



Borealis

The Monthly Journal of Northern Michigan Mensa



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May 2022



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Northern Michigan Mensa



Send address corrections c/o
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Borealis, the newsletter of Northern Michigan Mensa (Region 3, Group 496), is published once each month under the auspices of its Executive Committee.

The newsletter contains mandatory items; the rest of the content 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. Bad jokes are allowed. Northern Michigan Mensa recognizes that the newsletter is addressed to both minors and adults; material printed will be appropriate for distribution to minors.

All matters submitted to the editor shall be subject to editing for content, style, and space limitations, except that if a person submits material with a restriction that it be published "as is or not at all." That a person has written and submitted something to the newsletter is not, in itself, sufficient reason for its publication.

Submissions are welcome! The editor may even reward you with a coffee, or potentially another treat by mutual consent (bagels, anyone?). Members of Northern Michigan Mensa may send their original writing submissions to Borealis.

Please do not send the work of others unless such submissions are accompanied by written permission and release of copyright from the author.

Writing:

1. Writing you submit may be edited for length and clarity, but not content. This is the default editorial assumption.

2. If you don't want your work to be edited at all, you may submit it for publication "as is or not at all." It will not be edited in any way. If published, a note will indicate that it is wholly the work of the author.

3. You may also submit work that is rough and needs major editing. If you have written something but don't have time to polish and edit it, you can still submit it and, at your request, we will give it extra help.

All writing and letters may be submitted by email as an attachment or as the message body itself. Typed pages and letters can be mailed.

Photographs:

Photographs and other artwork can be submitted via email in JPEG, PNG, GIF, WEBP, or other standard formats. Flat art or photographs can also be physically mailed, but please do not send originals. Please label each piece submitted with your name and address.

Email: britajax@gmail.com

US mail:

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Northern Michigan Mensa Calendar

In-Between Bibliomensans

A presentation, discussion and social hour

May 4, 2022 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

Bibliomensans discuss 6 books each year; on off months we do other fun things. This month, Northern Michigan Mensa member, John Porter, will give us an introduction to the utilitarian uses of birch sap and birch syrup. After John's presentation we will have time for questions and socializing.

See last month's *Borealis* for more information. Contact Sherry McNamara at sherrymcnamara@hotmail.com for an invitation.

May 6-8: Mesick Mushroom Festival

<https://www.mesick-mushroomfest.org/schedule.html>

May 12-15: National Morel Mushroom Festival, Boyne City

<https://petoskeyarea.com/event/national-morel-mushroom-festival/>

Bibliomensans

Saturday, June 4 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom

There's still time to read the book and join us to discuss! Our book this time: [The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War](#), by Ben Macintyre.

"Ben Macintyre takes us back to the 1980s & the Cold War with his usual, almost schoolboy enthusiasm and his ability to give the human angle necessary to make you care about those involved. This is the story of an emergency escape plan by which MI6 planned to remove Oleg Gordievsky, a KGB officer and British spy, from Russia and spirit him away to safety in England."

"Ben MacIntyre is a fantastic writer and knows how to grab the reader... [A]s compelling and thrilling as any fiction book would be. Accurate and meticulously researched, ... not to be missed."

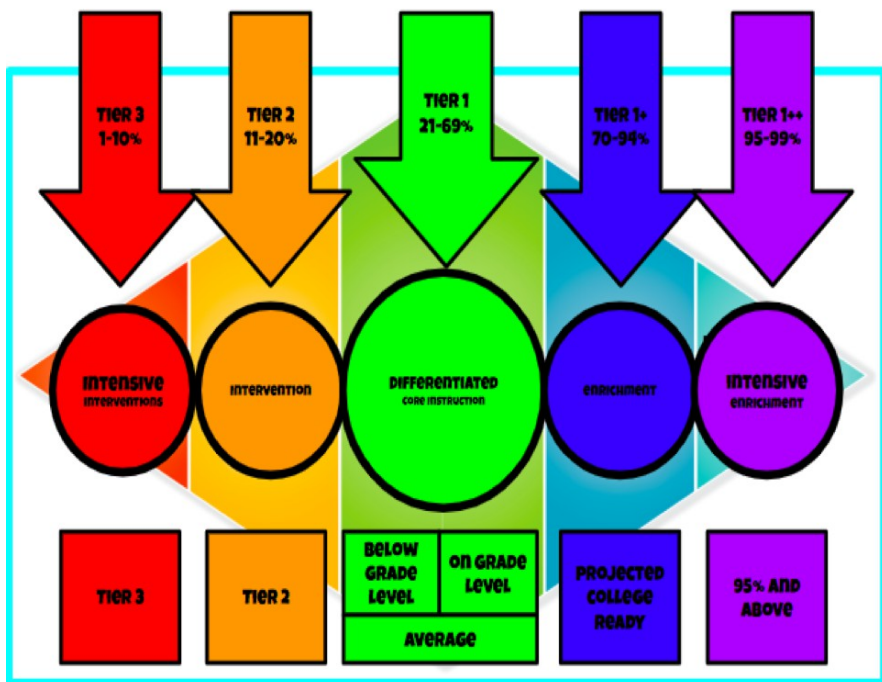
[Source: uncredited reviews from Amazon]

Report from MAGC Spring Conference

As I chat with Mensans nationwide, I find a common story: Can't fill ExComms, 10% participation rates, aging membership. Ms fear Mensa is moribund. There are hints and pockets of gloom, doom, resignation, but also optimism, dynamism, and potential allies.

In search of same I attended the 2022 spring conference of the Michigan Association for Gifted Children (MAGC). It's a mix of school teachers specializing in gifted education, along with some moms. They have a hard row to hoe, given that Michigan eliminated funding for gifted education back in 2009. But they soldier on, doing their best and apparently succeeding.

A graphic (fuzzy text, sorry) shows that smart kids need help too:



There is the possibility of rewarding work, as well as synergistic collaboration. There are grounds for optimism and cheer.

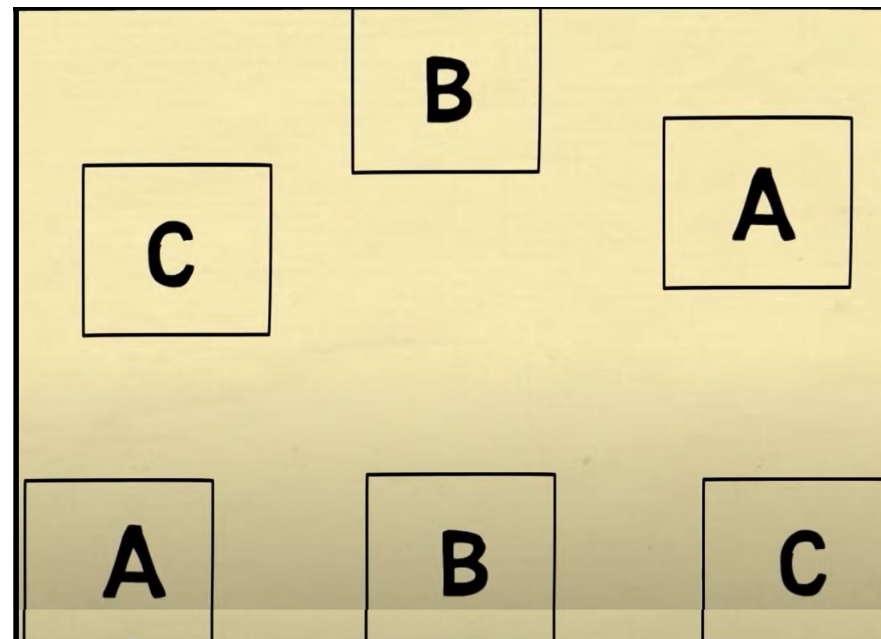
Directions

Connect boxes of the same letter with lines.

Lines cannot intersect, touch, or cross.

Stay inside the big box.

Yes, it's possible.



See next month's issue for the solution.

Jaeger Griswold attends Horatio Alger Induction



Jaeger Griswold (at left), Michigan's 2021 Horatio Alger Scholar, attended the 75th Horatio Alger Awards Induction Ceremony at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. He was invited to share his story of his accomplishments at the black-tie event attended by the 2021 National Scholars and approximately 500 others including Association Members, Life Partners, and guests.

The four day National Scholars Conference included a learning session, a visit to the Memorials on the Mall: Lincoln, Korean War, Vietnam, King, Roosevelt, and World War II. The Scholars met Horatio Alger Distinguished Members including Justice Clarence Thomas, Jane Seymour, Tom Selleck, Herschel Walker.

The Scholars were recognized for their determination to excel in academics despite personal adversities.

Jaeger is an at-large member of the NMM Executive Committee.

Official and Working Meetings

The meetings listed on this page are stipulated in the bylaws. Contact the Local Secretary or Deputy Local Secretary for logistical details and other information on how to attend.

Besides these listed here, there are many other meetings, for example those involved in putting together the Borealis. To find out what these meetings are and how to join them, see the Borealis, or contact the club officer in charge of the meeting.

All meetings may be conducted or joined remotely, using technological means such as video conferencing or telephone.

Executive Committee (ExComm)

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, June 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Nominating Committee

Tuesday, September 17, 2023 (first meeting)

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 (set candidate slate & report)

The Nominating Committee meeting times will be announced in 2023.

Quinoa Salad

- 2 c dried quinoa
- 1 c sunflower seeds, roasted, unsalted
- 1 c chopped carrots
- 1 c green parsley, chopped medium-fine
- 1/4 c soy sauce
- 1/4 c olive oil
- 1/2 c lemon juice - fresh, bottled, or a mix of the two
- 1 c cherry tomatoes, not halved

Rinse and boil the quinoa until done, about 15 minutes. Grains should be slightly chewy, not mushy. Rinse again to cool, drain.

Combine quinoa and other ingredients, stir.

Store refrigerated for up to 3 days. Serve at room temperature.

Variation 1

Peel, mince, and add in 1/4 cup of ginger root

Variation 2

Use 3 cups chopped parsley for a taste more like tabouli

Variation 3

Mix in with the parsley, or instead of it, other green herbs such as cilantro or dill.

Variation 4

Use lime instead of lemon juice.

Lorem Ipsum

I was writing Lorem Ipsum,
said a man out mining gypsum.

Filled my hat and breviary,
prime my seconds, tertiary.

Cats and rats and other specie,
consectetur adipisci.

Was it Omar (authored Rubaiyat),
said dolorem eum fugiat?

If no others will befriend us,
omnis dolor repellendus -

but it doesn't really matter,
voluptas sit, aspernatur.

– Anonymous



Mitchell's Musings

Change is inevitable. Change is constant - Benjamin Disraeli

There is nothing permanent except change - Heraclitus

The measure of intelligence is the ability to change - Einstein

As I write this, I have just endured a failed attempt to dye my hair purple. I should not be surprised: I have tried other brands, and other colors, but nothing seems to grab.

I'm sure people who know me are taking this in stride, but others may wonder why I, a 50-(mumble mumble) year old professional woman, am dying my hair purple.

I want purple hair because I hate my haircut. Let me explain.

I needed a trim, and, well, she took way too much off, and it's shaped all wrong. Others think it's fine. But I hate it. Because it doesn't look exactly the way it did when I had a haircut I loved, and it isn't what I imagined.

So rather than going even shorter - I'm trying purple.

I am unwilling to commit, though, so I didn't bleach it first. I just hoped that I could fix and make myself happier with a little change and a hint of purple. When you have dark blonde hair, that sadly doesn't work as well.

Now - what does this have to do with Mensa?

Mensa is going through changes. And to get what we really want, we're going to have to do it right. There will be things we try that don't work out well. Some people really like the way it was, but it isn't that any more, nor will it ever be exactly the same. Change happens, and some of it is great. Some is not so great, and will require a new level of commitment and even more change to get it right.

But I bet the result will look even better than purple hair.

-Lora Mitchell, Mensa Region 3 Vice Chair

Elected Members

Local Secretary	Leo Hesting	231-465-5111	leo@pevex.com
Deputy LocSec	Heather Hollick	919-360-1532	heather@heatherhollick.com
Treasurer	John Porter	231-499-9662	porterjm17@gmail.com
At-Large Member	Stan Cain	231-313-2480	sdcelk@yahoo.com
At-Large Member	Jaeger Griswold	313-690-4867	jaegergriz@peoplepc.com

Appointed Members

Membership	Jim McDermott	231-943-7792	jhmcdermott@yahoo.com
Ombudsman	Josh Ockert	231-288-0125	lee.ockert@gmail.com
Scholarship	K. Wregglesworth	989-370-4023	kwregglesworth@oacsd.com
SIGHT	Melissa Rennie	231-889-4198	renmeij@yahoo.com
Financial Overseer	Sherry McNamara	231-313-2769	sherrymcnamara@hotmail.com
Bibliomensans	Sherry McNamara	231-313-2769	sherrymcnamara@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor	H. Gruenberg-Seger	231-932-9501	britajax@gmail.com
Graphics Editor - Seeking volunteers			
Program Coordinator - Seeking volunteers			
Publications Officer Pro Tempore - Leo Hesting			
Website & Communications Coordinator - Seeking volunteers			
Testing Coordinator, Proctor, Proctor Coordinator - Seeking volunteers			
Regional Vice Chair	Lora Mitchell	614-450-0170	rvc3@us.mensa.org

Check out our website: www.nmm.us.mensa.org

On the cover: Marina docks in Harbor Springs, by John Porter