



The
Constellation
 Rochester Area Mensa
 May, 2013

Short & Sweet

Hi Everyone!

Today, I am wondering about this so-called global warming situation. For our RAMY (Rochester Area Mensa Youth) outing, we went to the Planetarium. The subject was the health of the coral reefs. The temperature of the ocean around the reefs has raised by about two degrees. This doesn't seem like it should be a problem, but ALL of the life interconnected with the reefs is suffering. It sort of reminds me of dominoes; if one life form changes, it affects all of the other life forms around it.

Another puzzling thing to me is that cicadas started their evening "song" about one month ago. Normally, we don't hear them until later in the summer – What is the deal!? I never go into a panic about things, but there DOES seem to be a connection between the health of our environment and our climate. (Short & Sweet Continued on Page 2)



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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.

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I realize that a lot of people (I used to be one of them) think that the response to the global warming issue is an overreaction. I do find myself wondering how wise it is to just ignore the whole potential problem.

Throughout history we have learned far too many times that ignoring something does not usually end up well! This is true for both human beings (Hitler, for example) as well as nature (the destruction of the rain forest). So, here is my question to everyone: If we are to address this concern, where and how do we start – Any suggestions or ideas!? Come on guys, we weren't given impressive brains to just stand around looking overwhelmed! Think of it as a problem to solve. For example, if we started by replenishing the rain forest that in itself would help for a number of reasons! Believe it or not, even the coral reefs would be affected by this move towards conservation.

Mankind can be extremely selfish; we were not given the world to destroy it and take everything we wanted! I like the sentiment that we are only borrowing this planet from our children. Please act accordingly! Individual actions and decisions can have impact on the situation. Perhaps if we focus only on the things that WE can change, the task won't be so scary...

Hope to see you soon,

Julie Stout

RAM LocSec

RAM Youth Program (RAMY)

Are you a Mensan with children? Are your children among our younger members? As our program gets under way, look for new events geared toward our RAM Youth members, and consider becoming involved in planning, hosting, or attending our events. You could be missing out on a great time - join us next time out! Please contact Julie Stout (contact info within or online) or Robin MacLaughlin (robincmac@msn.com).

Planning ahead, so save the dates!

Upcoming dates for RAM Youth (RAMY) Field Trips or events: Sunday, May 19 (This month, scheduled); Saturday, June 15 (Next month, TBD); and Sunday, July 21 (Also TBD). Many exciting and worthwhile events for our younger Mensans are in the works – Stay tuned!

About Our Cover and “Centerfold” Photos

This month's photo is *You Don't Know What You Might Find*, April 28, 2013, Copyright © 2013 Terrence Redfield, taken at our RAM Trillium Walk at the Kraai Preserve in Newark. Sorry if you missed it!

Member Recognition – Continued from Page 6

If you see any of these RAM members in the month of May, be sure to wish him or her a happy birthday:

| May RAM Member Birthdays | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Lisa Betters Rothrock | May 3 rd |
| Stanley Bischooping | May 3 rd |
| Michael Milburn | May 4 th |
| Kevin Skerrett | May 4 th |
| Wilbur James Kellum III | May 5 th |
| Kurt L Meichtry | May 8 th |
| Joyce Geier | May 10 th |
| Brian E Taylor | May 11 th |
| Troy Vincent Bierkortte | May 14 th |
| Andrea Fuehrer | May 17 th |
| S Jay Tanner | May 20 th |
| James F Scorse | May 24 th |
| Russell Heller | May 24 th |
| Timothy Alan Brinduse | May 25 th |
| Carl Nielsen | May 28 th |
| Gaelen McCormick | May 29 th |
| Patrick Killen | May 29 th |
| Timothy James McNelly | May 30 th |

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

| New RAM Members As of May* | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Matthew A Eldred | North Chili | Reinstating |
| Dr Glenn McClain Balch Jr | Churchville | Reinstating |

* At the moment, our next RAM testing is scheduled for Saturday, October 12, 2013 in the basement room at the McGraw Branch of the Irondequoit Library. Please contact us with any questions! 😊

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.

reMARK – May, 2013 – Continued from Page 5

Hopefully, you are reading this while attending Southeast Michigan Mensa's SEMMantics XXXIV. If you are not there, I'm, sure you could still make it. It's May 3-5 at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 37529 Grand River Ave, Farmington Hills, MI 48335. If you stay at the RG hotel and your name is drawn at the Saturday night drawing, your hotel bill (no extras) will be paid in full! Registration rate is \$90 on-site. Daily rates are \$50 for Friday and \$55 for Saturday. Children under 5 are free and children 5-17 are half price.

Mensa's next Annual Gathering will be in Fort Worth, Texas, July 3-7. Information can be found at <http://ag2013.us.mensa.org/>. It's going to be a great party! You may register for the 2013 Colloquium, Between Science Fiction and Science, which is being held July 2, immediately preceding the AG. That information can be found on the AG website, also.

Columbus Area Mensa and Western Pennsylvania Area Mensa will be hosting RGs this year. I'll post information as soon as it is available.

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

This month – and every month – we would like to extend a sincere show of appreciation to those having anniversaries this month:

| May RAM Member Anniversaries | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Or James J Wenskus Jr | 35 years with Mensa |
| John H Lennon | 33 years with Mensa |
| Jeanne L Boise | 29 years with Mensa |
| T W Moran | 13 years with Mensa |
| Mark Tiffany | 7 years with Mensa |
| S Jay Tanner | 5 years with Mensa |
| Julie Kathleen Stout | 4 years with Mensa |
| Courtney E Schumacher | 3 years with Mensa |
| Jason J Nasca | 3 years with Mensa |
| Peter Daniel Wierzba | 2 years with Mensa |
| Michael Milburn | 2 years with Mensa |
| Steven D Oller | 1 year with Mensa |
| Madelyn MacLaughlin | 1 year with Mensa |
| Erik Rist | 1 year with Mensa |

May RAM Events

First Thirstday – Thursday, May 2, 2013 7:00 pm

Buffalo Wild Wings 585.475.1240
780 Jefferson Road <http://bit.ly/1unYT>
Rochester, NY 14623-3232

Join us for an exciting evening of mental gymnastics including deep-fried pickles and free trivia game consoles. We can compete against each other, against others in the local establishment, or across the country for, well... bragging rights, I guess! Full menu, full bar, pretty tasty chicken wings, too.

Located at the corner of Jefferson Road and Clay Road – it's probably easiest to enter from Clay, thank goodness for the traffic light! No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

MAG Tapas Night – Thursday, May 16, 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 **This month, we're touring the Gallery!**

Max at the Gallery now offers a weekly Tapas Night. This event runs from 5:00pm to 8:00pm; we plan to gather at 6:00pm. We'll have a chance to listen to live music, enjoy wine, beer, and Tapas plates for purchase AND, for anyone interested, you can visit the Gallery with half price admission (open until 9 pm). No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

RAM Youth Field Trip – Sunday, May 19, 2013 11:00 am

Susan B. Anthony House 585.235.6124
17 Madison Street SusanBAnthonyHouse.org
Rochester, NY 14608

Home of "The Lady with the Alligator Purse!" Come take a tour of the house, learn about an important part of American history and Susan B.'s part in the women's right movement, and visit the gift shop where you'll find a lot of goodies. We checked: Our yellow balloon is welcome!

Victor Nature Hike (Dinner Optional!) – Sunday, May 19, 2013 3:30 pm

Little-known Trail, just off <http://goo.gl/maps/XtNIC>
Willowbrook Road We will be parking near the
Victor, NY trailhead on Willowbrook Road

Take a Hike along a little-known trail in Victor, with "breathtaking vistas." (We hope!) Followed by dinner (optional) at the India House Restaurant 0.9 miles (2 minutes) away. Look for yellow balloon(s) on car(s) at Willowbrook Road, and look for more detailed directions on Page 5.

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May RAM Events, Continued

Post-Hike Dinner (Hike Optional!) – Sunday, May 19, 2013 5:00 pm

India House Restaurant (Near Route 251)
7343 Route 96 585.742.2030
Victor, NY 14564-9788 IndiaHouse.com

Go ahead, work up an appetite hiking the trails, the India House Restaurant will satisfy your needs! Another more-or-less perennial RAM favorite, India House has quite an extensive menu and MANGO LASSIS!

International Food Night – Thursday, May 30, 2013 7:00 pm

Opa! Authentic Greek Koozina 585.272.0001
1175 Jefferson Road OpaRochester.com
Rochester, NY 14623

We've checked it out: Opa! Easily passes the Dolmade, Spanakopita, and Baklava test battery! In addition to various Pitas, Paninis, and Pizzas, this restaurant also offers highly-regarded chicken, pork, beef, or combo Souvlakia. (And Saganaki! Don't forget the Saganaki!) Conveniently open until 10 pm on Thursdays. No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

June 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, June 6, 2013 7:00 pm

Timothy Patrick's Irish Pub 585.385.4160
916 Panorama Trail South TPslrishPub.com
Rochester, NY 14625

If you don't know your "Burgers Go Bragh" from your "Erin Go Brews" you'd better study up! This is a new venue for our RAM group, situated on Panorama Trail in Penfield, serving until 10:00pm. Interesting menu items include the Irish Onion Soup for \$4.95, which is billed as "The envy of France" and dinners for \$9.95 or less everyday. No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

RAM Youth Field Trip – Saturday, June 15, 2013

SAVE THE DATE! Our next RAMY excursion will be Saturday, June 15th. The exact details have yet to be determined, so stay tuned! Please contact Julie Stout (contact info within or online) or Robin MacLaughlin (robincmac@msn.com).

How to Find Willowbrook Road

For our Sunday, May 19th hiking expedition, we will be starting from Willowbrook Road between High Street and Rowley Road, and more specifically, just east of the NYS Thruway underpass. (Willowbrook passes under the Thruway.)

Best access is probably by way of Rowley Road, which both starts and ends on Route 96: On the west end it is opposite Main Street Fishers, on the east it is the first road west of India House on the opposite side. So from either direction, Route 96 to Rowley, turn on to Willowbrook and proceed to a point just beyond the Thruway underpass. The trail winds through the hills behind WalMart and Kohl's

reMARK by Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3 – May, 2013

Elections! Send in your ballot today! Details on all the candidates are in this month's **Mensa Bulletin**. If you'd like my opinion on any of the national candidates, please contact me personally at RVC3@us.mensa.org. Following is the information sent to me by our two candidates running for RVC3. They are both highly qualified and either will represent our Region well.

Julia Ashley has held office in the Columbus Area Mensa as Local Scholarship Chair, Local Secretary, RG Chair and on the RG committee as Program Chair, Registrar and sometimes speaker. She pursued and received licensing from AML for the sale of Atlantis Chapter buttons for the purpose of scholarship fundraising. She also coordinated Mensa recruiting booth space at a large sci-fi convention (Marcon) for seven years and an international gaming fair (Origins) for three years.

Julia is the current Region 3 Scholarship Chair and has been appointed as the Program Chair for the 2015 AG in Louisville, KY. She received the Mensa Foundation Trustees Award in 2010.

John Voymas is currently LocSec of Southeast Michigan Mensa (SEMM) a role he has served in for the past two years. Prior to that John has been an Area Representative, RG Chair, RG Hospitality Chair, Winter Bash Chair, Summer Bash Chair as well as coordinated a Leadership Development Workshop in 2012. He also assisted on Hospitality at the 2010 AG and presented three workshops at the WG in 2006.

John brings extensive experience from outside Mensa including having served in the past as President of two Toastmasters chapters (one of which he founded), a District Division Governor in Toastmasters, an officer of a Parents Without Partners chapter, Treasurer of a local school board, and a member of a county School-to-Work board. His educational background is a BS in Business Administration with a Public Accounting concentration. He has worked in the IT field for the past thirty years, many as a business and technical analyst.

Please vote now!

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