

MAY 1983

# SCAM

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



Volume I, No. 5

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29 Singles Camping Trip	30	31				

## FROM THE LOCAL SECRETARY

Space Coast Area Mensa has finally become an officially recognized Group. I'm sure my mailman will recognize an increase in volume, our treasury has recognized a marked increase, and I recognize that the revolution is over and we can now enjoy the fruits of our labor. I would like to personally thank everyone who has helped during the separation process, especially the members of the ExComm, David Mann (our RUC) and Central Florida Mensa who shared the profits from the last RG\* to the tune of \$400. A very special thanks comes from me to those M's who sent in donations during the last few months.

The committee and I still need your HELP, however. We can only try to anticipate the kind of activities and content in the SCAM that will appeal to you. If we are not, we need to hear from you. Your participation, no matter how little, encourages us and let's us know we are doing something right. But when we continue to have a large group of M's that appear only as names on a list, unknown and unidentified, we wonder what it is that attracts you to Mensa. Please get involved. Join in the fun at our activities and send in your thoughts, artwork, and quizzes, to Steve, our SCAM Editor. This is your organization. We can't make it what you want if we are kept in the dark.

I just read this to my son, Eric, who is a brand new M, and asked him what he would do if he read the column. He responded with "I'd probably think 'that's nice' and turn to the next page." If this is your reaction, STOP. DON'T TURN THE PAGE. Give it a little more thought and then turn to the calendar and decide which activities you will attend this month. Eric, by the way, has volunteered to help organize the Young Mensa activities that will begin in June with a School's Out Skating Party for Young Mensans and children of Mensans. Hope to see you soon.

Judy Peabody

## A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Xerox experiment has been a total success, and will be used for the next several months. This might be a good time to mention that your humble editor is only just that-- just a humble editor and not a writer. Those who would like to have activities they sponsor or coordinate mentioned in "HERE'S THE SCAM" are asked to submit their words before the SCAM deadline.

Very special thanks goes to Senior Generous Contributor Emeritus James Earle, whose thoughtfulness financed the April SCAM in its entirety. My own heartfelt thanks goes to Jim and the other Generous Contributors whose kindness kept this fledgling publication afloat during the struggling first months of its existence.

Steve Schneider



## HERE'S THE SCAM

The Pot Luck at Smoker's left everyone on Cloud 9. OUT-STANDING food, including homemade lasagne, stuffed goose, Korean beef, southern fried chicken, shoo-fly pie, and homemade brownies you wouldn't believe (well, maybe you would believe them). It was another one of those evenings that we will all try to remember.

The Pig SIG at the Blue Claw seafood restaurant gathered a dozen Mensans for another epicurian feast. Good seafood, fresh off the boat, is a pleasure that M's living in the interior of our country don't often enjoy. For those outside the area reading this-- come on down.

The Program Night, featuring our own Alex Marton, offered a new way of looking at the everyday things that we think we understand. Alex provided an entertaining walk through the world we think we know.

The Art Film SIG was attended by the artistic diehards. Ricki got the most enjoyment from listening to her native German and then seeing the less-than-fully accurate English subtitles. The M's present marveled at the German view of American culture. They do have their own idea of America.

The Sunday Brunch brought 13 Mensans together, including new transfer from Nebraska M Wanda Stillman, and her husband Gene. Wanda is a cat fancier, who is planning to organize a long cat contest with Mary Smoker. Those cat fanciers are a strange group. The brunch ended with a belated meeting of the Controversial SIG scheduled for the previous evening. Baron discussed censorship and how it is enforced in Mensa publications, including even this modest publication!

## COMING UP

Don't forget the BEACH BASH VI Regional Gathering hosted by Tampa Bay Mensa, May 27-30. For further information, write H. P. Minor, 7627 Par Avenue N., St. Petersburg, FL 33710. For Registration contact Evelyn Hallowell, 4543 4th Avenue N., St. Petersburg, FL 33713. The cost of registration to May 1 is \$20, and the Meal Plan is \$47.

## TRIVIA

1. Can sterility be passed from parent to offspring?
2. Can a color-blind woman have a normal-sighted child?
3. How do the callipygian differ from the norm?
4. How did Alfred Noble make his fortune?
5. Who invented T.V.?

1. Yes, with a double recessive gene.
2. Daughter, yes. Son, no.
3. They have beautiful rear ends.
4. He invented dynamite.
5. Philo T. Farnsworth.

# SPACE COAST AREA MENSA

## MAY CALENDAR

6th FRIDAY 7:30PM PIG SIG

The Pig Sig for May will be Mr. Ni's Hunan Chinese Restaurant, 2625 North Courtenay Parkway. From US 1, go east on 528, exit south at SR 3, and you'll see it, approximately across from Merritt Island Courthouse. RSVP to Martha Loss at 453-4718 by Thursday night so she can make reservations. If the machine answers, don't hang up. Pretend it's the butler, and leave your name and number.

12th THURSDAY 7:30PM ART FILM SIG

At the Brevard Art Center and Museum, 1510 Highland Avenue, Eau Gallie. The subjects this month are "Art in the Western World", "Bernini's Rome", and "Art, People, Feelings." From US 1, go towards Eau Gallie Causeway, north on Highland. Museum is on left, one-half block past first traffic light. Call Alex for more information or better directions, 727-5434 (work).

14th SATURDAY 7:15PM EXCOMM MEETING

Same place as Program Night. See next item for location.

14th SATURDAY 8:00PM PROGRAM NIGHT



Snakes and other maligned creatures will be the topic of this month's program. Rohn Walter will show slides, and let the brave have hands-on experience. The program will be in the Courtroom next to the Eau Gallie Police Station and parking lot, 1483 Highland Avenue, Melbourne, across from the Brevard Art Center and Museum. See Art Film SIG above for directions. Refreshments, \$2, BYOB.

15th SUNDAY 11:00AM SUNDAY BRUNCH

An opportunity to commune, kibitz, and recover from Snake Exposure at C.W. Dandy's, Holiday Inn, US 1, Melbourne. RSVP to Alex, 727-5434 (day) by Wednesday PM for reservation count.

21st SATURDAY 8:00PM PARTY NIGHT

R.J. Edwards is hosting the party this month, at 1620 Littler Drive, Titusville. From I-95, take SR 50 east, turn north on Barna, go one block past first light, turn left (Nicklaus), then third right to Littler. Look for fifth house on left. \$2, BYOB. Call R.J. ahead of time if you can, 268-2115.

27th FRIDAY THROUGH ) BEACH BASH IV  
30th ----- MONDAY ) IN CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA

28th SATURDAY ) SINGLES

29th SUNDAY ) CAMPING TRIP

We're off to Lake Kissimmee State Park, west of Lake Wales, for a weekend of boating, hiking, birding, and fishing. For information and reservations, call Ricki (723-4371) or Rohn (259-2323). Kids OK.

WANTED: Volunteers to host Party Night -- call Judy Peabody.  
Suggestions for Program Night) (call your friendly  
Other calendar suggestions ) (Calendar Editor.

A TUG AT YOUR SLEEVE: If you are the coordinator for an event or SIG, call me by the tenth of the month with your details. That way I won't forget you. Thanks. Alex Marton, 727-5434.



## A MEMBER SPEAKS

By Jim Peabody

Last month I mentioned that I was tired of being one of the Lambs. Although I have no desire to be one of the Predators, I would like for the Predators to stop thinking of me as a potential meal.

This month I would like to address one of the ways to bring about such a change in attitude.

The first thing we have to do is change our opinion of ourselves. As long as we look like sheep, think like sheep, and act like sheep, we cannot blame the wolves for mistaking us for sheep.

In a recent discussion with another Mensan, I criticised the Supreme Court for releasing an obviously guilty man on a technicality. The technicality was not a well known point of law. The man was arrested by police who were operating within the boundaries proscribed for them at the time of the arrest. The court chose to redefine the term "unreasonable search". The fact that the search was caused by some very good reasons did not enter into the decision. The fact that the police were right and the criminal was smuggling narcotics did not enter into the decision. The fact that after years of practical experience the police are able to identify some very definite and specific behavior patterns as common to smugglers did not enter into the decision.

The purpose of this digression, however, is not to criticise the Supreme Court. It is to demonstrate the reaction of an intelligent, non-criminal, logical member of our herd to their decision. He described the release of a known and proven criminal as a "slap on the wrist" of the arresting officers.

This attitude towards the Judicial Process is one of the reasons that crime in this country pays so well. This was no slap on the officers' wrists. They were still paid for the day the arrest was made. They suffered no censure from their peers. They had done their job as it was defined at the time and they received the praise they deserved.

This release was a slap in the face of every honest, law-abiding citizen of this country. The man was a criminal, he was guilty of breaking the law, and he was not punished. The Court knew when he was released that once again Justice had no part in the decision of the justices.

Just as we cannot find a man guilty of a crime that was done before a law was passed making his actions illegal, neither should we release a known criminal because we make a change in the procedure by which he was discovered. The court, in this case, served only to strengthen the belief among the wolves of our society that we are defenseless and laws are impotent.

## REPORT FROM THE BOONDOCKS

To: Subaru-san, Central CABAL\*  
From: Earthmission 23  
Subject: Monthly status #9579

Suble baby, you will not believe this. I have moved temporarily to this place called Japan, and have been studying the people with great interest. There are many similarities between them and your own people. It brings to mind an old folk tale about a disabled spaceship from your world that crashed here long ago.

They are really devious, these Japanese. A reliable source has told me that, after the war known as WWII, they devised a grand plan to take revenge on the victors. It consisted of developing a large manufacturing capacity in electronics, then flooding the world market with calculators. They figured that when Westerners had as many calculators as they had telephones, they would all become paranoid schizophrenics because calculator keyboards are upside down from telephone keyboards. The Japanese would not be affected because they can write sideways and upside down and every which way due to the way their eyes are shaped.

If they only realized that their country will be destroyed by computers before their dream comes true. I've run this on my previewer, and the reason is that their view of man and nature as a harmonious whole will not coexist with the cartesian culture of computers, and they all become paranoid schizophrenics in the end. The whole thing gets resolved in the war of 1998. You can run it on your previewer if you really care to know who wins.

In the meantime, they are very hard to figure out. I was just thinking, as an exercise, about my first impression of Americans. I believed that they like partying first, followed by violence, then sex. It turns out, I learned later, that they like money first, speed second, and then virtue. They don't actually want virtue for themselves, but absolutely demand it in others, and go bonkers when they don't get it. I am not sure what to make of this, and the Japanese I have spoken with since I came here are just as confused.

A good place to pick up a clear perspective back there was a cultural establishment called Chuck E. Cheese. The stage show featured a cast of outlandish characters that reminded me very much of the Vulgarians before we modified them. They gave me a whole new slant on America and on places further out in the boondocks, like Mexico, Brazil, and Hawaii. Most of the audience was concentrating on eating round pieces of cardboard covered with glue. This is an American improvement on an Italian idea. Americans keep the flies off the glue.

I wish they had a Chuck E. Cheese here, so I could play Missile Command and absorb some local area culture. I hear the most popular sports are belsoboru and gorofu, which they learned from the Americans. Now they flood the American market with the balls, gloves, and clubs used in these games, and I notice they are stitching and assembling them from right to left. It's part of the grand plan.

Alex M saying sayonara. I'm off to the shiatsu parlor.

\*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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