

SCAM

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



FEBRUARY 1984

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-----|------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 PIG SIG |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Pot Luck Pics |
| 12 Brunch Bunch | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 HEART OF FLORIDA | 18 HEART OF FLORIDA |
| 19 HEART OF FLORIDA | 20 SCAM Deadline | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Game Night |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | | | |

FROM THE LOCAL SECRETARY



CENTRAL FLORIDA MENSA
INVITES YOU TO

Heart of Florida R.G.

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

FEB. 17, 18, 19, 1984 PRESIDENTS' WEEKEND



Join us in Orlando for one of the best RG's yet! - Our famous 24-hour hospitality suite; reading of 1983 predictions for 1984; games room; hugging, liars & trivia contests and plenty of other fun & frolic. There will be programs interesting and out-of-the-ordinary, which might include bag pipers, sea turtles, and survival merchandise among others. If you're spending extra time in Orlando to see attractions such as EPCOT, Disney World, Sea World, etc., the RG room rates are good for your entire stay...with convenient bus service available to the attractions. Join us!!

SPECIAL!!! After dinner dancing and Presidential costume contest.

WHERE: Orlando, Florida. Howard Johnson's, I-4 at Lee Road.

Room rates: \$32 single, \$38 double. Try to reserve before Jan. 30.

REGISTRATION: \$20 before Friday the 13th of January, \$25 after.

MEALS: Saturday Banquet \$12.50. Sunday Brunch \$7.50.

CONTACT: Vicky Remus, 1508 Osprey Ave., Orlando, FL 32803. (305) 898-5905.

Judy Peabody

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Have you noticed that we all seem to be growing older? Perhaps it's because it has been a whole year since the last Heart of Florida Regional Gathering. And just to make this year even more interesting than last, Space Coast Area Mensa has volunteered to run the 24-hour hospitality suite. If you want to meet wild, wonderful, wacky, well-read, winning, warm and all around interesting people, volunteer to person the hospitality suite for an hour or so. We need your help, and you'll find the experience a pure pleasure!!! Those of you who wish to meet members of the opposite sex are especially encouraged to apply. You won't be sorry. And by the way, our own Mary Ann Coy designed this year's RG T-shirt. We are anxious to have as many SCAMers help with the RG effort as possible, because next year the Heart of Florida RG will be sponsored by Space Coast Area Mensa and held right here in Brevard County. All the experience we can get now will be invaluable next year.

Our members may be spared the trauma of an election this year. We have five slot on the Executive Committee to fill, and five people have volunteered to fill them so far. Campaign statements of the ExComm candidates will be found in the next issue. If anyone else wishes to run for a position on the ExComm, you must contact the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee (Mary Anne O'Neill, phone 777-2322) by February 15th.

Steve Schneider

HERE'S THE SCAM

The New Year's Eve Party gathered over 20 Mensans determined to ring in the New Year 1984, even if it was the title of a depressing novel. The two cheese cakes were demolished with voracious expertise, gourmet coffee was consumed freely along with stronger libations. Jim Peabody, dazzling, scintillating and almost unrecognizable in his three-piece suit, astounded those who did not know him well with his remarkable ability to eat spicy fried bananas. We all had the pleasure of meeting a long time member, Harry Lloyd. The highlight of the evening was the spirited, nay, rowdy game of "Trivial Pursuit", a game based on knowledge of trivia. Even the beautiful, charming, but usually quiet, Michelle Langlais entered the fray. When the unruly game became a total rhubarb, teams were formed to prevent individual Mensans from calling out the answers before the players at the board had a chance to answer.

The PIG SIG at the Melbourne Steak and Ale brought together almost two dozen Mensans, including the new face of Judy Bokoles and return visit from John Soileam, who we first met at the Halloween Party. The deserts were fantastic!

The Pot Luck Pics featured the "comedy" Christine, a story about a boy, a girl and a red '57 Plymouth Fury. A movie goes so much better with hot dogs, pop corn, nachos, beer and wine. We all had such a good time the group adjourned to the Dixie restaurant for a topper of coffee and pie.

As mentioned briefly last month, we have received our Second Class mailing permit. It was received in record time due to the exceptional efforts of the Cape Canaveral Postmaster Rocky Randels and his able assistant, Larry Putchinski. These men were extraordinarily patient and helpful in guiding an very inexperienced editor through the detailed postal regulations. The Cape Canaveral Post Office achieved in four months what takes most other post offices over a year.

SPECIAL ARTICLE

ARE MICROCOMPUTERS COST EFFECTIVE?

By Donald J. Miller

(reprinted from Intelligencer of January 1984)

To buy or not to buy, that is the question!

Actually, when speaking about microcomputers, that is not the question. The question that must be addressed today is "when," not "whether," one will buy.

If we assume that we will be purchasing a computer in order to cope with the information explosion now upon us, the questions becomes, "Are they cost effective?" That can be answered at several levels.

From the long-term business point of view, they are cost effective in the sense that without the presence of a computer, most businesses will be unable to compete.

(Continued on Page 5)

SPACE COAST AREA MENSA FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 4th** **Saturday** **7:30PM** **PIG SIG**
For the sea food lovers among us, this month's outing will be held at Peg Leg's Restaurant on route A1A at the corner of DeSoto Parkway, south of Patrick AFB in Indialantic. The fare can be very reasonable (dinners start at \$6.95, a la carte at \$3.50). This is an outstanding restaurant featuring sea food, shellfish, lobster and steak. We've been having large turnouts at the PIG SIGs recently, but we've been unable to sit as one group because many M's don't call and make reservations. So that some won't have to sit at a separate table like a leper and be punished with Steve Schneider's bad jokes, call Mary Smoker at 452-3658 by Wednesday, Feb 1. If Mary's teenage son, Jason, answers, make sure that he writes it down.
- 11th** **Saturday** **7:15PM** **POT LUCK PICS**
This month we'll meet at Wickhaven Twin Cinema for a double surprise. We'll gather and decide which of the two movies to attend. The theater is in the Wickhaven Shopping Center on New Haven Avenue, one mile west of Melbourne Square Mall. After the movie, the traditional outing to a local eatery will caulk those empty spaces not filled by movie munchies.
- 12th** **Sunday** **10:30AM** **BRUNCH BUNCH**
The Dixie Restaurant on Forest Avenue in Cocoa will be graced with our Brunch Bunch this month. Breakfasts start at \$1.70, and they're good old fashioned home cookin'. The Dixie is two blocks north of SR520, across from the "Today" newspaper and almost under the landmark Bicentennial water tower. For those who still can't find it, call Bob Cornelius at 773-8144.
- 17th** **HEART**
- 18th** **OF**
- 19th** **FLORIDA**
- 25th** **Saturday** **7:30PM** **GAME NIGHT**
Bring your favorite game and match skill with your fellow Mensans at the Peabody's. "Trivial Pursuits" will be featured along with "friendly" card games, good conversation, scrabble and outstanding munchies. The festivities start at 3407 Frankie Lane, Cocoa. For directions call Judy at 632-9310.

If any one of a number of "management blunders" brought about by incomplete or late information occurs, then that business will be swept away by businesses run by computer-literate individuals who use the power and potential of the microcomputer to expand their business, maximize resources, decrease expenses and waste, and increase their efficiency and profits.

From a strictly initial cash flow point of view, the purchases of a microcomputer system may not always be cost effective. In addition to the actual initial outlay for computer, disk drives, printers, software and training, there are many less obvious costs. Among these are time lost in converting a manual system to a computerized one, personnel problems, initial duplication of effort, and rapid obsolescence.

These cost considerations notwithstanding, a microcomputer purchased the proper way can be cost effective for the short term as well as the long term. First of all, there are tremendous tax advantages in owning a computer, either for business or for home. With accelerated depreciation methods and the investment tax credit, it is even possible to generate a positive cash flow during the first year! Secondly, if properly implemented, a microcomputer in the office can increase efficiency, keep costs down and, possibly, reduce personnel requirements.

For home use, the purchase of a personal computer usually cannot be justified on a cost basis. However, most home computers are purchased to run recreational software, educational programs and home management programs, and cost effectiveness is not really an issue. As individuals begin to use telecommunications, substantial savings can be realized, especially in the areas of electronic banking at home, comparative shopping, and research. Home computers can also be used for energy conservation, a very cost-effective application.

are computers cost effective? They certainly have the potential to be so. It all depends on several factors which must be considered:

1. Are they being purchased to be cost effective, or to serve some other purpose?
2. Has proper pre-planning been made in order to make sure that the "right" system and software are being bought?
3. Are the individuals operating the system properly trained, and do they understand and subscribe to the company's objectives?
4. Is there an on-going evaluation of the system?

Cost-effectiveness is not really the issue in the sense that we will all have to learn to operate microcomputers eventually and most of us will be buying one (if we don't already own one) within the next year or so, if not for business, then certainly for the home. In other words, it is up to us to make them cost effective because we are going to have to have them. And with proper planning and use, they will be cost effective without any doubt.

HUMOR

Galilee Psychological Testing Service

(Reprinted from La Plume de Nom of December 1983.

Patti Armatis, Editor)

Mr. Jesus Christ

Nazareth

Galilee, Israel

Dear Mr. Christ,

Several weeks ago you requested that we administer our series of psychological tests to the 12 men you were considering as possible associates in your ministry. Although we are still in the process of compiling the results of the tests, we thought you might be anxious to receive our findings as quickly as possible. We are herein providing you with a preliminary report.

We have tested all the candidates with the exception of Mr. Thomas Twin, who failed to show for his appointment.

Our investigation is complete so far only on Mr. Simon Bar-Jonah whose test results and profile sheets are attached for your scrutiny. As you can tell, Mr. Bar-Jonah's personality is characterized by a dangerous rashness, overt pride, and a lack of emotional stability that would no doubt be detrimental to you in your work. We feel, also, that his general appearance would create a bad image for any concern going public. Furthermore, during our research we discovered that Mr. Bar-Jonah is, to put it bluntly, a "Jousy" fisherman, and we suggest that his lack of success in his current employment is the cause of his willingness to leave everything and follow you. Therefore, based on our completed investigation, we highly recommend that you do not consider Mr. Bar-Jonah as a possible associate.

Mr. Matthew Carpus, in our opinion, is an undercover agent and most likely a plant of the IRS (Israeli Recovery of Schekels) who will blow the whistle if he determines that your organization does not qualify for your requested tax-free status. At this point we must decline to recommend Mr. Matthew Carpus.

Informants tell us that Mr. Jude Thaddeus spends most of his time walking around searching for lost objects. His helpful good nature forces him to return them to their negligent owners, but only when they supplicate him to do so. We take a dim view of Mr. Thaddeus.

Master John Zebedee is a mere boy who dreams of writing poetic verse and ultimately science-fiction. He is loyal, loving and dedicated, but we recommend that he be replaced by someone of greater maturity.

Based on the information we have so far, we would recommend only Mr. Judas Iscariot. He appears to have a fine head for financial matters and would, we are convinced, be a positive asset to you and your organization.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Terry Migliorino | 1st |
| Ricky Coats | 1st |
| James Earle | 5th |
| Maurice Gyer | 6th |
| Roeloff Schuiling | 13th |
| Clara Woodall | 13th |
| Wynn Rostek | 14th |
| Lance Rebstock | 17th |
| Elyce Woessner | 25th |
| Beauford Franklin | 26th |
| Linda Martin | 26th |
| David Tydor | 27th |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Judy Peabody | 3487 Frankie Ln., Cocoa 32926 |
| Rick Meagher | 50A E. Poinciana Dr., Sat Bch 32937 |
| Alex Marton | POB 3454, Indialantic 32903 |
| Ricki Wertz | 2707 Golfview Dr., Melbourne 32901 |
| Rohn Walter | POB 338EG, Melbourne 32935 |
| Steve Schneider | 511 Washington Ave., CC 32920 |

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| Recording Secretary | Rohn Walter | 259-2323 |
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| | | |
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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 of alternate months beginning in February. For more information, contact the SCAM Proctor at 783-8744.

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