JANUARY 2021

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 561



HEAD-LINE NO. 561 JANUARY 2021
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

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Mid-Michigan Mensa Facebook Group

Head-Line and Calendar items are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Camera ready contributions are appreciated, but not necessary. Calendar entries may be emailed, telephoned, or snail-mailed to the Calendar/TGIF Coord. Permission is granted to reprint material from the Head-Line in any Mensa publication, with appropriate credit, unless the material is copyrighted.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

FROM MY BRAIN TO YOURS

by Sharon Plavnick

Hello from sunny and warm Florida! Yes indeed, if all has gone according to plan, by the time you all read this, I will have made good on a long-time daydream of getting out of Michigan for the winter.

Earlier this summer, Lynn and I upgraded our recumbent tricycles to folding models so we could pack them in the car and go places. It meant we could go further afield locally and not be limited to the bike trails nearby home. It meant we could go to other Michigan destination trails for day trips. And it meant we could pack up and go anywhere in the country with them.

So we are heading to Florida…I know, one of the Covid-19 hotspots of the world! We plan to export the same social distancing practices that we've used all along, plus a few new ones to safeguard against encountering people who are not so careful. I would tell you exactly how we plan to avoid restrooms all along I-75, but that would probably be TMI, so enough said.

By the time we get home at the beginning of April, I hope it will be our turn to get the vaccine, and perhaps this summer or so, we'll be seeing each other in person at TGs again.

Until then, I personally wish everyone reading this a healthy and happy new year.

What about all of you? If you want to respond to anything you read in this issue, send it along to me at: sharonslp@ameritech.net

LOC SEC COLUMN

Bob's Two Bits for January 2021

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

Happy New Year to every member of MMMensa! We are finally seeing the light at the end of the COVID tunnel here in Michigan, and it looks like it's turning green for group activities to resume at some time in the new year. . . at least, as soon as it can be done safely. Keep an eye on the Calendar page on the MMM Website, in the Head-Line, and on the MMM Facebook page for the latest plans and discussions on how we can get back together without risking anyone's health. Possible discussions might include whether only vaccinated members should be allowed to participate in group events, or how soon we might be able to attend restaurants as a group for outdoor dining (a moot point until it gets a lot warmer!). Ginny is looking forward to planning our regular TGIF dinners again, so that we can enjoy the stimulating variety of cuisine and company that we have all been missing for the past several months!

A few of the larger groups in Region 3 have planned virtual RG's that look interesting -- they are also cheaper than attending in person, and don't involve a long drive or hotel booking! John Voymas, Region 3 Vice-Chair, will most likely provide more info on SEMM's virtual RG planned for Feb. 20 in his Head-Line column for this month. Their RG flyer has also been posted on the MMM Facebook page and will be updated as needed. . . click on the flyer links for further details, and keep an eye open for new events!

The MMM Website has had a few updates lately. . . if you navigate to the Head-Line page you can read current and past issues, view our Group's Jewel award from AML, and listen to a topical take on a familiar seasonal CW song. I encourage you to check out the MMM Puzzle Page (if you dare) by clicking on the link at the top of the Head-Line page. You are also invited to showcase your own Mensa-level creativity by providing files that can be viewed or played by Web browsers to either me or our intrepid Head-Line Editor Sharon Plavnick (contact info is shown inside the front cover of every monthly issue). In the meantime, keep on keeping on, and
Ginny and I hope that you all have a happy and healthy 2021!

Best wishes, Bob

RVC 3 JANUARY, 2021 Column

John Voymas

I recently had the pleasure of sharing some of southeast Michigan's highlights with Bert, a member of Mensa France. Bert was spending a month in Ohio to monitor a new steel-producing plant. I can't go into the details with you other than to say that the expectation is that the steel will be both strong and flexible. On a Saturday, we toured the Detroit Institute of Art (DIA) where the new exhibition "Detroit Style: Car Design in the Motor City, 1950–2020" had just opened. The exhibit includes twelve vehicles and the stories behind their design. Some are concept cars like the GM Firebird III and the Chrysler Chronos, others are well-known production vehicles like the Ford Mustang and the Plymouth Barracuda. On Sunday, we spent the day at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan which currently has the "Marvel: Universe of Super Heroes" exhibit, featuring over three hundred artifacts. After exploring the rest of the museum, we went next door to Greenfield Village, a collection of buildings including the Firestone Farm, the home where the Wright brothers grew up, their bicycle shop where they fabricated the plane which flew at Kitty Hawk, glassblowing and pottery studios, a weaving shop where there is an operating Jacquard loom - the earliest use of punch cards, producing intricate designs, and many other historical sites.

Bert connected with me via the S.I.G.H.T. program where members of Mensa can connect with one another when they travel. Sometimes it is for a place to stay for a night, other times it is to meet over a coffee or a beer, or to be shown the local sites, as we did this time. For more info on this service of Mensa, see https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sight/. BTW, S.I.G.H.T stands for Service of Information, Guidance, and Hospitality to Travelers.

As a reminder my local group, Southeast Michigan Mensa (SEMM), is planning their first V-RG (Virtual Regional Gathering).

This will take place on Saturday, February 20, 2021. There will be three Zoom "sessions": Hospitality, Games, and Speakers/ Programs. Pre-registration will be required so that the Zoom links can be sent to you. View info at https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/entries/gathering-pending-title28/.

Dayton Area Mensa is still looking into having an RG sometime in March. Stay tuned for the latest news.

The next American Mensa AMC meeting will be in March. Details will be posted once it is determined whether this will be virtual or in-person.

I shall see some of you on-line or in-person over the next few months.

Cheers!

Mid-Michigan Mensa on Facebook

We now have FIFTEEN members in our private Facebook group, and we hope to see a lot more of you join in. Feel free to post questions or thoughts about pretty much anything on your mind, and to comment on those posts of interest to you. Because it's a private group, anything you post or comment on is seen only by other group members, so it's a relatively safe space. Or just lurk if you prefer. If nothing else, this provides a convenient way to update members between the arrival of your monthly Head-Lines.

Find the group by doing a search on Facebook for Mid-Michigan Mensa - MMM.

If you have any concerns, contact admins Wendell Proudfoot (wendellfp@gmail.com) or Bob Henderson rlhenderson@peoplepc.com), or just PM either of them while on Facebook.

PUZZLES
submitted by Bob Henderson

PUZZLE: Loose Laces at the Airport

You are walking to your gate at O'Hare and need to tie your shoelace. Up ahead is a moving walkway that you plan to use. To minimize your time to reach the gate, should you stop and tie your shoelace now, or wait and tie it on the walkway?

See answer on page 7

PONDER THIS
by John Garrison

Many years ago I published an article titled “Are We Alone?” I surmised that with the zillions of stars in the universe there must be life out there somewhere. I stated that the life might be in the way of germs and one cell life to complex celled monsters, but because of the numbers of astral bodies out there that we must not be alone. I received a response from one person who pointed out that there are somewhere like 7 billion people currently living on our planet and who knows how many more have passed on to the happy hunting grounds. Taking this into consideration the experts have never found two people with the same finger prints. Can this correlation be considered when asking “Are We Alone?”

Written responses would be appreciated.

Anyone else? Send your thoughts to John at midmimensa@aol.com or to me at sharonslp@ameritech.net and I’ll publish them under John’s byline.

JANUARY 2021 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

John Garrison, Membership Chair
117 Members

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

13 Michael Knowlton
16 Mathew McNaughton
19 Alec Knox
22 David Cushard
23 Brinton Butler
30 Eric Horner
14 John Garrison
18 Roy Saper
19 Tom Pascalenos
22 Clyde Crique
29 Eleanor Keating

JANUARY MENSAVERSARIES

3 Mathew Arturo
5 Joy Rimpau
6 Corina Andorfer
12 David Macak
19 D. Daw
35 Thomas Korkoske
46 Kevin Smart
3 Zachary Brennan
6 Michael Knowlton
11 Dale Arnold
13 Mark Weiss
19 Joseph Werner
41 Tom Pascalenos
121 Wendell Proudfoot

Special notes - The National Database shows that Wendell joined Mensa in 1900 making him the oldest member in the world. Congratulations Mr. Proudfoot for living so long.

The National database also lists us as having 117 members with no new members and no members leaving the group. I find this very interesting since we had 115 members listed last month.

Editor's note: Seriously, John and I have noticed some discrepancies in member info recently. If anything printed here is incorrect, please let John know. If you are omitted, also let him know. It may be necessary for you to contact the National office to see if the error is occurring on their end. John's contact info is on the inside front cover.

MEET A FELLOW MENSAN

Nothing to see here. Hopefully next month.

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you want this feature to continue, please respond to some of these. Don't overthink it…one or two sentence responses are just right. Skip any Qs that you don't want to answer. Please don't be shy. This is YOUR newsletter….please participate.

Send your response to: sharonslp@ameritech.net

- Your first job? Your best job? Your worst job? Your dream job?
- Pet peeve(s)? (No more than 3
- Night owl or early bird?
- Favorite season?
- Marriages/Divorces/Children
- Favorite travel experience
- What you like best about being a Mensan
- Earliest childhood memory:
- Something important you learned in HS
- Educational background
- Favorite travel experience
- Hobbies/interests
- Favorite food(s)
- At the top of your bucket list

Puzzle Answer:

A good way to visualize this puzzle is to imagine you have a twin who stops to tie his or her shoelace just before getting on the walkway, while you wait to do so until after you are on the walkway. Assuming that you finish tying it before stepping off the far end, you can see yourself moving fart her and farther ahead of your twin during the time he or she has stopped. Since you reach every point on and beyond the walkway to the gate before your twin does, stopping on the walkway saves you time. . . Just don't trip over your shoelace first!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
by Barb Ford

A little over 10 years ago, I took up the "No-Knead" bread crusade. I experimented a lot and we enjoyed a variety of bread. Through the years, I got away from it, but recently discovered a fellow on YouTube who is delightful to watch, and his simplified method really works. He came up with a "Poor Man's Dutch Oven" that I love. Look up Steve Gamelin on his YouTube Channel: *ArtisanBreadWithSteve*. He has many variations of bread recipes, and books for sale on his website: nokneadbreadcentral.com
This recipe is mine, but I use Steve's method.

ORANGE CRANBERRY NO KNEAD BREAD

Ingredients:
14 Ounces Luke Warm Water
1½ t Sea Salt
1¼ t Instant Yeast
1 T Vegetable Oil
½ C Old Fashioned Orange Marmalade
¾ C Dried Cranberries (Any dried fruit is very good)
3½ Cups Bread Flour

Directions:
Heat large glass mixing bowl. Gently combine all ingredients except flour. After 5 minutes, add flour to the edge of the bowl. Stir with spoon handle. Scrape bowl to bring dough into a ball. Cover with plastic wrap. Proof in warm place (75 to 85 degrees) for 90 minutes.* Stir to de-gas, scrape bowl, dust lightly with flour, turn dough into greased 8.5"x4.5"or 9"x5" bread pan, cover with a tea towel. Proof for 30 minutes. Attach another bread pan on top with clips (Poor Man's Dutch Oven). Pre heat oven to 400 degrees. Bake 40 minutes with top on, then another 5 minutes with top off to crisp the crust. Remove bread from pan and cool on elevated wire rack. Serve with butter.
This turns out well every time and is delicious.

*Steve says placing the dough in the oven with the light on provides an excellent proofing place.

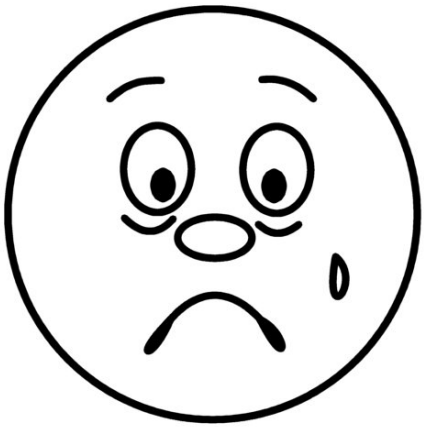
"Without bread…love is nothing"

French Proverb

JANUARY 2021 CALENDAR

ALL MMM DINNERS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED TILL FURTHER NOTICE.

(BUT MAYBE THE END IS IN SIGHT. HAPPY VACCINATION EXPERIENCE)



WISHING ALL OF US A CALM AND HAPPY 2021

TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet at about 5:30 PM and order about 5:30 PM but you're welcome at any time. Come and get acquainted. All members and friends are welcome at the events above. Any member may schedule an event. Please remember: **Who**, **What**, **Where**, **When**, and **Why**. The deadline to schedule an event is the **15th of the month before the event**. Contact Ginny Brunke Henderson, Calendar Coord. at: gbrunkh@peoplepc.com or 517-676-3369
Calendar event information can also be found on the Mid-Michigan Mensa website at http://midmichigan.us.mensa.org/calendar.html