



# Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



**Volume 10 Number 6**

**March 2012**

**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.

**Advertising:**

Borealis accepts only short, "classified"-type advertisements from individual members. Notices should be of a non-commercial nature and include contact information.

**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.

**Email submissions to:**

Stan Cain

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

# Northern Michigan Mensa

## Executive Committee

### VOTING MEMBERS

Local Secretary	Tom Barnhart	231-946-3242	locsecnmm@gmail.com or tmb@mac.com
Deputy Loc Sec	Richard Thibeau	231-590-2052	rthibeau@coslink.net
Treasurer	Pete Turkus	231-941-8321	petencheri@chartermi.net
At Large	Erik A. Snyder	989-370-0993	easnyder@yahoo.com
At Large	Bobbi Walker		bobbiraw@att.net

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Petoskey Area Subgroup			
Coordinator	- Vacant -		
Program Chair	Pete Turkus	231-941-8321	petencheri@chartermi.net
Publicity Chair	- Vacant -		
Scholarship Chair	John D. Schultz	231-275-6735	jsvoyageur@gmail.com
SIGHT Coordinator	Melissa J. Rennie	231-889-0892	renmeij@yahoo.com
Testing			
Coordinator	John D. Schultz	231-275-6735	jsvoyageur@gmail.com
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### OTHER MEMBERS

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

ON THE COVER: As part of the process to remove the Brown Bridge dam south of Traverse City, the water level has been lowered behind the dam exposing the old tree stumps and debris on the pond bottom. Photo by Stan Cain



## Northern Michigan Mensa

[www.nmm.us.mensa.org](http://www.nmm.us.mensa.org)

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# March Calendar

**BRUNCH - Saturday, 10 March 2012 at 11:00 a.m.**

**NOTE NEW LOCATION!!**

Since our long time Brunch venue is in the process of relocating, our nice private room may no longer be available to us. So, this month we are trying out a new location near downtown Traverse City.

The March Brunch will be held at Sleders Family Tavern, 717 Randolph, Traverse City. We will try to meet in their back room.

**T.G.I.F! Friday, 23 March 2012 at 5:30 p.m.**

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. Join us!

\*\*\*\*

## And, coming up in April..

**BOOK CLUB - Saturday, 7 April 2011**

The April book club selection will be: *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption* by Laura Hillenbrand and presented by Jim McDermott. You can read a description of the book on page 6. It's a long book, so get busy reading!

# Member News

## Happy March Birthday

15 Brett A. Pharo  
17 Eric Sanko  
20 Joan E. Dasef

26 Charles R. Fricke  
30 Sherry M. McNamara

**Mensa Membership Milestones**  
(Years of continuous Membership)

30	William E. Hagan	4	Bernard Hanchett
25	Harold W. Smith		Susan M. Kraus
12	John A. Thorne	3	Robert B. Pierson
10	Sherry M. McNamara	2	Gary S. Cools
	Mary K. Shaw		Judith L. Cools
	Susan A. Styles	1	John D. Gerndt
8	Thomas L. Slater		Perry W. Stafford

<b>January 2012 Statistics</b>	<b>AML</b>	<b>NMM</b>
Total membership	54390	87
New and reinstating membership	832	1
Offers of membership	238	0
New members since April 2011	2433	4
Reinstating members since April 2011	2693	9
Members leaving		1

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 1/31/2012. If you would like to change the privacy releases on file, use [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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## **Culture Quest**

### **From Pete Turkus, Program Chair**

CultureQuest is an annual national Mensa event. Teams of five members, all of whom must be current members, will compete with teams from other local groups. It's a pencil and paper test with questions that are far from trivial. Most participants feel somewhat stunned after the event but it's all in good fun. NMM will sponsor one team of five with up to two alternates. The forty dollar fee will be paid by NMM for the first team only this year. Other teams may also enter at their own expense. This year's event will take place Sunday, April 29 at 4 p.m. E.T. All those members who are interested must contact me before March 20. The first five will comprise the team. Others will be offered the option of being the first teams' alternates or forming the second team. I must send the information and payments to the Mensa National office before March 31.

Pete Turkus, 8656 Cedarcrest Drive, Traverse City, MI 49685-9615  
petencheri@chartermi.net

# NMM 2012 ExComm

## ExComm Meeting February 2, 2012

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm, 2/2/2012

**Roll Call:** Quorum was present

**Elected Officers Present:** Tom Barnhart, Richard Thibeau, Peter Turkus

**Appointed Officers Present:** Jack Schultz, Stan Cain

**Others Present:** Bobbi Walker

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** There were no previous minutes.

**Reports:** None

### **Old Business:**

2011 Financial Statement was discussed

The elections of the organizational meeting on December 30, 2011, were ratified. Local Secretary: Tom Barnhart; Deputy Local Secretary: Richard Thibeau; Treasurer: Pete Turkus.; Members at Large: Nancy Dady and Brenda Irish Heintzelman.

The following appointments were approved unanimously: Editor: Stan Cain; Financial Overseer: Richard Thibeau; Membership: Richard Thibeau; Program Chair: Pete Turkus; Scholarship Chair: Jack Schultz; SIGHT Coordinator: Melissa Rennie; Testing Coordinator: Jack Schultz; Web Contact: Cindy Dickson; Ombudsman: Pete Turkus

The resignations of Nancy Dady and Brenda Irish Heintzelman as elected members of the ExComm were accepted.

### **New Business:**

There was a discussion of the NMM Bylaws and whether an

amendment should be pursued to clarify who are the voting members of the ExComm. Jack Schultz and Richard Thibeu will study this and report back to the ExComm.

Erik Snyder accepted a position as Member at Large on the ExComm as offered by the LocSec. Accepted and approved by the ExComm.

Bobbi Walker accepted a position as Member at Large on the ExComm as offered by the ExComm. Accepted and approved by the ExComm.

A budget for 2012 was submitted, accepted and approved by the ExComm (see next page).

A motion to pay the \$40 fee to register one team from NMM for CultureQuest 2012 was accepted and approved by the ExComm.

**Adjournment:**

No further business brought forward, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 pm, February 2, 2012.

**Submitted By:** Richard Thibeu, NMM Deputy LocSec

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**Not even tempted! Traverse City waterfront.**

**Northern Michigan Mensa  
Statement of Income and Expenses  
January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012**

<b>Income</b>		<b>Budget</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Remaining</b>
	National Office Alloc.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00
	Testing Fees	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
	Interest	\$ 5.00	\$ -	\$ 5.00
	Fund Raising	<u>\$ 245.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 245.00</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
	Newsletter	\$ 450.00	\$ -	\$ 450.00
	Office/Incidentals	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
	Activities/Programs	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
	Publicity	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
	Scholarships	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
	Proctor/Testing	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
	Stipend: Reg/Ntl Events	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
	Membership	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>
<b>Total Income Less Expenses</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

<b>Fund Name</b>	<b>Bank Balances</b>		<b>Change</b>
	<b>1/1/2012</b>	<b>12/31/2012</b>	
Friend Fund	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	<u>\$ -</u>
Scholarships	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	<u>\$ -</u>
General Opns.	<u>\$ 3,206.95</u>	<u>\$ 3,206.95</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<b>Total Chkg</b>	<b>\$ 3,856.95</b>	<b>\$ 3,856.95</b>	<u>\$ -</u>
Savings	<u>\$ 103.67</u>	<u>\$ 103.67</u>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,960.62</b>	<b>\$ 3,960.62</b>	<u>\$ -</u> <u>\$ -</u>

# Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption

Bibliomensans' Book for April

By Laura Hillenbrand- 496 pages

On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, the plane's bombardier, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. So began one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War.

The lieutenant's name was Louis Zamperini. In boyhood, he'd been a cunning and incorrigible delinquent, breaking into houses, brawling, and fleeing his home to ride the rails. As a teenager, he had channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics and within sight of the four-minute mile. But when war had come, the athlete had become an airman, embarking on a journey that led to his doomed flight, a tiny raft, and a drift into the unknown.

Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, a foundering raft, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion.

In her long-awaited new book, Laura Hillenbrand tells an unforgettable story of a man's journey into extremity, *Unbroken* is a testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit.

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## Editor's Note:

Due to space limitations this month, please read Betsy Mark's column, **reMark**, online at the Region 3 web site - <http://www.region3.us.mensa.org/>

Yahoo group. - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AMR3/>

Facebook group. - <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=71515809887>

# 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.

NSJ BJNPOQ GRGNJB KOK DUN PJWYYR

QWNQS UD OD NSJ GNWNJG XDYJGG RUX

QUXDN NSJ ODQPJWGODL VUVXYWPONR UT

NSJ DODJ-BOYYOBNJP ZXYYJN. --KWCJ

ZWPPR

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**Answer to last month's Cryptogram:**

There's so much plastic in this culture that vinyl leopard skin is becoming an endangered synthetic. --Lily Tomlin.

\*\*\*\*

Editor's note: In the **Bonus Cryptogram** for last month, the puzzle was made even more challenging than I had planned due to an error in the code generation. The second line of the puzzle should have read as follows:

**AFDLUMH RA FTFGBTBSM --**

The correct answer appears below.

### **Two Boats Passing Solution:**

Motorboat M leaves shore A as motorboat N leaves opposite shore B. They move across the lake at constant speeds. They meet the first time 500 yards from A. Each returns from the opposite shore without halting. And they meet 300 yards from B.

How long is the lake and what is the relation between the two boats' speeds? Sharp wits can solve the problem with a minimum of calculation.

**Solution:** At first meeting, the boats have traveled a combined distance equal to 1 length of the lake; at second meeting, 3 lengths. Elapsed time and distance for each is three times as great. Then, at second meeting, M has traveled  $500 \times 3 = 1500$  yards. Since this is 300 yards longer than the length of the lake, the latter is 1,200 yards. The ratio of M's speed to N's equals the ratio of the distances they travel before their first meeting

$$500 / (1200 - 500) \text{ or } 5 / 7$$

\*\*\*\*

**Bonus Cryptogram Solution:**  
The true scientist never loses the faculty of amazement — Hans Selye