

The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire (and a helping hand for Maine)

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June 2009



Several friends gather to wish Adam Smargon good luck as he gets ready to head off to Delaware. -photo by the editor.

New Hampshire Mensa

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The Fine Print

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Momentum logo by Matthew DeSmith



Etched in Stone

LocSec Deb Stone

I make every effort to get my monthly column to Mark (*Editor Supreme*) by the 1st of the month, and yet here it is the 5th of May! What went wrong with my plan???

It's just been a really, really, really busy few weeks. That "w*" place (a commonly used four-letter word) that I frequent between the hours of approximately 7:15am and 4:30 pm every weekday has managed to keep me from thinking about much else. I can explain a big part of it in five words – the Legislature is in session! Part of my job includes tracking some bills (ones that affect insurance and particularly Workers' Compensation issues.) I meet with people (legislators and others), work on language and offer testimony when appropriate. And it always takes longer than expected. One example: last week I went down to listen to the House Labor Committee "exec" a bill (that's when they vote on what they will recommend to the full House) at 1:00pm. At 1:30 they recessed for an hour after they completed the hearing on another bill that was running way late. Sometime after 2:30 they re-started a hearing on yet another bill that had been recessed earlier. So when they finally started the Executive Session and got to the bill I was there for, it was already after 3:30. So much for a quick trip to the LOB.

My weekends have been pretty busy too, with Mensa events, the Philharmonic, the Opera, a lecture, some family stuff. Not that I'm complaining of course – those of you who know me know that I'm much happier when there is too much to do than when there isn't enough!

So now on to Mensa stuff. Since this column is for the June Momentum, you should have already gotten your ballots in for the national election. I hope you all voted! Locally, for summer FSM/ExComm meetings I will be breaking out the grill after each meeting for a little "we've worked hard and talked lots, so let's eat!" • It's a great time to see what it's like to do the administrative/governance side of running a Mensa Group. Once you see how much fun it is, you're sure to want to get involved yourself!

Which brings me to my (recently) monthly request for volunteers. First, much thanks to Krista Katz for stepping up to be our new Secretary, and to Holly Green who is now officially the Chair for the 2010 RG. However, we are still recruiting for Public Relations and Programming and will soon have an opening for a Testing Coordinator. In addition, I know I can speak for Holly in saying that we are going to be looking for lots of volunteers for the RG! So please, consider giving a little time to NHM. None of the positions need to be particularly onerous, and getting involved is a great way not only to help your local group and to meet other members but also

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to feel virtuous! Contact me or any of the ExComm members if you are interested.

Last, but not least, we have lots of great events coming up this month. Check out a Temperance League, spend a day at the Seacoast and finish up with the M&I dinner in Portsmouth or maybe go to Sunday brunch. And don't forget Boston Mensa, ME Mensa and VT Mensa – more fun within driving distance for many of us. And have a great month!

Maine Mensa Update

This is it! Last Maine Mensa Update for the Momentum! Many thanks to NH Mensa for letting us use them for the last couple of months while we transition into our own newsletter. Next Month = July 2009 expect to see MaineScene in your mail-boxes. We will still be processing getting it into electronic/website form, but it'll definitely be 'our own' at that point.

Testing is going well. We have tested in Biddeford and Topsham, and have dates set for Waterville, Hampden, and Portland. After that array, we'll probably take a breather for the Summer. Anyone interested in becoming a proctor – give Martin Perfit (MartinLP@aol.com) a shout and we'll make it happen

Events coming are the Book/Movie in Hampden on June 7th, Mid-Maine Dinnah and Dine-Around- Portland in June, as well as "Camp –around- Leeds" with yours truly on June 20th. Subsequent events will be in the MaineScene as well as in postcards sent as reminders. Be on the lookout!

Thanks to all of you for making this happen so seamlessly. Thanks to Lori Norris, our Region 1 Vice Chair; thanks to the NH ExComm for helping us get more proctors and helping with all the questions; thanks to Maine Mensans who helped to keep this thing going without letting up. We have a special thanks to Claire Natola who put the idea in our heads that we could do this!

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RVChat

Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

Mind Games® was held in April and while I did not attend, I did recently play Dominion, one of the Mensa Select winners, and had to buy it for my personal game collection. A very enjoyable game and I look forward to perfecting my skill.

If you haven't registered yet for the Pittsburgh PA Annual Gathering, now is the time. While the main hotel is sold out, there are still rooms available at the backup hotel which I understand is within a 10-minute walking distance. Tours, dining plans and schedule of speakers are listed on the web site. Check it out. There will be tournaments, games, game tutorials, speakers ranging from A (Antarctica Touristica) to Z (Zen Meditation), the Mensa Marketplace and Meet & Greets (Region 1's Meet & Greet will be on Saturday at 4:30 p.m.). There will be music, hospitality and lots of other Mensans to talk, play, etc. with. There should be something for everyone. Some of the Region 1 local groups are planning on taking extra advantage of the AG. One local group, CT&WM Mensa, is planning a dinner get together the first night of the AG. Another, Mid-Hudson Mensa, is planning on holding a camping trip in Cook Forest State Park, PA on the way to the AG. Contact Bibi Sandstrom (bibis@juno.com) for further details and to make your reservation. Perhaps you would like to organize something for your fellow local group members. There should be a bulletin board near registration or in another prominent location and you'll be able to schedule a meeting time at the AG.

Graduation season is upon us. One niece is graduating from college (a teacher) and another from high school. Times may be tough but it is exciting for them with their whole lives in front of them. I remember that feeling upon graduation from high school, college and, more recently, law school. Now, I feel that way when taking on a new project or when planning a trip, such as to Ottawa this summer (including the Canadian AG).

I participate in several Yahoo! groups hosted by local groups in our region. Topics discussed range from Mensa events to political/economic issues to music. If your group hosts a chat group, join and see what other folks think about your pet interest. The chat groups are also a great tool for creating spontaneous events. Some groups have set up FaceBook groups to keep in touch and remind each other of upcoming events.

Lori



ExComm Meeting 26 April 2009

Recorded by Krista Katz

Meeting called to order 4:58pm

Attendees: Deb Stone (& sammi), LocSec; Wayne Eddy, Treasurer; Ric Werme, Publisher; Mark Becker, Editor and Member at Large, Tom Shiel, Member at Large; Ann Majecke, Member at Large; Yvonne Crocker, Member at Large; Elizabeth Becker, John Lewicke, David Melville, Holly Green, Acting RG Chair, Richard Londe, Krista Katz

The LocSec introduced Krista Katz who volunteered as Recording Secretary. The LocSec called for a vote, Wayne moves, Mark seconds, and the vote to elect was unanimous

387 NH members, American Mensa hit another record high in membership

Treasurer's Report – The chapter is approximately \$2,400 ahead of last year but there are still some outstanding expenses to be resolved.

Committee Reports:

Public Relations still open – may be combined w/ Secretary

Scholarships – two local awards to be determined after National awards announced.

Young Mensans, Membership and Gifted Children – no report

Testing – still looking for a new coordinator

2010 RG Update – Holly Green was unanimously voted as RG Chair. Search for new venue continues.

March 2010 AMC Meeting – LocSec recommended consideration of hosting an AMC meeting. The local chapter would benefit from added visibility. Discussion about offering a September date for a NH AMC meeting to coincide with better weather.

New Business:

Bylaws Revision – First draft changes for local Bylaws to more closely align with National handed out by Deb Stone. Included were language additions, revisions and new components. The LocSec asked the ExComm to consider reorganizing the layout of the Bylaws closer to Nationals so comparison/future updates are easier. The LocSec will have a second draft at the next ExComm.

John Lewicke puts forth the idea of moving to an online format for disseminating info on planned events and suggested new events/meetings. This will be particularly helpful for events that come up on short notice or are weather dependent. There is a Business Meeting in May.

Motion to Adjourn Wayne moves, Ann seconds, unanimously voted at 6:08

Upcoming Testing Sessions

Information on testing and prior evidence can be found at 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
17, June 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 inside back cover for contact

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.

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NH Mensa Online

Submitted by John Lewicke



Want more events? Want different events?

It's up to us. NH Mensa's website and other online infrastructure already have the capabilities. However, unless we start using what's there, we're going to see only the same long lead-time events that we already have.

If we want to attend or hold events that don't fit into the long lead-time Momentum calendar, we have to do two things: First, we have to sign up for the "announce" list (nhmensa-announce-request@lists.us.mensa.org subject = subscribe). Once you are signed up, you will get an e-mail notification of events scheduled after the calendar deadline. You will also be able to post event announcements to the list.

Second, we have to schedule some events. To schedule an event, send details to webmaster@nh.us.mensa.org. Your event will be added to the online/website calendars. Send the same message to the announce list, and it will be sent to everyone who has signed up. (Please keep the use of the list to announcements; we all know how irritating it can be to get lots of irrelevant e-mails.)

If you're going to be doing something interesting or fun by yourself or with a different group, why not add it as an event? If others show up, it will be more fun, and if no one else attends, you won't have lost anything. We know from SIGs that there are a lot of mensans who aren't interested in our usual events. More events, and different events will make NH Mensa relevant to more members.





Notes from National

After more than a year of negotiations and a five-day federal trial, an eight-member jury found in our favor that American Mensa owned the Mensa mark in the United States and had properly registered Mensa as a Trademark with the US Patent and Trademark Office. However, they did not find that Inpharmatica infringed on our Trademark with the use of ADMENSA on its software product.

"We are obviously disappointed by the Infringement ruling, however, it is noteworthy that Inpharmatica and BioFocus DPI ceased use of the mark in 2008 following the filing of this lawsuit," said Clif McCann, AML's Intellectual Property Counsel.

The history of this suit began in 2006, when Inpharmatica applied for a federal trademark registration for a product called "ADMENSA." When American Mensa became aware of the trademark application, it filed an opposition with the Patent and Trademark Office and began the process of negotiating a compromise with Inpharmatica.

For nearly a year, AML negotiated in good faith with Inpharmatica on possible resolutions that would allow them to use the name ADMENSA, including a modified type style to avoid confusion with our organization and our established trademark. During the negotiations, AML located evidence that it believed showed that Inpharmatica's use of Mensa was intended to draw a connection with Mensa. When negotiations failed, the American Mensa Committee agreed that there was no choice other than to file suit for federal trademark infringement. As part of this litigation, Inpharmatica formally challenged the ownership and validity of AML's trademark, and contended that rights in the mark had been abandoned. Inpharmatica's claims compelled a defensive response by Mensa.

Negotiations continued but were unsuccessful, and on April 27, the federal AML vs. Inpharmatica trial began in Baltimore, Maryland.

"Although we were unable to recoup the expense of convincing defendants to stop use in 2008, we feel that the practical effect of defendants' cessation of use will serve to put others on notice of the strength of the Mensa mark and American Mensa's determination to protect it," said Mr. McCann.

More information will be posted by May 10 at www.us.mensa.org/legalissues

Pam

Pamela Donahoo, CAE
executive director
www.us.mensa.org



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

By John Grover



This month we will focus on a wine (and food) for summer. There are a number of wines that seem to be just made for an idyllic picnic or for sitting on the lawn at Tanglewood while listening to the classical music and contemplating the stars above. This month's selection is from Portugal.

Vinho Verde is a wine made for warm summer evenings. This wine is produced in the Minho province of Portugal. Its name means "green wine", which does not refer to the color of this white wine. Rather, the name alludes to the fact that it should be consumed fresh and young. Vinho Verde is slightly effervescent and should be served well chilled. The high acidity of this wine gives it a crisp taste and makes it a good partner for chicken and seafood, either grilled or in salads. This is a very sensible wine for those hot days ahead, because it is relatively low in alcohol (around 8.5 to 10%).

Some of the good and affordable labels for Vinho Verde include Casal Garcia, Alianca and Aveleda. These brands can be found for about \$6.99 to \$8.99 a 750 ml bottle.

This month's recipe is devoted to the summer barbecue. While you are cooking that chicken or seafood, let me suggest adding some vegetables for the grill. Not only will you be providing something healthy to your family and guests, it is so good that you will think a plague of locusts attacked the serving platter.

Marinated roasted vegetables

Summer squash, zucchini squash, red and green peppers, tomatoes, eggplant and Vadalia onions

Slice vegetables into large enough pieces so they don't fall through the barbecue grate, marinate (at least an hour) and cook for about 5 minutes a side.

Marinade recipe (actually the "Classic French Dressing" from the original Fannie Farmer Cookbook,)

Ingredients: ½ cup olive oil, 2 tbsp red wine vinegar, 1 tsp salt, ½ tsp garlic powder and ½ tsp fresh ground pepper

I hope that you will contact me with your comments, suggestions and favorite wines at jgrover@berk.com. I will be happy to share them with the broader Mensa group.

John Grover lives with his wife Sharon in the Hudson Valley of New York.

***The Mensa Song* by Alan Marain** [Reprinted from
Forvm, newsletter of Central New Jersey Mensa,
March 1998; Judith Matray-Devoti, Editor]

They all say my gal is weird
But in my heart she is endeared
With books and journals she was reared
My gal belongs to Mensa.

(Chorus)
E equals MC square
Lepus is the common hare
Refraction is the cause of glare
My gal belongs to Mensa.

Mentally she's quick as a dart
I love her cause she's so smart
She told me we would never part
My gal belongs to Mensa.

Winner of all spelling bees
And she has lovely gorgeous knees
They all love her at RGs
My gal belongs to Mensa.

Math, chem, bio, English too
She solves equations, makes rhymes true
There ain't nothing that she can't do
My gal belongs to Mensa.

2009 INTERTEL Annual Gathering September 16—20, 2009
at beautiful Ogunquit, Maine ANNOUNCEMENT:

On the Ocean just 20 miles north of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, just off I-95, on US Rt. 1 at the Admirals Inn (see www.admiralsinn.com for photos & info). We are taking over the entire building known as the 'New Inn' with three floors & easy handicap accessibility and elevator. Beautiful rooms, all with queen or king beds, some two each. On site included: refrigerators in each room, some with fireplaces, jacuzzis. Also heated swimming pool, gym, laundry, AC/heat, kitchenettes in some rooms, WiFi, offstreet parking. Few minutes walk from downtown quaint shops & dining at many restaurants; as well as famous Perkins Cove with lobster boats, boat trips, drawbridge, cliff walk, art shops, etc.

Rates: \$450. double occupancy (\$900./room), \$650. single. Under 12 no charge if 2 adults in room. This INCLUDES 4 nights (ability to check in 11AM, out Sun. til 3PM!), ALL inhouse food (11 meals!) by our Chef & Hospitality Staff (as well as hot dish 24/5!), beer, wine, all non-alcoholic drinks; Professional Musician on-site (bring your Instruments, sing, etc.), all taxes. No other costs inhouse whatsoever. Premises in adjacent building has cafe/bar open til 1AM every night. We prefer attendees stay in the Inn rather than day-attend. Registration open not just to INTERTEL members; but, prospects, guests, family members and MENSA members.

Payments to: INTERTEL, P.O. Box 965247, Marietta, Georgia 30066-5247. Credit Cards: Send card #, Expire Date, Vcode # on back.

Boston's Logan Airport is 75 miles with shuttle service hourly via C&J Limousine (800) 258-7111 to Portsmouth; Portland, Me. Airport has twice-daily bus service 33 miles; Manchester, NH Airport 65 miles, no public trans. Rental cars available in all 4 cities by multiple facilities.

Produced by Walter Wakefield, Region 2 Director for INTERTEL.
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Lafayette Rd., Portsmouth, NH 03801-5408.

We look forward to seeing you!

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For more events, and the most up to date information, check our
 online calendar at: <http://nh.us.mensa.org/cal/webcal.htm>



Calendar of Events

June 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01 Deadline for July events	02	03	04	05 Temperance League	06
07	08	09	10	11	12 Japanese Dinner	13 Games Night
14 Second Sunday Brunch Mid-Maine Dinnah	15	16	17	18	19 Winnipesupper	20 Nashua Tempera- nce VT Brunch ME Potluck
21 FSM/ ExComm	22	23	24	25	26 M & I	27
28	29	30				