NOVEMBER 2024

Head-Line



The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 607



HEAD-LINE NO.607 NOVEMBER 2024
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

Region 3 Vice-Chairman: **Rick MagnusEmail:** RVC3@us.mensa.org

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JOIN Mid-Michigan Mensa on Facebook

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.

The Head-Line is the monthly publication of Mid-Michigan Mensa. Annual subscription rate is $5.00 for members and is paid through American Mensa, LTD. The annual non-member rate is $10.00 and is limited to current members of other Mensa groups. Office of Publication is 3369 Harper Rd; Mason MI 48854.

Activities Calendar

Fri. Nov. 1: TGIF - Asian Taste
132 S Cedar St, Mason, kitty-corner vs. the Speedway station. Wide choice of delicious Chinese specialties, including Crabs Rangoon and Orange Chicken.

Fri. Nov. 8: TGIF - Fiesta Charra
2706 Lake Lansing Rd, Lansing, across from Eastwood Towne center. Join us on Ocho de Noviembre for tasty Mexican food!

Fri. Nov. 15: 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.

Fri. Nov. 22: TGIF - Delhi Cafe
4625 Willoughby Rd, Holt, between Cedar St and Aurelius Rd. A Mensa favorite with good Greek and American food.

Fri. Nov. 29: TGIF - Blue Gill Grill
1591 Lake Lansing Rd, Haslett, just east of Marsh Road. Delicious American food, friendly service, & family prices.

TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet at about **6 PM** and order soon after 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

WEEKLY ZOOM GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

Ken Lawrence

A list of suggested topics, as well as a chance to comment, is available on Facebook under M Saturday Discussion Group. Host Ken Lawrence can be reached at MVirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com for more information.

Topic: Virtual Discussion Group open to all Mensans.
Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every Saturday

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726108623?pwd=cUgyelF2K0ZLQzNWbVByZE9UMXpxdz09
Meeting ID: 867 2610 8623 Passcode: 1234

SIGs

Brainstorming SIG – Run by Ken Lawrence
Every Sunday at 9pm, eastern time:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82908600785?pwd=Kzl4YUhFbklwSnpCTTl4TDdHN0Jsdz09
More information can be obtained from MBrainstormingSessions@gmail.com or at the Facebook Group (20+) M Brainstorming | Facebook

Mensa Christian Bible Study SIG – Run by Ken Lawrence
Every Sunday 7pm eastern time
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86488880838?pwd=QUVUaFhPSjI0Tkt5V1pDZGlnRU5TUT09

NOVEMBER 2024 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair

194 members

BIRTHDAYS

Stephanie Quist	Nov. 14
Michael Beach	Nov. 16
Richard Horvitz	Nov. 17
Gregg Dimkoff	Nov. 18
Matthew VanderMolen	Nov. 25
Peter Wood	Nov. 26
Raymond Weidenfeller	Nov. 29

MENSAVERSARIES

John Hayden	1 yr
Brad Wiley	1 yr
Ronald Burl	8 yrs
Michael Skrocki	8 yrs
Elizabeth Ginebaugh	10 yrs
Jonathan Roshko	12 yrs
Todd Eldred	12 yrs
Nathaniel Williams	15 yrs
Stephanie Quist	17 yrs
Bryan Sayles	21 yrs
Richard Weingartner	21 yrs
Susan Eilola	22 yrs
Richard Shaffer	23 yrs
Matthew McNaughton	23 yrs
Walter Purvis	39 yrs
Douglas McCall	43 yrs

EDITOR'S COLUMN

FROM MY BRAIN TO YOURS
by Sharon Plavnick

Hello and goodbye, fellow MMMers. I'm a life member, so I'm not leaving Mensa. But I am leaving my post as editor of the Head-Line. I've been receiving my little bright-colored paper booklet every month for over 30 years, and I expect that to continue in one form or another for a good many more years. Will it always remain a print copy? I'm forecasting that electronic-only will take over in the next five years of so.

It will take over without me at the helm. This issue is actually being produced by Phoenix Swope, with me giving nominal oversight. She will introduce herself in her own words in this issue, but in December it will be her name on the masthead, and her byline on this column. I am quite certain you will all be happy with her tenure. And if you're not, then write a Letter to the Editor. ( )

FROM THE ASHES
by Phoenix Swope

A phoenix is a mythical creature who commonly symbolizes death and rebirth, and celebrates an immortality that endures change.

With this issue we are giving Sharon a send-off as editor with recognition for her many years of work putting this publication together. Sharon, you have my specific gratitude for helping bring me up to speed and sharing your expertise and experience. In every position of service, there are unacknowledged hardships, frustrations, and achievements. With what little I can bring to words on a page, I thank you on behalf of all readers for all that you've done, seen and unseen.

This issue also brings an opportunity of rebirth, of change. As a (former) member of Western Michigan Mensa, my name is likely new to you all, and you are all new to me. I hope our two groups come to the table together, have interesting conversations, and build wonderful relationships!

My hopes for this newsletter is to spark those conversations and kindle those relationships. A few things have changed with this issue, such as moving the activities section to the front. As we learn more about ourselves, more changes may come. Ideas are welcome! That's why we're here, right?

I would like to invite each of you to reach out by phone, text, or email and introduce yourself. With your permission, I would like to include a member highlight in subsequent issues. This is a freeform opportunity to introduce yourself and your story.

As an additional prompt, here is a…

QUESTION?

What is something you've struggled to understand, and would appreciate a good explanation?

LOC SEC COLUMN

Bob's Two Bits for November 2024

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

I hope you are all having a good Fall. . . As the days grow shorter and temperatures drop, we can look forward to the Thanksgiving through New Year's holidays and seeing more of our extended families. This season also brings more opportunities for colds, flu, RSV and Covid to spread, so now is a good time to get your vaccinations up-to-date!

Speaking of the upcoming holidays, we would like to have our MMM Winter Party in December or January. If you have suggestions or would like to host the party, contact our Calendar Coordinator **Ginny Brunke Henderson** at (517) 525-2890 or email her at gbrunkh@peoplepc.com. We look forward to good conversations, a good meal, and our traditional White Elephant Gift Exchange. See December's Head-Line for details. . . Hope you can be a part of it!

We are now mailing nearly 100 Head-Line newsletters to members of our recently-expanded Mid-Michigan group. Fortunately, AML has also raised our monthly subsidies to help defray the increase in printing and mailing expenses. As you can see by the Third Quarter Treasurer's Report elsewhere in this issue, our balance totals have continued to trend upward. . . We could invest some of it in advertising to attract new members, or spend some of it on group activities to increase the value of our Mensa memberships, but other suggestions are also welcome!

Our Proctor and Testing Coordinator conducted a Mensa qualification test session on August 24 and have another session scheduled for October 19. . . Let's warmly welcome the prospects who qualify as well as any other new faces we spot at our Friday dinners! Check inside the cover for this month's TGIF dates and venues -- we'd love to see you there!

A GLOVe Letter from the RVC

Rick Magnus. November 2024

I'm writing this column shortly after the September AMC meeting at the National Office in Texas. We had a planning session on Friday and our quarterly business meeting on Saturday. It was a good chance get to know the other members of AMC, and to think about the future of American Mensa. The business we passed included the mundane (the money paid to local groups, which had been a "subsidy," is now a "stipend") and the appointment of **Stephanie Thornton** of Cincinnati Area Mensa to chair Mensa Mind Games® 2025 (which will take place in Portland, OR). Mind Games® registration will open on October 15, before most of you see this column; I don't know how long slots will remain open for registrants. I believe registration for the 2025 Annual Gathering in Chicago will open on November 1, but, since registration is uncapped for the AG, there's no hurry on that one.

First Vice Chairman **Ian Randal Strock** announced his resignation from office at the AMC meeting, and, as provided by our bylaws, Second Vice Chairman **Jon Gruebele** automatically became 1st VC. Over the next few months, AMC will be filling the 2nd VC position.

Last month, I mentioned the Jewel Award winners from this region; the Jewel Awards are for accomplishments by local groups. This month I get to applaud our members who earned individual awards. (cont.)

(cont.)

I'll start with two winners of awards that can go only to one person each in American Mensa. **Maggie Gunnerson** of Cincinnati Area Mensa was named Gifted Youth Coordinator of the Year, and **Bill Maki** of East Central Ohio Mensa was named Proctor of the Year ("The Abbie") and Testing Coordinator of the Year (the Dave Felt Award).

Irving Freeman of Western Pennsylvania Mensa was given a National Service Award for many years of service on our Research Review Committee.

Five Region 3 members received National Certificates of Appreciation: **Julia Ashley** (Columbus Area Mensa), **Tiffany Everett** (Cincinnati Area Mensa), **Mary Lee Kemper** (Cincinnati Area Mensa), **Virginia Plottel** (Cincinnati Area Mensa), and **Susan Stine** (Southeast Michigan Mensa).

The highest honor American Mensa gives out is the Margot Award, named for our first executive director. Two people were honored this year, and both started their Mensa service while here in Region 3. **Dan Burg** joined Southeast Michigan Mensa, and **Elissa Rudolph** joined Western Pennsylvania Mensa, many years ago, and have since moved on (Dan to California and Elissa to Florida, but we still proudly consider them alumni of this region.

Congratulations to all the honorees! Mensa depends on the efforts of our volunteers.

Further Thoughts From Phoenix

I've had to make a few changes as we shifted from Sharon's workflow to mine. Some of the best practices I've found may not work best for y'all, and I would appreciate your feedback as we develop our style guide.

Two questions, specifically:

1) What sections do you enjoy seeing, or what types of content would you like to see in this newsletter?
2) What font and/or font size is easiest for you to read?

Recognizing that Mensans come in all varieties, I have elected to use a larger standard font (Arial, 12pt, if you're curious). However, since this is printed in booklet form, 14pt or even 16pt might be recommended. So…what do you think?

Is 10pt the best font-size for you, or

Is 12pt the best font-size for you, or

Is 14pt the best font-size for you, or

Is 16pt the best font-size for you, or

Is 18pt the best font size for you?

Bob's Word Puzzle

See if you can decipher the following 3 quotes from famous people. Rather than changing each letter to another, each letter changes PLACES with another in the same message. The rule is different for each quote. . . Good luck!

Cryptic Quote #1:
S"CUECSSI SON THT EEK YOTH PAIPENSS.AHPPNISE SSIT EHK YET OUSCCSE.S I FOY

UOLEVW AH TOY URA EODNI,GY UOW LI LEBS CUECSSUF"L- A BLRE TCSWHIEZTRE

Cryptic Quote #2:
IL" EF SID AAERF M ROEHTIW ,ES A MAGF E ROEHTOF ,LO A MOCYDEOF T R EHCIR ,HT

AGARYDEOF T R EHOOP".R - OHSMOLLA CIEMEH

Cryptic Quote #3:
LNU" SSEEMOS ENOEKILUOY RAC A SEOHW A ELLUFWTOL ON ,NIHTSI GIOG T GNEG OEB

TRETTTI ,N S'". TOD - S .RSSUE

Bob's Math Puzzle:

Here are 3 math puzzles disguised as word puzzles -- all you have to do is figure out which digit from 0 through 9 corresponds to each letter! The correspondence is different for each puzzle. . . Have fun solving them!

Cryptarithm #1:
SEND + MORE = MONEY

Cryptarithm #2:
EVER + SINCE = DARWIN

Cryptarithm #3:
SIX + SEVEN + SEVEN = TWENTY

Bob's Explorer's Quiz:

1) Sailed to southern tip of Africa for Portugal
2) Sailed across the Atlantic and discovered San Salvador
3) Sailed around the Cape of Good Hope to India
4) Discovered the Pacific Ocean
5) Led first circumnavigation of globe
6) First European to sail the Mississippi
7) Discovered Hudson River and Hudson's Bay
8) Conquered Aztecs
9) Conquered Incas
10) Explored Florida
11) Led first permanent English colony in New World
12) Explored the St. Lawrence River for France
13) Led Pilgrims in Massachusetts Bay Colony
14) Last Dutch governor of New Netherlands
15) Claimed Louisiana for France

Mid-Michigan Mensa Treasurer's Report

Quarter Ending September 30, 2024

STARTING BALANCE		$8,838.31
INCOME		$466.78
	AML Subsidy June 2024	95.04
	AML Subsidy July 2024	185.40
	AML Subsidy Aug. 2024	186.28
	5/3 Bank savings interest	0.06
EXPENDITURES		$403.11
	Head-Line Postage (300 stamps)	219.00
	Head-Line Printing	84.21
	Summer Party supplies	99.90
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
	5/3 Checking	$6,854.55
	5/3 Savings	1,998.92
USPS Postage		48.51
ENDING BALANCE		$8,901.98

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

Sometimes simple things become amazing when we find a way to create them effortlessly. I recently found a way to make two-ingredient sour cream at home. This is delicious and so easy; it is almost embarrassing. I will share my simple yummy discovery. I will never ever purchase sour cream again.

All that is needed for equipment is a one-quart canning jar with a tight sealing lid. Preferably one with measurements on the side. A tablespoon to measure with. That's it! One might think a quart jar is too big, but it is needed to maximize mixing space, and to accommodate the expansion of the cream.

This is a delicious "recipe" that will become a staple in kitchen and on the table. Cook's tips: Add a bit of this sour cream to eggs being whipped for omelets or scrambled eggs. Ooh La La. Add a bit of Dijon mustard to the sour cream to make a lovely sauce for nearly everything. Enjoy this recipe forever.

BARB'S HOME-MADE SOUR CREAM

Ingredients:
1 C Heavy Whipping Cream
1 T White Vinegar

Directions:

In a one-quart canning jar with tight fitting lid, measure the cream. Add the white vinegar. Secure the lid. Shake vigorously for several minutes until the sound of liquid moving inside stops. Open the jar to ensure there is no liquid cream remaining. It is now sour cream. For best taste, refrigerate overnight to develop flavor. If the sour cream separates, simply give it a gentle stir to bring back the consistency. Lasts one week in the refrigerator. Probably less when everyone tastes it.

"Never eat anything whose listed ingredients cover more than one-third of the package."
-Joseph Leonard

Answers To Puzzles

WORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
Group the first quote into character pairs, the second into triplets, and the third into fours, counting each letter, space and punctuation mark as a character. Read each group of characters in reverse to decipher each quote.

Quote 1: "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful"
-Albert Schweitzer

Quote 2: "Life is a dream for the wise, a game for the fool, a comedy for the rich, a tragedy for the poor."
-Sholom Aleichem

Quote 3: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it's not."
-Dr. Seuss

MATH PUZZLE ANSWER
#1: 9567 + 1085 = 10652
#2: 5653 + 97825 = 103478
#3: 650 + 68782 + 68782 = 138214

Trivia Answers:
1) Bartolomeo Diaz
2) Christopher Columbus
3) Vasco Da Gama
4) Vasco de Balboa
5) Ferdinand Magellan
6) Hernan de Soto
7) Henry Hudson
8) Hernan Cortez
9) Francisco Pizarro
10) Ponce de Leon
11) Captain John Smith (Jamestown)
12) Jacques Cartier
13) William Bradford
14) Peter Stuyvesant
15) La Salle

MOVING?
Send change of address information to:
AMERICAN MENSA, LTD.
1315 Brookside Dr. Hurst, TX 76053

POSTMASTER: Send address changes and returns to address above.

USPS #120-990

HEAD-LINE is a monthly publication of Mid-Michig Mensa. Mensa is an international society in which sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any one of a number standard IQ tests. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization whose only purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. Mensa itself holds no opinions, no champions, no causes, and is not affiliated with an other organization. The opinions expressed herein those of the author(s), and in no way to be constru as the opinions of Mensa. Office of publication is 3369., Mason, MI

Mail to this VIP (Very Intelligent Person)