



DelaMensa

Volume 36, Number 1

January 2010

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EXCOMmunications - January 2010

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Welcome to 2010! I wish you health, happiness and prosperity in this new year.

This month is CHOCK-FULL of events – I hope you can make it to some (including my birthday party on the 23rd)! Many of our events are early in the month, so relying on the newsletter alone is not the best way to keep informed. New events (sometimes spontaneous ones) are announced on our Yahoo group first. Not a member of the Yahoo group? You can subscribe by visiting the group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DelawareMensa/>. There's minimal traffic, so join today!

If you are interested, there are spots available on my dodge ball team. We play in Trolley Square one night a week (either Tuesdays or Wednesdays) for about an hour, and then head out to a sponsoring bar to hang out. We use a Nerf-like ball, so you won't get hurt if you get hit, and it's all for fun, so you don't have to be good (believe me!).

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

Have you signed up for the AG in Detroit yet? We are on a record-setting pace for attendees – already over 1173 people have signed up to join us from June 30 to July5! So far, we have 9 people going from our group. I'd love to see that increase substantially (especially since I am chairing the event). If you have questions about the AG, let me know, or join our yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/m-us-ag-2010/>

DM

COMING EVENTS!

DELAWARE MENSA'S MONTH OF GAMES

To give you a running start into the new year, we have planned three Games Days in January (on top of the three Trivia Nights!)

GAMES DAY NUMBER 1: Join Delaware Mensa for an afternoon of board games at Jim Lee's house in Trolley Square, Wilmington.

SATURDAY JANUARY 9th - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Games Day @ Jim Lee's, 1315 Gilpin Avenue, Wilmington DE 19806. An RSVP to Jim at 302-562-5132 (cell) is requested

GAMES DAY NUMBER 2: Join Delaware Mensa for an afternoon of board games at Dee Richardson's house on Duncan Road in Wilmington.

SATURDAY JANUARY 16th 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Games Day @ Dee Richardson's, 3101 Duncan Road, Wilmington DE 19808, Please bring games. I only have the oldies -- Scrabble & Boggle, cards and Mahjong (which I don't know how to play). Please RSVP to Dee at 302-892-2299, busydeee@comcast.net. "Apres-Tea" are most

welcome! Maybe we'll order pizza for dinner!

GAMES DAY NUMBER 3: Join Delaware Mensa for an afternoon of board games at Judith Armstrong's house in Hockessin.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30th - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Games Day @ Judith Armstrong's new home in Hockessin. Please RSVP to 235-8462 by noon January 30 for directions.

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 January 16 at 12:00 noon. 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.

(Continued on page 2)

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

Coming Events (Continued from page 1)

DATE: Saturday, January 16, 2010

TIME: 12:00 noon

PLACE: British Bell Tea Room, Peoples Plaza, Glasgow.
To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or [le-galady@...](mailto:legalady@...) (legalady <at> magpage <dot> com)

MARIA'S 43rd ANNUAL BIRTHDAY the Narcissitic Event of the Year!

January 23, 2010 - At the Quality Inn and Suites (the old Damon's for those familiar), Route 202 (Talleville), Wilmington, Delaware - 302-478-2222 <http://www.qualityinn.com/hotel-wilmington-delaware-DE042>

Rooms available for \$79.99/night - to get the rate, call and ask for Maria's Party Rate. You'll want to get a room, so you don't have to worry about driving home - and because you won't want to leave!

Elvis will be there, and so should you! Jim Parsley, Award-Winning Elvis Tribute Artist will be performing all night. We'll also have karaoke too.

Here's the deal on food and drink - I'll supply beer and wine - if you want anything special, you bring your own (and get a room, so we don't have to worry about you). You bring a covered dish of some sort - pizza, home-cooked goodie, cookies, whatever - no need to feed 200 - just what you would bring to someone's house party. When 200 people each bring a covered dish, you don't run out of food! Mom promises her fabulous roast beef!

Let me know if you have any questions - feel free to bring family and friends too! Let me know if you want an invite for planning purposes!

DATE: Saturday, January 23, 2010

TIME: 7:00 pm til whenever

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

MONTHLY MENSA MOVIE MADNESS

Adam Smargon hosts Monthly Movie Night at The Centre at Studio Green in Newark DE; it's a new residential clubhouse with a medium-sized movie theatre. The 2004 Pixar film "The Incredibles" will be screened at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday 19 January. The movie centers around the Parr family, each of whom has superpowers. After the government orders superheroes to live a normal life, Bob Parr (formerly Mr. Incredible) secretly returns to being a superhero behind his family's back.

Directions: From Elkton Road in Newark, turn west on Thorn Lane. Pass the fire house, and you'll see The Centre on the left. Park in the lot across the street, or in the lot behind The Centre. Next month's movie is TBA, but Adam is happy to take suggestions. Note: Studio Green's residents are also invited, and attendance is limited to the first 23 people. Contact Adam for more information: 302/561-4585 or adam@smargon.net.

MENSA NEWS!

American Mensa announces members' picks for Top 50 Web Sites

It's official! American Mensans nominated, voted and then voted again, and the winners of American Mensa's Top 50 Web Sites were announced in early March. More than 10,000 votes were cast during the selection process.

Beginning in November, current members were invited to nominate their favorite family-friendly Web sites and to volunteer to take part in the voting. Two rounds of member voting in December and January cut the list of more than 300 sites to 100 and then finally to 50. Members determined their own level of involvement in the voting but were encouraged to vote more than once if they so desired.

Our sincere thanks to all the members who helped create this list, which is a first for American Mensa. For links to all 50 sites, visit www.us.mensa.org/topsites.



Marc My Words

by Marc Lederman, Region 2 RVC

The AMC met via teleconference on December 1. The actions taken at that meeting were to establish a Supervised Testing Support Committee, appoint three International Leadership Development Ambassadors to attend the European Mensa Annual Gathering 2010, approve the minutes of the October AMC meeting, and appoint a new chair of the Gifted Youth Committee.

The National Nominating Committee is looking for three members from each region to become NomCom mem-

bers. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact either your LocSec or me.

Last month I spent a week vacationing in New Orleans. While I was there I attended a local group event and spent a few hours meeting some of the local members. If you are going on vacation and want to meet local members, I highly recommend looking at the local group's newsletter online before you go, and arrange to attend a local event.



It's time to renew your Mensa membership.

Renew online at
www.us.mensa.org/renew
or call 888/294-8035 ext.
199

Celebrations

As of November 30, we had 176 members.

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Alexis Campbell	1/10
Geoffrey Weyer	1/13
James Carroll	1/14
Thomas Desmond	1/14
Michael Ross	1/19
Maria Sawczuk	1/20
Judith Armstrong	1/21
Jodi Walker	1/30

*(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>
Judith Armstrong	1966
Robert Abel	1979
George Majors	1980
Richard Hartland	1984
Howard Layton	1985 (25 YEARS!)
John Carson	2003
Kari Goral	2003
David Moak	2003
Michael Wenderler	2003
Harry Albert	2004
Terrance Blanch	2004
Thomas Keane	2004
Francis Murray	2004
James Lee	2006
Ankush Bansal	2007
Beverly Wright	2009

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to:

Po Shan Cheah, who moved to New Castle from Montvale, NJ,
and New Member Jordan McGee of Wilmington

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

By John Grover

This month we will consider one of the most versatile and popular grapes in the world, Merlot. And, then we will combine it with a wonderful dish for entertaining from Morocco. As you might expect, the recipe involves beef and grilling.

Merlot is famous as a blending grape. It is combined with other varieties, such as Cabernet Franc, to soften the more severe edges of the Cabernet Sauvignon grape. From these marriages come the classic Bordeaux blends. But, the New World wine growers of Australia, California and Chile have brought out Merlot as a fruity and smooth varietal wine on its own. And, most importantly, this style has been embraced by the affluent North American market.

The wine this month is the 2007 "Reserve" Merlot from Santa Ema vineyards of Chile. This is one of those wines that genuinely improve with being allowed to breathe before serving. Decanting this wine about an hour before should suffice. The wine greets you with a nose that conveys rich berry fruit and a hint of coffee (The Boss gave me one of those looks when I mentioned the latter.). But then, it is round and full bodied in the mouth. Roll this wine across the tongue and the tastes of plum, blackberry and spice clearly come through. This complex but smooth and well balanced wine is an equal match to the spices found in the marinade below. I have found this wine for between \$9 and \$12 a bottle.

KEBAB KOUTBANE - Appetizer Kebabs in a Moorish Marinade

This typically Moroccan dish is an excellent hors d'oeuvre to serve at any time. It is amazing how the small cubes of suet (beef fat) improve the flavor of the kebab after some of the fat has burned off. The use of suet is particularly effective when cooking kebabs over a charcoal fire. If no one has a dietary restriction, you can substitute bacon for the suet.

Cut 1 lb. FILLET OF BEEF OR STEAK into 3/4-inch cubes (approximately 32 cubes).

Cut 1/2 lb. BEEF SUET (it's really just fat guys) into 1/2-inch cubes.

In an 8 x 10-inch shallow baking dish, prepare the Moorish Marinade:

Combine: 1/4 cup ONION, finely chopped and 2 Tbs. PARSLEY, finely chopped.

Blend: 1/2 cup OLIVE OIL; 1 tsp. SALT; 1/4 tsp. PEPPER (always fresh ground); 1/4 tsp. GARLIC POWDER; 1 tsp. GROUND CORIANDER; 1/2 tsp. GROUND CUMIN

Blend the beef and suet cubes with the marinade and allow the mixture to marinate for several hours (over night is the best).

Thread pieces of beef alternately with pieces of suet (start and end with beef) on a 6-inch metal or bamboo skewers. Yield: 8 6-inch kebabs

Grill or Broil using a hot fire, basting occasionally with the marinade.

This should cook in five to eight minutes. The fat from the suet and oil from the marinade will help to flame the fire and sear the outside of the meat while still rare to medium inside. This dish has been a hit when we have served it (a hungry pack of wolves comes to mind).

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.

CULTUREQUEST 2010

Culturequest 2010, the annual Mensa contest of cultural knowledge, will be the last Sunday in April. Do you know the answers to some of these questions from a past edition:

- In what field is the Reynolds number used? Define/describe the Reynolds Number.
- What was the name of the workhorse in "Animal Farm?"
- Provide the chemical names of the following food ingredients:
 - Acetic acid
 - Ascorbic acid

-Caffeine

-Citric acid

-Dextrose

-Phosphoric acid

-Potassium sorbate

-Sodium benzoate

- Translate the following into Spanish: "do not call me next Sunday afternoon. I will be taking a test."

If you knew the answers to ANY of these questions without consulting reference material, we desperately need you on our next team!

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

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Tues, Jan 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.
Sat, Jan 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, Jan 11	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, Jan 14	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, Jan 16	2:00 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.
Sat, Jan 16	2 to 5 pm, Games Day at Dee's, 3101 Duncan Road, Wilmington DE 19808. Please bring games. RSVP to Dee at 302-892-2299, busydeeee@comcast.net .
Tues, Jan 19	7:00 pm, Movie Night at The Centre at Studio Green in Newark DE. This week, "The Incredibles," seats are limited. For info, contact Adam, at 302-561-4585 or adam@smargon.net
Wed, Jan 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, Jan 30	1 to 4 pm, Games Day at Judith's new house in Hockessin. Please RSVP to 235-8462 by noon January 30 for directions.
Tues, Feb 2	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, Jan 23	7 pm to ??, Maria's Birthday Party. Old Damon's Restaurant (Quality Inn & Suites), Route 202 at Silverside Road, Wilmington. To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com

Your event here!!

DM

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.



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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.

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	6	7	8	9 Games Day at Jim's
10	11 Lunch Bunch	12	13	14 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	15 New Moon	16 Afternoon Tea Games Day at Dee's
17	18 MLK Day	19 Movie Night Studio Green	20 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	21	22	23 Maria's Birthday Party
24	25 DelaMensa Deadline	26	27	28	29	30 Full Moon Games Day at Judith's
31	1	2 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	3	4	5	
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