MARCH 2011



Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 446



HEAD-LINE NO. 446 MARCH 2011
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

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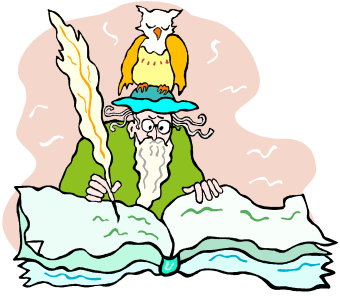
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Head-Line and Calendar items are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Camera ready contributions are appreciated, but not necessary. Calendar entries may be emailed, telephoned, or snail-mailed to the Cale4.5ndar/TGIF Coord. Permission is granted to reprint material from the Head-Line in any Mensa publication, w4.45ith appropriate credit, unless the material is copyrighted.Head-Line and Calendar items are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Camera ready contributions are appreciated, but not necessary. Calendar entries may be emailed, telephoned, or snail-mailed to the Calendar/TGIF Coord. Permission is granted to reprint material from the Head-Line in any Mensa publication, with appropriate credit, unless the material is copyrighted.



WENDY'S WORLD

Wendy Carnegie, Ediitor

I'm getting pretty tired of Winter. Last Saturday was so nice, I developed Spring Fever. Then came Sunday and WHAM--back to Winter with a vengeance! (I just discovered I've been spelling vengeance wrong for years--who knew?)There is a bright side though--the days are getting longer. The sun is up by 7:00 AM now and doesn't set until about 6:00 PM--YEAH!! I'm lovin it.

Here's a reminder. Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 13. My least favorite day of the year. I'm not a fan of loosing an hour of sleep--especially when it doesn't make sense. To me daylight saving time is just a waste of time and effort. It doesn't really save time, it just moves it around and throws everyones internal clock out of sync.

A belated Happy Birthday to Pat Thuemmel: Her birthday was Feb. 15. Sorry about missing it last month Pat.

That's about all for this month. I'm closing with an Irish wish for all of you.

AN IRISH FRIENDSHIP WISH

May there always be work for your hands to do;

May your purse always hold a coin or two;

May the sun always shine on your windowpane;

May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;

May the hand of a friend always be near you;

May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Till next monrh...



Frankly Speaking

by Frank Dolinar, LocSec

"In like a lion; out like a lamb" – is a short description of the typical weather pattern for March – and telling someone to "go fly a kite" is an honest suggestion for a fun Saturday afternoon.

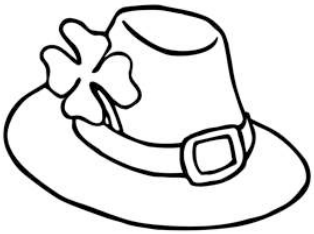
March is the month during which temperatures begin to live above freezing. The Vernal Equinox – the official beginning of Spring – will occur at 23:21 UTC (6:21 PM EDT) on March 20, but in Michigan that doesn't necessarily mean the end of Winter. The optimists among us begin to believe that Spring may be more than just a rumor. It's still early for anything that looks like a flower, except for the occasional adventuresome (foolhardy?) crocus.

For the last dozen years, March has become a feast for MSU basketball fans as Tom Izzo's teams have waltzed into high rankings at the men's NCAA Tournament. This year the men have been struggling, however, and as I write this their invitation is uncertain. But Suzy Merchant's women's basketball team appears to have a lock on the Big Ten title and better things to come at the women's NCAA Tournament. Go Green!

Our monthly speaker's program is settling down with presentations scheduled through May. Not bad for just getting started. I'm arranging an outing to MSU's National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, probably sometime in March or April. Please check the calendar for all events.

Spring will eventually be spotted in these environs and we will venture out of our cozy homes, astonished to find that all of February's snow has melted and our neighbors really do still live nearby. Perhaps we'll even socialize with other local Mensans. The welcome mat is out for all activities.

It's your Mensa.
Be part of it.



reMARK, March, 2011

Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3

Congratulations to Julia Ashley who has been recognized by The Mensa Education and Research Foundation and has been chosen for a 2010-2011 Trustee Award for her service as a Local Group (Columbus) Scholarship Chair since 2002 and a Regional Scholarship Chair since 2004. Julia, we are so very fortunate to have you as a member of Region 3.

As I write this I am awaiting the blizzard and not too pleased about it. Even though I am retired and can stay home, warm and cozy, I really dislike having my option of going out taken from me without my permission. Guess I'll catch up on some knitting and TV. When you read this I will be in Florida where, hopefully, there will be no snow.

Gotta remind you again about a few important Mensa and Region 3 happenings.

It's membership renewal time. Renew today! This is an election year and you want to be able to vote for those who will represent you on the AMC. Re-up as a Life Member and avoid the hassle of yearly dues. You can renew on-line: https://www.us.mensa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Membership_Renewals&Template=/customsource/cfauthnet_sim/forms/renewal/renewal_1.cfm

I urge you to register for Dayton Area Mensa's RG -- 24 Karats! April 1-3, 2011. Information about this great RG can be found at http://www.dayton.us.mensa.org/index_files/RG.htm. Register for Southeast Michigan Mensa's RG, SEMMantics XXXII, The SEMMinal Event of 2011, April 29-May 1. Information about this great RG can be found at http://localsemm.com/semmantics/.

Also, register for Mind Games to be held April 15 in Albany, NY: http://mindgames.us.mensa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Player_Registration&Template=/CustomSource/cfauthnet_sim/forms/mindgames/players_1.cfm

Continued on Page 4

reMARK--Continued

And, don't forget the Annual Gathering in Portland, Oregon: A Great Journey West, June 30-July 4; http://www.ag2011.us.mensa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Register_Online7&Template=/customsource/cfauthnet_sim/forms/ag11/ag_1.cfm

The next American Mensa Committee (AMC) meeting is scheduled for March 26 in Atlanta. If you are traveling in that area, please join us. I will be driving there on my way home from Florida.

LLAP and Peace,
Betsy

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Facebook group - http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=71515809887



State Trivia Answers

1. Maryland
2. Montana
3. Virginia
4. Wyoming
5. Nevada
6. Arkansas
7. Colorado

Mid-Michigan Mensa Membership

Wendy Carnegie

March 2011

159 Members

MENSAversaries

Congratulations

36 Years	Elizabeth Evangelista	36 Years	Michael Knowlton
34 Years	Phillip LaFata	16 Years	David Uhrmann
11 Years	Roberta McCall	8 Years	Gail Burns
8 Years	Maria Dickinson	8 Years	Kimberley So
9 Years	John Paduch	2 Years	Keith Shaw
2 Years	Kerry Haynor	2 Years	Eric Laverty
1 Year	Kathleen Kohagan	1 Year	Ryan Wood
1 Year	Dora Ivkovich	1 Year	Howard Lanter
1 Year	Christopher Grove	1 Year	Michael Lolich

MENSA Birthdays

Happy Birthday

2	Elizabeth Ayoub	20	Michael Dorman
23	Gary candelario	24	Michael Bohde
25	Mary Winter	26	Marie Bennett
26	Thomas Korkoske	30	Albert Hur

Moving In

Welcome

Phillip LaFata--Owosso, MI
Cory Smith--Stockbridge, MI



It really *IS THAT SIMPLE!*

Renew your membership today

www.us.mensa.org/renew
888/294-8035 ext. 199





Monthly Puzzle

Bob Henderson

A small Midwestern town is laid out in a square grid of 8 by 8 blocks. One week a mysterious contagion breaks out in several of these blocks. Despite all efforts to contain the disease, by the next week it has spread to every block that was adjacent to 2 or more of the previously-infected blocks. The disease continues to spread in this manner each week until it has run its course and the people in all 64 blocks of the town have been infected.

Can you determine the minimum number of blocks that were infected by the original outbreak? Please think of this as an abstract math problem, not a public health problem!

(Answer on Page 9)

Food For Thought

By Barb Ford

Some folks yearn all their lives for that elusive fifteen minutes of fame. Well, here at Kaiserford Farm South we can proudly proclaim we are on the map. Our chickens are on You Tube promoting their primary employer, The Screaming Rooster Restaurant in Winston-Salem. In September, Eric, Chef Kevin, and Sous Chef Carrie came out to the homestead to film "The Girls," with Smokey, the rooster. My role is that of head chicken trainer and agent for The Girls. They performed well, despite it being a windy day. They will do just about anything for a few organic oats! I do think they rather enjoy being in show business.

There are now 43 laying hens in the coop, and they are performing magnificently. Every afternoon after "work" they are let out of the big fenced chicken yard attached to the coop. They love to run around the property to graze on tidbits of this and that. Even in the winter, they manage to find bits of green grass and other yummy treats. One activity The Girls particularly enjoy is dusting themselves in Gary's painstakingly groomed garden. They throw dirt all over the place, and have a high old time. When they see me picking up pecans in the yard, they rush over and beg me to crush them on the driveway. Oh such delicious treats! Sometimes they slip through the pasture fence to visit with the neighbor's horses. What they find so interesting over there is a mystery only the chickens know. Sure is a sight to see, though.

Recently, I looked out in the yard, and saw that Tootsie had a visitor. He was a very handsome flashy rooster who evidently decided that there was more excitement at our place than wherever he came from. Maybe he was running away from the circus. Anyway, I told him he could visit, but he could not stay. That night, I found him in the coop settled on the top roost with The Girls, and Smokey. He has been here ever since. His official name is Foster Dandy, and he can really strut. Smokey keeps him in line, and The Girls seem to like him.

If you would like to see The Girls on line, go to You Tube and search for "The Screaming Rooster Commercial." There is another video on the restaurant website (wsrooster.com) right now called "The Screaming Rooster Dinner Video." While at the website, be sure to check out details about this unique new restaurant where the menu is "refined comfort food." Please go there and sample the cuisine; all prepared from local food sources. I hear their egg dishes are yummy!! Yes, this is a shameless promotion….keep The Girls employed! Now if I could only find jobs for Rocky the dog and the cats. What a story that would be...

State Trivia

By Chiam Greenberg

I'll give you the nicknames, you give me the state.

1. Free State and Old Line State
2. Treasure State
3. The Old Dominion
4. Equality State
5. Sagebrush State and Silver State
6. Wonder State and Land of Opportunity
7. Centennial State and Silver State

Answers on Page 4

Copper Wire

Internet

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, New York scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the New Yorkers, a California archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet and shortly after, a story in an LA newspaper read: "California archaeologists' discovery of 200 year old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years earlier than the New Yorkers."

One week later. A local newspaper in Michigan reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30 feet in his pasture near Houghton Lake , MI , Clem, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Bubba has therefore concluded that 300 years ago, Michigan had already gone wireless."

Just makes you proud to live in (or be from) Michigan , doesn't it?

Proofreading Is A Dying Art!

Internet

- Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and Daughter
- Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Experts Says
- Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
- Miners Refuse to Work After Death
- Juvenile Court to Tryk Shooting defendant
- War Dims Hope for Peace
- If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
- Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
- Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
- Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge
- New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
- Astronaut Takes Blame fo Gas in Spacecraft
- Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half
- Hospitals Are Sued By 7 Foot Doctors
- Typhoom Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead

Math Puzzle Answer

Each newly-infected block has 4 sides, of which at least 2 no longer seperate the previously-infected blocks from that (previously uninfected) one, and at most 2 other sides where it touches uninfected blocks. This means that the spread of the disease cannot increase the total perimeter of the infected blocks, i.e. the number of their sides that touch uninfected blocks. For all of the town's 8 by 8 blocks to become infected, the original outbreak had to have a net perimeter at least as large (32 sides), so 8 or more blocks were infected at the start.

Be A Circus Volunteer

In the past, in conjunction with the Lansing Masons, Mid-Michigan has volunteered to work with the Caravan Youth Center Circus. Mid-Michigan Mensa is reimbursed $3.50 per hour for our time. That works out to be about $12.25 per person per performance. There are 4 performances: Friday, March 11, at 7:00 PM; Saturday, March 12 at 1:30 PM; Saturday, March 12 at 6:30 PM; and Sunday, March 13 at 1:30 PM.

Volunteers are needed to take tickets, usher, assist with the animal rides, sell face painting tickets, and sell programs.

Ushers will direct patrons to their seats. They must be at their station one hour before the show starts. They will be working the bleachers and lower concourse sections, including handicap seating. Ushers will work under the direction of Breslin and Caravan supervisory staff.

Ticket takers will work at one of the four entrances taking/checking patron's tickets. They must available to open and close doors in case of an emergency during the performance, intermission, or after the show. By contract with the Breslin Center, the doors must open one hour before the performance starts. Ticket takers must work all four performances and are under the direction of Breslin and Caravan supervisory staff.

Animal ride assistants must be at their station one hour before the doors open and during intermission.

Face painting assistants will sell tickets, collect tickets, assist with crowd control and keeping the process moving. Concourse level ticket sellers must be at their station one hour before the performance starts, during intermission, and possibly after the performance.

Those selling programs will be on the concourse level and must be at their station one hour before the performance starts, during intermission, and possibly after the performance.

If you are interested, please contact John Garrison (517-349-7313) or Wendy Carnegie (517-339-1448) for an application. The applications must be completed and returned to the circus by Friday, February 11, 2011. (Address on application.)

I've (Wendy Carnegie) volunteered a couple years and enjoyed it. I've ushered and helped with face painting. Not hard and fun to watch the kids reaction when they see their face. Ushering is not hard--just on your feet before and after the performance and during intermission.

2010 DARWIN AWARDS

You've been waiting for them with bated breath, so without further ado and with no better a day than Monday; here are the 2010 Darwin Awards:

EIGHTH PLACE
In Detroit , a 41-year-old man got stuck and drowned in two feet of water after squeezing head first through an 18-inch-wide sewer grate to retrieve his car keys.

SEVENTH PLACE
A 49-year-old San Francisco stockbroker, who "totally zoned when he ran", accidentally jogged off a 100-foot high cliff on his daily run.

SIXTH PLACE
While at the beach, Daniel Jones, 21, dug an 8 foot hole for protection from the wind and had been sitting in a beach chair at the bottom, when it collapsed, burying him beneath 5 feet of sand. People on the beach used their hands and shovels trying to get him out but could not reach him. It took rescue workers using heavy equipment almost an hour to free him. Jones was pronounced dead at a hospital.

FIFTH PLACE
Santiago Alvarado, 24, was killed as he fell through the ceiling of a bicycle shop he was burglarizing. Death was caused when the long flashlight he had placed in his mouth to keep his hands free rammed into the base of his skull as he hit the floor.

FOURTH PLACE
Sylvester Briddell, Jr., 26, was killed as he won a bet with friends who said he would not put a revolver loaded with four bullets into his mouth and pull the trigger.

THIRD PLACE
After stepping around a marked police patrol car parked at the front door, a man walked into H&J Leather & Firearms intent on robbing the store. The shop was full of customers and a uniformed officer was standing at the counter. Upon seeing the officer, the would-be robber announced a hold-up and fired a few wild shots from a target pistol.

The officer and a clerk promptly returned fire, and several customers also drew their guns and fired. The robber was pronounced dead at the scene by paramedics. Crime scene investigators located 47 expended cartridge

Continued on Page 12

DARWIN AWARDS--CONTINUED

cases in the shop. The subsequent autopsy revealed 23 gunshot wounds. Ballistics identified rounds from 7 different weapons. No one else was hurt.

HONORABLE MENTION

Paul Stiller, 47, and his wife Bonnie were bored just driving around at 2 A.M. So they lit a quarter stick of dynamite to toss out the window to see what would happen. Apparently they failed to notice that the window was closed.

RUNNER UP

Kerry Bingham had been drinking with several friends when one of them said they knew a person who had bungee-jumped from a local bridge in the middle of traffic. The conversation grew more excited, and at least 10 men trooped along the walkway of the bridge at 4:30 AM. Upon arrival at the midpoint of the bridge, they discovered that no one had brought a bungee rope. Bingham, who had continued drinking, volunteered and pointed out that a coil of lineman's cable lay nearby. They secured one end around Bingham's leg and then tied the other to the bridge. His fall lasted 40 feet before the cable tightened and tore his foot off at the ankle. He miraculously survived his fall into the icy water and was rescued by two nearby fishermen. Bingham's foot was never located.

AND THE WINNER IS...

Zookeeper Friedrich Riesfeldt (Paderborn, Germany) fed his constipated elephant 22 doses of animal laxative and more than a bushel of berries, figs and prunes before the plugged-up pachyderm finally got relief. Investigators say ill-fated Friedrich, 46, was attempting to give the ailing elephant an olive oil enema when the relieved beast unloaded. The sheer force of the elephant's unexpected defecation knocked Mr. Riesfeldt to the ground where he struck his head on a rock as the elephant continued to evacuate 200 pounds of dung on top of him. It seems to be just one of those freak accidents that proves... 'Shit happens.'

IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPORTANT TO THANK THESE PEOPLE FOR REMOVING THEMSELVES FROM THE GENE POOL.



March 2011 CALENDAR

Fri., Mar. 4 **TGIF: LA SENORITA MEXICAN RESTAURANT:** 2706 Lake Lansing Rd.,Lansing. It's just west of US-127.

Fri., Mar. 11 **TGIF: FINE CHINA RESTAURANT:** 1701 S. Waverly, Lansing. It's in the strip mall between Lansing Rd. and Old Lansing Rd. Good chinese food.

Fri., Mar. 11 **STEERING COMMITTEE:** After dinner at Fine China.

Fri., Mar. 18 **TGIF: PIZZA HOUSE:** 4790 Hagadorn, E. Lansing. In the Hannah Plaza.

Fri., Mar. 25 **TGIF: GRAND TRAVERSE PIE CO:** 1403 E. Grand River Ave., E. Lansng. On the corner of Hagadorn and Grand River.

Fri., Mar. 25 **SPEAKER:** Ernst Floeter will speak on " German Soldier-POW in the USA." Mr. Floeter will speak after dinner, at about 6:30. It is not necessary to attend the dinner to come hear the speaker.

Fri., April 1 **TGIF: SWEETWATER GRILL:** 3544 Meridian Crossing, Okemos.

Fri., April 8 **TGIF: OLD GREAT WALL:** 4832 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing. Chinese buffet.

Fri. April 8 **STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING:** After dinner at the Old Great Wall.



TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet around 5:30 PM and order around 5:45 PM. Try to get there by 6:00 PM, but you're welcome at any time. We will be in the non-smoking section unless stated otherwise. Come and get acquainted. All members and friends are welcome at the events above. Any member may schedule an event. Please remember: who, what, when, where, and why. The deadline to schedule an event is the 15th of the month before the event. You can contact elizabeth Evangelista, Calendar Coord., by regular mail: 5275 E. Hidden Lake Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823; by phone: 351-3645; or by email: evangel6@comcast.net