

# The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

Vol. 27 No.5

December 2007



## New Hampshire Mensa

**Send all correspondence to:**      *Officer Name*  
New Hampshire Mensa  
P.O. Box 217  
New Hampton, NH 03256-0217

### The Fine Print

© 2007 by New Hampshire Mensa. Permission to reprint material without a separate copyright is granted to other Mensa publications if the author, editor, and *Momentum* are credited and a copy of the publication is sent to the editor.

Material for publication must be received by the first of the month preceding publication and will be used at the Editor's discretion. Maximum length for the printed version of *Momentum*: 1,000 words. Longer submissions may be considered for the electronic version of *Momentum*. All submissions are subject to editing. Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. Submissions may be published anonymously or under a pseudonym if the Editor determines that circumstances warrant it. All letters received by the editorial staff will be considered for publication unless otherwise specified by the writer. Submission grants New Hampshire Mensa permission to publish in any medium.

Opinions expressed are those of their authors and not those of *Momentum* or of Mensa, which holds no opinions.

Advertising rates: \$30 full page, \$15 half page, \$8 quarter page/business card per issue prepaid. Short, text only, noncommercial ads free to members on a space available basis. The Editor reserves the right to reject advertisements.

Mensa is an international society in which the sole requirement for qualification for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any of a number of standard IQ tests. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization whose main purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. All inquires should be addressed to: American Mensa, Ltd., 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103.

*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. Email subscriptions are \$6.00 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Concord, NH 03301.

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

ClipArt © Microsoft Corp. *Momentum* logo by Matthew DeSmith



# Etched in Stone

## LocSec Deb Stone

---

As I sit and write this column, it is growing dark but it isn't dark yet, at about 5:15pm. That will change tomorrow. For the first time, Daylight Savings Time will end during the first weekend of November instead of the last weekend in October. It meant there was some light for Trick-or-Treaters a few days ago at least, but now most of us will be back to coming home from work in the dark. I know for sure that I will be looking forward to the point in time (about seven weeks from now) when the days will start to get longer again. I do like the cool evenings and nights though a big change from autumn in southern California.

Of course, by the time you actually get the chance to read this column, it will be the end of November or the beginning of December. Thanksgiving will be over and most of us will be thinking about Christmas (or maybe Chanukah, or some other holiday) and New Year's. Another year gone by; it's so hard to believe I've been back in NH for twelve months already. Do you have special plans? Maybe you would like to write an article about your special holidays for Momentum; we would love to give you the opportunity to share.

I want to talk a little bit about the upcoming Granite Gathering less than three months away now! We're at the Radisson Hotel Nashua (it used to be the Sheraton Tara) in south Nashua. We have tried to have the RG at this hotel in the past, but were never able to arrange it, so this will be a treat. We'll have all of the things you are used to seeing at the RG, from movies to games and tournaments to music to speakers to great hospitality, and much more. If you have attended in the past, you know what a great time we have and I'm sure you want to come back. If you haven't, now would be the ideal time for your first Granite Gathering!

One note: the hotel will be very busy that weekend. As usual it's both Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day (February 15-17), and I have heard from the hotel that they have another group in there for the weekend in addition to us. So make your hotel reservation early! If something happens and you can't attend after all, you can always cancel with the hotel. But if you don't make the reservation, you may not be able to get a room at the last minute at all, let alone at our special rate. So call, and make sure to ask for the special Mensa rate when you call.

And finally, as I ask pretty much every time I write a column, have you given a thought to how you can contribute to your Mensa group? Would you be willing to take on one of our appointed positions? Would you like to start a new regular monthly event? Or maybe just host a one-time spectacular? Would you like to contribute to Momentum? I speak from over twenty years of experience; one gets a lot more out of one's membership when one gets involved. Let's see how much fun you can have!

---

**Celebr8 2008 New Hampshire Beer Survey!**

*Please ONLY fill out this survey if you're planning to attend the 2008 Mensa RG in New Hampshire, and are 21 or older.*

BeerCan't stand it!    1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Love It!

Ale											
Brown Ale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cream Ale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dark Beer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IPA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Low Alcohol	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mike's Hard Lemonade	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Alcohol	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ocktoberfest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sam Adams	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
_____	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(Don't be shy, tell me what kind of beer you want!)

Please clip and return to:

Or email  
MensaBeer@gmail.com

David Melville  
161 Lake St  
Bristol, NH 03222

# RVChat

## Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

---

Holiday season is upon us; time to spend with family and friends. For many of us in Mensa, they are one and the same. As Russ Bakke has written several times in his columns, some of us are fortunate to find a Mensa family. For me that includes actual family, as I met my husband, Ron, through Mensa. That feeling of family extends further than to those I count among my close friends. I'm frequently uncomfortable when I walk into a group of Mensans that I don't know, but it usually only takes a short time to feel a part of the group. Walking into an AG or RG is very much like attending a family reunion. This past April, Ron and I attended the Toronto RG. Seven years ago we had attended the Quebec City AG and we have also met a few of the Toronto members at a NH/ME or Boston RG years ago. Isn't it amazing how you can walk out of a conversation and pick it up again a few hours, months or years later? Even those we met for the first time that weekend I now count among my friends and look forward to seeing them again. We always eagerly anticipate meeting old friends and making new ones at gatherings, especially the Region 1 RGs.

As for the rest of my family, even though my son Michael is not a member I'm sure he would qualify if he were ever to take the admission test. I joined Mensa when he was 9 years and he frequently attended events with me, especially games nights and house parties. He grew up being accepted and treated as an equal by adults. I was impressed by his ability at a young age to interact with these adults on their level. I believe a lot of his self-esteem came from this acceptance and having his opinions treated as worthwhile. I frequently wonder what would have been different in my life if I had this level of acceptance from a similar bunch of adults when I was his age. I definitely came from a family and a society that adhered to the principal that "children should be seen and not heard." What would have been different in my life if I had the support of a flock of accepting and stimulating adults? Parents, please consider involving your children in Mensa events. Some events are family friendly, others are appropriate for older children and, of course, there are gifted children's events in many local groups. If you don't have children, borrow a niece, a nephew or a younger sibling. Not only will the children benefit, but you may as well. Recently, my husband hosted a children's day at the Children's Museum in Providence and I had as much fun as any of the children. Five kids, ranging in age from 3 to 12, attended and I played and learned along with them. After a couple of hours, I was ready for a nap. I look forward to participating in future events and, hopefully, having the opportunity to watch and participate in the growth of these children.

Best wishes to you, your family and friends for a wonderful holiday season.

*Lori*

# 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 \$40; a photo-ID is required.

Date	Proctor	Location
15 December 10:00 a.m.	Bromley Baril <a href="mailto:bromleybaril@comcast.net">bromleybaril@comcast.net</a>	Portsmouth, NH
19 December 7:00 p.m.	John Bauman 603-883-7494	Nashua, NH

Due to the advanced nature of deadlines there may be other testing dates that did not make it to press in time for this issue. Please refer to the NH Mensa website (<http://nh.us.mensa.org>) or contact the Testing Coordinator (see back cover for contact information) for more up-to-date information.

## THE ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSTORE



**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.

Actively BUYING/trading collections/accumulations of old and new books, magazines, comics, sheet music, postcards, photos, prints, music CDs, adult/erotica in all forms.

Bring to The Antiquarian Bookstore at 1070 Lafayette Road (U.S. Route 1, adjacent to old Yoken's Restaurant), Portsmouth, N.H. 03801-5408 or call Walter Wakefield at 603-436-7250. New Hampshire's largest used/rare bookstore since 1973. Over 1/4 Million volumes in stock. Usually open Monday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. (Sometimes at club events -- call.) Thank You.

Paid Advertisement



## ExComm Minutes of Oct. 23, 2007

### Acting Recording Secretary Mark Becker

---

Voting Members Present: Anne Majeske, John Bauman, Mark Becker, Wayne Eddy, and Tom Shiel  
Other Present: Ric Werme

The meeting was called to order at 8:08 pm

John Bauman reported that we have 321 members in New Hampshire and 169 members in Maine, for a total of 490 members.

John Bauman reported that he had not yet received an email from Deb stating an agenda for the meeting.

As Walter Wakefield was not present, and no one present had a report from him there was no RG update at the meeting.

Deb had noted previously that Shawn Colby had resigned as Testing Coordinator. After some discussion Anne Majeske nominated John Bauman as Testing Coordinator. Wayne Eddy seconded the motion. After John accepted the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about reimbursement policies for testing, and to certify proctors. It was decided to table the discussion until a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm

---

### BANGOR FILM/BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

We're hoping to get some on-going activities started in the Bangor Area over the next few months. Our first offering will be a discussion group focusing on films that have been inspired by successful books. Our first session will be on "To Kill a Mockingbird" and will hopefully take place in January at Avalon Village off Main Road North in Hampden. Tentative dates are the afternoons of January 5, 6, 12 or 13, which are all Saturdays or Sundays.

If enough people have seen the film recently we can skip viewing the film and instead see "Fearful Symmetry," a documentary on the creation of the film. It will be helpful to reread the book itself as well as "Mockingbird: A Portrait of Harper Lee" by Charles Shields which offers additional insight into the work and life of Harper Lee.

Please contact me by phone (862-6475) or by e-mail (MartinLP@aol.com) if you have any interest in this project. If using e-mail please put "Mensa" in the subject line.

Martin Perfit

December 2007 7

# Good Wine Cheap (and good food to go with it)

By John Grover

---

Writing a wine and food column is a great excuse for trying many different wines. Clearly the joy is in the hunt. One thing that I try to do is to sample wines from grapes not broadly marketed in the United States. There are literally hundreds of grape varieties used for wine in Europe that are seldom seen in this country. I challenge our readers to go beyond the broadly distributed Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.

The wine for this month is a white, the 2005 Verdelho from the Stevenot Winery of California. Verdelho is a Portuguese grape rarely but increasingly grown in the United States. Our tasting panel (the Boss and I) debated this wine's characteristics. It has a nose starting with banana and perhaps vanilla and peach. The taste is clearly tropical fruit, both citrus and a hint of sweeter types such as pineapple. The result is a creamy lighter style that is perfect as an aperitif or with seafood dishes such as below. This wine or some of its Portuguese cousins can be found for around \$10 a bottle. I came across it on sale at a discount shop for \$6.

## Maryland Crab Cakes

8 oz. Lump Crab Meat (fresh or canned); 1 egg; 1 tsp. Worcestershire; 1/8 tsp. dry mustard; 1 tbs. mayonnaise; 1/2 tsp. lemon juice; 1 1/2 tsp. Dijon mustard; 1 1/2 tsp. melted butter; 1/2 tsp. dried parsley flakes (or a tbsp of chopped fresh if you have it); 1/2 tsp. Phillips or Old Bay Seafood Seasoning; 1/4 cup bread crumbs

Combine all ingredients except crab meat. Mix in crab meat. Shape into cakes (probably six). Pan fry. Serve with fresh lemon wedges and Tartar sauce.

I hope that you will contact me with your comments and favorite wines at [jgrover@berk.com](mailto:jgrover@berk.com). I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

John Grover is a member of Mensa of Northeastern New York. He lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.



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



Friday, 4 January, 7:00 p.m.	Temperance League, Manchester, N.H.
Sunday, 6 January, 12:00 p.m.	Boston Brunch, Bedford, MA.
Thursday, 10 January, 9:00 p.m.	Karaoke, Raymond, N.H.
Friday, 11 January, 7:00 p.m.	The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H.
Saturday, 12 January, 6:30 p.m.	Games Night, Bristol, N.H.
Sunday, 13 January, 10:30 a.m.	2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H.
Wednesday, 16 January, 6:00 p.m.	North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, MA.
Friday, 18 January, 7:30 p.m.	Winnipesupper, Tilton, N.H.
Tuesday, 22 January, 5:30 p.m.	Pre-FSM Dinner, Bow, N.H.
Tuesday, 22 January, 7:00 p.m.	FSM/ExComm, Bow, N.H.
Thursday, 24 January, 6:30 p.m.	French Film, Chelmsford, MA.
Friday, 25 January, 7:00 p.m.	Menstel, Portsmouth, N.H.

\*Events are subject to changes of date, time, location or even outright cancellation, as life sometimes gets in the way. Don't forget to refer to next month's *Momentum* for the most up-to-date information.

---

## REACH Parents Group

The REACH Parents Group (RPG) is an organization of parents with the mission of support, enrichment and advocacy for all students in the Nashua School District, with an emphasis on the educational needs of highly able students. Our meetings are held monthly in rotating locations throughout the Nashua schools. Each meeting features a topic of discussion, followed by an open discussion period for individual parental concerns. We attempt to inform parents of the latest developments in gifted education in the Nashua Public Schools via reports from District Gifted Education Specialists and officers and committee chairs. In addition, the Programs Committee coordinates extracurricular educational and social activities for REACH identified students, their families and friends during the school year. Any parent who has an interest in curricular enrichment or gifted and talented education is welcome to attend our meetings and participate in our organization.



# Calendar of Events December 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01 Christm- as Party  Deadline for Jan.
02	03	04 Dining Around Portland	05 RG Planning Meeting	06	07 Temperance League	08 Boston Brunch Bunch  Games night
09 Second Sunday Brunch  Candlelight Stroll	10	11	12	13 Karaoke Night	14 Brady Bunch	15
16	17	18 Pre-FSM Dinner  FSM/Ex-C- omm	19 North of Boston Dinner	20	21 Winnipesupper	22
23	24	25	26	27 French Film	28 Menstel	29
30	31 New Years' Eve party					

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.