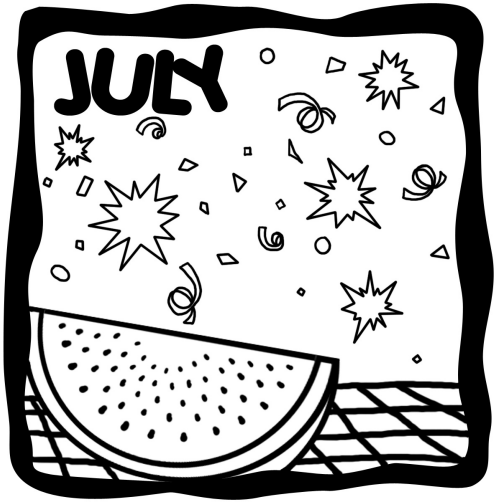
July 2022

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 579



HEAD-LINE NO. 579 July 2022
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

I'm scurrying to get this issue ready for printing before I leave for an almost entire family reunion in Colorado next week. I'll have all my children and grandchildren under one roof, with the exception of my 16 year old granddaughter and her mother who will be in Paris. Paris!!

But who needs Paris when you can go to the Winter Park area, and participate in zip lining, tubing, and rock wall climbing? Well…the youngsters will be participating; Lynn and I will be enthusiastic spectators.

Hope everyone is having a happy and healthy summer.

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 JULY 2022

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

Maybe you've wondered what your local Mensa Group can do for you, but have you ever wondered what you could do to help Mid-Michigan Mensa? Surprisingly, the two questions are closely related!

When you joined Mensa, you may have heard that the Mensa Educational Research Foundation runs a scholarship program for students planning to attend college. You might even have received a scholarship back when YOU went to college! Whether or not it was awarded by Mensa, one of the most heartwarming things you can do now is to "pay it forward" by helping today's scholars get the college educations that they need to realize their dreams.

MERF has set up a college scholarship program with easy-to-use online software that allows Local Groups to select judges, send them student essays to score in secure and consistent ways, and send the winning essays onward for regional judging. Mid-

Michigan Mensa has endowed scholarship funds to be awarded as part of this program, but we have not been able to disburse any of them recently as no one has stepped forward to serve as Scholarship Chair.

The local chairperson's duties include selecting 3 to 4 teams of from 3 to 4 judges and entering their names into MERF's online forms. The Scholarship Chair reads the essays from entrants in the local area and assigns which judges will read and grade them, finally verifying that the judges have completed their tasks before approving the results and sending the winners on for regional judging. We already have MMM members willing to judge the entries written by scholars in our area, but we cannot proceed without a Scholarship Chair to coordinate them.

I recommend that you read the information on the Mensa Scholarship Program at the National AML site https://www.us.mensa.org/ (see "Mensa Foundation" link at the bottom of the home page). If this sounds like something you could do, email me at rlhenderson@peoplepc.com for further info. MERF has already made the local chair's and judges' online forms easy to use, but I will be happy to help answer your remaining questions before you choose to "pay it forward."

Bob's Word Ladder Puzzle

Change one letter at a time to convert the first word to the second word on each line. Each intermediate step must spell a new English word.

1) HATE to LOVE in 3 to 5 steps
2) COOK to DINE in 4 to 7 steps
3) JOKE to REAL in 6 to 8 steps
4) SOUP to NUTS in 5 to 11 steps
5) GREED to SPITE in 8 to 9 steps
6) FACTS to TRUTH in 7 to 12 steps
7) LINKS to CHAIN in 8 to 13 steps
8) BEGIN to FINAL in 7 to 16 steps
9) SPLIT to UNITE in 8 to 17 steps
10) IDEAL to FACTS in 9 to 18 steps

Click on the Word Ladder Solver link at the MMM Website "PUZZLES" tab to check your solutions

Lora Mitchell- RVC3 Column July 2022

What did you learn today?

One of the things I have noticed is nearly everyone I have met in Mensa wants to learn things. Members get excited when their have some new information crossing their path, and one of the great things about RGs and monthly speaker programs is that we get to put even more things into our brains. I've seen programs on folk dancing, rocket building, biology, the Grateful Dead, and many places that I'd love to travel to.

Ironically enough though, a lot of Mensans don't know their way around Mensa. I rarely get questions about different roles in the organization, and a lot of members have never read the bylaws for either their own chapter or nationals. Many have never been to an event of any kind, and some don't even read the bulletin. And goodness, there are so many SIGs (Special Interest Groups) where you share your love of astrophysics, pirates, or art. The link to the list of active SIGs is https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sigs/sig-listing/ and I hope you can find something you can connect to. If not—you can start your own!

I hope to see you at the AG in Sparks, NV at the Annual Gathering- The Colloquium on Giftedness Across the Lifespan is on the 5th of July, and the regular AG begins the next day of the 6th. I will be having a Region 3 Meet and Greet, I hope you join me and ask questions.

For what it's worth, my Today I Learned was the difference between Mock Strawberries and Wild Strawberries. Feel free to ask me.
~Lora Mitchell, RVC3

JULY 2022 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
101 members

JULY BIRTHDAYS

David Murley	July 7
Kristen Shuler	July 8
Gary Gordon	July 12
David Salsbury	July 17

JULY MENSAVERSARIES

Pamela Benzing	6 yrs
Jeremy Fett	18 yrs
Daniel Thompson	21 yrs
Keith Stewart	21 yrs
Eleanor Keating	32 yrs
Dawn Ramsay	35 yrs
Squire Jaros	42 yrs

BOB'S MATH PUZZLE: Lost Boarding Pass

One hundred people line up to board a 100-passenger jetliner, but the first has lost his boarding pass and takes a random seat instead. Each subsequent passenger takes his or her assigned seat if available, otherwise he takes a random unoccupied seat.

What is the probability that the last passenger to board finds his seat occupied?

See Answers on page 7

MOVIE REVIEW by Bob Henderson

"Everything Everywhere All at Once" tells the story of Evelyn Wang (Michelle Yeoh), a middle-aged Chinese immigrant who co-owns a laundromat with her devoted husband Waymond (Ke Huy Quan). At the film's beginning, Evelyn's life is a static, stressful mess full of regrets that none of her dreams of a better life have borne fruit. Her husband, who loves her dearly but feels like he has no other recourse in the face of her despairing apathy, is seeking a divorce; her daughter Joy (Stephanie Hsu), whose loving relationship with a Caucasian girl Evelyn has a difficult time coming to terms with, has her own crippling insecurities that Evelyn is woefully unprepared to help her with. Additionally, her disapproving father Gong-Gong (James Hong), who effectively disowned her for marrying Waymond and is the source of the intergenerational stress at the heart of the film, is visiting from China. On top of all that, her taxes are also being audited by the IRS! Things go from stressful to surreal when, on the way to dealing with an officious tax auditor played by Jamie Lee Curtis, a version of Waymond from another reality shows up in his place and drags Evelyn into a

bizarre adventure in which the fate of the multiverse is at stake and only she can save it.

Is this a family drama? Science fiction? Fantasy? If so, whose? As you might guess from the film's name, the answer is "All of the above." The film's many parts are all done well and deserving of praise. The actors each bring their A-game as they play a myriad of alternate versions of themselves in a number of mind-bending realities, including one in which humanity evolved to have hot dogs for fingers and play the piano with their toes. At its core, though, is Yeoh. She is intrepid and versatile in this film, and I'm grateful she was given the ability to put her acting skills on full display. Her martial arts prowess, her perfect comedic timing and her amazing ability to convey the full range of human emotion with the most minute actions are a joy to watch as she cycles through being a world-class hibachi chef, a movie star, a blind opera singer, a dominatrix, and even a rock, each of which earns our empathy due to Yeoh's innate humanity.

The creative duo who wrote the film's screenplay have created something truly special with this genre-bending acid trip of a movie. "Everything Everywhere All at Once" is a triumph in every sense of the word. It's cinema like this — bold, original films that push the boundaries of the genre — that remind us why we love movies. Profound and versatile performances by each and every member of the cast, coupled with excellence in every aspect of its craftsmanship, work to deliver, in the most satisfying way possible, the best film ever made about doing laundry and taxes. I highly recommend that you see it at your local cineplex and bring an everything bagel to munch on -- you'll be glad you did!

Answer to Math Puzzle

This puzzle is easy if you first consider fewer passengers. For only 2 passengers, the first passenger to board the jetliner has a 50% chance of taking the seat of the last passenger, so the last passenger to board has a 50% chance of finding his seat occupied. For more passengers, it turns out that the same logic applies: with n passengers total, the last passenger never ends up in seat i for $1 < i < n!$ Why? Because when passenger i comes on board, either seat i will be already taken, or he will take it! Thus, seat i will never be available to the last passenger. The only seats that the last passenger can end up in are seat 1 and seat n. These are equally likely to already be occupied due to symmetry, so the last passenger always has a 50% chance of finding his seat occupied, no matter how many passengers the plane can seat!

NEXT MONTH YOUR CONTRIBUTION COULD GO HERE.

A POEM.
A JOKE.
AN EDITORIAL.
A RECIPE.
A TRAVELOGUE.
A REVIEW OF A BOOK, MOVIE, OR TV SERIES.
A THOUGHT.
AN OPINION.
A QUESTION.
A WISH, HOPE, OR DREAM.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
By Barb Ford

Well, it is summer at last. Many of us will be invited to a cook out or a potluck. Oh, what to take? Here is a great "recipe" to have prepared in advance and ready to grab on a moment's notice. But truly, the family may love this so much you will not want to part with it and may opt instead to buy a bag of chips to take to your gathering instead. It is *that* good. If you do end up making and taking this item, be prepared to have so many compliments, you won't be able to think straight. If you really want to work it, serve this in one of Grandma's crystal dishes. You are welcome.

Bread and Butter Pickled Beets

Ingredients:
One Pint Bread and Butter Pickles
(Mt. Olive Organic Bread and Butter Chips are truly yummy)One Can Sliced Beets

One or Two Sliced Jalapenos

Directions: Place all ingredients, juice and all, in a clean one-quart wide mouth canning jar. Secure with a leak proof lid. Turn the jar over a few times and place in the back of the refrigerator. Forget about it for two weeks. The waiting is the hardest part, but it is critical. Before opening, turn the jar over a few times. Place in a pretty dish. Serve.

Really, I tried to make this more complicated than it is. The pretty dish is just a thoughtful touch. Get real, these are extremely delicious eaten straight out of the jar. At midnight.

Tip: don't wear a white shirt anywhere near this magical concoction.

"Appetite is the best sauce"

Lady Bird Johnson

July 2022 MMM Activities Calendar

Friday July 1: TGIF - Champps Kitchen + Bar
2800 Preyde Blvd, Lansing, east of Eastwood Towne Center. Family-friendly sports bar chain serving burgers and comfort food in a buzzy ambiance.

Friday July 8: TGIF - Mitchell's Fish Market
2975 Preyde Blvd, Lansing, in Eastwood Towne Center. Famous for seafood.

Friday July 15: TGIF - Delhi Cafe
4625 Willoughby Rd, Holt, between Cedar St and Aurelius Rd. A Mensa favorite serving good Greek and American food.

Talk (about 6:30): "My Trip to Africa" by Wendy Carnegie.

Friday July 22: TGIF - Coral Gables
2838 E Grand River, East Lansing, just east of Hagadorn Rd. A Mid-Michigan Mensa favorite serving Greek foods, steaks, seafood, pasta, salads, sandwiches, and tasty desserts.

Steering Committee meeting: to follow dinner.

Friday July 29: TGIF - Fiesta Charra
5900 Park Lake Rd, East Lansing, next to Costco. Delicious Mexican food.

Generally, if you need information, call 517-676-3369 or visit midmichigan.us.mensa.org for updates.

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