



DelaMensa

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August 2008

Inside:

EXCOMMunication	1
Coming Events	1
RG Flyer	2
Birthdays	3
Good Wine etc.	3
Calendar	4
Event Rpt	5
Notices	5

EXCOMMunication - August, 2008

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

I am now back from the AG and can I just say, "WOW!" The record-setting crowd was awesome; the talks were awesome; seeing so many friends was awesome. It was awesome!

Having such a great time just gets me all psyched for Delaware Mensa's Regional Gathering. Have you registered yet? Our speakers are lined up and it is shaping up to be better than last year. Talks include: Definition Writing; Learning a Language; Runes; Language and Gender; "Translating" a Sitcom; and plenty more! Be sure to book your hotel room too – you won't want to go home and miss any of the fun!

During the month of August 2008, American Mensa will waive the \$40 prior evidence fee for people who submit an LSAT score. If you know someone in the legal field who you think may have a qualifying LSAT score, please encourage them to submit their application and scores between August 1 - August 31 to take advantage of this offer.

Directory of Local Officers

LocSec	Maria Sawczuk	302-893-5118	legalady@magpage.com
1st Councilor	Cindi Basner	302-738-3326	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	Leah Kinder	302-222-2357	bluepointjive@gmail.com, RVC2@us.mensa.org

Don't forget to join our Yahoo group, so you are the first to know about our events. It's a low traffic site, so don't worry about us exploding your email box. Plus, you'll get friendly reminders about events as they near. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DelawareMensa/> to sign up.

DM

Coming Events

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2008 - Dim Sum

Dim Sum is a Cantonese term that means "Touch the Heart." It is a Chinese cuisine which involves a wide range of light dishes. Join Delaware Mensa as we enjoy a dinner of Dim Sum specialties, prepared just for us. Hopefully, our host will also be able to tell us something about the tradition, as well as the delicacies we are eating. We promise nothing weird (no ears, organs or feet!). Please RSVP by August 9.

DATE: Saturday, August 16, 2008

TIME: 5:00 p.m.

FEE: \$25 per person

PLACE: Dumpling House, 1828 W. 11th Street, Wilmington To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com (legalady<at>

magpage<dot>com) or call 302-893-5118. (WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP BY AUGUST 9 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS EVENT!)

<NEW EVENT> LAST SATURDAY, AUGUST 30— Monthly Photo Tour

Join us to exercise your inner shutterbug! Each month we'll visit a photo location. Help/advice on both technical/camera issues and content/framing will be available if desired. For this first trip, we'll be going to Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA:

Exquisite flowers, majestic trees, dazzling fountains, extravagant conservatory, thunderous organ—all describe the magic of Longwood Gardens, a horticultural showstopper where the gardening arts are encased in classic forms and enhanced by modern technology.

Admission is \$16 per person for adults - if we get 15 people or more, we'll get the \$12 group rate.

DATE: Saturday, August 30th, 2008

TIME: 2 PM

PLACE: Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA

RSVP: Walter Crowe, saghost1976@yahoo.com, 302-494-6826

·réunion·Festversammlung·σύννοση·**sammankomst**·**ebop**·جمع·kokuus·vergadering·GENNYESEDES·zebranie·riunione·gadrv·
...gathering!



Delaware Mensa's 2nd Annual RG will explore
"Language" in all forms.

September 12-14, 2008 – Newark, DE

*Dictionaries, computers, runes, ASL, learning
languages.*

Enjoy an expanded games room,
24-hour hospitality,
and poolside entertainment
with last year's hit, Todd Chappelle!

A buffet breakfast is included for all hotel guests!

Registration Fee(s):

\$45 through July 7, 2008
\$50 through August 15, 2008
\$60 thereafter (and at door)

Make checks payable to:
Delaware Mensa

Send checks to:
Dee Richardson
3101 Duncan Road
Wilmington, DE 19808

Or online registration at:
<http://www.delaware.us.mensa.org/rg08.htm>

Hotel:

TownePlace Suites by Marriott
410 Eagle Run Road
(I-95 and Route 273)
Newark, DE 19702
302-369-6212 xO or 888-236-2427

Hotel Rates:

Single Suites \$89/night
Double Suites \$99/night
One Bedroom Suites \$149/night

Room rates guaranteed until 8/15/08
Hotel Reservation Code: Delaware Mensa

Last year's gathering was a great success, so we're looking forward to seeing new and familiar faces this year.
Don't delay, *registro hoy!*

-----Detach and send with registration-----

Name: _____ Local Group: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of people registering: _____ Amount included: _____

Name(s) on badge(s):

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

By John Grover

This past May, the Boss and I visited Italy as part of a tour named "A Taste of Tuscany and Umbria". Well, this trip was much more than taste. We visited wineries, attended cooking classes, had numerous gourmet meals and saw beautiful landscapes, architecture and art. The Italian people are wonderful hosts. And, they have a confident sense both of their extensive history and of a present that is meant to be lived well and to the fullest.

You quickly recognize the difference in the priorities and pace that Americans and Italians attribute to the various elements of a typical day. So let's start with "lunch" (always one of my favorites). In the U.S. lunch is something that we often rush through so that we can get back to work. In Italy it seems to be a much more relaxing social event, to be savored and enjoyed.



Tuscany, Italy

Our first exposure to this Italian phenomenon was in Northern Tuscany near the city of Lucca at Fattoria Colle Verde, a winery and olive oil producer. After a tour of the winery and olive oil production facilities, we sat down al-fresco (No not that guy, Al, upstairs in the contracts office.). We sat at tables under a grape arbor well provisioned with bottles of their red and rose' wines, their own olive oil, balsamic vinegar and copious amounts of wonderful Tuscan bread. It seemed like a promising start. Then we were asked to fill our wine glasses (Not much encouragement required here.) And, each table was presented with a bowl or "bouquet" of cut vegetables includ-

ing: tomatoes, carrots, celery, scallions, peppers and fennel. Each of us were then instructed to prepare a personal dipping sauce to taste in a small bowl using olive oil, balsamic vinegar and salt and pepper (simple enough). The bread, the vegetables, the olive oil and wine made a very nice first course. Then came plates of pecorino cheese, and thinly sliced (and delicious) prosciutto, salami and mortadella. Which of course with the bread, the vegetables, the olive oil and wine made for a very nice second course (Are you seeing a pattern here?). At the same time the cheese and meat came out, a bowl of Tuscan beans was served. The beans are good as a side dish or slathered on the bread with a little more olive oil (definitely a pattern). This process with abundant conversation and more wine took place over about an hour and a half. It was ever so nicely topped off with some "dolce", biscotti dipped in Vin Santo, a sweet dessert wine. The key to the success of a simple meal like this is first the quality of the ingredients and second taking the time to enjoy it.

Unfortunately I have not yet been able to find the wines from Fattoria Colle Verde in the U.S.A. It might be true that the Italians keep the best wines for themselves. Therefore the wine highlighted this month is another Tuscan wine, the 2006 Santa Cristina from Marchesi Antinori of Cortona. This red wine combines the rich fruit of the Sangiovese grape (90%) with the smooth almost sweet tannins of Merlot (10%). This wine is widely marketed and a real deal for \$8 to \$10 a bottle.

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.

Celebrations

As of May 31, we had 157 members

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans with a birthday this month:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Wendy Mackay	8/1	Terri Eros	8/22
Carl Moore, Jr.	8/2	Robert Auer	8/23
Helen Ohlson	8/5	Paul Thompson	8/26
Peter Von Glahn	8/5	Thomas Keane	8/28
Martha Lankford	8/9	David Moak	8/29
Chris Quintanilla	8/21	Melissa Hanlon	8/31

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>
Alan Emsley	1980
Christina Hillson	1989
Steven Allison	1999
Pamela Lamb	1999
Lawrence Laporte	2001
Walter Crowe	2004
Melissa Hanlon	2005
Richard Schneider	2005
Francis Stevens	2006

EVERY MONTH EVENTS!

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

FIRST WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

THIRD WEDNESDAY Happy Hour/NTN Trivia Night

Join Delaware Mensa from 6 to 8 pm, on the First (Dover) and Third (Bear) Wednesdays of each month for some after-work cocktails and a little friendly competition as we play another round of NTN Trivia. 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.

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.

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.

SECOND MONDAY Downtown Lunch Bunch

The Delaware Mensa LunchBunch will meet from about 11:45 to 1:15 at ED OLIVER HOUSE. Formerly the Terrace at Greenhill, the restaurant is located at ED "Porky" OLIVER Golf Club, 800 N. DuPont Road, Wilmington. 302-571-9041. Meet us there for lunch and stimulating conversation.

There is plenty of parking, and it's not too far from downtown. (**Second Monday of each month**)

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

TUESDAY, August 12, 2008: DOWNSTATE DOWN - Dining Out With Nerds

Come out and support our newest monthly event – Downstate DOWN – Dining Out With Nerds. Leah Kinder will pick a different ethnic restaurant each month. Broaden your culinary horizons, share some stories, and have fun with your fellow Mensans.

DATE: Tuesday, July 22, 2008

TIME: 6:00 pm

PLACE: Mari Monte Ristorante (Italian) 1030 Forest Avenue, Dover To RSVP: e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com, or call 302-222-2357. **(WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS EVENT!)**

CANCELLED: Philosophy and Discussion Group

Dr. Deb Gleason has decided to temporarily discontinue the Philosophy & Discussion Group, to concentrate on writing a book. We hope she will re-instate this event some time in the future.

The significant problems we face cannot
be solved at the same level of thinking we
were at when we created them.

Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Wed, Aug 6	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. It worked so well we're holding it twice a month. First Wednesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com .
Mon, Aug 11	11:30—? Downtown Lunch Bunch meet at the Ed Oliver House, at the Golf club, 800 N DuPont Rd, Wilmington, for lunch and stimulating conversation. (Second Monday) Info: Dee Richardson at 302-892-2299
Tues, Aug 12	6:00 to pm, Downstate DOWN (Dining Out With Nerds). Mari Monte Ristorante (Italian) 1030 Forest Avenue, Dover RSVP with Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com , or call 302-222-2357
Sat, Aug 16	5 pm, Dim Sum - Dining at Dumpling House, 1828 W. 11th Street, Wilmington To RSVP, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118. (WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP BY AUGUST 9 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS EVENT!)
Wed, Aug 20	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.
Sat, Aug 30	2 PM, Monthly Photo Tour. Exercise your inner shutterbug - Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA. RSVP to Walter Crowe, saghost1976@yahoo.com , 302-494-6826

Your event here!!

DM

Delaware Mensa Spends Saturday Night at the Drive-in

On Saturday, July 19, a small but fun-loving group met at Seafood City, to start off the evening with fresh steamed crabs and assorted other seafood. We had perfect weather for the evening – warm, but not too hot, and low humidity. Even the bugs stayed away.

In case you aren't familiar with it, the Diamond State Drive-in Theater (www.dsdit.com), on Route 13 in Felton, DE, originally opened in 1949. The theater was joined in 1954 by the Diamond State Roller Rink. The rink was closed



years ago, but the building still remains on-site. The theater was closed in 1986, and revived under the current management in 1995. The land was owned by the same family all that time, but the passing of the owner means it will be sold soon, so this is the theater's last season of operation at this location. If you haven't enjoyed a movie

there, you should give it a try while the opportunity still exists. This season they are showing first run movies.

We had a perfect choice of movies for the night of our visit – two of the biggest titles of the summer: The Dark Knight, followed by Hellboy 2, as a double feature. The custom there is very informal; bring lawn chairs, radios, and snacks and sit out to enjoy a movie with your friends. So that is what we did. It was a fun evening, even though not all of us elected to stay to the end of the last movie (which came at about 2:30 am.)



Notes from National

MENSA NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The following national Mensa award winners were announced at the Awards Luncheon at the Annual Gathering in Denver on Friday, July 4. Congratulations to all of the winners!

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN'S AWARDS

John Recht
Marc Lederman
Maria Sawczuk
The "Chicago 8," as presented at HalloweeM 2007:
BethAnne Demeter, Chris Edwards, Janet Century, Rosalind Marcotte, Conrad Pomykala, Carolyn Pomykala, Mikey Wolstein, Matt Crawford

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD *(for outstanding and dedicated volunteer service to the organization)*

Stacey Kirsch (with life membership)
Dr. Michael Jacobson
Judy Vasiliauskas
Susan Ramsdell

NATIONAL SERVICE AWARD *(for contributing greatly to the growth and betterment of the organization)*

Bob Beatty
Deborah Ruf

LSAT EVALUATION IS FREE IN AUGUST

During the month of August, American Mensa will evaluate LSAT scores for prior evidence at no charge (the regular price is \$40.) If you know lawyers or law students who might be interested in Mensa membership, they can sub-

mit LSAT information and an application between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31 to take advantage of this offer.

MERF PODCASTS AVAILABLE

For more than 30 years, the Mensa Education & Research Foundation has been a strong voice in supporting intelligence, and now it has a voice you can hear.

Introducing the Mensa Education & Research Foundation podcast "Conversations with Mensa," available for listening or download at www.mensafoundation.org/conversations. Each Conversation features up to 45 minutes of dialog between Mensans and experts in fields related to the Foundation's educational mission. A Conversation on "Women and Creativity" has recently been produced as part of the the Mensa Research Journal series. Another Conversation on "The Art of the Bluff" has been produced as part of the "Our Curiosity Shop" series. A series linked with our Colloquiums is planned to launch in the near future.

Visit the Conversations pages anytime to take part in this exciting new program!

The nice thing about being a celebrity is that if you bore people they think it's their fault."

Henry Kissinger (1923-)

Mensa is an international society whose sole membership requirement is a score in the top two percent of the general population on an approved intelligence test. It is non-profit, has no religious or political affiliations, and promotes no official positions. Send address changes and requests for information to: **American Mensa Ltd., National Office, 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington TX 76006-6013, 817-607-0060, e-mail:** AmericanMensa@mensa.org. DelaMensa is the official publication of Delaware Mensa, local group number 197 of American Mensa Ltd. *Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors, and should not be construed as official opinions of either American Mensa Ltd. Or Delaware Mensa.* Manuscripts and letters are welcome, but must be original and unpublished. Reprints will be considered if accompanied by written permission from the copyright holder. All submissions must be signed, although the name of the author will be withheld upon request. Deadlines are shown on the calendar included in the newsletter. All submissions should be sent to the Editor at the address listed in the directory on page 1.



Editor:
Keith Johnson
181 Proctors Purchase
Hartly DE 19953

Postmaster: Send change of address notification to:
American Mensa Ltd.
National Office
1229 Corporate Dr. West
Arlington TX 76006-6103

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.

AUGUST 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	7	8	9
10	11 Lunch Bunch	12 Dining Out With Nerds	13	14	15	16 Full Moon Dim Sum Dinner
17	18	19	20 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	21	22	23
24	25 DelaMensa Deadline	26	27	28	29	30 New Moon Photography Tour Longwood Gardens
31						
DelaMensa			6	August 2008		