



# The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

Vol. 25 No. 10

May 2006

Several members of Boston Mensa joined Claire Natola to see Maine Mensan Barry Ribbons perform at the Comedy Connection at Quincy Market in Boston. Wendy and Tom Birchmire are to the left in the photo. To the right is Susan Engelke, joined by her granddaughter Kammie and Kammie's boyfriend Ken. We also celebrated Kammie's birthday!



Barry was great, and we look forward to getting out there and cheering for him at his next appearance!

# New Hampshire Mensa

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*MOMENTUM* (ISSN 0279-2850) is the official publication of New Hampshire Mensa (030). It is published monthly at 83 N Main Street, Boscawen, NH 03303 and is distributed to members of New Hampshire Mensa with the subscription cost of \$6.75 included in the national dues. Out-of-chapter Mensa subscriptions are \$12.00 per year. Non-member subscriptions are \$15.00 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Concord, NH 03301.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Momentum*, 83 North Main Street, Boscawen, NH 03303-1235.

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# Bauman's Quiver

*LocSec John Bauman*

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Even though the weather has been a bit peripatetic lately, I guess that it is safe to say that spring has finally arrived. There still do not seem to be many robins on the ground or bulbs in bloom, but the tulips and daffodils and crocus have at least poked their way up out of the ground. I noticed over the weekend that some forsythia in the neighborhood have bloomed and there is even a magnolia starting to display, so I will take these as my positive signs.

The new fiscal year for membership has arrived! We ended last March with a total of 515 members and the first lapsed member report received showed 99 lapses. There was a flurry of joining and rejoining in March again this year, due to initiatives on both the local and National levels, so we were able to close out the year with 524 members - a positive trend. However, the membership roster just received shows 87 lapses in New Hampshire and 34 lapses in Maine. I would have imagined that the database could be maintained in a basically real-time status, but AML staff have informed me that it is not possible for the IT department to sweep up all 12th hour renewals on the reports ending 31 March. Therefore, it is to be expected that the 121 lost members currently identifiable will shrink in the final accounting. I pass on this data to the general readership and leave you to your own devices as to drawing a conclusion as to what it all means.

May traditionally is a month that features two events hosted by Boston Mensa which have become old favorites, eagerly anticipated by long-standing members who have gone in the past. The Cape Cod Mini-RG (12-14 May) is a yearly gathering in Dennisport that features off-season prices in a hotel and less-structured activity as compared to a typical full-blown RG. There is hospitality (i.e., food provided), but there is no speaker program, so your itinerary is of your own design. As of this writing, the Boston Mensa website shows 61 registrations, including 17 children, so it is obviously a family-friendly undertaking. Walk-ins are always welcome; if you have the inclination, please consider joining the crowd. There are half a dozen New Hampshire Ms listed as going, so you can count on seeing some familiar faces.

The next weekend is the annual Spring Mountain Climb. We will be moving from the lodge in Woodstock that had been the destination for the last several years, and congregating at a place called the Winwood Inn in North Conway, purchased by a ski club. The homepage for the inn states that the building has been extant since 1863, with 23 bunkrooms and 9 bathrooms. So it will be much roomier than past digs and located in a different notch, making a different set of peaks the closest choices. If you have never been to this event, please do not be fooled by the name - climbing is definitely not mandatory. There are regular participants who arrive twice each year with no intention of setting foot on a trail, so you will not be alone if you want to attend and do nothing more than stay at the inn or go shopping. For \$60, you

get two nights' lodgings, two breakfasts and Saturday supper, so the value cannot be beat.

Two other events are scheduled for the Saturday of that weekend. John McGondel is having his first outdoor party of the season at his home in Londonderry. He started this series of barbeques in 2004 and the one constant is the group of musicians that he invites to come play. Not surprisingly, the band prefers Beatle tunes and they are without a vocalist, so if you have always fancied ratcheting up your karaoke reverie that one extra notch, there is an open mike waiting for you. For you Down Easterns, Bill Drinkwater is holding what is billed as his First Annual Backyard Mensa Potluck/BBQ in Belmont. Bill is a longterm M who rejoined in January after a sizable lapse, so please consider stopping by to say hello.

06 May is the deadline for receipt of your ballot in the election for Members-at-Large. To reiterate, the ballot must be received in Boscawen by that date, not postmarked. If you are reading this and have not yet mailed your ballot, you have failed to comply with the old Chicago ward boss exhortation to vote early and often. Please, take a minute to vote - my nightmare is to have the most popular of the five candidates garner 3 votes.

The first week of Major League Baseball has passed and the 5-1 start for the Red Sox is their best since 1999. But has anyone but myself and Jack Balcom noticed the Navy lacrosse team this year? I do not see them going into the last regular season game being ranked Number 2 like last year, since they lost to Number 5 Georgetown a few weeks ago. That dropped them out of the Top Ten in one poll for the first time in over two years. But the win over Number 4 Maryland on Saturday, with 8 seconds left on the clock, was outstanding. See you at the NCAA tournament? BEAT JOHNS HOPKINS. #



## What's Cooking in Region 1

*Region 1 Vice Chair Marghretta McBean*

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'Tis the Merrie Month of May! That Special Season of the Year - Taurus Time! To all of you, both April and May born, Best Wishes for a Happy Birthday! Special Felicitations are sent to Oleg Bayborodin and Lorenzo Perez (Boston Mensa); Jack Peregrim (Connecticut/Western Massachusetts Mensa); Traci Nagy, Salvatore Negri, Christopher Neylan, Fabian Binz-Scharf and Kevin Thompson (Greater New York Mensa); Marvin Murdock (New Hampshire & Maine Mensa); Harvey Nisselson and Alex Peters (Northern New Jersey Mensa); Jacques DuPuis (Vermont Mensa) all of whom were born on that Day of Days, May 7th. We are indeed Special People!

The AMC [American Mensa Committee] meeting (24-26 March) in Greenville, S.C. was a pleasure to attend: the southern hospitality offered by the Carolinian Mensans was superb and once again Russ Bakke chaired a civil and productive board meeting. A motion to have secret ballots was defeated; I personally feel no need to hide my vote, on any matter. More time will be taken to (re)formulate the mission of the Local Group Charter Committee,  
4 *Momentum*

which I chair. There were wide differences of opinion as to exactly what "clarification of the relationships between AML [American Mensa Ltd.] and its local groups" means.

There was a frank exchange of opinion among the attending RVCs [Regional Vice Chairs] as to how the RVC discretionary fund should be spent. Some RVCs spend little to none of their funds; others are broke before the fiscal year is over, like yours truly. Transportation expenses, RG registration fees, and hotel costs can quickly deplete an RVC allocation. I feel it is important to visit each of the groups in my region at least once; I was shocked to learn that many RVCs have never done so. With the news that the 2006-2007 budget has an estimated shortfall, there were enough RVCs who felt monies left in the discretionary fund should be rolled back into the general fund, rather than distributed to groups that had requested assistance from their RVCs. It is for that reason that no group in Region 1 received anything from me, unfortunately.

Several years ago, due to perceived member inactivity, Maine Mensa was dissolved and "rolled into" New Hampshire Mensa, with, as far as I can gather, no input from either group. While New Hampshire Mensa has done an admirable job of including Maine, I think that the 150+ Mainers should try to stand on their own again. Comments are more than welcome.

May 1st marks the beginning of spring for the Scandinavians, who spend Walpurgis Night (30 April) burning bonfires and singing songs welcoming spring. Beltane is the Celtic equivalent. Both groups have honey drinks as part of the festivities. Here is a wonderful recipe from an old Wiccan book of mine:

### Mead

4 lbs. raw* honey	Rind of 2 lemons
1 gallon water	1 oz. yeast
1 oz. hops	1 oz. isinglass**
½ oz. ginger root	

1. Dissolve honey in water. Add hops, ginger and lemon rind.
2. Boil for 45 minutes.
3. Pour into a cask. When lukewarm, add yeast.
4. Leave to ferment (about a day) and when finished, add isinglass.
5. Bung cask tightly. Keep in cool dark area. Bottle after six months.

\*Use unblended honey when making mead, and raw honey if at all possible. Unless you live near an apiary, the best place to get honey is at a health food store or roadside stand. If the honey has bits of wax or other particulate matter in it, that can be strained out before cooking.

\*\*Isinglass consists of collagen, which, when heated with water, yields a pure form of gelatin. It is obtained from the swimming bladder ("sound") of certain fish. Its fibrous structure gives it the capability of clarifying liquids, including wines and beers. ■■



# Executive Committee Meeting

*Recording Secretary Claire Natola*

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**Date:** 21 March 2006

**Present:** Bill Alleman, John Bauman, John Lewicke, Ann Majeske, Claire Natola, Tom Shiel, Mike Terrell, Ric Werme

The meeting was called to order at 7:46 p.m.

John Bauman reported a net gain of 12 members for a total of 512 (357 in New Hampshire and 155 in Maine).

Claire Natola presented a preliminary post-RG financial report from Darlene Alleman. The 2006 RG turned a profit of over \$1,700 and raised over \$600 for scholarships. Discussion ensued as to the quality of the RG and the hotel. We have received good feedback from attendees regarding the hotel. Any small problems that arose during the RG were quickly addressed by the hotel staff; we would be amenable to returning there for the 2007 RG. John Lewicke will take care of replacing the flat tire for the RG trailer.

John Bauman reported that Scholarship Chair Adam Freiband forwarded our chapter's scholarship essay submissions for regional judging. John asked the ExComm to consider awarding a \$500 Zanca scholarship and a \$200 second-place scholarship in total this year, because preliminary reports are that only two essays from all of this year's submissions appear to be stellar. A final decision will be made when Adam presents the final results to us. John reported that the \$1,000 pledged by a Mensa chapter in Georgia to the Zanca Scholarship has not yet been donated.

John Bauman reported that approximately ten people have tested since the RG.

A lengthy discussion about reimbursement of expenses for proctors who travel long distances was tabled until next month.

Ric Werme reported that we await a response from Dan Burg regarding our proposed Bylaws amendments. Ric will also be submitting to Dan another document that covers election issues in our Bylaws.

Claire Natola asked the ExComm to consider subsidizing the \$15 registration fee for Gifted Children Coordinator Fran Tishkevich to attend the "High Ability Children" forum sponsored by the New Hampshire Association of Gifted Education. Upon receiving a favorable reaction, Claire moved the question and Ann Majeske seconded. The motion was approved. Claire will contact Fran to see if she can attend.

Ann Majeske moved to adjourn. Tom Shiel seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. ■



# A Relaxing Game?

F. S. Fournier

I set my feet, adjust my grip, and take a mighty swing  
Unfortunately, on this round, good luck I did not bring

And so I tee another ball but stick with the same club  
While trying to give it my all I top the ball, a "dub"

Perhaps I tee the ball too low or grip the club too tight  
With all the things there are to know, I'm sure something's not right

On some holes you can get away with making a poor shot  
Of course, to me, it's only play - to others it is not

So when I miss an easy chip or pull a two-foot putt  
I don't allow my lid to flip like I'm some kind of nut

Yet I've seen people throw a wedge or putter at a tree  
Because they land behind a hedge then 4-putt a par 3

So if you want to try this game one thing always holds true  
If just for fun or for some fame; Patience is a virtue

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**WANTED:** All publications of Mensa, Intertel, I.S.P.E., new or old. Especially need all pre-1980 Mensa *Bulletin*, NH/ME/VT/MA local publications, registers, other paper material and pins. Wanted for preservation and access for research to members of these organizations. I will pay \$ for your items, but donations greatly appreciated. Help preserve our past.

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# Upcoming Testing Sessions

Tell Your Friends!

Information on testing and prior evidence can be found at [nh.us.mensa.org](http://nh.us.mensa.org). Anyone 14 or older who wishes to take the Mensa Admissions Test should pre-register with the respective proctor listed below, who can provide testing site information. The test costs \$30; a photo-ID is required.

Date	Location	Proctor
Saturday, 06 May 2:00 p.m.	Augusta, Maine	Scott Cayouette 207-649-1515
Saturday, 13 May 10:00 a.m.	Portsmouth, N.H.	Adam Smargon 603-978-4205
Wednesday, 17 May 7:00 p.m.	Nashua, N.H.	John Bauman 603-883-7494
Saturday, 20 May 10:30 a.m.	Weare, N.H.	Bill Alleman 603-529-4446
Saturday, 20 May 2:00 p.m.	Belmont, Maine	Scott Cayouette 207-649-1515



## Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. The solution can be found on Page 23.

©Puzzles by Pappocom  
(<http://www.sudoku.com>)

	3			4		2		
				7	5	1	8	
	1		5	2	8	9		
		7		8				5
9	4	8				7	3	6
1				6		2		
		9	8	5	1		6	
2	8	4	9					
	6		3				7	




## Notes from National

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**C**ontinuing with a series of enhancements to the AML Web site designed to improve your Mensa experience, we're happy to announce the expansion of our **online Games Room** at <http://www.us.mensa.org/games>. In addition to our old favorites like Malarky, Buzzword and Word Play, you'll find these new games with daily and weekly updated content: Sudoku, *The Los Angeles Times* daily crossword, Universal Trivia, Fence Builder, a daily jigsaw, Hangman, and Wordsense. If you'd like to share your likes and dislikes with us, or if you're a puzzle or game developer who is interested in providing content for our site, contact Howard Prince at [WebServices@americanmensa.org](mailto:WebServices@americanmensa.org). We hope you enjoy these new additions to our Web site; we hope to expand our Games Room to include member-to-member games in the future!

**The Mensa Education & Research Foundation** has a new, updated Web site with a new Web address – <http://mensafoundation.org>. This is the place to go if you want to get more information about the Foundation's activities (including the scholarship and awards programs), subscribe to the *Mensa Research Journal*, donate to the Foundation, or contact the Foundation about volunteering. We hope you find the new site useful and informative. If you have any questions about the Foundation, feel free to let us know.

**Two-for-One Testing:** During the month of June, we're going to make things easier for test takers by encouraging them to bring a friend with them when they test. And, we'll let their friend test for free! For any test given between June 1 and June 30, we'll administer another test (given at the same session) at no charge. Please let your friends and colleagues know about this great opportunity to join Mensa...with a friend!

**Join Costco and get a \$10 Costco Cash Card:** Costco Wholesale is America's premier membership warehouse club. From croissants to computers, coffee makers to clothing, Costco offers low prices on thousands of high-end, brand-name products and services for home or business at more than 450 stores worldwide. Further, Costco is committed to offering the best value to its members with a risk-free 100-percent guarantee of satisfaction on every product and every membership. American Mensa members can join Costco and start saving immediately with a \$10 Costco Cash Card! Here's the usual fine print: the Free Cash Card is available only to non-Costco members for their first year of membership. Limit one offer per household. Offer is nontransferable and cannot be combined with any other offer or coupon. Visit <http://www.costco.com/Service/FeaturePage.aspx?ProductNo=11116720> for more information and to sign up! 



# Walker - Texas Stranger

*John Francis McGondel*

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The father watched as his young son of twelve attempted to grasp a type of territorial board game dilemma. The father had long since given up any hopes of getting his son to use computers...

The father was a politician, and had secretly hoped that his son would follow in his footsteps. However, he had finally come to accept the fact that his son did not have the skills or mindset to carry on the family business.

The father was also aware that his son never forgave anyone for anything, and the father instinctively knew that a person with that mindset did not belong as an official in a democratic society. What to do?

"Daddy? Why do the American people talk so badly about the Gulf War and Kuwait and Iraq?"

The father thought for a bit, because even though his son was far beyond being a youth, he still viewed things in a simplistic manner. "Son, I did what I had to do to stabilize the area. History will prove me to be correct."

But daddy, that dictator over there is laughing at you. And why were you not re-elected so you could finish off what you started?"

The father sighed and rubbed his eyes. "Son, everything is not always black and white."

"Daddy?"

"Yes, son?"

"I am going to avenge you against those democrats and that dictator."

The father wondered how he could stop the ball from rolling, but could not come up with an answer.

The son won the next election, and then 911 happened. The new president realized that he could right all of the misfortunes that had happened to his father. Three wars were started simultaneously.

And the son, now the president, thought: "I will kill all of my enemies, and my father's enemies. I shall wreak revenge. For eight years I shall be as a god."

And the father cried silently to himself... 



# On the Scene at Granite Gathering 2006



For more photos, visit [http://nh.us.mena.org/2006\\_02\\_rg.htm](http://nh.us.mena.org/2006_02_rg.htm)



# Spring Mountain Climb

May 19–21, North Conway, N.H.

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New England has wonderful mountains, enjoyable seashores, and lively cities. New England also has Mensa! This spring, we combine the mountain part with the Mensa part for a wonderful weekend! This is when the cold and ice have gone and the bugs have not yet arrived. This is the best time for wonderful hiking weather. The mountains are there for our enjoyment!

After many years of alternate venues, we are now returning to the original theme - David Heimann's ski club lodge! He is a member of Skiwheelers Ski Club, located in North Conway, N.H. (see <http://www.skiwheelers.org> for further information). The lodge is a lovely 19<sup>th</sup> Century building, originally built as an inn. In the 1970s it was used as the location for the movie *Return of the Secaucus Seven*. It is close enough to the center of North Conway to be easily accessible to all the shops and activities there, yet far enough away to enjoy the peace and quiet of the woods, trees, and country roads.

The weekend is low-key and basically unstructured. The one major piece of structure is; you guessed it, hiking! We generally have two hikes. One goes to a mountain peak or other destination worthy of a good day hike. The other takes a few hours over easier terrain to reach a viewpoint, waterfall or other point of interest. Of course, there's also the "null hike," a short walk or drive amidst the new leaves and flowers, some shopping (North Conway has a few places!), or relaxing around the lodge.

The weekend includes two nights' accommodations, two full breakfasts, Saturday dinner, and snacks and soft drinks (BYOB for anything stronger), for just \$60 per person. Registrations without accommodations are \$30 (North Conway has various hotels and lodgings, as well as some good nightspots).

We generally pick out the hikes on Friday night. The mountain hike leaves right after Saturday breakfast while the shorter hike leaves an hour or so later. For Saturday lunch, the hike groups stop at a store for people to buy sandwiches and the like before heading out on the trail. As for the cooking and housekeeping, we do them cooperatively using a chore sign-up sheet, which definitely increases the feeling of closeness and camaraderie.

To sign up and reserve a place, send a check for \$60 per person to David Heimann, 65 Cornwall Street, #206, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. You'll receive confirmation and directions to the lodge by return mail, e-mail, or phone call. If you have questions or need more information, call David at 617-524-4531, send him e-mail at [heimann@world.std.com](mailto:heimann@world.std.com), or call Bob and Brendy Horn at 781-843-5581.

So there it is: wonderful weather, wonderful mountains, invigorating countryside, and Mensa friends, all in one wonderful weekend. Be sure to sign up early to guarantee a place! 🏔️



# Calendar of Events

May 2006

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5 Temperance League Cinco de Mayo	6
7	8	9 Ballot Counting	10	11	12 The Brady Bunch	13 Games Night
14 <b>Mother's Day</b> Second Sunday Bunch Brunch Sunday Puttering Time	15	16	17 North of Boston Dinner	18	19 Mountain Climb WinnipeSupper	20 Mountain Climb Rock'n'Roll Party Backyard Potluck BBQ
21 Mountain Climb North Country Lunch Central Maine Dining	22	23 FSM/ Business Meeting/ ExComm	24	25	26 Appetite for Discussion	27
28	29 <b>Memorial Day</b>	30 Dinner and Pub Quiz	31	<b>Many thanks to our event hosts!</b>		

Mensa members are welcome to submit calendar listings to the Calendar Editor (calendar@nh.us.mensa.org) before the first of the month prior to the cover date. ♦ Event hosts may petition the Executive Committee for funds to promote events via postcard to members within a proximate geographic area. ♦ It is NH/ME Mensa policy to avoid conflicts as much as possible, but no conflicts are allowed to group-sponsored events. ♦ Mensans, members of their household, and invited guests are always welcome at group-sponsored events. ♦ Hosts of home-based events reserve the right to restrict attendance due to space or other appropriate reasons. ♦ While our hosts endeavor to provide accurate directions, attendees are well-advised to use their mapping medium of choice to determine their own best routes. ♦ In addition to being proper etiquette, R.S.V.P.'ing makes logical sense; it helps the host plan for the proper number of attendees and allows you to be kept abreast of any changes or cancellations.



## Event Reminders and Feelers

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**The New Hampshire Association of Gifted Education (NHAGE)** is sponsoring a forum for parents, teachers and counselors on the topic: "High Ability Children: Seeking Balance at Home and at School" on Thursday, May 4 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at the Ernest P. Barka Elementary School in Derry, N.H. A panel consisting of experienced teachers of the gifted, counselors, and parents of gifted youngsters will discuss issues such as advocacy, ups and downs of daily life, and resources for support. Questions from the audience are encouraged. Fee: \$15 per person, \$20 per parental couple. To register, call 603-641-5839. For more information, call 603-456-2397.

John Bauman brings to our attention that **celebrity Mensan Geena Davis** will be appearing at Lowell Memorial Auditorium (50 East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-656-3238) on May 4th at 8:00 p.m. From the *Nashua Telegraph's* website: "Middlesex Community College's Celebrity Forum is an annual event designed to bring well-known personalities to the Merrimack Valley area. This year's event features award-winning actress Geena Davis, who is also an activist, archer, movie producer, mother and member of Mensa. Tickets: \$65 (premier seating), \$35 (general admission), \$20 (students, seniors). Tickets available at the box office, and through Ticketmaster."

**Cape Cod Mini-RG: A Whale Of A Good Time!** May 12-14, 2006. Join Boston Mensa for an affordable and relaxing weekend on the Cape. There will be lots of socializing shopping and, of course, our famous hospitality. See old friends and make new ones. Visit P-town, go whale watching, antiquing, swim or play games. This is a great RG for first-timers!

Hotel rooms are \$69.95. Send your check made out to "Corsair" directly to them at: 41 Chase Avenue, Dennisport, MA 02639. Make your reservations early as the Corsair and Crossrip fill up quickly. Hotel information: 800-332-2279.

Adult RG registration is only \$35 until 4/30; \$45 at the door. Children under 6 are free. Ages 6-20 are \$1 per year of age. Send your name(s), age(s) of children and a check, payable to "Boston Mensa" to: Chris Sullivan, Registrar, 214 Washington Street, #2, Norwell, MA 02061. You can download a registration form at <http://www.CapeRG.com>.

Scott Cayouette has purchased 23 tickets to the Sunday, September 3rd game of the **Portland Sea Dogs vs. the New Hampshire Fisher Cats** in Portland, Maine. They are in section 204 behind and to the right of home plate, the best you can get without season tickets! The price is only \$7 each until April

30 (after that it's highest bidder, so get them NOW.) First come, first served. Should they all sell out soon Scott will get at least another 20 or more depending on demand; however, these are all in the same spot, the next batch could be anywhere. Contact Scott Cayouette at [sacayouette@yahoo.com](mailto:sacayouette@yahoo.com) or 207-649-1515.

A new member from southern New Hampshire asks: "Do you like to do anything like **knitting, crocheting, quilting**, etc.? It would be cool to have a small group that did something like that while talking, watching a movie, playing board games, whatever." If you'd be interested in an event like this, contact Claire Natola at 603-279-9986 or [editor@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@nh.us.mensa.org), and we'll get something organized for all interested parties!



### A Sampling of Next Month's Events\*



Friday, June 2, 7:00 p.m.	Temperance League, Manchester, N.H.
Friday, June 9, 7:00 p.m.	The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H.
Sunday, June 11, 10:30 a.m.	Second Sunday Brunch Bunch, Nashua, N.H.
Sunday, June 11, 1:00 p.m.	Sunday Puttering Time, Waterville, Maine
Friday, June 16, 6:30 p.m.	WinnipeSupper, Tilton, N.H.
Sunday, June 18, 4:00 p.m.	Central Maine Dining, Waterville, Maine
Wednesday, June 21, 6:00 p.m.	North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, Mass.
Friday, June 23, 6:30 p.m.	Appetite for Discussion, Portsmouth, N.H.
Tuesday, June 27, 6:30 p.m.	Dinner and Pub Quiz, Portland, Maine

KICK IRBATCHAL by Mon Lord www.KickComics.com



### Sudoku Solution

9	7	8	7	8	2	4	3	1	6	5
1	5	3	5	1	6	7	9	4	8	2
2	4	6	2	1	4	8	5	1	7	3
4	8	2	8	9	6	7	3	5	1	4
6	3	7	6	1	5	2	8	4	9	7
5	9	1	5	3	1	4	8	7	2	6
3	4	3	3	8	3	7	4	8	6	1
8	9	6	9	8	2	5	1	6	7	4
1	8	7	8	3	7	6	2	9	4	5
7	1	4	7	6	4	9	1	5	3	8