

The Voice of Mensa in New Hampshire and Maine

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New Hampshire Mensa

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The Fine Print

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Etched in Stone

LocSec Deb Stone

First, let me say thank you to all of you who took part in our recent election by casting your votes. And of course, my thanks to those who voted for me, for allowing me the chance to serve as LocSec for another two years. There are things I want to do for and with the group, and we'll talk more about them over the coming months. In the meantime, we're lucky to have the same members back on the ExComm, giving us some continuity as we keep working for the group.

Those of you who read Momentum regularly know that the ME chapter of our group is working toward breaking off to be an independent group again. If you are member of the ME contingent, and you are ready, willing and able to help out in this effort, get in touch with Anne Allen or one of the ME members working on the effort. Or let me (or any other member of the ExComm) know and we'll put you in touch with the right person. There's lots to do and I'm sure you can contribute!

There's a change for FSM/ExComm this month only. As we sat at the meeting in May, we were lamenting the fact that there wasn't really any kind of party/barbecue opportunity in the offing for July. Add to this the fact that the ExComm meeting would normally fall only two days after my return from a 10-day trip to the west coast and Hawaii (I lead a tough life!) So I, being as crazy as I usually am, offered to move FSM/ExComm to Saturday, July 26th and combine it with a summer party/barbecue. We'll start the newsletter and meeting part at about 2pm, and then have a party afterward. Check the calendar for details – but come on by! Here's your chance to see how the ExComm works and actually have some fun at the same time.

NHRG 2009 Update: We're official - Holly Green has been named the chair of the 2009 RG. The theme of the RG will be 'Love Potion #9, A Mix of Magic and Romance'. As I noted last month, we will be back at the Radisson Nashua (where we were this year) for the weekend of February 13-15, 2009. You can make hotel reservations as soon as you want, and I'm happy to take RG registrations whenever you are ready. We'll post an early registration flyer on our website as soon as possible, so it should be available by the time you see this. Most of the positions as committee heads are already filled, but we will be looking for additional volunteers – let Holly or me know if you would like to help out.

Have a great 4th of July, and I'll hope to see many of you on the 26th!

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I guess that's about it for this month. I'm hoping that the outcome of the election gives me the opportunity to keep writing these LocSec columns. If not, however, thanks for everything!

Maine Mensa Update

Hello Maine Mensans !

Our rebirth should happen sometime late in the year, hopefully by the AMC meeting on November 8th. That is the goal.

Three By-Laws meetings took place in May, and were attended by three steadfast people (Jason Raven, Scott Cayouette, and myself) as well as two other contributors (Gerald Nessmann and Ken Olson). Other Maine members contributed through emails. They responded to questions we had about elections and terms of office. Many thanks to all! I am sending the By-Laws to Lori Norris this week for her to forward on to Corporate.

Our next step is to identify people who would like to hold either elected or appointed positions within Maine Mensa. The balloting for the elected positions will take place at the same time as the By-Laws voting – by mail. Elected Officers in our By-Laws are: LocSec; Assistant LocSec; Treasurer; and 1 At-Large member. The rest of the positions are appointed and none are voting positions.

One of the best provisions in our By-Laws is the availability for attendance at the ExComm meetings by electronic medium. That means - you can be an elected official and attend the meetings by some form of communication. Since we're planning on having at least 1 meeting per year in Bangor, even an outlying member can be an elected or appointed officer.

Lori Norris will be appointing Sue Flaherty (Portland Area Coordinator) to be our Acting Scholarship Chair so all of the scholarship contests are available to Maine folks during this transition period.

It is a very exciting time to be a part of Maine Mensa. If you want to be on the 'Short List' emails, let me know. If you want to make sure your email address is correct so you can at least be on the 'Update List, contact me also. Wooooo Hooooooo !!

Anne W. Allen
Maine Mensa Acting Loc Sec
locsec@maine.us.mensa.org (I am impressed with this one!)



RVChat

Region 1 Vice Chair Lori Norris

\$4.01⁹ – the price of a gallon of gas this morning. And we're planning on beginning our coast-to-coast driving trip in less than three weeks. What are the odds that the high gas prices will keep everyone else off the road and away from the tourist attractions we want to visit? One can always hope.

Ron and I and other Mensan friends are looking forward to the Denver Annual Gathering – so many things to do, games to play (maybe some of the new MindGame winners), speakers to enjoy and learn from, old friends to catch up with, and many new friends to meet and get to know. The AG will be five days filled packed with activities, if it is anything like last year's AG we'll need a couple of days to recuperate. But since we'll be leaving from the AG to do some camping in the Rockies, I'm sure we'll be able to find some time for relaxing. A good book and a hammock will solve this problem.

During our summer trip, I'm hoping to attend a few Mensa events around the country. I've been checking out a few local group calendars and newsletters and it appears that we may be able to hit a games night at the end of June and hopefully a couple of events in July, haven't really seen much for August yet. And then we hope to finish up August by visiting Mensa friends near Montreal (and maybe Toronto) before heading to Tanglewood for Beethoven's Symphony No. 9.

With this column I mark one full year as your RVC. For the most part it has been a very rewarding job. With help from many volunteers, a successful Leadership Development Workshop has been held and another is in the planning stages for fall 2009 hosted by Mensa of Northeastern New York. I've attended three RGs at which I've hosted RVC rap sessions and had surprisingly large and inquisitive audiences. We've begun the process of separating Maine Mensa from New Hampshire Mensa and I along with many members look forward to completing the process later this year. I have had the opportunity to meet many of you at RGs or other events or via e-mail and have enjoyed those occasions. However, it has not been a complete bed of roses. There have been a few problems which I have worked on with local members. Serving on the American Mensa Committee (AMC) over the past year has also brought challenges and delights. I look forward to the remaining year of this term and, hopefully, to a second term (2009 election).

Happy Fourth of July to you and enjoy your summer.

Lori

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Upcoming Testing Sessions

Tell Your Friends!

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
16, July 7:00 p.m.	John Bauman 603-883-7494	Nashua, NH
17, July 6:30 p.m.	Bromley Baril bromleybaril@comcast.net	Portsmouth, NH*
19, July 10:30 a.m.	Bill Alleman 603-529-4446	Weare, 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.

*Checks, or charge cards only in this location, please.



A Sampling of Next Month's Events*

Friday, 1 August, 7:00 p.m.	Temperance League, Manchester, N.H.
Friday, 1 August, 5:00 p.m.	First Friday, Portland, ME
Friday, 8 August, 7:00 p.m.	The Brady Bunch, Peterborough, N.H.
Saturday, 9 August, 10:00 a.m.	SSSecond SSSaturday, Gray, ME
Saturday, 9 August, 6:00 p.m.	Road Rally, Northfield, N.H.
Sunday, 10 August 4:00 p.m.	Winslow Supper, ME.
Sunday, 10 August, 10:30 a.m.	2nd Sunday Brunch, N.H
Wednesday, 13 August, 6:00 p.m.	North of Boston Dinner, Peabody, MA
Saturday, 16 August, 12:00 p.m.	Weare's the Micro RG, N.H.
Tuesday, 19 August, 5:30 p.m.	Pre-FSM Dinner, Bow, N.H.
Tuesday, 19 August, 7:00 p.m.	FSM/ExComm, Bow, N.H
Friday, 22 August, 7:00 p.m.	Menstel, Portsmouth, N.H.
Saturday, 23 August, 10:00 a.m.	Impolite Company, Durham, ME
Tuesday, 26 August, 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 May 20, 2008

Recording Secretary Liz Modesitt

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

Others Present: Elizabeth Becker, Richard Conde, Holly Green, David Melville, Walter Wakefield, and Ric Werme

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

There are 317 members in New Hampshire and 160 in Maine, for a total of 477 members. Last year at this time we had a total of 556 members, so Mark Becker is going to come up with a postcard for a min-June mailing to try and get people back.

Wayne Eddy reported that the Nashua Radisson has been paid a deposit for the 2008 RG.

There has been no recent contact with Young M's chairperson Tyler Doherty – we need to find out what is going on with him.

There were 165 scholarship entries, of which 15 were disqualified. There were three winners at the national/regional level. Two were from Maine and one was from New Hampshire.

Deb Stone has the top three local scoring essays, and there is no overlap between them and the national/regional winners. A motion was introduced to award the top local scholarship a \$500 Joe Zanca Scholarship and the second place one \$200, but it was tabled pending finding out how big the gap was between the second place and third place essays.

Frank Matranga has agreed to be Scholarship Chairperson for next year.

On the membership front, 58 members lapsed in New Hampshire and 28 lapsed in Maine. Officer Marty Capodice lapsed, but will be renewing.

John Bauman reported on recent testing and the proctor situation. Liz Modesitt agreed to look into becoming a proctor.

John Bauman and Wayne Eddy shared what they learned from the recent LDW in Rhode Island, as did Holly Green.

A motion was introduced by Anne Majeske to grant Holly Green the same LDW subsidy that John Bauman and Wayne Eddy received. Deb Stone seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

Holly Green presented her proposal for the 2009 RG, with a theme of "Love Potion Number Nine". Wayne Eddy motioned to confirm Holly as RG Chairperson. Mark Becker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There were a reasonable number of Mensa Admissions Tests given during the month of May, so our region may have a chance of winning the contest for largest testing increase from May 2007.

The Mensa Canada AG is June 26, 2008 to June 29, 2008.

The subject of where to have the July and August ExComm meetings was discussed. Liz Modesitt motioned that the July FSM/ExComm be in conjunction with a cookout party at Deb Stone's on Saturday July 26. Tom Shiel seconded the motion, and it passed with two abstentions.

Anne Majeske motioned to adjourn, and Mark Becker seconded the motion. The ExComm meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.



Business Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2008

Recording Secretary Liz Modesitt

The Business Meeting was called to order at 9:21pm

There was no old business. In new business, Deb Stone won the election for Loc Sec and the Members-at-Large are Mark Becker, Yvonne Crocker, Anne Majeske, and Tom Shiel.

Three ballots were disqualified and one person submitted two ballots. The Committee took the ballot with the most recent postmark for that person. There were a total of fifty counted ballots.

Sue Barnes, Adam Smargon, and Ric Werme performed the ballot counting, and Jim Barnes was also present.

The issue of photocopied ballots being sent to people with prepaid postage was discussed, and the issue of the security of the ballots was raised.

Wayne Eddy motioned to adjourn, and Tom Shiel seconded. It passed unanimously, and the Business Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.



Letters & Emails

MOMENTUM
83 N Main St.
Boscawen, NH 03303-1235

Tried it, Liked it

As a new member looking for Mensa events to enrich my calendar, I checked out Menstel at Momma D's in Portsmouth. I found half a dozen affable, interesting members enjoying rich, lively conversation and good Italian food. I'm making Menstel a regular event on my calendar, and encourage others to sample the companionship as well.

Charles Rankowski

Charles,

It's always good to hear of people enjoying our events. While it is out of my travel distance I've heard good things about this event. Due to name usage guidelines the event has changed titles starting this month. M&I will continue at Momma D's, so please continue to come and participate.

Editor

The following is a letter recieved by Walter Wakefield the talk he led at the recent Leadership Development Workshop, who passed it on to me to reprint.

Editor

Dear Walter,

I was at your 5/3 RG presentation at the LDW in Warwick RI. I not only learned a lot, but I enjoyed it very much. You did a good job and I passed on a few tips to Joe Lynch, our 2008 RG Chair, as well as your contact info, should he be in need of some advice.

I had only met you the few times you made it to MensAutumn in Connecticut and only saw the quiet attendee, and last time, the humble candidate. In sharing your experience as a successful RG Chair of several events, you really shone. It was nice to see this side of you and got me really tempted to attend the New Hampshire event next year.

Now, I'm getting to the most important purpose of this email, which is to wish you a Very Happy Birthday on 5/19. Go and spoil yourself.

I hope you make it to our MensAutumn 2008. If you decide to join us, you should know that the lower fee is in effect until 5/31.

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Until next time, regards and best wishes.

Nicole Michaud
Speakers Chair, MensAutumn 2008, C&WM Mensa

It is always great to see our members active outside our local group. After all we already know how great we are, let's share.

For anyone who is interested in MensAutumn, there is still a reduced rate in effect (\$65 until the end of August). More details can be found at the Conn. and Western Mass. website: www.cwm.us.mensa.org.

Editor

This was received by our webmaster and forwarded to me.

The Greater Manchester Alliance for the Gifted

"We are a group of parents from The Greater Manchester Alliance for the Gifted in the exploratory stage of creating a private school. We see a need for an elementary school for the gifted community in the Greater Manchester Area and are looking for individuals interesting in participating in the planning and development. If we can build a team of individuals with the skills and resources to found such a school, then we will proceed.

Please RSVP to info@allianceforthegifted.org if you would be interested in working on the start-up, or simply interested in sending your child to a private elementary school for the gifted in the Manchester area."



Notes from National

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.

The national Nominating Committee (NomComm) is looking for qualified candidates to run for the elected positions on the American Mensa Committee. This includes the Chairman, the First Vice Chairman, the Second Vice Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and 10 Regional Vice Chairmen.

Instructions on completing a Candidate Information Form, relevant Bylaws and ASIES, and job descriptions are available on the American Mensa Web site in the Members section (<http://www.us.mensa.org/members>). The NomComm information is the first article listed on that page.

Please contact Nominations Committee Chair Susan Heimlich at NomComm@us.mensa.org if you have questions regarding the nomination process.

Howard Prince

Perfectionism

by Fran Tishkevich

If I only try hard enough...

Linda K. Silverman, a well-known researcher in the field of giftedness, has compiled the following points about perfectionism and giftedness, presented at the 11th World Conference on Gifted and Talented Children. Many Mensans will identify with one or more of her points.

The draw to perfectionism is a natural attraction.

- Gifted children tend to set standards for themselves with regard to their mental age, rather than their chronological age.
- Because G.C.'s often have friends older than themselves, they tend to set standards appropriate for those older than their age mates.
- Many G.C.'s experience academic success with little effort. Thus, they come to expect success and fear failure due to their lack of experience with it.
- When school work is not challenging to the G.C., often the only challenge they can create for themselves is to produce all of their work perfectly.
- G. C.'s have insight beyond their years. They can grasp the concept of what "ought to be" in relation to "what is." This may increase their perfectionistic tendencies.

As former gifted kids, many of us remember always striving for excellence. Did we use that trait wisely, or not? For those of use with children, watching them struggle with the same trait can cause us some concern. Fortunately, striving for excellence is a normal part of development. However, there is a difference between excellence and perfection.

Those who enjoy reaching for excellence, while still recognizing and accepting their individual limitations are experiencing healthy emotional development. Those who have unrealistic expectations, are never satisfied with their performance and who measure their worth in terms of productivity and accomplishment, may need assistance to focus on intellectual and personal growth rather than perfect performance.

Parents and teachers can help these kids choose, plan, reach and evaluate realistic goals. A supportive and nurturing environment can create a kid centered atmosphere where there is an expectation that mistakes are an essential part of the learning process. Perfectionistic students can be encouraged to pursue high achievement, but in a more realistic and productive manner. Their focus can be redirected to growth and improvement rather than focusing on the end product.

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While gifted children seem imbued with a plentitude of talents, they are not immune to academic and emotional problems. Sometimes all it takes is a little recognition and guidance to turn around feelings of inadequacy and pereflectionistic tendencies.

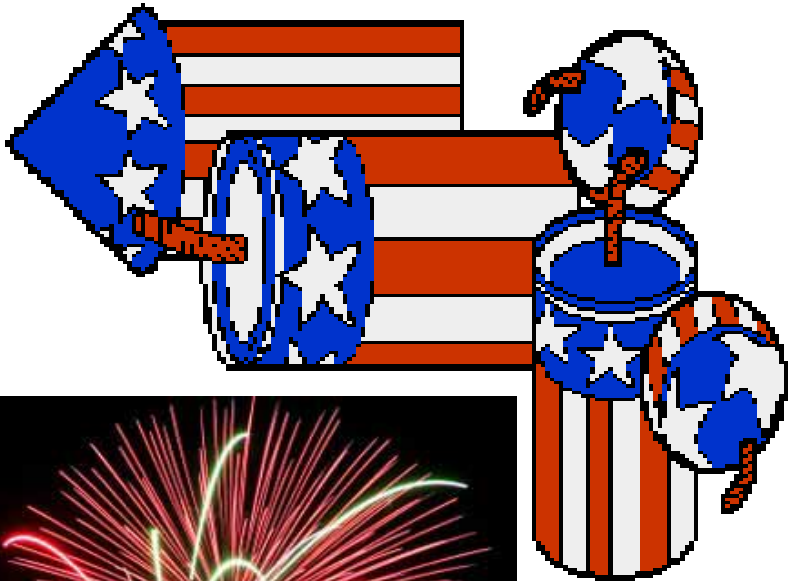
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Calendar of Events

July 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01 Deadline for August events	02	03	04 Temperance League	05 Midcoast Potluck BBQ
06 Mid-Maine Dinnah	07	08	09	10	11 Brady Bunch First Friday	12 SSSecond SSSaturday
13 Second Sunday Brunch	14	15	16 North of Boston Dinner	17	18 Winnipesupp- er	19 Games Night Nashua Temp League Boston Brunch Bunch
20	21	22	23	24	25 M & I	26 FSM ExComm/ party
27	28	29 Portland Dinner & Pub Quiz	30 Dinner & Trivia night	31		

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.

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