

PensaMensa Newsletter

September 2006

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Please vote. It's your country, and you're either part of the solution or part of the problem.

One of the great things about Mensa parties is the chance to sample unusual fine foods I've never cooked and won't buy because I don't know whether I'll like them. I've liked all the exotic dishes I've tasted at all the parties! And whoever made the blueberry cobbler at the Ulrichs', I love you!

In case you think geocaching is for the young and unencumbered, three of us "elders" have been doing it for a while (successfully, I might add, although I'm a little better than the other two), and so have the Ross Goldbergs and their two small children.

News from all over

Not much news! You can see from the photos that some of our members have been to Orlando and Susan Nichols has been to the hospital with a bad case of appendicitis (she's recovering slowly; don't know about the other travelers).

A new Mensan Supper Club has sprung up in Pensacola. See the calendar and be there!

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.

"M"embership News

by Bob Ulrich

Our membership total took a small step back in July 2006 as we had 2 members relocate out of our area and only added 1 new member. I guess the real estate slowdown in our area is real as we had no members move in. However I am optimistic that the next few months will be better as I know we will add 1 and most likely 2 or more brand new members next month.

I sent out communications this month to 5 people who have been offered Mensa membership and one has confirmed that she has joined. One of the other mailings was to **Jill Russ** who is married to our new member in July, **Tom Russ**. In previous communications with Tom, he informed me that both he and his wife were qualified for membership. There was a slight processing delay with Jill's paperwork so her offer came in 1 month later than his. Tom told me they both intended to join and he already has. Tom and Jill live in Niceville, by the way, so welcome to Tom and I hope to say the same to Jill in the October Newsletter.

The 2 folks who moved away were **William H. Davie II** who moved from Pensacola, FL to Keystone Heights, FL a small town slightly northeast of Gainesville, and **Will Johnson** who also relocated from Pensacola. However Will's move was a little longer as he is now in Kapolei, HI. Best wishes to both of you in your new environs.

To those of you who were paying attention or who remember or who even care, you may recall that last month's column was written while I was in Denver without my files. I could give no historical membership information at that time. So here goes some catchup. As mentioned above last month we had 195 members and this month we have 194. Although these totals are below our all time high of 210, both numbers represent the most members we have ever had in these calendar months. So our membership trends are still positive.

Mensa's National Testing Day occurs next month on October 21. There will be more on that later, but I encourage all of you to keep this in mind and encourage any friends or coworkers that you feel might be qualified to test at that time.

ExComm Minutes

by John Mochan

The Executive Committee Meeting was held during the Annual Pool Party at the Ulrich's in Navarre on August 19, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM. Attending were: Terri Culbertson, John Mochan, Bob Ulrich, Bobbye Wicke, Mabel Loesch, Martha Porter, and Joanne Horne.

John Mochan moved and Terri Culbertson seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as published in the newsletter.

President: We had a problem signing up to participate in Mensa Testing Day with American Mensa. Since we do our local advertising ourselves, it was decided that it's not worth the effort to pursue the issue. We will proceed with plans to test in Gulf Breeze, Fort Walton Beach, Crestview, and Lynn Haven as in previous years.

Vice President: We are again having trouble satisfying the requirements from National HQ to advertise our Regional Gathering in the Mensa Bulletin and on their web site. We will contact all members and past attendees electronically or otherwise to invite them to our Fifth Anniversary RG in February.

Treasurer: We are in the process of transferring our account from the Warrington Bank to Compass Bank. Total assets at this time are \$4,028.84. An audit will be done jointly by John Mochan and Bob Ulrich before the new Treasurer takes office on October 1.

Publications Officer: The electronic version of the newsletter will include the ballot for the election along with instructions for those who wish to vote through email.

NEW BUSINESS

Mabel reported that she will identify our annual scholarship winner and the check will be awarded in October.

The Autumn Garage Sale will be in November at the home of Bobbye Wicke in Fort Walton Beach. Please contact any officer to donate items for sale.

The Election process is going smoothly. It was moved and passed to elect the members of the Nomination Committee to the Election Committee. Ballots are being prepared for the September newsletter. An email address is being set up to send ballots to the Election Committee Chairman for those who choose to vote electronically. They must include their Mensa membership number with their ballot.

National Testing Day is now known as Mensa Testing Day (MTD) and is set for October 21, 2006. We will again participate with testing offered in several locations. Our Publications Officer, Fraser

Sherman will advertise the test times and locations in local newspapers.

Next month's meeting will be Saturday, September 23 in Fort Walton Beach.

Adjourned at 4:03PM.



Poolside at the Ulrichs'

Dana Schack, Jennifer Watson, Chris McArdle, and Cameron Pouncey. Photo by John Mochan.

The Tenth Story

RVC Column for Region 10

As I write this, it is 48 hours before the start of the World Gathering. I am in awe of the immensity of the event. We have put in a lot of sweat equity to ensure that this is an outstanding event. In 48 hours, most of the 2100+ attendees will be swarming throughout the Coronado Springs Resort's Convention Center. By the time you read this, in the September newsletters, it will be well past the end of the World Gathering. I can only wish that many of you were able to squeeze at least a

small amount of time from your schedules to attend, and that you had a memorable time. I hope that you made new friends and renewed old friendships, that the worst dilemma you had to face was choosing which programs to attend, and that you took some time to see your leaders at work, as both the AMC meeting and the IBD meeting are open to all members.

Even though the next Mensa national election isn't until 2007, the Nominating Committee is busily finding candidates for all positions. They are hoping to have multiple candidates for each position this year. I am choosing to run again for Regional Vice Chair for Region 10. I hope that I have done a fair and reasonable job representing you so far, and I hope to have the opportunity to continue to serve.

Very few members have taken advantage of the Region 10 e-list as a way to discuss issues important to Region 10. I hope that will change as more Mensans in Region 10 sign up for the list. To subscribe to the list, send an email to region10 at request@lists.us.mensa.org with the word subscribe in the subject line or visit <http://lists.us.mensa.org/mailman/listinfo/region10>. If you have an issue you wish to bring to my attention - but not on the list - please don't hesitate to contact me, via email or phone as listed below.

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



Swimming lessons at the Pool Party!

From the top, Melissa and Luke Miller, Mary Ann Mochan and Eli Miller. Photo by Bobbye Wicke.

Calendar

Where no specific phone number is given, call 850-585-3194.

Friday, Sept. 1, 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.

Saturday, Sept. 9, 11:30 a.m. Second Saturday in Panama City. Lunch at Chef Imondi's Downtown, 448 Harrison Avenue, Panama City.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 6 p.m. New! Supper Club in Pensacola at Hall's Seafood, 920 East Gregory. We'll try various restaurants, so come meet some new food and some new people! Questions: call Dan Murray on his cell phone, 455-6339, after 7 p.m. or on weekends please.

Friday, Sept. 15, 5 p.m. - Happy Hour! Hog's Breath in Destin. Two for one drinks from 5 to 7 p.m., half-price appetizers, and a real "pubby" feeling. The calamari were great and they have Stella Artois beer. 541 E. Hwy. 98, on the north side, west of the old Donut Hole. Dave Howard is our coordinator - he and Tehane will be there at 5 p.m. davehoward01@earthlink.net or 897-5702.

Saturday, Sept. 16, 9 a.m., Xtreme Geocaching Competition: meet at IHOP in FWB - 348 Miracle Strip Pkwy (a.k.a. bloody 98), at the Wright Parkway traffic light. For M's of all ages and abilities! See all the details on page 13; contact Heidi Daniels at 433- 1465 or hsdaniels@gmail.com

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2 p.m. Open House and ExComm at the Mochans', 616 Overbrook Drive, Fort Walton Beach. Bring a snack, favorite beverage or dessert to share and hang out, maybe get into a game.

Friday, Sept. 29, 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, Sept. 30, 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.
12 PensaMensa Continued from page 9 Tentative October events: Oct. 6, Lunch, Pensacola; Oct. 14, Lunch, Panama City; Oct. 20, Happy Hour TBA; Oct. 21, GenX, TBA; Oct. 21 ExComm TBA; Oct. 27, Lunch at Cheers, Shalimar; Oct. 28, newsletter/Games Day, FWB.

Tentative October events: Oct. 6, Lunch, Pensacola; Oct. 14, Lunch, Panama City; Oct. 20, Happy Hour TBA; Oct. 21, GenX, TBA; Oct. 21 ExComm TBA; Oct. 27, Lunch at Cheers, Shalimar; Oct. 28, 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)

BALLOT: 2006-7 Executive Committee

Vote for one for each office:

President ___ John Mochan
Vice President ___ Heidi Daniels
Treasurer ___ Jerry Gilbert

Voting by e-mail:

Please email Bill Nichols at top2@cox.net with your choices and your

Name _____ and your

Membership # _____

Your membership # is on your address label and your card!

Northwest Florida Mensa ByLaws: Article V.5. Ballots shall be printed in the September issue of the local group newsletter or mailed to all members of the local group, but in either case posted no later than September 1. The mail ballots must be returned to the Chairman of the Election committee and received no later than September 20th. Ballots received after that date shall not be counted. A plurality of valid votes cast for each office shall constitute election. Elections which are tied shall be determined by the Chairman of the Election Committee by a flip of a coin. The Chairman of the Election Committee will certify the results of the election to the President and shall have the election results published in the next possible issue of the local group newsletter.

Join the after-party

by Heidi Daniels

The GenX September event will be tied in with the Northwest Florida Mensa Xtreme Geocaching Competition. Join us for the after-party on September 16th at 3:00 PM in Fort Walton Beach at TGI Fridays (547 Mary Esther Cut Off NW). The competition ends at 3:00 and we will be announcing the winner and endearing fellow members with our brave geocaching adventure stories (basically hanging out and enjoying food and drink). Our October gathering will be at Kazbor's Grille in Navarre on Saturday, October 14th from 6:00 to 9:00 PM (1878 Andorra Street in the Publix shopping center). A local favorite, Kazbor's is a small restaurant with a bar and hosts NTN trivia. Come hungry and with a trivial mindset!

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@gulfoast.edu for possible inclusion in future columns.

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1. In degrees, what is the angle between the two hands of a clock when it is at 3:15?
2. The 1958 musical *Damn Yankees* is specifically about what baseball team?
3. In 1898, the Campbell Soup company changed the color of their soup labels, after a company executive viewed what event?
4. Why do measurements of weight fluctuate, depending on a subject's location on the Earth?
5. What major pitching feat has Roger Clemens not accomplished?
6. What is a syndemic?
7. What is the origin of the trade name Humvee?

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
bulrich@mchsi.com

Editor: Bobbye Sikes Wicke (850) 862- 2874; P.O.Box 252, Mary Esther, FL 32569; bobwick@gnt.net

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.miller7@mchsi.com

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

Publicity Officer: Fraser Sherman (850) 863-3616; Fort Walton Beach, FL bogatyr5@aol.com

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:

The hunt is on!

More details are revealed as we move closer to our competition date: September 16th. The quest begins that morning at **9:00 AM at the IHOP in Fort Walton Beach**, 348 Miracle Strip Pkwy SW # 41. We'll have breakfast/ coffee, select teams, and review the rules of the game. Three or four pre- selected cache sites will be distributed to each team and all teams will find these sites. Each team will begin on a different route so we don't run into each other!

These mandatory sites are selected based on criteria that will make the hunt interesting, incorporating local history, hidden areas, and problem solving. A 'phone-a-clue' option will be available for the first four mandatory caches in case a team gets stumped.

After these required caches have been found, your team will have an opportunity to employ a little strategy. A list of other approved cache sites will be provided and a difficulty ranked for each site. The team will decide based on remaining time, team skill level, Magic 8 ball, or similar technique which sites will earn the most points for the team. Points are based on number of sites located and the difficulty ranking of each site. A more difficult cache is more points but may take more time. A more simple cache will be easier to find but will not garner as many points. The entire team must travel to each cache site as one (no splitting up).

When the clock strikes 3:00 PM all teams must arrive at the **TGI Fridays at 547 Mary Esther Cut Off NW, Fort Walton Beach**. We will tally our scores, declare the winner, and celebrate the hunt. This is a team event so it is designed for geocachers and first- timers alike.

Don't forget your GPS unit if you have one, sunscreen, bug spray and other outdoor essentials (tennis shoes suggested)! Check out geocaching details and history at geocaching.com.

Thanks! Heidi

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.

30 Timothy D Sutton

27 David F Howard

26 Tony Ray Gilligan

24 Gretchen K Gilligan

19 James W Harris

16 Lawrence Miles Wager

13 Brian T Halonen

6 Bobbye Sikes Wicke

3 Colin Babin
2 David L. Woodward

Happy August Birthdays!

2 James R Scholter
6 Robert Todd Glasure
6 Douglas L Mann
7 Heidi Daniels
7 Karen Stripling
10 Jerry Gilbert
13 Jennifer Clark
15 James Lynn Smith
16 Artice L McGraw
16 Bobby Sikes Wicke
18 Barbara Woolwine
20 M E "Buddy" Hall
24 C V Ford Jr
26 Robert Ulrich
29 James E. Hamilton

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. $7\frac{1}{2}$ degrees. While the long hand is pointing at the number 3, the short hand has advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the way toward the number 4. The distance between 3 and 4 is one-twelfth of 360, or 30. Since the short hand has advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ th forward, 30 divided by 4 yields $7\frac{1}{2}$.
2. The Washington Senators
3. The event was a Cornell-Penn football game. The executive was so taken with Cornell's new brilliant red and white football uniforms that he convinced the company to use those colors on Campbell soup labels. At that time, the original five varieties of Campbell soups were Tomato, Consommé, Vegetable, Chicken and Oxtail.
4. The centrifugal effect produced by the earth's spin counteracts the pull of gravity enough to slightly alter measured weight. For example, a person standing on a scale, who weighs 150.8 pounds at either pole, will weigh 150 pounds at the Equator.
5. This winningest living pitcher has never pitched a no-hitter.
6. A syndemic is defined as two or more afflictions, interacting synergistically, contributing to an excess burden of disease in a population. The word was first coined in 1992, by anthropologist Merrill Singer, to convey what he viewed as an inextricable and mutually-reinforcing connection between the incidences of substance abuse, violence and AIDS in urban American women.
7. Its complete military name is High-Mobility, Multi- Wheeled Vehicle. 'Humvee' comes from phoneticizing the corresponding acronym, HMMWV.

Précis

by Fraser Sherman

Fantasy series:

"**AGE OF UNREASON**" is a set of four books by J. Gregory Keyes (starting with "Newton's Cannon") in which Isaac Newton discovers a workable theory of alchemy, rapidly accelerating 18th-century technology (though in different directions from our own) with the help of apprentice Ben Franklin. Unfortunately, this draws the attention of sinister cosmic powers who start to pervert Newton's theories for their own ends, so that by the end of the first book, London has been leveled by an asteroid, the world is experiencing the equivalent of nuclear winter and the powers look to be winning. Very imaginative.

"**THE CHRONICLES OF THOMAS COVENANT, THE UNBELIEVER**" by Stephen Donaldson (starting with "Lord Foul's Bane") have a bitter leper transported from our world into a beautiful world threatened by a demonic avatar of self-loathing ("You're what makes lepers hate themselves.") and corruption. Unfortunately, Covenant is very far from a perfect hero, and winds up hurting his new world as often as he saves it. Filled with striking images and memorable characters, this was a very good not-too-Tolkienish trilogy (followed by a second trilogy, with a third now underway).

Mensa World Gathering

by Lars Runar

Bill and Bell White and I drove down to Orlando on Thursday, 10 August, to attend the Mensa World Gathering and to help celebrate Mensa's Diamond Anniversary at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort with over twenty-five hundred other Mensans from around the world. The drive was uneventful and we located the convention center entrance with no problem. Registering was easy and security was in evidence everywhere. The rooms were spacious and comfortable but not so comfortable as to encourage you to remain in your room for more than changing clothes and sleeping.

Disney's Coronado Springs was an ideal place for the World Gathering, with the entire resort wrapped around a lake. Several ten seated golf-type carts provided transportation around the resort every seven minutes. There were plenty of spacious rooms for all the events except for a few unexpectedly popular presentations. It had the largest hospitality room I've ever seen, with a never-ending supply of snacks, coffee and soft drinks to suit every taste. There were over three hundred presentations and events over the six days. The biggest event was the Anniversary Gala Dinner on Saturday night. Everyone was dressed to the nines. The dinner was outstanding. Presentations were made to all the Mensa groups and individuals for their achievements and activities the previous year. After sharing in the anniversary cake, a dance band took over. I'd say everyone had a great time.

It was an exciting and energizing experience for me. I've been relatively inactive for a few years and this reminded me what Mensa is all about, for me at least – a fellowship where everyone can share their ideas and experiences in open friendly discussion and, most of all, make friends and have a good time. See you at the AG next year in Birmingham, Alabama!

A Chess Problem

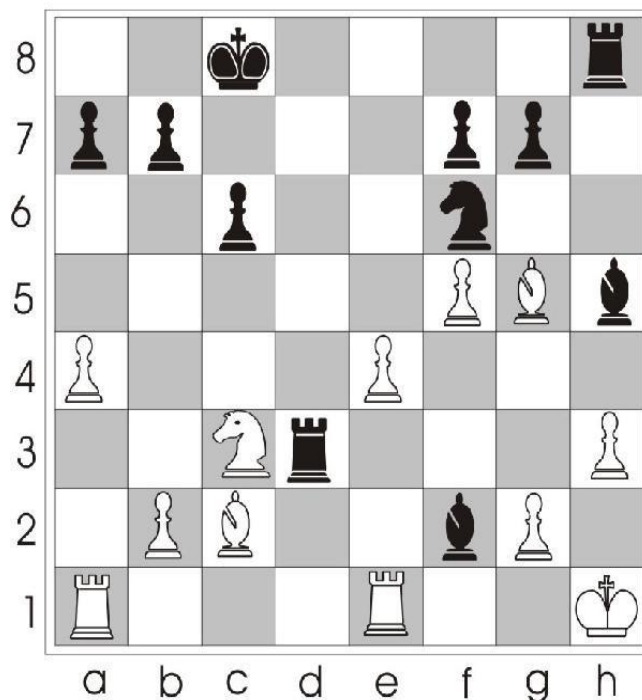
from Lars Runar

August Solution:

1. - Qg2
2. Kg2 Rg6
3. Kh1 Nf2 Mate

*Reprinted by permission from Chess Training in
5333+1 Positions by Laszlo Polgar © 1994
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MATE IN THREE - BLACK TO MOVE



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.