SEPTEMBER 2019

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 545



HEAD-LINE NO. 545 SEPTEMBER 2019
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

Region 3 Vice-Chairman: John Voymas
Email: RVC3@us.mensa.org

STEERING COMMITTEE (ELECTED BOARD)

Loc Sec:	Robert Henderson	517-676-3369	rlhenderson@peoplepc.com
Vice Loc Sec:	Elizabeth Evangelista	517-351-3645	evangel6@comcast.net
Scribe:	Wendy Carnegie	517-775-0648	w.carnegie@comcast.net
	Sharon Plavnick	517-285-8740	sharonslp@ameritech.net
	John Garrison	517-349-7313	MidMIMensa@aol.com
	Squire Jaros	517-775-4833	IIahcrsamc@aol.com

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Dues Sub. Adm:	Elizabeth Evangelista	517-351-3645	evangel6@comcast.net
Gifted Youth Coord:			
Membership:	John Garrison	517-349-7313	MidMIMensa@aol.com
Ombudsman:	John Rooney	517-980-2657	rooneyjack312@gmail.com
Proctor:	John Garrison	517-349-7313	MidMIMensa@aol.com
Program Director	Elizabeth Evangelista	517-351-3645	evangel6@comcast.net
Scholarship:	Marvin Fouty	517-915-8900	mffouty@gmail.com
SIGHT Coord:	Dee Becker	517-349-3292	deebecker@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer:	Robert Henderson	517-676-3369	rlhenderson@peoplepc.com

HEAD-LINE CO-EDITORS

Wendy Carnegie 517-775-0648 w.carnegie@comcast.net
Sharon Plavnick. 517-285-8740 sharonplavnick@ameritech.net

WEBMASTER

Robert Henderson 517-676-3369. rlhenderson@peoplepc.com

MMM WEB SITE: http:/www.midmichigan.us.mensa.org

'Like' Mid-Michigan Mensa on Facebook:
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.

The Head-Line is the monthly publication of Mid-Michigan Mensa. Annual subscription rate is $5.00 for members and is paid through American Mensa, LTD. The annual non-member rate is $10.00 and is limited to current members of other Mensa groups. Office of Publication is 812 Applegate Lane, East Lansing, MI 48823.

EDITOR'S COLUMN:

FROM MY BRAIN TO YOURS
by Sharon Plavnick

WHAT LURKS IN YOUR DNA?

On July 26, Member Roy Saper spoke to over 20 of us about his personal experiences with DNA research. Can I just say wow! He enumerated the various kinds of information that is gleaned from these tests, and it was far more extensive than I ever realized. He detailed how the results have impacted his own life, particularly the discoveries of several closer relatives whose existence he never knew of. Family secrets? Not anymore!

The frosting on the cake (even though this event was held at a pie place) was his sharing the story of a woman from New Jersey who contacted him because he showed up as a fairly close DNA match to her; possibly second cousin. She was adopted and had been searching to find biological relatives for a long time. Together, she and Roy traced themselves to two other close relatives who also live in Michigan, but who wanted nothing to do with her, and would not acknowledge her undisputed DNA connection. As serendipity would have it, she traveled to Michigan to visit with Roy, and coincidently arrived just prior to his speaking engagement with us. Roy then turned the spotlight on her and introduced us to this lovely woman who was finally meeting her very first biological relative. It was truly a "This is Your Life" moment, and I doubt there was a dry eye in the room.

Readers, if you've utilized any of the DNA tests and have stories you'd be willing to share, I'd be happy to publish them. Please send to SharonSLP@ameritech.net.

RVC 3 SEPTEMBER, 2019 COLUMN

John Voymas

American Mensa is a membership organization. But not all membership organizations are designed the same. You may wonder "What does he mean?". Having been a member of various ones over the years, let me contrast two that I have belonged to: Toastmasters International and American Mensa.

Membership in Toastmasters is at the local chapter level. You apply to join a chapter, the existing members vote to accept or reject your application, and if approved, you become a member of that local chapter. By virtue of membership in the local chapter, you are also a member of Toastmasters International. Should the local group have issues with you that are not resolved, then the members of that local chapter can vote to terminate your membership in that group — and by extension, in the national organization.

In contrast, membership in American Mensa is at the national level. If you meet the sole eligibility criteria (a score in the upper 2% on an intelligence test that is accepted by American Mensa) and you pay the current dues, you become a member. Once you are a member of the national organization you are subject to all the Bylaws and ASIEs (Actions Still in Effect) of Mensa International, American Mensa, and of the local group to which you are assigned. Yes, each member is initially assigned to a Local Group based on their zip code.

The purpose of a Local Group is to provide services to members, including a newsletter, business meetings, and various programs and events. You also have the opportunity to vote for Local Group officers or to run for office. If you would prefer to be served by a different Local Group you can "preference in" to that other Local Group. Sometimes members choose to do that because they live closer to that group and plan on being more active with it or it might be a Local Group that they once belonged to and want to maintain a connection to.

This approach to membership is why only the governing board of American Mensa, the AMC - American Mensa Committee, can expel a member and terminate their membership. Think of prospective member, paid-up member, and terminated member as three "states" of existence. You can only exist in one state at one time. Another state is "lapsed".

Continued on Page 3

RVC 3 COLUMN—CONT.

When I stopped paying dues in the late 1970s, my state changed to "lapsed". I still had a member number and a historical record in American Mensa, but I could no longer avail myself of the privileges and services of being a paid-up member. Every year on March 31st, a portion of our members have their state changed to "lapsed". Efforts are made over the next few months to encourage them to become current again. Some do. Some don't. But my membership number is still mine. In 2000, when I chose to become current again by paying dues, my membership account was re-activated — my state was changed.

Hope to see you at the WPAM RG over Labor Day weekend!

MENSA VOUCHER PROGRAM

Stay tuned for an email arriving by early September from National Mensa regarding the Mensa Voucher Program. This was started several years ago to encourage members to recruit peers by passing on a coupon code that allows someone to test for free.

Program Highlights

- The 2019 program runs from Sept. 3, 2019, until Dec. 31, 2019.
- Each Local Group will have one unique code, which will be emailed to each member of the Local Group. The discount code should be given to a nonmember who may, at no cost, either submit prior evidence or sit for a supervised test.
- There will be unlimited uses for each Local Group's code.
- You should receive your MVP code by Sept. 3. The codes are valid through Dec. 31.

For more info, check out: https://www.us.mensa.org/featured-content/mensa-voucher-program-2019/

MINUTES OF AUGUST 9 STEERING COMMITTEE

Wendy Carnegie, Scribe

PRESENT: Loc Sec Bob Henderson, Vice Loc Sec Elizabeth Evangelista, Scribe Wendy Carnegie, Sharon Plavnick, and Squire Jaros.

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 PM.

Sharon made a motion to have Mid-Michigan Mensa (MMM) pay for refreshments during this meeting. It was seconded by Squire and passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Evangelista made a motion to reimburse Bob and Ginny $30 for their expenses for the Annual Party. Sharon seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed Bylaw revisions, After much discussion, Bob made a motion that Wendy put together a revised set of bylaws and present them to the Board for approval by the September meeting. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth and passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the present scholarship situation. At present our scholarship is in the hands of the Mensa Foundation which is in control of Scholarships. They award a scholarship to a person from the list we submit to them for judging. Following discussion it was decided to continue the present scholarship until the funding runs out. In addition, MMM will fund another local scholarship with funds raised by fundraising. Further fundraising discussion was tabled until a future meeting.

Bob reported that Marvin Fouty has agreed to resume as Scholarship Chair.

It was decided to send out a letter to all members to explain print vs email delivery of the Head-Line. The National Office(NO) default delivery method is email. Those with an email version who wish to receive a print version need to notify the NO they wish to have a print version.

Bob reported that we need a second signature for the MMM bank account. Elizabeth, as Vice Loc Sec, offered to be the second signature.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. Motion for adjournment was made by Sharon, seconded by Bob, and passed unanimously.

Mid-Michigan Mensa Membership

September 2019

John Garrison, Chairman

121 Members

MENSA Birthdays

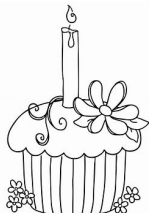
Happy Birthday to all of you

13 Saif Fatteh
16 Neal Forss
17 Thomas Allor
20 Leon Volk
28 Daniel Thompson

MENSAversaries

Congratulations on your years with Mensa

34 Years Linda Harrison
33 Years Walter Syroid
31 Years William Deary
29 Years John Larson
21 Years Brian McGrain
17 Years Paul Kassal
17 Years David Brown
2 Years Kristen Kosloski
6 Years Reece Kramer
5 Years Michael Rademacher
1 Year Reagan Aylor
1 Year Katelyn Aylor
1 Year Kathryn Teshich



We send our condolences to Doug and Roberta McCall and their family , for the death of their mother, McCall. Ann and Roberta occasionally accompanied Doug to a Mensa Event. We've always enjoyed Ann's contributions to the conversation.

MEET A FELLOW MENSAN

MEET BOB HENDERSON, your LOC SEC and TREASURER

Your first job? Your best job? Your dream job? My first job after college was designing and testing wind tunnel models of powered-lift airplane wing design concepts at NASA Langley Research Center. This was also my dream job, so I was devastated when their budget was cut and they applied the seniority rule "last hired, first fired." My best job was programming the automation of the heavy truck driveline design process at Ford, eliminating costly build errors and unhappy customers.

Pet peeve(s): My pet peeves are willful ignorance, deliberate cruelty, and blatant hypocrisy. I have been extremely peeved since 2016.

Night owl or early bird? Definitely a night owl -- I'm typically up twice each night for about an hour on my Facebook news feed or playing games on my PC.

Favorite season? I love autumn. . . temperatures are moderate, the nasty bugs die off, the trees are ablaze with color, and flying my R/C airplanes is fun again!

Marriages/Divorces/Children: I married in haste, sired a son and a daughter, and repented at leisure for 34 years. After the divorce I married Ginny and picked up another 2 daughters and her 3 grandkids who live nearby. We enjoy visiting my daughter and son-in-law in Virginia. I also enjoy sharing memes and playing trivia games with my son online, but don't take the time to go see him very often.

Favorite travel experience: Ginny has been satisfying her wanderlust with me since she retired on 2007. We enjoy being pampered on ocean and river cruises and seeing the wonders of Europe, but our best trips include stays with friends abroad to see how they live.

What do you like best about being a Mensan? I love going to our weekly TGIF dinners to enjoy good food and sparkling repartee -- you really have to be there to appreciate it, so give it a try if you're not a regular already! TGIF venues are updated monthly on the MMM Events Calendar at the back of each issue of the Head-Line and on the MMM Website.

Continued on Page 7

MEET A FELLOW MENSAN—CONT.

Earliest childhood memory: Getting spanked for soiling my parents' bed with my brother's poop (it's a long story). That episode taught me that authorities can't be counted on to dispense justice, so instead it must be fought for, win or lose.

Something important you learned in grade school: My aptitude test results were so good that I promised myself that I would nurture my brain from then on with only the most trustworthy knowledge, since my conclusions would only ever be as good as the premises they were based on ("garbage in, garbage out").

Something important you learned in high school: A good teacher can make almost any subject interesting, but a bad teacher can make a fascinating subject seem deadly dull (biology without evolution is about as exciting as stamp collecting).

Educational background: My excellent memory meant that I never had to study in high school. I pursued an accelerated academic program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and graduated with both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Aeronautical Engineering in just 5 years. There I finally "learned how to learn"-- for instance, I neatly copied over each day's lecture notes to etch them into my brain. I found that the more I learned, the easier it was to learn even more.

Hobbies/interests: I enjoy reading nonfiction, trivia, board and card games, math and word puzzles, singing in choirs, and flying electric-powered radio-control model planes (when Michigan's weather permits). I am interested in the mind and its workings, humanism, social justice, and the history of each of the above.

Favorite food(s): Chili and mint chocolate chip ice cream, but not together!

At the top of your bucket list: A visit to Australia and/or New Zealand, but Ginny and I will probably see the Grand Canyon first.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

I enjoy baking bread. I have been playing with a version of cranberry bread and have come up with a reliable recipe. I have made this with regular Craisins and Orange Craisins. I'm partial to the orange. It is not super sweet but is great toasted for breakfast or a nice snack. Sliced, it freezes well.

The method is from nokneadbreadcentral.com, Turbo No Knead Bread. Great videos! I highly recommend watching Steve Gamelin work bread magic.

ORANGE CRANBERRY BREAD

Ingredients:

14 Ounces Warm Water
1½ t Salt
1¼ t Instant Yeast
1 T. Vegetable Oil
2 T. Honey
2 Drops Vanilla, OR Orange Extract OR Both!
2 t Raw Apple Cider Vinegar (Bragg's is best)
1 Cup Craisins Orange or Regular Flavor
3½ Cups All Purpose Flour

Directions:

Heat large glass mixing bowl. Gently stir together all ingredients except flour. Add flour to the edge of the bowl. Stir with spoon handle. Scrape bowl to bring dough into a ball. Cover with plastic wrap. Proof in warm place (75 to 85 degrees) for 90 minutes.* Stir to de-gas, scrape bowl, dust with flour, turn dough into greased 8.5"x4.5"or 9"x5" bread pan, cover with a tea towel. Proof for 30 minutes. Attach another bread pan on top with clips (Poor Man's Dutch Oven: see videos listed above). Pre heat oven to 400 degrees. Bake 40 minutes with top on, then reduce the temp to 375 degrees. Bake another 10 minutes with top off to crisp the crust. Remove bread from pan and cool on elevated wire rack. Slice when completely cool. This turns out well every time and is delicious. Slice and freeze for future toast.

*Steve says turning the oven light on will heat it enough to provide a good proofing place.

SEPTEMBER 2019 CALENDAR

Fri. Sept 6 **TGIF - Bangkok House:** 402 E. Saginaw St, Lansing. Laid-back eatery known for spicy noodle dishes and other Thai specialties.

Fri. Sept 13 **TGIF - Delhi Cafe:** 4625 Willoughby Rd, Holt, between Cedar St and Aurelius Rd. A Mid-Michigan Mensa favorite with good Greek and American food.
Steering Committee Meeting: To follow dinner.

Fri. Sept. 20 **TGIF - Pizza House:** 4790 S. Hagedorn Rd in the Hannah Plaza, East Lansing. Good selection of Italian foods including, of course, pizza

Fri. Sept. 27 **TGIF - Huapei Restaurant:** 401 E. Mt. Hope Ave, Lansing. Small eatery featuring standard Chinese fare such as fried rice and ginger beef.

Fri. Oct. 4 **TGIF - Sultan's:** 4790 Hagadorn Rd. in Hannah Plaza, East Lansing. Delicious Middle Eastern food with great service.

Fri. Oct. 11 **TGIF - Grand Traverse Pie Company:** 1403 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. It's in the Brookfield Plaza at the corner of Grand River Ave. and Hagadorn Rd. Service is cafeteria style, so bus your own dishes before you leave. Quiches, pot pies, pasties, sandwiches, wraps, soups, salads, and, of course, pie (best a-la-mode).
Steering Committee Meeting: to follow dinner.

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**. Contact Ginny Brunke Henderson, Calendar Coord. at: gbrunkh@peoplepc.com or 517-676-3369
Calendar event information can also be found on the Mid-Michigan Mensa website at http://midmichigan.us.mensa.org/calendar.html