



Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



Volume 12 Number 6

April 2014

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:

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Northern Michigan Mensa

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

ON THE COVER: A Trillium at the Treat Farm during Northern Michigan Mensa's wildflower hike in May 2006. Photo by Melissa Rennie.



Northern Michigan Mensa

www.nmm.us.mensa.org

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"change delivery method" in the
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May Calendar

Brunch - Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 10:30 a.m.

We will meet at the Bay Town Kitchen (formerly the Cottage Café), 420 Munson Ave. Traverse City. We will meet in the far dining room. Expand your world history knowledge with Heide Post, who grew up just after WWII in Hamburg, Germany. She will tell us stories of her family almost starving to death during the war ... up through the demolition of the "wall." One factoid: the West Germans paid to have the wall removed through a tax on their pay-checks. They paid the Soviet army's way back home to get rid of them. And as Heide says: "If you call someone you don't like a Nazi, you don't know what you're talking about. I'll tell you about real Nazis."

Dining Out - Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

We will meet at the Fire Fly, 310 Cass St. (between 8th and State Sts.) They specialize in small plates such as crab cakes, chicken satay or seafood fondue. But Fire Fly also has burgers, salads and sandwiches. Good food. If it's nice outside, we can eat by the Boardman River. If not, a roof is good. First one there grab a table.

Wildflower Hike - Saturday, May 24, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Rain or Shine

For those who have never been to the Treat Farm in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, you will have a treat (no pun intended). Even those who have gone on this hike in previous years will enjoy the spectacular displays of spring wildflowers. There is probably no more magnificent showing of wildflowers in northern Michigan than in the northern hardwood forest leading to the old farmstead. Come join Jack Schultz as he talks about the beauties of this area. The approximately two-hour hike is easy and you will be treated to a huge display of the best that Nature has to offer.

The Treat Farm entrance gate is located at the end of Norconk Road which runs about a half-mile west off of highway M-22 about a mile south of the Empire Village limits. You can park your vehicles anywhere along the side of the road and be sure to display a National Park pass in your parked vehicle.

We will NOT be climbing the dune at the end of the trail. Those who wish to have lunch afterward are invited to join us at the Friendly Tavern in Empire. It is located at the end of the main street that goes into Empire off of highway M-22. You can call Jack Schultz with any questions at 231 640 4569.

And, coming up in June...

BOOK CLUB - Saturday, 7 June 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

The June book club selection will be: ***The Goldfinch*** by Donna Tartt and presented by Judith Lindenau.

The book tells the story of Theo Decker, a thirteen-year-old New Yorker who miraculously survives an accident that kills his mother. As the story unfolds, he is tormented by his unbearable longing for his mother and clings to one thing that reminds him of her: a small, mysteriously captivating painting that ultimately draws Theo as an adult into the underworld of art.

Member News

Happy May Birthday

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 7 Kathleen Cerasoli | 18 Kymberli A Wregglesworth |
| 7 Harold A Kranick | 19 Robin E Wottowa |
| 8 Aaron Stander | 22 Judith W Lindenau |
| 9 Julie L Hill | |

Mensa Membership Milestones

(Years of Continuous Membership)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 34 Suzanne L Cook | 5 Mitchell D Quaine |
| 14 Beau Begeman | 3 Dennis J Olsen |
| 11 Cynthia L Dickson | 2 Jon Paul Suchoski |

Members New/Reinstated to Our Group - Welcome!

Carrie M Beemon Judith L Cools Sara L Quigley Gary S Cools

March 2014 Statistics

	<u>AML</u>	<u>NMM</u>
Total membership	56,091	85
New and reinstating membership	1,237	1
Offers of membership	565	0
New members since April 2013	3,672	19
Reinstating members since April 2013	3,809	28

Membership directory information is based on data from American Mensa records as of 3/31/2014. 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"

Answer to last month's Cryptogram:

One-fifth of the people are against everything all the time. ~Robert Kennedy

News from the RVC3

Check your Mensa Bulletin for upcoming Regional Gatherings.

Southeast MI Mensa -- Farmington Hills, MI
SEMMantics 35
May 2-4, 2014

Columbus Area Mensa -- Columbus, OH
Ohio: A Capital Idea
Aug. 1-3, 2014

Western PA Mensa -- Pittsburgh, PA
Rube GoldbeRG: the Deliberately Over-Engineered RG
August 29-September 1, 2014

Mini-Minutes

American Mensa Board of Directors Meeting
March 29, 2014

The Board:

- Passed the 2014-2015 budget, with a projected surplus of approximately \$33,500.
- Updated communications guidelines to, among other things, move from handbooks to more easily updatable online guides.
- Updated various Annual Gathering policies regarding registration fees, hotel policies, white hat policies and establishing deadlines for some crucial AG actions.
- Revised the Acknowledgement of Responsibilities document for Board members.
- Made the Nominating Committee appointments for the upcoming election cycle.
- Pursuant to a request from the Elections Committee, revised the questions to be asked of candidates.
- Clarified the ASIE regarding RVC approval of dates of Regional gatherings.
- Received a presentation from Director of Operations Howard Prince about the new

Compendium resource, which will provide Mensa members with the history of the organization, online officer guides, allow online presentations and more.

The next meeting will be on July 3, 2014, in Boston, Massachusetts.
Respectfully submitted,

Brian Reeves
American Mensa Secretary

Linen Announcements:

Bad news: The old Mensa tablecloth is no longer in circulation due to years of wear.

Good news: Region 3 ordered a new tablecloth. Contact the RVC to reserve it for your event.

Julia Ashley, RVC3
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614.448.6023

April Book Club

Our meeting was at BC Pizza serving (what else) excellent Pizza and salads where we discussed the April book club selection - ***The Book Thief*** by Marcus Zusak. Most of the group had also seen the recent movie of the same name and many found that while the movie was well made, it skimmed on some of the interesting details presented in the book.



April Brunch

A good crowd was on hand at the Bay Town Kitchen where our speaker was **Leslie Friend**, a reflexologist. She told us how to take care of our headaches, backaches, and other bothersome ailments using our own fingers at various points on the body.



Leslie Friend

Photos by Stan and Dorothy Cain