

# Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



Volume 8 Number 9

June 2010

 Borealis  
Northern Michigan Mensa

[www.nmm.us.mensa.org](http://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 15<sup>th</sup> 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:**

Stan Cain  
[nmmmborealis@Yahoo.com](mailto:nmmmborealis@Yahoo.com)

# Northern Michigan Mensa

## Executive Committee

### VOTING MEMBERS

Local Secretary	Richard R. Hopfner	231-946-7204	<a href="mailto:locsecnmm@gmail.com">locsecnmm@gmail.com</a>
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Program	Peter J. Turkus &	231-941-8321	<a href="mailto:petencheri@chartermi.net">petencheri@chartermi.net</a>
Co-Chairs	Bobbi Walker		<a href="mailto:bobbiraw@att.net">bobbiraw@att.net</a>
Publicity	Bobbi Walker		<a href="mailto:bobbiraw@att.net">bobbiraw@att.net</a>
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Petoskey Area Subgroup			
Coordinator	- vacant -		

### OTHER MEMBERS

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.nmm.us.mensa.org](http://www.nmm.us.mensa.org)

ON THE COVER: A Jack-in-the-Pulpit at the Treat farm in Empire. Photo by Jack Schultz.

# June Calendar

**BOOK CLUB - Saturday, 5 June 2010 at 10:00 a.m. (Note earlier time)**  
 We will meet at the Cottage Café, located at 420 Munson Avenue, Traverse City, in the Papa's Den. The Bibliomensans book for June will be ***The Living Great Lakes: Searching for the Heart of the Inland Seas*** by Jerry Dennis. The presenter will be Sherry McNamara. We will have a special surprise guest. This person has 30 or so years of experience sailing the Great Lakes and has done the Port Huron to Mackinac race for a number of years. See the book description on page 8. Join us for another lively discussion!

**BRUNCH - Saturday, 12 June 2010 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.

**T.G.I.F. - Friday, 25 June 2010 at 5:30 p.m.**  
 This is our monthly, Friday get together to unwind and chat. We will meet at 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. Join us!

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# Member News

## Happy June Birthday

- |   |                     |    |                    |
|---|---------------------|----|--------------------|
| 3 | Heather J Gruenberg | 23 | William Earl Hagan |
| 4 | B G Halliday III    |    | Sherry L Saites    |
| 6 | Jennifer L Cassidy  | 29 | Bernard Hanchett   |

## Mensa Membership Milestones

(Years of continuous membership)

- |                 |                             |                |                   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>24 Years</b> | J Haberstroh                | <b>5 Years</b> | Judith W Lindenau |
| <b>8 Years</b>  | Corinne Kass-Hillard Mowrey | <b>1 Year</b>  | Jeremy Chislom    |
| <b>7 Years</b>  | Stanley D Cain              |                | R M Mullet        |

## Welcome to Northern Michigan Mensa

J P Suchoski Greg D Toprak

## Welcome back to Northern Michigan Mensa

T Kachadurian Alan T Kohler

2010 Statistics	AML	NMM
Total membership	48647	93
New and reinstating membership	761	4
Offers of membership	271	0
New members since April 2010	277	2
Reinstating members since April 2010	484	2
Lapsed		14
Not Renewing		2

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 4/30/2010. If you would like to change the privacy releases on file, go to [www.us.mensa.org](http://www.us.mensa.org) and click on "Member Login". Then click on "Profile Update" and "PDQ Update".

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## New Email Address!

By Stan Cain

The newsletter now has a new email address and the old account (nmmnewsletter@hotmail.com) has been closed. For a number of reasons, including a large amount of spam to wade through, I have set up a new email address:

[nmmborealis@yahoo.com](mailto:nmmborealis@yahoo.com)

Please use this for all future communications and submissions.

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## ExComm Meets

May saw a meeting of the NMM ExComm at Auntie Pasta's. Clockwise from left are: Richard Hopfner, Bernie Hanchett, Bobbi Walker, Judith Lindenau, Erik Snyder, Pete Turkus and Stan Cain. See the LocSec's Login for a summary of the meeting minutes. Photo by Jack Schultz.

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## The LocSec's Login

By Richard Hopfner, Local Secretary

"Come, fill the Cup, and in the Fire of Spring  
The Winter Garment of Repentance fling:  
The Bird of Time has but a little way  
To fly---and Lo! the Bird is on the Wing."

- Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam

What renews you? What puts the motivation in your day to get up, to smile, and to do it all again?

Be it a person, a place, a goal or anything else, celebrate it! It's really spring, it's really here, summer is right around the corner, and that alone is reason for a grin or two.

Our home area is rioting with the yearly cycle of renewal and growth and, whether you're a pup or a grizzled old timer, there are some powerfully interesting things to smell out there! And there is something in spring that's a bit of real magic. I think it has the power to bring out the pup in all of us. How much of a gift is that?

Someone asked me last week, "Why are you here?" They meant the area, and the meaning was also, "Why not go somewhere more exciting, more vibrant, and with more people?" I was a bit defensive. I do dearly like it here, but it's also true that I'm not terribly experienced in our urban centers, and there's a nagging doubt worrying like a dog at a bone that I might be missing something while the time flies by.

Then, on my way to work (To work! Not on a few days out of the year, but something that is as routine as the days of the week passing!) I "saw" the bay. How truly gorgeous it was that day, just as on almost any day I remember. There's a reason to be here. Pretty good one too.

Need I add hiking the VASA trail? Why don't I? How much is the smell of the forest worth in a life, or tiny little star-shaped flowers and native orchids, or even how much your feet and legs ache the next day (In a good way, more or less) after the first 10km loop hike of the year? Those are two reasons. I could think of many more if I try just a little, so maybe that nagging doubt is a Will-o'-the-wisp after all. I also know this. Spring and summer defy and dazzle us, making it impossible to ignore them. Give in. Find your personally important thing and embrace it.

One item of business that I'm going to ask all of you to start thinking about for the future, when you can contribute and help us add to it, is this: At our last ExComm meeting, it became clear that not only did the members present not agree on what Northern Michigan Mensa is at a fundamental level, but also that there is no real statement that defines us either. We are beginning to create a mission statement. While we do, please consider what it means to you to be a part of NMM. We will ask you at some point to advise and contribute until we have something that everyone will be proud of.

Until next time, enjoy the time you have and take care.

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## April Book Club

The Bibliomans met in April for a lively discussion of *Horse Soldiers* by Doug Stanton. Pictured (L to R) are Sherry McNamara, Judith Lindenau, Jack Schultz, Bernie Hanchett and Jim McDermott. Photo by Stan Cain. There will be another meeting of the book club this month. All are welcome to join in .

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## Puzzle Page

### CRYPTOGRAM

Submitted by Ruth Minshull

The cryptogram consists of a simple substitution code. Each letter has been replaced by another. No letter represents itself, and substitutions remain consistent throughout the puzzle. For example:

ORAB AB ZK WLZSXHW GU Z YGIW.  
THIS IS AN EXAMPLE OF A CODE.

LS LN NHLQ SXHS WUYCZ AUZZVWSN, TVS HASVHIIG

LS 'N BUZC SZVC SXHS WUYCZ HSSZHASN SXC

AUZZVWSLTIC. SXC NHOC HZC VNVHIIG HSSZHASCQ

TG USXCZ SXLOPN SXHO WUYCZ. -- QHFLQ TZLO

Answer will be in next month's issue

### Answer to last month's Cryptogram:

"There are four ways, and only four ways, in which we have contact with the world. We are evaluated and classified by these four contacts: what we do, how we look, what we say, and how we say it". – Dale Carnegie

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## reMark

By Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3

Region 3 is wonderful! I have been privileged to meet many new-to-me Mensans and establish many new and dear friendships since being declared your RVC. As **Charlie Bruce** (former RVC3) said, I have MARKed my territory and, as of April 25, 2010, I have visited all 16 local groups in Region 3. My most recent visits were to Southeast Michigan Mensa, Maumee Valley, Mid Michigan Mensa and to Vandalia Mensa (West Virginia). I had dinner in Charleston with about 15 "Ms" and lunch in Morgantown with two "Ms." Lunch was scheduled at the last minute and Mensans from the Morgantown area were unable to join me, but **Rebecca Cornett** from Cincinnati and **Doug Goodwin** from Columbus were visiting Morgantown and caught on Facebook the fact that I would be there. I am now planning return visits to all groups.

As promised, I have been posting news from National and my travel plans to the Region 3 Yahoo and Facebook sites. Please, pretty please, pretty please with sugar on it (or stevia, if you prefer), join one or both of those groups (see the URLs at the end of this article). Keeping everyone current on Mensa happenings is important to me and posting to those sites is very effective – you just have to be signed up to get instantaneous information.

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate **Tom Nehrer** who was recently elected LocSec of Western Pennsylvania Area Mensa.

The following was sent out from the National Office: As American Mensa approaches its 50th anniversary, we'd like to celebrate by creating a Golden Anniversary Banner where you can display some of your favorite memories. This 50-foot banner/timeline will be showcased at the Annual Gathering in Detroit and will feature Mensa milestones and moments from 1960 to 2010. We'd love to see pictures of you with other Mensa members or at a Mensa event to help us tell the story of the last 50 years. If you'd like to participate in this project, scan your photos at 300 dpi and email them to Hilary Moore at [BulletinLayout@us.mensa.org](mailto:BulletinLayout@us.mensa.org). She will be accepting your photos between now and May 31, 2010. Each member may send up to 3 photos and each photo must contain a label indicating the year that it was taken. By sending in your photos, you're giving American Mensa the legal right to use them in conjunction with other 50th Anniversary promotions as well, which may include web, video, and Bulletin use. You may also bring copies of your pictures to the Annual Gathering this summer and affix them to the banner yourself. The more photos we have the better we'll be able to tell American Mensa's story. If you submit pictures that have other people therein, please be sure that you have permission to do so.

June 15 is the last day to register for the Annual Gathering at the \$100 rate. Do so now and save. There are day rates available, too. I will be hosting, among other events, a Region 3 Meet and Greet and I hope the room is so very crowded that we have to move to the hotel lobby. This AG is going to be the biggest and the best!

LLAP and Peace,

**Betsy**

Betsy Yvonne Mark

[rvc3@us.mensa.org](mailto:rvc3@us.mensa.org)

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Region 3 Website - <http://www.region3.us.mensa.org/>  
Yahoo group - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AMR3/>  
Facebook group -  
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=71515809887>

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## **Mensa Testing Deal**

### **From Catherine Barney**

This June, Mensa will invite prospects to "take off this summer!" During the month of June, we'll take \$10 off the regular testing fee for all test sessions. Prospects who qualify will then be encouraged to take off to the hundreds of local, regional, and national events offered throughout the year.

If you have any questions about testing in June, please send us an email at [CatherineB@americanmensa.org](mailto:CatherineB@americanmensa.org) or call the National Office at 888-294-8035 ext. 5529.

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## ***The Living Great Lakes: Searching for the Heart of the Inland Seas***

**June Book Club Selection**  
**By Jerry Dennis, 320 pages**

*The Living Great Lakes* is the most complete book ever written about the history, nature, and science of these remarkable lakes at the heart of North America. From the geological forces that formed them to the industrial atrocities that nearly destroyed them, to the greatest environmental success stories of our time, the lakes are portrayed in all their complexity. The book, however, is much more than just history. It is also the story of the lakes as told by biologists, fishermen, sailors, and others whom the author grew to know while traveling with them on boats and hiking with them on beaches and islands.

The book is also the story of a personal journey. It is the narrative of a six-week voyage through the lakes and beyond as a crewmember on a tall-masted schooner. The result is a meditation on nature and our place in the world.