



DelaMensa

Volume 40, Number 2

May—June 2014

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Steve's Corner

By Steve Michel

No sooner did we turn the heat off in the house, we were considering turning the A/C on... this rollercoaster ride of temperatures is so annoying.

The majority of the planning for the RG is complete. The topic (adjusted slightly), in case you weren't aware, is "She Blinded 'M' With Science." We will have a speaker Friday night followed by Todd Chapelle. Three presentations scheduled on Saturday including one by the LocSec of our co-host DVM, Dan. Catered food, karaoke, games, snacks. This is our last year at the Crowne Plaza under our current contract. Depending on how this year goes will determine if we continue here or search for a new venue. Unfortunately, there aren't too many locations that meet the depth of our criteria...

One new idea we are going to try at the RG this year is a book donation. We are requesting ONE gently used book from each attendant. It isn't a requirement, just a request. These books will be donated to the New Castle County library system.

An admission testing session was conducted in April. There wasn't too much of a turn-out as only one candidate tested – but there was a turn-out.

Directory of Local Officers

LocSec	Steve Michel	302 832-2665	sdm1177@yahoo.com
1st Councilor	Cindi Era	302-898-0093	lightintheclouds15@yahoo.com
2nd Councilor	Dee Richardson	302-892-2299	busydeee@comcast.net
Treasurer	Jen Johnson		delaware_jen@yahoo.com
Proctor Coord	Steve Michel		
Downstate Coord	Roger Mussard		
Editor	Keith Johnson	302-242-8201	keith.johnson@hughes.net
RVC-2	Cam Smart	703-791-3650	RVC2@us.mensa.org

This year is an ExComm election year. If you would like to participate on the election committee or run for one of the offices, please let me or anyone on the ExComm know. Nominations have to be received by November 1, so there is plenty of time to think about it.

As always, if you have an idea for a program / gathering / event, we'd love to hear about it! See our Events page on the DM website for a listing of current events at <http://delaware.us.mensa.org/events.htm>.

The danger is not that a particular class is unfit to govern. Every class is unfit to govern.

John Dalberg-Acton

A Proper Afternoon Tea— June 14, 2014

Join Delaware Mensa for a proper afternoon tea. We will meet at the British Bell Tea Room in Peoples Plaza in Glasgow. Please RSVP as seating is limited.

Afternoon tea, complete with sandwiches, scones, desserts and of course, your choice of tea, is only \$19 pp. Or choose high tea, with all of the above, plus a banger roll and soup or salad, for \$25. Not into tiny sandwiches? The British Bell Tea Room has a whole menu for your enjoyment.

Check out <http://www.britishbelltea.com/> for more info.

DATE: Saturday, June 14, 2014
TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: British Bell Tea Room, Peoples Plaza, Glasgow
To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com.



Celebrations

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Years of membership:</u>
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May Anniversaries:

Dennis George Cripps	31
Jack Phillip Varsalona	28
Charles Mottram Jr	26
James D Carroll	10
Alexandra Poletaev	8
William N Timm	3

June Anniversaries:

Shawn Elliott Hale	25
Ann Iona Warner	23
Joan E Sorflaten	20
Jason Brugman	6
Leslie Steele Jamison	1

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
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May Birthdays

David Wallace Noble	2-May
Alison J Taggi	4-May
Maryanne P Bellman	10-May
Robert M Specter	12-May
Lidia Epps	14-May
Joan E Sorflaten	16-May
Warren Haines	26-May
Morgan R Dean	27-May

June Birthdays

Shyam Yagnaraman	9-Jun
Shawn Elliott Hale	11-Jun
Richard Schneider	14-Jun
Michael K Wendeler	15-Jun
Ronald W Baldwin	16-Jun

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

*And a warm Delaware welcome to new members :
Anthony Munson, of Newark; Shyam Yagnaraman, of Bear; and Timothy Betoni, of Hockessin
Also, welcome back to reinstating members:
Mark W Sheppard, of Townsend; and Ralph Richard Sutter, of Wilmington .*

Smart M-Talk

Perception is 9/10ths of the law; it is our reality. We believe what we feel is true based on our perspective, the sum of our total experiences. Driving home from a recent work junket in Pennsylvania, I noticed some fairly nice, newly built condos along the road. With a view of the backside, I could see a few acres of what seemed to be a lush, green lawn with a herd of cows grazing away. The condo owners must think they've found a great location in the country while the cows probably think they're experiencing what city life is like. Same scenario, opposing view points, both equally true realities. Is one more correct than the other?

It's not hard to imagine that Mensa may operate in much the same way. With a few thousand members, the organization is challenged with multiple facets of realities. Factor the intelligence level of members into the theory of realities and we may be able to patent our own type of explosive device.

The good news is that we seem to have a collective starting point. Whereas we may have differing views on what is important, where funds are best spent, and what is waste, members tend to agree that raising dues is not the end-all solution. With a collective starting point, as a next step would it be worth an examination of individual vs. collective priorities?

As an example, at a previous meeting, the AML board received a report on the cost of election certification with paper ballots. Few election houses accept paper ballots and this, in turn, provides a grand opportunity for those that do to name their own price. To certify the 2015 elections, this price is \$40,000. During the 2013 elections with 44,101 eligible members, just over 7% used paper ballots. With other factors to consider, the rough translation is \$10 to \$12 per paper ballot.

We have witnessed a greater transition to electronic voting, Bulletin distribution, and local newsletter options. Each now an electronic selection by default, they remain optional as member preferences for paper prevail. The litmus test when selecting electronic vs. print options may be to ask whether the individual preference is worth the individual price.

Through our differing experiences and backgrounds, each of us has our own perception as to where expenses can be reduced and funding attributed. And, indeed, I feel there are many other avenues to explore. This seemed to be an avenue we could individually take based on a collective starting point. If you agree, please visit www.us.mensa.org/ to update your preferences.

Thank you, Cam Smart, RVC2, rvc2@us.mensa.org

Delaware Mensa Regional Gathering, 19-21 September!

The next RG: our Eighth Annual RG will be September 19 through 21, 2014. Once again, we are teaming up with DVM to bring you another great RG. This year's theme: She Blinded 'M' With Science. Mark your calendars!

RG highlights:

Schedule is still under construction—Contact Steve if you want to help or make suggestions

- 24 hour hospitality
- Games room
- Karaoke (Saturday night)
- Friday night dinner (w/e registrants)
- Lunch and dinner on Saturday
- Hotel free continental breakfast
- Hotel wi-fi included

RG Registration fees:

- Up to and including August 31: \$70 for the weekend, \$60 for Saturday only.
- After the cut-off: \$80 for the weekend, \$70 for Saturday only

To register, visit delaware.us.mensa.org/rg14.htm. For more information, contact Steven Michel at sdm1177@yahoo.com or 302-832-2665.

Still at the Crowne Plaza North Wilmington, 630 Naamans Road, Claymont, DE 19703
Room rate is \$89. Use reservation code Delaware Mensa. Parking is free.

Hell's M's - Party at Sea 2015

Party at Sea - Charlies Cruise: Sunday February 8, 2015 - Saturday February 14, 2015

Take a week out of winter to have fun in the sun. Sail with us on a Hell's M's Party at Sea cruise to the Caribbean islands of Grand Cayman, Jamaica and Haiti (plus 2 sea days) on the RCL Independence of the Seas out of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. on Feb. 8 for 6 nights.

Cruise costs:

Interior Cabin - \$639.85; Ocean View - \$719.85; Balcony - \$909.85; Mini-Suite - \$1319.85 (Cabin prices include taxes of \$120.85)

To make a reservation, contact Charlie Bruce at cbuce2@columbus.rr.com, 863-940-4948 or 614-314-1694. Visit groups.yahoo.com/group/mensa_cruise for more information.

Help Wanted

Wanted, volunteer newsletter editor for DelaMensa. Put your imagination and creativity to work for Delaware Mensa. Use the power of the pen (or keyboard) to share your ideas with the world, and be a vital part of making Mensa work. Writing and editing experience is helpful but not required. On the job training is available. If interested, contact Keith (302-242-8201, keith.johnson@hughes.net) or Steve (302 832-2665, sdm1177@yahoo.com)

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Mon, June 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
Tues, June 10	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Stewart's Brew Pub , Governor's Square, Route 40, Bear. For info or to RSVP, e-mail Steve at sdm1177@yahoo.com or call (302) 832-2665.
Sat, June 14	2:30 pm, Afternoon Tea, at the British Belle Tea Room, Peoples Plaza in Glasgow DE. Seating is limited, so please RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com
Tues, July 8	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Stewart's Brew Pub , Governor's Square, Route 40, Bear. For info or to RSVP, e-mail Steve at sdm1177@yahoo.com or call (302) 832-2665.
Mon, July 14	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

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.



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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.

June 2014

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4 <small>Games Night at Trader's Cove</small>	5	6	7
8	<small>Lunch Bunch</small>	<small>Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night-Bear</small>	11	12	<small>Full Moon</small>	<small>Afternoon Tea</small>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	<small>DelaMensa Deadline</small>	24	25	26	<small>New Moon</small>	28
29	30					
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