APRIL 2024

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 600



HEAD-LINE NO.600 APRIL 2024
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

March came in like a lamb this year. Will it go out the same way, or will it roar like a lion? All I know is that I'm loving the calm and balm of this spring-like winter, and I'd love to see a beautiful spring arrive in April instead of the damp and gloomy chill we usually get.

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 2024

by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

Both the Equinox and Easter may have been in March, but April is when it really starts to feel like Spring!

January ended with our being exposed to Covid, delaying Ginny's shoulder replacement surgery from Feb. 13th to the 29th. We're grateful that she got through it without complications and is now recovering well. If she has no setbacks, we expect to be cruising around Ireland with friends by Mid-May!

As you can see inside the Head-Line back cover and at the MMM Website, Ginny has felt well enough to schedule our four April TGIF dinner venues. Also, as the Membership Matters column shows, MMM has grown by 10 members since last November. We would love to get to know all of you better. . . Please choose a Friday and a restaurant that sound good to you, and plan to join us for dinner this month!

Speaking of new members, MMM has invited 8 prospects to take the Mensa Qualification Test scheduled for 2:00 PM on April 6th at the Okemos CADL Library. Our Proctor appreciates moral support from other MMM members, and prospects appreciate the opportunity to get to know our Group members. Please feel welcome to join me in greeting potential new members to Mid-Michigan Mensa on April 6th!

For another way to meet (and compete) with some of the brainiest people living in Mid-Michigan, has anyone else tried participating in weekly Pub Trivia contests? I've played with a non-Mensa partner for a few years, and we've collected hundreds of dollars' worth of restaurant

gift certificates! It's fun to play, and even when we don't win, there's always next week. . . A Mensa trivia team could probably do at least as well. Please let me know if this sounds like something that you would enjoy, at least for a few months.

Mitchell's Musings - RVC3 Column April 2024

April is Mensa's busiest month, in my humble opinion. This year we have:
Mind Games
Mensa Cares
CultureQuest
Scholarship wrap up
various and sundry local group events
An eclipse, including a VML RG in our region focused on it in Cincinnati
And… elections!
These are all amazing opportunities to engage with others, make new friends, and learn a bit.

I am also very excited to share that we have a new tool for the organization to help local groups and Members connect more easily. As of March, we now have a new national Events calendar at https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/ which any local group can submit events to. It's not just RGs and big stuff, but groups and SIGs are quickly adding things like virtual (or in person) meetings that members outside the group are welcome to join. And we have the ever popular Theodore Talks links available too.

Speaking of fun things to do, Dayton Area Mensa will be hosting a family friendly fun day at Youngs's Dairy again on June 23, and I anticipate that Pittsburgh/ WPAM will have registration open soon for their amazing Labor Day RG.
As you likely know, I did not run for reelection; Rick Magnus has stepped in after having been RVC about 20 years ago, and as the only candidate he has been declared elected. I have full faith in Rick's abilities, and we will be working closely together to ensure a smooth transition. Even though the RVC3 position is uncontested, there are other national positions that are up for a vote, and I hope you will take time

to make your opinion known. There are also international elections; please watch your email for the ballot as all of the positions are under consideration.

And you're not rid of me yet!

Lora Mitchell, RVC3
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VIRTUAL ZOOM GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP

From Ken Lawrence

We talk about whatever anybody wants to talk about. A list of suggested topics, as well as a chance to comment, is available on Facebook under M Saturday Discussion Group. Host Ken Lawrence can be reached at MVirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com for more information.

> Ken Lawrence is inviting you to a weekly Zoom meeting.
> Topic: Virtual Discussion Group open to all Mensans.
> Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every Saturday
> To join the Zoom Meeting:
> https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726108623?pwd=cUgyelF2K0ZLQzNWbVByZE9UMXpxdz09
> Meeting ID: 867 2610 8623 Passcode: 1234

Bob's Word Puzzle: Grow Your Own

It's Spring, a good time to plant seeds and watch them grow! Starting with a 1-letter seed word (A or I), grow the longest word you can, following these instructions:

1) Take the letters of your word and add one more.
2) Rearrange these letters to make a new, longer English word.
3) Make sure your new word is in the dictionary, then repeat from Step 1.

It's okay to use the same letter more than once, but don't split words. . . How long can your word grow? I grew several longer than 10 letters!

Bob's Math Puzzle: Convergence

A) The terms of a series are (1 + 1/1)^1, (1 + 1/2)^2, (1 + 1/3)^3, (1 + 1/4)^4, and so on. How large can these terms get? Is there a limit to which the series converges?

B) The terms of a series are (1 - 1/1)^1, (1 - 1/2)^2, (1 - 1/3)^3, (1 - 1/4)^4, and so on. How large can these terms get? Is there a limit to which the series converges??

As a hint, the first five terms of each series evaluate to:
A) 2.00, 2.25, 2.37, 2.44, 2.49, . . .
B) 0.000, 0.250, 0.296. 0.316, 0.328, . . .

Chemistry Trivia Quiz: It's Elementary!

1) What 2 elements are liquids at room temperature?
2) Which 2 gaseous elements are lighter than air?
3) What 2 metallic elements are the most dense?
4) Which 3 elements can be made into magnets?
5) What 2 reactive elements combine to make table salt?
6) Which element and its compounds cover Jupiter's moon Io?
7) What elemental gasses are common in Earth's atmosphere?
8) Which element is the basis of organic chemistry?
9) What element glows in electric advertising signs?
10) Which elements are needed to build strong bones and teeth?
11) Which 3 metallic elements are both light and strong?
12) What light metal element is used in rechargeable batteries?
13) Isotopes of which elements powered the first atomic bombs?
14) Which 2 radioactive elements did Marie Curie discover?
15) Who was the father of the Periodic Table of the Elements?

See answers on page 7

APRIL 2024 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS
Kathy Teshich, Membership Chair
113 members

BIRTHDAYS

Kenneth Lawrence	Apr 2
Carol Scot	Apr 9
Renee Kulling	Apr 14
Samantha Johnson	Apr 15
John Paduch	Apr 19
Richard Hobrla	Apr 20
Knowlan Randza	Apr 22

MENSAVERSARIES

Ingrid Nova	2 yrs
Michael Bohde	3 yrs
Gregory Listing	14 yrs
Gary Gordon	20 yrs
Dr Gail Wolfe	33 yrs
Patricia Thuemmel	34 yrs

MENSA TRIP TO HOLLAND MI TULIP FESTIVAL

After cancelling our trip to Holland last October due to bad weather, we're trying again on May 4th, which is opening day. Meet in the parking lot in front of Barnes and Noble bookstore at Lansing Mall on W. Saginaw St., at 9:45am. We'll organize into carpools and leave at 10am, arriving around noon. There will be lots of fun things to do and see, and Windmill Park, with the tulip fields, should be beautiful. There is also an Immersion Garden with 65,000 tulips. This requires an advanced registration online and costs $15 per person for one hour. It is open till 4. Plan to join me in the fun on May 4.
Elizabeth Evangelista 896-0478 or evangel6@comcast.net.

Doug McCall sent these in this month. I don't know the original source….one of those internet memes that makes the rounds.

Puns for Those With A Higher IQ(A)

* A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
* Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.
* Practice safe eating - always use condiments.
* Shotgun wedding - A case of wife or death.
* A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.
* A hangover is the wrath of grapes.
* Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
* Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
* When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
* A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired.
* What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway.)
* Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
* In democracy your vote counts. In feudalism your Count votes.
* She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg but broke it off.
* A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
* If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed
* With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
* The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
* You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
* Local Area Network in Australia - the LAN down under.
* Every calendar's days are numbered.
* A lot of money is tainted - Taint yours and taint mine.
* A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
* He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
* A midget fortune-teller who escapes from prison is a small medium at large.
* Once you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
* Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis.
* Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.
* Acupuncture is a jab well done

Answers To Puzzles

Math Puzzle Answer

Both series A and B have terms that keep increasing, but at a decelerating rate. Series A approaches the irrational transcendental number e = 2.7183. . . , while Series B approaches its reciprocal 1 / e = 0.3679. . . Is this similarity a coincidence?

The explanation has to do with a curious fact about the behavior of the natural (i.e. base e) logarithms of numbers close to 1.00: for large N, the natural logarithm of 1 + 1/N is very close to 1 / N, and the natural logarithm of 1 - 1/N is very close to -1 / N. Also. the natural logarithm of a number to the Nth power is simply N times the natural logarithm of the original number.

The result is that the natural logarithm of later terms of Series A (i.e. (1 + 1/N)^N) approach a value of (1 / N) * N = 1, which is the natural logarithm of e. Similar logic shows that the later terms of Series B (i.e.(1 - 1/N)^N) approach a value of (-1 / N) * N = -1, which is the natural logarithm of 1 / e. Let me know if you come up with a different result!

Word Puzzle Answer

Here's how I grew a word from 1 letter all the way up to 11 letters:

a + s = as, as + h = ash, ash + r = rash, rash + e = share, share + e = hearse, hearse + t = heaters, heaters + t = theaters, theaters + e = tearsheet, tearsheet + w = sweetheart, sweetheart + s = sweethearts. Maybe you can do even better!

Trivia Answers:

1) Mercury and Bromine, 2) Hydrogen and Helium, 3) Osmium and Iridium, 4) Iron, Cobalt and Nickel, 5) Sodium and Chlorine, 6) Sulfur, 7) Nitrogen, Oxygen and Argon, 8) Carbon, 9) Neon, 10) Calcium and Phosphorus, 11) Aluminum, Magnesium and Titanium, 12) Lithium, 13) Uranium and Plutonium, 14) Radium and Polonium, 15) Dmitri Mendeleev.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By Barb Ford

My Daughter, Jamie, sent me a recipe for Baked Crab Rangoon Dip. It looked amazing, except for the fact that I do not really eat much fish. We talked about how I could change up the recipe, and concluded that it might be quite versatile. So far, I have made it as a topping for baking previously boiled potatoes, and another time over raw broccoli. This can be adapted in many ways.

JAMIE'S BAKED CHEESE DIP

Ingredients:

8 Oz Cream Cheese, Softened
½ C Mayo
¼ C Sour Cream
1 T Lemon Juice
1 t Worcestershire Sauce
1 t Dijon Mustard
¼ C Parmesan Cheese, Grated
1 C Mozzarella Cheese, Shredded
2 T Fresh Chives, (or Minced Green Onions)
½ t Garlic Powder
½ t Onion Powder
½ t Cayenne Pepper

Directions: Preheat oven to 375 Degrees. Beat cream cheese, mayo, sour cream, lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce and Dijon on medium speed until fluffy. Stir in remaining ingredients. Turn into a 9"x9" greased pan. Top with more mozzarella. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until the top is light golden brown. Serve with hearty crackers or sliced bakery bread.

If desired, a larger pan can accommodate this recipe as a topping for vegetables or even shredded cooked meat. Adjust seasonings to desired taste. Imagine adding to the base recipe, about 2 cups shredded chicken, blue cheese and hot sauce to make a buffalo chicken dip…. Or adding about 2 cups shredded roast beef and a couple tablespoons horseradish to make a wonderful beef dip/ spread. Diced ham and Swiss cheese….

Endless possibilities. Be creative!

"*Cooking is a serious matter, but it should also be fun.*"
Maria Floris

APRIL 2024 MMM Activities Calendar

Fri. Apr. 5: TGIF - Lucky's Steak House
3554 Okemos Rd, Okemos, just north of Jolly Rd. Famous for steak, seafood, and prime rib with all the trimmings.

Sat. Apr. 6: Mensa Admissions Test
Sat, April 6, 2 to 5:00 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. Apr. 12: TGIF - Asian Taste
132 S Cedar St, Mason, kitty-corner vs. the Speedway station. Wide choice of delicious Chinese specialties, including Crabs Rangoon and Orange Chicken.

Fri. Apr. 19: TGIF - Outback Steakhouse
617 N Canal Rd, Lansing. Australian-style steak, chicken, and shrimp on the barbie!

Fri. Apr. 26: TGIF - Blue Gill Grill
1591 Lake Lansing Rd, Haslett, MI. Traditional American restaurant, justly famous for seafood.

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