



DelaMensa

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June 2009

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EXCOMmunications - June 2009

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Whenever I think summer's here for good, it turns cold again. Oh well, I guess if it were hot I'd be complaining that we had no spring. The weather is deceiving though – I can't believe the AG is only a month away (and the AG I am chairing in Detroit is only a year away)! Are you planning to go to the AG this year? In case you don't know, it's in Pittsburgh, which is an easy 6 hour drive from northern Delaware, and a short (and cheap) flight from Philadelphia International. It's great to have an AG so close by – if you've never been, this is a perfect one to make your first, even if you can only make it for the weekend. I can almost guarantee you'll be hooked, and you'll realize just how much your Mensa membership has to offer! Check out the list of programs, events and all the information you need to plan your trip at www.ag.us.mensa.org.

Even if you don't want to travel, you can make the most of your membership right here in Delaware. We have tons of events planned for the summer. Check the calendar, and be sure to sign up for the Yahoo group – we announce everything there first! Also, our Third Annual Regional Gathering is just around the corner. It promises to be big-

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ger and better than ever. Mark your calendar for September 11-13 and meet us at our new hotel host - the Quality Inn and Suites, 4000 Concord Pike (Route 202) in Talleyville. Bring your appetite for learning, fun, games, and friends – oh – and food – for our food-themed soiree – Eat Drink and Be Mensan! Expect great food, speakers, games, poolside fun, karaoke, and the return of favorite entertainer Todd Chappelle! Keep an eye on our website and the Yahoo group for more details.

DM

COMING EVENTS!

Great events – but we need your RSVPs ASAP!

SOLDIERS WITHOUT GUNS: WOMEN DEFENSE WORKERS IN WWII - SATURDAY, JUNE 6

In this living history performance, meet Rose Helen Niemiec, a housewife who decides to do her bit for the war effort by working as a welder in a shipyard. Presented by Stacy Roth, this program features songs, a display of period artifacts, and an invitation to the audience to share memories and family stories. This event is offered to the public as part of First Saturdays in the First State.

Following the program, we will take a guided tour of Legislative Hall. There will be other lectures and walking tours going on that day. Be flexible and we can spend a whole day in our Capitol City, and end with dinner.

DATE: Saturday, June 6, 2009

TIME: 12:30 p.m.

PLACE: Legislative Hall, Dover

To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com.

A PROPER AFTERNOON TEA - SAT, JUNE 20

We are really enjoying our afternoon teas and are making these a monthly event. I hope you can come out to join us - please RSVP so we have enough seats - it's a small place!

Join Delaware Mensa for a proper afternoon tea. We will meet at the British Bell Tea Room in Peoples Plaza in Glasgow on Saturday May 16 at 2:00 p.m.

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.

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

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

On May 6, Delaware Mensa returned to Wilmington University for a dinner meeting and discussion on Vision 2015. The dinner was sponsored by Wilmington University, and the speaker was Robert Rescigno, a member of the Vision 2015 Steering Committee.



Robert Rescigno, Our Speaker for the night.

The purpose of Vision 2015 is to develop an educational system that can provide a world-class education to every student in Delaware. The program was started in 2006 with the realization that

Delaware spending per student was 8th in the nation, while performance was 27th in the nation, and falling.

The approach taken by the Committee, which started its work with private funding, was to research educational systems around the world, learn what works, and enroll schools in an academy for school leadership. They enrolled a cross-section of Delaware schools in the program, indoctrinating 118 educators from across the state the first year, and 82 additional educators the second year. They currently have leaders in 21 schools in Delaware.

Their initial research led to six basic principles to build on:

- Set sights high
- Invest in early childhood education
- Develop and support great teachers
- Empower principals to be great leaders
- Encourage instructional innovation
- Establish a simple and fair school funding system

After the initial curriculum, the program has continued to fine-tune the process for what works best in Delaware.

They have put together a program that makes a lot of sense. You don't get high performance without setting high goals. Starting early catches kids when they learn the quickest and are the most impressionable, but its not clear if the advantages hold up over time. And the people closest to the kids, the teachers, are the ones who will do it all.

If they can complete their work, it sounds like a great time to be a student in Delaware (but it's not enough to make me want to go back to high school.)



A good crowd was there to hear about plans for education in Delaware.

TEA FOR TWENTY

It was so much fun the first time, we had to do it again! Our Anglophile Mensans are hooked.

Delaware Mensa arrived at the British Bell Tea Room in Peoples Plaza, Glasgow, at 2 o'clock on Saturday May 16, for Afternoon Tea. The menu of sandwiches, scones, desserts, banger rolls and soup or salad, not to mention tea, was every bit as good as before.

Besides the dining room, features of the British Bell include a retail shop (with teas, cups, pots, and assorted other paraphernalia,) a children's tea room, a soon-to-open Wine Gallery, and an occasional Murder Mystery High Tea Theater. More information is at www.BritishBellTea.com.

We're going back on June 20th. Call Maria before June 14th to reserve your spot.



Join us for Tea in June

Celebrations

As of March 31, we had 178 members. As of April 30 we had 153 members (DON'T FORGET TO RENEW!)

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Paul Altiero	6/4
William Mace	6/4
Susane Moskalski	6/8
Shawn Hale	6/11
Richard Schneider	6/14
Ronald Baldwin	6/16
Stephen Shisler	6/20

(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>
Frances Joseph	1977
Shawn Hale	1989 (20 YEARS!!)
Ann Warner	1991
Joan Sorflaten	1994 (15 YEARS!!)
Eric Wolf	2003
Matthew Latocha	2004 (5 YEARS!!)
Anthony McGuire	2007

(NOTE ABOUT RENEWALS: The rule is, "once a Mensan, always a Mensan," that is, if you join once, you can always renew your membership. BUT, a lapse in membership, according to records at the National Headquarters, will reset your length of membership. We have several members who are disappointed at the "Member since" date shown by their name. We recommend you renew on time, or buy a life membership, and if you can document continuous membership longer than reported here, we will do everything we can to get your records at National corrected.)

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

By John Grover

This month we will focus on a wine (and food) for summer. There are a number of wines that seem to be just made for an idyllic picnic or for sitting on the lawn at Tanglewood while listening to the classical music and contemplating the stars above. This month's selection is from Portugal.

Vinho Verde is a wine made for warm summer evenings. This wine is produced in the Minho province of Portugal. Its name means "green wine", which does not refer to the color of this white wine. Rather, the name alludes to the fact that it should be consumed fresh and young. Vinho Verde is slightly effervescent and should be served well chilled. The high acidity of this wine gives it a crisp taste and makes it a good partner for chicken and seafood, either grilled or in salads. This is a very sensible wine for those hot days ahead, because it is relatively low in alcohol (around 8.5 to 10%).

Some of the good and affordable labels for Vinho Verde include Casal Garcia, Alianca and Aveleda. These brands can be found for about \$6.99 to \$8.99 a 750 ml bottle.

This month's recipe is devoted to the summer barbecue. While you are cooking that chicken or seafood, let me suggest adding some vegetables for the grill. Not only will you be providing something healthy to your family and guests, it is so good that you will think a plague of locusts attacked the serving platter.

Marinated roasted vegetables

Summer squash, zucchini squash, red and green peppers, tomatoes, eggplant and Vadalia onions

Slice vegetables into large enough pieces so they don't fall through the barbecue grate, marinade (at least an hour) and cook for about 5 minutes a side.



Marinade recipe (actually the "Classic French Dressing" from the original Fannie Farmer Cookbook,)

Ingredients: ½ cup olive oil, 2 tbsp red wine vinegar, 1 tsp salt, ½ tsp garlic powder and ½ tsp fresh ground pepper

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.

AML Statistics—April 2009

Total membership	46,952
New and reinstating membership	898
Offers of membership	370
New members since April 2009	405
Reinstating members since April 2009	493

A full report of monthly statistics is available on the AML Web site at www.us.mensa.org/officerresources.

MINDGAMES Results

More than 200 Mensa members came together April 24-26 to play 48 hours straight of Mind Games®. They played more than 40 games, then voted to select these five winning games to bear the Mensa Select® seal:

Cornerstone (Good Company Games): This 3D strategy game requires a steady hand and clever mind in order to build, climb and race to the top before it all comes tumbling down.

Dominion (Rio Grande Games): Players compete to create the best deck of



cards by buying action, treasure and victory cards. The deck with the most victory points wins.

Marrakech (Fundex Games): Each player takes the role of a salesperson who tries

to outwit the others. Roll the dice, move Assam and determine whether you must make a payment to lay a rug.

Stratum™ (Family Games Inc.): Following the layering laws, each player tries to cover up their opponent's pieces. The player with most exposed pieces wins!

Tic-Tac-Ku™ (Mad Cave Bird Games): In this exciting twist on the age-old favorite Tic-Tac-Toe, each player determines in which of nine playing areas his opponent may play. The object is to win the most playing areas.

During the Mind Games competition, Mensa members play and rate new board and card games. The five games that rate the highest are named Mensa Select and may display the Mensa Select seal on their packaging. To learn about these games or winning games from years past, visit www.mindgames.us.mensa.org. To buy them, visit www.mensaboutique.com.

Congratulations to the winners, and a big thank you to all of

Mindgames 2010 will be held April 16-18 in San Diego, CA

How Many Dogs Does It Take to Change a Light Bulb?

Australian Shepherd: First we put all the bulbs in a little circle...

Beagle: Light bulb? You mean that thing I ate was a light bulb?

Border Collie: Just one. And I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code.

Cocker Spaniel: Why change it? I can still pee on the carpet in the dark.

Dachshund: I can't reach the stupid lamp!

Greyhound: It isn't moving who cares?

Golden Retriever: The sun is shining, the day is young, and we've got our whole lives in front of us, and you're worrying about a stupid burned-out light bulb?

Pointer: I see it! There it is! Right there!

Rottweiler: Go ahead, make me.

Cat: You need light to see?

Borrowed from <http://www.nanceestar.com>

COMING EVENTS *(Continued from page 1)*

WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP BY JUNE 14 IN ORDER TO RESERVE ENOUGH SEATS!

DATE: Saturday, June 20, 2009

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: British Bell Tea Room, Peoples Plaza, Glasgow To RSVP, contact Maria Sawczuk **BEFORE JUNE 14**, at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com.

Travel smart in 2009

Have you resolved to save money on travel this year? Have you visited www.us.mensa.org/travel recently? American Mensa has partnered with the YTB Travel Network to provide an entire Web site to handle all of your travel-related needs. At this fully integrated site, you can:

- Book your flight, hotel and car for any trip;
- Search for cruise deals, international vacation packages and last-minute getaways;
- Process online flight check-in;
- Track traveler health advisories, passport requirements and airport delays;
- Sign up for a weekly "deals & steals" e-newsletter;
- Set up a honeymoon travel registry.

Enjoy your trips!

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

SECOND THURSDAY 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.

**NEW LOCATION—
now on Second Thursdays in Wilmington!**

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.

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 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

If Dracula can't see his reflection in a mirror,
how come his hair is always so neatly combed?
Steven Wright

Keep away from people who try to belittle your
ambitions. Small people always do that, but the
really great make you feel that you, too, can be-
come great.

Mark Twain

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Wed, June 3	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. First Wednesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com.
Sat, June 6	12:30 pm, Soldiers Without Guns; Women Defense Workers in WWII, Legislative Hall, Dover. RSVP ASAP to Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Mon, June 8	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, June 11	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.
Wed, June 17	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, June 20	2 pm, Afternoon Tea, British Bell Tea Room, 890 Peoples Plaza, Newark . Must have RSVP by June 14. For info, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Wed, July 1	6 to 8 pm, Downstate Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia, at Buffalo Wild Wings, 680 South Bay Rd, Dover. First Wednesday of each month we'll be in Dover. To RSVP, e-mail Leah at bluepointjive@gmail.com.

Your event here!!

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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.

June 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3 NTN Trivia Night	4	5	6 Soldiers without Guns
7 Full Moon	8 Lunch Bunch	9	10	11 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	12	13
14 Flag Day	15	16	17 Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night	18	19	20 Afternoon Tea
21 Summer Solstice Father's Day	22 New Moon	23 DelaMensa Deadline	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
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