



DelaMensa

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September/October 2009

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EXCOMmunications - October 2009

By: Maria Sawczuk, Local Secretary

Another year, another Mensa Testing Day! On Saturday, October 17, Delaware Mensa will be participating in the national campaign to test potential members. We are working on the site, so please keep your eyes peeled. Have you any friends and/or family members whom you think are Mensa material? Let them know about Mensa and tell them to sign up to test.

Did you know all of our events start with someone saying "Wouldn't it be fun if...?" Do you have an idea for a speaker – topic or person? Or have you happened upon a fun museum, store or other Delaware gem and want to share it with others? Please let me, or any other member of the ExComm know, as we plan the upcoming activities. We can use your help to cover the state!

I know it seems early, but are you considering attending the Annual Gathering (AG) in July in Dearborn, Michigan? Let me try to talk you into it. As many of you know, I'm the chair of the AG, and we are planning some spectacular

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

events in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Mensa in North America. Come celebrate with your neighbors to the north, Mensa Canada. There promises to be something for everyone! If you have any questions about AGs, just ask me. Registration is only \$80 until December 31 - that's for SIX days of food, friends and entertainment. Hope to see you there!

DM

COMING EVENTS!

We need your RSVPs ASAP!

A PROPER AFTERNOON TEA - SAT, OCT 10

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 Oct 10 at 2:00 p.m.

Afternoon tea, complete with sandwiches, scones, desserts and of course, your choice of tea, is only \$19 per person. 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.



WE MUST HAVE AN RSVP ASAP IN ORDER TO RESERVE ENOUGH SEATS!

DATE: Saturday, October 10, 2009

TIME: 12:00 noon

PLACE: British Bell Tea Room, Peoples Plaza, Glasgow
To **RSVP**, contact Maria Sawczuk **BEFORE AUGUST 10**, at 302-893-5118 or legalady@magpage.com.

MENSA TESTING DAY—SAT, OCT 17

MTD is here again. If you have any friends or family or acquaintances you think are prospects, Urge them to give it a try. We're still working on the time and place, so contact Maria to get the details. We do test year-round, and there are many alternate tests that can be accepted as evidence of eligibility. [NOTE: The Mensa Admission Test can only be taken ONCE, so candidates should be ready to think when they walk in the door.]

DATE: Saturday, October 17, 2009

TIME: TBD

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

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

Celebrations

As of August 31, we had 170 members.

A Happy Birthday to these Mensans :

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Roy Jackson	9/4
William Bialk	9/12
Henry Milligan	9/16
Karl Boettcher	9/17
Paul Stitik II	9/17
Anthony Eros	9/20
Lorelei Hunt	9/22
Richard Hartland	9/23
David Sechler	9/26
Frederick Bryner	9/27
Coralee Witham	9/27
James Masotti	9/29
Leah Kinder	10/8
Jennifer Johnson	10/9
Andrew Trachtman	10/11
Steven Michel	10/12
Jeffrey Pearson	10/16
Franklin Ward	10/16
Michael McQuade	10/21
Jason Nomura	10/25
Jack Varsalona	10/29
Kari Goral	10/30
Brian Miller	10/31

(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>
September:	Paul Thompson	1977
	Richard Diller	1981
	George Daly	1987
	Maria Sawczuk	1999 (10 YEARS!!)
	Jodi Walker	2003
	Nicole Perefege	2005
	Jacob Weyer	2005
	Lucien Jacquet	2007
	Leon Powell II	2008
	Michael Samuels	2008
	<u>Name</u>	<u>Member since:</u>
October:	William Bialk	1970
	Francis Gribbon	1976
	William Mace	1980
	Patricia Lehman	1982
	John Kurpuweit	1983
	Franklin Ward	1984 (25 YEARS!!)
	Beverly Williams	1984 (25 YEARS!!)
	Paul Sedoti	1986
	Barbara Sikora	1986
	Jean Armstrong	1989 (20 YEARS!!)
	Andrew Trachtman	2003
	Geoffrey Weyer	2004 (5 YEARS!!)
	Damien Brady	2007
	Michael Landmann	2007

And a warm Delaware Mensa welcome to:

New Members Jennifer Johnson of Wilmington; Adam Smargon, who moved to Newark from Epping, NH;
Joyce Stevenson of Mullica Hill, NJ, who preferenced into our group;
Reginald Berkes, who moved to Wilmington from Denver, CO ;
Sine Callanan, who moved to Newark from North Quincy, MA, and
Reinstating Members Patricia Caldwell of Hockessin and Charles Masland of Dover

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the membership,

Mighty Mensan Uncle Al (Orange County, CA) requests your help. The Foundational Questions Institute has an essay contest, "What is Ultimately Possible in Physics?" Visit and rate Uncle Al's entry, "Pursuing the Limits of Failed Symmetry" four up from the bottom of the list, and others as please you. Thank you!

<http://www.mazepath.com/uncleal/fqxi.htm>

Lyric summary (physics - gotta dance!) and voting procedure

Uncle Al

<http://www.mazepath.com/uncleal/>
(Toxic URL! Unsafe for children and most mammals)
<http://www.mazepath.com/uncleal/lajos.htm#a2>

Marc My Words

by Marc Lederman, Region 2 RVC

I was hoping to attend Thomas Jefferson Mensa's annual Corn Boil this summer, but I ended up getting a 9 week old Bernese Mountain Dog that day, and had to spend the day playing with the puppy. More than 90 people attended this year's event, hosted by Dave and Liz Remine at their Luray, Virginia home.

Mensa Testing Day is being held on Saturday, October 17. More than 75 local groups have already signed up, including six of the ten groups in our region. Just in time for Mensa Testing Day, American Mensa is launching "Testing Vouchers," allowing prospects to pre-pay for their testing! Beginning Aug. 31, prospects can visit the Join area on our Web site or directly at www.us.mensa.org/testingvoucher and pre-purchase a testing session for \$40. These vouchers are similar to our gift certificates in that the bearers own and can redeem them. The vouchers are the equivalent of cash, can only be used once, and will be good for two years from the purchase date. If you're looking for a gift for friends who have yet to join, think about buying them a Testing Voucher.

A list of Frequently Asked Questions covering the American Mensa Committee (AMC) as well as the Mensa Constitution, AML Bylaws and ASIEs has been added to the Mensa Web site. Visit www.us.mensa.org/amc and click on the first option under AMC & Appointees. The page also includes a link to submit your question(s).

American Mensa announces a new affiliation regarding the sale of branded products. Fox Imaging is now the Official Store of American Mensa Products and will be your source for Mensa-branded apparel and other products including Mensa Select(r) games, books, pins and more. You can contact Dave or Lynne at Fox Imaging at 800-397-4156 or view their catalog online at www.foximaging.com.

This new affiliation means that American Mensa's official relationship with the Zancas and the Mensa Boutique has come to an end. Joe Zanca was my RVC when I joined Mensa in 1992, and I still remember the day I met him less than a year later. I've spent hundreds of hours talking to Joe and his wife Nancy over the years, and they are two of the nicest people I've met through Mensa. I hope we all get a chance to see them at upcoming AGs when they don't have to spend every waking hour hard at work.

If man asks for many laws it is only because he is sure that his neighbor needs them; privately he is an unphilosophical anarchist, and thinks laws in his own case superfluous.

Will Durant



Winter Solstice RG

December 18 – 20, 2009

Bird-in-Hand Family Inn - Bird-in-Hand, PA



Saturday night buffet

2 indoor pools and a large hot tub

Plenty of shopping at more than 200 Outlets

Free Amish Farmlands tour (inquire with the hotel when you make your reservations)

More to come!

Hotel Info: Bird-in-Hand Family Inn 2740 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505, 800-627-1910. Room Rates: \$99 (SR), \$99 (DR), \$109 (TR), \$119 (QR). Reservations must be made by November 4. Mention Mensa when you make your reservation. This hotel is completely non-smoking

Special Door Prize:

Each person who registers and books a hotel room by July 31 will be entered into a drawing to receive their registration for free.

Full Registration:

\$65 (Oct 1 to Dec 7)

\$70 (after Dec 7)

Saturday Only:

\$55 (Oct 1 to Dec 7)

\$60 (after Dec 7)

Check out our RG Website: www.cpa.us.mensa.org/solstice.htm

Send your check (payable to Central Pennsylvania Mensa) to:

Mike Durakovich – 16 Lexington Drive - Shrewsbury, PA 17361

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

By John Grover

A few years ago, my domestic supervisor and I took an extended vacation to the Southern United States. One of the highlights was our visit to Savannah, Georgia. Savannah is a city replete with history, architecture, charm and very good food. The recipe this month is from a delightful restaurant called "Lady and Sons". This restaurant is the home of gourmet Southern comfort food. And, the proprietor, Paula Deen, can be seen on the Food Network.

This month's wine is from Barefoot Cellars, based in Sonoma County, California. Their non-vintage (a blend from more than one year and often more than one area) Chardonnay is a delightful example of a very good affordable wine. This wine, while down right cheap, does not exhibit the faults of the many inexpensive Chardonnays on the market today (read faults as insipid, flabby, cloying and way too much oak). Barefoot Cellars has produced a Chardonnay that is bright, crisp and with the taste of fresh apples and peaches. It is a real steal at about \$7 a bottle and goes well with a cream sauce such as the following.



Veal and Creamed Spinach (from the Savannah Country Cookbook by Paula H. Deen)

Ingredients: 4 to 6 veal scallopini; 1 egg, beaten; 1 tsp. House Seasoning (see below); 1 sleeve of Ritz crackers, crushed; 3 tbsp. olive oil; half cup white wine; 1 large onion, chopped; 1 bunch fresh spinach trimmed and cleaned; quarter cup cream; salt and pepper to taste. (The House Seasoning is 4 parts salt, 1 part pepper and 1 part garlic powder. The Boss keeps a salt shaker full of it by the stove.)

Between sheets of wax paper, pound veal into quarter inch thick slices. Beat egg adding House Seasoning. Dip veal in egg, and then dip into Ritz cracker crumbs. Sauté the veal in heated oil for about 2 minutes on each side, over medium heat. Pour wine into pan and cook for another minute or two. Remove veal. Add chopped onion and fresh spinach to pan and sauté until spinach is done, 2 or 3 minutes (don't overcook). Add cream and continue to sauté for 1 more minute or until hot. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Place on platter with veal on top of the spinach. The cookbook suggests that if you want to cut back on calories, not to add the cream. But, I say go for it.

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.

EVENT REPORT: EAT DRINK AND BE MENSAN!

On September 11 to 13, Delaware Mensa held their third annual Regional Gathering. Planning started a little late this year, and the limited publicity held the attendance down to about 40 dedicated, fun-loving Mensans.



Todd Chappelle, Comedy Guitarist

Those who made it there Friday were entertained by the irreverent and moderately funny music of Todd Chappelle. Todd has been a hit at past RGs, but this time the weather kept us from listening pool-side.

Talks on Saturday included the low-down on Coffee, rulemaking at the FDA, and a discussion on genetically engineered plants as food (the speaker informed us that they are more widespread than you thought, and more thoroughly tested than traditionally developed strains,) and a talk on sustainable farming.

Dinner was a tasty spread of Southern Barbeque, with Carolina style pork, Texas style beef, and all the fixings to go with it. Those still standing after dinner went back to the meeting room for Karaoke until the wee hours of the night. There were even a couple of people with good voices!

Everyone left with some good memories, and we're looking forward to doing it again next year.



Maria, Queen of the Karaoke Machine

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

AML Statistics—July 2009

Total membership	50,913
New and reinstating membership	616
Offers of membership	494
New members since April 2009	1,587
Reinstating members since April 2009	1,313

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

Delaware Mensa Calendar

Grab your personal calendar and write down some events!

Wed, Oct 7	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, Oct 10	Noon, Afternoon Tea, British Bell Tea Room, 890 Peoples Plaza, Newark. Must have RSVP by July 13. For info, e-mail Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Mon, Oct 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, Oct 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, Oct 17	Mensa Testing Day!! Time and place are still to be determined—contact Maria at legalady@magpage.com or call 302-893-5118.
Wed, Oct 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.
Wed, Nov 4	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!!

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.

October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Full Moon			Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night			Afternoon Tea
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Lunch Bunch			Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night		Mensa Testing Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
New Moon			Happy Hour/ NTN Trivia Night			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	DelaMensa Deadline					