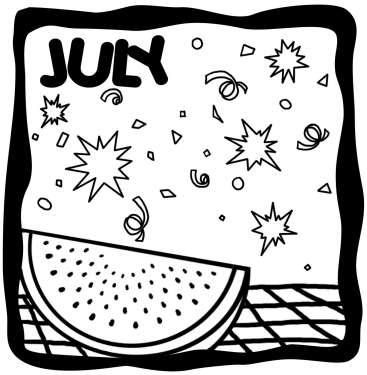
JULY 2023

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 591



HEAD-LINE NO. 591 JULY 2023
MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

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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.

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 will be enjoying the sights and sounds of Ireland this month. I'm very excited to be an international traveler again (except for the overnight flight part…ugh) and I sure hope my feet are up to it. What are all you readers doing for fun and enrichment this summer?

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 July 2023

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

We're already half-way through 2023, and Mid-Michigan Mensa activities are picking up steam! You may have already heard that we fielded a team in Mensa's Culture Quest competition on April 30. I now have copies of the 200 questions, our answers, and the correct answers for anyone interested. A group of us also attended the immersive van Gogh experience in Grand Rapids on May 15. In case no one has written about it for the Head-Line, we learned a lot about the artist and his work. Apparently, he had difficulty in distinguishing between similar color shades, causing him to exaggerate their contrast in his paintings. I have photos showing the vivid results as opposed to the muted colors in most Impressionist paintings.

Thanks to our new Proctor, Ken Lawrence, we administered the Mensa Admission Test to two prospective members on June 3. One of them was admitted into Mensa membership only five days later! He is planning to come to occasional TGIF dinners starting at Coral Gables on June 23. Another admissions test session is scheduled for July 8 at the CADL Okemos Library. . . See the MMM Activities Calendar inside the back cover of this issue, or visit the online Calendar (on the MMM Website at https://midmichigan.us.mensa.org/calendar.html) for up-to-date information on the July test session.

What other activities would you like to enjoy with your Mensa friends? Do you like reading books, attending musical performances or sports events, playing board games, or competing in pub trivia contests? Suggest an activity to any of the Local Group officers listed inside the Head-Line front cover, ask your friends how many of them would like to attend, and plan to discuss it at a TGIF dinner or Steering Committee meeting. MMM activities can be as interesting as you want them to be!

Mitchell's Musings - RVC3 Column July 2023

It's July! And you know that that means (besides sunburns and the neighbors setting off fireworks at 2am . THE ANNUAL GATHERING!

People often ask me what the AG is like. Sometimes it's a little hard to describe. The oft-repeated Nerd Camp is apt, but it's a bit more than that. It's 1500 potential friends, 60% of which are introverts and will require quite time. It's a Tuesday Colloquium, this year on neurodiversity. It's 24 hour snackage with many really good provided meals. It's meet and greets for SIGs and other interest groups. It's wall to wall speakers from 8am to 10pm with a fabulous variety such as Moral Courage, Poe's Gothic Fairy Tales, and 50 States on School Breaks. It's fitness sessions like Yoga. It's Leadership Development workshops on things such Gifted Youth, RG Planning, Increasing Communication Effectiveness. It's tournaments- come play Carnelli and Dominion. This year as a bonus, there's also a Catan US National Qualifier Tournament.

It's Misster Mensa, which I really hesitate to call a pageant, but is more like a spoof of pageants that raises incredible amounts of money for scholarships and results in both a lot of laughter and a crown. It's a Gala where you can dress up as much or as little as you want, have a nice sit down dinner, and listen to a speaker; this year is the legendary John Waters. It's the annual business meeting, where member can offer commentary, motions, ad review the budget.

But really, to most people and especially me, it's about making new friends and seeing old ones. Mensa is one of those spaces where people can embrace their inner quirks. You can find people with common interests by finding SIGs you didn't know, or having an awkward conversation over dessert. It's about celebrating who we are, and creating circles of friends we didn't know we needed.

Come find me at the Region 3 meet and greet on Friday 7/7 at 1:30pm, and let me know what the AG means to you, too.

"There is immense power when a group of people with similar interests gets together to work toward the same goals." – Idowu Koyenikan

Lora Mitchell, RVC3
rvc3@us.mensa.org

Bob's Word Puzzle

Mensa qualification tests include questions to evaluate a candidate's verbal skills, such as finding the closest synonym for a given word. Here are 15 examples gleaned from the vocabulary.com site. Do you still have the verbal smarts to choose the correct synonyms for at least 10 of these 15 words? Happy hunting!

1. Affect means: A) quantify, B) signify, C) amplify, D) modify
2. Affront means: A) insult, B) decrease, C) landmark, D) sparkle
3. Centripetal means: A) ceremonial, B) centennial, C) centralizing, D) celebratory
4. Compliment means: A) certainty, B) mistake, C) praise, D advice
5. Discreet means: A) modest, B) uncooperative, C) heavy, D) overbearing
6. Discrete means: A) separate, B) germinal, C) waggish, D) meretricious
7. excoriate means to: A) desiccate, B) caulk, C) condemn, D) jettison
8. Fiat means: A) groove, B) nuance, C) order, D) lament
9. Gaudy means: A) narrow, B) tasteless, C) charming, D) vast
10. Ineffable means: A) indescribable, B) diversified, C) nocturnal, D) figurative
11. Maudlin means: A) redundant, B) religious, C) quizzical, D) emotional
12. Miserly means: A) stingy, B) hermetic, C) fetid, D) fecund
13. Puissance means: A) sanity, B) priority, C) power, D) essence
14. Scud means to: A) chew, B) fade, C) leak, D) rush
15. Taciturn means: A) outlandish, B) uncommunicative, C) painstaking, D) halfhearted

Bob's Math Puzzle: Taxicab Numbers

Srinivasa Ramanujan was a self-taught Indian mathematician who knew numbers like the backs of his hands. British mathematician G. H. Hardy was so impressed by his work that he found a position for Ramanujan in Hardy's university department back in England. Unfortunately, the change of climate caused Ramanujan serious health problems. While visiting him in the hospital, Hardy mentioned the number of the taxicab that had brought him there, commenting that in his opinion it seemed to be a rather uninteresting one.

Ramanujan became agitated, blurting out "Oh no, Mr. Hardy, it is a most interesting number! it is the smallest positive integer that can be expressed as the sum of two cubes in two distinct ways!"

Can you deduce the number of the taxicab that Hardy had taken?

Bob's Trivia Quiz
Do you know the answers to these 10 Jeopardy-style trivia questions? Mensans should be able to get most of them without looking up the answers online, but feel free to look up any you aren't sure about later.

1) Internal supporting structure of vertebrates
2) Tereza loves Tomas who also has a mistress named Sabina in this novel by Milan Kundera
3) During pregnancy these can slow down so that food stays in the stomach longer, causing heartburn
4) Her novel Kindred tells of a young Black woman who travels back in time to the pre-Civil War South
5) Due northwest of Haiti is this passage between Haiti & Cuba; further S.E. are the same-named islands
6) This Welsh legend had an unplanned Voice U.K. duet with Jennifer Hudson
7) The legally mandated process of dividing up voters into new legislative regions within a state
8) The name of this color of unbleached linen is French for raw
9) Detected on an EEG, gamma & delta are types of these
10) The Candy House is a companion novel to her Pulitzer Prize-winning A Visit from the Goon Squad

See Answers on page 6.

2023 Mensa Foundation Scholarship Winners in Mid-Michigan

We're happy to announce the local winners of Mensa Foundation Scholarships this year! The Mensa Foundation awarded 197 scholarships altogether this year (192 nationally and 5 internationally), with over $209,000 awarded in total. We had 2 winners in the Mid-Michigan area:

MARION STEWART SCHOLARSHIP	$600	Zyaira Jackson
DIANA MOSSIP MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP	$600	Sydney Foster

Congratulations to all the winners! Their essays stood out for excellence of content and composition, and we couldn't be happier to encourage them on their educational journey.

JULY 2023 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
97 members

BIRTHDAYS

David Murley	July 7
Kristen Shuler	July 8
Gary Gordon	July 12
David Salsbury	July 17

MENSAVERSERIES

Pamela Benzing	6 yrs
Daniel Thompson	21 yrs
Dawn Ramsay	35 yrs

MENSA GROUP IMMERSED IN VAN GOGH

by Elizabeth Evangelista

On May 15th, a group of 7 Mensans and friends made the trip to Grand Rapids to experience the Van Gogh Immersion. We expected to see something pretty amazing, and we were not disappointed! There were several very unique displays done with lights in the museum part of the display, but the light show in the main room was such an experience that most of us watched it through twice. If you have a chance to experience this show in the future, I highly recommend that you take advantage of the opportunity! After we finished at the exhibit we found our way to Beer City Bread/Arnies and enjoyed some delicious pizza, and that was fun, too.

We may take another "Field Trip" later this year. A trip to Holland (MI) has. been suggested. Keep tuned for details!

Answers To Puzzles

Math Puzzle Answer

Just as a square is the product of a number times itself, a cube is a number times its square. In case you aren't as familiar with them as Ramanujan was, the cubes in ascending order are 1, 8, 27, 64, 125, 216, 343, 512, 729, 1000, 1331, 1728, etc. I'm sure you can pick out the 2 pairs from this list that give the same sum (hint: 9^3 + 10^3 = 1^3 + 12^3). Numbers that can be expressed as the sum of two cubes in two different ways became known as Taxicab Numbers (or Ramanujan-Hardy Numbers) after Hardy wrote about this visit.

Word Puzzle Answers

1. D, 2. A, 3. C, 4. C, 5. A, 6. A, 7. C, 8. C, 9. B, 10. A, 11. D, 12. A, 13. C, 14. D, 15. B

Trivia Quiz Answers:

1) Endoskeleton, 2) The Unbearable Lightness of Being, 3) Peristaltic Waves, 4) Octavia Butler, 5) Windward, 6) Tom Jones, 7) Redistricting, 8) Ecru, 9) Brain Waves, 10) Jennifer Egan.

Meet-In-The-Middle
Wednesday July 26th at 6:30 pm

Please join us for the annual Meet-in-the-Middle dinner, conversation and games at:
Block Brewing Company 1840 South Old US 23 Brighton, MI 48814

We are inviting Mensans from the Detroit area, Mid Michigan Mensa, Flint Tri-Cities and points north, and Ann Arbor Area and Maumee Valley Mensas. There is lots of well-lighted parking right at the front door. We have a private patio if the weather is nice, which is ours for the evening. We are welcome to stay and talk (or play board games) as late as we want. Pub Trivia is at 8 pm, so a Trivia team or two may emerge.

The drinks menu includes a lengthy list of craft beers and non-alcoholic root beer they make themselves, using local and Michigan-based suppliers. Block Brewing is known for dry rubbed and smoked in-house meats, award winning sauces, hand-cut fries and house-made cornbread. Check out their menu online at BlockBrewing.com/Brighton.

Directions: The Brighton Block Brewery is on the west side of Old 23 (which runs down the west side of new US-23) between Hilton and Hyne Roads. From Lansing, take !-96 to the Brighton Grand River exit #145. Turn north away from downtown and immediately get to the far right to turn right on Hilton Road 1/2 block after you pass under the freeway. Take Hilton until it dead-ends into Old-23 and turn north (left).

More information? Contact Jean or Ed Becker at 810.229.2113 jeankbecker@icloud.com, or Ann Garvin at 734.663.4075 agarvin224@aol.com, or James Draper at 810.624.1791 paradyme4@comcast.net.

TED TALK

The title of the July Theodore Talk is, "Paris During WWI". This virtual event will take place on Zoom July 23 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 7:30 GMT).

ABSTRACT

As La Belle Époque ended and a world war roared to life, Paris France endured as a nucleus of diplomatic and humanitarian endeavors, a military target and strategic hub, symbol of jazz-age pleasures and artistic productivity. Socially and politically, Paris, France from 1914 to 1920 is arguably the most influential city in the world.

In conjunction with a new exhibit scheduled to open in the fall of 2023, the National WWI Museum and Memorial will bring to life what Paris was like during WWI.

Speaker Bio: Lora Vogt
Vice President of Education and Interpretation

Lora Vogt has been with the Museum and Memorial since 2011. She leads the Global Education Initiative of the Museum, engaging millions of individuals in compelling learning on the causes, course, consequences and enduring impact of WWI. Vogt is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia and Covenant Theological Seminary. She holds a B.A. in History, a B.S. in Social Studies Education, and two master's degrees in education.

Register for this presentation at https://tinyurl.com/u4wr5tkr. 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.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

Most of my readers know I very rarely give product endorsements. This is one of those moments. My good friend from California sent me a gift of Chaka's MMM sauce marinade. It is sugar free and made with clean ingredients, and oh so tasty. I rarely eat meat, so I have been experimenting with using this product in veggie dishes, both cooked and raw. Below is my fun recipe for cold Broccoli Salad.

I must confirm I have tried Chaka's other three products: Zesty Recipe Chaka MMM Sauce, Chaka's Barbeque Sauce and my favorite, Chaka's Mystery Hot Sauce. Check them out at www.chakasmmm.com. Order online, or call Rob directly at 209 652-5685. The customer service at this family-owned company is as delightful as their products. Tell Rob I sent you. (Please note: I make no $ for referring folks to Chaka's. Just fun to share things I myself enjoy.)

CHAKA SAUCE BROCCOLI SALAD

Ingredients:

2 T Chaka's MMM sauce
1 T Organic Apple Cider Vinegar (ACV)
1 T Light Vegetable Oil (I like liquid unflavored coconut oil)
½ Packet Stevia Powder
1 T Organic Creamy Peanut Butter
1 Small Sweet Onion, Sliced Thinly
1 Diced Jalapeno Pepper
3 C Raw Broccoli Florets
½ C Raisins

Directions:

In a large bowl, whisk together the Chaka Sauce, ACV, oil, stevia, and peanut butter. Stir in the onion, jalapeno, broccoli, and raisins. Refrigerate for a few hours or preferably, overnight. Stir again before serving.

"A salad is not a meal. It is a style."
Fran Lebowitz

JULY 2023 MMM Activities Calendar

Fri July 7: TGIF - Hibachi Grill:
5837 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing. Unpretentious eatery boasting 250+ American, Asian & Italian items on a buffet, plus hibachi dishes.

Sat, July 8, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM: Mensa Admissions Testing
CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Rd, Okemos, south of Hulett Rd. Use entrance behind building. For further details, contact MMM Proctor Ken Lawrence at MensaProctor670@gmail.com

Fri July 14: TGIF - Outback Steakhouse (New Location):
617 N Canal Rd, Lansing. Australian-style steak, chicken, and shrimp on the barbie!

Fri July 21: TGIF - Mitchell's Fish Market:
2975 Preyde Blvd, Lansing, in the Eastwood Towne Center. Justly famous for seafood.

Weds, July 26: Meet-in-the-Middle Gathering, hosted by SEMM
Please join us at 6:30 PM at Block Brewing Co., 1840 S Old US 23, Brighton, MI 48814, ph. 801.206.3990. See article elsewhere in this issue for further details.

Fri July 28: 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.

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