NOVEMBER 2020

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 559



HEAD-LINE NO. 559 NOVEMBER 2020
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:			
SIGHT Coord:	Dee Becker	517-349-3292	deebecker@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer:	Robert Henderson	517-676-3369	rlhenderson@peoplepc.com

HEAD-LINE EDITOR

	Sharon Plavnick.	517-285-8740	sharonslp@ameritech.net
Distribution Manager	John Garrison;	517-349-7313	MidMIMensa@aol.com

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 3369 Harper Rd; Mason MI 48854.

EDITOR'S COLUMN:

FROM MY BRAIN TO YOURS

by Sharon Plavnick

I don't know about the rest of you, but as I write this, we are less than 2 weeks away from the election. Regardless of how anyone is choosing to vote, I think we're all looking forward to having it over. Or sort of over. I suppose whatever happens, many politicians will switch their gears to planning for 2024, when we get to do it all over again. We sure live in interesting times. I wonder if every "time" has thought that.

Pay special attention in this issue to our big announcement about an active and viable Facebook group. I hope to see and communicate with those of you who are reasonably comfortable with a Facebook presence. Wendell Proudfoot kicked off a potential discussion topic today with a comment about windmills in Ingham County. I hope others will chime in with their thoughts, and also feel free to start new discussion topics. Especially now, when we face a long winter without face-to-face contact, I value substitute discussion and communication methods. Please note Bob's proviso in his column below about respectful commenting. In my 27 years of attending Friday night TGs, I've occasionally seen a few feathers get ruffled (confession: I may have been the ruffler on an occasion or two, and for that I sincerely apologize), but mostly we are a friendly and welcoming group, and I hope we demonstrate that online as well.

What about all of you? If you want to respond to anything you read in this issue, send it along to me at: sharonslp@ameritech.net

LOC SEC COLUMN

Bob's Two Bits for November 2020
by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

With the advent of cooler weather and many Americans spending more time indoors, Covid-19 cases have again begun growing exponentially nationwide, and Michigan is no exception. Since the Mensans and others who have regularly attended past MMM TGIF dinners or our more recent monthly dinner parties are among those who are most at risk of serious complications from Covid-19, our event planners (and most of the usual attendees) have concluded that MMM should not host further face-to-face dinner meetings until further notice.

Fortunately, our Group members' opportunities to socialize with fellow Mensans now include an online option: MMM's Facebook page is now up and running (please see the announcement from Facebook Coordinator Wendell Proudfoot elsewhere in this issue)! Simply log on to your Facebook account and search for "Mid-Michigan Mensa" from the top of your news feed, then click on the Group page listing and click on the "Join" button there. Wendell or I will be happy to approve your request for membership in our new Facebook Group if you are an MMM member, after which you can post to the Group with your questions, comments and replies. So as to help keep discussions civil and on-topic, non-members will be able to view the Group page but will not be able to post to it.

Please note that any MMM members who abuse their posting privileges will forfeit their Facebook Group memberships (the MMM Steering Committee will be the final arbiter of such decisions). Egregious cases may be referred to AML for disciplinary action, so please remember to think before you post! We want this new social experience to be pleasant for all involved, so we must all make a conscious effort to remain civil and respectful of each other's right to their own opinions (but not their own facts). Contact me or Wendell if you need further help to join up. . . We hope to see you all soon on MMM's new Facebook page!

RVC 3 NOVEMBER, 2020 Column

John Voymas

The chill is in the air. We are well on our way towards winter. November is a month when people get together and focus on what they are thankful for. As my wife, Elsie, says "If you are breathing air and alive, now that is something to be thankful for". Thankfulness comes in all sizes and shapes. Maybe, it's the pretty color of fall leaves. Or your cat or dog or other cherished furry (or feathery) friends.

Towards the end of November, people celebrate Thanksgiving. For some who have families, it can be a time of gathering and reminiscing. If you don't have family to share a meal with, perhaps you could host a dinner with other members of Mensa. Potlucks are fairly easy and simple to do. Just a little bit of coordination is necessary so that you don't end up with six green bean casseroles. :-)

Another aspect of this time of year is shopping for gifts for holiday celebrations. Although how you celebrate can differ, the sharing of presents is common. White elephant gifts are a fun way to do this. Picking of names works for both this and for more serious gifting.

Volunteering at a shelter or the Salvation Army is another way to share in this season. There are also options like Angel Tree where you choose a child and provide them with presents. Simply doing a food drive for a local food pantry is another great way to give at this time of year (or at any other time).

Many local groups are adapting to the use of virtual meetings and activities. The next Regional Gathering (RG) in Region 3 will be hosted by Cincinnati Area Mensa on December 4 - 6. More details can be found at https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/gathering-pending-title21/. This will be a virtual RG.

May you have a peaceful and safe holiday season and may 2021 be a better year for all of us.

PUZZLE:
submitted by Bob Henderson

Whose Bullet?

There are two marksmen, one of whom ("Acuron") hits a certain small target 75% of the time while the other ("Blunderon") hits it only 25% of the time. They both aim and fire simultaneously at this target, but only one bullet hits it. What's the probability that this bullet was fired by Acuron?

See answer on page 9.

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

THE REST OF THIS PAGE IS WAITING FOR **YOU** TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE.

YOUR

Poem

Story

Joke

Riddle

Book review

Movie review

Music review

THOUGHTS, OPINIONS, REVIEWS, WHATEVER!

Mid-Michigan Mensa Treasurer's Report		
Quarter Ending September 30, 2020		
STARTING BALANCE		**$6,022.28**
INCOME		**291.06**
AML National Subsidy June 2020	$93.50	
AML National Subsidy July 2020	99.75	
AML National Subsidy Aug. 2020	97.75	
Savings interest	0.06	
EXPENDITURES		**36.92**
Head-Line:		
Postage - August	18.31	
Postage - Sept.	18.61	
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
5/3 Checking		4,089.21
5/3 Savings		1,997.96
USPS Periodical Postage Account		189.25
ENDING BALANCE		**$6,276.42**

Robert Henderson, Treasurer

Mid-Michigan Mensa on Facebook

by Wendell Proudfoot

Have you noticed the item about ¾ down the Head-Line masthead page that says,

'Like' Mid-Michigan Mensa on Facebook:
Mid-Michigan Mensa Facebook Group

Or, have you visited the Mid-Michigan Mensa website (http://www.midmichigan.us.mensa.org/) where you are invited to 'Visit us on Facebook' with a hyperlink to http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-Michigan-Mensa/102336183185234?

If you have recently used the link or searched Facebook for 'Mid-Michigan Mensa', you probably encountered the same disappointing result as I did, a Facebook page saying, 'Sorry, this content isn't available right now' or something similar. This sort of thing bothers me, perhaps much more than it does most people. It's not uncommon to encounter a 'Page not found' result for pages created long ago and mostly forgotten when the author has 'moved on'. When this happens, I often try to contact the people who may now be responsible and ask them to correct it.

That led me to contact Bob Henderson who, in addition being the Local Secretary and Treasurer, is the current Webmaster. He agreed that I could help to 'fix' the problem. The only realistic thing I could do was to establish a new Facebook Group that a search will find.
So now there is a

New Facebook Group:
'Mid-Michigan Mensa - MMM'

and I hope you will visit our new page on Facebook and post something there. In these days of Covid, this kind of virtual dialogue may be the best way to communicate in lieu of face-to-face contact. So please, search for and join our Group page on Facebook! Let me (Wendell Proudfoot) know about any concerns that you may have: wendellfp@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER 2020 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

John Garrison, Membership Chair
115 Members

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

24 Tucker Keatley
26 Peter Wood

NOVEMBER MENSAVERSARIES

Ronald Bardy	**1**
Tucker Keatley	**1**
Ronald Burl	**4**
Dora Ivkovich	**8**
Jacob McDowell	**8**
Todd Eldred	**8**
Bryan Sales	**17**
Matthew McNaughton	**19**
Richard Shaffer	**19**

No members new to the group or moving out.

PONDER THIS

If you could build a time machine that actually worked, what era would you visit and which historical figure would you like to meet?

If you had this time machine and could go back to any time during your life, when would it be and what major change would you make?

If you could travel into the future what would you like to learn and how would this affect your current life?

Written replies would be appreciated. Let's get some dialog going in the Head-Line.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I agree. It would be great to have this be a regular feature, under John Garrison's byline. Send your thoughts to me at sharonslp@ameritech.net and I'll be happy to publish them.

MEET A FELLOW MENSAN

Meet Wendy-RaT Kassal

* My first job was teaching Bb clarinet. My best job was a volunteer position helping a high school band with their uniforms. My worst job was being a pharmacy tech for a drug store (after the second day, they were already messing with my schedule and lying about it, so I noped out of there). My dream job would be repairing clocks, especially cuckoo clocks.

* I'm a night owl if for no other reason than my furry masters demand it.

* My favorite season is autumn! The leaves! The wind! The longer nights!

* Marriage? I'm a fan! Divorce? No, I enjoy my spouse too much. Children? A lot of people call me mom.

* My favorite travel experience was taking an Amtrak trip from Chicago to California in a roomette with my beloved. It was beautiful in so many ways!

* In high school, I realized that small towns easily breed small minds, and I wanted out.

* My current obsession, er, hobby is post-war Lionel trains.

* Near the top of my bucket list is being able to go running with my dog.

EDITOR'S NOTE: **A HUGE shout-out of thanks** to Wendy for sending this to me. I confess I was about to pull the plug on this feature, and stop putting in the monthly reminder. This serves to remind me to not give up until there's only one of us left…and that would be me!

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you want this feature to continue, please respond to some of these. Don't overthink it…one or two sentence responses are just right. Skip any Qs that you don't want to answer. Please don't be shy. This is YOUR newsletter….please participate.

Send your response to: sharonslp@ameritech.net

- Your first job? Your best job? Your worst job? Your dream job?
- Pet peeve(s)? (No more than 3
- Night owl or early bird?
- Favorite season?
- Marriages/Divorces/Children
- Favorite travel experience
- What you like best about being a Mensan
- Earliest childhood memory:
- Something important you learned in HS
- Educational background
- Favorite travel experience
- Hobbies/interests
- Favorite food(s)
- At the top of your bucket list

Puzzle Answer:

We can assume independent probabilities, for which the probability of 2 things both happening is simply the product of the probabilities for each happening. With the given probabilities we can predict the results for 16 trials as follows:

- Acuron's hits and Blunderon's misses: 16 * 3/4 * 3/4 = 9 of 16 trials
- Blunderon's hits and Acuron's misses: 16 * 1/4 * 1/4 = 1 of 16 trials
- Both Acuron's and Blunderon's hit: 16 * 3/4 * 1/4 = 3 of 16 trials
- Neither Acuron's nor Blunderon's hit: 16 * 1/4 * 3/4 = 3 of 16 trials

This accounts for all 16 trials, but we are only interested in the first two cases, those for which exactly one bullet hits the target. In 9 trials it is Acuron's bullet that hits the target and in only one trial it is Blunderon's bullet that hits it. The probability that Acuron fired the one bullet that hit the target is then 9 out of 10, or 90%.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
by Barb Ford

My family has had a favorite bar/restaurant for decades. It became famous for its home-made tomato soup. My daughter, Jamie, just loves the stuff. She gets a big take out container whenever she has the occasion to go there. Since I love to attempt to re create beloved menu items, I decided to attempt a recipe for this soup. While not claiming it to be exact, it is close. The traditional garnish is croutons and mozzarella cheese, but it can be served with any topping. A simple chunk of butter on top is divine. Try Crunchy Cheetos. Yesss. It is also an amazing pasta sauce.
Give it a go. Tasty.

Jamie's Favorite Tomato Soup

Ingredients:
1 Can Campbell's Tomato Soup (10¾ Ounces)
1 8 Ounce Can Tomato Sauce
5 Ounces Water
1 Pinch Garlic Powder
1 Pinch White Pepper
4 Ounces Softened Cream Cheese
4 T Heavy Cream (1/4 Cup)

Directions:
In a medium saucepan, combine and simmer all ingredients except cream cheese and cream. While the mixture is heating, whisk the softened cream cheese and cream until smooth. Transfer a ladle full of the hot tomato soup into the cream cheese mixture and whisk until smooth. Repeat two more times. When the creamy mixture is smooth, stir it into the main soup pan and remove from the heat. Garnish and serve.
For the entire recipe: 3g Protein, 27g Carbs, 13g Fat. Garnish extra.

"*Only the pure in heart can make a good soup."*
Ludwig Von Beethoven

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

THE REST OF THIS PAGE IS WAITING FOR **YOU** TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE.

YOUR

Poem

Story

Joke

Riddle

Book review

Movie review

Music review

THOUGHTS, OPINIONS, REVIEWS, WHATEVER!

Dear Readers,

In case you're wondering why I occasionally and intentionally leave pages blank, it has to do with the fact that we print pages in multiples of 4. We generally have between 8 and 12 pages worth of material for any one issue. It's great when it all fits in to just one or the other, but often we are in-between. On those occasions, I play with spacing to try and get it just right, but when that doesn't work, I either have to generate the content myself, or fill it up with filler. This is my filler this month.

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

THE REST OF THIS PAGE IS WAITING FOR **YOU** TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE.

YOUR

Poem

Story

Joke

Riddle

Book review

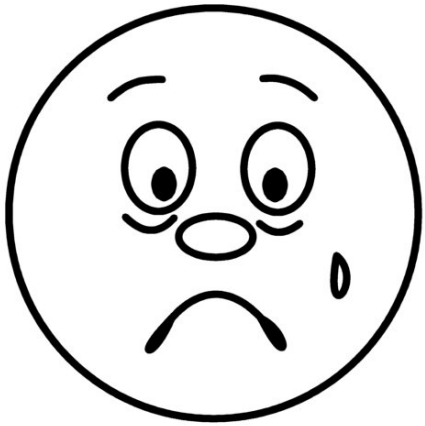
Movie review

Music review

THOUGHTS, OPINIONS, REVIEWS, WHATEVER!

NOVEMBER 2020 CALENDAR

ALL MMM DINNERS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED TILL FURTHER NOTICE.



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