

Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



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 Borealis
Northern Michigan Mensa

www.nmm.us.mensa.org

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Mensa:

Mensa's constitution lists three purposes: to identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity; to encourage research into the nature, characteristics, and uses of intelligence; and to provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for its members.

Mensa accepts individuals who score at or above the 98th percentile on certain standardized IQ tests, such as the Stanford-Binet.

Borealis is published by Northern Michigan Mensa (3/496) once each month under the auspices of its Executive Committee.

After mandatory items, priority in the newsletter is given to matters appealing to members of the group which relate to their membership in Mensa. The content of the newsletter shall appeal to the general membership of Northern Michigan Mensa.

The newsletter shall not include matters which are indecent, scandalous, libelous, or invade someone's privacy, nor shall copyrighted material be used without the permission of the owner. Ethnic, racist, sexist, or religious slurs shall not be printed. Northern Michigan Mensa recognizes that the newsletter is addressed to both minors and adults; material printed will be appropriate for distribution to minors.

All submissions are welcome and encouraged. They may be sent via email or snail mail. They may be sent as attachments or in the body of the email.

Submissions requiring major editing are also welcome. If requested, the author may approve the editing before the article is published.

Photographs are also welcome. Please include a brief description of the photo and the name of the photographer. You may also include an entire article to accompany the photo.

Deadline:

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month before the month of publication.

Submissions received after that time may be considered if time and space permit.

Advertising:

At this time, Borealis does not accept advertising from either members or non-members.

Email submissions to:

nmmnewsletter@hotmail.com

US mail:

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Traverse City MI 49686

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.nmm.us.mensa.org

ON THE COVER: The lighthouse on the breakwater at the entrance to Frankfort harbor. Photo by Stan Cain

Northern Michigan Mensa

September 2009 Calendar

EXCOMM MEETING - Saturday, 12 September 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

We will meet at the Cottage Café, located at 420 Munson Avenue, Traverse City just before the brunch. The Executive Committee will be discussing the upcoming election of officers for our group. All members are welcome to attend. And, for any newer (or older) members who might be interested in becoming more active in the group, this is a good opportunity to get more information.

BRUNCH - Saturday, 12 September 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

We will meet at the Cottage Café, located at 420 Munson Avenue, Traverse City, in the Papa's Den, which is on the right as you enter the front door. Dee Blair, a noted columnist for the Traverse City Record Eagle, has indicated she would attend.

TGIF - Friday, 25 September 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

This is our monthly, Friday get together to unwind and chat. We will meet in the Horizon Shine Café located in the lower level of Horizon Books, 243 E. Front Street, Traverse City. They have coffee, soft drinks, sandwiches, wraps and desserts available upstairs

Member News

Happy September Birthday

1	Susan Lynne Pitzer	18	Richard J Warden
2	Jim McDermott	20	Rufus S Teesdale
11	J S Miner	22	Carola 'Penny' Pollard Novarro
12	Stephen H Quick	22	John D Schultz
17	J Porter		

Mensa Membership Milestones

(Years of continuous Membership)

24 Years	Delberta Ruth Windiate	6 Years	Harold A Kranick
6 Years	Dwayne A Bean		

July 2009 Statistics

	AML	NMM
Total membership	50913	92
New and reinstating membership	616	1
Offers of membership	494	1
New members since April 2009	1587	3
Reinstating members since April 2009	1313	5

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 7/31/2009. If you would like to change the privacy releases on file, go to www.us.mensa.org and click on "Member Login". Then click on "Profile Update" and "PDQ Update".

Note: Mensa Testing Day is October 17, 2009.

REQUIREMENTS FOR NOMINATING AND ELECTION COMMITTEES

From our bylaws...

"No member of the Nominating Committee or Election Committee may be a voting member of the Executive Committee or a candidate in the upcoming election. The Nominating and Election Committees may comprise the same members."

Duties: It is important to nominate individuals who are willing to serve on the Executive Committee and who will be able to attend a majority of meetings of the ExComm. The NomComm shall contact each nominee to make certain he/she understands what will be expected of each individual and to ascertain whether such nominees are willing to serve in whatever capacity the elected officers may elect them to. It is important to make sure that there are at least three individuals who are willing to be elected LocSec, Deputy LocSec, and Treasurer. Nominations must be presented to the Editor by October 15 so they can be published in the November issue of the newsletter. Additional nominations may be accepted, by petition of at least five members, up to November 15, to appear on the December ballot along with other nominations previously published in the November newsletter.

The LocSec's Login

By Jack Schultz, Local Secretary

Biennial NMM Elections Ahead

In December, we will need to elect a slate of officers to carry us through the next two years. No one has yet come forward to volunteer for the Nominating Committee (NomComm), but I'm hoping some of you will do so in the next two weeks. We MUST have a NomComm of at least three individuals in place by September 15, according to our bylaws. Most of you probably couldn't care less about who gets elected to office in our group since we don't seem to have a great many contentious issues, but it is important to elect five people; consequently, having a NomComm is very important. Things may seem to have run reasonably smoothly for the past two years, but there's always room for change, hopefully for the better.

To refresh your memory of the procedure we follow, here are the essentials. The NomComm comes up with a slate of nominees that will appear in the November issue of Borealis. Additional nominations can be made by petition, signed by at least five members and presented to the Chairman of the NomComm by a deadline of November 15.

A separate Elections Committee (which can consist of the same individuals who serve on the NomComm) then prepares a ballot, which will appear in the December issue of our newsletter or will be mailed to members separately. Ballots must be received by December 20, and the Election Committee will tally and report the results so that they appear in the January issue of Borealis.

Since our bylaws do not provide for direct election of the three specific officers named in the bylaws, the five individuals who are voted in as "Voting Members of the Executive Committee" meet as soon as results of the election are made known. They then choose among themselves just who shall serve for two years as Local Secretary, Deputy Local Secretary, and Treasurer. The other two elected members serve as Members-at-Large of the ExComm.

All current officers (which include the five elected members of the ExComm as well as all other individuals who have been appointed to an office) have terms which expire at the end of December or when election results are announced. New appointments are then made by the newly elected Local Secretary, with approval of the other voting members of the ExComm, to such officer positions as Editor, Proctor Coordinator, Membership Officer, Publicity Coordinator, Ombudsman, Program

Coordinator, Web Contact Person, Scholarship Chair, SIGHT Coordinator, Financial Overseer (auditor), and any Subgroup Coordinators. Our bylaws do not permit more than two of the voting members to be appointed to other offices; hence, that's why we occasionally have a situation like the one we have now where your LocSec and Deputy LocSec also hold appointed positions as Proctor Coordinator and Editor, respectively. We've been unsuccessful in finding individuals who were interested in serving as Membership Officer or Program Coordinator. Therefore, all of us on the ExComm have, collectively, served in those capacities.

Thus, you can see, we have ample opportunities for individuals to become involved in leadership positions in Northern Michigan Mensa. We strongly encourage anyone who has a desire to serve the group in one of these positions to let it be known. Your current officers will pass on that information to those who succeed us.

Thanks go to the eight members who attended our August brunch (photos below) to honor the three northern Michigan scholarship winners in Mensa's annual competition. Though the young people sat at one end of the long dining table, next to or across from each other and their guests, some of our members did take the opportunity to chat with them after I presented them with certificates recognizing their accomplishment. What a neat group of fine young people! As mentioned last month, we'll now have to find ways to keep building funds so we can continue offering two \$500 scholarships in the years ahead.



Scholarship winners (L to R); Ashley Addis, Mitchell Stephenson and Michael Cardwell.



reMark

By Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3

The AMFM AG hosted by WPAM was fabulous. **Mary Lee Kemper** of Cincinnati and **Marc Lederman** were just phenomenal co-chairs. What an awesome effort by everyone who held leadership positions and by all the volunteers who worked so very hard to make the 2009 AG the very best! Thank you everyone.

I arrived in Pittsburgh on Tuesday and had time to visit the Frabel glass exhibit at the Phipps Conservatory and Gardens and have dinner with friends I haven't seen in far too many years. Wednesday, the first day, found me attending a session for freshmen on the AMC -- started at 3 and I was done with official RVC3 duties at 11:30. Thursday, the AMC meeting started at 9. The room was so cold, I almost grabbed a tablecloth from one of the back tables in which to wrap myself. We did have a break after an hour's video on parliamentary procedure (which I thought was a waste of my time) so I was able to grab a fleece wrap. The room remained cold throughout the AG. After meetings all day, I then chaired an RVC meeting that ended at 11:30. Friday didn't begin quite so early; I hosted the Region 3 Meet and Greet at 10:30, attended the Awards Luncheon and gave a Leadership Development Workshop on Registration that went from 1:30 to 2:30. Then I was able to attend some of the programs offered -- and they were many and fabulous. I got a chance to visit, albeit briefly, the games and puzzle rooms. I spent quite a

bit of time at the entrance to hospitality with my official white security hat not on, but nearby, visiting with friends. My favorite parts of my duties were to officially thank the AG Chairs, Committee and WPAM at the end of the AMC Meeting and to move the meeting's adjournment. Minutes of the meeting can be found at: <http://www.us.mensa.org/meetingreports>, select 2009-07 Meeting Reports.

I have attended 15 AGs and this one was every bit as wonderful, even more so because it was right here in Region 3, but my official duties precluded my attending many programs that I wanted to be at. No regrets. I am delighted to be RVC3 and thank everyone for your support.

After the AG, and on my way to the Canadian AG, I had the pleasure to have dinner with Buffalo Ms at the Anchor Bar, the home of Buffalo Wild Wings, and with Rochester Ms at Beale Street Café. I know I have made many new friends and I hope to see them more often. I had dinner with Maumee Valley Ms in Toledo, too. And, the Columbus RG was great! I don't bother putting my suitcase away! July has been busy.

I am very pleased to tell you that **Julia Ashley** agreed to continue as Region 3 Scholarship Chair.

Region 3 had many PRP nominations. It is an honor to be nominated. Congratulations to Region 3 winners of the following awards: Calendar, *M-Pathy*, Southeast Michigan, **Daniel Biedzen**; Outstanding Gifted Children Challenges, Cleveland Area Mensa, **Jim Szirony**; Poetry, "Astride the Gale," Southeast Michigan Mensa, **Dean Unick**.

I hope to see many of you at the PEP Rally **Marianne A. Kane** of Dayton Area Mensa won for Region 3. Marianne's award winning, clever entry was:

It's a shame
This is so lame
But a LocSec clueless
Is like a foot shoeless.
An LD Retreat
For DAM would be sweet.

Northern Michigan Mensa received Honorable Mention for outstanding membership retention.

And Region 3 fared extremely well in **CultureQuest® 2009**: third place, MECCA, Cincinnati, Captain **Tiffany Everett**; fourth place, The ORIGINAL Standard Deviants, WPAM, Captain **Marty Flowers**; sixth place, Uncle Churd, ECOM, Captain **Barbara McIntyre**; and the top Next Generation team was Una Mensa, Cleveland, Captain **Michael Cowett**.

Please visit the Region 3 website – <http://www.region3.us.mensa.org/>, our Facebook group -- Region 3 - American Mensa – <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=71515809887>, and our Yahoo group – AMR3-Region 3 American Mensa – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AMR3/>. At these 3 sites, you will find updates on what's happening in this great region and reMARK.

If you need to reach me, I can be e-mailed at ryc3@us.mensa.org. My address is 3674 Oak Drive, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, my home phone number is 734-434-5757 and my cell phone number is 313-530-2055. If you get my voice mail, be sure to let me know when it is best for me to return your call.

LLAP and Peace,
Betsy

Annual Picnic Photo Roundup



Previous page; The group has a serious Mensa discussion before digging into the eats. Above; Dorothy Cain and Tom Slater, Pete Turkus and Richard Hopfner (seated); Photos by Stan Cain and Jack Schultz.



Tom Slater shoots the rapids below the Sabin dam.

Eighteen Members and spouses had a fun time at the annual picnic in the Boardman River Nature Center pavilion. There was plenty of good food, good conversation and even a little cardiovascular exercise. Rick Magnus from Cincinnati Area Mensa, and a former region 3 RVC, was also present. The day was warm and sunny – what more could you want?
