



# DelaMensa

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November 2008

## EXCOMMunication - November, 2008

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

'Tis the season... FOR RGs! Starting with Delaware's in September, our region hosts an RG just about every month! October saw our neighbors to the north, Delaware Valley Mensa, host a successful Liberty Bell RG. This month, Tidewater Mensa is hosting MUrgency in Williamsburg (I am going down a day early to enjoy the wonderful, historic park). December sees Central PA Mensa host Solstice (one of the most laid-back RGs around – no programming! Just hanging with friends). And then we take a small break before Central New Jersey Mensa hosts Snowball in March.

Regional Gatherings are a great way to get your money's worth from your Mensa membership. Come out. Meet some new friends. Connect with old friends. Learn a new game. Listen to a great speaker. Just enjoy yourself!

Speaking of getting your money's worth – in case you haven't heard, Mensa will be experiencing a dues increase next year. In order to save some money, think about renewing now, before your membership expires, and before the dues increase kicks in. Also, think about getting a 3- or 5-year membership. It will save you even more money, and you won't have to worry about your dues for a few years.

Do you know someone in college or about to enter college (or do you fit this profile)? Please encourage them to enter

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our scholarship contest. Direct them to <http://www.mensafoundation.org/> for an application. Deadline to enter is January 15, and you don't need to be a Mensa member to qualify. If you have any connections with any of the local high schools or colleges and want to help us with publicity, please let me know.

For the inside scoop on planned Delaware Mensa events, please join our Yahoo Group by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DelawareMensa>. Our events are posted there first. Hope to see you at an upcoming event soon!

DM

## Holiday Greetings

Thanksgiving Day was recognized in a declaration by Abraham Lincoln in 1863, but wasn't officially made a Federal Holiday until 1941. It had been a traditional holiday before that, endorsed by George Washington, and many state Governors.

It's roots are with the people who emigrated to the new world onboard the Mayflower. Driven from England by religious persecution, they reached the western hemisphere in November 1620, too late to build shelter or establish farms. Those who made it to their Thanksgiving Feast, in November of 1621, really had something to be thankful for. Of the 102 people who left Europe, only 53 were alive at the end of the first year, including only 4 of the 18 women who had been aboard. The rest were lost to disease and starvation. Without the help of local native Americans, they might well all have died.

I hope your year has been better than the first year of Plymouth Colony, and that you can find as much to celebrate as those original survivors. Happy Thanksgiving. (Ed)



## Coming Events

We currently have only the "Every Month" events on our calendar for November and December. You are cordially invited to plan an event you would like to see, and announce it here. We hope to hear from you!

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

## Mailing List Trivia

By Dee Richardson

I have recently been more intimately involved with Delaware Mensa's mailing list than I have in the past. As I've worked on our strange (but somewhat effective) way of sorting out who gets an electronic copy and who gets a hard copy, I've entertained myself by actually reading the labels. Here are some observations:

- Two members live on Dickens Lane - one in Claymont and one in Felton.
- Two members live on Superfine Lane in Wilmington...do you know each other?
- Two members live on Brookshire Drive in Wilmington...do you know each other?
- Two members have a middle name of Damien.
- Two members have a last name beginning with "Q."
- One member's last name is Dillard, and another member lives on Dillards Road.
- Two families have three members of Delaware Mensa.
- Three families have two members.
- One member resides at Vaughn Correctional Center.
- The funniest street names (IMO) are Lost Tree Court and Fleatown Road.

Dee

No sane man will dance."

Cicero (106-43 B.C.)

Show me a sane man and I will cure him for you."

Carl Gustav Jung (1875-1961)

### AML Statistics—September 2008

Total membership	51,623
New and reinstating membership	549
Offers of membership	98
New members since April 2008	1,826
Reinstating members since April 2008	1,760

A full report of monthly statistics is available on the AML Web site at [www.us.mensa.org/officerresources](http://www.us.mensa.org/officerresources).

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

By John Grover

This month we look forward to the holiday season and its many forms of traditional food. The Thanksgiving turkey is traditional in our house. And, our children, even though they are grown and have children of their own, insist on a dish from their youth – Mom's Sausage Stuffing.

The wine often mentioned for Thanksgiving turkey is Gewurztraminer. The distinctive spice, floral and fruit flavors work well with the savory flavors of roast turkey and gravy. The first wine recommended is the 2006 Gewurztraminer from Firestone Vineyards. This wine is a great value with a nose of mandarin orange and flowers. It follows with an elegant taste of melon and pineapple. The crisp acidity balances nicely with the hint of sweetness and spice (coriander and cardamom?). This wine should retail for around \$10 to \$13 a bottle. While the great Gewurztraminers originated in Germany and the Alsace region of France, there are many other excellent American versions including: Chateau Ste Michelle Winery from Washington State, Montinore Estate of Oregon and Fox Run Vineyards, Lakewood Vineyards and Glenora Wine Cellars from the Finger Lakes of New York.

**Sharon's Sausage Stuffing** - enough for 12 to 14lb turkey (as printed in the Register Star newspaper, Hudson, NY; published sometime in the mid 1970's; the yellowed and

dog eared news clipping has been in the Boss's recipe box for over 30 years.)

Ingredients: 1/2 lb pork sausage. 1 cup water, 7 cups bread crumbs, 2 tbsp diced onion, 1 tsp salt 4 tbsp chopped parsley, 1 cup diced celery

Sauté sausage, separated with a fork until browned. Combine all ingredients and mix well. (Yes, it is really as simple as that.)

For the more culinary challenged in the group, the stuffing mixture is then placed into the cavity of a thawed and thoroughly washed turkey. Then follow the cooking instructions generally provided on the bird. Also, the sausage ingredient might give you a hint that this recipe is something short of Kosher. One alternative would be to eliminate the sausage and add about 1/4 cup fresh sage (about 2 tbsp dry) and 1 tbsp. of fresh ground pepper.

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.*

## Celebrations

As of September 30, we had 168 members

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

Name	Birthday
Jason Romeo	11/1
Patrick McMahon	11/6
James Lee	11/11
Anthony McGuire	11/14
William Halberstadt	11/16
Dee Richardson	11/19
Robert Abel	11/21
Edward Stahl, Jr.	11/25
Coke Westbrook	11/26
Jean Armstrong	11/30
David Henry	11/30
Nicole Perefege	11/30

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

A Warm Delaware Mensa welcome to New Members:  
Brian Bramble of New Castle  
Leon Powell II of Townsend  
Michael Samuels of Wilmington

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

Name	Member since:
Sandra Lehman	1967
Paul Craven	1982
James Bradley	1990
David Bailey	1991
Coralee Witham	1998 (10 YEARS!)
Todd Litterelle	2000
Regina Barry	2002
Arnold Caine	2002
Thomas Desmond	2002
Martha Lankford	2002
Brian Miller	2002
Chris Quintanilla	2002
Robert Auer, Jr.	2003 (5 YEARS!)
Maryanne Bellman	2003 (5 YEARS!)
Leah Kinder	2003 (5 YEARS!)
Joanne McCarthy	2003 (5 YEARS!)
Theresa Quaintance	2003 (5 YEARS!)
John Zahradnik, Jr.	2003 (5 YEARS!)
Allison Berdoulay	2004
Lynda Wright	2004
Steven Michel	2005
Curtis Smith	2005
Althea Gutteridge	2006
David Henry	2006
Michael O'Leary-Myers	2007
Stephen Shisler	2007

One of the symptoms of an approaching nervous breakdown is the belief that one's work is terribly important."

*Bertrand Russell (1872-1970)*

Men and nations behave wisely once they have exhausted all the other alternatives."

*Abba Eban (1915-2002)*

## Member in the News!

Jacob Weyer, one of our youngest members, is performing in the *The Music Man* at the Candlelight Theater in Arden. <http://www.newcandlelighttheatre.com/>. The show runs from 11/8/08 to 12/21/08

Jacob Weyer (Chorus) is delighted to be in his first show at the New Candlelight! He is in 6th grade at the Tatnall School in Wilmington. Jacob has performed in several pillow plays at the Wilmington Drama League. He has also been a member of the Junior Competition Tap Team and Jazz Ensemble for his dance studio. Jacob loves to tap dance and play the flute, and has traveled with People To People. He has won awards in national science competitions and is one of the youngest member of Mensa, International in Delaware. "Thanks to the entire company for helping me debut here!"

## 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, November 18, 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, Oct 21, 2008

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: TBD. 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!**)

### NEW EVENT—Monthly Photo Tour

Exercise your inner shutterbug! Each month we'll visit a photo location. Help/advice on both technical/camera issues and content/framing will be available if desired. Watch the Yahoo group for an announcement of the next tour.

DATE: Last Saturday PLACE: New and exciting every month — RSVP: Walter Crowe, [saghost1976@yahoo.com](mailto:saghost1976@yahoo.com), 302-494-6826

## Delaware Mensa Calendar

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

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Wed, Nov 5   | 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, Nov 10  | 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, Nov 18 | 6:00 to pm, Downstate DOWN (Dining Out With Nerds). To Be Decided — RSVP with Leah at <a href="mailto:bluepointjive@gmail.com">bluepointjive@gmail.com</a> , or call 302-222-2357   |
| Wed, Nov 19  | 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, Nov 29  | Monthly Photo Tour. Exercise your inner shutterbug - RSVP to Walter Crowe, <a href="mailto:saghost1976@yahoo.com">saghost1976@yahoo.com</a> , 302-494-6826  |

*Your event here!!*

DM

## Tower of Babel RG

By Michelle Bracken, Previously published in the GenX Newsletter

Q: When is an RG not quite a "Regional Gathering?"

A: When attendees travel from the far corners of the US to attend.

On September 12-14, Delaware Mensa hosted its Regional Gathering, "Tower of Babel: Watch your Language." 74 people attended, many from outside of Delaware, achieving a 20% increase in participation over 2007.

The theme of the RG was languages, with speakers giving presentations on topics ranging from "Translating the Sit-com: U.S. Remakes of British TV Series" to "The Language of Flowers." GenX was also represented by two very well-received speakers: Allison Rainville presented research that she had done on "Gender-Stereotypical Language," while Hope Freeman utilized her training as a Spanish teacher in her presentation, "Tips & Techniques for Learning a Language."

Highlights of the RG included a Saturday evening pizza party and a "You've been Sentenced" Tournament, which was hosted by the game's creators, Donald McNeill and Martin Uniacke. Few attendees had previously played the game that requires people to create sentences from a deck of pentagon-shaped cards, but McNeill and Uniacke were impressed with how quickly Mensans took to their brainchild. Since several tournament winners received their own copies, it is sure to start making its round in fu-

ture game nights and gatherings.

The grand finale of the RG came Saturday night, with Todd Chappelle's, "Moderately Funny Acoustic Guitar" performance. The crowd relaxed by the pool while Chappelle performed a mixture of audience requests and his original songs, including "Country Song Titles" and the local hit "I'm from Delaware." (Incidentally, "I'm from Delaware" proved to be very educational for those from outside Delaware, who had no idea how many towns are in the second smallest state in the US.)

No RG would be complete without the omnipresent Games Room and Hospitality, and the Delaware RG was no exception. Throughout the RG, attendees could be found playing games ranging from Fluxx to poker, or simply hanging out in Hospitality while attempting to solve the problems of Mensa and the world. A strong GenX turnout also provided ample opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make a few new ones. Many thanks go to Maria Sawczuk and the entire Delaware Mensa RG Committee for organizing a fantastic weekend.

Or better yet: Gracias. M goi. Danke. Tak. Bedankt. Merci. Efcharisto. Mahalo. Arigato. Spasibo. Thanks y'all.

## Notes from National

### PDQ preferences determine how candidates contact you

With local and national Mensa elections on the horizon, members should be aware of their data release options within the Personal Data Questionnaire (PDQ) or their online profile.

As of January 2008, email, phone and address are covered under a new election release to "candidates in American Mensa elections"; therefore, they may be used by candidates for campaign purposes. However, candidates should contact the National Office for campaign data to ensure that our members' privacy needs are met.

To update your PDQ preferences, visit [www.us.mensa.org/profile](http://www.us.mensa.org/profile). If you have questions about how to request information for campaign purposes, email [DataServices@americanmensa.org](mailto:DataServices@americanmensa.org).

### Free PE evaluation for veterans in November

With many of our friends and family members serving overseas, American Mensa would like to recognize the contributions of our veterans with a special promotion. In honor of Veterans Day on Tuesday, Nov. 11, we will offer free review of prior test scores to all current or past members of the military.

During the month of November, we will waive the usual \$40 fee for anyone who submits prior evidence along with a copy of their current military ID or a copy of their DD214 form. American Mensa accepts more than 200 tests as prior evidence. To see a partial list of scores, visit [www.us.mensa.org/testscores](http://www.us.mensa.org/testscores).

### Help pick American Mensa's Top 50 Web sites

What Web sites can you absolutely, positively not live without?

In early February 2009, American Mensa will release a list of American Mensa's Top 50 Web sites recommended by Mensa members. During the month of November, you will have the opportunity to nominate all the Web sites you find most useful, valuable, intriguing, humorous and, of course, family friendly. Include your email address with your submissions, and you'll have the chance to participate in at least two rounds of voting to narrow down the winners.

Visit the American Mensa Web site at [www.us.mensa.org/Top50Sites](http://www.us.mensa.org/Top50Sites) in November to submit your top picks. The first selection round will begin in December.

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.

# November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	6	7	8
9	Lunch Bunch	10	Veterans Day	11	12	13
16		17	Dining Out With Nerds	18	19	20
23	DelaMensa Deadline	24		25	26	27
30					Thanksgiving New Moon	28
						Photography Tour??
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