



# Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa

## Calendar

### MARCH

#### **Brunch - Saturday, 12 March 2016 at 10:30 a.m.**

The March brunch will be held at the MI Grille, located at 420 Munson in Traverse City. We will meet in the back dining room.

### APRIL

#### **Book Club - Saturday, 2 April 2016 at 11:00 a.m.**

The April Book Club selection will be *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr, presented by Heather Gruenberg-Seger. The group meets at BC Pizza, 3186 LaFranier Road, in Traverse City.

#### **Brunch - Saturday, 9 April 2016 at 10:30 a.m.**

The April brunch will be held at the MI Grille, located at 420 Munson in Traverse City. We will meet in the back dining room.

#### **Lambing Barn Opportunity - Saturday, 16 April 2016 at 10:00 a.m.**

Northern Michigan Mensans and their families are invited to Brett Pharo's sheep farm for an experience that will, hopefully, be entertaining and educational. This will be during the heart of lambing (birthing) season, with several ewes giving birth each day. Given the unpredictable nature of events in the lambing barn, any attempt at setting a schedule of events would be futile. That being said, it would be hoped that you would have the opportunity to witness at least one birth process, which normally will involve at least twins. We will also try to talk about the nature of what we do and why we do some of the things we do. This will include care of the animals and care of the land and the environment. The sheep business, like all agriculture, is a process of turning solar energy into products that are useful to people. We believe in operating in a sustainable fashion, which to me means to provide for the present without taking from the future, and to attempt to leave the earth in at least as good, if not better, condition than we found it. We will try to answer any questions you may have, as well.

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## Northern Michigan Mensa

Borealis is published by Northern Michigan Mensa (3/496) once each month under the auspices of its Executive Committee.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.nmm.us.mensa.org](http://www.nmm.us.mensa.org)

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ON THE COVER: Photo by Stan Cain

# Weight Loss...

## Editor's Notes:

Yes., the old Borealis is shrinking. Due to a lack of content most months, I am revising the format and size and rearranging the contents to better use the space.

Gone will be the page of boiler plate rules regulating submissions to Borealis. Have any of you ever read it? If you have any questions, please email me.

Gone will be the big picture on the cover which, (except for a few kind and talented members) was usually mine. In it's place, the monthly calendar which could always use some beefing up. Members out there should feel free to suggest interesting and fun activities for us. Call or email me or our Loc Sec, Bobbi Walker.

**Stan Cain, Editor**

[nmmborealis@yahoo.com](mailto:nmmborealis@yahoo.com)

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## Lambing Barn Opportunity (continued)

Now for what you might expect. Hopefully, any birth you see will be uncomplicated, or with only minor complications, but it is possible that we could have a significant complication. In that case we'll have to give it our full attention until we get it resolved, and you should be aware that it's not always pretty. I would suggest that you wear clothes that can get dirty, especially shoes. This is a barn area, so expect smells, sounds, and sights that accompany this kind of activity. Also, realize that some lambs will die, so there is the possibility that you might either see that happen or see one that we haven't had time yet to properly take care of. We certainly hope that isn't the case, but we don't want you to be shocked if it happens. Also, please understand that our first priority will be caring for the sheep, but there should be two of us in the barn which allows for one to be talking with guests. You will have the opportunity to hold baby lambs, if you desire. I probably don't need to say this, but absolutely no dogs, please. If there's anything you'd like to do, or try, or learn, let us know.

The farm is located at 12266 Cherry Ave., Rapid City. Directions from Traverse City: North on US 31 to Elk Rapids. At the stoplight just after the bridge, turn right onto Ames St. Continue on that road, which will become Cairn Hwy, throughout Kewadin, where the road will become Cherry Ave. The farm is six miles past Kewadin on the right. Look for the "Back Acre Farm" sign out front. Any questions, please call **Brett Pharo 231-564-1540**.

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Northern Michigan Mensa

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