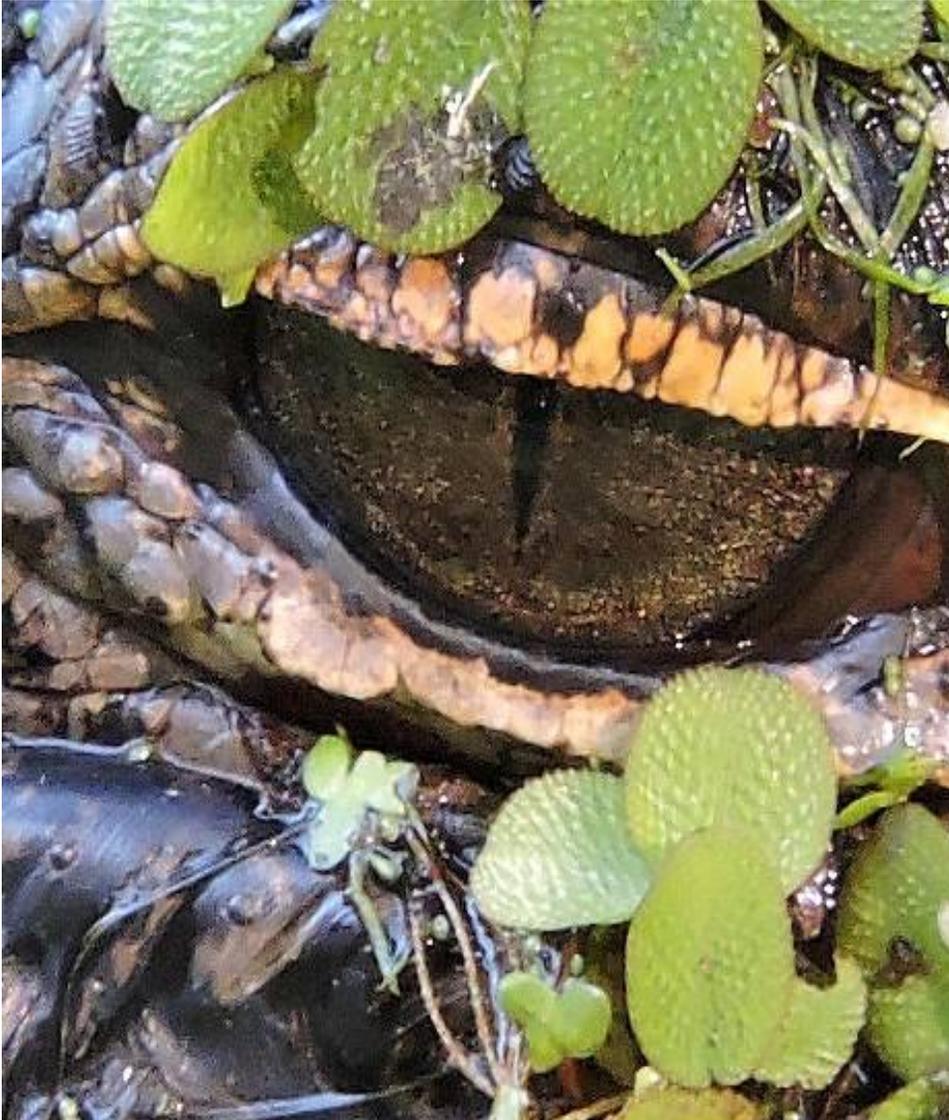




Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



Volume 13 Number 4

February 2015

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 15th 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

Northern Michigan Mensa

Executive Committee



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

Go high-tech! Get Borealis emailed to you. It's easy. Just email nmmborealis@yahoo.com and put "change delivery method" in the subject line. You'll get it faster, and in color!

ON THE COVER: Can you believe that some of our members like to go places in the winter which don't have snow? Well, Chuck Fricke sends this photo from Chestnut Park near Tarpon Springs, Florida where these creatures are much more common than snowmobiles.

February Calendar

BOOK CLUB - Saturday, 7 February 2015 at 11:00 a.m.

We will meet at BC Pizza, 3186 Lafranier, Traverse City. This is near the corner of S. Airport Road. The February Book Club selection will be ***The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*** by Daniel James Brown and presented by Sherry McNamara. All are welcome, even if you have not read the book.

Brunch - Saturday, 14 February 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

The February brunch will be held at the Bay Town Kitchen, 420 Munson Ave., Traverse City. Since this is Valentine's Day, we will not have a speaker - we'll just love being together. We will meet in the back dining room, as usual.

Dining Out - Wednesday, 25 February at 5:30 p.m.

Big Papa's Pub and Eatery is it for this month. The restaurant is located at 273 US Highway 31 S. (near Chum's Corner). It's website describes the food as "a modern twist on classic pub food" - whatever that means. But, being the adventurers we are, we'll check it out. First one there grab a table.

Culture Quest XXVI

While CultureQuest might be considered a trivia game or competition, its intent has always been to promote and test cultural literacy. Facing questions that range from film to politics, from literature to geography, from music to history and farther afield, Mensan teams of up to five members gather in their neighborhoods on a single day across the U.S. and Canada and, for 90 minutes, compete for cash prizes and cultural literacy bragging rights.

CONTEST DATE: Sunday, April 26, 2015

EVENT TIMES: 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time

REGISTER BY DATE: 11:59 p.m., Central time, Tuesday, March 31, 2015

The entry fee is \$50.00 per team, NMM will fund one team of 5 for \$50.00. Any additional teams will have to provide their own funds. For a five member team, that works out to the cost of a movie and some snacks if you're comparing entertainment dollars for an individual.

KC Mowrey has agreed to organize and host the event this year (thanks, KC). Please contact her at kcmowrey@charter.net, if you would like to participate.

January Brunch



Kevin Cain from Aria Inc., our speaker for the January Brunch, described the design and building of the U.S. 2 - man bobsled ,which won a bronze medal in the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Due to some technical problems, Kevin was unable to show any videos, but provided an interesting look at the politics and technical challenges involved in putting together a winning sled.

Thanks, Kevin.

ExComm Meeting Highlights

Your Executive Committee met on January 21st and approved the 2014 treasure's report presented by Sue Styles. A budget for 2015 was approved based on the previous year's budget with no changes. This included a \$500.00 scholarship allocation.

Stan Cain
Loc Sec, NMM

Financial Statements
Northern Michigan Mensa
For the Year Ended December 31, 2014

Fund	1/1/2014	12/31/2014	Change
Friend Fund	\$ 150.00	\$ 80.00	\$ (70.00)
General Opns	\$ 3,750.19	\$ 3,802.32	\$ 52.13
Add: Outstanding Checks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtract: Outstanding Deposits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Checking	\$ 3,900.19	\$ 3,882.32	\$ (17.87)
Savings	\$ 103.67	\$ 103.67	\$ -
Total	\$ 4,003.86	\$ 3,985.99	\$ (17.87)

Income	Budget	Year To Date	Remaining
National Office Allocation	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 828.73	\$ 171.27
Testing Fees	\$ 150.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 15.00
Interest Income	\$ 5.00	\$ 1.77	\$ 3.23
Fund Raising	\$ 245.00	\$ -	\$ 245.00
Total Income	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 965.50	\$ 434.50
Expenses			
Newsletter	\$ 450.00	\$ 200.29	\$ 249.71
Office / Incidentals	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ -
Activities / Programs	\$ 200.00	\$ 173.59	\$ 26.41
Publicity	\$ 25.00	\$ 24.49	\$ 0.51
Scholarships	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -
Proctor / Testing	\$ 50.00	\$ (10.00)	\$ 60.00
Stipend for Reg/Ntl Events	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Membership	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 913.37	\$ 486.63
Total Income Less Expenses	\$ -	\$ 52.13	

Submitted by Sue Styles
Treasurer, Northern Michigan Mensa

New Newsletter Mailing Method

This month's Borealis will be distributed using only the new method using the email addresses and newsletter mailing option selected on the National website.

Therefore, those who have an email address on file with the National office have selected the email option for receipt of mailings, should receive an email from the Mensa National web site containing a link to the newsletter on their website. Click the link and download your newsletter copy.

Those not receiving emails by the new system, will start receiving paper copies in the mail.

But, all members who want to receive the link to the latest Borealis by email (and stop receiving the paper copies) need to make sure that your email address is on file with the National Office. To check or change this information, you can use this link:

www.us.mensa.org then:

Click on "My Mensa".

Click on "Member Profile".

Then check/modify the "Local Group publication delivery" method.

Eliminating the paper copies of, course, saves our group about a dollar per copy per month for postage and printing and all those trees - money we can use for other worthy causes such as our scholarship fund.

By Stan Cain
Editor, Borealis