SEPTEMBER 2022

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 581



HEAD-LINE NO. 581 SEPTEMBER 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've been a retired teacher for 17 years now (!!!!!!!), but September still makes me think I should be in a back-to-school mode. I should be shopping for classroom supplies, decorating bulletin boards, culling through my closet for professional wearing apparel. Then I take a deep breath, gaze at the birds jockeying for position at the bird feeders, and relax. Not my circus anymore. I'm good with that. I have different circus arenas to tend to. What about all of you? What circus arenas are you involved in these days?

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 September 2022

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

I have some good news to share with you this month: Wendy Carnegie has graciously accepted the position of MMM Scholarship Chair! Please help her to support worthy Mid-Michigan college students by signing up to help judge their essays. The MERF (Mensa Education Research Foundation) scholarship program will be conducted online starting this fall. MMM already has some money set aside for MERF scholarships, but Wendy will determine how we can best help to award it and let us know her plans in a future article in the Head-Line.

This month's column also marks the first installment of a new recurring feature explaining the job of each of the MMM officers listed inside the front cover of the Head-Line, starting with the Local Secretary (LocSec):

LocSec Job Description

The Minimum Standard Bylaws (available either in hard copy from the National Office or on the Web site under Officer Resources, Policy Documents) have a generic job description of the LocSec which reads as follows:

"The chief executive officer of a Local Group may be titled Local Secretary, President, or Chairman, whichever the group prefers; however, no Local Group may have, as separate officers, more than one of the three. He or she shall be the chief point of contact between AML and the Local Group. The Local Secretary shall notify AML (through the National Office) and the Regional Vice Chairman for the Local Group within two weeks of the results of elections and of changes in the officers of the Local Group."

As part of his/her job, the LocSec routinely receives a lot of information from AML, including from the National Office, the AMC, the RVC and other sources. Part of the task of being LocSec is the passing of relevant information along to the appropriate officers or other Local Group members. Communication with your membership is an important aspect of your position. Most LocSecs will publish a monthly column in their newsletter keeping members up-to-date.

Local Group Requirements
In order to receive its monthly funding allotment and to remain in good standing with AML, a Local Group must meet certain requirements which are spelled out in Actions Still in Effect (ASIE) No.: 1995-024. This ASIE may be amended from time to time, so should you have any questions or concerns regarding any requirements please discuss them with either your RVC or to the National Office. The current ASIEs may be found online at the Inside AML Web page along with all other AML governance documents. These requirements that Local Groups must meet include:

1) Local Groups must have both a membership and a business meeting in each quarter, notice for which must be communicated to all the members of the Local Group;

2) publish a regular newsletter or calendar of activities at least quarterly; and

3) adopt, maintain and follow Bylaws, which have been approved by the AMC's Subcommittee on Local Group Bylaws.

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As explained in the MMM Bylaws, the LocSec nominates candidates for unfilled officer positions for approval by the Steering Committee. The LocSec also sets the agenda for our monthly Steering Committee meetings (typically on the 3rd Friday of the month following our TGIF dinner). Check the Activities Calendar inside the back cover of the Head-Line or on the MMM Website to attend a meeting and let us know how we are doing!

Lora Mitchell- RVC3 Column September 2022

I am continuing to spend time traveling the region, and meeting all of you. You are all such wonderful people, and it is a huge honor to serve you. As of right now, I have visited (or fully engaged with online) a vast majority of the chapters in the region, and I am finding patterns to the conversations I'm having. It seems to me that I can do a little bit of FAQ with you.

Q. How is our membership size in Region 3 of Mensa? How does my chapter compare?
A .Chapters in R3 vary wildly, from the smallest chapter of 70 to the largest

chapter of 833 members. We have 16 chapters in total. Most have fairly stable membership numbers, but there has been a concerned effort to focus on retention and involvement and a little less on recruitment.

Q What kinds of events are people attending in other chapters?
A. The first answer on this is pretty much always going to be food. Yes, seriously. Feed them and they will come. But it's even more fundamental than that: people are attending the same kinds of things that YOU want to attend. I don't think there's a single group that discourages members from putting things on their calendars that they want to attend, in the hopes someone will join them. Running, craft beer, museums, golf, knitting, physics: we have members that participate in all those things and more. And they're hoping you might set something up. Many members are also now engaging completely online based on things like special interests. Mensa can meet a lot of different needs for different people now, and we continue to build in resilience.

Q. What's this Mensa Cares thing?
A.Mensa Cares is our way of making our communities better by investing a little time in them. While officially we do it during April, groups can go service projects any time of the year. We have amazing brains, and the opportunity to use them feels great! https://www.us.mensa.org/volunteer/community-service/

Q. Why do you correct yourself when you say MERF?
A. The Mensa Foundation stopped being/using MERF some time ago. There's more emphasis today on being more than scholarships, but also engaging in the study and support of giftedness throughout the lifespan.

Q. Why didn't I see you at the AG?
A. I was there. I promise. I just spend a LOT of time in meetings and similar commitments. I did also give a Leadership Development Workshop (LDW) again this time, this time on the Mensa Hearings Process. Plus we had a Regional Meet and Greet on Saturday!

Q. Are there resources available to groups to increase communication?
A. YES! We have online tutorials for building better websites, we have Email Your Members, Mensa Connect, and a fantastic national office. Chapter funds can be spent on a zoom account. Groups often mentor and support each other like good neighbors and share online events. I'm also happy to help groups with ideas and seed money when appropriate.

Q. What about my friend? They're also a member. Have you met them?
A. I'm an extrovert who joined in the mid 90's and has always lived in Region 3. If they're active, there's a pretty good chance I've met them. And if I haven't, I'd like to!

~Lora Mitchell, Regional Vice Chair 3
RVC3@us.mensa,org

SEPTEMBER 2022 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
106 members

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Saif Fatteh	Sept 13
Neal Forss	Sept 16
Thomas Allor	Sept 17
Daniel Thompson	Sept 28

SEPTEMBER MENSAVERSARIES

August Clark	1 yr
Kathryn Teshich	4 yrs
Michael Rademacher	8 yrs
Reece Kramer	9 yrs
Mason Miller	10 yrs
Kristen Shuler	15 yrs
David Brown	20 yrs
Brenton Wilburn	20 yrs
Brian McGrain	24 yrs
John Larson	32 yrs
William Syroid	36 yrs
Linda Harrison	37 yrs
Robert Henderson	42 yrs

Bob's Word Puzzle

Find fifteen 6-letter words that fit the definitions provided. Each answer shares its first three letters with the previous word and its last three letters with the following word.

1) British insult t o e _ _ _
2) Type of stew _ _ _ _ _ _
3) Go faster _ _ _ _ _ _
4) Landing strip _ _ _ _ _ _
5) Ambush _ _ _ _ _ _
6) Arrangement _ _ _ _ _ _
7) Receptacle _ _ _ _ _ _
8) Missive _ _ _ _ _ _
9) Earthling _ _ _ _ _ _
10) Park protector _ _ _ _ _ _
11) Small pet _ _ _ _ _ _
12) Rise in waves _ _ _ _ _ _
13) Relaxed _ _ _ _ _ _
14) Numbered buttons _ _ _ _ _ _
15) Canoe mover _ _ _ d l e

BOB'S MATH PUZZLE:

The sum and product of two positive whole numbers are shown on each line below. Can you find the numbers that I used to make each sum and product? Hint: (A + B) and (A - B) have a sum of 2 x A and a product of (A x A) - (B x B).

1) Sum = 10, Product = 9
2) Sum = 11, Product = 24
3) Sum = 12, Product = 35
4) Sum = 15, Product = 56
5) Sum = 30, Product = 221
6) Sum = 50, Product = 576
7) Sum = 80, Product = 1,311
8) Sum = 150, Product = 5,225
9) Sum = 400, Product = 39,039
10) Sum = 1,000, Product = 245,775

See Answers on page 7

MOVIE REVIEW by Bob Henderson

"Encanto" tells the story of the magically-gifted Madrigal family, their rural town in Columbia, and 15-year-old Mirabel, who is deeply disappointed that her own gift is not at all apparent. Her family is well-liked by the townspeople, since family members are happy to use their special powers to help others. When someone's donkeys get out of their pen, sister Luisa is asked to round them up using her extraordinary strength. Other sisters can control the weather, make plants grow, or pull off a large wedding party without putting a hair out of place. It seems like a slice of paradise, except for the one taboo subject: "we don't talk about Bruno!"

It seems that Mirabel's older brother Bruno once had a vision that the family's magical powers were in danger, and that Mirabel was somehow involved! The family matriarch hoped that by denying the threat she could somehow keep it at bay, so she exiled Bruno to a lonely part of the house where no one else was allowed to go. Mirabel also has premonitions of disaster, and dares to enter the forbidden quarters and speak with Bruno. With new insight into her own involvement, she comes up with a risky scheme to save her family's magic from destruction. As it turns out, she already has the only gift that she needs, one that anyone can use: the power to unite her family in love for one another and their town!

Disney spared no expense in recreating the look and feel of rural Columbia blended with the "magical realism" of Columbia's most famous son, Gabriel Garcia Marquez. The movie's storyboard artists and animators were flown down for a week or more to get familiar with the people, plants and animals of the region, while star composer Lin-Manuel Miranda was hired to create the catchy sound track based on Columbian rhythms.

The resulting movie is what you might expect from a sincere effort by a multinational corporation with deep pockets and lots of experience in making family films. Like its predecessors "Coco" and "Soul," Disney's "Encanto" is much more than a children's movie, tackling difficult and emotional subjects with sensitivity. The animation is vibrant and fluid, the music is catchy and cheery, and the characters are likeable and relatable. If you haven't seen "Encanto" yet, prepare yourself for a heart-warming 99 minutes of enjoyment!

MATH PUZZLE SOLUTION:

1) 1 and 9
2) 3 and 8
3) 5 and 7
4) 7 and 8
5) 13 and 17
6) 18 and 32
7) 23 and 57
8) 55 and 95
9) 169 and 231
10) 435 and 565

BOB'S WORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

1) British insult toerag
2) Type of stew ragout
3) Go faster outrun
4) Landing strip runway
5) Ambush waylay
6) Arrangement layout
7) Receptacle outlet
8) Missive letter
9) Earthling terran
10) Park protector ranger
11) Small pet gerbil
12) Rise in waves billow
13) Relaxed lowkey
14) Numbered buttons keypad
15) Canoe mover paddle

CROSSWORD PUZZLE NEWS

Doug McCall wanted to share an article that he thinks will be of interest to crossword enthusiasts. It's titled:

Inside the Elite, Underpaid, and Weird World of Crossword Writers

by Matt Hartman, August 5, 2022

You can find it at: https://newrepublic.com/article/167270/crossword-labor-market-times

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
By Barb Ford

By now, most of my readers know of my passion for making bread. This is another delicious and simple variation. It involves another passion of mine: caramelized onions. Take some relaxing time in the kitchen and caramelize as many onions as you can. This process takes time. This is an investment in future culinary delights. Enjoy it. After you have caramelized the onions, cool completely and reserve ¾ Cup for use in this recipe. The rest of the onions can be frozen flat in Ziploc bags for future use in cooking. Back to the bread. In the reserved caramelized onions, stir in ½ stick (or more) of room temperature butter. Let's make this beautiful bread.

TURBO NO KNEAD CARAMELIZED ONION BREAD
From: nokneadbreadcentral.com
YouTube Channel: ArtisanBreadWithSteve

Ingredients:
14 Ounces Warm Water
1½ t Salt
1¼ t Instant Yeast
1 T Extra Virgin Olive Oil
3½ Cups Bread Flour
¾ Cup Caramelized Onions mixed with ½ Stick Butter

Directions:
Heat large glass mixing bowl. Add warm water, salt, yeast and oil. Gently stir to combine. 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. Gently fold in caramelized onion butter mixture. Do not mix it in too much. Three folds is plenty. Scrape bowl, dust 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 3-15 minutes with top off to crisp the crust. Remove bread from pan and cool on elevated wire rack.

*Steve Gamelin says turning the oven light on will heat it enough to provide a good proofing place.

September 2022 MMM Activities Calendar

Friday, Sept. 2: TGIF - Olga's Kitchen
354 Frandor Ave. in the Frandor Mall, East Lansing. Soups, salads, and Olga's signature gyro sandwiches.

Friday, Sept. 9: TGIF - Lucky's Steak House
3554 Okemos Rd, Okemos, just north of Jolly Rd. Famous for steak, seafood, and prime rib with all the trimmings.

Friday, Sept. 16: TGIF - Coral Gables
2838 E Grand River, East Lansing, just east of Hagadorn Rd. A favorite of Mid-Michigan Mensa. Serves Greek foods, steaks, seafood, pasta, salads, sandwiches, pizza and more.

Friday, Sept 23: TGIF - Delhi Cafe
4625 Willoughby Rd, Holt, between Cedar St and Aurelius Rd. A Mensa favorite with good Greek and American food.

Steering Committee meeting: to follow dinner.

Friday, Sept. 30: 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.

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