



Borealis

August Calendar

Bibliomensans next meet August 1 at 11:00 a.m. on Zoom not at B. C. Pizza,

BRUNCH - CANCELLED until further notice

There will NOT be a picnic this year

Executive Committee

VOTING MEMBERS

Local Secretary	Gene Fry	231-668-1362	gfry.cherokee@gmail.com
Deputy Loc Sec	KC Mowrey	231-775-8785	kcmowrey@charter.net
Treasurer	Richard Thibeau	231-590-2052	rthibeau@coslink.net

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Newsletter Editor	Richard Thibeau		
Financial Overseer	Vacant		
Membership	Bernie Hanchett	231-946-5177	barneydulittle@hotmail.com
Program Chair	Vacant		
Scholarship Chair	Kymerli Wregglesworth	(989) 733-4820	kwregglesworth@oacsd.com
Testing Coordinator	John D. Schultz	231--640-4569 (new#)	jsvoyageur@gmail.com

Our Scholarships have FINALLY been awarded for this year. There were numerous glitches with the Web interface, which pushed the entire program back a couple months, but everything has been set.

Daniel Bielas of Presque Isle, MI \$600 Northern Michigan Mensa Scholarship
Madalyn Craven of Traverse City, MI \$600 Diana Mossip Memorial Scholarship

Sherry McNamara will be hosting Bibliomensans meetings via ZOOM instead of in person. Contact her to get the invitation to Zoom ... sherrymcnamara@hotmail.com

Bibliomensans

This is the schedule for the Bibliomensans' 2020 reading meetings. Anybody is welcome, whether or not they have read the book. If they are Mensans they are members of Bibliomensans. We meet at 11:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of the month at B. C. Pizza, at 3186 LaFranier Rd. in Traverse City. Zip code is 49686 (restaurant is at SE corner of Airport and LaFranier Rds.). Meetings are held in February, April, June, August, October, and December. In August we meet on the second Saturday of the month. The presenter introduces the book and then everybody goes around the table, voicing their opinion. After that the discussion is open. I am now the contact person, Heather J. Gruenberg-Seger, I can be reached at home: 231.932.9501. All other information on the book group link is still valid.

February -- Tara Westover's 'Educated', 334 pp. Heather Gruenberg-Seger is presenting.

April -- Rachel Carson's 'Silent Spring', 378 pp. in 1962. Jim McDermott is presenting.

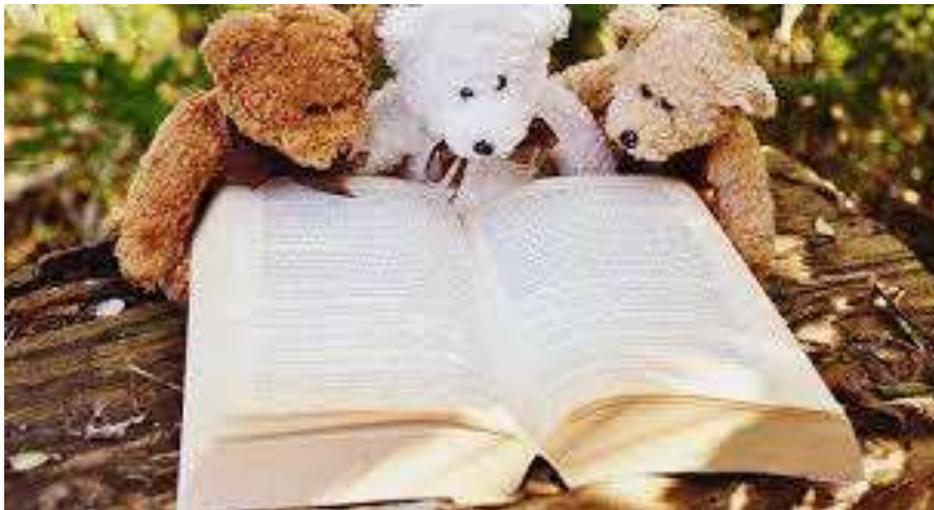
June -- Steadman and Clark's 'Tethered Mercury', 288 pp. Sherry McNamara is presenting.

August -- David Grann's 'Killers of the Flower Moon', 359 pp. Stan Cain is presenting.

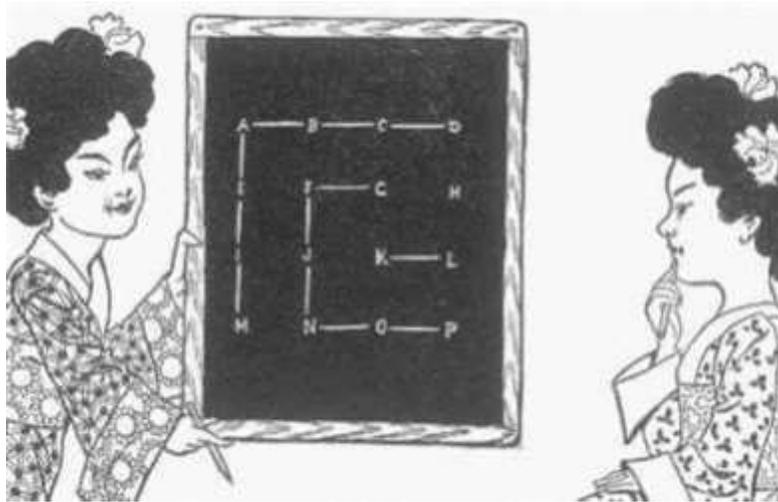
October -- Yuval Noah Harari's 'Sapiens', 498 pp. Heather Gruenberg-Seger is presenting.

December -- David Wallace-Wells' 'The Uninhabitable Earth', 320 pp. Jim McDermott is presenting.

**Sherry McNamara will be hosting virtual ZOOM meetings instead of in person. Contact her to get the invitation to Zoom ...
sherrymcnamara@hotmail.com**



Sam Loyd's Boxer's Puzzle



Here is an odd little puzzle-game from the East:

One of the Chinese girls writes sixteen letters on a slate in four rows, as shown, and after marking a straight dash, which connects A to B, passes the slate to her opponent, who connects E with A.

(Note: they are playing the [Dots and Boxes Game](#), RP)

If the first player should now connect E with F the other player would connect B with F and score "one box", and have the right to play again.

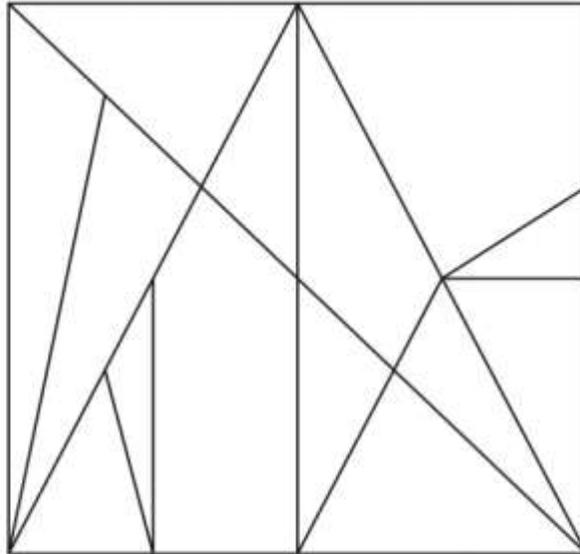
But they have played so well that neither one has yet scored a box, although each has played six times, but the game is reaching a critical point where one of them must win, for there are no draws (for there are nine boxes altogether in this play) as in other games.

The little maiden sitting down has to play now, and if she connects M and N her opponent would score four boxes in one run, and then having the right to one more play would connect H and L, which would win all the rest.

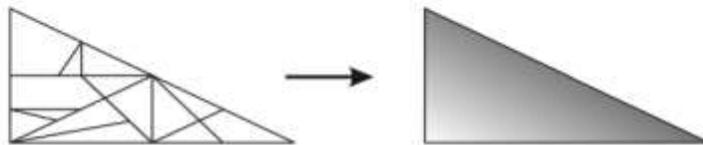
What play would you now advise, and how many boxes will it win against the best possible play of the second player?

One possible solution next month

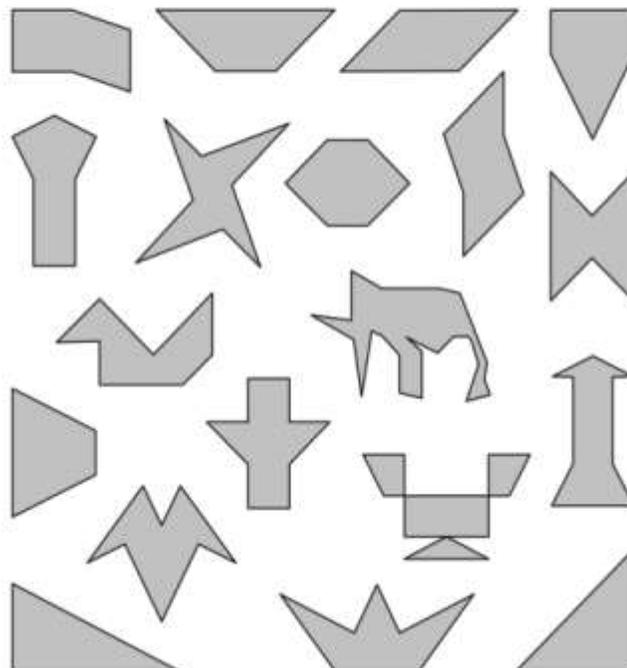
The Stomachion is a puzzle that is at least 2,200 years old. It was known to the ancient Greeks. Some people think that it was created by the Greek scientist Archimedes, which is why it is sometimes called Archimedes' Puzzle or the Loculus of Archimedes. The puzzle consists of 14 pieces of various shapes and sizes. These pieces are created by dividing a square as shown below. The object of the puzzle is to rearrange the pieces to form other shapes.



Cut out the pieces of the *Stomachion*. Then, rearrange the shapes to create the triangle shown below. The figure on the left shows how the pieces must be arranged to form the triangle.



Here are some other shapes that can be made from the pieces of the *Stomachion*. How many can you create?



News from the RVC3

John Voymas, Vice Chairperson, Region 3

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We have all been subjected to rules and regulations promulgated by our various states of residence in order to provide a safer environment during this COVID-19 crisis. How are you holding up? Are you able to continue working (either from home or back in the office) or are you on an extended (and unexpected) layoff or termination? Have you been able to connect with other members of Mensa through social media channels or tools like Zoom? What changes in local group events would you like to see continue once we can meet in larger groups again?

Almost all regional activities in Region 3 have been canceled. As of this writing, the only one that may still happen in our region is the Cincinnati Area Mensa Regional Gathering (RG) the first weekend of December. There will definitely be some changes in how hospitality, meals, and the games room are managed. With social distancing rules, there will probably be fewer seats for programs and presentations. Hopefully, by sometime in 2021, we can return to a more familiar gathering style, although I am sure that some things will be different.

There has been some concern and a great deal of discussion regarding the continued existence of Facebook groups American Mensa Firehouse and American Mensa Hospitality, as well as a Code of Conduct for American Mensa. In order to continue to provide a “stimulating intellectual and social environment for members”, a civil and respectful environment is necessary. The focus is on the HOW things are said (the behaviors) not on the WHAT is said (the intellectual discourse). It is the responsibility of American Mensa and the AMC to ensure that such an environment exists. There are differing opinions among the membership as to what limits (if any) can/should be set.

American Mensa does not exist in a vacuum. We are part of a larger social environment. What was acceptable (or simply ignored) even ten years ago is no longer okay (if it even was then). Social constructs evolve. They always have. They always will. Mensa was formed just after World War 2. At that time, blacks and whites were forbidden to intermarry in many states, schools and restrooms were separated, and blacks had to sit in the rear of the bus. Gays, lesbians, bisexual, and transgender individuals were outcasts and generally did not make themselves known for their own safety. Joseph McCarthy destroyed the lives of many individuals during his hearings and purges in the 1950s. Do any of you want to go back to those days?

On May 19, American Mensa hosted a leadership workshop on ways to engage members during this time of COVID-19. A webinar is now available at <https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/leadership-workshops/engaging-members-in-the-time-of-corona/>. There are also a number of suggestions from various local groups on what they are doing to serve their members. Some of those suggestions are included on the webinar page. I highly recommend checking this out. Let's be creative and try new methods and techniques. Decide which ones should be continued after we feel more safe to be out and about. I have attended local group Zoom get-togethers, book clubs, virtual ExComm meetings, and beverage tastings (some of us were already doing that before the crisis hit). Members who have not been able to attend in person are now able to meet other members this way. To reiterate what I said month, in all things, please be kind. Looking forward to seeing many of you soon, ether in the virtual world or in person.

Borealis

Northern Michigan Mensa

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