



DelaMensa

Volume 36, Number 4

April 2010

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EXCOMmunications - January 2010

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Things are really shaping up to make this year's Annual Gathering the best ever (and I'm not just saying that because I'm chair)! We are shattering attendance records – we expect well over 2,000 attendees, including a huge number of first-time attendees! If you haven't decided whether you want to go – just take the leap. I am sure you will find something that interests you. Also, in this month's Bulletin, there is a great article on things to do while in Dearborn. I'm looking forward to seeing you! More info can be found at <http://ag.us.mensa.org/>. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

I've been lining up some amazing speakers in order to revive our local Speaker Series dinners. If you know of any good restaurants where we can commandeer a corner or separate area, enjoy a great meal, and then listen to (and actually hear) a speaker, please let me know. I'm looking for venues for our speakers.

Also, the monthly afternoon tea has been a big hit – if you've been thinking about joining us, be sure to RSVP. It's a small place, but it's an amazing meal and a great time.

Directory of Local Officers

LocSec	Maria Sawczuk	302-893-5118	legalady@magpage.com
1st Councilor	Cindi Basner	302-898-0093	lightintheclouds15@yahoo.com
2nd Councilor	Alexis Campbell	302-234-0563	alexis.campbell@comcast.net
Treasurer	Dee Richardson	302-892-2299	busydeee@comcast.net
Proctor Coord	Frances Joseph	302-994-6347	
Downstate Coord	Vacant: Volunteer Needed		
Editor	Keith Johnson	302-242-8201	keith.johnson@hughes.net
RVC-2	Marc Lederman	717-308-1221	RVC2@us.mensa.org

Finally, another event we are starting up is the monthly walking tour. We'll meet at designated spots in various towns all over Delaware, walk a mile or so and enjoy the fresh air, scenery, and some history, and then get dinner or a snack afterwards. The first one up is Old New Castle. Hope you can join us!

That's it for now. To get reminders about upcoming events, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com> and join the "DelawareMensa" group. If you have any ideas for a monthly event, please let me know. We love new ideas! Hope to see you at an upcoming event!

DM

COMING EVENTS!

A PROPER AFTERNOON TEA

Join Delaware Mensa for a proper afternoon tea. We will meet at the British Bell Tea Room in Peoples Plaza in Glasgow on Saturday April 17 at 1:30 pm. Afternoon tea, complete with sandwiches, scones, desserts and of course, your choice of tea, is only \$19 pp. Or choose high tea, with all of the above, plus banger rolls and soup or salad, for \$25. Not into tiny sandwiches? The British Bell Tea Room has a whole menu for your enjoyment. Check out <http://www.britishbelltea.com/> for more info.

DATE: Saturday, April 17, 2010

TIME: 1:30 pm

PLACE: British Bell Tea Room, Peoples Plaza, Glasgow. To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com

PLACE: Old Damon's Restaurant, Route 202 at Silver-side Road, Wilmington. To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com

NEW CASTLE WALKING TOUR

I, Maria, am going to start a walking tour series. I recently bought a book of 12 walking tours of different Delaware towns and thought this would be a fun monthly event.

Each month, we'll meet at the first stop, do the walking tour, and then get dinner or a snack, depending on the time and location. The book doesn't give mileage for the tours, but I mapped two of them out and they are both under 1.5 miles. So it's not too strenuous a walk.

The first walk will be in Old New Castle on Sunday, April 18 at 1:00 pm. We will meet at the Southeast corner of Second and Chestnut Streets (site of Fort Casimir historic marker). After the walk, we'll get a late lunch or some ice cream, depending on how hungry participants are.

(Continued on page 2)

Please visit our Web site at <http://delaware.us.mensa.org/index.htm> for updates

Upcoming walks will include Dover, Georgetown, Laurel, Lewes, Middletown, Milford, Newark, Seaford, Smyrna, and Wilmington (Downtown and West-End/Trolley Square)

DATE: Sunday, April 18

TIME: 1:00-?:??

PLACE: Old New Castle, Southeast corner of Second and Chestnut Streets (site of Fort Casimir historic marker)

Contact Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call (302) 893-5118 for more information or to RSVP.

MENSA NEWS!

DISCOUNT ON ONLINE MENSA HOME TEST EXTENDED THROUGH MAY 31

Due to the huge popularity of the online Mensa Home Test, its introductory fee of only \$13 has been extended through the end of May. Just a reminder: the Mensa Home Test is, more or less, a practice test for the Mensa Admission Test, but it does not qualify anyone for Mensa membership. Get more information at www.us.mensa.org/mht.

"BEAT THE HEAT" WITH JULY TEST PROMOTION

Tell your friends and family members! Any prospects who take the Mensa Admission Test during the month of July will be charged \$35, which is a \$5 savings off the usual fee.

Looking farther ahead, don't forget that August is Open House Month. All Local Groups are encouraged to host at least one event that will be open to the public during the month of August. This will let prospects try out a Mensa event before taking the test during the Mensa Testing Day timeframe in October.

Groups that list a public event in August will receive 50 coupons for \$5 off the testing fee. These coupons will be valid during the Mensa Testing Day timeframe. To get your group's "open house" information listed at www.us.mensa.org, email Lauren Fernandez at laurenf@americanmensa.org by July 15; include your group's name, event title and description, and event address and directions.

AMERICAN MENSA'S YEAR—BY THE NUMBERS

33,013,587	Total page views on www.us.mensa.org
8,729,713	Total emails received at the National Office, including spam
8,451,513	Spam emails received at the National Office
4,555,132	Total new and recurring visitors to www.us.mensa.org
1,075,712	Games played in AML's online Games Room
882,565	Dollars funded to Local Groups
104,961	Posts to AML's online Community
65,500	Dollars given in Mensa Foundation scholarships
57,947	Active members at year-end
43,689	Members with email addresses on file
20,757	Members on multi-year plans
19,214	Requests for local testing contacts
10,001	Mensa pencils distributed to Local Groups
5,953	Life members
5,185	Reinstating members
4,766	Offers of Membership extended
4,503	Posts made by one individual (Bill Hopkins) to AML's online Community
4,326	New members
3,981	Mensa Home Tests sold
3,301	Supervised tests scored
3,054	American Mensa fans on Facebook
2,659	Members under the age of 18
2,495	Members in largest Local Group (Greater New York Mensa)
2,001	Member resumes on American Mensa's CareerLink
1,968	American Mensa followers on Twitter
1,906	National and local officers and appointees
1,814	Member bios/photos on the AML Web site
1,813	Attendees at the 2009 AG in Pittsburgh
1,349	Posts to a single thread in AML's online Community (topic: Question Game)
1,041	Articles printed about Mensa in the media

Marc My Words

by Marc Lederman, Region 2 RVC

As I write this column, the March AMC meeting has just ended. The AMC unanimously passed their 2010-2011 budget after reducing the projected membership from 60,000 down to 59,000 members. A Governance Task Force, to be chaired by Eldon Romney, was formed to look at the strategic goals of American Mensa and determine how best to structure the AMC to meet those goals. Any recommendations from this task force that require changes to our bylaws would have to be approved by the AMC, then approved by the membership. Much to my disappointment, the AMC approved submitting a referendum to the membership to allow replacement and removal of RVCs by a vote of the LocSecs of the region. The AMC also voted to change the procedures of the National Nominating Committee to allow vetting of candidates. Only candidates approved by the NomComm will be submitted to the Election Committee. Members will still be able to run for office by petition.

Later this month, Metropolitan Washington Mensa will be hosting their Matrix 2: Piratical Sabbatical RG. The RG will take place in Gaithersburg, Maryland, April 30 - May 2, and features more than 30 programs, two private pool parties, and a banquet. For more information, check out their website at mwrmrg.org.

Have you renewed your Mensa membership? The easiest ways to renew are through the Mensa website at www.us.mensa.org/renew or call 888-294-8035 ext. 199 during regular business hours.

The 2010 CultureQuest(r) competition will take place on Sunday, April 11th. Rules and registration forms are available for download at www.us.mensa.org/eventregistration. Registration and changes can be made until 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, 2010. The Top 20 teams win money for their Local Group! For more information on CultureQuest(r), contact CQ Chair Marilyn Sallee at CultureQuest@us.mensa.org.

Celebrations

As of February 28, we had 178 members.

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Francis Gribbin	4/20
Michael Landmann	4/22
Francis Stevens	4/25
Theresa Quaintance	4/27
Michael Enright	4/30
Matthew Latocha	4/30

(And also to those who don't wish to have their birthdays published)

Congratulations, and a Happy Mensaversary to these members who celebrate their Mensa anniversary this month:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Member since:</u>
William Halberstadt	1967
John Shaposka	1972
Michael Enright	1982
John Palabrica	1988
Henry Milligan	1989
Keith Johnson	1994
Michael Ross	1999
Karl Boettcher	2002
Michael Kamps	2004
Michael McQuade	2004
Susan Novellino	2007
Mary Webb	2007

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to:

New Member Timothy Cook of Wilmington
Reinstating Member Julie-Ann Gatti of Wilmington
Nathan Centers, who moved to Dagsboro from Towson, MD

Computer Haikus

The Tao that is seen
Is not the true Tao, until
You bring fresh toner.

First snow, then silence.
This thousand dollar screen dies
so beautifully.

Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it)

By John Grover

This month's column is dedicated to French food, Spanish wine and the "Crock-Pot". About a month ago we dined upon the recipe found below. In spite of having developed a real appreciation for seafood over the years, I am still secretly wary of fish dishes. I think that this ingrained fear is based upon the periodic culinary tragedies of my childhood (Sorry Mom.). Once again the Boss proved these fears had no basis. The Bouillabaisse that came out of the slow cooker that night was an absolute delight.

The wine this month is a white from the Navarra Region of Northern Spain. The 2008 Vega Sindoa is a well balanced blend of 75% Viura and 25% Chardonnay grapes. It has a nose that hints of flowers and fruit which is followed by a fresh green apple and citrus flavor. Like so many Spanish white wines, this one seems to be made for seafood. I paid \$8 a bottle for this wine as part of a case.

Bouillabaisse "Fisherman's Stew" (from an old Rival "Crock-Pot" cookbook published in the 1970's)

First Ingredients: ½ cup olive oil, ½ cup chopped onion, 1 tbsps chopped garlic, ½ cup chopped celery, 1 can (1 lb.)

tomatoes, 1 8-oz. can tomato sauce, 2 tsp. salt, 1 tbsps paprika, ½ cup dry sherry or white wine, pinch of dry basil. Seafood: 1 ½ lbs. medium or large shrimp, 3 sea bass or halibut steaks cut in 1 inch pieces, 1 lb. crabmeat, 4 medium lobster tails (optional or substitutes: 1 lb. clams or scallops)

Put all the ingredients **except** the seafood into the slow cooker. Cover and cook on high for 2 to 4 hours. Then add all seafood. Cover and cook 1 to 3 hours on high. You can vary the amounts and types of seafood to your taste and to what you have in the freezer. We happened to have had tilapia on hand that night instead of other fish. I would recommend serving this dish with a crusty French bread. A good cooking hint from the Boss is to add only half of the salt called for at the beginning; then add to taste later.

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at jgrover@berk.com. I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.

WALKING

By Dee Richardson

Our park is all downhill for the first half.

The second half starts with a steep but short hill and then

A gently rolling uphill path that parallels the roadway.

I think the exertion of the hill induces a pooping event

That is quickly dispatched into the recycled thin orange plastic

Newspaper bag that is in my pocket.

The walkers, always alert but easy-going, jump at the sighting

Of a squirrel or rabbit.

When we see deer we turn around and go the other way.

Other dogs are welcomed into our circle with wags and sniffing

While the owners chat about the weather.

Hooray for spring!

EVERY MONTH EVENTS!

Join Delaware Mensa this fall at one of our many fun events. Time to pull out those calendars!

You've probably seen NTN Trivia at a favorite bar or restaurant. It's a nationwide trivia network, with rounds of games played 24 hours a day. If you've never played before, it's highly addictive! Come out and see what it's all about, and challenge your fellow Mensans.

FIRST TUESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

TIME: 6 to 8 pm

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Road (Route 113), **Dover** (across from former Blue Hen Mall). To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com.

SECOND THURSDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

TIME: 6 to 8 pm

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, 2062 Limestone Rd, **Wilmington** (near Kirkwood Hwy). To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.

THIRD WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

TIME: 6 to 8 pm

PLACE: Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, **Bear**. To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.

NEW LOCATION—

now on Second Thursdays in Wilmington!

SECOND MONDAY Lunch Bunch

The Delaware Mensa Lunch Bunch will meet from about 11:45 to 1:15 at Purebread Deli in Greenville, north of Wilmington on Rt 52. 302-571-9041. Meet us there for lunch and stimulating conversation.

For further information, contact Dee Richardson, 302-892-2299, busydeeee@comcast.net

MONTHLY WALKING TOUR

Each month, we'll meet at the first stop, do the walking tour, and then get dinner or a snack, depending on the time and location. Look for an announcement of the time and place. For info, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Tues, Apr 6	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. First Tuesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com.
Sat, Apr 9	1 to 4 pm, Games Day at Jim Lee's, at 1315 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington DE 19806. An RSVP to Jim at 302-562-5132 (cell) is requested
Mon, Apr 12	11:30—? Second Monday Lunch Bunch –New Location– Purebread Deli in Greenville, north of Wilmington on Rt 52, for lunch and stimulating conversation. Info: Dee Richardson at 302-892-2299
Thur, Apr 15	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Buffalo Wild Wings, 2062 Limestone Rd, Wilmington. Second Thursday of each month . For info or to RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Sat, Apr 17	1:30 pm, Afternoon Tea, British Bell Tea Room, 890 Peoples Plaza, Newark . Please RSVP. For info, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Sun, Apr 18	1:00 pm, Walking Tour of New Castle. meet at the Southeast corner of Second and Chestnut Streets (site of Fort Casimir historic marker). After the walk, we'll get a late lunch or some ice cream. Please RSVP. For info, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Wed, Apr 21	6 to 8 pm, Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night at Buffalo Wild Wings, Sunset Station Shopping Center, Route 40, Bear. Third Wednesday of each month . For info or to RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Tues, May 5	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. First Tuesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com.

Your event here!!

DM

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

This newsletter is sent to members of Delaware Mensa each month (more or less), but is also going out to prospective members who have qualified for membership. If you are one of those prospective members, allow me to add another invitation to you to join Mensa. The organization is both big and small, you can enjoy it at whatever level suits you.

April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	7	8	9	10
Easter						
11	12 Lunch Bunch	13	14 New Moon	15 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	16	17 Afternoon Tea
18 New Castle Walking Tour	19	20	21 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	22	23 DelaMensa Deadline	24
25	26	27 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	28 Full Moon	29	30	
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