

JUNE 1983

# SCAM

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



Vol 1 No 6

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## FROM THE LOCAL SECRETARY

As summer approaches we anticipate a change in the type of activities we will be having. Perhaps more outdoor activities would be fun. If you have a swimming pool, recreation room for a summer dance, or an idea for a picnic or camping trip, please let us know. We plan to combine party night and program night for a few months until we can guarantee speakers a larger audience. If several people are interested and contact me, we could schedule a separate games night.

I was asked to attend the last meeting of the 1982-1983 Exceptional Education Advisory Board for Brevard County School Systems on May 23rd. The purpose of this Board is to improve the programs designed for both gifted children as well as children with learning disabilities and physical handicaps. I feel that there may be other Mensans in SCAM that would benefit more from this experience. Your input could improve the program for your child. If you are interested in serving on the 1983-1984 Advisory Board, please let me know and I will put you in contact with the proper people. If you are dissatisfied with the current system, this is the place to learn their plans and have your voice heard.

Welcome to the newest SCAM members, Mark Seibring, Patricia Buddington, Joni Ledinsky, Eric Peabody, Elise Welden, David Tydor and Nathan Hinds.

We hope to see you soon at one of our June activities.

Judy Peabody

## A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A member recently mentioned how much he enjoyed Jim Peabody's column, "A Member Speaks". Jim has asked me to pass the word that it is **not** his column. All members are welcome to submit ideas or opinions. This will provide a variety of opinions, and also save me the embarrassment of telling Jim that I again need him to bail me out with another submission. I know there are people with ideas out there-- let me hear from you.

A number of Mensans visit the Space Coast Area during the winter, and still others visit out of the area during the summer. Please remember that all M's are welcome at all Mensa gatherings-- be they here, there or anywhere. So if you're out of the area, look up the local chapter. The LocSec or your humble editor will be happy to help you find names and phone numbers of Groups outside this area. And also remember, all M's are encouraged to bring a guest to our activities-- it's a great way to attract new members!

Steve Schneider



## **HERE'S THE SCAM**

The party at Jim and Smitty Hooper's was a feast of good company, exotic fruit buffets and magnificent shrimp cocktail. Smitty gets our vote for the best Irish coffee in Florida!

Many people had asked for a beach party, and we finally had one. However, all those who had asked suddenly disappeared when the beach party rolled around. Oh well, we'll try again next year.

The Pig Sig (did you know that PIG is an acronym for Perpetually Indulgent Gourmet?) met at Mr. Ni's for oriental food. Linda Martin and her friend Patrica graced the table along with Deane Jordon and his friend Adriane. The food was so good that we weren't even hungry an hour later.

## **REALPOLITIK**

When I was very young, a long time ago, my father would sit me on his lap and teach me about masculinity and the world of men. He would expound on various forms of manly behavior such as manly appearance, manly speech, manly bearing and all other things manly. He was to have a profound influence upon my life.

In particular, I vividly remember my father's exhortation to wear my private parts on the left side of the trouser seam. As he used to say: "All men tuck themselves to the left".

At some point in time, I overheard my father assert that he was a Leftist. Of course, I immediately understood the meaning of this statement. I was a Leftist, too.

It took me a long time to fathom that one's views on society and the world in general are determined by the trouser seam. At first I thought the whole thing foolish. Could it really be that important? Leftists and Rightists were engaged in mortal combat; in the streets, in newspaper columns, in every available forum, all because of the seam! Unfortunately, the bitter truth became self-evident when I read a description of a politician considered to be a Centrist. The article stated that the person in question was "in an uncomfortable position". Yes, it is an uncomfortable position, indeed. I could never become a Centrist.

It has become clear to me that major changes are needed to alleviate the world's sorrow and travail. Therefore, I have put aside my father's ways, an effort that has required both immense determination and manly courage. I have abandoned both the Left and the Right.

I now wear a codpiece.

Harry Fisher

## SPACE COAST AREA MENSA

### JUNE CALENDAR

**4th SATURDAY 1:00PM MENSA TEST**

The Mensa Test will be given at the Cocoa Beach Library, A1A and Minuteman Cswy. Call Proctor Steve Schneider for information.

**4th SATURDAY 7:30PM PIG SIG**



Martha has a real treat for you this month: the Pig Sig is at Madame Bordello's, 199 Cocoa Beach Causeway. From A1A, go east one block on SR 520; look on the north side across from the Beach Cinema! All-you-can-eat buffet for \$4.95. Continuous Las Vegas style show starts at 8PM. RSVP to Martha Loss by Wednesday, 453-4718.

**5th SUNDAY 1:30 to 4 PM YOUNG M SKATING SIG**

All you junior M's and children of M's -- this is your day! Be at Galaxy Skateway on Aurora Road, Melbourne, with or without parents. The cost is \$2, including skates. Call Eric Peabody, 632-9310, or Rohn Walter, 259-2323, to carpool if you need a ride.

**11th SATURDAY 7:30PM PROGRAM AND PARTY NIGHT**



Mary Anne O'Neill is hosting the party this month at 623 De Soto Lane, Indian Harbor Beach. The speaker is Mike Mastroianni, Director of the School for Individual Education in Merritt Island. He will do a slide presentation explaining the theory and philosophy of individual education, and how the school meets the needs of gifted and other students. From



A1A, go west on De Soto Parkway, at Peg Legs Restaurant. De Soto Lane is the last street before dead end at South Patrick. Go south to #623. Call Mary Anne at 777-2322, for better directions. \$2, BYOB.

**25th SATURDAY 7:30PM ORLANDO PROGRAM NIGHT**

Your friendly Calendar Editor is the speaker at the CFM Program Night in Orlando this month. The slide presentation combines cartoons, pictures, visual puzzles, famous quotes, and infamous ones too. Through example and humor, the theme questions the validity of everyday thinking, of hand-me-down procedures, of other people's interpretations. If you want to laugh and watch a guerrilla attack on convention and habit, call Alex at 727-5434 to share a ride.

**26th SUNDAY 10:30AM EXCOMM MEETING**

The ExComm will meet before the brunch, unless canceled for lack of interest.

**26th SUNDAY 11:00AM SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Northerners get a break again. Meet in Willard's Restaurant at Holiday Inn on A1A, Cocoa Beach, about a mile south of 520. No need to call, just keep up the good turnout. If you don't know anyone, look for people in the 98th percentile. RSVP to Alex by Friday for head-count.

### A WEEK OF FUN IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Doing it again in September, the weeks of the 4th and 11th. Total of \$685 covers everything: flight, food, boat, good times, everything. Eight people max. Call Alex for details, 727-5434 (day) or leave message on answering machine, 725-9862.



## A MEMBER SPEAKS

By Jim Peabody

Every Revolution must have three separate and distinct phases.

Phase one is plotting. This can be done almost anywhere, but for some reason it seems to go better in a place where alcohol is available. Since I am one who is quite familiar with such places I naturally excel at phase one.

Phase two is carrying out the plot. If done properly, this phase can be exciting and rewarding. There is nothing like sacking the capitol, looting the treasury and ravaging the countryside to get the old epinephrine flowing. Since this phase appeals to my rapacious nature I naturally excel at phase two.

Phase three is administration. Once the old guard is removed someone must move into the vacuum and assume the mantle of leadership. This is dull, thankless, unrewarding work. It requires a self-sacrificing, dedicated person who does not begrudge the loss of freedom for the betterment of the group. Since this phase appeals to absolutely nothing in my character, I do not excel at phase three. As a matter of fact, I don't even attempt phase three. I feel that two out of three is close enough to perfect for me.

Fortunately we are blessed with a group of phase three types in Space Coast Area Mensa. Our ExComm works very hard to come up with a program of events that they hope will appeal to all of us. They spend a great deal of time and emotional energy trying to find something for everyone. They fail! Not because of any fault of their own, but because some people don't want anything. If you are not an outgoing, social type, perhaps you fall into this category. If we cannot fulfill any need in your life, then so be it. If, however, you are just shy or feel awkward meeting new people, maybe we can help. There are several events that take place on neutral ground. Take, for example, a mid-nite movie. These events are not as personal as a party-nite. They don't present the threat that you will be left in a corner watching an "in group" ignore you (not that I have ever seen this happen in Mensa).

The bottom line is this-- less than half of our members have ever attended anything. If you stay away because you don't care for what our ExComm is planning that is your business. If you stay away because you are unsure of the reception you will get-- try us. If you stay away because you want something other than what we offered in the past-- let us know what you want and we will try to arrange it. Our phase three types will keep on trying because that is their nature, but it would be a big boost to their spirit if the eighty or so of you who have been invisible so far would let them plan something that you would enjoy.

## REPORT FROM THE BOONDOCKS

To: Sub-san, Central CABAL  
From: Earthmission 23  
Subject: Monthly status #9580



Your humble servant is in America again. I couldn't take Japan anymore, especially after I learned that they were planning to flood the world with pianos and synthesizers with the high notes on the left. Having adjusted to the Western Ways, I also found their video games confusing with the Japanese numerals.

Being back here, I finally understand the inner workings of General Dozier's mind. When he was rescued from terrorists, he said the three things at the top of his list were a shave, a shower, and a cheeseburger. The military mind works in wondrous ways. After winning the great war known as WWII, Americans flooded the world with cheeseburgers. With the world cheeseburger market at their feet, they were able to dump millions of tons of surplus cheese from government warehouses, most especially their prime variety -- Nacho cheese.

Making a cheeseburger is really easy. This is how the big outfits do it. When the equipment is unpacked, they save all the packing material: styrofoam, wood, paper, and bits of chipboard. They put this through a homogenizer, shoot it with dextrose, aerate it, and finally mold it into hot buns. These come out on a conveyor belt under a sesame seed sprayer and plop into hinged styrofoam shells. Just before the bun-molder, some of the mix gets run off to a grease-injector, granulator, color and flavor enhancer, and cookie-cutter. This becomes the patty.

Now comes the operation I call "patting the buns," followed by "laying the cheese." Then half the shell gets flipped over and locked to the other half, and you're ready to go. Oh, I almost forgot -- when you get one of these, you open the shell, and eat the inside. On your way out, you throw the shell in a container, along with your napkin, cup, and straw. Later, this goes back into the homogenizer, so they can stay in business. You see, the original packing material gets used up in no time at all, even though it's air-filled.

Just to keep in tune, once in a while I'll go out with a group of humans and one will say, "Hey, let's go have some cheeseburgers!" Eyes light up, you can feel the energy, and in a chorus they'll say, "Let's!" It's an occasion for camaraderie and good feeling. We all get in line, get our order, sit in a booth, talk about the traffic, and eat our cheeseburgers with relish. Every now and then, someone will hit a super good spot and let the guy next to him have a bite. It's a great way to forget your cares and commune with your friends.

You would enjoy it. Styrofoam and dextrose are a dynamite combination, more so when it's high in oxygen. Some folks, especially young ones, eat three or four a day. It's my feeling that alcohol is only accountable for half the traffic accidents, and the rest are caused by drivers who have had one cheeseburger too many. I get a little woozy myself after the second one. In fact, the airlines won't let you take them aboard. In some airports, your luggage is sniffed by trained dogs, and if police happen to search you and find a stash of cheeseburgers on you, you can forget about your flight.

I gotta go. I'm having a CB attack. Alex M signing off.



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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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