



The

# Constellation

Rochester Area Mensa

July, 2013

## Short & Sweet

Happy Summer Everyone!

I believe that we are very fortunate to be living in New York State. I realize that we have our challenges, but The Finger Lakes, for instance, have become a nationally recognized tourist attraction. We also have the Adirondack Mountains! I have wonderful memories from both places (as I am sure a lot of you do too!)

I basically grew up on a boat with my immediate family and grandparents. We docked the boat on Seneca Lake, but took it on many trips over the years. The boat could sleep seven, which was great, except that I always got the smallest section of the "V bunk." In my case, that translated into sitting up and whacking my forehead every morning, and that could explain a lot of my ditzy side! My favorite part of boating was watching fireworks reflect down into the water, and being rocked to sleep in the boat itself!

(Short & Sweet Continued on Page 2)



**Short & Sweet – Continued from Page 1**

I witnessed the most spectacular stars in the Adirondacks. Our location was so dark, that the sky seemed to have hundreds of thousands of them, twinkling away! Another fun part of the Adirondacks was that you never knew what to expect. One day, we were hiking and came upon a "black" pond! I was curious, so stuck my foot in the water. All of a sudden, the pond came alive with an endless number of black tadpoles swimming away from my "addition" to their habitat!

Water is one thing necessary for life. It is interesting that we use it in so many different ways. We are lucky that, for the most part, we are able to drink our water in the USA. The majority of other countries cannot claim that. One location cracked me up because our tour guide's comment was, "our water is very good; the pipes are bad!" Since this was an extremely strict country, I luckily kept myself from laughing (although that was difficult to do!) For another country, I was warned to be aware of tap water being sold as bottled water. I was instructed to pay special attention to the cap. Sometimes, they would partially melt the cap back together; other times, they would make no attempt to seal it at all. I experienced the second version, which was a bit awkward. I tried to hide the bottle under my seat, but my friend pointed it out for me to remember to take. Since I had no desire to get sick, I explained the situation to him as soon as I could.

We do have sulfur water in some sections of New York. I usually love going to Bed and Breakfast places in the Finger Lakes. One house had a gorgeous old claw foot tub! I was in heaven, until I started running the water for my bath. I got cleaned up, shampooed my hair, and proceeded to settle in for the night. I got to experience something rather unusual during that sleep. It was the only time in my life when I was woken up by an unpleasant smell (unfortunately, it was my hair!)

In closing, I guess we should add water to the list of things we basically take for granted in this country! Have a fun rest of the season!

Hope to see you soon,

*Julie Stout,*

RAM LocSec

**Planning ahead, so save the dates!**

Upcoming dates for Rochester Area Mensa Youth (RAMY) Field Trips or events: Sunday July 21 (This month, Scheduled for the Civil War Reenactment at Genesee Country Museum in Mumford); and Friday, August 23 (Next month, Scheduled for a trip to The Corning Museum of Glass in Corning). Many exciting and worthwhile events for our younger Mensans are in the works – Stay tuned!

**July RAM Events****First Thirstday – Thursday, July 11, 2013 7:00 pm**

Castaways 585.323.2943  
244 Lake Road CastawaysOnTheLake.com  
Webster, NY 14580

Enjoy the most spectacular views and gorgeous sunsets on Lake Ontario while dining outside. Cozy evenings and incredible specials are what make Castaways a favorite dining spot all year long. Take Route 104 to Bay Road north, then left on Lake Road. No RSVP required; look for the yellow balloon.

**Wade & Eat – Saturday, July 20, 2013 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm**

Ontario Pathways, Inc. The Corner Grill and Pasta Bar  
Access via: 101 W Union St  
NY Route 96, east of Route 488 Newark, NY 14513  
Phelps, NY 14532 (315) 331-1822  
OntarioPathways.org www.goodfoodanddrink.biz

A wading hike through the cascading waterfalls and vistas of Flint Creek. Parking area is on the south side of Route 96 just east of the Route 488 intersection in Phelps. To be followed by supper at The Corner Grill and Pasta Bar in Newark. THIS IS A HIKE FOLLOWED BY DINNER!

**RAM Youth Field Trip – Sunday, July 21, 2013 11:00 am**

Genesee Country Village-Museum 585.538.6822  
1410 Flint Hill Road www.gcv.org  
Mumford, NY 14511

Genesee Country Museum in Mumford has a Civil War reenactment on July 21, and WE'RE GOING! Our planned outing is from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm with a live battle at 11:30 am. We'll all want to be front and center for the battle, so we can meet at the gift shop at 11:00 am. No RSVP required but appreciated; look for the yellow balloon.

**MAG Tapas Night – Thursday, July 25, 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

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.

**August 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, August 8, 2013 7:00 pm**

Wright Residence  
18 Pecos Circle  
West Henrietta, NY 14458

585.880.9868  
twright8@rochester.rr.com

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the limited number of Thursdays this summer, once again we will hold our “First Thirstday” not on the first Thursday of the month, but on the second Thursday instead, as we did in July. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience!

Entrée provided, bring a “dish to pass” along the lines of hors d’oeuvres or desserts. PLEASE, RSVP to Tim Wright or Terry Redfield no later than August 5. We will be exercising standard protocol, so look for the yellow balloon.

**RAM Youth Field Trip – Friday, August 23, 2013 (Time TBD)**

Corning Museum of Glass  
1 Museum Way  
Corning, NY 14830

607.937.5371  
www.cmog.org

We are in the process of ironing out the details of our Corning Museum of Glass trip scheduled for Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>. We selected a Friday because the Museum will be just a touch less busy and the trip should be a little easier to navigate.

Some members already have expressed an interest in the “Make Your Own Glass” projects, and because these are always on a first-come, first-served basis and should be paid in advance, it underscores the need to plan ahead.

Admission for adults is \$15.00; for children age 19 and under admission is free. (Various discounts available for college students, those ages 55 Plus, AAA members, and military personnel.)

RSVP required; we will explore the possibility of carpooling. The plan will most likely include meeting in the parking lot a few minutes before the appointed time; look for the yellow balloon.

**About Our Cover and “Centerfold” Photos**

This month’s photo is *Horizon Ablaze*, July 11, 2013, Copyright © 2013 Kirsten Redfield, taken at our July excursion to the Castaways restaurant in Webster. Sorry if you missed it!

**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).

**reMARK by Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3 – July, 2013**

As of the submission date for this column, elections are still happening and we won't know who our new RVC3 will be until after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Please welcome Julia or John as s/he begins her/his new adventure. Without question, Region 3 will be well represented on the AMC. [Since this was written, and just in case you have not received word, the election results are in and Julia Ashley is our new RVC. Julia has been busy posting online; search Facebook for "Region 3 - American Mensa."]

Our next RG (July 26-28) is "It's the End of the World as We Know It... and We Feel Fine" to be hosted by Columbus Area Mensa, whose blurb on-line in Mensa's calendar of events states: Join us for food, games, speakers and a pint at our pub called Milliways. All RG events in the hotel, 12th floor. Water park passes optional. Hotel will charge one night's room & tax (deposit) at time of reservation. \$25 cancellation fee with 72 hours notice, forfeit deposit with less than 72 hours notice. Registration, including meals: until Jul. 1, \$75; after Jul. 1, \$80; Friday only, \$30; Saturday only, \$55; Kids 11-18, half price; 10 & under, free. Fort Rapids Indoor Waterpark Resort, 4560 Hilton Corporate Drive, Columbus, OH 43232, 614-868-1380. Web site: [www.fortrapids.com](http://www.fortrapids.com) - Room rates are \$99 (\$159 w/ up to 4 park passes) and are guaranteed through July 5. Use reservation code Columbus Mensa. To register, make check out to "Columbus Area Mensa" and mail to: Columbus RG Treasurer, P.O. Box 292557, Columbus OH 43229. For more information, contact Registrar Julia Ashley at [psibernaut@yahoo.com](mailto:psibernaut@yahoo.com) or 614-448-6023.

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.

33 1/3 - the Long Play weekend! WPAM drops the needle and spins you four days and three nights of non-stop food and fun. That's 33 1/3% more than your average RG! Look forward to interesting speakers, themed meals, a sock hop, silent auctions, book sale and games games games. Come to Pittsburgh to play with us over the long Labor Day weekend.

(Continued on Page 6)

**reMARK – July, 2013 – Continued from Page 5**

Registration rates are:

- Postmarked April, \$90 adult / \$45 child (ages 7-14)
- Postmarked May or June, \$100 / \$50
- Postmarked July thru August 25, \$110 / \$55
- August 26 and after, \$120 / \$60

Single-day registrations are:

- Friday - \$35 adult / \$15 child (ages 7-14)
- Saturday - \$55 / \$25
- Sunday - \$55 / \$25
- Monday - \$25 / \$15

Children 6 and under are free, and families of four or more receive an additional \$10 off for each child.

DoubleTree Green Tree  
500 Mansfield Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205  
800-222-8733  
Website: <http://bit.ly/13ZV3fZ>

Room rates are \$94 and are guaranteed through Aug. 15. Use reservation code Western Pennsylvania Mensa.

To register, contact [auntkitti@aol.com](mailto:auntkitti@aol.com) or send a check payable to WPAM RG with name, email, phone, address, and days attending for each registrant to Marty Flowers, 303 Diamond Dr., Moon Township, PA 15108

For more information, contact Jodi Chase at [jodi.liv.strong@gmail.com](mailto:jodi.liv.strong@gmail.com) or 412-867-8576.

Thank you, again.

LLAP and Peace,

*Betsy*

Betsy Yvonne Mark, RVC3 | Ypsilanti, MI | 734.434.5757 | [www.region3.us.mensa.org](http://www.region3.us.mensa.org)

**Member Recognition Notes**

As regular features of our monthly publication, we like to welcome our newest members, send happy wishes to those celebrating birthdays, and recognize those having anniversaries of their Mensa memberships. If we have overlooked anyone in any way for any reason, we apologize very sincerely and invite you to let us know. We look forward to continuing our member recognition features, both online and in print. (Find us online at <http://Rochester.us.Mensa.org>)

### Member Recognition – Continued from Page 6

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

July RAM Member Anniversaries	
Miklos G Karner	39 years with Mensa
Shirley R Cramer	28 years with Mensa
Lt Col David Alan Schottler	25 years with Mensa
Jeff Gould	20 years with Mensa
Troy Vincent Bierkorte	20 years with Mensa
Victoria Gail Roberts	20 years with Mensa
Robert C Jackson	9 years with Mensa
Ellen A Hadley	9 years with Mensa
Howard G Hadley	9 years with Mensa
Joseph E Maurer	9 years with Mensa
Frank W Alexander III	8 years with Mensa
Cathryn M Hennard	7 years with Mensa
Cole Wagner	7 years with Mensa
Craig E Daniels	5 years with Mensa
John Terrence Sheehan	4 years with Mensa
Robert Fabinski	1 year with Mensa
Devin Caskie	1 year with Mensa

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

July RAM Member Birthdays	
Devin Caskie	July 1 <sup>st</sup>
Joseph E Maurer	July 4 <sup>th</sup>
Howard G Hadley	July 17 <sup>th</sup>
Roberta W McDermott	July 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Peter Daniel Wierzba	July 31 <sup>st</sup>

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 July*		
Robert Allen	Rochester	Move In
James Raub	Honeoye Falls	New
Andrew L Baisch	Rochester	Reinstating

## Rochester Area Mensa

Loc Sec: Julie Stout	585.225.3020
Deputy Loc Sec: Terrence Redfield	585.705.3329
Treasurer: Jeff Gould	585.216.9017
Newsletter Editor: Terrence Redfield	585.705.3329
Proctor: Bob Horner	585.334.3746
Membership: Eric Murphy	585.503.7553
Gifted Children's Coordinator: Laurie Townsend	585.278.4524
Ombudsman: George Gerspacher	585.527.8529
SIGHT Coordinator: George Gerspacher	585.527.8529
Scholarship Coordinator: Steve Lindsey	
Webmaster: Terrence Redfield	585.705.3329

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.