



The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

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*Member Directory Enclosed*

August 2006

## An Editor Should See All Points of View



I am pleased to join you all as the new editor of this publication. Claire has left a big pair of shoes here, and I know I'll have trouble filling them. She is still working closely with me and Liz Modesitt, our calendar editor, so our first issues can get off the ground as painlessly as possible. So you shouldn't see many changes right away. Please note that this is the directory issue, short on stories, but rich in contact information. Enjoy.

# New Hampshire Mensa

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## Out of My Mind

### LocSec Claire Natola

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**W**ow! The months go by so quickly; I feel like I just finished last month's LocSec column. Time flies when a lot is happening in your Mensa chapter, and a lot *is* happening! The Fundraising Committee has already had its second meeting and is presenting several motions to the Executive Committee to get some fundraising efforts off the ground. I've never seen a committee work so quickly! One month into the process and already prepared to begin fundraising. Thanks again to the volunteers who serve with me on the Committee, and thanks to those who responded to the ideas presented in my column last month. We are open to still more comments and suggestions; contact Joe Zanca at [zanca@zancas.com](mailto:zanca@zancas.com) or 603-286-4157 to share your thoughts. The Committee will be meeting again on Monday, July 31st in Northfield, N.H. Contact Joe if you'd like to join us!

Several appointments of new officers were made at June's ExComm Meeting: Editor, Calendar Editor, Testing Coordinator, and Scholarship Chair. **Mark Becker** of Bristol, N.H. has volunteered to be the new Editor of *Momentum*. I look forward to seeing *Momentum* take shape under Mark's stewardship! You can still send your submissions to [editor@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@nh.us.mensa.org) and they will now reach Mark directly.

**Liz Modesitt** of Holderness, N.H. has volunteered to be the new Calendar Editor. It will be great to have a separate Calendar Editor again, to alleviate some of the workload for the Editor. You can email your event listings to Liz at [calendar@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:calendar@nh.us.mensa.org).

**Lynne Fox** of Tilton, N.H. has volunteered to take over the long-vacant position of Testing Coordinator. Our prospects will be inspired by Lynne's enthusiasm, and I know our proctors will enjoy working with her. If you have a friend or family member interested in testing for Mensa, please point them in Lynne's direction. Lynne can be reached at [testing@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:testing@nh.us.mensa.org).

**Ed Stevens** of Freedom, N.H. has volunteered to replace Adam Freiband as Scholarship Chair at the conclusion of Adam's term on August 1st. Ed and his lovely wife Susan have been regulars at the North Country Lunch and I'm thrilled to be getting to know them! Look for notification of the 2006-2007 scholarship essay contest to be printed in *Momentum* this fall.

My sincerest thanks go to Mark, Liz, Lynne, and Ed for their willingness to serve our chapter. It's exciting to have so many people jumping on board to be part of our new Executive Committee! If you'd like to become swept up in the enthusiasm and are able to give a little bit of your time to our chapter, please feel free to contact me at [locsec@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:locsec@nh.us.mensa.org) or 603-279-9986. There are all sorts of little tasks that we can always use a helping hand with, and we'd be appreciative of the assistance!

I'm off to the World Gathering in Orlando this month; I look forward to seeing some of you there, and to reporting to everyone about it when I return.



# What's Cooking in Region 1

## **Region 1 Vice Chair Marghretta McBean**

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Our region is still reeling from the torrential rains and subsequent flooding that have deluged it. Twelve New York counties have been declared federal disaster areas; more should have been, but I have never figured out who decides how disastrous is a disaster. Many of Binghamton's residents spent the 4th of July helping their neighbours clean out from under the soggy debris. Parts of Maine and Massachusetts, which had in May been declared disaster areas, were soaked again. Parts of New Hampshire and Vermont, while not formally declared disasters, suffered from flooding and unfortunately some deaths. Here in New York City the 150 year-old water and sewer system was straining. I hope none of you have not been directly affected by Mother Nature, and if possible, help those who have been.

Italy's winning of another World Cup is being celebrated here con molto giubilo. While New York has a large number of French speakers, most of them are from former French colonies with understandably conflicting feelings about France.

Because of the longer than usual time between meetings, the AMC (American Mensa Committee) met via teleconference at the end of June. The most discussed item was an AMC sense motion stating that access to the AML Forums does not entitle members to unlimited choice of expression. In some of Mensa's online Forums (Fora, for we Latin purists), a small but vocal number of Mensans feel that they are entitled to post anything, using any language, without censure. Attempts by our dedicated and hardworking Communications Officer, Robin Crawford, to establish linguistic boundaries were not taken well and some have vented their anger on her. As one of the minority who did not vote in favour of the motion, I feel that there is no need to reassert a position that has already been taken. It sets a poor precedent, I think, if the AMC feels it must formally defend an already stated policy position in reaction to member hostility. By appointing Robin, the AMC placed its full faith in her abilities to formulate its policies regarding print, online and other forms of member communications. She has done an admirable job in an area where it is almost impossible to please everyone.

It's getting to be really hot and no one wants to spend time in a hot kitchen. My summer staple is cold noodles which have been bathed in a spicy paste. These travel well and other than the half hour or so to boil water and cook pasta, it's a cool dish to prepare. I usually make 3 pounds at a time; the recipe is easily doubled or trebled.

## Cold Sesame Noodles

(enough for 1 lb. pasta: spaghetti, spaghettini, soba (buckwheat) noodles, etc.

3 Tbl. sesame oil

5 Tbl. soy sauce (I prefer low salt)

3 Tbl. rice vinegar

4 ½ tsp. sugar or honey

3 Tbl. sesame paste (tahini)

3 Tbl. dry sherry, sake or dry vermouth

5 tsp. hot pepper oil

1 tsp. hoisin sauce

1 ½ - 3 tsp. minced fresh ginger

Garnishes [optional]: slivered scallion (green onion) greens; toasted sesame seeds; roasted peanut pieces; slightly steamed carrot slivers

1. Using a whisk, mix ingredients together thoroughly in large bowl. Dump hot drained (but not rinsed) pasta into bowl and stir well to coat.

2. Serve cold or at room temperature, with garnishes if desired.

To see this and past articles visit <http://region1.us.mensa.org/cooking.shtml>

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# ExComm Minutes of May 23, 2006

## **Recording Secretary Robert Roy**

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### Voting Present:

LocSec Claire Natola  
Asst. LocSec John Bauman  
Sec Robert Roy  
MAL Mark Becker  
MAL Yvonne Crocker  
MAL Joe Zanca

### Other Members Present:

Publisher Ric Werme  
Elizabeth Becker  
Bromley Baril  
Lynne Fox  
Judi Shaw  
Donna Daugherty

Meeting called to order at 8:24 p.m.

### Chapter and National Business:

Claire reported we have 455 members; 308 in NH and 147 in Maine. Officer appointments, by motion and vote, motion having passed: Mark Becker- Momentum Editor, Liz Modesitt- Calendar Editor, Lynne Fox- Testing Coordinator, Ed Stevens- Scholarship Chair

### Old Business:

Rob motion, Yvonne 2nd, Joe Zanca to print Momentum for a 3 month probationary period, maintaining or improving the quality for less money. During discussion, possibly at 2/3rds the cost was pointed out by several present. John to coordinate the presentation of scholarships at an event. Claire motion, Joe 2nd, Motion passed, Free testing coupon to scholarship winners.

Claire gave an update from the ombudsman that anyone wishing to provide further materials or information to please contact Marty. Claire motion, Rob 2nd, Motion passed, laptop to Mark. Chairman of Fundraising Committee, Joe Zanca spoke of 2 more folks joining the committee and the next meeting on the 29th. Enthusiasm is high and the word is starting to get out.

### New Business:

AG Subsidy; Joe Motion, Rob 2nd, Motion passed, Chapter to give Loc Sec \$250 owards AG attendance.

Joe Motion, Yvonne 2nd, Motion passed, meet same place for next 3 meetings, re-address in August.

Motion to Adjourn made by Rob, Mark 2nd, Motion passed: 9:19 p.m.



## Upcoming Testing Sessions

### **Tell Your Friends!**

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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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proctor</b>
Wednesday, 16 August 7:00 p.m.	Nashua, N.H.	John Bauman 603-883-7494



## Notes from National

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The National Nominating Committee is looking for candidates to run for the positions of Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Regional Vice Chairs. Would you like to commit to taking a more active role in the management of Mensa? This could be the time for you to fulfill that goal. To put your name in for consideration to the NomComm, follow these steps:

1. American Mensa's Bylaws, sections 3-6 describe in detail exactly what qualifications are required in order to be an officer of Mensa. Check Policy Documents at <http://www.us.mensa.org/officerresources>. You may also want to review the job descriptions written by current officeholders. These documents are in the Officer Resources section of <http://www.us.mensa.org/amc>.

2. Contact someone on the NomComm to discuss running for office. Of course, if a NomComm representative approaches you and asks you to run, you should be very complimented. It means a lot of people think very highly of you and feel you would do a great job as an officer of Mensa.

3. Download and fill out a Candidate Information Form from <http://www.us.mensa.org/nomcomm>, and of course, use more paper if you run out of space. Most Mensans can write a lot about themselves and their accomplishments both inside and outside of Mensa.

4. Save a copy of the CIF for your records, and email a copy to NomComm Chair Stormie Kullman at [nomcomm@us.mensa.org](mailto:nomcomm@us.mensa.org), or mail it to Stormie's address listed on the form, by the deadline. Now, isn't that simple? All CIFs need to be postmarked no later than midnight, August 18, 2006. That means snail mail and email. Anything received after the deadline will be discarded.

The NomComm Assistant Chair is Steve Burnham ([AsstNomComm@us.mensa.org](mailto:AsstNomComm@us.mensa.org)); he can answer all the same questions and probably a whole lot more. If you have any problems accessing the form or other information, please feel free to contact Howard Prince at [howardp@americanmensa.org](mailto:howardp@americanmensa.org).



# The Alchemist

## Al Thomas

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The bond market always seems so confusing to almost everyone. It does look to be upside down. Why is it so? When an investor buys a bond that matures in 20 years he plunks down his cash, say \$10,000, and each quarter (or annually or as agreed) the bond issuer sends him a check for the interest. If it was 6% the bond holder will receive \$600 annually until the twentieth year when the bond issuer returns his \$10,000. Very simple.

But suppose the bond owner suddenly has a need for cash and must sell the bond. The bond issuer is not required to take back the bond until the 20th year. The investor must find someone to buy that bond now. Of course, the new owner will then receive the interest checks. The bond is still worth \$10,000 at maturity so it should bring \$10,000 on the open market. Or will it? Not necessarily.

If the interest rate market has fallen to 3% for this type of bond then it should sell for an amount that will yield \$600 on an amount of money at 3%. Now that bond is worth \$20,000 ( $\$600 / .03 \times 100$ ). Conversely, if the interest rates have increased to 9% the amount received from the premature sale of the bond will fall to \$666 ( $\$600 / .09 \times 100$ ). The bond holder gets less for the bond than the face amount, but the new owner will receive the full amount at maturity. The amount received from the sale is directly related to the current yield for bonds of the same quality.

As the interest (yield) goes up the principal amount the bond holder can realize from the sale of the bond goes down. As the yield drops the bond can be sold for more than the face amount, but will still bring the face amount at maturity. The amount of time to maturity is not being considered; however, the closer to maturity the more value the bond will have.

When an investor buys a bond he wants two things: safety of principal and return on his investment (ROI). There is no consideration for appreciation of capital. There are many types of bonds and they are rated in term of safety. The number one safety is the U.S. Treasury Bond. It is where almost every foreign government invests its money even beyond their own government securities. There are various rating agencies with the best known being Moody's.

Bonds are rated from AAA to junk with the latter being speculative with the chance they could default meaning you lose your money. Even better graded bonds such as municipals are questionable, but these and other bonds can be bought with insurance to guarantee you will get your money back. Most financial advisors recommend that portfolios contain a higher percentage of bonds as people get older. That is for the investor to decide.

*Each person must determine risk versus guaranteed return. Al Thomas' book, If It Doesn't Go Up, Don't Buy It! has helped thousands of people make money and keep their profits with his simple 2-step method. Read the first chapter at <http://www.mutualfundmagic.com> and discover why he's the man that Wall Street does not want you o know. Copyright 2006 All rights reserved.*



# Calendar of Events

## August 2006

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4 Temperance League	5 Gold Panning Weekend  Dinner Parish Cafe  <i>Taming of the Shrew</i>
6 Gold Panning Weekend  Salem Brunch & Tour	7	8	9	10	11 The Brady Bunch	12 BBQ in Mason
13 Second Sunday Brunch Bunch  Sunday Puttering Time	14	15	16 North of Boston Dinner	17	18 WinnipeSupper	19 Games Night  Boston Mensa Picnic
20 North Country Lunch  Central Maine Dining	21	22 Pre-FSM Dinner  FSM/ ExComm/ Buisness Mtg.	23	24	25 Appetite for Discussion	26 Weare's the Micro-RG  Young Mensans  Pool Party/BBQ
27	28	29 Dinner and Pub Quiz	30	31		