MAY 2011

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 448



HEAD-LINE NO. 448 MAY 2011
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

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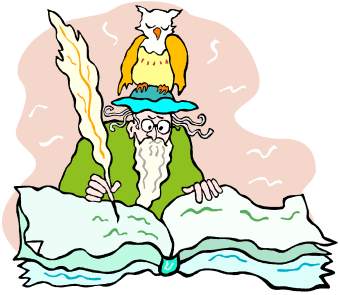
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Head-Line and Calendar items are due by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Camera ready contributions are appreciated, but not necessary. Calendar entries may be emailed, telephoned, or snail-mailed to the Calendar/TGIF Coord. Permission is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

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WENDY'S WORLD

Wendy Carnegie,

Boy am I mad. I had the *Head-line* all finished and hit the close key, thinking I had saved the whole newsletter. The May issue disappeared. Evidently I hit the don't save key and everything was gone.

I started this column originally telling about Mensa Mind Games 2011. It was in Albany, NY from April 15 to April 17. Tammy Hicks and I roomed together. We both flew in and met at the hotel. Pat Thuemmel and Joanne Sullivan roomed and Pat drove them. The photo on the cover is the four of us having a quick break in the lounge. We all had a great time.

For Mind Games 2011, game manufactuers sent American Mensa Limited (AML) almost 60 games to be played and judged by Mensa members. Each Mensan was assigned 30 games to play and judge. The criteria for judging included the following: Aesthetics--look, feel, style; Originality--structure, conept, creativity; Play Value--repeatability, longevity, price; Play Appeal--enjoyment, exitement, challenge; Instructions--brevity, clarity, completeness. I was able to play all the games assigned to me and some of the ones I wasn't assigned. My only complaint was that I didn't find any trivia games, which I like the best. There were a lot of strategy games. After the game play was finished, there was a random drawing for the games. Registered, active Mensans were able to pick the game they would like to take home. Of course, this depended on how many games each manufacturer provided and when your name was called. I was lucky and was able to get the game I wanted. It is *The 5 Second Rule*. Players have 5 seconds to name 3 types of a catagory (example: name 3 dog breeds). The timer was unique--about 5" tall with a wire coil that several bbs descended. The top 5 games voted on then have the optiion of using "Mensa Select" in their advertising. The top 5 games were: INSTRUCTURES--an exciting construction-themed game; PASSTICHE--explore the paintings, palettes, and pasts of artists in a unique and challenging game for the whole family; PIRATE VERSUS PIRATE--Pirates have discovered an island brimming with treasure; conquer the island by capturing the gold and silver, or by eliminating enemy pirates; STOMPLE--outwit your opponents by stomping their marbles before they stomp yours; UNCLE CHESTNUT'S TABLE GYPE--an abstract strategy game with a random element..

Don't forget that May starts the 6:00 PM Friday TGIFs.



Frankly Speaking

by Frank Dolinar, LocSec

Satellites make our weather a bit more predictable, but that's small consolation. One week in mid-April gave us a warm sunny day in the mid-80s, a day of snow, and a tooth-rattling thunderstorm with enough rain to flood my back yard.

Havoc enough to make one shout "Mayday!"

May 1st is often called May Day. It's a date that appears to be festooned with more holidays than any other. It's a celebration of Spring, a day of political protests, a neopagan festival, a saint's feast day, a day for organized labor, and – in many countries – a national holiday.

Cinco de Mayo – May 5th – commemorates the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the French-Mexican War. It is not Mexico's independence day, as is commonly believed, that's September 16th. In the US, Cinco de Mayo has become a celebration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with large Mexican-American populations.

Mother's Day, May 8th this year, is a day for each family to honor its mother. It is also, historically, the day when more phone calls are made than on any other day of the year. Call your mother.

Many Americans celebrate Armed Forces Day on the third Saturday of May. It is a day to salute – both figuratively and literally – the men and women who server in the US armed forces.

Memorial Day, observed on the last Monday of May, commemorates U.S. soldiers who died while in the military. It was first enacted following the Civil War and later extended to honor Americans who have died in all wars.

The trees are budding and the daffodils are celebrating the sun. Spring seems to have arrived. Get up, get out, check this month's calendar and find something to do with your fellow Mensans.

Our speaker this month is Kathy Holcomb, owner of the Absolute Gallery in Lansing's Old Town. We'll be going to the gallery for her presentation.

It's your Mensa.

Be part of it.

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reMARK, March, 2011

Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3

There's no place like home!

My very extended vacation was wonderful. Packed and unpacked 11 times. More than way too many times! I was so tired of doing so that I drove the 700+ miles from Atlanta to home with only 2 stops and no overnight. I hope to recover before SEMMantics XXXII, the Seminal Event. I do hope that you were there, too.

I just returned from the March AMC meeting in Atlanta. Please watch for my announcements and the full minutes of the meeting on both the Facebook and Yahoo group sites. I want to remind Region 3 members of our Website and our Facebook and Yahoo Groups – please join them. I use them often! And, I encourage you to do so, also. All three urls are posted below my salutation. It is possible that your editor may not have room in your newsletter to print reMARK in part or whole. You can find it at those sites. If you do not have internet access and reMARK is not printed, write to me and I'll send a copy to you. I will try to post what's happening regionally and nationally to those sites, too.

One major issue on the agenda for the March AMC meeting dealt with how members will receive their local newsletters. Please watch for your announcement from the National Office as the default option is changing on September 1. "As of September 1, 2011, electronic delivery is the default release for members to receive Local Group newsletters. Members may, via their online profile or by contacting the National Office, select print delivery of their group newsletters. Members who do not have email addresses on file, who do not release their email addresses within the organization, or who select to receive print communications via their profile will receive print communications." I did vote against this motion, as did Dan Burg, Mel Dahl, Debra Reiger, and Nick Sanford. Heather Poirier abstained and Elissa Rudolph did not vote.

I have scheduled my visits with Vandalia Mensa for May 26 at the Panera Bread restaurant located at 2830 Mountaineer Boulevard, Charleston, West Virginia 25309, 6PM. I will have lunch the following day at the IHOP located at 201 Venture Drive in Morgantown at 1PM. Looking forward to seeing Vandalia Ms and the beautiful drives!

Continued on Page 4

reMARK--Continued

Don't forget the Annual Gathering in Portland, Oregon: A Great Journey West June 30-July4. Tour announcements and other information may be found at: http://www.ag2011.us.mensa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Sitemap1&Template=/CM/SiteMap.cfm. The registration form can be found at: http://www.ag2011.us.mensa.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Register_Online7&Template=/customsource/cfauthnet_sim/forms/ag11/ag_1.cfm
Register now for the following Region 3 events:

*July 29, 2011 - July 31, 2011 - Columbus Regional Gathering; The Write Stuff in Columbus, Ohio
*September 2, 2011 - September 5, 2011 - Western PA Regional Gathering; The Birds and the Bees in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
*December 2, 2011 - December 4, 2011 - Cincinnati Regional Gathering; Just for Your CAMusement! in Cincinnati, Ohio

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

LLAP and Peace,

Betsy

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Monthly Puzzle

Bob Henderson

What is the volume of the shape remaining after you drill out a (circular) hole through the center of a sphere? You are not given the original sphere's radius, but you do know that the shape remaining is 6 inches long in the direction of the drill axis.

Answers on Page 10

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wendy Carnegie, Scribe

April 8, 2011

PRESENT: Frank Dolinar, Elizabeth Evangelista, Eileen Hatt, Wendy Carnegie, Deborah Frank, and John Garrison.

ABSENT: John Lorenz and George Harris.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Loc Sec, Frank Dolinar.

The minutes of the March 11, 2011 were accepted as printed.

Frank reported that the American Mensa Limited (AML) proposed Bylaws ammendments are ones that failed due to procedural problems in 2009. AML says the proposed amendment will correct the problem. Western Michigan Mensa is against this proposal. See the March 2011 *Mensa Bulletin*, page 10 for further information.

Frank reported that John Lorenz and George Harris have submitted resignations (for personal reasons) from the Mid-Michigan Mensa (MMM) Steering Committee. Frank has appointed Deborah Frank to fulfill the remainder of George Harris's term. She has agreed to assume the posistion of Vice Loc Sec. Frank also reported that he has appointed Doug McCall to fulfill the remainder of John Lorenz'a term.

As there were enough volunteers to fill the needed positions on the Steering Committee, no ballot election is needed. The new Steering Committee members are: Frank Dolinar--LocSec, Deborah Frank--Vice LocSec, Wendy Carnegie--Scribe, Ellizabeth Evangelista, Eileen Hatt, and Doug McCall.

Elizabeth Evangelista reported that she has speakers through the month of September. John Garrison suggestd a speaker on chess (he knows one) and to check with Rex Jones. Rex, a former MMM, is a hypnotist and John thought that he would give an interesting talk. Elizabeth said she would look into them.

Frank brought up the idea of doing a lot of Steering Committee business on line. He thought the Committee could email ideas and thoughts on business matters to each other in order to make decisions. The monthly Steering Committee meeting would then be a quick one to okay and pass any business and motions needed. The Steering Committee agreed that this was worth a try.

Continued on Page 6

Steering Committee Minutes--Continued

Deborah proposed that MMM go on facebook. She offered to do it. She said she will set it up as a business page, that way anyone can visit, but private information isn't available to the public. Deborah said we could probably set up a link or links to other IQ groups. She questioned using a local phone number as a contact. Also, she wondered about using the Mensa Logo. As it's doubtful that we can use the AML Logo, the Steering committee decided that MMM's logo (Michigan map with Lansing noted) could be used. It was decided that furthur discussion was needed on the phone number.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.



Answers to TC's Puzzles

151 Johnny Cash
152 Red Riding Hood
153 Tiger Woods
154 Montezuma
155 Houdini

Mid-Michigan Mensa Membership

Wendy Carnegie

May 2011

162 Members

MENSAversaries

Congratulations

33 Years	Charles Walton	27 Years	John Rooney
22 Years	Rona Landfield	21 Years	Joanne Sullivan
18 Years	Igor Guro	13 Years	Ronald Martoia
7 Years	Rosemarie Kelly	7 Years	Earl Longuski
6 Years	George Harris	6 Years	Carl Helwing
2 Years	Maria Koutsoukos	1 Year	Carole Barnett-Stopper
1 Year	Barbara Cliffe-Miller	1 Year	Lloyd Conway

MENSA Birthdays

Happy Birthday

1	John Rooney	6	Lyle Burpee
9	Linda Harrison	11	George Russell
16	Robert Henderson	19	Michelle Packard
19	Albert Ruff	20	Lloyd Conway
21	Bruce Lowstetter	21	Richard Shaffer
22	Richard Daniel	25	Timothy Howard
26	Joan Forgrave		

Reinstating/Renewing Members

Welcome--We're glad you're back

Angela J. Boldrey--Okemos
Steven W. Dulan--East Lansing
Kenneth F. Thomas--Jackson



Mid-Michigan Mensa Treasurer's Report

Quarter Ending March 31, 2011

Roy Saper, Treasurer

BEGINNING BALANCE		**$3,829.06**
INCOME		**399.20**
National Subsidy DJF	$398.91	
Interest	0.29	
EXPENDITURES		**448.31**
Head-Line		
Postage JFM	118.14	
Printing JFM	259.70	
Speaker Meals KP 2-18-11	25.54	
Holiday Party EE	44.93	
ACCOUNT BALANCES*		
Checking		1,231.75
Money Market		2,365.09
Post Office		183.11
ENDING BALANCE		**$3,779.95**

* Includes Scholarship Fund balance of ($949.19)

Diabologic: Nerdvana

by Frank Dolinar

I'm a software geek, aka programmer. For most of my adult working life my principal occupation has been writing code for the jobs I've had and for my own projects. But I'm a curious kind of software geek. I also like to tinker with the hardware, the components needed to construct a working computer.

For the last decade or so, I've built my own computers when I needed a new one. I learned a lot. Each cabinet had its own internal worts. This often made it difficult to unclutter the power and data cables as I put more stuff in the cabinet. I often ended up, despite my best efforts, with an environment about as difficult to find my way through as a kelp forest. Worse, these home-built computers were noisy. Very.

I began to think that building my next machine might be more effort than it was worth. I spent nearly a year determining what I really wanted to do with this hypothetical new computer and looking at options. I finally did something I'd done only twice before in a span of over two decades, I bought a new system from its manufacturer. In this case a MacPro system from Apple.

There have been a number of revelations.

When I unpacked the system plugged it in and turned it on, I was truly surprised at how quiet it was. I knew it would be relatively quiet, but after the small jet engine I'd been sharing my office with, this near silence was a bit of a shock. And on the inside, there are no power or data cables. None. Elegant.

I began transferring documents and files to the new system. Not a simple task since the old system is a PC that I had set up as a dual-boot with Ubuntu Linux. Operating system (OS) specific files needed to wait a bit. That was okay, since I discovered how many copies I had of hundreds of files. Grumble. Is it possible to run out of room in the trash?

I bought a copy of VMware Fusion, which lets me create "virtual" computers (i.e. software containers) on the computer's disk where I can install other operating systems (WinXP and Ubuntu) that talk only to VMware. This gives me a computer on which I can – and do – run three separate operating systems.

Continued on Page 10

Diabologic--Continued

At first, I only used one of these operating systems and the associated programs at a time. However, as I got more software bits in place I discovered that I was still driving along in first gear. I've come to the realization that it's possible to do some pretty geeky things on this machine using the OS and program most appropriate to the task, store the result (data) in one place (only on the Mac), and access it with whatever OS and program makes sense for the next task.

Having this new, quiet, and very fast computer lets me play in a wonderful sandbox. It's great fun and the extent of its capabilities means it will be quite a while before I run out of room in this environment. I can relax, enjoy myself, and contemplate what comes next. It's like nerdvana.

It's not perfect. It's not everything I might have imagined, but as Han Solo noted in Star Wars, "I can imagine a lot." I can't afford the cost of that of imagination.

On the other hand, I'm reminded of a line near the end of the film "The Sting", where Johnny Hooker says to Henry Gondorff, "You're right. It's not enough. But it's close."

Close will have to do… for now.

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Answer to Monthly Puzzle

Surprisingly, the remaining volume does not depend on the size of the original sphere! This volume is easiest to calculate for the limiting case of a very small drill through a 6-inch diameter sphere: (4 / 3) * Pi * r^3 for r = 3 inches, or 36 * Pi cubic inches.

Food For Thought

By Barb Ford

Some people say that I am a day dreamer. I embrace the characterization. While many folks think that day dreaming is a waste of time, I believe that it is an important precursor to achieving endless possibilities. If I don't dream something up, it can never become a reality. Right? My daydreaming ranges from daily practical matters to thinking about the near impossible. It is a form of brain candy for myself; a mind expander if you will. One of my favorite places for me to think is on my tractor while mowing the lawn. I go on auto pilot with the mowing task while solving all manner of issues in the other part of my mind. I also do this while driving alone in my car. Yes, and I am pretty confident that most folks do this from time to time…you know who you are!

Sometimes I dream up interesting building projects. Poor Gary would have to interpret my sketches to make them reality. The chicken coop with its roosts, feeders and nest boxes for instance. They work great….if only I could come up with a self-cleaning system. One more thing to add to my 'think on it' list! Currently, I am dreaming up my ideal kitchen remodel. It WILL happen!

One way I have found to relax came out of my illness years ago. I lie down and imagine walking around my dream property. Through the years I have come up with quite a comfortable, beautiful and practical place. I still go there from time to time when I am restless or trying to quiet my racing thoughts. It is a wonderful place, and it just might become a reality for me someday. Why not?

Imagine the daydreams of the great people in history. DaVinci, Einstein, Edison, Frank Lloyd Wright, Louis Pasteur, Benjamin Franklin, you and me!! What if they never dared to dream? Really! Come to think of it, the energy of human thought can be a powerful thing!

"If one advances confidently in the directions of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours"

Henry David Thoreau

TC's Puzzles

TC Shaw

#151
Family circles broken
Is what one might eschew
If singing was the business
Of the person known as Sue

#152
Can you believe my grandma
Malingering in bed
With visions of a banquet
And wishing I was dead

#153
He played a game of fool-around
His fans would find out soon
They loved him just because he was
So handy with a spoon

#154
Cortez was most insistent
He said Senor I want your land
You might save your people
Just by heeding my demand
There wasn't much that he could do
Now he evens up the score
By making Gringos nauseous
Who come knocking at his door

#155
Many sheriffs locked me up
Then threw away the key
In every case I managed
Very soon to get set free
I was not a life-long criminal
But I suffered while in chains
While wet and cold
In depths untold
For just financial gains

Answers on Page 6

May 2011 Calendar

Fri. April 29- Sun., May 1	**SEMMANTICS XXXXII**: Holiday Inn and suites, Farmington Hills. See the Mensa *Bulletin* for details.
Fri.,May6	**TGIF:HOULIHAN'S**: 5732 W. Saginaw, Lansing. In the Lansing Mall.
Fri., May 13	**TGIF: EVERYDAY RESTAURANT:** 1375 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. On the corner of Hagadorn Rd. and Grand River Ave. Chinese food.
Fri., May 13	**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING:** To follow dinner.
Sun., May 15	**LIT SIG:** Meet at 2:00 PM at Pat Thuemmel's home, 1604 Barritt St., Lansing, to discuss *Someone Knows My Name* by Lawrence Hill. Come for conversation and snacks.
Fri., May 20	**TGIF: FAVORITES RESTAURANT:** 1216 Turner St., Lansing. In Old Town. Dinner followed by speaker.
Fri., May 20	**SPEAKER:** 7:00 PM. Kathy Holcomb, Owner of the Absolute Gallery in Lansing's Old Town, will tell us about the Gallery. It is at 307 E. Grand River Ave.
Fri., May 27	**TGIF: ALADDIN'S RESTAURANT:** 300 N. Clippert St., East Lansing. It's in Frandor. Maybe they'll have belly dancers again?
Fri., June 3	**TGIF: GRAND TRAVERSE PIE COMPANY:** 1403 E. Grand River Ave., E. Lansing.
Fri, June 3	**SPEAKER: F**artha Abbasi, MD, will speak on *"A Modern Muslim Woman : Breaking the Myth"* Dr. Abbasi is a Psychiatrist and is in her residency at MSU. It is not necessary to attend the dinner to come hear the speaker.
Fri., June 10	**TGIF: ALDACO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT:** 6527 S. Cedar St., Lansing. Near the intersection of Cedar St. and Pennsylvania Ave..
Fri., June 10	**STEERING COMMITTEE:** After dinner at Aldaco's.



TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet at 6:00 PM and order around 6:155 PM., but you're welcome at any time. 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: 517-351-3645; or by email:evangel6@comcast.net