Volume 39 October 2018 Issue 4

Illuminate

The Newsletter of Missouri Ozarks Mensa

Recent Events

September

Game SIG at Bill and Missi's: 8/11/18. As you can see from the pictures, we had a lot of fun!



Illuminate is a monthly publication of Missouri Ozarks Mensa, a division of American Mensa, Ltd., 1229 Corporate Dr. West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103.

Mensa is an international society whose sole requirement for membership is a score in the upper 2% on a standardized IQ test. It is nonprofit, has no religious or political affiliation, and holds no opinions.

MENSA serves as a means of communication and assembly for its members and is interested in gifted children and psychological research.

The web address for American Mensa is www.us.mensa.org

We enjoyed pool, ping pong, retro arcade games, and the bizarro fun card game Exploding Kittens.





~ *HALLOWEEN PUZZLE* ~

Puzzle by Bill Bultas (answer at the end of the newsletter):

See if you can find the answers to all of these ScArY brain teasers:

1. My first 3 letters are the word. I'm not your daddy, but what am I? (5 letters)

2. Cut off my first letter and then change my new first letter, and depending upon what you changed it to, you can have a type of judge in certain games, or a political unit. What am I? (7 letters)

3. I contain a word relating to the transference of fuel, as well as a word for relatives. What am I? (7 letters)

4. Judo chop! Actually, I'm much more likely to chop you in a different manner. I'm sometimes confused with the fella who plays that funny guy, but I'm not funny at all (at least not intentionally, for the most part). This day is very relevant to me. Who am I? (2 words)

5. Remove my last 3 letters and read me backwards, and you have something (usually many copies, although each is unique) used in many games. The guy who was the inspiration for me was paler than an imp, or something like that. Who am I? (7 letters)

NOW, STRING TOGETHER THE FIRST LETTERS FROM EACH OF THE ABOVE 5 ANSWERS. WHAT DO YOU HAVE?

A very fast sports car
A Halloween prank
A physician for the best athlete

A judge for a convicted criminal
A tent in the middle of a jungle
A giraffe with a sprained ankle
A spooky castle or haunted house
A black widow spider
A genius with crazy looking hair
None of the above

~

Upcoming Events

October

Dinner at Tasia: Wednesday, 10/10/18 at 6:00 PM, 4728 S Campbell Ave #100, Springfield, MO 65810, (417) 890-6789. Please email, call or text to RSVP by 10/8/18 to Bill Bultas: billbultas@yahoo.com, 314-962-5828. Tasia is our favorite restaurant. Please join us to see why!

Saturday Social: Saturday, 10/20/18 from 12:30-2:30 PM at Springfield Diner, 1730 E. Republic Rd, Suite U, Springfield, MO 65804. Please email, call or text to RSVP by 10/18/18 to Lorraine Gardner, 417-619-8719, lorrainegardner1@gmail.com, or note you are "going" on the MOM Facebook page.

MOM at The Library Center: Saturday, 10/27/18 from 9 AM to 1 PM in Springfield-Greene County Library District 4653 S Campbell Ave, Springfield, Missouri 65810. This month we'll be in the Grafton Room. Contact Vivian Wasson with questions: 417-881-7571, Wasson2008@live.missouristate.edu.

~ Missouri Ozarks Mensa August ExComm Meeting ~

The ExComm meeting of Missouri Ozarks Mensa was held at the home of Bill and Melissa Bultas on Thursday, August 9th. Present were Cheryl Braswell, Lorraine Gardner, Gene Maddux and Bill Bultas. The meeting was called to order at 7:55 PM.
Lorraine Gardner gave details about the Leadership Development Workshop she recently attended in Nebraska, especially with regard to information provided by RVC Rich Olcott at the workshop. Mentioned was that through surveys of the membership of American Mensa it was found that the 2 primary reasons individuals join Mensa are: 1. Intellectually stimulating activities and 2. Opportunities to socialize. It was also explained that introverts represent 1/3 of the general population, but 2/3 of Mensa members. The 2 most important benefits of Mensa membership were reported by members to be The Mensa Bulletin and the local newsletter.
Several matters regarding testing were discussed, including whether we should have scheduled test dates or potential members should just be tested on an ad hoc basis. As we do not presently have a proctor, Lorraine explained that she may need to make trips to Kansas City to qualify as a proctor.
Discussed were the need to update our web site, possibly targeting colleges for potential members, events for children.
The Treasurer reported that the bank account of Missouri Ozarks Mensa currently holds over $7,000.00, and we need to use these funds to benefit the membership. Parties and other events were discussed that would be provided by MOM, including an escape room event.
Less expensive methods of sending out the newsletter were discussed.
We have a recurrent monthly event at The Library Center. Having a more specific theme for these meetings, such as a game that is to be played or a monthly speaker may be a good idea.
Discussed was possible creation of a Meetup or other group to attract potential Mensans, or a public Facebook page for Missouri Ozarks Mensa that could list some events for potential members. A review of policies from National with regard to these ideas is needed.
Discussed were possibly listing member birthdays (just the month, not the day or year) for the month each newsletter goes out, as well as Mensaversaries.
Gene motioned for the meeting to adjourn, Lorraine seconded, and the meeting ended at 10:05 PM.

~ Minutes for the Meeting of Missouri Ozarks Mensa, 8/25/18 ~

The meeting was called together at 9:03 AM by LocSec Eugene Maddux in the Grafton Room of The Library Center on 1236 Rosebud Circle, Springfield, MO.

Attending were: Eugene Maddux; Vivian Wasson; Ben Elliot; Stu Hagerman; Gary Kirkpatrick and Mark (forgive my memory, but he was welcome & interesting!)

A. Stu sought the Japanese meaning and etimology of Sudoku and a lively discussion of its origins and Gary's focused pursuits ensued. The latter's activities may be followed by searching the internet.

B. Things kept & disseminated via the newsletter/MOM website/Facebook/other media…well, Vivian & I propose the arrangement where anything included in our media should be sent to me or Bill as an item ready to publish. I may make an exception for Lorriane's MENSA FaceBook page if it's easy to scrape into my editing, that's undecided for now. What say you? Feedback is appreciated and it will be weighed against time constraints of the officers.

C. Vivian, Gary and I (and Bill, later, as he was indisposed) spoke of including items raw, as produced by the author, to keep flavor & intent. Controversial items will need to be introduced with more clarity than color and more objectivity than belligerence. We will strive to keep your "rhyme & meter!"

D. For now, we will not maintain or source "instant" media beyond FaceBook (twitter, instagram, various chats, etc.) corporately.

E. For now, we will keep the print material in circulation along with digital presentations.

F. Pensive discussion about our intent and what is the physical manifestation of our presence in the community, local and distributed; began and broached topics such as selflessness vs. obligation, liability vs. benevolence and inclusion vs. exclusion.

G. Eugene produced and gathered from others a "stretch goal" list of possibilities that were visible to the general populace:

- brainstorming sessions for individuals and/or groups in need, not quite a think-tank, but similar;
- presentations by popular/qualified experts on a topic, perhaps followed with meet & greet;
- meals for a cause, perhaps including indigent groups;
- game parties to polish our noodles;
- ExComms - our meetings of MENSA officers;
- Possible hospital service for patients & families to discuss anything germane from "next step" to the meaning of life;

H. Gary spoke of print-on-demand services and their collection of older texts that are out of print and expired of copyright;

I. Eugene shall contact Bill Day to see if any MENSA mailing supplies are still unused and available to send to MOM;

J. Eugene has started using komposer as a free website editor to update the MOM website and it now looks even worse <insert goofy-eyed smiley here>

K. A brief discussion of current medicine and the economy of its delivery began, which led to some experiences with holistic remedies;

L. Expectations of MOM, it's officers and the scope of our membership were discussed in light of our desire to renew and grow this chapter. We spoke of striking a balance in our essence that includes strict & technical material and bohemian mind-at-play that would give most everyone points-to-ponder and attract latent members;

M. Eugene & Gary resumed the topic of research and book sales and spoke of Google Historic Print and BookFinder.com.

Eugene called adjournment at 12:43 and Ben seconded.

~ Rich Olcott – Gatherings ~

September's peak harvest time here in the Heartland Region, from sorghum on our south side to sugar beets up north; corn, soybeans and truck crops everywhere. The farmer's market pickings (including Colorado's famed Palisades peaches) have been glorious.
True to the time of year, **Central Iowa Mensa** will host their annual *Harvest Regional Gathering* in Des Moines on October 4-6. I went last year, had a fine time, met some good

people and enjoyed my best bowl of chicken'n'dumplings in a long time. Those folks know how to lay out a table. Contact Michelle Herring (herringmichellel@johndeere.com) for more information.

Which got me thinking about the word "gathering" and how Mensa has **Gatherings** instead of conventions, conferences, meetings and such. Sure, our ExComms have meetings and many Local Groups do Meet-And-Greets, but our Monthly, Regional and Annual Gatherings are peculiarly Mensan. Why is that?

I've got a theory. Meetings and conventions are formal occasions with intent to do an organization's business. However, the word "Gathering" carries the feeling of people being drawn towards each other. Impelled, even. That definitely fits with my experiences. Mensans just seem to connect with each other in a way that doesn't happen so easily elsewhere. If you're one of our many members who hasn't yet shown up for a Local Group event, do that. Once you've learned that you truly belong here, I think you'll come back again.

Lots of things to be proud of in Region 7 this month. **Mid-America Mensa**'s Wes Benson was the featured artist in the July 2018 *Bulletin*, copping both the issue cover and the illustration for the Table of Contents page. Two of our Heartland Region CultureQuest® teams placed in the Top 20 for the 2018 competition. Out of 107 teams, the **Plains&Peaks** "Peak of Perfection" posse came in at #13 and the **Nebraska and Western Iowa** "You Go Girls" group finished at #18. And at the Omaha LDW* I had the pleasure of awarding two more RVC Service Awards in recognition of many years of hard, effective work for Mensa – to Diana Dyer of **Mid-America Mensa** and Beth Anne Demeter of **Denver Mensa**. Congratulations, everyone.

* - If you're curious about what went on at the Leadership Development Workshops, all the presentation materials are posted online at region7.us.mensa.org/The_Nuts_and_Bolts_of_ExComm_1.htm.

~~ Rich

For Information or to host an Upcoming Event

Check our Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/groups/MissouriOzarksMensa/

Or contact Lorraine 417.619.8719 lorrainegardner1@gmail.com

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Missouri Ozarks Mensa Elected Officers

Local Secretary: *Eugene Maddux*	417.770.6493	HappyGene@WindStream.Net
Assistant Loc Sec: *Gary Kirkpatrick*	417.501.1868	garykspr@yahoo.com
Treasurer: *Lorraine Gardner*	417.619-8719	lorrainegardner1@gmail.com
Recorder/Secretary: *Bill Bultas*	314.962.5828	billbultas@yahoo.com
At-Large Member: *Cheryl Braswell*	781.929.7097	cheryl.braswell@yahoo.com

Missouri Ozarks Mensa Appointed Officers

Program Coord: *Lorraine Gardner*	417.619-8719	lorrainegardner1@gmail.com
Publications Officer: *Eugene Maddux*	417.770.6493	HappyGene@WindStream.Net
Editor/Web Master: *Eugene Maddux*	417.770.6493	HappyGene@WindStream.Net
Membership Officer: *Bill Bultas*	314.962.5828	billbultas@yahoo.com
Proctor (testing): OPEN		
Scholarship Coord: *Andrea Miller*		inquiry3@yahoo.com
Joplin Area Coord: OPEN		
Southern Area Coord.: *Sally Schuster*	501.521.6443	grannys@aol.com

~ ANSWER TO PUZZLE ~

ANSWER: A physician for the best athlete.

The first 5 letters are MVPMD, which can be read as MVP MD. An MD is a physician, and an MVP is the Most Valuable Player in a sport.

Here are the five words and names:

1. mummy (mum)
2. vampire (umpire, empire)
3. pumpkin (pump, kin)
4. Michael Myers (Halloween movies, Mike Myers-comedian) 5. Dracula (card, impaler)

For #5 the "impaler" was more specifically Vlad the Impaler.

And regardless of what day of the year it is: HAPPY HALLOWEEN! :-)

~

"Shadows of a thousand years rise again unseen. Voices whisper in the trees, 'Tonight is Halloween!'" Dexter Kozen

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