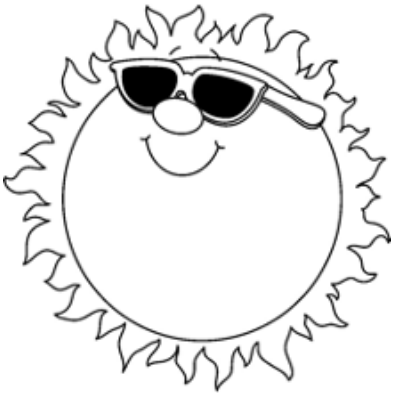
AUGUST 2021

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 568



HEAD-LINE NO. 568 AUGUST 2021
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

Region 3 Vice-Chairman: Lora Mitchell
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	llahcsramc@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

JOIN 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.

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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

FROM MY BRAIN TO YOURS

by Sharon Plavnick

We had an enjoyable TG gathering on the patio at Lucky's last week (7/9). About a dozen of us attended, plus assorted mosquitoes who wanted to get cozy. We were all undeterred by the random assortment of pesky interlopers, and fortunately they were not as aggressive as the skeeters who hang out just outside my patio screen waiting for me to take fresh bird seed outside and give them an opening to come inside. My birds are darn lucky I'm willing to feed them in this current mosquito onslaught.

These hazy lazy crazy days of summer are zipping right along. I often listen to various Spotify playlists while I work a jigsaw puzzle late at night, and a song I frequently hear has a line in it that asks "Where does the time go?" That question resonates pretty strongly for me…I imagine it does for a lot of us.

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 August 2021

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

Mid-Michigan Mensa resumed our regular weekly TGIF dinners in July! In another step closer to normalcy, our August TGIF schedule includes several indoor venues. With the COVID-19 epidemic still affecting people who can't or won't get immunized, we must ask that only vaccinated members attend next month. Of course, pandemic precautions still in effect in Michigan on each TGIF date will also apply.

With regular TGIF dinners comes the possibility of resuming MMM Steering Committee meetings. Because all of the previous members' terms have expired since our last SC meeting, we will start by nominating MMM members for each position, and that could include self-nominations! If you would like to help direct MMM's activities over the next year or two, please contact any member listed on the Head-Line masthead or post your interest on our Facebook page (phone or

message to be added to the MMM Facebook group if you don't already belong).

Now that we are able to resume more MMM activities, which would YOU enjoy doing with your fellow MMMensans? In recent years we have held Lit Sig book discussions, board game sessions, trivia contests, Escape Room adventures, Summer MMM Anniversary and holiday parties, chili cookoffs, and more. Would you like to attend a sports event with like-minded Mensans, go to a movie together, or attend a play or concert as a group? You might be surprised at how many other MMM members share your interests!

PUZZLES

submitted by Bob Henderson

QUIZ: Your Cosmic Address

In case you thought that your address ended at your Zip Code (or USA for international mail), how would the denizens of a far-away galaxy address mail to you? You can earn 5 points for each cosmic neighborhood in the right column that you put in order from smallest to largest and another 5 points for each correct neighborhood description that you choose from the first column. Can you earn all of the 100 points possible?

1) Virgo	A) Galaxy
2) Orion	B) Cloud
3) Laniakea	C) Arm
4) North	D) Group
5) Oort	E) Universe
6) Solar	F) Supercluster
7) Local	G) America
8) Milky Way	H) System
9) The	I) Earth
10) Planet	J) Cluster

See answers on page 6.

AUGUST 2021 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

John Garrison, Membership Chair
109 Members

AUGUST BIRTHDAY

1 Jennifer Feasal
6 Kevin Dyke
14 William Deary
30 Joseph Werner
5 Brenton Wilburn
13 Ian Smith
29 Kenneth Bonifield

AUGUST MENSAVERSARIES

Jeffrey Buchhop 4
Gordon MacDonald 12
Matthew Carter 17
Leonard Peterson 24
Wendy Carnegie 31
Thomas Allor 31
Dardanella Becker 40

OFFERS OF MEMBERSHIP

The following is a list of prospects for membership. Each person has contacted the National Office concerning joining Mensa. As of this writing none have taken the Mensa admission test. If you know any of them please contact them and urge them to contact our Testing Coordinator who happens to be me.

John Garrison
Midmimensa@aol.com

Jacob Boswell -- Jackson
Diana Major – Lansing
Linda McPherson -- Eaton Rapids
Annalise Wilson – Lansing

Mid-Michigan Mensa Treasurer's Report		
Quarter Ending June 30, 2021		
STARTING BALANCE		**$6,843.34**
INCOME		**287.11**
AML National Subsidy Mar. 2021	$105.55	
AML National Subsidy Apr. 2021	87.70	
AML National Subsidy May 2021	93.80	
Savings interest	0.06	
EXPENDITURES		**58.30**
Head-Line:		
Postage - May Issue	19.51	
Postage - June Issue	20.01	
Postage - July Issue	18.78	
ACCOUNT BALANCES		
5/3 Checking		4,847.72
5/3 Savings		1,998.14
USPS Periodical Postage Account		226.29
ENDING BALANCE		**$7,072.15**

PONDER THIS IN AUGUST

by John Garrison

John's July topic about political correctness regarding descriptive terms and whether we've gone too far brought in one response. Wendell Proudfoot commented that:

> John should have given us more information about the article that he referenced. I think "political correctness" is brought up as a distraction from real issues, so I generally ignore it. I think that issues like climate change, COVID19, and gun violence are actually significant. But the issue that citizens of our country need to consider is that a huge number of us falsely believe that our president was only elected because of voter fraud. Numerous legal challenges throughout the country failed to show any significant voter fraud. We should ponder whether our country will continue when divided in this way.

Thanks, Wendell, for contributing. This actually pivots to a whole new discussion topic, so if anyone wants to respond to this, have at it. Now here's John's NEW topic for August:

A KISS IS JUST A KISS

Mensa minds work in strange ways. This column only proves it. I was recently watching a movie on TV. People were being introduced to others at a social setting. Most of the women would gently peck each other on the cheek as a form of greeting. Some would kiss on one cheek and some both. Some of the men would do the same. Later in the movie there was a more dramatic scene where two people were in a romantic embrace. It was very passionate, which got me to think about kissing. Why is mouth to mouth contact more passionate? Or, why kiss at all?

What if two people upon greeting each other treated the other person like two dogs meeting? Would you want to sniff the butt of the other person? If your answer is no, why not? How about two people inserted a finger in the ear of the other? Or back to the dogs – Why not pat each other on the head and say "nice to meet you?"

Let's take it a step further. How about two people of the opposite sex reaching out and gently patting each other's breast? Would that be an acceptable greeting in another society? I won't get into groping. That's carrying the subject too far.

Now back to the kiss. Why lip to lip or lip to cheek? I'm pondering this; now why don't you? Your responses would be appreciated.

Anyone else? Send your thoughts to John at midmimensa@aol.com or to me at sharonslp@ameritech.net and I'll publish them under John's byline.

WHAT ARE YOU READING RIGHT NOW?

List curated by Sharon Plavnick

I'm in a temporary (I hope) lull right now, where I have a pile of library books in front of me that I keep trying and then abandoning. So instead I'll tell you about a TV series that Lynn and I have been streaming and enjoying. It's called "Billions." It's about hedge funds and high-stakes investors and the way they skirt legality to make rich people even richer. It's also about the dynamics of human interactions…the stuff that makes any great serial drama richly engaging. Add in mostly terrific actors and snappy dialogue and it's a winner. We stream it on Amazon Prime right now; I think it's available through other streaming platforms as well. There are five seasons total; we've just started Season 3. Highly recommend.

So…pile it on me, peeps out there in reading and viewing land. What are you all reading or watching? Drop a sentence or two on me by email or by Facebook messages, or by text. Smoke signals? Carrier pigeon? Call me and leave a voice mail. Something. Anything!!!

Send to me at: sharonslp@ameritech.net; 517-285-8740; Sharon Cutler Plavnick on Facebook. This is so easy…just do it.

PUZZLE ANSWERS:

Cosmic Address Quiz Answers:

4 G: North America,
10 I: Planet Earth,
6 H: Solar System,
5 B: Oort Cloud,
2 C: Orion Arm,
8 A: Milky Way Galaxy,
7 D: Local Group,
1 J: Virgo Cluster,
3 F: Laniakea Supercluster,
9 E: The Universe.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

"Not Your Mama's Pimiento Cheese Spread"

Most of us gravitate toward foods that we grew up with. When I was a kid, my mother frequently purchased Kraft cheese spreads that came in small jars. We all loved them, and used the jars for juice glasses when the cheese spread was gone. One of my favorites was Pimiento. Mom used to spread it on crackers celery sticks, or she made sandwiches with it. Yum.

When Gary and I moved to North Carolina, we discovered that "pimiento cheese" is a Southern traditional favorite food. The first time I tried a pimiento cheeseburger at a local restaurant, I thought I was in Heaven. Yes, it was THAT good! When I complained to the owner that it did not last long enough on my plate, he laughed and told us that he had won a regional burger cook-off with that recipe. Well, from that moment on, I was hooked. I made it a point to try pimiento cheese whenever I had the opportunity. Foothills Brewery in Winston-Salem has the tastiest grilled pimiento cheese and bacon sandwich. Ooh, baby!

Interestingly enough, like BBQ sauce down here, everyone seems to have their own recipe for pimiento cheese. Most are good, a few are great. In my quest to find the perfect pimiento cheese spread, I decided to make up my own recipe. I believe that I have a winner. It is the first item to disappear at get-togethers, and Gary just can't leave it alone. Try it on burgers, sandwiches, baked potatoes and as a spread on crackers or veggies. This easy recipe is sure to be an instant hit when you make it for the folks you care about. WARNING: it is addicting!

BARB'S PIMIENTO CHEESE SPREAD

Ingredients:

8 ounces cream cheese, softened	½ t sea salt
1 C real mayonnaise	1/4 t cayenne pepper
½ lb sharp white cheddar, grated	1 t onion powder
4 ounce jar pimientos, finely chopped	½ t garlic powder

Directions: In a large bowl, use a wooden spoon to combine cream cheese and mayonnaise until smooth. Mix in dry spices. Add cheddar and pimientos and mix well. Chill in the fridge for two hours for the flavors to blend. Yield: 3 ½ Cups.

DID YOU KNOW THESE THINGS HAD NAMES?
By Uncle John

1.The space between your eyebrows is called a glabella.
2.The way it smells after the rain is called petrichor.
3.The plastic or metallic coating at the end of your shoelaces is called an aglet.
4.The rumbling of your stomach is actually called a wamble.
5.The cry of a newborn baby is called a vagitus.
6.The prongs of a fork are called tines.
7.The sheen or light that you see when you close your eyes and press your hands on them is called phosphenes.
8.The tiny plastic table placed in the middle of a pizza box is called box tent.
9.The day after tomorrow is called overmorrow.
10.Your tiny toe or finger is called minimus.
11.The wired cage that holds the cork in a bottle of champagne is called an agraffe.
12.The “na na na” and “la la la” which really don’t have any meaning in the lyrics of a song, are called vocables.
13.When you combine an exclamation mark with a question mark (like this?!), it is referred to as an interrobang.
14.The space between your nostrils is called columella nasi.
15.The armholes in clothes, where the sleeves are sewn, is called armscye.
16.The condition of finding it difficult to get out of the bed in the morning is called dysania.
17. Illegible hand-writing is called griffonage.
18.The dot over an “i” or a “j” is called tittle.
19.The utterly sick feeling you get after eating or drinking too much is called crapulence.
20.The metallic device used to measure your feet at the shoe store is called Bannock device.

How many of the above did you already know?

PS. 16 of these failed the spell check on my computer.

AUGUST 2021 CALENDAR

Fri. Aug. 6	**TGIF - Bravo Cucina Italiana:** 2970 Towne Centre Blvd, Lansing,in Eastwood Towne Center. Upscale-casual Italian restaurant with a Roman-ruins ambiance serving pasta, grilled dishes, and pizza. No outdoor seating available.
Fri. Aug. 13	**TGIF - Ozzy's Kabob:** 3536 Meridian Crossings Drive #260 in the Meridian Crossings Mall. Low-key venue for typical Middle Eastern fare such as chicken shawarma and okra stew. No outdoor seating available.
Fri. Aug. 20	**TGIF - State Room Restaurant:** At Kellogg Center, 219 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing. High-end hotel eatery with a warm vibe offering seasonal American cuisine and an extensive wine list. No outdoor seating available.
Fri. Aug. 27	**TGIF - Cancun Mexican Grille:** 1754 Central Park Dr, Meridian Township. Good Mexican food and great margaritas. No outdoor seating available.
Sun. Aug. 29	**Summer Anniversary Party:** 3369 Harper Rd, Mason, MI. Ginny plans to cook lasagna and a chicken dish. Bring your own potluck side dish or dessert. We can eat in the sunroom and/or outside. Let her know what you're bringing so she can advise others who ask.

Generally, if you need information, call 517-676-3369 or visit midmichigan.us.mensa.org for updates.

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