JANUARY 2025

Head-Line

The Newsletter of Mid-Michigan Mensa Number 609



MID-MICHIGAN MENSA

http://www.midmichigan.us.mensa.org

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Editor's Column

by Phoenix Swope

Shorter issue this month! We've been doing a lot of work behind the scenes and hope to see the fruits of our labor coming soon!

The theme for this year is collaboration. We will be looking at some great new things. New columnists, new events, and new members! The last couple of months I've had the chance to meet with several folks in person and virtually through the zoom events and I'm excited to see where we can go.

In this month's issue, there are a couple calls to action from our LocSec **Bob Henderson**, some great Mensan history from our RVC, **Rick Magnus**, and a couple of new events (one in-person in Grand Rapids and one virtual from San Francisco).

If all goes well, starting next month, you'll see a new column on travel from a very experienced and travelled member.

For those of you who have reached out on Mensa Connect, through Facebook, email, or by phone, thank you for connecting! For those who can get out to the in-person meetings, please be safe and I look forward to meeting you face to face!

As always, I'd love to get your feedback on the Head-Line. What do you enjoy seeing? What do you want to see? Anything from the grandest visions to the tiniest details - this is your newsletter!

If anyone has any photographs they'd like to share in the newsletter, please send them in with express permission to publish.

As an additional prompt, here is a…

QUESTION?

What is your favorite word, and why?

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.

LOC SEC COLUMN
Bob's Two Bits for January 2025
by Robert Henderson, Loc Sec

A belated Happy Winter Solstice to you all! Last year's MMM Winter Party was on Dec. 21, shortly after this issue of the Head-Line was put to bed. I hope that many of you have RSVP'd and will get to attend. Even if not, Happy New Year 2025 to all!

One new thing that we will try out this month is to replace one of our weekly TGIF dinner meetings with a Saturday brunch in Grand Rapids. I'm looking forward to meeting more of our members in the Grand Rapids area after having talked to some of you at the MMM Summer Anniversary Party here last August. For more details, see the (In-Person) MMM Activities Calendar in this issue or on the MMM site at http://www.midmichigan.us.mensa.org.

MMM's membership continues to grow, as you can see in the Membership Matters column for this issue. We enjoyed meeting one past member at the Dec. 13 TGIF who decided to rejoin MMM after reading about a recent activity. Although we are currently unable to conduct MENSA Qualification Testing in either the Western or Eastern part of MMM, Mensans are still moving into our area or getting tested elsewhere. Even so, we could really use another Proctor! Let me know whether you are interested in the process of meeting and testing interesting new prospects.

I do have to apologize for falling behind in both reading and replying to my emails (including Mensa Connect) during December. **Ginny** and I hosted a family Christmas get-together early in the month, which was enjoyable but also tiring. Since then, I have prepared two puzzles and a trivia quiz for the January Head-Line that our Editor needed by today. I hope you will take a look at them and let me know whether you have any questions or comments. . . Good luck in finding the answers!

A GLOVe Letter from the RVC

Rick Magnus. November 2024

Mensa was founded in 1946 by two British barristers, **Lancelot Ware** and **Roland Berill**. Fourteen years later, American Mensa was founded in 1960. Over the last 64 years, Mensa has grown and evolved to where we are today.

Mensa International coordinates the various national Mensa groups that now span our planet, and works on membership development in areas where there is not [yet] a national Mensa group. Of note, Mensa International has the ultimate control over the name "Mensa." American Mensa is the largest member/affiliate of Mensa International.

Within American Mensa, we have 121 local groups, divided into 10 regions. Our region, the Great Lakes & Ohio Valley Region (aka Region 3), has 14 local groups. The local groups are operating divisions of American Mensa, and is where most Mensa activity takes place.

The Constitution of Mensa, our international governing document, starts by laying out the nature and purpose of Mensa:

Mensa is an international federated society composed of national Mensas and Direct International Members. Mensa's purposes are:

1. to identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity;
2. to encourage research into the nature, characteristics, and uses of intelligence; and
3. to provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for its members.

American Mensa has largely delegated the first two purposes to our charitable subsidiary, the Mensa Education & Research Foundation. For most of us, Mensa is a social organization, where we look to interact with other members in “a stimulating intellectual and social environment.” Our interactions take place in many forms, including face-to-face, print publications, and various sorts of online communications. The interactions are organized by various portions of our organization, including nationally (e.g., the Annual Gathering & Mensa Mind Games ®, and the Mensa Bulletin), the Foundation (the annual colloquium), regions (leadership development workshops), local groups (a huge variety of local activities, newsletters, and online groups), and special interest groups (newsletters, SIG gatherings, and online groups among them).

My experience is that local groups are most successful not when they get big attendance in a signature event, but rather when they have a variety of events that appeal to a variety of members, so that total participation is greater.

Do you want to interact with more interesting people through Mensa? Encourage people you know to qualify and join, so that they, too, can bring in more members. Our membership has ebbed and flowed over the years, but we know that the number of possible interactions grows geometrically as our membership grows linearly. (For the mathematically inclined, x members can make ½ x^2 - ½ x interactions possible.)

May the new year be a good one for you and yours, and may your Mensa membership be a significant part of that!

IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES

Fri. Jan. 3: TGIF - Asian Taste (Lansing)
132 S Cedar St, Mason, kitty-corner vs. the Speedway station. Wide choice of delicious Chinese specialties, including Crabs Rangoon and Orange Chicken.

Fri. Jan. 10: TGIF - Lucky's Steak House (Lansing)
3554 Okemos Rd, Okemos, just north of Jolly Rd. Famous for steak, seafood, and prime rib with all the trimmings.

Sat. Jan. 18 10:00AM: Saturday Brunch - Cherie Inn (Grand Rapids)
Just west of Eastown, in the East Hills business district, this European-style cafe is one of West Michigan's best-kept secrets. Located at 969 Cherry St SE, Grand Rapids.

Fri. Jan. 24: TGIF - Bravo! Italian Kitchen (Lansing)
2970 Towne Center Blvd, Eastwood Towne Center, Lansing. **Ginny's** favorite! Upscale-casual Italian restaurant with a Roman-ruins ambiance serving pasta, grilled dishes, pizza and more.

Fri. Jan. 31: TGIF - Soup Spoon Cafe (Lansing)
1419 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. Wide menu selection, including vegan choices, and, of course, soup.

TGIFs are on Fridays. We meet at about **6:00 PM** but feel free to join us at any time. Come and get acquainted. All members and friends are welcome at the events. Any member may schedule an event. Please remember to include **Who**, **What**, **Where**, **When**, and **Why**. The deadline to schedule an event is the **15th of the month before the event**. Please contact **Ginny Brunke Henderson**, MMM 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



What'cha doin?

VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES

MENSA VIRTUAL DISCUSSION GROUP
Ken Lawrence (MVirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com)

We talk about whatever anybody wants to talk about. Topics can be brought up ahead of time and commented on in the M Saturday Discussion Facebook Group

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every Saturday

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726108623?pwd=cUgyelF2K0ZLQzNWbVByZE9UMXpxdz09
Meeting ID: 867 2610 8623 Passcode: 1234

MENSA BRAINSTORMING GROUP
Ken Lawrence (MensaProctor670@gmail.com)

Mensans like to express their views on how things should be in our organizations. While we do not have a way of implementing suggestions, we do have a forum for talking about them. (M Brainstorming Facebook Group)

Time: 9:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every Sunday

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82908600785?pwd=Kzl4YUhFbklwSnpCTTl4TDdHN0Jsdz09
Meeting ID: 829 0860 0785 Passcode: 1234

BIBLE STUDY SIG
Ken Lawrence (VirtualChristianBibleStudy@gmail.com)

Religion has a longer intellectual history than science, and Newton published more about the Bible than he did physics. We evaluate the Bible from a Christian perspective, and you are welcome to join us. (Virtual Christian Bible Study SIG)

Time: 7:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) every Sunday

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86488880838?pwd=QUVUaFhPSjl0Tkt5V1pDZGlnRU5TUT09
Meeting ID: 864 8888 0838 Passcode: 1234

SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL MENSA
Exploding Stars and Their Impact on Life on Earth
Dr. Brian Thomas

Scientists have long speculated that the history of life on Earth may have been influenced by cosmic explosions such as supernovae.

Sunday, January 19, 2025, 02:30 PM PACIFIC TIME, on Zoom

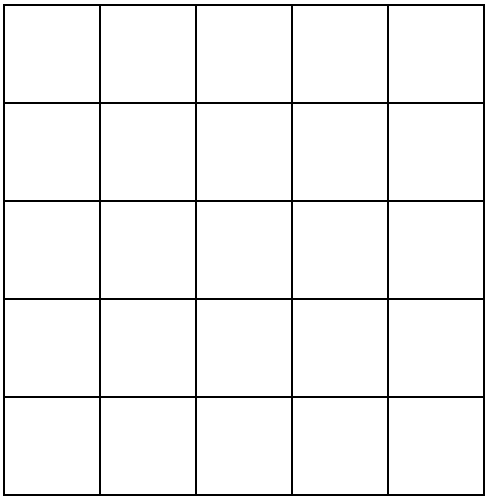
Please Register https://livepresentation.link/JAN
Look for a confirmation email from ZOOM with the link to join.

Bob's Word Puzzle
Word Square

Can you make a word square composed of 5-letter words meeting the following definitions?

1) Indian bovines
2) Deserved
3) Needs a good groom
4) Not deserved
5) Needs a good groom

The across words are numbered down the left column and the down words are numbered across the top row much like a typical crossword, but this grid has no black cells, and the same words are used both across and down! To see how this works, you could make a similar square using the five words MAJOR, ALIVE, JIVES, OVERT, and RESTS.



Bob's Math Puzzle
Three Runners

Three runners can complete one lap of a circular 1-mile track in 4, 7, and 10 minutes respectively. If they start together, what will be their relative positions around the track in 15.556 minutes?

Bob's Trivia Quiz

Can you answer these 15 questions that were recently featured on TV?

1) What was the birth name of Dr. Seuss?
2) From what red ore is the element Mercury refined?
3) The world's oldest map includes the Tigris but not this?
4) What 4-letter word means to perfect or sharpen?
5) What element is the end product of Uranium-238 decay?
6) What crystal makes digital watches accurate?
7) Falls Church is an independent city in what state?
8) Name the excess of a home's value over the amount owed?
9) What soft drink is also a synonym for elf or pixie?
10) What effect lowers the pitch of a passing siren?
11) What are the rhyming last names of QB Eli and actress Stockard?
12) What restaurant name prefix means "house of"?
13) Who drew his plans for a famous PA house in just a few hours?
14) What is a synonym for distant or standoffish?
15) What is a 4-letter word for beginner or novice learner?

JANUARY 2025 MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Kathy Teshich, membership Chair
198 Members

Birthdays

Charles Walker	Jan 1
Kary Scheiern	Jan 12
Michael Knowlton	Jan 13
Matthew McNaughton	Jan 16
Paul Billsen	Jan 17
Roy Saper	Jan 18
Clyde Creque	Jan 22
Chuck Skinner	Jan 23
Brinton Butler	Jan 23
Eleanor Keating	Jan 29
Eric Horner	Jan 30

Mensavereries

Mary Fitch-Mihovich	1 yr
Christopher Stimel	1 yr
Roderick Baltzer	2 yrs
Kaitlyn Gordon	3 yrs
Graham Goble	4 yrs
Laura Markee	7 yrs
Joy Rimpau	9 yrs
James Wirsing	9 yrs
Phoenix Swope	11 yrs
Dale Arnold	15 yrs
Mark Weiss	17 yrs
Michael Beach	17 yrs
Robert Rutgers	18 yrs
Joseph Werner	23 yrs
Michael Wall	27 yrs
Terry Tyler	32 yrs
Thomas Korkoske	39 yrs
Kevin Smart	50 yrs
Wendell Proudfoot	Unknown

Answers To Puzzles

Word Square
n case the puzzle composer's clues seem vague or obscure, here is a big hint: the five words used (in alphabetical order) are BRIDE, EARNT, STEED, UNDUE, and ZEBUS. Try using one of them in both the top row and the left column and see which of the others could fill the second row and column, the third row and column, and so on.

Three Runners
Runner #1 will run a distance of 15.556 / 4 = 3.889 miles

Runner #2 will run a distance of 15.556 / 7 = 2.222 miles

Runner #3 will run a distance of 15.556 / 10 = 1.556 miles

The fractional part of each distance run is the portion of a lap have run past the starting position, i.e. 8/9, 2/9, and 5/9 miles. Since these are spaced at 3/9 = 1/3 of a mile around the circular track, the runners are at the corners of an equilateral triangle.

Bob's Trivia Answers:
1) Theodor Geisel
2) Cinnabar
3) The Euphrates
4) Hone
5) Lead
6) Quartz
7) Virginia
8) Equity
9) Sprite
10) The Doppler Effect
11) Manning / Channing
12) Chez
13) Frank Lloyd Wright (Fallingwater)
14) Aloof
15) Tyro

MOVING?
Send change of address information to:
AMERICAN MENSA, LTD.
1315 Brookside Dr. Hurst, TX 76053

POSTMASTER: Send address changes and returns to address above.	
HEAD-LINE is a monthly publication of Mid-Michigan Mensa. Mensa is an international society in which the sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any one of a number of standard IQ tests. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization whose only purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. Mensa itself holds no opinions, no champions, no causes, and is not affiliated with any other organization. The opinions expressed herein are those of the author(s), and in no way to be construed as the opinions of Mensa. Office of publication is 3369., Mason, MI	**Mail to this VIP (Very Intelligent Person)**