



# The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

Vol. 28 No.4

November 2008



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# New Hampshire Mensa

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*Momentum* logo by Matthew DeSmith



# Etched in Stone

## LocSec Deb Stone

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It's the beginning of October as I write this, and the weather has turned (at least temporarily) into autumn weather. Temperatures have been around 60°F during the day and in the 30's or 40's at night. It's my favorite type of weather, especially when accompanied by the beautiful reds, yellows and oranges of fall foliage. Color should be at its peak soon in southern NH, and after last year's relatively subdued foliage season, it's great to see the vibrant hues of this year. It's one more reason I'm thrilled to be back in New England; southern California just doesn't compare.

Speaking of southern California, I did do my trip in September. I didn't win, or even end in the money, in the poker tournament but I did play for several hours and end up all-in with by far the best hand, which is all one can ask. There's nothing one can do about someone hitting a two-outer! And then I did win a couple of hundred dollars when I played later in the week - and the whole trip sure was fun.

This is my column for the November Momentum, which means that Pilgrimage is only a few weeks away. If you haven't registered yet, it's not too late to join Boston Mensa and scores of your Mensa friends ... or maybe I should say your Mensa family. And if you haven't ever experienced an RG, now is the time. Boston always puts on a good time, and it will be good practice for you, since Pilgrimage now means that NHRG is short months away. I'll be at Pilgrimage with lots of NH registration forms - look for me there!

Other Mensa news includes our success (I'm sure) with Mensa Testing Day in October, the kick-off of the new Scholarship Essay season and the soon-to-be independence of ME Mensa. The AMC is meeting next during the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of November, which should be the big date for ME. Of course, if you are interested in getting involved in the RG (February 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2009) please get in touch with me ([LocSec@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:LocSec@nh.us.mensa.org)) or with our RG Chair, Holly Green ([RGChair@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:RGChair@nh.us.mensa.org)).

A couple of other notes - we will be having our quarterly business meeting at FSM/ExComm in November, so if you have anything you want to bring up please come by. If you let me know ahead of time I can add you onto the agenda as well, or just show up and bring up your idea or issue when I ask for new business. And finally, FSM/ExComm will be held on **Wednesday** (the 17th) in December instead of its normal Tuesday - check the calendar.

Happy Thanksgiving!

*November, 2008 3*



# RVChat

## Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

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Happy Thanksgiving! Don't forget, November brings one of the region's favorite RGs - Boston's Pilgrimage '08 - Pilgrims' Progress which will be held November 21st through the 23rd in Braintree, MA.

Check it out on-line at <http://BostonRG.org>. Some of the activities to look forward to include karaoke (bring your voice or maybe earplugs), dedicated video game room, costume contest, open bar mixer (you'll find me there), games, tournaments, speakers and, of course, great hospitality. In case I haven't mentioned it lately, I met my now-husband at this RG back in 1998 - my how time flies, ten years already.

Last month's Mensa Testing Day was a great success, with 11 of the 12 Region 1 groups participating. I would like to extend my thanks to all the proctors and other volunteers who worked so hard on Mensa testing day and the rest of the year representing Mensa to prospective members. The majority of new Mensans come to us through the testing program, rather than submitting prior evidence. Most groups could use more help with their testing program. There is usually a need for more proctors and if you have a college degree, you are eligible to train to be a proctor. Even if you aren't eligible to be a proctor, you can volunteer to help out and be a representative of Mensa to prospective Mensans. Contact your proctor/testing coordinator and offer to help out. I was a proctor for many years and enjoyed meeting prospects and encouraging them to join the group. To this day I will occasionally meet a member who remembers me from the testing session and it still thrills me. Every so often my husband and I will show up at a testing session to meet prospects, provide hospitality or just be a spare set of hands. It's very rewarding.

Speaking of testing, American Mensa is offering a prior evidence special promotion to current and veteran armed services personnel. From November 1 to November 30, the \$40 fee for evaluation of prior evidence will be waived for anyone who submits their prior evidence along with a copy of their current military ID or a copy of their DD214 form. American Mensa currently accepts more than 200 tests as prior evidence. To see a partial list of accepted tests, please visit <http://www.us.mensa.org/testscores>. If you know of anyone eligible for this special, please point them to the website for information on submitting the prior evidence.

*Lori*

# Maine Mensa Update

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Hello Maine Mensans !

I hesitated writing anything to you at this point because nothing has really moved forward or changed. I am expecting to receive a ballot and a copy of the By-Laws to vote on soon by mail. Be on the lookout yourselves for the same.

I thought maybe you'd enjoy some recaps at this point - mainly (or Maine-ly!) concerning events and gatherings. We are trying to get some steady events in each area of the State. Sue Flaherty is concentrating on Portland, I am working on Brunswick, Scott Cayouette is in Central Maine and Martin Perfit is in Bangor. I honestly don't see how we can improve on that except for the once-a-year events some Mensans throw during the summer months.

It is difficult to have events in the Winter with the lack of activities and snow and just the general stupor than ensues. That may just be me. The summer has so many events scheduled for families and other organizations that it is difficult to get a bunch of people together, also. My suggestion to all of you (there must be hundreds) is that if you want to have something, and are going to do it whether or not anyone else comes•... that is a good thing. If you expect the attendees to provide the entertainment, you may be disappointed.

I am expecting that the Maine Mensa Executive Committee is going to have it's hands full this winter anyways. Since I don't know what I am doing, I expect that to be the case with the rest of the crew. We will make it through. Try to be considerate of that inexperience and cut us some slack when (not if) we screw up.

Communication is the key. Email or call whenever you want to communicate (vent). If you do want to know all the details, I can add you to the email •'short list' for minutiae. Keep in touch, and I'll try to keep you all informed of any 'big doins'.

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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.

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.

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A Sampling of Next Month's Events\*



- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday, 5 December, 7:00 p.m.     | Temperance League, Manchester, N.H. |
| Friday, 5 December, 5:00 p.m.     | First Friday, Portland, ME          |
| Friday, 12 December 7:00 p.m.     | The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H. |
| Saturday, 13 December, 6:00 p.m.  | Games Night, Bristol, N.H.          |
| Saturday, 13 December             | SSSecond SSSaturday, Brunswick, ME  |
| Sunday, 14 December, 10:30 a.m.   | 2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H.             |
| Sunday, 14 December 4:00 p.m.     | Winslow Supper, ME                  |
| Wednesday, 17 December, 6:00 p.m. | North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, MA |
| Friday, 19 December, 7:30 p.m.    | Winnipesupper, Tilton, N.H.         |
| Wednesday, 17 December, 5:30 p.m. | Pre-FSM Dinner, Bow, N.H.           |
| Wednesday, 17 December, 7:00 p.m. | FSM/ExComm, Bow, N.H.               |
| Friday, 26 December, 7:00 p.m.    | M & I, Portsmouth, N.H.             |
| Tuesday, 30 December, 6:30 p.m.   | Dinner & Quiz, Portland, ME.        |

\*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.



# ExComm Minutes of Sept. 23, 2008

## Recorded by Recording Secretary Liz Modesitt

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Voting Members Present: John Bauman, Mark Becker, Yvonne Crocker, Wayne Eddy, Ann Majeske, Liz Modesitt and Tom Shiel

Others Present: Elizabeth Becker, Lasse Pitkaeniemi, and Ric Werme

The meeting was called to order at 7:49 pm

John Bauman reported that we have a total of 523 members, with 344 in New Hampshire and 179 in Maine. This is an increase of 11 members from last month, with 9 members being brand-new.

Treasurer Wayne Eddy had nothing to report.

On the membership and testing front, John Bauman shared his recent test giving experiences. There is another person getting close to becoming a proctor in Maine. October has National Testing Day, and so far 6 testing locations are scheduled. John hopes to get this expanded to 9 testing locations before National Testing Day.

There are some issues with the website for finding a testing location for National Testing Day. Also, Mark Becker reported that he has not gotten the media package yet for National Testing Day from the national office. It was suggested to ask Marty Capodice for possible media contacts.

RG Chair Holly Green relayed information to Elizabeth Becker before ExComm. Elizabeth reported that there is a meeting with the hotel on or around September 29, and there is an RG Planning Meeting on October 8 in Concord. She and Holly would like to reinstate the position of Volunteer Coordinator for the RG.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors of the hotel are currently housing overflow students from U-Mass-Lowell. There are up to 240 students living in the hotel. They may still be there when the RG takes place, and this needs to be factored into our plans.

The Nominating Committee for National has submitted their slate of candidates. Lori Norris is running uncontested for our RVC Chair.

Turnout at recent events was discussed. John Bauman said that there were 22 people at the Fall Mountain Climb and 6 people at his Nashua Temperance

League. Liz Modesitt had about 9 or 10 people at September Games Night.

Wayne Eddy motioned to adjourn. Ann Majeske seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.

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NH Mensa RG 2009  
February 13th -15<sup>th</sup>

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For more info call Deb Stone @ (603) 856-7055 or Holly Green @ (603) 428-7267

\*\*\*\*\*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Registrar: **Deb Stone, 6 Fox Meadow Drive, Bow, NH 03304, (603) 856-7055, [nhrg@stonesrealm.com](mailto:nhrg@stonesrealm.com)**

Registration: \$60 until 11/15/2008, \$65 until 01/15/2009, \$75 thereafter and at the door  
8-17 years old, \$15 less than standard adult rate, 18-20 years old \$10 less than standard adult rate.  
Children under 8, free. Day rates available (please contact registrar.)

# of registrations: Adult \_\_\_\_\_ 18-20 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ 8-17 yrs \_\_\_\_\_ <8 yrs \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to NH Mensa – RG. Or MC/Visa # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Dt \_\_\_\_\_

Boston Mensa  
Presents:



## Pilgrimage '08: Pilgrims' Progress

**November 21-23, 2008**

We've come a long way, baby, since 1620! From the Puritans to the Patriots, the Bay State has seen it all. Come celebrate our history!

A Thanksgiving dinner is tentatively planned for Friday night; Saturday lunch and continental breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday are included. We'll have a costume contest where you can dress up as your favorite Bay State character from real life or fiction. Our infamous karaoke returns, as does our dedicated video game room! We'll have tournaments, puzzles, open bar mixers, outstanding hospitality, and much more!

**Location:** Sheraton Braintree Hotel, 37 Forbes Road, Braintree, Mass.  
Book your room with the hotel directly (781-848-0600; Mensa rate \$95).

View details and register online at <http://bostonrg.org>  
(PayPal accepted!)

**Registration:** \$65 until 10/31/08, \$75 thereafter or at the door.  
Children: under 6 free; ages 6-20 pay \$2 x age.

Questions or suggestions? Contact RG Chair  
Claire Natola at [mensabear@gmail.com](mailto:mensabear@gmail.com)



# Notes from National

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One of members' most requested benefits has been employment resources. American Mensa is currently working with JobTarget to create CareerLink, a one-stop online shop for employment postings, career guidance and more.

Members may apply for jobs and post their resumes free of charge. Both current and non-members will have the option of posting job opportunities for a nominal fee; however, this fee will be discounted for current members. And because CareerLink will be part of JobTarget's OneClick(TM) system, an online network of over 1,000 companies across the country, job opportunities will be varied and plentiful.

We expect CareerLink (\*[www.careerlink.us.mensa.org](http://www.careerlink.us.mensa.org)\* <<http://www.careerlink.us.mensa.org>>) to go live in early November, so stay tuned for more information!

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## Plates and Faults

©2008 .... By Jane Davis

If we suck all the oil out of the earth, will the tectonic plates squeak?

What if it's like a car engine... will the parts seize up without oil?

I mean imagine the friction from something as big as a tectonic plate grating against another... more volcanoes? Does the earth fling apart in assorted big chunks?

Seems to me the earth was working fine with the oil deep down in the ground... like maybe it was supposed to be there... retaining the sun's heat or distributing it or something....

What if aliens visited earth many years ago and decided we were a potentially dangerous species... could they have helped us along with internal combustion engines so we could destroy ourselves without ever becoming a competing force in the universe?

Maybe we were side-tracked from greater discoveries... burning oil is certainly not going to propel us safely through the universe, though I am sure a well or tanker explosion could blow several of us to parts unknown, in more pieces than I care to think about... not my idea of first class space travel...

Okay, it's obvious I am not a geologist but how much do those guys really know? "This is a rock. This isn't a rock." If they are still making discoveries (and they are) then there is little chance they can give us a final answer on the geological, let alone environmental, damage we do to our planet by altering its composition. It's obvious we recycle the planet's water and return it to be

*continued next page*

*November, 2008 11*

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Proctor</b>	<b>Location</b>
19, November 7:00 p.m.	John Bauman 603-883-7494	Nashua, NH
22, November 10:00 a.m.	Martin Perfit 207-862-6475	Hampden ME

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 inside back cover for contact information) for more up-to-date information.

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## NH RG is looking for speakers

Do you have an interesting topic or adventure you'd like to share? A skill to teach others? If so, please consider volunteering to be a speaker at the NH Regional Gathering on February 14, 2009. We'd love to hear from you! Please contact Holly Green, RG Chair at 428-7267 or [rgchair@nh.us.mensa.org](mailto:rgchair@nh.us.mensa.org).

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*continued from page 11*

eventually filtered back through the soil but we don't do that with oil... we take it out and change it to something toxic and ignore any consequences.

Okay, you can laugh at all this conjecture, but don't forget who told you so when the tectonic plates start squeaking under a continent near you! The fault will be all yours!

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# Calendar of Events

## November 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01 Deadline for Dec. events
02	03	04	05	06	07 Temperance League First Friday	08 Boston Brunch
09 Second Sunday Brunch  Mid-Maine Dinnah	10	11	12 North of Boston Dinner	13	14 Brady Bunch	15 Nashua Temp League  Games Night
16	17	18 FSM ExComm/- Business Meeting	19	20	21 Winnipesupper  Japanese Dinner	22
23	24	25 Portland Dinner & Pub Quiz	26	27	28 M & I	29
30						