



Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



Volume 11 Number 12

September 2013

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

VOTING MEMBERS

Local Secretary	Richard Thibeau	231-590-2052	locsecnmm@gmail.com or rthibeau@coslink.net
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	Susan A. Styles	231-357-5233	seas@umich.edu
	Melissa J. Rennie	231-889-0892	renmeij@yahoo.com
Regional Vice-Chairman	Betsy Y. Mark	734-434-5757	RVC3@us.mensa.org

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

ON THE COVER: .The way we were... Old farm equipment working at the Port Oneida Fair. Photo by Sue Styles.



Northern Michigan Mensa

www.nmm.us.mensa.org

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

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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!

September Calendar

BRUNCH - Saturday, 14 September 2013 at 10:30 a.m.

The September Brunch will be held at The MI Grille (formerly the Bay Town Kitchen, formerly The Cottage Café) , 420 Munson Ave., Traverse City. We will meet in the far dining room .

T.G.I.F. - Friday, 27 September 2013 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 September Birthday

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Susan Lynn Pitzer | 17 John Porter |
| 2 James H McDermott | 18 Richard J Warren |
| 11 Jill S Miner | 22 Dr John D. Schultz |
| 12 Steven H Quick | |

Mensa Membership Milestones

(Years of Continuous Membership)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 28 Delberta R Windiate | 4 Janet A Nerone |
| 10 Harold A Kranick | 3 Michael L Cardwell |
| 10 Dwayne A Bean | |

July 2013 Statistics

	<u>AML</u>	<u>NMM</u>
Total membership	49713	72
New and reinstating membership	543	1
Offers of membership	325	0
New members since April 2013	1143	15
Reinstating members since April 2013	1131	19

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 6/30/2013. 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".

Election Time Again

Now is the time to start our election process. We will be electing a new Executive Committee to serve for the next two years. The first step is for the Executive Committee to appoint a three-member Nominating Committee. Then, the following events occur.

Election deadlines (from our bylaws):

September 15th	Nominating Committee appointed by ExComm.
October 15th	Nominations for ExComm candidates finalized and turned over to newsletter editor.
November 1st	Newsletter with nominations published.
November 1st	Election Committee appointed by ExComm. They select a slate of candidates.
November 15th	Last day for election petitions for additional candidates
December 1st	Ballots (if necessary) distributed in newsletter.
December 20th	Last day to receive ballots from voters.
January 1st 2014	Newly elected board assumes office.

REQUIREMENTS FOR NOMINATING AND ELECTION COMMITTEES

From our bylaws...

"No member of the Nominating Committee or Election Committee may be a voting member of the Executive Committee or a candidate in the upcoming election. The Nominating and Election Committees may comprise the same members."

Duties: It is important to nominate individuals who are willing to serve on the Executive Committee and who will be able to attend a majority of meetings of the ExComm. The NomComm shall contact each nominee to make certain he/she understands what will be expected of each individual and to ascertain whether such nominees are willing to serve in whatever capacity the elected officers may elect them to. It is important to make sure that there are at least three individuals who are willing to be elected LocSec, Deputy LocSec, and Treasurer. Nominations must be presented to the Editor by October 15 so they can be published in the November issue of the newsletter. Additional nominations may be accepted, by petition of at least five members, up to November 15, to appear on the December ballot along with other nominations previously published in the November newsletter.

Right Here Up North – The Port Oneida Fair

By Sue Styles, NMM Treasurer

This will surprise some of you, but I have lived up north (in the Northern Michigan Mensa area) for over 75% of my life and have never been to the Sleeping Bear Dunes. At least not the touristy “dune climb”. Who wants to get sand in places you didn’t even know you had? But I have been to the area a few times, including Mensa sponsored walks at the Treat Farm south of Empire with our very own Jack Schultz, a retired forester.

Recently, I happened to read one of the newspapers that accumulates in my mailbox early enough to actually go to one of the activities publicized. It was the Port Oneida Fair, which takes place in the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Yet another way to experience our local national “park” without too much sand! Port Oneida was a community of families living near the dunes just north of Glen Arbor. Two local groups, Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear and Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes, are dedicated to preserving the structures and history of this area. They provide local input to the National Park Service and raise money and volunteers for projects the Park Service might not otherwise make a priority.

The fair is cosponsored by these two groups and I believe has been in existence about ten years. It was a great opportunity to see some aspects of life in the late 1800s and early 1900s. We took our 7-year-old son, who is reluctant to do anything educational but didn’t have a choice this time. He ended up really enjoying the day. We got to explore three farm houses and three different kinds of barns; petted giant draft horses; saw oxen and talked to their handler; and watched soap, candles, quilts, pottery, baskets, lace, mittens, butter, and ice cream be made! Our son got interested in the mechanics of how wagons and farm equipment were hitched to animals, and how the equipment worked to do things like pick up hay or pump water. He got to crank a wringer washer, pet rabbits, hold chickens, and stick his head up a silo and hear the echo!

I think the parts my husband enjoyed the most were the cooking and blacksmith demonstrations. These were conducted by professional interpreters. Susan Odom of Hillside Homestead used to work at Greenfield Village and now has her own business in Leelanau County, cooking for small groups the way it was done in the area in 1910. She was obviously skilled in the use of a wood stove, using it to make an apple pie as well as jam that cooks for hours, that my husband said was just the way his grandma did it when he was a kid. We learned that bacon back before refrigeration was so dry and hard it took

hours of soaking in water to be able to fry it like today's bacon, but once cooked it tasted just the same! The blacksmith is a regular working blacksmith from the Grand Rapids area who made a variety of metal items while we watched. His work was mesmerizing.

I just soaked up the history and the excitement of learning new things. There were also plenty of vendors if you like to shop for local handmade or historical items. There was a chicken dinner Friday night, which we did not attend, and a night sky viewing party, which we did. The Grand Traverse Astronomical Society brought multiple telescopes, including a huge one, and we got to see Saturn's rings! I think the connection with Port Oneida was that the residents could see the same stars we see, because of how dark it is without a town nearby.

The whole day was very refreshing as well as educational. To have an opportunity like this without driving for hours, was priceless. The Port Oneida Fair is planned for the second Friday and Saturday of August, each year. Admission is free, although they appreciate donations or a Park Entrance Pass. Next year we will probably plan more time and be sure to visit the school house, cemetery, and some of the musical events. And to think I thought the Dunes were only for climbing!

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The Pirates of Somalia: Inside Their Hidden World, Bibliomans' Book for October By Jay Bahadur - 336 pages

The first close-up look at the hidden world of Somali pirates by a young journalist who dared to make his way into their remote havens and spent a year infiltrating their lives.

For centuries, stories of pirates have captured imaginations around the world. The recent ragtag bands of pirates off the coast of Somalia, hijacking multimillion-dollar tankers owned by international shipping conglomerates, have brought the scourge of piracy into the modern era. Jay Bahadur's riveting narrative exposé—the first of its kind—looks at who these men are, how they live, the forces that created piracy in Somalia, how the pirates spend the ransom money, how they deal with their hostages, among much, much more. It is a revelation of a dangerous world at the epicenter of political and natural disaster.

Treasurer's Report as of 31 July 2013

Submitted by Sue Styles

Bank Reconciliation

Fund	1/1/2013	7/31/2013	Change
Friend Fund	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ -
Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ (1,000.00)
General Opns.	\$ 3,253.57	\$ 3,510.14	\$ 256.57
Total Checking	\$ 4,403.57	\$ 3,660.14	\$ (743.43)
Savings	\$ 103.67	\$ 103.67	\$ -
Total	\$ 4,507.24	\$ 3,763.81	\$ (743.43)

Income and Expenses

Income	Budget	Year To Date	Remaining
Natl. Office Alloc..	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 463.01	\$ 536.99
Testing Fees	\$ 150.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 110.00
Interest Income	\$ 5.00	\$ 1.17	\$ 3.83
Fund Raising	\$ 245.00	\$ -	\$ 245.00
Total Income	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 504.18	\$ 895.82

Expenses

Newsletter	\$ 450.00	\$ 101.41	\$ 348.59
Offc. / Incidentals	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
Activities/Progs.	\$ 200.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 60.00
Publicity	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
Scholarships	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (500.00)
Proctor / Testing	\$ 50.00	\$ 6.20	\$ 43.80
Stipend for Events.	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Membership	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Total Expenses	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,247.61	\$ 152.39
Total Income Less Expenses	\$ -	\$ (743.43)	\$ 743.43



Meet your New RVC3!

REGION 3 WEBSITE REACTIVATED

The Region 3 website, www.region3.us.mensa.org, was updated thanks to our new webmaster, Leonard Dalenberg. Anyone who wishes to assist in design or to add event information may contact him through the site.

REGION 3 FACEBOOK SITE GROWING

Facebook users are invited to join the Region 3 page, <http://tinyurl.com/Reg3Facebook>, provided you have a current Mensa membership.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regional Gathering information can be found in the Mensa Bulletin (typically 90 days before an event); also in the online calendar at: www.us.mensa.org as well as event pages noted below.

Cincinnati, OH

Prime Time - It's Cincinnati Area Mensa's 31st RG!, December 6-8, 2013

www.cincymensa.org.

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/PrimeTime31>

Atrium Hotel and Conference Center

30 Tri County Pkwy

Cincinnati, OH 45246

(513) 771-7171

www.thehotelatrium.com

Room rate is \$69. Use code: RG.

Registration, including all meals:

\$75 postmarked by Nov 23; \$80 thereafter. Teens 12-17 are half price. Children 5-11 are \$15. Day rates are available.

Checks payable to Cincinnati Area Mensa RG

c/o Cassandra Ryle

7270 West Chester Rd.

West Chester, OH 45069.

Please advise your name badge name and if you need an airport pickup.

Dayton, OH

DAMNations 27 Fully Amended, March 21-23, 2014

There are 27 amendments to the U.S. Constitution - and just for this RG, we're creating a few more - Because we're Fully Amended

<http://www.dayton.us.mensa.org>
Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/DAMNations27>

Wyndham Garden Dayton South Hotel
31 Prestige Plaza Drive
Miamisburg OH 45432
(937) 434-8030 ask for Mensa rate

\$55 until 12/1/13
\$60 until 3/1/14
\$70 at the door
Children 16 and under are ½ price
Day rates available

Checks payable to Dayton Mensa RG
c/o Karren Lehman
7039 Monte Carlo Drive
Englewood OH 45322
rg.registrar@dayton.us.mensa.org

AG HOTEL UPDATES

Note that the AG hotel contract was negotiated long before the Colloquium was added to the same week. Expect rooms to be limited for early arrival. Those who preregister for the Colloquium and/or the AG will receive hotel updates as available. Others may view the links below or watch for updates in the Mensa Bulletin.

Boston, MA: Crime Scene Intelligence – Colloquium, July 1, 2014
<http://www.colloq14.us.mensa.org/>
Boston, MA: Brilliance in Beantown – Mensa Annual Gathering, July 2-6, 2014
<http://ag2014.us.mensa.org/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Mensa2014AG>

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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.

GMP SRAT UHAPZ VSIPOT VWR GSAPUWGP WUP

GMSZP SJ GWZGP, WRO GMP SRAT ABIBGWGBSRZ

GMSZP SJ ABQPA.

~FWIPZ GMHUQPU

(The answer will appear in next month's issue)

Answer to last month's Cryptogram:

The surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that it has never tried to contact us. ~Bill Watterson.

Editor's note: Ruth had prepared a supply of these popular puzzles before her recent death. Borealis will continue to feature them while they last.