

PensaMensa Newsletter

August 2006

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No, that's not your host Bob Ulrich. Our model is Jim Harris.

POOL PARTY/COOKOUT/OPEN HOUSE!!!
Saturday, August 19, 2 p.m. at Bob and Lynda Ulrich's home in Navarre (see calendar for directions).

Menu: chicken, burgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers; Bob will make his famous cheesecake!
Bring an hors de oeuvre, salad, beverage or dessert to share, and your swimsuit and towel, or not.

ExComm will meet, and **GenXers** will party with the hoi polloi.

Especially for new members! Y'all come on out!

If you are getting both the electronic and the print version of *PensaMensa*, and you're willing to give up the print version and save us a buck, please let me know at bobwick@gnt.net.

Interested in getting certified to scuba dive? We are getting a group together for the required training and dive trips. Contact Cameron Pouncey for more details. CPouncey@quanticeng.com

"M"embership News

by Bob Ulrich

Northwest Florida Mensa continues its slow and steady upward membership climb. In June we added 4 members, including one that was new to Mensa, and lost two members to relocation. Our new membership total as of 6/30/2006 is 195.

I would tell you how this relates to our previous years' membership, but I have no idea. All my files with that information are safely ensconced in my desk in Navarre. I am typing this column on my laptop while sitting in my daughter's guest bedroom in Denver, CO. My wife and I are here to aid in after care of the birth of her second child, our first granddaughter. Our original plan was to leave on Thursday July 13th for the drive to Denver and arrive days before the anticipated birth on the 19th. I was going to write this column on the 11th or 12th. But as they say about the best laid plans of mice and men, we had to leave for Denver on Tuesday 7/11 and Anna was born that afternoon. Mother and baby are both fine, but I have no files. Fortunately, as I hurriedly packed I did grab the membership roster which tells me most of what I need to know.

Anyway, the 2 relocating members are **Lt. Commander Todd Ring**, who moved from Pensacola to an address that indicates "Armed Forces Pacific". So maybe he is on a ship or an island, good luck either way. The other "move out" is **Rosalie Shaffer** who went from Panama City, FL to Parrish, FL which is down in the west central part of our State.

The 4 additions are 3 reinstatements and 1 new member. The first renewal is **Dr. Dan Finley**, our trivia guru, who was never really gone just a bit late with his dues payment. The next re-up is **Michael Holland** in Pensacola who has not been absent very long, being gone less than a year.

The last reinstatement is **Robert Elens** in Pensacola who has been absent from Mensa more than 1 year. We are happy to have all of you back in Mensa and glad you are in our group.

Our last new member is **Daniel Mazzeo**, who lives in Gulf Breeze. Congratulations on qualifying, and we are happy you decided to join. Since you are in Gulf Breeze, Daniel, you should plan on attending the pool party open house in August at my house in Navarre.

Speaking of that function, **this year we are making a plea to our newer members to come on out and meet the other members at this party.** The house can handle a crowd, at about 2750 sq. ft. we have room for a good sized crowd. My pool is not large but not everyone swims anyway. We will provide the main courses of chicken, grilled burgers, hot dogs and some veggie burgers. I will make a cheesecake or 2 and also will provide some beer and wine. Feel free to bring an hors d'oeuvre, salad, beverage, or dessert to share. I look forward to seeing many of you that I know and, hopefully, many of you that I don't.

ExComm Minutes

by John Mochan

The scheduled ExComm Meeting at The Zoo did not happen because of a lack of a quorum. But the President and Vice President were both there and had a good discussion of upcoming events and issues.

Nominations for the upcoming election can still be made by petition to the Nominations Committee Chairman, Bill Nichols. Contact him if you are interested in running for office. The ballots will be sent to you with the September newsletter along with instructions on voting with a paper ballot or by email. Please vote in September.

We will be participating in Mensa Testing Day on October 21, 2006. The test times and locations will be sent to American Mensa to be publicized in The Bulletin and on their web site.

We are in the very early stages of planning for our Regional Gathering, ValenTime 2007. It will be February 9, 10, and 11 at the Holiday Inn in Destin. This is our Fifth RG and I promise you will have a great time there. Let me know if you would like to be on the RG Committee or have a new idea or program to add to the event.

Next month's meeting will be On August 19th during the Pool Party in Navarre.

Recognizing a Stroke

Sent by Bill White

A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke...totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and getting to the patient within 3 hours - which is tough. Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

1. Ask the individual to SMILE.
2. Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.
3. Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (coherently; i.e., "It is sunny out today")

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage.

The Tenth Story

RVC Column for Region 10

August is the hottest part of the summer and the height of hurricane season. But this year it signals one of the biggest events in American Mensa history - the World Gathering to celebrate Mensa International's 60th birthday, to be held right here in Florida at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort, August 8- 13. For this year only, this replaces the Annual Gathering, which is usually held in July. I can promise you that there will be at least 2000 people there, both from the US and internationally, as that many have pre-registered as of this date of writing.

There will be programs Wednesday through Sunday, running from 9:00 a.m. until midnight each day except Sunday, when they end at 2:30. There are too many to list here, so I will only mention a few better known names: Jean Auel (author of "Clan of the Cave Bear"), Bill McArthur (astronaut who returned in April from more than 6 months on the International Space Station), Tarek Saab (from the recent "The Apprentice Show"), Alan Rachins (from numerous TV series, including "LA Law" and "Dharma and Greg"), and Richard Lederer (author of numerous books dealing with the English language). There are a few hundred more, so please visit the website WG06.us.mensa.org and click on programs for the complete listing. You can even plan your time at the WG, as they are listed by day and time scheduled. There will be numerous LDWs (Leadership Development Workshops), as well. So whether you are already actively involved or simply want to be, you can plan to attend some of those. These are listed in with the programs. There will be three dances at the WG. Thursday night is an International Dance. Friday night is a GenX Dance. And Saturday night is the big Gala Dance, with none other than nationally known Michael Andrew and Swingerhead performing.

On Wednesday, you might choose to sit in and observe your AMC taking care of business. Thursday is American Mensa's Annual Business Meeting. On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, you can do the same thing with the IBD meeting. (That's the American Mensa Committee and the International Board of Directors.)

And of course it isn't too late to decide to get involved. There is always room for another volunteer! One of the best ways to have a good time at one of these large gatherings - and to get to know people - is through volunteering. You can find out more about volunteer opportunities by visiting the WG06 website, click on contacts, then on volunteer.

Hope to see you there.

Maggie Truelove, Regional Vice Chair, Region 10
3333 Honeysuckle Lane, Orlando, Florida 32812; 407- 855-9078
truluvs@cfl.rr.com; rvc10@cfl.rr.com; rvc10@us.mensa.org

HERE COME DE JUDGE?

By Bobbye Sikes Wicke

Gentle readers, before you get your tights in a twist, let me say that this is not a political article and the election is NONPARTISAN.

Judges rarely come up for election in the Panhandle; the office is almost always appointed and the appointees are almost never opposed. This year, four lawyers are running for the retiring Okaloosa circuit judge's seat. All the candidates are well-educated; two have corporate practices;

one is a divorce lawyer (he calls it family practice); one has a general practice.

The NWF Daily News featured the appearance at a local golf club of these four candidates for Circuit Court Judge. The article was presented front page, above the fold, with a color photo; anyone with any history in journalism had to drool at this prime exposure. The text coverage faithfully reported the precise image each candidate wanted to portray: qualified, squeaky clean, and bursting with "conservative values."

Hootnannies Social Club invited these four attorneys to speak in May. I had fuzzy hopes that a candidate for judge would demonstrate personal, legal, and worldly experiences that imbued him with a modicum of wisdom and fairness. *Silly me.*

Two of the four who promised to attend showed up: Mike Webster and Mike Schofield. Terry Ketchel arrived as everyone was leaving; Dixie Dan Powell didn't show up. Nonetheless, the two no-shows (Ketchel and Powell) were graciously invited to speak at the next Hootnannies meeting. The two who spoke previously were invited to attend and be introduced, but to refrain from speaking since they had already been heard.

Please note that the following quotes from the candidates in their appearances at Hootnannies are neither an endorsement nor a rebuttal of their qualifications to sit in judgement. It's their words: think about them, and *you be the judge.*

At the first session, Scofield fielded some hard questions about the duties of a judge, and cited his position as a Certified Circuit Court Mediator. Webster painted a glamorous picture of himself as a patriotic veteran and cited his client base of over 3,000.

At the second session, Ketchel had a lot to say about his conservative values. Dixie Dan listed as his qualifications that his father held the same judicial seat and that he, Dixie, had been a close friend of Bob Sikes (which brought the usual comment from me - "*that's not relevant to qualifications for the office, Dixie*").

I asked Ketchel and Dixie Dan exactly what in their personal, civic, and professional lives qualified them to sit in judgement - and asked them not to use those shopworn phrases "family or conservative values again."

Ketchel cited being a Charter Member of the Christian Legal Society - and was promptly asked if his society excluded Muslims and Jews. "Well," he said, "they probably have their own society!" (*a WASP judge?*) Then he rushed into a spiel about doing lots of work with youth - and someone asked, "Do you mean you coached your kids' athletic teams." "Yes," said Ketchel. (*Coaching your kids' teams is what we call parenting*)

Dixie Dan said that he was a regular churchgoer, and that while he was in law school he was a sponsor of a scholarship fund for DCT, sent them \$20 every month, and still contributed. Someone asked, ""What does DCT stand for?" He finally admitted that he didn't know.

Then Webster, the fellow who'd been charming last month and wasn't supposed to speak this month, leapt to his feet while his assistant passed out a big yellow report card with 7 categories showing that his opponents never accomplished anything and he had accomplished everything. . .and proceeded to go through the categories and diss - I mean really DISS - his

opponents. (*Is “adversarial” a desirable quality in a judge?*) After 10 minutes of this tirade, I stood up and pointed out 1) he wasn't supposed to give a speech this time, and 2) he was taking unfair advantage of the other candidates by his unexpected attacks. He protested, but sat down and left soon thereafter.

Remember the *Flip Wilson* television show of the 1980s? Besides Flip's outrageous “Geraldine,” he spoofed the justice system with an hilarious “Here come de judge” impersonation. Flip's “de judge” might get elected here.

Bottom line: Ask tough, specific questions of candidates. Don't vote for glamour, social standing or political connections. Don't fall for that universal crutch, “I've got values”.

Calendar

Where no specific phone number is given, call 850-377-5042.

Friday, August 4, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. First Friday in Pensacola, L-o-n-g Lunch at Scenic 90 Café, 701 Scenic Highway, Pensacola. Drop in for a long visit if you can, a short one if you can't. As you enter the restaurant, go to your right and to the rear.

Sat., August 12, 11:30 a.m. Second Saturday in Panama City. Lunch at Chef Imondi's Downtown, 448 Harrison Avenue, Panama City.

Friday, August 18, 5 p.m. - Happy Hour! Acapulco, 251 Mary Esther Cut-off in the Food World Shopping Center in Mary Esther, northeast corner of intersection of Hollywood and ME Cut-off. 2 for 1 draft beer or margaritas; mucho Mexican, relaxed and not too crowded. Dave Howard is our coordinator - he and Tehane will be there at 5 p.m. davehoward01@earthlink.net or 897-5702.

Saturday, August 19, 2 p.m. Annual pool party! Bob and Lynda Ulrich are grilling chicken, burger, hot dogs and veggie burgers; Bob will make his famous cheesecake! Bring an hors d'oeuvre, salad, beverage or dessert to share. ExComm will meet, and GenXers will party with the hoi polloi. 5025 ProAm Ct., Navarre. Directions and info: bulrich@mschi.com or 939-6870.

From the east: Hwy. 98 to north on Hwy. 87 (just after the Navarre Beach Bridge); turn left at the 3rd stoplight on CR 399. Go 3.4 miles to left on PGA Blvd. into Hidden Creek Estates; take 2nd left on ProAm Ct. to #7025. From the west: Hwy. 98 through Gulf Breeze to left on CR 399 N (about 3.7 miles past the stoplight at Lowe's). Go 6.5 miles to right turn on PGA Blvd., then take 2nd left on ProAm Ct. to #7025.

Friday, August 25, 11:30 a.m., Last Friday in Shalimar. Lunch at Shalimar Cheers Pub, 1270 North Eglin Parkway: their # is 651-2740. It's at the back of a yellowish office building immediately north of the courthouse, turn at the red-and-yellow sign and go through the parking area all the way to the back and to the right.

Saturday, August 26, 2:00 p.m. Newsletter Assembly and Games - at the home of John and Mary Ann Mochan, 616 Overbrook Drive. FWB. Bring a snack or beverage, enjoy John's brownies, fold, staple, mutilate and stamp and get your newsletter early. jmochan@cox.net or 850-585-3194.

Tentative September events: Sept. 1, Lunch, Pensacola; Sept. 9, Lunch, Panama City; Sept. 15, Happy Hour TBA; Sept. 16, Xtreme Geocaching Competition followed by survivors' happy hour; ExComm TBA; Sept. 29, Lunch at Cheers, Shalimar; Sept. 30, newsletter/Games Day, FWB.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Crestview Lunch Group. Call Lovic Thomas at 682- 4133 to arrange a get-together.

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.

PEACHTREAT! 2006 ~ "THE FUTURE"

Sept. 15-17, 2006

Registration Rates: Full Weekend - \$60 to August 31; \$65 after Aug. 31st (\$5 veteran's discount on full registration) Children 10 and under – one-half adult rate at time of registration. Friday night only - \$25; all day Saturday - \$40; Sunday brunch - \$13 (you may either send with registration, or buy your ticket during the weekend).

Full registration includes Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch. Saturday dinner on your own. Make check payable to ~ Mensa in Georgia, Inc. Mail to: Alice K. Rogers, 319 Mountain Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30087; Phone: (770) 498-6213; E- mail: alcat98@bellsouth.net Hotel: Holiday Inn Select Perimeter, 4386 Chamblee- Dunwoody Road, Atlanta, GA 30341; Phone: 770-457-6363 (Be sure to mention MENSA) Rate: \$67 + tax per night until midnight (Single - Double)

New Members Party

by Heidi Daniels

Clockwise from left: Heidi Daniels, Debi Dunkerley, Bill Whalen, London Bradshaw, Terri Culbertson, Herschel Williams and Dana Schack at Brews Brothers in July. Photo by Jerry Smith

Our August event will be joining in on the New Members Party at the Ulrichs' home in Navarre, Saturday, August 19th at 2:00 PM (7025 Pro Am Ct., Navarre, FL 32566). This event is designed to give new members a chance to introduce themselves and check out the group. The Ulrichs' are graciously providing their home, pool, and a variety of food. Feel free to bring a favorite snack, appetizer, dessert, or beverage and bring a friend.

The GenX September event will be tied in with the Northwest Florida Mensa Xtreme Geocaching Competition. At the end of the competition we will be meeting at 3:00 PM in Fort Walton Beach at TGI Fridays (547 Mary Esther Cut Off NW). So if you can't make the geocaching, stop by at 3:00 PM. We will be announcing the winner, hanging out, and enjoying food and drink.

Heidi Daniels - GenX Coordinator,

hsdaniels@gmail.com

The GenX group is comprised of all Mensans born between 1961 and 1981 whose sole purpose is to provide an opportunity to cavort with like-aged Mensans. No ID needed, so, if you aren't GenX but any event interests you, please join us!

Seven Trivia Questions

Dr. Dan Finley, Brain Bowl Coach & Health Sciences Professor, Gulf Coast Community College, Panama City.

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

1. What were the wars between Rome and Carthage called?
2. How did Tennessee Williams die?
3. What is "Jenny's number"?
4. From what song does the opening line "Five hundred twenty-five thousand, six hundred minutes" come?
5. What is the northernmost and southernmost capital cities in the world?
6. Who lives at 129 West 81st Street, Apartment 5- A, Upper West Side, New York City?
7. What were the fates of Lucretia Borgia's three husbands?

Editor's Notes

and news from all over

Feast or famine time again: last month, the task was cramming all your good submissions and pictures into these 20 pages; this month, famine brings larger type, more white space, and an article by me. The best defense against the latter is to send your article in . . .

One of the perks of being editor is reading Mensa newsletters from all over. The variety ranges from first class, often provocative, journalism to reprints of internet jokes to simple flyers listing dates. You, too, can read these, or take them home with you at the monthly fold-stamp-mutilate-send sessions at the Mochans'. And then let us know how we're doing.

Would you like to know about Mensans living in your area? Call, write, or e-mail me at the addresses on page 2 for a membership list.

Did you know that anyone can hold a Mensa event? Just decide what and where and we'll put it on the calendar, and even send out extra e-mail notices for you.

Dave Howard is studying Spanish; **Heidi Daniels** studied for and took the PCAT exam last month (a standardized test for pharmacy school admission, similar to MCATs); **Christine Pincince** and her husband cruised to Alaska in June.

Officers of Northwest Florida Mensa

President: Terri Culbertson (850) 377-5042 2717 Blackshear Ave., Pensacola, FL 32503;
terricultbertson@hotmail.com

Vice President: John Mochan (850) 585- 3194; 585-5067; 616 Overbrook Dr., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547-3528; jmochan@cox.net

Treasurer: Martha Porter (850) 433-7567

Membership Officer: Robert Ulrich (850) 939-6870; 7025 Pro Am Ct., Navarre, FL 32566
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Northwest Florida Mensa Home Page: <http://www.nwflorida.us.mensa.org>

Arbitrator/Mediator and Test Proctor: Steve Brumm (850) 747-3233; Panama City,
FLAD4WT@aol.com

Gifted Child Coordinator: Jonathan Miller (850) 939-9785; 8214 Riverside Landing Way, Navarre,
FL 32566; jonathan.miller@hurlburt.af.mil

Panama City Coordinator: George Chancellor (850) 874-0154; 7523 Coleridge Road, Panama City,
FL 32404; georgec584@aol.com

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S.I.G.H.T Coordinator & Test Proctor: Mabel Loesch (850) 433-2358; 2140 E. Scott St., Pensacola,
FL 32503-4957; mloesch@bellsouth.net

Test Proctor: Joanne Horne (850) 315- 0255, 641 Merioneth Ct., Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32547;
johorne@cox.net

Webmaster & Test Proctor: John Mochan (850) 585-3194

Xtreme Geocaching Competition

By Heidi Daniels

It is time to reveal the location, date, and time for our geo-competition! Drum roll please. Meet at 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 16th at N30°24.41682, W086°38.20638. For those of you who don't have the southeast latitude and longitude memorized (and I am actually afraid that some of you just may) that is the Ihop in Fort Walton Beach, 348 Miracle Strip Pkwy SW # 41.

We will meet for breakfast and/or coffee and select teams. Bring your GPS receiver if you have one. Don't fret if you don't own one because we will work in teams and first time geocachers are encouraged to compete! If you come as a family unit with children then you may work together as a team. This is a great family event; I mean the desire to find hidden treasure transcends age, right? Otherwise, teams will be selected based on specific criteria as to prevent any collusion in advance. Sorry, strategists, you will have to save your competitive scheming for game day!

There will be a limited list of caches of varying difficulty for the teams to discover. We will make sure that each team has a local if possible to help with navigation.

The hunt will end at 3:00 PM at TGI Fridays (N30° 25.31628, W086°39.13224), 547 Mary Esther Cut

Off NW. The winners will be announced and we can recount our geocaching excursions over food and drink.

Don't forget to bring an item to leave in the caches. There may be a twist or two; more will be revealed the day of the event! For those geo-enthusiasts wondering where I found the location coordinates, I got them from a website that used the yahoo geocoder API to convert street addresses to GPS coordinates. We will have to see how accurate they are the day of!

Milestones

Mensaversaries: As of this month, the following Mensans have maintained continuous membership in American Mensa Ltd. for the years shown. These anniversaries may not accurately reflect the total number of years in Mensa if a break in membership for one or more years has occurred.

37 Marianne McDonald
32 Dennis E Arnold
27 Nora B. Wilcox
20 Leslie L. Grill
15 Christine H. Aufderheide
6 David A Akerman
6 Erika Bell
6 Michele Buzek
6 M.E. "Buddy" Hall
6 Fraser Sherman
4 Raymond Jasen
3 Lyle Kent Burkhart
3 Michael L. Peller
2 Anthony Cole
1 Brandon Forrest
1 Michael Holland
1 Christopher Peavy

Happy August Birthdays!

4 Eugene Hooprich
8 Donald P. Hines
9 Harold Casey
9 William Herchel
11 Rhonda Wallis
12 Christopher Peavy
16 Henry Floyd Pruett
16 Michael L. Peller
17 Jerry W. Bradshaw
17 Joanne A. Horne
22 Shirley A. Defries
23 James W. Harris
31 Leo L. Holland

If your birthday isn't listed, it's because it is not on the membership roster we get from the national office each month - and that's because you instructed National to withhold it. Please go to us.mensa.org and change your listing (or write to the address in your Mensa Bulletin, or call them). We promise not to tell anyone how old you are.

Answers to Seven Trivia Questions

1. Punic wars; First 264-241 BC, Second 218-201 BC, Third 149-146 BC
2. He choked on a bottle cap from either an eye drops or aspirin bottle, in New York City, February 25, 1983
3. 867-5309; from Tommy Tutone's 1982 hit Jenny
4. Seasons of Love from Rent
5. Northernmost is Reykjavik, Iceland and southernmost is Wellington, New Zealand
6. Jerry Seinfeld's fictional address in the television series, Seinfeld
7. First husband Giovanni Sforza: Marriage annulled because of alleged lack of consummation. Second husband: Alfonso d'Aragona, Duke of Bisceglie: Murdered by Lucretia's brother, Cesare Borgia. Third husband: Alphonse d'Este, the son of Ercole I, Duke of Ferrara: Survived Lucretia who died in childbirth, June 24, 1519. Pedro Calderon was a lover of Lucretia's, between husbands number two and three, who was stabbed and found in the Tiber River, with his hands and feet bound.

Précis

by Fraser Sherman

Famous figures of the past

THE MAN BEHIND THE IRON MASK by John Noone argues persuasively that the real-life Man in the Velvet Mask on whom the legend is based was most probably Eustace Daugier, a valet imprisoned for Knowing Too Much, and that the mask and other mysteries were primarily his jailer's scheme to boost his own rep by hinting at having a prisoner of nation- shaking significance. None of which, Noone admits, will send to dust endless speculation that the masked one was Louis XIV's twin, or Real Father, or the True Queen (on the theory that XIII had a daughter, then swapped her for a convenient male), the Duke of Monmouth or Moliere (and new additions continue to accrete, as in a seventies claim the prisoner escaped to Cannes and left a substitute in the mask). Very good.

QUEEN ISABELLA: Treachery, Adultery and Murder in Medieval England by Alison Weir is surprisingly dull biography of Edward II's queen, despite a life that include constant power struggles with Edward's court favorites, concluding a treaty with Scotland that established it as an independent state and, after fleeing Edward's corrupt court to France, leading alongside her lover the only successful invasion of England since 1066. Despite all this, much of Isabella's life is spent as either the dutiful queen or the woman behind the man, which makes her a much less an exciting figure for a big biography than, say, Elizabeth I. Disappointing overall.

An Exercise in Humility

from Cheryl Rothwell

The following short quiz consists of 4 questions and will tell you whether you are qualified to be a professional. The questions are NOT that difficult. But don't scroll down UNTIL you have answered the question!

1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?
2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?
3. The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend. Except one. Which animal does not attend?

Okay, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your true abilities.

4. There is a river you must cross, but it is used by crocodiles and you do not have a boat. How do you manage it?

Ex Libris

A very loud, unattractive, mean-acting woman walks into Wal-Mart with her two kids in tow, screaming obscenities at them all the way through the entrance.

The Wal-Mart Greeter says, "Good morning and welcome to Wal-Mart. Nice children you've got there - are they twins?"

The ugly woman stops screaming long enough to say, "Hell no they ain't, the oldest one, he's 9 and the younger one, she's 7. Why the hell would you think they're twins?.....Do you really think they look alike?"

"No" replies the greeter, "I just couldn't believe you got laid twice!"

Answers to An Exercise in Humility

1. The correct answer is: Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe, and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way or are negative in thinking.
2. Did you say, Open the refrigerator, put in the elephant, and close the refrigerator? Wrong Answer. Correct Answer: Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your previous actions.
3. Correct Answer: The Elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. You just put him in there. This tests your memory.
4. Correct Answer: You jump into the river and swim across. Have you not been listening? All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Meeting. This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes. According to Anderson Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all questions wrong, but many preschoolers got several correct answers. Anderson Consulting says this conclusively disproves the theory that most professionals have the brains of a four-year-old. It's more like a 2-year-old.

A Chess Problem

from Lars Runar

July solution:

1. Qf6 Rf6
2. Rh7 Mate

*Reprinted by permission from Chess Training in 5333+1 Positions by Laszlo Polgar © 1994
Konemann Verlags gesellschaft*

Editorial Policy

PensaMensa welcomes your articles and artwork!! Submissions must show name, address, phone, and may be edited for clarity and space. Please enclose an SASE if you want your material returned. Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month.

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 Officers) for testing in Northwest Florida.