

FEBRUARY 1983

SCAM

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



Vol 1 No 2

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FROM THE LOCAL SECRETARY

Well, the election is all over and I have been honored not only to be elected to the Executive Committee, but also to be appointed as the new LocSec for Space Coast Area Mensa. Thank you all for your support both in the election and in the creation of our own local group. Response has been encouraging and overwhelming. It appears many Mensans have only been waiting for a wider choice of activities to make themselves known, and to join with both their presence at monthly gatherings and to offer help and constructive suggestions to make the group better for us all.

With this help and the further assistance of the rest of the ExComm and appointed officials, I hope to continue making Space Coast Area Mensa a social group we will all want to enjoy. Congratulations to the rest of the ExComm members on your election-- now let's get busy!

Judy Peabody

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to express my appreciation for the encouragement I've received in the publication of this newsletter. For those of you who've said such nice things, flattery will get you everywhere. I hope the trust you have shown in me as the SCAM Editor will prove wise and be reflected in these pages each month. This job has given me a new perspective on the power (and responsibility) of the press. I would also like to thank my friend Quintus, a NEC 8001 computer, and the WordStar (and, ahem, SpellStar) programs, who have made the job of Editor a pleasure instead of a chore.

Jim Peabody is the contributor for this month's "A Member Speaks" column. This column is open to any member who wants to be heard. If you have something you want to say, please say it! The SCAM exists to reflect the thoughts, views and opinions of our members.

Please send your contributions to Steve Schneider, 511 Washington Ave., Cape Canaveral 32920.

And speaking of contributions, I would like to extend my impoverished, heartfelt thanks to this month's Generous Contributors, Shirley Ganzel and Rohn Walter, who have done more than their share in keeping this publication solvent.

Steve Schneider

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 4th** **FRIDAY** **7:30PM** **PIG SIG**
At Grandpa's Steak House on SR 520, 4 miles West of US 1, 1 mile East of I-95 in Cocoa. "Don't let the outside fool ya" says Grandpa-- and we agree. This little place cooks up delicious steaks at reasonable prices, and has a great salad bar. Don't miss it. Call Judy at 632-9310 to RSVP.
- 10th** **THURSDAY** **7:30PM** **ART FILM SIG**
"Dear Inspector", de Broca's ("King of Hearts") 1978 farce about a Paris woman police inspector. At the BBC Auditorium, Melbourne campus Wickham Road. Meet Alex Marton at the Auditorium entrance by 7:15. Call him at 729-2723 (days) if you need more information.
- 11th** **HEART**
- 12th** **OF**
- 13th** **FLORIDA**
- 18th** **FRIDAY** **MIDNIGHT** **ROCKY HORROR SIG**
This determined SIG will again attempt to view the infamous Rocky Horror Picture Show. Meet in front of the Merritt Square Cinema at 11:45PM.
- 23rd** **WEDNESDAY** **7:00PM** **COMPUTER SIG**
The last computer SIG was marked by a graphics demonstration and generous bytes of home-baked cheesecake. Our local group definitely has its share of hackers, and the interchange of information made the last meeting as educational as it was enjoyable. Micro-computers will soon have a greater impact on our daily lives than the automobile. They will change the way we work, play and think. All those interested (or just idly curious) are invited to attend. Meet at Steve Schneider's place at 511 Washington Ave., Cape Canaveral. Phone 853-5285 (days) or 783-8744 (eve).
- 27th** **SUNDAY** **11:00AM** **SUNDAY BRUNCH BUNCH**
This month we're returning to the Holiday Inn on A1A in Cocoa Beach, about a mile South of SR 520. If you are new and don't recognize anyone, ask the cashier for the Mensa table. Or just look for the table with the highest hirsute ratio.

LOOKING BACK

The program night, featuring the economic thoughts of Dr. Camille Castorina, provided both historical perspective and current insight. Money is a subject we all find of intense personal interest, and Dr. Castorina certainly aroused our interest. She is a knowledgeable economist and an outstanding speaker.

The New Year's Eve party at Ricki Wertz' home was the best way possible to start 1983. Good friends, good food and good conversation were abundant. It was an experience we will all try to remember. The damage done to the front door and picture window has already been repaired, and Ricki is again looking forward to sponsoring another gathering, soon?

Five M's turned out for the Art Film SIG, a number that exceeded statistical expectations. Afterward the group adjourned to the Royal Cafe, where the conversation led to the unconventional School for Individual Education. As a result of this conversation, look for the April Program to feature the School's Director as speaker.

The Sunday Brunch Bunch saw nine Mensans gathered. One more would have forced the group to a larger table. This has been one of the most popular monthly activities. If you enjoy good food and excellent conversation on Sunday morning, the Brunch Bunch is the place to be.

The Rocky Horror Picture SIG provided its members with an event that won't be forgotten. Alex, Ricki and Mary had a fantastic time at Page One before the show. Unfortunately, there was no show. The Twin Cinema doesn't show the movie anymore! But the undaunted SIG will reconvene at Midnight at the Merritt Square Theater on February 18th.

Seven hearty M's and 2 children enjoyed the Family Day Field Trip sponsored by the Singles SIG at Blue Springs State Park. A large excursion party attempted to penetrate the local swamp. Fortunately, most decided that discretion was the better part of valor, and withdrew. The remaining "more guts than brains" M's continued the adventure. The constant struggle against the elements soon took its toll on the tired and hungry M's. Ricki Wertz, now studying Mycology, located natural sustenance in the form of Emetic Russula mushrooms. They looked just like the mushrooms she ate as a child in Austria. They not only looked delicious, they have an interesting medical value-- they're used to make you regurgitate! The rest of the group were grateful for Ricki's demonstration of the mushroom's effect before she passed them around. The day was rounded out with canoe rides and a final visit to a fast food restaurant that featured EDIBLE mushrooms.

LOOKING FORWARD

This month we have much to look forward to. The February Program Night and other activities not seen here will be held (more or less) at the HEART OF FLORIDA REGIONAL GATHERING. See you there!!!!

THE EXCOMM ACCEPTS

Alex B. Marton

For this august occasion (In February?-- Ed.), I have picked #23 from Blurberman's classic "One Thousand Acceptance Statements for One-thousand-and-one Occasions: "To those who voted for me I say this, that my election is a reflection of your intelligence, and we should thank each other and give praise; to those who didn't I say that, well, my election is a reflection of your intelligence too, for you saved me from hubris, the bane of the Greeks, and God knows I am not a Greek. And now you know it too." Blurberman, you old dog, you sure knew how to lay it on. But all seriousness aside, I love you all, and will do my very best on the ExComm. Hope, work, and succeed.

Ricki Wertz

I am pleased and proud that so many of you voted for me to represent you on the SCAM ExComm, even though I joined the group such a short time ago. I will do my best for our new group, not only as Treasurer, but in any other way I can! My thanks go to all of you who voted for me! Join me in wishing health, wealth and happiness to our newly formed SCAM group.

Rohn Walter

I was honored to be elected by such a distinguished group as you all. I promise you that I will not goldbrick! With your continued support, I will help SCAM grow into an even bigger and better organization. It's going to be a lot of work, but we are a resourceful lot, aren't we? Again, my warmest thanks. I've never felt more welcome in Mensa as I do right now.

Rich Meagher

I'm proud and honored to have been selected to serve on the ExComm. I certainly intend to do everything I can to help develop Mensa here on the Space Coast. However, no matter how good we are as the ExComm, it will take the help and participation of everyone for us to succeed.

Minutes of the SCAM ExComm Meeting of January 31, 1983

The first ExComm Meeting of Space Coast Area Mensa was held immediately after the ballots were counted at the home of Jim and Judy Peabody.

The first item of business was to elect officers and appoint members to other positions. Judy Peabody was named LocSec; Rich Meagher, Assistant LocSec; Ricki Wertz, Treasurer; Alex Marton, Program Chairman and Calendar Editor; Steve Schneider, SCAM Editor and Proctor; and Rohn Walter, Membership Chairman and Recording Secretary. Jim Peabody was appointed Fund Chairman. It was agreed to apply for a third class mailing permit, to reaffirm the SIG coordinators in their present positions, and to establish a SCAM checking account. The official address of SCAM was approved as 3407 Frankie Ln., Cocoa 32922. The meeting was then adjourned.

A MEMBER SPEAKS

BY JIM PEABODY

WHEE!! HERE WE GO!!

We are off and running. We (Space Coast Area Mensa) have had our first election. The new officers are enthroned in their collective seats of power and are eagerly pursuing their new responsibilities. One of these new duties is to delegate jobs that the politicians feel will be (1) beneath their dignity or (2) politically unpopular. See how quickly they have learned to act just like real pros!

The most unpopular of all jobs is the raising of funds. If you don't believe me, just ask your local IRS agent. However, onerous as this task is, it is necessary. If you are reading this, you obviously know that we have launched a local newsletter. What you may not know is that we have opted to go first class. The standard for a newly formed group is a single mimeographed page folded in the middle. Towards this end, American Mensa fronts just about enough cash to cover that cost. Unfortunately, this is not enough to cover the cost of a more ambitious project. We can take pride in our newsletter. As a first-time effort, we've done an excellent job, but we're now under the gun to continue at this level. It's up to us to provide the wherewithal to continue.

Here it comes troops: WE NEED CASH. We don't need a whole lot of money, but we do need more than we've got. We have no power to tax, no authority to demand. But we do have the gall to ask. We want donations of (1) money and (2) ideas on ways to raise it. Providing the above will put your name in print as a Generous Contributor. If you are able to make a donation, please make checks payable to Space Coast Area Mensa and mail to 3407 Frankie Lane, Cocoa 32922.

After looking over several local newsletters, I found the ones I liked best were those having a wide range of contributors. So I am soliciting contributions for this space. Several M's thought it would be fun if we had a column designed to stir up controversy. Heaven only knows where they got the idea that a shy, retiring soul like yours truly could ever involve himself in such a project. (I think it was because Jim volunteered-- Ed.)

I don't care what the subject is. If I don't have an opinion I'll formulate one just to keep the conversation going. So, do you have something you would like to see discussed? Do you have an opinion you would like to express? Then, LET US HEAR FROM YOU! Just drop a line (or many lines) to Steve Schneider, 511 Washington Ave., Cape Canaveral 32902.

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