Volume 40 May 2019 Issue 5

Illuminate

The Newsletter of Missouri Ozarks Mensa

Recent Events

April

Lots of MOM: Well, I guess we'll talk about it next-next time!

Upcoming Events

May

Mensa Games Night: Friday May 24th, 6:30 pm at Cheryl Braswell's house, 1510 N Washington Ave, Springfield. Join fellow Mensans for a night of fun and games – board games, card games, whatever strikes your fancy. It's off to a slow start, but will rev up nicely! Cheryl has a small stash of games, but feel free to bring your own games ☺ No RSVP required, guests welcome – yeah!

MOM at The Library Center: Saturday, May 25 2019 - 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the **Library Center (TLC) in the Grafton Room** and, of course, stay tuned in to the MO Ozarks Mensa FaceBook page for updates: https://www.facebook.com/groups/MissouriOzarksMensa/

This is a great time of lively & varied discussion that you don't want to miss! Not only discovering each others' depth of knowledge, we toss about the import & feasibility of new technologies and the intent of classic prose. A real think tank, paid with stimulation & entertainment instead of dollars ☺

Illuminate is a monthly publication of Missouri Ozarks Mensa, a division of American Mensa, Ltd., 1200 E Copeland Rd, Ste 550, Arlington, TX 76011-1344.

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

~ Rich Olcott – Gatherings ~

'Tis May, 'tis May, the lucky month of May! (All due respect to Vanessa Redgrave's stellar performance in *Camelot*, but this is a family-oriented organization so we'll leave it at that.) I hope everyone is getting outside and enjoying our Heartland Springtime in the best time of the year.

A special "Thank you!" to someone who did double-duty for us this year. Plains & Peaks Mensa's **Jane Cosper** was scheduled to serve as our Regional Scholarship chair for this year's essay competition, but a sudden health emergency got in the way. Mid-America Mensa's Scholarship Chair **Rhonda Johnson** graciously agreed to be a last-minute stand-in for Jane in addition to her own duties. Thanks, Rhonda.
Speaking of people who stepped up, thanks and congratulations to these people who recently took on the LocSec role for our Local Groups

- Beth Anne Demeter for Denver Mensa
- Cynthia Heller for Mid-America Mensa
- Wes Shaw for Nebraska-Western Iowa Mensa

Thanks as well to **Jennifer Jewell**, **Diana Dyer** and **Kirk Johnson** for your work during your completed LocSec terms, and to all the other new and retiring Local Group officers. We couldn't do it without you.
If you're reading this during the 15 April – 15 May American Mensa voting period please do take advantage of your opportunity to choose who'll lead the organization and serve this Region over the coming two-year period. There's a good selection of candidates to choose from, plus several Referenda for you to consider. Full details are in your April 2019 issue of *The Bulletin*. Both candidates for RVC-7 have campaign statements available for your inspection at region7.us.mensa.org. The balloting is online this year, quick and easy, but if you prefer you can get a paper ballot by calling the National Office at 817-607-0060.
By the way, I just made my reservation for the 2019 Annual Gathering, American Mensa's week-long "nerd camp" that'll be in Phoenix this year. As usual it's scheduled to include the Fourth of July but on the history I'm sure they'll have fireworks, along with all kinds of smart-person fun. Full details are at ag.us.mensa.org. See you there!

~~ Rich

~ *Member Contribution* ~

Movie Review

The new *Aquaman* is just pretty darn good if you're wanting an over the top bad-guys-get-smacked good-guys-get-girls earthlings-get-2nd-chance kinda-sci-fi-action-fantasy with great visuals. Mmm…yep, that's what I wanted! Just examining the prerequisites & implications would be a fun coolers & chips all-nighter even though, as usual, the presentation of this ancient civilization's technology is mostly analog and an extension of more natural, fluid constructs. But then, I don't really know how a digital, AI-injected barnacle would appear.

So, big Q: are authors and rendering personnel unable to conceive, or unable to present, the results of thousands of year of growth/progress? Or, maybe they are and our hardened, more precise, "digital" technological century is just a bump on the road? We will soon have reliable computer bendy screens and more robotic assemblies that use tensive/morphic actuators with fewer servos or gears driven by square wave pulses…

I want a supercharged amphibious fish-cycle that'll do a hundred knots...and some gills.

Patrick Wilson was perfect for the dedicated not-so-good-stuffed-shirt-really-looking-out-for-the-greater-good and I strongly admired & disliked his character, which is probably the intent. Dafoe was perfect for the revealing overseer. Momoa was also fabulous and might be the new Lundgren. I'll buy this on half.com come summer.

Perhaps what impacted me most was the real, sustained romantic tragedy of Aquaman's father. Now, I usually see that stuff and go, "Aww…that's tough, he's a hero, too!" but I was more thoughtful, this time. In the same fashion that I've become accustomed to violence in media, I'm possibly becoming jaded to emotional trauma. I want to live vicariously for a moment, so the malice & death are excused as plot necessities, but I'm not so sure I want to dilute my reaction to loss.

Right On: 1. Nicole Kidman is just always hot-Hot-HOT! 2. Amber Heard ain't too shabby, either ☺ 3. Mimoa inspires me to keep up my P90-not calisthenics; 4. Cool weapons & creature control; 5. I really wanted to BE THERE!

Wrong Off: 1. Nicole forgets something when returning to the sea; 2. As usual, some of the super-human-strength-scenes are not genuine when actors have to shove each other around; 3. What's up with Kidman's floppy suit at the end? She's oceanic royalty and has NEVER taken her summers on Tantooine; 4. Do all latent & reluctant superheroes devolve to chugging brew with ne'er-do-wells? Please sir, find other ways to contrast life-with-lessers against your noble destiny; 5. An Atlantian queen must be awesome on all counts and they're trying to tell me she can survive a solitary journey through The Trench and yet not successfully battle another oceanic faction with her son and future-daughter-in-law? 6. The fabric of causality seemed a little perforated and I haven't put my finger on it, yet, but I have to mow the lawn - they're priming me for sequels, anyway.

…Gene Maddux…

~

~ *Just an Opinion…* ~

Mmmmm…nope, just fact! Following are a couple links about Mensa elections. Please use them ☺

Candidates List:

https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/elections/2019-board-election/

Voting Link:

https://www.directvote.net/mensa/default.aspx

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Feel free to use the following page, or two, for personal notes ;)

Or maybe contribute and display your cerebral wares…

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

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"It is not worth an intelligent man's time to be in the majority. By definition, there are already enough people to do that."
G. H. Hardy

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