MARCH 2022

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 575



HEAD-LINE NO. 575 MARCH 2022
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

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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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EDITOR'S COLUMN:

FROM MY BRAIN TO YOURS

by Sharon Plavnick

Nothing much of interest to spout off about this month, so keeping it short.

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 March 2022

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

Dare we hope that the recent decline of the Omicron variant heralds the end of the COVID-19 pandemic? So far, high vaccination rates seem to be having the desired effect, as those familiar with the history of vaccines vs. infectious diseases might have expected. Sadly, much of the world's population has a long way to go in building herd immunity to COVID-19, so the virus continues to mutate into possibly even more infectious variants. . . maybe the only hopeful sign that we can truly count on is that, here in the northern hemisphere at least, spring will arrive on schedule due to the equinox on the 20th, whether Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow or not on February 2nd!

Thanks to rapidly declining COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths in February, MMM won't ask attendees to wear masks whenever they are not seated for our March TGIF dinners. Any of you who feel more comfortable wearing a mask indoors are welcome to do so at MMM activities, and those who feel at risk in larger groups are free to wait to attend such group activities until their comfort level grows high enough.

In addition to our four Friday dinners last month, MMM held a Winter Party to celebrate National Chocolate Mint Day on February 19th. Those attending enjoyed lasagna, shrimp, veggies, and of course a variety of chocolate and mint desserts! After dinner we retired to the living room for stimulating conversations and a White Elephant gift exchange, where we each got something new to take home afterward! We hope that you will be able to join us for some of MMM's March activities as noted on the

calendar inside the Head-Line back cover and also at midmichigan.us.mensa.org/calendar.html, the MMM group Website. While online, you can also log on to our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/MidMichiganMensa and join the conversation!

BOB'S WORD PUZZLE FOR MARCH:

Famous Name Anagrams

Rearrange the letters given in each clue below to spell the name of a famous actor:

1. monk hats
2. perm restyle
3. twinkles eat
4. rote music
5. scowlers rule
6. big lemons
7. oil jar buster
8. o green ecology
9. madman tot
10. my rice jar
11. nickname idol
12. serene wirephotos

BOB'S Math Puzzle:

Write the digits 1 through 9 in ascending order, then insert two plus signs to separate them into groups of 2, 3, and 4 digits (in any order). How would you place the plus signs to make these 6 different sums: 1890, 2079, 4257, 4779, 6957, and 7146?

See answers on page 7

CLEVER CROSSWORD CLUES

From Doug McCall

These clues are notable to me because they get me thinking in the wrong direction, yet their answers are very sensible, not obscure. Instead of giving you the length of the answer with each clue, all of the answers are alphabetical at the bottom where you can match them up.

1. Perfect thing that's not beneficial
   LA Times 2022-Feb-18
2. One found among the blocks
   LA Times 2022-Feb-11
3. They work in lofty places
   LA Times 2022-Feb-11
4. One that may come from Yale
   LA Times 2022-Feb-12
5. Like one who can't even hit an easy pitch
   LA Times 2022-Feb-12
6. The Scotch kind might be double-coated
   LA Times 2022-Feb-10
7. Quarters with stories
   LA Times 2022-Feb-10
8. Accident report
   LA Times 2022-Feb-10
9. Like J, in a way
   LA Times 2022-Feb-10
10. Roles, metaphorically
    LA Times 2022-Feb-10
11. Like the name Robin Banks, for a yegg
    LA Times 2022-Feb-10
12. Hula hoop?
    LA Times 2022-Feb-10
13. Blessing lead-in
    LA Times 2022-Feb-10
14. In again
    LA Times 2022-Feb-3
15. Pockets usually stuffed
    LA Times 2022-Feb-3
16. Note below F?
    LA Times 2022-Feb-3

Alphabetical Answers

ACHOO
APT
HATS
HOTEL
LEI
OOPS
PADLOCK
PILOTS
RAVIOLI
RETRO
SEEME
STORM
STREET
TAPE
TENTH
TONEDEAF

If you want more help, number the answers and use this decoder.

Question:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Answer:	12	13	8	7	16	14	4	6	15	3	2	5	1	10	9	11

MARCH 2022 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
113 members

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jeffrey Buchhop	Mar 2	Steven Spitzley	Mar 18
David Brown	Mar 4	Michael Bohde	Mar 24
Roderick Baltzer	Mar 5	Thomas Korkoske	Mar 26
Eric Sanko	Mar 17	Frank Dolinar	Mar 26

MARCH MENSAVERSARIES

Roderick Baltzer	1 yr	Eric Laverty	13 yrs
Carol Scot	3 yrs	Keith Shaw	13 yrs
Ian Smith	6 yrs	John Paduch	16 yrs
Jennifer Feasal	7 yrs	Roberta McCall	22 yrs
Kobe Hixon	9 yrs	Brinton Butler	22 yrs
Neal Forss	11 yrs	Elizabeth Evangelista	47 yrs
Kathleen Kohagen	12 yrs	Michael Knowlton	47 yrs

"The Innocents Abroad" by Mark Twain
A Book Report by Bob Henderson

Mark Twain was early in his career as a humorist in 1867 when he saw a flyer for an excursion to Europe and the Holy Land that would look familiar to modern tourists. It promised a comfortable journey on a fast, modern ship with amenities such as fine dining, music, a library, and even a ship's doctor! The cruise itinerary included visits to many of the ancient and modern wonders to the north and east of the Mediterranean. Twain was quick to sign on to the 11-month "pic-nic" for $1,250, leaving from New York that June.

Twain wrote a total of 651 pages in 60 chapters describing his fellow passengers, dozens of ports of call, and many of the people he encountered there, all with his own style of irreverent wit. One of his main themes was that Americans had been fed romantic notions about the glories of ancient empires by the other popular travel writers of the day, many of whom seemed to have copied older texts rather than report on their own experiences. Collisions between such lofty expectations and reality as experienced by the travelers provided plenty of grist for Twain's acerbic humor. For their part, the Europeans knew very little about Americans except that they had money. In every port the travellers were harassed by beggars and overcharged by merchants and travel guides, all of which Twain described in colorful and amusing ways.

After shopping and exploring the local points of interest, the tourists were able to return to the ship and their "homes away from home" (staterooms) for the next leg of the journey. Some even took side trips further abroad before rejoining the other passengers at a later point in their itinerary. Twain was not impressed by the modern filth and poverty he saw in so many places which had been much celebrated in history, but he confessed that he had been awed by the ancient monuments dating back millennia, far longer than America's (recorded) past. His fellow travelers were not awed in quite the same way: many of them carried geologists' picks and bags with which to chip off and carry home fragments as souvenirs of their journey!

When he finally got back from his great adventure, Twain concluded that the trip had met all of its promised goals (a rarity in such a grand undertaking) and that he would gladly take the same trip all over again given the chance. Unlike his fellow tourists, he kept up his daily journal and turned it into a very readable book full of period details, astute observations, and Twain's unique brand of American humor.

ANSWERS TO WORD PUZZLE
Name Anagram Answers:

1. monk hats = Tom Hanks
2. perm restyle = Meryl Streep
3. twinkles eat = Kate Winslet
4. rote music = Tom Cruise
5. scowlers rule = Russell Crowe
6. big lemons = Mel Gibson
7. oil jar buster = Julia Roberts
8. o green ecology = George Clooney
9. madman tot = Matt Damon
10. my rice jar = Jim Carrey
11. nickname idol = Nicole Kidman
12. serene wirephotos = Reese Witherspoon

MATH PUZZLE ANSWERS

1890 = 1234 + 567 + 89, 2079 = 1234 + 56 + 789, 4257 = 12 + 3456 + 789,

4779 = 123 + 4567 + 89, 6957 = 123 + 45 + 6789, and 7146 = 12 + 345 + 6789.

Can any other sums be formed in this way? Try it and see

FOOD FOR THOUGHT
By Barb Ford

Barb is presenting a different focus this month. No recipe, but something to chew on nonetheless.

FIRST AID GO BAG

How many times have we all had an urgent need to get to first aid items? Do we find ourselves searching in different places for what we need? Sorry to say this, but the pre made first aid kits just don't cut it. Here is a list of essential items that could be needed in an emergency. Add whatever else you think you might need. One bag, grab and go. In these times, when paramedics might be flooded with other calls, the efforts of a sensible person with access to the following items may be able to stabilize an injured person before help can arrive.

First, obtain a clean, medium sized duffle bag that can be opened wide and has a cross body carry capability.

In no particular order, the following items are essential. Sewing kit, scissors, pen, pencil, Sharpie markers in blue, green and black, index cards, dental floss, oximeter, blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, thermometer, honey, mylar blankets, tea tree oil, calamine lotion, poison ivy wash, jelly beans, lighter, waterproof matches, mossie spray, antihistamines, aspirin, turmeric powder, colloidal silver, organic camphor (smelling salts,) twist and crack ice packs, heat packs, eye flush solution, clove oil (dental pain,) arnica cream or gel, drawing salve, antibiotic ointment, Vaseline, rubbing alcohol wipes and liquid, hydrogen peroxide, iodine, surgical scrub, Quick Clot granules, various bandage materials, butterfly bandages, clean t-shirts torn into 4' strips, bandanas, crazy glue, whistle, lightweight down jacket, compressed and rolled, wound wash, duct tape, blue painter's tape, Emergen-C packets, activated charcoal, clean rope and string, Viva paper towels, clean cloth rags, zip ties, twist ties and trash bags. A hand-held portable water purifier and a solar phone charger might be truly essential. It is helpful to group these items appropriately together in freezer zip loc bags.

This list is a jumping off point. Please consider taking a first aid/CPR course. Consult with your local first responders' organization for class availability.

Thanks to Troy G. and the members of Living Naturally.

MARCH 2022 CALENDAR

FRIDAY MAR 4: TGIF - CORAL GABLES
2838 E Grand River, East Lansing, east of Hagadorn Road. One of the best restaurants in East Lansing and a favorite of Mid-Michigan Mensa. Serves Greek food, steaks, seafood, pasta, salads, sandwiches and pizza.

FRIDAY MAR 11: TGIF - BOSTON MARKET
6435 S Cedar St, Holt, between Willoughby Rd and Aurelius Rd.Tasty ready-to-serve dishes including prime rib served cafeteria-style (bus your own dishes).

FRIDAY MAR 18: TGIF- MITCHELL'S FISH MARKET
2975 Preyde Blvd, Lansing, in the Eastwood Towne Center. Famous for seafood. We will be in a private dining room in back.

FRIDAY MAR 25: TGIF - FIESTA CHARRA RESTAURANT
13157 Schavey Rd, Dewitt. Extensive menu of traditional Mexican dishes and margaritas.

Steering Committee Meeting: to follow dinner.

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