



Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



Volume 10 Number 8

May 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 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

ON THE COVER: After winter and summer (in March), in Northern Michigan, spring is finally here. Blossoms form on a Flowering Plum tree. Photo by Stan Cain



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Northern Michigan Mensa

www.nmm.us.mensa.org

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"change delivery method" in the
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May Calendar

ExComm Meeting - Saturday, 12 May 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee will be just prior to the brunch. There will be a discussion of finding a replacement for the Deputy Local Secretary (LocSec) position now vacant. All members are welcome to attend this meeting.

BRUNCH - Saturday, 12 May 2012 at 11:00 a.m.

The May Brunch will be held at **Flap Jack Restaurant**, 3980 N US 31 S, Traverse City (also known as the Flap Jack Shack.) We are trying out this venue to see how well it functions as a replacement for our former location. **NOTE NEW LOCATION.**

Blacksmith Shop Tour, Saturday, 19 May 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

We are invited to tour Richard Thibeau's blacksmith shop. See details and directions in the LocSec's column on page 3.

T.G.I.F! Friday, 25 May 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!

Member News

Happy May Birthday

7	Harold A. Kranick	18	Kymerli A. Wregglesworth
	Lance Corpe	19	Robin E. Wottowa
8	Aaron Stander	22	Judith W. Lindenau
9	Julie L. Hill		

Mensa Membership Milestones

(Years of continuous Membership)

32	Suzanne L. Cook	4	Lavon Jonson
12	Beau Begeman	3	Mitchell D. Quaine
9	Cynthia L. Dickson	1	Dennis J. Olsen

Members Moving to Our Area - Welcome!

Robert Alan Atallo

Welcome back to Northern Michigan Mensa

Roger M Mullet

<u>March 2012 Statistics</u>	<u>AML</u>	<u>NMM</u>
Total membership	56219	91
New and reinstating membership	1126	2
Offers of membership	353	0
New members since April 2011	2976	6
Reinstating members since April 2011	4006	12

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 3/31/2012. If you would like to change the privacy releases on file, use www.us.mensa.org and click on "Member Login". Then click on "Profile Update" and "PDQ Update".

Horizon Book Club Discounts

By Sherry McNamara

We have made arrangements with Horizon Books, 243 E. Front Street, Traverse City, to enable the purchase of our book club books.

The official name of our book club is "Bibliomensans". If you mention this name when buying one of the books, you will receive a 10% discount. In addition, you can receive another 10% off if you are an Horizon member.

This discount had been in effect for a number of years, but it has now been renewed and is currently in effect.

Note that the list of books for 2012 appeared in the February issue of Borealis.

The Rio Grande

The only river that looks like it needs to be irrigated.—Will Rogers

From the LOCSEC

By Richard Thibeau

ExComm Changes

Once again, the NMM ExComm has had changes come upon it. Tom Barnhart, the elected Local Secretary, has resigned due to health issues. The elected Deputy has moved up to the LocSec position resulting in the need to appoint a voting member to the ExComm and designate one of them as the new Deputy LocSec. To this end, the quarterly meeting of the ExComm will be held prior to the brunch on May 12 which will be held at the Flap Jack Restaurant on US 31S in Traverse City. Any NMM member wishing to be considered for this appointment should contact the LocSec, Richard Thibeau, rthibeau@coslink.net or 231-590-2052, and be at the May 12 meeting. The opening will be filled and then the ExComm will decide who is to be the Deputy LocSec. In addition, NMM needs a member to fill in as the Publicity Chairperson and also help with devising programs and events for the group. Volunteers are appreciated.

Blacksmith Shop Tour

As a change of pace, a tour of a local blacksmith shop is being offered for the third Saturday of May. Starting at 1 pm, May 19, at the Dancing Frog Forge, 1896 Carlisle Rd, Traverse City, the shop will be open for visitors to get an idea of the tools and equipment used in a small smithy and watch short demonstrations. Dress appropriately as getting dirty is likely especially if you want to try your hand at it. Just east of 3 Mile Rd turn off Hammond Rd onto Chartwell Drive and then an immediate right onto Carlisle Rd, first house on the left. Parking is along the roadway after the driveway fills up. Host is your LocSec, Richard Thibeau.



April Book Club Meeting at Lil Bo Pub and Grille

Still searching for a good location for our gatherings, we discussed “Unbroken” by Laura Hillenbrand at Lil Bo’s. Photo by Stan Cain.



April Brunch at Sleder’s

A good crowd was on hand for the April brunch. Photo by Jack Schultz,

reMark

By Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3

It's spring! Certainly didn't have much of a winter and spring came in like summer. I did not miss the snow, but I have missed traveling. So, I'm going to do some and I hope to see you at one of my stops.

I will be traveling to Ottawa for a family celebration in June. My trip will begin...

On June 5, I will be having dinner with Western Pennsylvania Area Mensans at The Outback Steakhouse, 3000 Mossdale Blvd., Monroeville, PA 15146 at 6:30pm.

On June 6, I will be having dinner with Western New York Mensans at The Eagle House, 5578 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 at 6pm.

On June 7, I will be joining Rochester Area Mensa at their First Thirstday event. Check RAM's newsletter, The Constellation, for information on time and location.

Please join me (on your own \$ - J).

I do hope to see you at SEMMantics XXXIII RG, May 4 - 6, 2012, to be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 37529 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills, MI 48335, (248) 477-7800. Registration: \$45 - Friday Only, \$50 - Saturday Only, \$85 - Weekend at the Door, Children 5 - under 18 - 1/2 price, Children under 5 - free. Send your registration checks (made out to SEMMantics) to Larry Arbanas, 24565 Glen Orchard Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48336-1725. The theme is 33 1/3 - Getting in the Groove. Besides all the best of every RG, there are many, many children's activities planned, so bring the whole family for a fabulous weekend.

And, now for a plug for Mensa's Annual Gathering. Do register now for a fabulous time in Reno, Nevada. The website for the AG is: <http://www.ag2012.us.mensa.org//AM/Template.cfm?Section=Home14>
I hope to see before then, but, if our paths do not cross before, then I hope to see you there.

And, please register for the 2012 Columbus Area Mensa RG, The London (Ohio) Games to be held July 27-29 at the Ramada East Airport Hotel in Co-

Columbus, OH. Registration is \$65 until 6/3, \$70 until 7/9 and \$75 at the door. Friday only is \$30, Saturday only is \$50 and kids 11-18 are half price. Kids 10 and under are free. Contact Julia Ashley, Registrar, at psibernaut@yahoo.com, 614.448.6023 if you have questions and check out the RG's website: <http://columbus.us.mensa.org/2012-rg.pdf>

I am looking forward to seeing you soon.
LLAP and Peace,

Betsy

Betsy Yvonne Mark

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

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

CQ questions continued from Page 8)

What racehorse was unbeaten in a 25-race career that began in 1769?

Major scales are in Ionian mode. In what mode is a minor scale?

What strange state of matter can be found only at temperatures less than one millionth of a degree above Absolute Zero?

What two states are separated by the longest parts of the Mason-Dixon line?

Rumspringa refers to a period of adolescence in what religion?

Name the fine china company that marked its wares with a logo of two crossed sabers?

Name two Shakespeare play titles that contain the names of cities that are not in Italy?

... and so on for a total of about 250 questions to be done in 90 minutes!

Note that answers will appear in next month's Borealis or whenever they are received from the National Office.

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.

HR YAKHMYTV YT FRK CLF, FR RFVYEYRJ VLHV

H UFTK TBKMMT WKVVKU VLHR H EHWWHJK,

EFREMSAKT VLHV YV CYMM HMTF BHQK WKVVKU

TFSX. ~ BKREQKR

Answer to last month's Cryptogram:

Happiness is an imaginary condition, formerly often attributed by the living to the dead, now usually attributed by adults to children, and by children to adults. --

Thomas Szasz

Culture Quest XXIII Wrap-up



Participants and friends sit down for a Pot-Luck dinner after a hopefully successful CQ. We felt that the questions were a good mix of doable and impossible. Photo by Stan Cain.

Culture Quest seems to be designed to take the smugness out of most Mensans. A few questions from the test appear below.

When the Owl and the Pussycat were married, what animal acted as minister?

What unit is equal to 550 foot-pounds per second (approximately 746 watts)?

What did Claude Monet depict in approximately 250 oil paintings?

Who became head of the International Monetary Fund in 2011?

What is sodium hydroxide better known as?

(Questions continued on Page 6)