



The

Constellation

Rochester Area Mensa

December, 2012

Short & Sweet

Happy Holidays Everyone!!

The past few days have been very enlightening about behavior choices. I have seen people who have intentionally picked anger over forgiveness for minor differences of opinion. This decision is not comprehensible to me; it makes no sense to CHOOSE to be angry. The person I am thinking of hasn't learned that forgiving is actually better for both sides. Staying mad about something takes a great deal of negative energy (not to mention the fact that the anger, in general, manages to leak into other parts of your life!) In the end, it requires much more effort than just forgiving the incident in the first place!

I would like to get our younger Mensans group going even though we don't have as much information as I had hoped. My leads for contacts unfortunately introduced me to people (nice as they all seemed) who were no longer in control of their programs. I thought

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that we would just get started developing our own Rochester Area Mensa Youth Program. We would like to introduce a Facebook group to allow for communication between our younger members.

I would also like to make a suggestion for some individual computer study based on something I saw in India at one of their schools. At the time, I was very impressed with what they were doing (and still am!) As a way to learn more about the world, they had listed a large number of holidays around the world. From my exploration in this area, I went in three different directions: 1) picking a specific timeline to focus on for holidays around certain dates, 2) looking into a complete listing of a country's annual holidays (holidays worldwide), and 3) if you are looking for a comical touch, look up ALL of the holidays in the USA (but be ready for some strange ones!!)

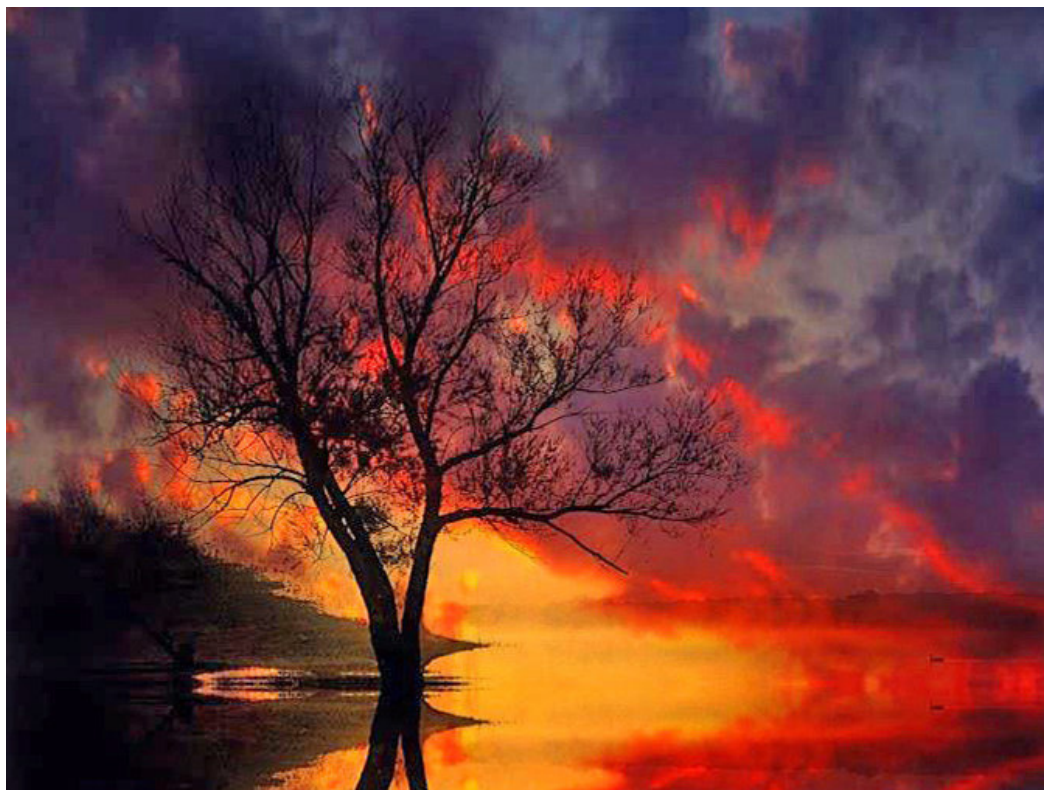
When I was researching the second subject, there was something that made a big impression on me. I am not going to share it with you, because I want you to come to your own conclusions about the information you discover!! I read a quote recently that I thought was very smart (especially for Mensans!) A good teacher points in the direction a student should focus, but NOT what they should see!

Wishing your family all the best, regardless of what holidays you celebrate! ☺

Hope to see you soon,

Julie Stout,

RAM LocSec



December RAM Events**First Thirstday / Laptop Night – Thursday, December 6, 2012 7:00 pm**

Sheridan's Pub
1551 Mt. Hope Avenue
Rochester NY 14620

585.271.7777
SheridansPub.com

Sheridan's Pub – Known for serving up great drinks, gourmet pub fare, attentive service, and fun loving hospitality. Parking directly across the street - on left hand side. No RSVP required, just look for the yellow balloon!

International Food Night – Thursday, December 13, 2012 7:00 pm

Rheinblick Restaurant
224 S. Main Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424-2144

585.905.0950
Restaurant-Rheinblick.com

Our international dining takes us once again to the Rheinblick Restaurant in lovely downtown Canandaigua, where we always enjoy authentic German Cuisine and mouth watering desserts! Seating may be limited (This is not a huge restaurant, folks!); therefore, RSVP is REQUIRED by Tuesday, December 11th. Please call or email Julie or Terry. And yes, of course – we'll have a yellow balloon! ☺

MAG Tapas Night – Thursday, December 20, 2012 6:00 pm

U of R - Memorial Art Gallery
500 University Avenue
Rochester NY 14607

585.276.8900
mag.rochester.edu
<http://bit.ly/NjNa62>

This event runs from 5:00pm to 8:00pm; we plan to gather at 6:00pm. (The gallery itself remains open until 9:00 pm.) We'll have a chance to listen to live music, enjoy wine, beer, and tapas plates for purchase. No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

About Our Cover and "Centerfold" Photos

This month's photo is *Ganondagan Sunset*, 11/23/2012, Copyright © 2012 Terrence Redfield, taken at our Ganondagan hike / Mickey Finn's dinner in November. Sorry if you missed this event but we hope you can join us next time out!

The picture we use for our cover and centerfold is open to all who care to participate. If you have attended a recent RAM event and would like to suggest one of your own photos, send it in! The criteria are fairly simple: It must be an original photograph submitted by anyone – RAM member or non-member – depicting anything of interest from a recent RAM event. Other than a few editorial and/or technical details, that's pretty much it! Feel free to call or see the Web site for complete details.

January RAM Events (so far!)*

**Attention fellow Mensans, please be aware:* We are continuing the practice of publishing at least the known events for the coming month ahead of time, usually at least the First Thirstday and whatever else is nailed down by the time we go to print.

First Thirstday – Thursday, January 3, 2013 7:00 pm

Sticky Lips Pit BBQ (Henrietta)
830 Jefferson Road 585.292.5544
Rochester, NY 14623 StickyLipsBBQ.com

This is a return engagement to the Sticky Lips “Juke Joint” in Henrietta. The award-winning menu includes “The Atomic Bomb Challenge” and more. No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

MAG Tapas Night – Thursday, January 10, 2013 6:00 pm

University of Rochester 585.276.8900
Memorial Art Gallery mag.rochester.edu
500 University Avenue http://bit.ly/NjNa62
Rochester NY 14607 **If you haven't been lately, give it a try!**

This event runs from 5:00pm to 8:00pm; we plan to gather at 6:00pm. (The gallery itself remains open until 9:00 pm.) We'll have a chance to listen to live music, enjoy wine, beer, and tapas plates for purchase. No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

RAM Post-Holiday Party – Saturday, January 19, 2013 7:00 pm

McKeever Residence mckeever@rochester.rr.com
4 Chesfield Lookout 585.223.7788
Fairport, NY 14550

Ring in the New Year at our RAM post-holiday party, graciously hosted by Bob McKeever. We are still developing the menu (details in next month's Constellation) but it's certain to include plenty of food and fun – BYOB and bring a dish to pass. Chesfield Lookout is located right off High Street Extension east of Turk Hill Road in Fairport.

Please RSVP to Bob McKeever by or before January 14th. We all hope to see you there!

Stay Tuned – More to Come – January, 2013

We are planning on publishing a January Constellation edition to remind you of all events included in our busy holiday season schedule and to highlight any changes in the program. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to have any additional events listed.

reMARK by Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3 – December, 2012

Your American Mensa Committee (AMC) board of directors met in a teleconference on Tuesday, October 30. A motion was passed raising the regular dues starting January 1, 2013, to \$70. I voted no on this motion. Mensa membership is invaluable to me. Regardless of yearly dues, I would find a way to be a member. At \$70 per year, that is only \$1.35 a week, less than a cup of coffee almost anywhere. I do hope that the increase will not affect your membership. I am happy to discuss this with you – just email or, if you call, please wait until after noon. A second motion was passed; the official title for coordinators for youth activities in local groups was changed from Gifted Children Coordinator to Gifted Youth Coordinator. I voted yes on this motion.

The National NomComm has completed its work and now is the time for those who wish to run for Chair, 1st Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer or Region 3 Vice Chair to do so by following American Mensa's petition process which is as follows:

“In accordance with Article VI, Section (4) of the Bylaws of American Mensa, Ltd., nominations for candidacy for office in American Mensa may be made by petition. Each petition must contain the signatures of 50 members of American Mensa in good standing as of December 1, 2012. Petitions must be submitted on official petition forms. Each petition candidate must also submit a completed Acceptance of Nomination form and a completed Candidate Information Form.

Petition forms, Candidate Information Forms, and Acceptance of Nomination forms are available below and may also be obtained by contacting the National Office at Operations@americanmensa.org. You also can start an online, members-only petition via the Web site. All petition candidates should review the 2013 Code of Election Procedures before beginning the petition process. Members wishing to sign available online petitions may do so via the same link.

Candidate petition forms must be received by 11:59 p.m. central time on February 1, 2013. Send completed forms and petitions to Operations@americanmensa.org, fax to 817/649-5232, or mail to Elections, American Mensa, Ltd., 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, Texas 76006-6103.”

I hope you are reading this while attending Cincinnati's Regional Gathering (I am attending the AMC Meeting in New Orleans and am really sorry I am not there!). Cincinnati Area Mensa is in an excited state (any of the energy levels of a physical system – like an RG committee) as you are invited to the HyperchaRGed gathering. (Hypercharge: the quantum number equal to B [baryons] + S [strangeness] + C [charmed].) Gravitational attraction and radiant energy brings you to the Doubletree

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in Sharonville starting Nov. 30, and inertia takes you to a half-life of the event on Dec. 2. The natural frequency of this event is 30! Yes, the 30th Regional Gathering! Positronically assured of a periodic table of entrées, Quark's bar, luminosity in the programs, and momentum in the tournament track. Quanta rate at the door for the weekend is \$75. Children under 5 are free. Ages 6-10 are \$15. Ages 11-20 are half the full rate. Partial rates are available at the door. Friday only = \$30; Saturday only = \$65. Saturday dinner and dance (after 5 p.m.) = \$40. No rollovers. Refunds must have been requested by Nov. 29, 2012. Checks payable to Cincinnati Area Mensa RG. Hotel: Doubletree, 6300 E. Kemper Rd., Sharonville, OH 45241; 513/489-3636; www.doubletree.com/hotels/CVGKRDT. Room rates (\$99) guaranteed until Nov. 15 (if rooms are still available you just might get this rate). S CD 10 and under, H RP 11/29/12 cutoff DT. Contact Cassie Ryle, 7270 West Chester Rd., West Chester, OH 45069; 513/755-6322; cassier@fuse.net.

Dayton Area Mensa will be hosting DAMNations 26: Triskadeka Times Two (or times three because it's 2013!) Talks and presentations; games and tournaments; five meals by the famous Dayton Hospitality team; music and dancing; late-night conversations and general silliness! Registration is \$55 by Dec. 1; \$60 by March 1, 2013; \$70 at the door. Ages 5-18 half price, under 5 free. MP (5): included. Checks payable to Dayton Area Mensa RG. Hotel: Wyndham Garden Dayton South, 31 Prestige Plaza Dr., Miamisburg, OH 45342; call hotel 937/434-8030. Room rates (\$83) guaranteed until March 15, 2013. CD 18 and under, H DT CP. Visit www.dayton.us.mensa.org or contact Karren Lehman, 7039 Monte Carlo Dr., Englewood, OH 45322; RG.Registrar@dayton.us.mensa.org.

Southeast Michigan Mensa will be hosting SEMMantics XXXIV, May 3-5. More information soon!

I wish you a safe beginning of winter and the best during this coming holiday season. Let me be the first to wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year. As my e-mail salutation says, "A dream is a promise your mind makes to your heart and a challenge your heart makes to your mind." May all your dreams see fulfillment.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

LLAP and Peace,

Betsy

Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3 | Ypsilanti, MI | 734.434.5757 | www.region3.us.mensa.org

Member Recognition

On behalf of all RAM members, we would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members: Congratulations, welcome to the group, and we hope to see you at a RAM event soon!

New RAM Member As of December

Craig E Daniels	North Chili	Move In
Susan J Behnke	Rochester	New

If you see any of these RAM members in the month of December, be sure to wish them a happy birthday:

December RAM Member Birthdays

John W Roberts Jr.	December 1 st
Christopher P Muller	December 2 nd
Robert D MacArthur	December 4 th
Emily Scrivani	December 6 th
Cathryn M Ciccolone	December 10 th
Connie L White	December 19 th
Edward Dunn	December 22 nd
James G Dietrich	December 24 th
Christina M Olsowsky	December 28 th

And a special “tip of the hat” to those having anniversaries this month:

December RAM Member Anniversaries

John W Roberts Jr.	35 years with Mensa
Glen Dumas	26 years with Mensa
Bertram Gamory	13 years with Mensa
Roberta W McDermott	12 years with Mensa
Leslie Ann Phillips	11 years with Mensa
Karina Pinch	10 years with Mensa
Michael Domenic Tucci	6 years with Mensa
Kurt L Meichtry	5 years with Mensa
James C Haefner	4 years with Mensa
Grace Muszocki	4 years with Mensa
Carl Nielsen	4 years with Mensa

And if we've missed anyone: The past several months have been busy and full of events, unfortunately we do not have unlimited space in our printed newsletter, and AML is only now improving distribution of key info and stats. If we have overlooked anyone in any way for any reason, we apologize very sincerely and look forward to doing a better job with our member recognition efforts, both online and in print, in the future.

Rochester Area Mensa

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SIGHT Coordinator: George Gerspacher	585.527.8529
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The thoughts and opinions expressed in this publication are not those of Mensa, which has no opinions. These are the submissions of members with the intent of generating thought and discussion on a broad range of topics.