SEPTEMBER 2023

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 593



HEAD-LINE NO. 593 SEPTEMBER 2023
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	517-896-0478	evangel6@comcast.net
Scribe:	Wendy Carnegie	517-775-0648	w.carnegie@comcast.net
	Sharon Plavnick	517-285-8740	sharonslp@ameritech.net
	Ken Lawrence	248-660-3181	KenLawrence1951@gmail.com
	Squire Jaros	517-730-2619	llahcsramc@aol.com

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Dues Sub. Adm:	Elizabeth Evangelista	517-896-0478	evangel6@comcast.net
Gifted Youth Coord:			
Membership:	Kathryn Teshich	517-281-7259	spartanovich@yahoo.com
Ombudsman:			
Proctor:	Ken Lawrence	248-660-3181	MensaProctor670@gmail.com
Program Director	Elizabeth Evangelista	517-896-0478	evangel6@comcast.net
Scholarship:	Wendy Carnegie	517-775-0648	w.carnegie@comcast.net
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
Circulation Manager

WEBMASTER

Robert Henderson 517-676-3369. rlhenderson@peoplepc.com

MMM WEB SITE: http:/www.midmichigan.us.mensa.org

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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've been busy trying to declutter. I'm not Swedish and I'm not dying, but I am taking the Swedish Death Cleaning philosophy to heart. (Don't know about it? Google is your friend.) I am far from hoarder status, but my skin gets creepy-crawly when I have Too Much Stuff. So, I'm unstuffing. It feels good. What are all of you doing with your stuff these days?

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 September 2023

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

September brings an end to summer vacation travel, a new academic year, and cooler weather. . . Let's get out and enjoy it with our MMM friends! There are sure to be group activities that many of us would enjoy before the holidays -- how about a visit to a nearby cider mill, nature center, planetarium, or ball game? You may have even better ideas for activities to enjoy with your fellow Mensans! In the past we have had book discussion groups, board game sessions, trivia contests, chili cook-offs, or even combinations of the above. . . Email your comments and suggestions to me at rlhenderson@peoplepc.com or call me at (517) 488-5772.

Mid-Michigan Mensa also hopes to resume testing membership prospects this month. We will all benefit from welcoming new members into our Group. If you see an unfamiliar face at any of our activities, please introduce yourself and get to know them. As Bill Nye said, "Everyone you will ever meet knows something you don't." He went on to describe different professions like mechanics and cooks and how they are experts in their own fields, adding "Respect their knowledge. Learn from them." That is certainly true of our fellow Mensans as well!

MMM is making an effort to be sure that members who subscribe to the printed Head-Line newsletter will receive each month's issue before the first of that month. Those who read the electronic versions on-line at either the MMM or AML Website have an extra two weeks to plan their activities with us, and will also benefit from the more frequent updates possible with the online versions. AML recommends reading Group newsletters on-line, unless of course you have no access to the Internet, so give it a try and update your AML communications preferences accordingly. Thanks for helping to minimize our printing and postage issues!

Mitchell's Musings - RVC3 Column September 2023

As I am in my 3rd year as RVC, I have had numerous wonderful experiences connecting with members across the region, as well as many gifted leaders. Many have been around much longer than I have (I joined in 96/97) while others are newer members who are seeking opportunities to connect, it is probably the best part of the job.

The role of the RVC entails a lot, though. We are ex-officio members of all chapter Executive Committees within the region. We're responsible for ensuring compliance with the organization's Constitution, bylaws, and ASIEs and ensuring that local groups function within those rules. We provide tools for better member satisfaction. We answer question on "how do I…." to both members and volunteers, we recruit volunteers, and promote initiatives that improve Mensa in general. We attend oh so many meetings, and miss a lot of the fun at the AG. We conduct LDWs. We conduct regional hearings. We adhere to principles of fiduciary responsibility to both local groups and the organization as a whole. We mediate conflicts. We serve on, or lead, various committees. (For myself, I currently chair Risk Management and serve on Leadership Development; I am also the RVC member of the AML Executive Committee and am the alternate delegate to Mensa International.) We participate in planning sessions, regular zooms, and email conversations. We physically visit every chapter in the region at least once per term. We participate in continuing education, prioritize projects, and we write columns like this to communicate.

It's a LOT. But it is also a labor or joy and love to an organization that means a lot to me. That being said, I want to share that I am also a believer in sharing opportunities. As of this time, I do not intend to stand for reelection this spring. My personal life has taken a lot of twists and turns in the past couple of years, particularly ones I could not have predicted. I am hoping that one of you incredible members are considering a run and would like to contribute to Mensa in this way for the term beginning July 1 2024 for three years. There are no official requirements to being RVC, other than to be a member in good standing. There are things that do help, though: board experience, conflict resolution, an ability to shrug off unpleasant interactions, working knowledge of our bylaws and ASIEs, and a passion to grow Mensa. It does take a lot of time, but it is worth it. The rewards of working with all of you make the time something I value. I would love to discuss it with anyone who would like more information, please reach out.

And if you do not feel called to fill a role like this, I do hope you look at ways that you can (and do) contribute to the greater good of giftedness. We're in this together.

"What you do has far greater impact than what you say." — Stephen Covey

Lora Mitchell, RVC3
rvc3@us.mensa.org

New Ann Arbor Lunch-In

Do you work in Ann Arbor? Possibly you find daytimes better? Perhaps you like Chinese food. Or maybe you already enjoy the Ann Arbor Eat-Out and just want another opportunity to see other Mensans on the west side of SEMM. (Visitors from Mid-Michigan or the rest of SEMM's large area also welcome, of course.)

Starting Monday, September 11th we will gather at Panda House (229 N Maple Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 (734) 662-1818) at noon as a trial time and place. Panda House is modestly priced (see Pandahouse.com) with lots of space to make a big table. You also order and pay individually when you come in and help yourself to tea, so arrive anytime you can and stay as long as you want. It is located in the far northwest corner at the back of the Maple Village Mall.

Our second Lunch-In is scheduled for October 9th. When we meet we will talk more about a standing date and time. If you would like to join us but cannot attend, please let us know what fits your schedule.

Jean & Ed Becker
Jeankbecker@gmail.com
810.229.2113

Bob's Word Puzzle:

Fill in the missing letters to make words that fit both the straight definitions and the wordplay definitions hidden in the clues. Wordplay can include synonyms, anagrams, homonyms, etc. of the answer.

1) Social worker one opposed: A_T_
2) Regretted sounding coarse: _U_D
3) Name of man responsible for seaside structures: _I_R_
4) Surrender return on investment: _I_L_
5) Be a prisoner or a guiding light: _E_C_N
6) Pennant officer: _N _I_N
7) Stonework showing Madonna holding child: _A_O_R_
8) One true turning on the way: _N _O_T_
9) Girl getting employment in musical: _A_O_S_L
10) Struggle awkwardly with fish: _L_U_D_R

Bob's Math Puzzle: A Square Deal

Multiplying a number by itself gives its square: 4x4 = 16, 8x8 = 64, etc. The 4 digits 1, 6, 6, and 4 can fill a 2x2 grid with 1 and 6 in the top row and 6 and 4 in the bottom row. The left and right columns contain the same digits in the same order, giving a 2x2 grid filled with 2-digit squares. . . Can you find more 2x2 grids filled with different pairs of 2-digit squares (the only six squares available are 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, and 81)?

3-digit squares can similarly fill 3x3 grids. Can you find any of the 13 ways to do this? The 22 three-digit squares are 100, 121, 144, 169, 196, 225, 256, 289, 324, 361, 400, 441, 484, 529, 576, 625, 676, 729, 784, 841, 900, and 961.

4-digit squares can similarly fill 4x4 grids. The numbers 86 * 86 = 7396, 55 * 55 = 3025, 96 * 96 = 9216, and 81 * 81 = 6561 give one solution among the 14 possible.

See Answers on page 7.

SEPTEMBER 2023 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
100 members

BIRTHDAYS

Saif Fatteh	Sept 13
Neal Forss	Sept 16
Thomas Allor	Sept 17
September Peters	Sept 22
Daniel Thompson	Sept 28

MENSAVERSERIES

August Clark	1 yr
Michael Rademacher	2 yrs
Mason Miller	9 yrs
Kristen Shuler	11 yrs
David Brown	16 yrs
Brenton Wilburn	21 yrs
Paul Kassal	21 yrs
Brian McGrain	25 yrs
John Larson	33 yrs
William Dreary	35 yrs
William Syroid	37 yrs
Linda Harrison	38 yrs
Robert Henderson	43 yrs

Mid-Michigan Mensa Treasurer's Report

Quarter Ending June 30, 2023

STARTING BALANCE	$8,143.57
INCOME	$264.01
AML Subsidy Mar. 2023	104.15
AML Subsidy Apr. 2023	79.05
AML Subsidy May 2023	80.75
5/3 Bank savings interest	0.06
EXPENDITURES	$136.26
Head-Line:	
First-Class Postage	93.80
Mailing Supplies	6.52
MMM Summer Party Supplies	35.94
ACCOUNT BALANCES	
5/3 Checking	$6,224.19
5/3 Savings	1,998.62
USPS Postage Account	48.51
ENDING BALANCE	$8,271.32

Answers To Puzzles

Math Puzzle Answer

2x2 grids: 36 and 64, 64 and 49, and 81 and 16 are another 3 ways to do this.
3x3 grids: 23 * 23 = 529, 16 * 16 = 256, and 31 * 31 = 961 give one of 13 ways.
4x4 grids: Can you find any other examples using 4 different squares? Hint: Square 86, 55, 96, and 81.
5x5 grids: 76 possible ways, including the numbers you get by squaring 304, 167, 221, 136, and 263.
6x6 grids: 108 ways are possible. . . Try squaring 372, 462, 478, 627, 771, and 965. You may have to swap a few rows to get the same six squares in the columns.

Word Puzzle Answers

Word Puzzle Answers:

1) ANTI (ANT + I)
2) RUED (sounds like RUDE)
3) PIERS (man's name OR seaside structure)
4) YIELD (synonym for both parts of clue)
5) BEACON (BE + A + CON)
6) ENSIGN (can mean naval officer OR flag)
7) MASONRY (SON is held by MARY)
8) EN ROUTE (anagram of ONE TRUE)
9) CAROUSEL (USE inside of CAROL)
10) FLOUNDER (synonym for both parts)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

My garden has been truly wonderful this year. Cucumbers, crook neck summer and zucchini squash, tomatoes, peppers, okra, Swiss chard, and spinach. So many folks face a dilemma about what to do with all those summer squash and zucchini. I have a delicious solution. This recipe is very versatile and ingredient substitutions can be made. Seasonings and herbs can transform this dish into something international: Italian, Mexican, Greek, Middle Eastern, Indian, etc. Make it whatever you like, depending on what veggies and seasonings you have available. This is a thumbnail recipe with approximate ingredient amounts. It is low carb and can be eaten as a side dish or main course. Eat it as is, or serve it over rice or cooked whole grains. Leftover tip: Stir beaten eggs into it to make a killer omelet the next day. Impress your friends and family. That good.

SUMMER VEGGIE BAKE

Ingredients:
1 Cup Diced Tomatoes, Fresh or Canned
¾ Cup Chopped Fresh Mushrooms
5 Cups Diced Summer Squash
Seasonings and Herbs, (as much as 2-3 teaspoons total)
1-2 T Olive Oil (optional)
Cheese Of Choice for topping

Directions:
Generously grease a 2 quart or larger lidded casserole dish. Combine all ingredients except cheese. Spread into the casserole dish. Bake, covered, at 375 degrees for 45 minutes to 1 hour or until veggies are soft. Spread cheese on top and continue baking until the cheese is bubbling.
Cool slightly. Serve.

“What was paradise, but a garden full of vegetables and herbs and pleasure? Nothing there but delights.”

William Lawson

SEPTEMBER 2023 MMM Activities Calendar

Fri. Sept. 1: TGIF - Blue Gill Grill
1591 Lake Lansing Rd, Haslett. A traditional American restaurant with a casual vibe, featuring seafood.

Fri. Sept. 8: TGIF - City Limits Sports Bar
801 Cedar St, Mason. Good American food like pizza and hamburgers with great service.

Fri. Sept. 15: TGIF - Outback Steakhouse
Now at 617 N Canal Rd, Lansing. Australian-style steak, chicken, and shrimp on the barbie!

Sat. Sept. 16: Mensa Admissions Testing, 1:30 to 4:00 PM
CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Rd, Okemos, south of Hulett Rd. Use entrance behind building. For further details, contact Proctor Ken Lawrence at MensaProctor670@gmail.com

Fri. Sept. 22: TGIF - Asian Taste
132 S Cedar St, Mason, kitty-corner vs the Speedway station. Wide choice of delicious Chinese specialties, including Crab Rangoons and Orange Chicken.

Fri. Sept. 29: 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.

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