AUGUST 2017

Head-Line



The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 521



HEAD-LINE NO. 521 AUGUST 1017
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

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Mid-Michigan Mensa Facebook Group

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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Mid-Michigan Mensa Steering Committee Minutes

Mid-Michigan Mensa (MMM) LocSec Maria Koutsoukos called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM following our TGIF dinner at Mark's Watershed in Haslett. Wendy Carnegie, Vice LocSec, Bob Henderson, Scribe and Treasurer, and Pat Thuemmel were also present.

Maria asked whether anyone had heard recently about Jack Rooney, who was recently in rehab at Burcham Hills. Bob Henderson had left a phone message with his daughter Caitlin before the meeting asking for an update. Bob agreed to send an email message out to MMM members when he heard back from Caitlin.

Maria moved that we approve the February and June Steering Committee minutes as published in the July Head-Line. Those present voted to approve the published minutes.

Maria asked whether MMM could award a Mensa Foundation Scholarship this year. Bob confirmed that there were sufficient funds in the MMM treasury to award a scholarship. Wendy agreed to talk to Scholarship Chair Marv Fouty to see whether he was willing to chair the Scholarship again this year. This involves judging essays describing the applicants' education and career plans.

Maria noted that we will need to send a list of new MMM officers to American Mensa, Ltd (AML) following our annual election. The first step in electing officers for the coming year is to select a nominating committee from among MMM members who are not on the Steering Committee. If only one person is nominated for each office, there will be no need to conduct a membership vote per MMM Bylaws. Maria will report on her progress in submitting the AML membership reporting forms in the August Steering Committee meeting.

Wendy reported that AML sends her only 70 or so mailing labels for the Head-Line with addresses only for those MMM members who have specified that they want their newsletter sent by postal mail, rather than by email as AML now recommends. This means that the other MMM

Continued on page

Steering Committee Minutes — Cont.

members have not received their copies of the Head-Line in recent months when no email version has been sent out.

Wendy noted that as MMM no longer has an active Web manager, she will try to get into our Web page code and update it herself. She will ask for help if she has any difficulty in making updates.

MMM will need a Proctor to administer qualification tests to any local candidates who apply to join Mensa this year. Wendy will check with John Garrison to see if he is willing to continue holding this office. Bob offered to audit upcoming tests as part of his application to become an AML-approved Proctor.

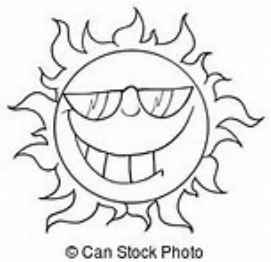
Maria suggested a date in August for a MMM group to try to get out of an "Escape Room." Competitors are "locked" into a room for an hour and half to solve the puzzles inside as a group in order to "escape" from it in less time. Further details will be published in the August Head-Line.

Wendy noted that she fills in several pages of US Postal Service (USPS) forms every month to maintain the periodical mailing rate for the Head-Line. She will investigate whether the current reduced mailing volume makes it more practical for her to simply affix first-class postage to each outgoing copy.

Maria told us that she would ask Jack Rooney whether he would be willing to continue serving as MMM Ombudsman for another term.

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Henderson, Scribe



LIT SIG

August's book is *A Long Way Home* by Saroo Brierley. It is the One Book One Community 2017 choice and is a #1international bestseller based on Brierley's true story. In rural India at age 5, Saroo became separated from his brother, mistakenly boarded a train and ended up in Calcutta, all the way across the country. Uneducated, illiterate, and unable to recall the name of his village, Saroo managed to survive. He was soon adopted by a couple in Tasmania. The book is the story of his search for his family.

We will meet at Beggar's Banquet on Sunday, August 27 at 5:00 PM for dinner and discussion of the book. We will then proceed to the Hannah Community Center, 81 Abbot Rd. around 6:30 to meet Saroo Brierley and learn about his experiences. Hannah Center's doors open at 6:30 PM and Mr. Brierley will speak at 7:00 PM. Hope to see you there.



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Anniversary Party

COME ONE, COME ALL to the annual MMM Anniversary Party on Sunday, August 6. Arrive at 4:00 PM and eat at 5:00 PM Bob and Ginny Henderson have again generously offered to host the party. Grilled brats, buns, and coffee will be provided. Bring a dish to pass plus whatever you want to drink. You're welcome to bring along family members, Mensa or non-Mensa friends, or Mensa prospects — the more the merrier! RSVP to 517-676-3369 or if you have questions, dietary needs, or just directions. They live at 3369 Harper Rd., Mason —- on the south side of the road. Hope to see you there!

Mid-Michigan Mensa Membership

August 2017

Membership Chair—John Garrison

122 Members

MENSAversaries

Congratulations on your years of membership

36 Years	Dardanella Becker	27 Years	Wendy Carnegie
20 Years	Lenard Peterson	13 Years	Matthew Carter
12 Years	Melissa Robinson	8 Years	Gordon MacDonald

MENSA Birthdays

Happy Birthday to you

1	Jennifer Feasal	5	Brenton Wilburn
6	Gary Fralick	13	Ian Smith
13	Kristina Dombrowski	14	William Deary
22	John Hunt	27	Wayne Joubert
29	Kenneth Bonifield	30	Joseph Werner

Renewing/Reinstating Members

Welcome — We're glad to have you back

Karen Cleveland — Portland
Satire Jaros — East Lansing
Heidi Porter — Okemos
Allan Sherman — Lansing
Steven Thurlow — Jackson

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

This year I put in a small garden. The first in eight years. I am growing tomatoes, green peppers, okra, and pickling cucumbers. I also have a few pots with herbs; marjoram, thyme, chives, dill and bay laurel. I still frequent the local farmer's markets, but am thoroughly enjoying a few fresh veggies from my own yard.

Presently, my cukes are really coming in. I am trying something new to me: *refrigerator pickles.* This method is inexpensive, quick, easy, and there is no canning or processing required. The catch is they MUST be refrigerated and consumed within a few weeks or months. They are not pantry shelf stable. Consuming them before they degrade is not a problem. They go fast. Another appreciable aspect of whipping up my own refrigerator pickles is being able to control the quality and amount of spices, sugar and salt.

I have had a great time watching various YouTube videos for recipes, ideas and techniques. My favorite bread and butter pickle recipe comes from one of my favorites; Chef John at "Food Wishes." Other than cutting the amount of sugar by one half, I think this recipe is perfect. It is not difficult, and comes out great every time. I even made them with xylitol as a sugar substitute for a friend. They came out nice. Please avoid other sugar substitutes.

I am also having some enjoyable experiences making refrigerator dills. They can be made with as few as one or two jars at a time. Other than cucumbers, I have added okra, green tomatoes, hot and sweet peppers, garlic and onions. You can pickle almost anything. Just make sure to use the freshest veggies you can find.

If you have invitations for cookouts or other summer and fall gatherings, you will be an instant hit when you show up with a jar of your own homemade pickles. When people admire you, soak it up and smile.

Check out some YouTube videos for refrigerator pickle recipes and techniques. Experiment, and make them your own.

Chef John says: "As always, ENJOY!"

Mid-Michigan Mensa Treasurer's Report

Quarter Ending June 30, 2017

Bob Henderson, Treasurer

BEGINNING BALANCE		**$4,675.43**
INCOME		402.76
National Subsidy MAM	340.20	
Annual Subsidy Supplement	62.50	
Savings Interest	0.06	
EXPENDITURES		22.48
Printing AMJ (Not yet billed)	0.00	
Postage AMJ	22.48	
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Checking		2,911.21
Savings		1,911.2
Post Office		147.32
ENDING BALANCE		**$5,055.71**

I dream of summers that last forever

Annual Meet-in-the-Middle

Jean Becker

Please join us for the annual August Meet-in-the-Middle in Brighton/ Howell at:
Block Brewing Company
1140 South Michigan
Howell, MI 48843
517.540.0300

Block Brewing features many in-house brewed craft beers, including root beer, at reasonable prices. They use local and Michigan based suppliers for products used in all their recipes. Spent grains from the brewing process are repurposed as feed for area farmers. And it is super easy to find, directly off the freeway.

They are also known for their dry rubbed and smoked in-house meats, award winning sauces, hand-cut fries and house-made cornbread. Entrée salads are $9-11. Pizzas range from $7 (cheese) to $14 (smokehouse meats). They have BBQ regulars like ribs, pulled pork, beef brisket and smoked turkey. They also have fish dinners ($13 &18), burgers ($9-14) and other sandwiches ($9-11). Vegetarians will find veggie pizza, house-made Mac & Cheese and cheddar ale soup.

Directions:
Take I-96 to the D-19 exit (#137). Turn north towards downtown Howell. Block Brewing is on the left (west) almost immediately. From M-59 take Michigan Avenue south through downtown Howell. If you cross I-96 you've gone too far.

More information? Contact Jean or Ed Becker at 810.229.2113 jeankbecker@att.net, or Bob Strauch (734-973-6522, 734-604-3791c; bstra2012@aol.com) or James Draper (810.744.1242) paradyme4@comcast.net.

I need summer to be longer so I have more time to do nothing.

I Didn't Know That

Internet

More than half of the coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska.

The Amazon rain forest produces more than 20% of the world's oxygen supply.

The Amazon River pushes so much water into the Atlantic Ocean that, more than 100 miles at sea off the mouth of the river, one can dip fresh water out of the ocean. The volume of water in the Amazon River is greater than the next 8 largest rivers in the world combined and 3 times the flow of all rivers in the United States.

Antartica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country. Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. This ice also represents 70% of the fresh water in the world. As strange as it sounds, however, Antarctica is essentially a desert; the average yearly total precipitation is about 2 inches. Although covered with ice (all but 0.4% of it is ice), Antarctica is the driest place on the planet, with an absolute humidity lower than the Gobi desert.

Brazil got its name from the nut, not the other way around.

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined. Canada is an Indian word meaning "Big Village".

Next to Warsaw, Chicago has the largest Polish population in the world.

Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan carries the designation M-1, so named because it was the first paved road anywhere.

AUGUST 2017 CALENDAR

Fri., Aug. 4	**RYAN'S ROADHOUSE:** 902 E. State St., St. Johns. Great steaks.
Sun., Aug. 6	**MID-MICHIGAN MENSA ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY PARTY:** Bob and Ginny Henderson's home, 3369 Harper Rd., Mason. See page 3 for details.
Fri. , Aug 11	**FLAPJACK SHACK:** 6927 S. Cedar St., Lansing. Good food. Great broasted chicken.
	STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING: To follow diner
Fri., Aug. 18	**LOS TRES AMIGOS:** 1227 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. Good Mexican food.
Fri., Aug. 25	**BUDDIES:** 1937 W. Grand River, Okemos. It's in the strip mall at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Marsh Rd. Good food.
Wed., Aug. 30	**ANNUAL AUGUST MEET-IN-THE-MIDDLE PARTY:** It's at Block Brewing Company. 1140 S. Michigan, Howell. See page 7 for further information.
Fri., Sept. 1	**CAPITAL PRIME STEA & SEAFOOD:** 2324 Show Time Dr., Lansing. It's behind the NCG theater in the Eastwood Towne Center.
Fri., Sept. 8	**EVERYDAY RESTAURANT:** 1375 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. Good Chinese food. It's in the Brookfield Plaza at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Hagadorn Rd.
Fri., Sept. 15	**BOSTON MARKET:** 6435 S. Cedar St., Lansing. We will eat in. Serves rotisserie chicken & pot pie, ribs & meatloaf, turkey, sandwiches, soups & salads, and desserts.

TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet at about 5:30 PM and order about 5:30 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, Where, When, and Why. The deadline to schedule an event is the 15th of the month before the event. You can contact Pat Thuemmel, Calendar Coord. at: 1604 Barritt St., Lansing, MI 48917; Phone: 517-927-1168; email: patjtl@comcast.net