc Lederman, Region 2 RVC

What better way to begin March than by attending Central New Jersey's Snowball XXXIX RG (<http://cnj.us.mensa.org/snowball.html>), March 1 - 3 in Iselin, New Jersey. This is the oldest and one of the largest RGs in the country. I will be hosting an RVC Rap Session that Saturday morning at 10:30 to talk about what the AMC is doing, discuss the agenda for the upcoming AMC meeting, and introduce several of the candidates running for election next month.

Three weeks after Snowball, the AMC will be having their final board meeting of the term on March 23. The meeting will be hosted by MWM in Herndon, Virginia. Members are welcome to attend the meeting and join us afterwards in the hospitality suite. The agenda for this meeting, including the budget for the next fiscal year, should be online in early March.

Are you ready for CultureQuest®? It's time to start assembling your team for CultureQuest® XXIV, scheduled to take place on Sunday, April 28. There are two divisions: Classic is open to all members regardless of age. Each team member must be a dues-paid Mensan (U.S. or Canada) for the 2013-14 membership year before April 1, 2013. The Next Generation is the youth division. Entrants must have been born after April 29, 1995. Only the youth division team captain must be a current Mensa member.

American Mensa will be having an election this spring. There are two candidates for the next Region 2 RVC - Nancy McMahan Farrar and Cam Smart. I have invited each of them to tell you a little about themselves in my column next month.

If you're Mensa membership expires in 2013, you have just one month left to renew. Renewing this month means you can participate in CultureQuest®, Mensa's online community, and the upcoming Mensa elections.

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, Mar 6	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, Mar 11	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
Tues, Mar 12	[NEW DAY] 6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Stewart's Brew Pub , Governor's Square, Route 40, Bear. Now the Second Tuesday of each month. For info or to RSVP, e-mail Steve at sdm1177@yahoo.com or call (302) 832-2665.
Wed, Apr 3	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.
Sat, Apr 6	11:30 am, 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!
Mon, Apr 8	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

Your event here!!

DM

Deelineations

Hello Delaware Mensa members!

As your newly-elected 2nd Councilor (membership officer), I hope to create an interactive environment where we hear from members, see members, meet with members and unfortunately mourn lost members.

One of the responsibilities I've taken on in the past couple of years is mailing (picking up from Staples, folding, labeling, stamping, taping) the newsletters. If you want to help with that chore, do let me know. I'd love to share the load.

In a "normal" month, we may have as many as 3 or 4 "prospects." That is, people who have qualified for Mensa membership and who have been invited to join. Last month we had 26 prospects, and this month we have 14! The only reason suggested for that remarkable increase in prospects is the free in-home test offered by American Mensa in January. We do want to turn those prospects into members, so how do we do that? What's your idea?

We have 166 members as of 31 January 2013. Of those members, 23 are "lifers." That's 13.8%. I don't know what the national (or international) average is, but I think 14% is a pretty good number! To me it shows a confidence in the organization and an expectation that it will endure.

Four new members to report:

- ⇒ Steven Adamo moved into our group.
- ⇒ Meghan Yerkes is a new member of Mensa.
- ⇒ Susan Hendrich and Irene McCall have been reinstated after a lapse in membership.

Although Mensa membership was not mentioned in his obituary, we lost a member who was very accomplished in his field of chemical engineering, largely with Dupont. Also involved with the Boy Scouts and Opera Delaware, Bob Busche was 86 when he died in February.

Dee Richardson busydeee@comcast.net

News from National - Candidates for Secretary

There are several contested elections for elected office in American Mensa this year. Below, and in future issues, are campaign statements received from the candidates.

I am Brian Reeves, your current AML Communications Officer and now a candidate for AML Secretary.

As Communications Officer, I am responsible for helping set policies for—and troubleshooting—everything from the Mensa Bulletin to the website to the Forums and Mensa Facebook page to local group newsletters and much more.

In addition, I chair the Communications Committee and serve on the national Bylaws Committee, the Finance Committee and am the Gifted Youth program's liaison to the AMC.

During my term as Communications Officer, we've created

(Continued on page 3)

Celebrations

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Sonia B Combs	4-Mar
Susan Irwin	10-Mar
Alan Bleier	12-Mar
Paul Damien Craven	12-Mar
Harry F Albert	14-Mar
Donald Eastburn	17-Mar
Terence Daniels	18-Mar
Ann Iona Warner	19-Mar
Albert Rodney Daniels	23-Mar
John W Zahradnik Jr	26-Mar
Ronald L Snow	26-Mar
Walter S Koroljow	28-Mar

(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>Years membership:</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Years membership:</u>
Albert Rodney Daniels	33	Ronald L Snow	4
Ronald W Baldwin	18	Paul Bechly	4
Patrick Wayne McMahan	11	Roy V Jackson	2
Carrie Upreti	8	David Lee Sechler	2
David Alan Brenner	8	Jason R Brower	1
Bettymae Berry Doyle	7	Abigayle N Dillard	1
Paul G Stitik II	7		

(Continued from page 2) CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY:

the Weekly Brainwave, calmed down tensions in the online Community and have upgraded the quality of the Bulletin (you'll see many of those changes later this year).

Your Secretary should be able to prepare meeting agendas and then later put out minutes quickly and accurately. Many Mensans are well-qualified for that part of the job. There is another aspect to the job, though, that many people don't consider. The Secretary also serves on AML's Executive Committee where he or she is involved in helping make important decisions for Mensa. A deep knowledge of Mensa, everything from its finances to the personalities of the AMC members, is important to doing that part of the job well. As a current AMC member, I have that knowledge. I know the people involved and can work with them.

I can tell you from experience that most AMC members have strong personalities. Getting them to agree on things can be tough. I work as a mediator. I earn my living by getting people on opposite sides of issues to work together towards successful conclusions. I will bring the skills I've developed doing that work to the job of Secretary.

An additional project I plan to undertake is reorganizing the ASIEs. Have you ever tried to find something in the ASIE's? Did you finally just give up? I want to undertake the process of organizing them by topic rather than, as now, by the order in which they were adopted, so you can find things more easily.

If this sort of positive, competent "can-do" approach appeals to you, I'd appreciate your vote.

My name is Jared Levine, I am running for AML Secretary, and I would appreciate your vote.

Since rejoining Mensa in 1999, I have been an active member in each local group where I lived: Greater New York, Greater Los Angeles, and currently Metropolitan Washington. I hosted myriad events, and served in a whole slew of local positions (both on the Board of Directors in each group and in other capacities) and on multiple national committees (and still serve on the Bylaws Committee). I have a large base of experience within and knowledge of Mensa on both the local and national levels.

As I have previously mentioned, aside from timely composition and dissemination of meeting minutes, I intend to make available within a month of the Annual Gathering a draft of the Annual Business Meeting minutes, while the meeting is relatively fresh in people's minds, rather than 11 months removed. Also, I will begin cross-referencing various documents so that it is easier to make updates to everything that is affected by changes in ASIEs or the local group charter. This, in turn, will make process easier

both for officers and rank-and-file members, freeing up their time and energy for the more important things like providing a stimulating environment, effective in-person and online ways of connecting with fellow members, and various other services to the membership.

While being mindful of details is a necessary attribute (even moreso for a Secretary) and an attribute on which I pride myself, looking for new ways to provide an even more positive Mensa experience which the members actually find value in paying their dues is where it's at. I believe I will be able to work well with most possible combinations of people who might be elected to the AMC and ask that you vote for me for Secretary in the coming election.

To see more specific information about the leadership roles I have undertaken in Mensa, my understanding of the basic duties of an AMC Secretary, my philosophy for transparency on the AMC, suggestions for change in AML, and more, please visit my blog at <http://boxmasterscorner.blogspot.com> .
Jared Levine boxmaster@alumni.williams.edu

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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.

March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Games Night at Trader's Cove			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	New Moon Lunch Bunch	Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night-Bear				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	DelaMensa Deadline		Full Moon			
31						