

Pensa Mensa



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PensaMensa is the official newsletter of Northwest Florida Mensa. Opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of any Mensa group or its officers. Mensa is a not-for-profit international society, whose sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any of a number of standard IQ tests. Please contact one of the Test Proctors (see above) for testing in Northwest Florida. Subscription rates for non-members: \$10.00/year by writing to the editor.

The President's Page

Ahhh! It's April! Spring is here and you know what that means. YARD SALE! We are holding our almost annual Yard Sale at 616 Overbrook Dr in Fort Walton Beach on April 19th from 7AM til noon.

Sometime during the sale, when we have enough officers present, we will hold the April Excomm meeting.

Be sure to come buy something to help raise money for the group. We still need many more donations. Please contact any group officer to arrange to get your valuables to me soon. I have a truck and can pick them up if needed.

April 19th is also a special day for one of our Excomm members. Check out the Birthday column elsewhere in this

newsletter. (She's going to be 33. I guess that makes me older than dirt.)

It's been at least 90 days since we put the new Bylaws out for your approval. We had enough votes to pass them and so I sent them to the American Mensa Bylaws Committee for final approval. They received final approval on March 19 and have been posted on our web site.

This would be a great time for you to read up on our upcoming election this summer. The Nominations Committee will be named soon so it's time to look around for who you want to hold office in YOUR GROUP. You can even nominate yourself.

Treasurer's Report

Jerry Gilbert

Balance Feb 21, 08 \$5750.71

Expenses: RG Testing/Children's Room -\$177.60
Newsletter -\$95.95

Income: Feb/Mar American Mensa Funding +\$185.81

Balance Mar 21, 08 \$5662.96

John Mochan

ExComm Minutes

Micah Butler

ExComm meeting for March 15, 2008 called to order at 14:04

Members present :

John Mochan, Micah Butler, Bob Ulrich. Jerry did not make it because he was riding his hog and Terri was riding Dumbo.

President's Report:

- Fourteen ballots for the ratification of the chapter bylaws were returned. All unanimously agreed to put into effect the changes crafted by John Mochan.
- One team has been registered so far to participate in CultureQuest. If any other teams wish to participate please let an officer know.
- Next month is the yard sale at John and Mary Ann's house. We need items for the yard sale so please contact an officer to coordinate a drop off of your items.

Vice President's Report :

- Memberships expire this month. We need to renew as a group to keep our membership strong.
- Thanks to John Mochan for putting the effort into the thankless job of making the required changes to the bylaws.

Membership Officer's Report:

- We have one gross member gain this month bringing the total up to 198. See column for more details.

Treasurer's Report:

- All numbers have been totaled after RG. We did better this year than last year see full report for details.

Editor:

- Absent; no report.

Old news:

- None

New news:

- New editor has taken office. Thanks go out to Bobbye for all of her dedication and hard work for the past 5 years as editor.

The Tenth Story

To some folks, April signifies spring and gardens and related things. Well, the first thing that is coming to my mind is that it is RENEWAL TIME! If you are receiving this after April 1, and you haven't yet sent in your renewal for Mensa membership, you need to put this down and do it right now! Otherwise, you will be missing out on everything Mensa! April 1 is the beginning of Mensa's new fiscal year, so don't delay.

If you took the Mensa test, I would bet you can remember the proctor who administered that test. What kind of impression did that proctor make on you? For many people, the proctor is the person who determines how friendly a new person considers Mensa to be. I guess that makes the proctor pretty important. Maybe we should call them the PROCTOR instead of proctor. The PROCTOR is pretty much an unsung hero in many groups. Perhaps we can change that lack of recognition. Right now, until April 18, is the time for LocSecs - or members - to nominate really good proctors for the national Abbie Award, for outstanding proctors. That is something else to do right now while you are thinking about it.

I have made the decision not to run next year for re-election to the position of RVC 10. When

this term ends, I will have been in this post for 4 years. Now it should be someone else's turn! We have many highly qualified people in Florida. I hope a few of you will consider stepping up and running for Regional Vice Chair.

If you haven't been to the national Mensa website (us.mensa.org) for a while, you are missing some really good things. You can look up any member of American Mensa in the member directory. The forum is now in the "Online Community." It is better organized and structured than it used to be. Participants can even have their picture that shows when they post. I go to the "Games" page every day to get my daily sudoku and jigsaw puzzle fix. You can find archived records of AMC meetings or records of hearings. You can register for the Denver AG there. You can contact the folks at the national office there. I could go on for pages listing all the things you can find and do on the website, but the editors wouldn't like that, so take the time to go and check it out yourself. It is there for you!

Maggie Truelove, RVC 10
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Orlando, FL 32812
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Maggie Truelove, RVC 10

News From National

The two main categories that fall under the Community Services Committee are Project Inkslinger and the Community Activities Program.

There are three as-yet informal categories that each have an activity not covered by the other two. I expect to ask the Committee to consider formalizing these categories. Before I do I would like to solicit your comments and offer you the opportunity to add activities to them. This will increase the usefulness and viability of the categories.

The proposed categories are:

- 1) Regional or national one-day events - e.g. Make a Difference Day, a national day of helping others - a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. This activity has already been advertised to Mensans. It occurs on the fourth Saturday of October. Information is found at www.usaweekend.com/diffday/index.html.
- 2) Regional or national groups in which Mensans participate, and which individual Mensans, Local Groups, or Regions may wish to fund or participate - e.g. Breakthrough Project, a national program to educate high school and college students to be able to teach/mentor middle school and other students. Information is found at

www.breakthroughcollaborative.org

org/index.html. This activity was proposed by committee member Paula LeCocq, and is certainly worth your consideration.

- 3) Mensa-level activities suggested by Mensans - e.g. lead poisoning awareness education (presentation, report, brochure). Lead poisoning robs IQ. This activity was proposed by Dr. Jean Becker.



Additionally, Paul Jensen, Project Inkslinger coordinator, would like to know of any book-donation organizations with which you work or to which you contribute. We have and continue to work successfully with organizations such as Reader to Reader Inc. of Amherst, MA

(www.readertoreader.org), and would like to expand the database of such groups. If you have a contact, or know of any book donation opportunity, please contact Paul at

inkslinger@us.mensa.org.

Michael Paul Beetham
Chair, Community Services
Committee

communityservices@us.mensa.org

National Award Programs

Abbie/Salny Awards-

The nomination forms for the Abbie - Proctor of the Year Award and the Dr. Salny Award for Outstanding Service in the Area of Testing are due by April 18, 2008. They can be downloaded online at www.us.mensa.org/officerresources (under notices).

If you have any questions regarding the program, please feel free to contact Salny Award Committee Chairman Maggie True-love at SalnyAward@us.mensa.org or Testing and Admissions Coordinator Mary Spencer at MaryS@AmericanMensa.org.

Gifted Child Program Award-

Do you have a great Gifted Children Coordinator in your group? If so, please take time to nominate that person for a Gifted Children Program Award!

This is a new award and will be given for superior service as a Gifted Children Coordinator which contributes to the growth of programs or services for gifted children and/or Young Mensans. Examples of this might include outstanding writing/publications related to gifted children; hosting a contest or workshop for Young Mensans, gifted children, or their parents; or establishing a program, service or scholarship for Young Mensans.

Anyone positively affected by the work of their GCC can submit a nomination. The number of nominations any GCC receives will add to his or her chances of winning the award, so please promote this new award in your own area via your website or newsletter and at any meetings and gatherings.

The award, a lovely engraved plaque, will go to a limit of two GCCs. Nominations are due on April 20 and should be sent to me at gcpc@us.mensa.org. Please let me know the GCCs name, Local Group and why you think he or she should receive this award. This will be quite an honor and encouragement to your own local group, your local group's gifted children program, and your own hard-working GCC. Thank you for taking the time to nominate an outstanding GCC.

~Deborah Ruf
American Mensa GCPC

April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 ^{11 a.m.} Long Lunch at Scenic 90 Café, 701 Scenic Hwy., Pensacola	5
6	7	8 ^{6: p.m.} Supper Club, Hall's Seafood, 920 E. Gregory St., Pensacola	9	10	11	12 ^{11:30 a.m.} Lunch at Chef Imondi's Downtown, 448 Harrison Avenue, Panama City
13	14	15	16	17	18 ^{5 p.m.} Happy Hour TBD. Watch wet site for more details.	19 ^{7 a.m.-12 noon} Garage Sale and ExComm meeting, 616 Overbrook Dr., Ft. Walton Beach
20	21	22	23	24	25 ^{11:30 a.m.} Lunch at Shalimar Cheers Pub, 1270 North Eglin Parkway	26 ^{2 p.m.} Newsletter Assembly and Games at the Mochan's
27	28	29	30			

Précis

Fraser Sherman

Horror movies:

Two reference works

THE HAMMER STORY:

The Authorised History of Hammer Films by Marcus Hearn and Alan Barnes does a very good job detailing how a second string British film

company rose to become the hallmark of horror in the fifties and sixties the way Universal had been 20 years earlier. The book offers a history of the company, a complete filmography, detailed looks at the major productions, genres (along with horror there were also war films, swashbucklers and caveman epics), TV series and notes on never-made productions such as *PHANTOM OF THE OPERA* starring Cary Grant. A good book for any fan.

THE PSYCHOTRONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FILM

by Michael Wheldon is a cheerfully eclectic guide to horror films, low-budget horror films (like *SHRIEK OF THE MUTILATED*, in which a cannibal in a Yeti suit kills and eats Bigfoot-hunters), exploitation films, martial arts films and whatever else Wheldon was inclined to stick in. While written back in the days when much of this stuff was harder to find than it is today (though I'm not saying that having *SATAN'S CHEERLEADERS* or *WILD WOMEN OF WONGO* easily available is a good thing), this is an entertaining read for those of us with a taste for such things.



Reach for the summit!

Rocky Mountain High-IQ Annual Gathering

July 2—6, 2008
Denver, Colorado

For more details, go to:
<http://www.ag2008.us.mensa.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home5>

Membership News

Bob Ulrich

In the month of February 2008 Northwest Florida Mensa had little membership activity. There was a net gain of 1 member so our new membership total is now 198 members. This is at the high end of the annual average number of members over the last few years. In 2004 our average was approximately 194 members. In 2005 our average was 197, in 2006 it was approximately 198, and in 2007 we dipped a little for an average of 191. So, as you can see, each month may bring some ups and downs but the average annual number does not vary that much.

All the roster changes in February were a result of relocations, and for a change, the moves had a positive effect on our list. Jonah Johnson's family moved from Pensacola to

Jasper, GA and he is our 1 loss. The 2 folks moving in are: Jennifer Carr from Everett, WA to Niceville, and Phillip Guthrie from Bradenton, FL to Pensacola.

Welcome to the area to our 2 new members and we hope you enjoy your membership here in Northwest Florida Mensa.

This is the first column I have written since our Regional Gathering in February. As you read last month the turnout was great and a good time seemed to be had by most, if not all, the attendees.

I want to give 1 final thanks to all the contributors to the Chocolate Orgy. The quantity and quality of the desserts were outstanding. The Orgy was one of the highlight events of many who attended. Thanks again.

Pensa Mensa

welcomes your comments and contributions.

Contact the editor at:

pensamensaeditor@cox.net

Or address mail to:

7230 Keating Terrace
Pensacola, Florida 32504

PUZZLE PAGES

Cryptograms

Jill Russ

Easy Level

QFY FICEU PZEGU RQEQZR STZDGUA
 QFY CTCYUQ MTI EZY PTZU EUV
 UYHYZ RQTJR IUQGL MTI RQEUU IJ
 QT RJYED GU JIPLGK
 ~AYTZAY NYRRYL

Challenge Level

The Challenge Level includes the "space" as part of the cryptogram. In other words, the letter R might actually be the space, and a space might be a letter. The end of each line of the cryptogram is the end of a word. Punctuation marks such as apostrophes, commas, and periods are not included.

LVKYGTLDVTEYYXTCVTAITYBWP
 LSCDTKYGTRPMXTPKASC SVG
 ~CSKVCDFTRYPJF

Special Interest Groups

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Motorcycles SIG. Dan Mazzeo of Gulf Breeze is vetting the idea of a SIG for anyone having an interest in motorcycles (owning one is not a requirement). Contact Dan at onegoodengineer@aol.com or 850- 206-4213.

Photography SIG. Dan Murray in Pensacola (455-6339) found out there was no camera club anywhere near him, so he started one.

Pinochle SIG. Contact Bob Mundorff in Navarre at (850) 939-5882 or pinochledd@aol.com. He will coordinate dates/times/schedules and is willing to host the games. For beginners too.

Shooting SIG. Contact Bob Mundorff in Navarre at pinochledd@aol.com or 939-5882 to go shooting during the week at the Escambia River Muzzleloader's range - modern small arms allowed

Seven Trivia Questions

Dr. Dan Finley

Mea culpa: Many people

pointed out that last month's trivia question asking the name of the only college fight song to mention an opponent is not alone. Apparently there are several besides Texas A & M. I am told that the Navy fight song mentions Army. The Georgia Tech song mentions Georgia and the Yale song mentions Harvard. There may be others.

Dr. Dan invites you to submit a guest trivia question to dfinley@gulfcoast.edu for possible inclusion in future columns.

Questions:

1. Why is Arizona's Meteor Crater actually a misnomer?
2. In honor of what historical "Mary" is Maryland named?
3. North and South Carolina are named in honor of what English king?
4. Virginia is named in honor of what English queen?
5. What is parkour?
6. What song has been recorded by more artists than any other?
7. What term means "a dramatic, literary or musical piece openly imitating the previous works of other artists, often with satirical intent"?

Mensa Milestones

Mensa Birthdays – April

- 5 Archie Hovanessian
- 9 Paige Andre Hudson.
- 9 Christopher Stafford
- 10 Phillip W. Woolley
- 14 Kennard Porter
- 15 Brenda S. Austin
- 18 Jason D. Hatcher
- 19 Theresa Culbertson
- 21 Linda Diane Binion
- 28 Carl Forester



Mensa Anniversaries

- 36 Frank M. Butler
- 27 James R. Scholter
- 27 Lovic P. Thomas
- 22 Leslie R. Fleischer
- 15 Elaine P. McDaniel
- 14 Carl Forester
- 13 Chris McArdle
- 9 Suzanne McKnight
- 7 Olest Carver Byrd
- 5 London Jan Bradshaw
- 4 Anthony Williams
- 3 Carol Buckman
- 2 Rebecca Cox
- 2 June Jason
- 1 Myron Creel
- 1 Jack De La Piedra
- 1 David Pryor

Get-aways

Grayton Beach State Park is one of the crown jewels of the Florida State Park System.

Dedicated and opened in 1968, the 2,228 acre park offers swimming, fishing, boating, biking, hiking and just plain lazing alongside either the Gulf of Mexico or Western Lake.

The park boasts a four-mile off-road trail that meanders through acres of natural communities. Hardier hikers can take advantage of Walton County's 10-mile walking and biking path along Scenic Hwy 30-A.

A boat ramp is available on Western Lake. Bring your canoe or kayak and explore the backwaters of the lake, where both fresh and saltwater fish can be caught. Saltwater species abound in the Gulf surf. Don't forget your fishing license!

Grayton Beach campground is one of the best maintained camping areas in the state. The landscaping between each site provides a primitive atmosphere of isolation and privacy, but the modern conveniences of electricity, running water and modern restrooms assure the comfort of even the most delicate camper.

For those who prefer a less rustic retreat, 30 two-bedroom, one bath duplex cabins are situated in the woods only minutes away from the Gulf. Cabins ac-

commodate up to six people.

Each cabin is equipped with a gas fireplace (available during the winter months), central heating and air conditioning, a kitchen equipped with all the basic cooking and dining needs, a screened porch and outdoor grill. Linens, pillows, blankets and towels are also provided. Campers need to bring their own personal-use items such as coffee filters, soap, shampoo, paper towels, etc. Televisions and phones are not provided in the cabins. There are also two (2) ADA cabins for special-needs guests.

The park has an amphitheater joining the campground, and interpretive programs are conducted on the lake peninsula during the summer months.

A little taste of old Florida is more than a few hours away from anywhere in the Panhandle. When you've had your fill of high-rise condos and high-priced shops and restaurants, take a few days to refresh, relax and re-new at Grayton Beach State Park.

Reservations may be made in months in advance by calling Reserve America, toll free, 1-800-888-1111 (8:00 a.m. EST), 1-800-888-1111 (8:00 a.m. EST), (782-0334) (For Hearing Disabled). On the web:

<http://www.floridastateparks.org/graytonbeach/default.cfm>

Puzzle Page Solutions

CRYPTOGRAMS

Easy Level

The human brain starts working the moment you are born and never stops until you stand up to speak in public.

~George Jessel

Challenge Level

Women who seek to be equal with men lack ambition.

~Timothy Leary

SEVEN TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. A meteor is a mass of rock from outer space that burns upon entering the earth's atmosphere. A mass of rock from outer space that reaches the surface of the earth is referred to as a meteorite. Logically, Earth's surface was excavated by a meteorite. Therefore, a more accurate name for the crater would be Meteorite Crater. Other names for this phenomenon have included Canyon Diablo Crater and the Barringer Crater.
2. Henrietta Maria, wife of Charles I of England
3. Charles I
4. Elizabeth I of England (AKA "Virgin Queen"; Elizabeth I never married)
5. Parkour, sometimes abbreviated as PK or by the French term *l'art du déplacement*, is an activity with the aim of moving from one point to another as efficiently and quickly as possible, using principally the abilities of the human body. It is meant to help one overcome obstacles in their environment, from branches and rocks to rails and concrete walls and can be practiced in both rural and urban areas. Male parkour practitioners are known as "traceurs" and their female counterparts as "traceuses". An example of parkour takes place in the 2006 film *Casino Royale*, in which the James Bond character, played by Daniel Craig, chases "free running" guru, Sebastian Foucan, through the streets of Madagascar, with both men bouncing and leaping off walls, balconies and scaffolding.
6. *Yesterday*: In the 1990s, *Yesterday* was covered by 26 different artists, the most famous of whom were Paul McCartney (1990), Shirley Bassey (1991), Michael Bolton (1992), En Vogue (1992), Giovanni (1993), Boyz II Men (1994), Billy Dean (1995), London Symphony Orchestra (1995) and LeAnn Rimes (1997).
7. Passtiche [pas-TEESH].