

MARCH 1983

SCAM

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



Vol 1 No 3

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FROM THE LOCAL SECRETARY

Eighteen SCAM members enjoyed the activities at the Heart of Florida RG. We were joined by 149 Mensans from all over, including one young lady who came all the way from Washington State. Many Northerners, despite the rain, enjoyed the warmth of Florida and Southern hospitality. I have attended many RG's and enjoyed this one the most. If you have never gone to a RG, you have missed a lot of fun, conversation, speakers, hugging, and a generally relaxing weekend. Once you try it, you'll love it! The RG committee had a final wrap-up following the festivities and decided to again use the Howard Johnson facilities in 1984. Most important, we have been invited to share the Heart of Florida time slot with CFM, and will be the host in 1985 and alternating years thereafter. Many of us will help CFM in 1984 so that we can be better prepared when it is our turn.

The increased activities in January drew out many new faces and only proved to us that a busy calendar is what is wanted by the group. March again has places to go and things to do and we hope to see you at as many activities as possible. On March 19th, CFM will hold a bon voyage party for SCAM to bid us farewell prior to our becoming an official group on the weekend of the 26th, the time of the next AMC meeting. This will be in place of our party night in March. Even though it's a little further away, we'd love to have a good turnout. If we all meet at my house (3407 Frankie Ln, Cocoa) which is on the way, we can travel in fewer cars and have a great time going to Orlando to have a great time. If you want to go, call me by Friday night at 632-9310, so I can tell Maggie how many of us to expect.

Judy Peabody

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Heart of Florida RG was the big news last month, and it was fantastic. It was my first RG, and an experience I will never, ever forget. The food, the company, the conversation, the friends and the Channel 6 news coverage provided a gestalt that will be especially remembered. It was an appropriate time for the official announcement of SCAM's intended separation from Central Florida Mensa. The birth of a new group is always good news, and the Space Coast Area Mensans who have worked towards this goal should be congratulated.

Special thanks to Generous Contributor Baron Eickhoff and very special thanks to Generous Contributor Emeritus William P. Gray for their financial support of this publication.

Steve Schneider

HERE'S THE SCAM

The Pig SIG at Grandpa's Steak House saw 12 Mensans gathered in order not to "let the outside fool ya". And it certainly didn't. The more than modest surroundings were complimented by an outstanding salad bar and fantastic steak. It was a treat those of us who don't live in Cocoa found surprising.

Four Mensans made their way to the bowels of the BCC Auditorium for the Art Film SIG. It was a classic comedy with unexpected twists. The French film with English subtitles contained a scene with Happy Birthday unexpectedly sung in English with heavy French accents. Alex Marton (our most accomplished linguist) went to pieces.

The Rocky Horror SIG provided five Mensans with exactly what was promised-- an unforgettable experience. The majority opinion was that once was enough, even though the superlative acting (mostly by the audience) was a treat. However, the idea of a Midnight Movie has caught on, and more mind-boggling cineramic experiences are being planned.

Those attending the Computer SIG enjoyed bits and bytes of chocolate fondue and each other's company. At the next meeting, we'll vote on whether to maintain a separate SIG, or fold our activity into the Space Coast Microcomputer Club.

The Sunday Brunch Bunch gathered ten Mensans, including honored guest Cynthia Clanton, the charming and talented CFM LocSec, whose presence is always welcome. The \$4.50 buffet provided a sumptuous breakfast, and of course, splendid company.

RG GAMES REPORT

What would an RG be without games? Participation was enthusiastic (would you believe a Fictionary game still going strong at 3AM?). Here are the winners:

BACKGAMMON:	Sue Siebert	K. J. Blackburn
FICTIONARY:	Curt Hackett	Margy Reinke
SCRABBLE:	H. Peter Miner	Carol Vitale
PUZZLE:	Rodney Hamilton	Ricki Wertz
TRIVIA:	Jean/Phil Snaith	Kathy/Eddie Hardman
LYING:	Ricki Wertz	John Bond

HUGGING:	MM
Most Enveloping	Ray Munclu
Most Enthusiastic	Chuck Allen
Friendliest	Rick Meagher

	FM
Most Empathetic	Ricki Wertz
Longest	Cynthia Clanton
Most Fantasy Inducing	Lois Reszetucha

I want to thank all the participants and judges for being such good sports and having a great sense of humor.

Alex B. Marton, Games Contractor

MARCH CALENDAR

- 4th FRIDAY 7:30PM PIG SIG**
The Pig SIG for March will be held at Desperados, 381 N. Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach. It is on the one-way north-bound lane of A1A just east of the glass bank. Most entries are \$5 to \$10. Good food, good company. Don't miss it. Call Martha Loss at 453-4718 if you need more information.
- 10th THURSDAY 7:30PM ART FILM SIG**
At the Brevard Art Center and Museum, 1510 Highland Avenue, Eau Gallie. The subjects this month are "Art, People, Feelings". Afterwards, we'll adjourn to a nearby watering hole for an apres-cine Kulturfest. Call Alex for more information at 729-2723.
- 12th SATURDAY 7:00PM ExComm Meeting**
The ExComm Meeting will be held directly before this month's Program. As always, all members are invited to attend.
- 12th SATURDAY 7:30PM PROGRAM NIGHT**
Our program this month will feature M Elizabeth Muchow, an advanced speaker with the Toastmasters International organization. She has spoken before the Melbourne Jaycees, the South Brevard Board of Realtors and many others. Recently, she led a Human Potential Seminar at BCC. Program night will be held in the clubhouse at Society Park Apartments, 201 Eau Gallie Causeway Road, Indian Harbor Beach. From the Causeway, go east, turn into complex just before Fat Boy's. Clubhouse is by pool surrounded by buildings E,F,G. Call Bob Cornelius at 773-8144 for better directions.
- 13th SUNDAY 11:00AM SUNDAY BRUNCH**
An opportunity to do some Sunday morning quarterbacking after Program night (Betty, you better show up). This month we'll be at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront, A1A, Melbourne. More details from Alex, 729-2723.
- 19th SATURDAY 8:00PM BON VOYAGE**
CFM is throwing a party for the Brevard secessionists at Maggie Tschirgi's place, 6613 Precourt Drive in Orlando. From I-4, take the 441 & 17-92 exit, go south on Orange Blossom Trail, left on Lancaster Road, right on Voltaire, left on Nana, right on Precourt at dead end; second house on left. Call Maggie at 855-9078 for more information or more detailed directions.
- 23rd WEDNESDAY 7:30PM COMPUTER SIG**
The Computer SIG has gotten off to a good start. Let's keep up the momentum, and let's see some new faces. At Steve's place, 511 Washington Ave., Cape Canaveral. Call Steve at 853-5285 (days), or 783-8744 (eve) for directions.

26th

SATURDAY

7:30PM

SMOKER POT LUCK

This is it. If you wanted surprise and shock... but no, we better let you find out for yourself. Bring a dish and share at Mary Smoker's place, 1490 Eddy, Merritt Island. From Merritt Square Mall, go north on Sykes Creek; it runs into N. Banana River Blvd. Go two miles to Surfside; go left, then turn right on Fiddler, which becomes Eddy St. Call Mary at 452- 3658 if you don't know what to bring. \$2 BYOB.

FABULOUS FLORIDA CAMPOUT

Broward Mensa is organizing a Fabulous Florida Campout April 8th-10th at Lykes Fisheating Creek Campgrounds. There will be campfires both nights. Bring musical instruments. Firewood is available. There will be a communal dinner on Saturday night (\$10/adult, \$5/child). If the creek is high enough, the camp can provide canoes, equipment, and transportation to the starting point of a 4-5 hour canoe trip on Saturday at \$15 per canoe. Nothing else is organized. This is a bring-it-yourself, do-it-yourself gathering. Campers must bring or arrange to share everything they will need. Children are invited, but not required. This is a beautiful campground with boating, playground, hot showers, and electricity. You will be required to stop at the campground office and register. You must pay them your camping fees. The only fee you will send to Broward Mensa is the dinner fee. To register, send a check payable to Broward Mensa to Gail Morrison, 8221 SW 4 Place, North Lauderdale, FL 33068.

A MEMBER SPEAKS

by Steve Schneider

Since I'm still a bachelor, I have, on occasion, the opportunity to meet and socialize with a charming woman. I was specially interested in favorably impressing a recent acquaintance, so I invited her to dine with me at my favorite restaurant. We ate a fine meal that I had enjoyed many times before and engaged in pleasant conversation. We were having apple pie and coffee for dessert, when my companion (rather suddenly) became extraordinarily abusive. She began to call me inconsiderate, ungracious, and cheap. She said that she never wanted to see me again, and asked me to take her home. I truly don't understand why she was so angry. McDonalds has always been one of my favorite places to eat. Oh well, such is life. I really don't think that I'm cheap, but I do like to get the most for my money. And this brings me to the point. I've just paid 30 big ones to belong to Mensa for another year. I don't enjoy giving other people my money, but when I do, I want maximum value. I've just written a check (and used a stamp to mail it) to meet and enjoy the company of the local Mensans. I've only met a little over 40 members, even though I go to most of the local functions. So for you members who I have never attended a local function-- I'VE PAID GOOD MONEY TO KNOW YOU. YOU MAY NOT BE MISSING MUCH BY NOT KNOWING ME, BUT NOT KNOWING YOU HURTS BOTH MY FEELINGS AND MY POCKETBOOK!!! And that, my friends, the the most impassioned plea I can make.

REPORT FROM THE BOONDOCKS

To: Head Honcho, Central CABAL*
From: Earthmission #23
Subject: Monthly status #9577

Neither rain, nor snow..., so here I am again. Sorry about your involuntary retirement. Or if it's not you, H2, whoever it is you are this time -- welcome online. Speaking about replacement, what are you doing about mine? My 800-year contract will be up soon -- in a couple of years, as a matter of fact. I am looking forward to a renewal, but not in this grubby backwater of a planet. Pass this on to whomever is running the show nowadays.

After all, I have done more than I signed up to do. And surely I have done more than the last guy before me. "For lack of a nail, the battle was lost." Who do you suppose pulled the nail and changed the local future? You already know this, H2, but your successor may not. And who do think fed Nostradamus all that malarkey? And Niels Bohr, and Freud, and all the others? I've been working my tail off. But I bore you with old glories. On with my report.

This has been a dull month here on Earth. No inventions, very little carnage, practically no falsehoods out of the ordinary. Quite out of character, actually. But since we already have this channel on, I might as well give you something. Use it or lose it, as they say here. Slobs! There must be a reward for putting up with 800 years of this.

I think I'd like to use my time slot to talk about traffic lights. Have we covered that before? Traffic lights are really hard to explain if you've never been here. Remember my report about throughput? You can get it out of the file. Traffic lights are a method of reducing throughput. If arranged properly, they will actually choke throughput to a standstill. Let me explain.

A traffic light (and I mean they really use lights here!) is a go/no-go device that lets traffic go in one direction while it stops traffic in the crosswise direction. Yes, it only works in two dimensions (I haven't fiddled with this system yet). The way it works now, the trick is to have traffic lights one block apart (a block is as long as 20 or 30 cars). Then you play with the timing of the lights until eventually all the cars are trapped and can't move.

The whole thing is displayed on a video screen, but not everybody can play. I've heard that you have to work for the police department. I haven't checked this all out, but I have played the game, and, believe me, it's great fun. Naturally, the people in the cars don't know what's happening, and become quite stressed and aggravated. You get extra points if you can make them collide. It's even better if you can get some fighting to break out, because then the police comes out, and that guarantees that all movement will stop.

When I get back, I'll bring one of these games with me. I think you would enjoy it -- for a while anyway. The people down here just keep playing forever; they never get tired of it. They are really primitive. You don't want to get assigned here unless you just absolutely have to have a job.

The light blinked; I guess my time is up. End of monthly report. Will update next month. Sim salabim.

Alex M signing off.

*Council on Alien Biologies and Linguistics

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MENSA is a non-profit organization whose sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any of a number of approved intelligence tests. Local admission tests are administered on the first Saturday on alternate months beginning in February. For more information, contact the SCAM Proctor at 783-8744.

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