

Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



Volume 6 Number 5

February 2008

 Borealis
Northern Michigan Mensa

www.nmm.us.mensa.org

Send address correction c/o
American Mensa LTD.
1229 Corporate Drive West
Arlington, TX 76006-6103

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

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:

nmmnewsletter@hotmail.com

US mail:

Borealis
Stan Cain
3584 Village Circle Dr.
Traverse City MI 49686

Northern Michigan Mensa

Executive Committee

VOTING MEMBERS

Local Secretary	John D. Schultz	231-275-6735	nwoodpc@chartermi.net
Deputy Loc Sec	Stan Cain	231-938-1506	sdcmn@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Susan A. Styles	231-264-6193	seas@umich.edu
At Large	Jim McDermott	231-943-7792	
At Large	Penny Novarro	231-264 -8807	pennyupnorth@earthlink.net

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Membership			
Ombudsman	Peter J. Turkus	231-941-8321	petencheri@chartermi.net
Editor	Stan Cain	231-938-1506	nmmnewsletter@hotmail.com
Proctor			
Coordinator	John D. Schultz	231-275-6735	nwoodpc@chartermi.net
Program			
Publicity			
Web Contact			
Scholarship Chair	Patty Paternel	231-392-6403	ppaternel@chartermi.net
SIGHT Coordinator	Melissa J. Rennie	231-889-0892	renmeij@yahoo.com
Financial Overseer	Thomas Barnhart	231-946-3242	tmb@mac.com

OTHER MEMBERS

Proctors	John D. Schultz	231-275-6735	nwoodpc@chartermi.net
	Susan A. Styles	231-264-6193	seas@umich.edu
Assistant Editor			
Regional			
Vice-Chairman	Dave Swanka	716-833-5549	RVC3@us.mensa.org

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

ON THE COVER: "I pulled this partial log from the South Branch of Crow Creek and established it as a 'River Totem' near the bunkhouse on my land." Photo by John Porter.

Northern Michigan Mensa

February 2008 Calendar

BIBLIOMENSANS Book Club – Saturday, 2 February 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

This month the book for discussion is *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, by Khaled Hosseini, presented by Jim McDermott. Please plan to attend for another lively discussion!! We will meet at the Cottage Café, 420 Munson Avenue, Traverse City.

BRUNCH - Saturday, 9 February, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.

We will meet at 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.

EXCOMM Meeting, 9 February, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.

We will meet at Cottage Café in the Papa's Den immediately after the brunch. All elected and appointed members should attend and any other members are more than welcome to stay and sit in also.

TGIF – Friday, 22 February, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. (NOTE NEW LOCATION)

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

Member News

Happy February Birthdays

14	Peter J Turkus	25	Jerome D Smith
19	L W Young	26	Carol J Crawford
24	Thomas Rasmussen		

Mensa Membership Milestones (Years of Continuous Membership)

28 Years	Phillip F Curtiss	2 Years	Gary S Cools
13 Years	John Douglass Whyte		Judith L Cools
7 Years	J E Dasef		Julie L Hill

5 Years Louis O Isabell
3 Years Jim H McDermott
2 Years Jennifer L Cassidy

1 Year Richard R Hopfner
John G Swartout

Welcome to Northern Michigan Mensa Matthew D Stevenson

December 2007 Statistics	AML	NMM
Total membership	52843	94
New and reinstating membership	414	1
Offers of membership	208	0
New members since April 2007	3485	8
Reinstating members since April 2007	2221	8
Members leaving NMM		1

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 12/31/07. 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".

Teams Needed for Culture Quest XIX By Stan Cain

Mark your calendars! Culture Quest (CQ) XIX for 2008 will be held on Sunday, 27 April at 4:00 p.m. The deadline to let me know if you want to play is 1 March 2008; I must submit the registration form by the end of March.

CQ is played by teams comprised of up to five players. We can enter multiple teams in the contest. The cost is \$40 per team, so the cost per person will be dependent on the number of players per team (\$8 for 5-member team, etc.).

The game is played by members of American Mensa and Canada Mensa simultaneously. It is like playing a long trivia game of cultural knowledge. Questions can be about current events, science, politics, etc. The game lasts for 90 minutes. Following the game we will go to a local restaurant for dinner.

Contact me via email at sdcmn@yahoo.com and please put CQ2008 in the subject line or you can call me at 938-1506 if you would like to play.

Reminder!

By Stan Cain

Just a note to remind all members that this is **your** club. If you have any suggestions for an activity or program that you think others would be interested in, please contact me at either by phone or email.

In addition, Borealis is always looking for articles, puzzles and photos to include for publication.

Treasurer's Report

2007 brought an increase in our bank balance of over \$1,250, due in large part to a generous member donation. We also received RVC money to pay for a new member event, and have about half of it remaining. Lastly, regular income was almost exactly as budgeted, but expenses were significantly below budget due to the lack of a scholarship winner this year.

We continue to use the Friend Fund on occasion. With renewal season on its way, we currently have only \$30 of donations left to pay dues for needy members who make a confidential request to an elected member of the ExComm. To donate any amount, send it to me marked "Friend Fund" and it will be set aside for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Styles
NMM Treasurer
6793 E Harbor Dr
Elk Rapids, MI 49629

Note: The following figures include a subtraction from testing income of \$62.50 incorrectly credited twice by the National Office in 2006. Testing activities to date have brought in \$230.00. Also, \$52.60 in RVC funding for new member events remains in our bank account to be spent in 2008.

Northern Michigan Mensa Statement of Income and Expenses January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

	Budgeted	YTD	Remaining
Income			
National Office Allocation	\$900.00	\$977.03	-\$77.03
Testing Fees	\$250.00	\$167.50	\$82.50
Interest	\$30.00	\$36.55	-\$6.55
Total	\$1,180.00	\$1,181.08	-\$1.08
Expenses			
Newsletter	\$800.00	\$367.28	\$432.72
Office/Incidentals	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Activities/Programs	\$100.00	\$127.02	-\$27.02
Publicity	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Scholarship	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00
Proctor/Testing	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Stipend for Regional/National Events	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
Total	\$1,750.00	\$494.30	\$1,255.70
Total Income Less Expenses	-\$570.00	\$686.78	
Friend Fund			
Balance	\$56.00	\$26.00	\$30.00
Donations		\$600.73	
Net Expenditures		-\$1,261.51	

Northern Michigan Mensa Bank Balance Reconciliation January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

	1/1/07	Net Change	12/31/07
Checking - Balance per books	\$2,632.66	\$1,261.15	\$3,893.81
Plus check not yet cashed			\$48.13
Balance per bank			\$3,941.94
Savings	\$101.57	\$0.36	\$101.93
Total	\$2,734.23	\$1,261.51	\$4,043.87