APRIL 2023

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 588



HEAD-LINE NO. 588 APRIL 2023
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

I'm writing this while still in Florida, but by the time anyone reads this, I'll be back home in Holt, Michigan. Where I belong. See ya soon!

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 April 2023

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

MMM had great TGIF dinner turnouts at both the Bravo! Italian Kitchen at Eastwood on March 10 and at Olga's Kitchen at Frandor on March 17. There were so many interesting conversations going on that my ears couldn't clearly distinguish one from the next, which made for some weird juxtapositions! My apologies to anyone who had questions or comments meant for me that I failed to reply to. . .

MMM finished our part in judging the 55 local essays entered earlier in the Mensa Foundation Scholarship competition back in February. We won't know the local winner(s) until Regional and National judging have also been completed, but I have all the competitors' contact info in case any of us would like to meet them later.

MMM will also have a team entered in the Culture Quest trivia competition this year. Wendy Carnegie has kindly offered a place for the team to meet on Sunday, April 30 for the 90 minutes we will have to answer as many CQ questions as we can. Team members will be provided further information as it becomes available.

MMM's Steering Committee will meet again after the TGIF dinner at Asian Taste on April 14. I wish I could tell you what was decided in February's meeting, but I couldn't take notes while chairing the meeting. . . Hopefully, the Steering Committee members who took good notes will submit them to the editor for publication soon, or at least bring them to the April 14 meeting to help us to distinguish between old business and new business!

Mitchell's Musings - RVC3 Column APRIL 2023

April is, in my humble opinion, the busiest month in the Mensa calendar. Our membership renewal date is April 1, Mind Games is mid April (this year April 20th is the official start although registration starts evening of the 19th), and CultureQuest us April 30th. To honor National Volunteer Month, most chapters hold their Mensa Cares events in April. Local Group annual financial reports are due April 30, as well as April 30 is also the deadline for award nominations. (Specifically for National Service, National Appreciation, Lifetime Membership, and Distinguished service). It's a real whirlwind for everyone. I have extra personal things happening in April, and I'm finding myself wondering if I will have a chance to slow down at all this month.

Self care becomes really important to all of us when there's a lot happening around us. Fortunately, Mensa can also be a source of that self care. I'm incredibly extroverted, and the friendships and bonds I have with other members are a real lifeline to talk things through when I'm feeling overwhelmed. There's fabulous online events when I want to feed my brain and learn things, and I take a lot of pride in the incredible difference that the Mensa Foundation is making the futures of so many people.

So don't be a Fool, make the most of your Mensa in April. (and don't forget to renew!!)
Lora Mitchell

RVC3@us.mensa.org
"*Some people can't be fooled on April Fool's Day because they were fooled too many times during their entire lifetime.*" – *Akash B Chandran*

Bob's Word Puzzle for April:

What do the words EMBLEM, RETIRE, and ORATOR have in common? For one thing, they are all 6 letters in length. For another, they each end with the same two letters in the same order that they start with, as in last month's puzzle for 5-letter words. You can imagine bending each word until its front end overlaps its back end, like the mythical snake that eats its own tail. The letters then form a loop that could be described as a chain with one link.

Of course, chains can be longer than one link. . . the words SMOOTH and THEISM can be linked to make a word chain with two links (i.e., a loop of two words), the words LEADER, ERMINE, and NETTLE can make a word chain with three links, and so on.

Have fun making up your own chains of 2, 3, or more words. I found chains of up to 8 six-letter words. . . Can you do better?

Bob's Math Puzzle for April:

You may remember that a plane triangle with integer side lengths of 3, 4, and 5 units is a right triangle, with a 90-degree angle between the two shorter sides. Can you find a formula relating these side lengths that can be generalized to create larger right triangles in the same "family?"

One formula you might deduce is that 4 + 5 = 3 x 3: summing the two longer side lengths (consecutive integers) gives the square of the short side length. With a little trial and error, you can see that this formula can be adapted to work with any odd-number length as the shortest side: examples include 12 + 13 = 5 x 5, 24 + 25 = 7 x 7, 40 + 41 = 9 x 9, etc. Can you show why this method always gives the side lengths of a right triangle?

As it turns out, there are also many right triangles that do not follow this formula. Can you think of a way to find another family of right triangles in each of which the shortest side is an EVEN number of units in length?

Bob's Trivia Quiz

1) Who made Valentine's Day an official holiday in 1537?
2) Name the four main characters in "The Golden Girls."
3) What awards has an EGOT winner received?
4) How many colors are there in a rainbow?
5) What does "www" mean in a web browser?
6) Who played Agent 007 in seven official Bond films?
7) What 1503 portrait is officially titled "La Gioconda?"
8) Which country eats the most chocolate per capita?
9) What is the most used letter in the English alphabet?
10) In which country did "Cirque du Soleil" originate?
11) What was Marilyn Monroe's original first name?
12) In what fictional town did The Flintstones live?
13) Under all the fur, what color is a polar bear's skin?
14) What is the highest-grossing video game franchise?
15) What is Canada's national summer sport?

See Answers on page 6.

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APRIL 2023 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
117 members

BIRTHDAYS

Kenneth Lawrence	April 2
Carol Scot	April 9
John Paduch	April 19
Richard Hobria	April 20
Rona Landfield	April 29

MENSAVERSERIES

Ingrid Nova	1 yr
Michael Bohde	2 yrs
Gregory Listing	13 yrs
Gary Gordon	19 yrs
Gail Wolfe	32 yrs
Patricia Thuemmel	33 yrs

Answers To Puzzles

Bob's Word Puzzle Answers

Chain of 4 six-letter words: STAMEN, ENDIVE, VENIAL, ALMOST. . .
Chain of 5 words: ERASED, EDITOR, ORDEAL, ALUMNI, NICKER. . .
Chain of 6 words: ESCAPE, PERUSE, SERVER, ERRATA, TACKLE, LEAVES. . .
7 words: ANNUAL, ALUMNI, NICKEL, ELAPSE, SERMON, ONRUSH, SHAMAN.
8: STRIPE, PESTLE, LEADER, ERASED, EDITOR, ORGASM, SMOOTH, THIRST.

Math Puzzle Answers

A triangle with sides of 3, 4, and 5 units is a right triangle because, as Pythagoras showed us, the square of the longest side (the hypotenuse) is the sum of the squares of the two shorter sides: (5 x 5) = 25 = (9 + 16) = (3 x 3) + (4 x 4). This can also be expressed as (3 x 3) = (5 x 5) - (4 x 4), or (3 x 3) = (5 + 4) x (5 - 4). When the longer side lengths are consecutive integers such as 4 and 5, the (5 - 4) multiplicand has a value of 1, leaving (3 x 3) = (5 + 4), the first pattern noted above. Other members of this family follow the same logic, so they are all right triangles.

If the shortest leg of a right triangle is an even number of units in length, the lengths of the longer leg and the hypotenuse must both be odd numbers. These cannot have the same length, so let's see if they can differ by just 2. . . If we express their lengths as (2 x N - 1) and (2 x N + 1), the difference between their squares is simply (8 x N), which should also be the square of the short side length. This difference is only a square for N = 2, 8, 18, 32, etc. The resulting family of right triangles has side lengths of (4, 3, 5), (8, 15, 17), (12, 35, 37), (16, 63, 65), etc. Can you find other families of right triangles where the two odd sides differ by 4, 6, 8, or more units?

Trivia Quiz Answers:

1) King Henry VIII of England
2) Blanche, Rose, Dorothy, and Sophia
3) Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony
4) Seven: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, violet
5) World Wide Web (the default, omitted in many URL's)
6) Roger Moore (Sean Connory was in only 6 "official" Bond movies)
7) The Mona Lisa, painted by Leonardo da Vinci
8) Switzerland
9) The letter E (e)
10) Canada (in Quebec)
11) Norma Jean
12) Bedrock
13) Black
14) Mario (not counting merchandising spinoffs; otherwise, Pokémon)
15) Lacrosse, per 1994 Act of Parliament (ice hockey is the winter sport)

APRIL THEODORE TALK

"**Invisible Warriors: African American Women in World War II".** This virtual event will take place on Zoom April 23 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 7:30 GMT).

Invisible Warriors: African American Women in World War II is a feature length documentary illuminating 600,000 Black women - "Rosie the Riveters" - industrial and government employees who triumph over racism, sexism, and classism to help win the war. Their wartime service and patriotism ushers in a new era and expectations for African American women.

In *Invisible Warriors,* professor Gregory S. Cooke, filmmaker and hjstorian, uses HD interviews and archival photos and film to document Eight Rosies and their lives during the Great Depression including their education, social and economic conditions. The documentary explores Rosies' patriotism; their jobs and working conditions; racial violence and resistance; and the larger political context that creates their employment opportunities. Ultimately, the African American Rosies' wartime employment is a positive economic, political and social experience. Arguably, Black Rosies are the most significant group of African American women of the 20th Century.

Register for this presentation at https://tinyurl.com/bdfpx93b.

You must register for each lecture with an email address associated with your Zoom account. If you don't have one, you can sign up for a free Zoom account at https://zoom.us/signup

Theodore Talks take place on Zoom the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. CT.
A list of future Theodore Talks can be found on the Mensa National Events Calendar at https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/, or by viewing the January issue of the Mensa Bulletin. The article on the 2023 Theodore Talks begins on p. 26. The PDF for the magazine can be found here:
https://cdn.coverstand.com/28885/770839/b31f233c57e663919d0e24eaaf61c9f62f52e902.pdf

Questions? Contact Brad Lucht at TheodoreTalks@MAMensa.org.

APRIL 2023 MMM Activities Calendar

Fri. April 7: TGIF - Cancun Mexican Grill
1754 Central Park Dr, Meridian Township. Good Mexican food and great margaritas.

Fri. April 14: TGIF - Asian Taste
132 S Cedar St Mason, kitty-corner from the Speedway Station. Wide choice of delicious Chinese specialties including Crab Rangoons and Orange Chicken.

Steering Committee meeting: to follow dinner.

Fri. April 21: TGIF - Coral Gables
2838 E Grand River, East Lansing, just east of Hagadorn Rd. A favorite of Mid-Michigan
Mensa. Serves Greek foods, steaks, seafood, pasta, salads, sandwiches, pizza and more.

Fri. April 28: TGIF - Delhi Cafe
4625 Willoughby Rd, Holt, between Cedar St and Aurelius Rd. A Mensa favorite with good Greek and American food.

TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet at about **6 PM** and order soon after 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