

**The**

# **SCAM**

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*The 2010-11 ExComm Election Results  
are in:*

*Please welcome our new officers:*

**Karen Freiberg  
Bud Long  
George Patterson  
Joseph Smith  
Terry Valek**



# SPACE COAST AREA MENSA



Website: [www.spacecoast.us.mensa.org](http://www.spacecoast.us.mensa.org)

(All Area Codes are 321 except as noted)

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All submissions must be received by the Editor before the 10th of the month preceding publication. Please allow extra time for mailed submissions, which may be **typed** or **legibly handwritten**. Whenever possible, we prefer submissions via e-mail. They may be in **e-mail text** or any of most **word processing** formats. All submissions should be sent to the **Editor**, whose contact information appears on Page 2.

## Inside the Pocket Protector

Mike Moakley, Editor

**J**une already, the beginning of yet another hurricane season. For the next six months, we will once again be reminded of all the joys and benefits of Florida living. Of course, this means that, along with my other routines, I have already started to check out NOAA's *National Hurricane Center* website, which has long been listed under "favorites". One additional wrinkle we may face this year, is the (as I write this) ever-continuing oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Perhaps "*Drill, Baby, Drill!*" is now "*Spill, Baby, Spill!*"? Since our Eastern hurricanes do originate from the Gulf, perhaps our hurricanes will come with a supply of oil! Should be interesting...

June also signifies the "changing of the guard" on our SCAM ExComm. Despite the bitter partisan campaigning, this transition has been so smooth as to be barely noticeable. As a result, I am pleased to report that, once again, SCAM, our Local Group, is in competent hands. I extend a hearty "thank you" to our outgoing ExComm, and an equally hearty "welcome" and "congratulations on a hard-won victory" to our incoming officers.

Admittedly, as Editor for several years, I do need to confess that, with each ExComm election, it is, at best, difficult to get that dog-gone Herman's Hermits tune, *Henry The Eighth*, out of my mind (especially the line, "*Second verse, same as the first!*").

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**The SCAM sells classified ad space.** SCAM members, non-commercial, no charge. Others: \$20 full page; \$10 half-page; \$5 quarter-page per month, we offer discounts for multiple insertions, and we can help with layout and design.

**Subscriptions:** SCAM members, included in dues; others, **\$10** for 12 issues.

**Dahl and Mattson Statement on AMC Dismissal of Appeal:**

**T**he following statement is issued by RVC-10 Mel Dahl following the AMC's vote this evening to dismiss the appeal of Garrison "Bud" Klueck from a decision of the Election Committee disqualifying him as a nominee for national ombudsman. I am authorized to state that RVC-9 Art Mattson concurs:

Garrison "Bud" Klueck, a member of San Diego Mensa and a would-be candidate for national ombudsman, filed his papers to run for national ombudsman by emailing them to the chair of the Election Committee on March 31, 2010, at 10:13 p.m. Pacific Daylight time. Under the rules, his papers were most likely due (more about that in a minute) by midnight, March 31, 2010.

The chair of the election committee resides in Ohio, in the Eastern time zone, where it was already 1:13 a.m. when Klueck emailed his papers. She ruled, and the rest of the Election Committee later also so held, that his papers were late and he would not be permitted to run for national ombudsman. The normal election safety valve of permitting petition candidacies does not apply to the election of national ombudsman. Klueck now appeals to the AMC. The AMC has never overturned a decision of the Election Committee, and a majority of my colleagues decline to do so now.

It is not entirely clear whether Klueck's papers were timely or not. Rule 7.6 of the 2009 Election Code says that candidate statements must be received by "midnight EST March 1, 2009." Apparently "March 1" was a typo; the Election Committee really meant "March 31"; otherwise no candidate submission was timely. And of course, Eastern Standard Time was not in effect, in Ohio or anywhere else, on March 31; Eastern Daylight Time was. All that said, I take the Election Committee at their word that they meant to say "midnight, EDT, March 31, 2010." And in other places, they did say that.

Given the ambiguities (and for other reasons, which I will get to below), had I been on the Election Committee, I would have found in Klueck's favor and allowed his name to appear on the ballot. However, that is not the standard by which the AMC passes on whether to reverse a decision of the Election Committee.

In my view, the AMC is ultimately responsible for everything that happens in American Mensa, and therefore reserves the right to set

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**I** thank Cliff and Stacy for their responses to my cry for help in my article “*Genitive (Possessive) Case*”. Both replies were incisive and well reasoned, but unfortunately they did not provide me with a useable answer for my needs.

Cliff’s assertion that “*Applebee’s*” inclusion of an apostrophe does not imply ownership is not in accordance with American English usage. Restaurants, bars, clubs, and other enterprises use that form to designate their operations i.e. *Denny’s*, *Toojay’s*, and *Djohn’s*. There are exceptions; *Lafitte()*s, who uses a fleur de lis in lieu of the standard apostrophe, and *Bernard’s Surf*, who always uses the full name. *Applebee’s()* registered fictitious name: “APPLEBEE’S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL AND BAR”, only confirms that the name “*Applebee’s*” is intended to be read in the genitive. To ascribe to *Applebee’s* a hidden meaning to the apostrophe is just not tenable. Even if it were so, that still does not resolve the question of how to write about the waiters who work for *Applebee’s* without invoking some obscure grammatical rule to preclude the additional apostrophes.

Stacy’s argument that there are many irregular plurals in the English language (the examples he gives are Latin or Italian nouns not fully anglicized as yet) strengthens the statement that I made in my article, that English language has no rules, only customary usages.

In his letter, Stacy cites two “authorities” that he uses in preparing his Ph. D. thesis. Actually he has only one, the APA publication. He states that he is graded by a professor who requires him to follow that instruction. Thus the only “authority” he has is the one used by the person for whom he is writing. He must write according to the rules given to him by his professor because she or he is going to grade his thesis. Just let him try to cite another authority for his writing.

Using the authority cited by Stacy for punctuating the genitive of a noun ending in s, following the rule he cited, the possessive of a single restaurant would rendered as “*Applebee’s’s waiters*” or if more than one restaurant is involved, “*Applebee’ses waiters*”.

None of the many authorities in my library or the authorities

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cited by Stacy addresses the particular question I posed. What is the best way to punctuate the possessive of a possessive? Perhaps, the best advice is to follow my wife's, rewrite the sentence to avoid the issue.

*Editor's Note: The author of this article, Art Belefant, invites more feedback on how to handle the Genitive (Possessive) case in unusual circumstances such as the one he has outlined. All responses will be considered for publication, and should be addressed to me.*

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

*Book Lovers GIG*

**A**ttention! Aspiring Mensa member Authors! Would you like to see your unpublished manuscript in print? Book Lovers and Creative Writings SIG will like to invite you to submit your unpublished manuscript for Sharp Writ Unpublished Manuscript Awards. The entries will be judged by a Panel of fellow Mensa members from the Book Lovers SIG. The winning entry will be awarded a publishing package by Xlibris including listing on Amazon.com for a year. Nominations are open to most categories in Fiction (*except Romance and Western*), Autobiography and memoirs, Young Adults and Books for Children.

**For more information** and to submit your manuscript for consideration, visit Book Lovers SIG's website at <http://book-lovers-sig.us.mensa.org>.

*This will be my last article for The SCAM.*

*As a working person, that is.*

*By the time you read this, I will be retarded, uh, retired.*

*Quite a daunting proposition now that I think about it.*

**M**ore than forty years of active employment, the last 27 as a computer engineer at the Space Center.

What excuse will I be able to give Master Moakley for my routine monthly request for a deadline extension now that I don't have the convenient defense of lacking sufficient time?

*OMG!* I just thought about all those "honey do's" that have been building up over the years, waiting for me to get a "round tuit."

I've got a good year's worth or so of projects on backorder, if you will, and then face the issue of how best to occupy my leisure time.

My worst fear is some of the relatively common horror stories I've heard about active people retiring, vegetating, and promptly joining those on the other side of the dirt. T'would seem that sustaining purposeful activity is a key to happiness and success in life after work. So, I've been toying with some ideas to keep me involved and enthusiastic.

First thing that came to mind was to get a nice, used tux (*wonder if Salvation Army ever has any available*) and apply for a position as an usher at the King Center. All the nice helper people there are senior citizens and the nature of advanced age dictates that there must be a steady stream of replacements as some of these folks become unable to perform their duties. You get to meet a lot of interesting people and you get to see the performances for free. And the King Center attracts some real name talent! Wouldn't be a bad gig at all.

Next thing that occurred to me was cruise ships. From my limited experience, cruises are a lot of fun, Although the brochures picture young, attractive couples in bathing suits having fun in the sun, the reality is that most cruises are populated primarily with older folks with time on their hands. And mostly women, since statistics show that they live longer. So, we've got boatloads of lonely, old ladies looking for...? Well, my plan was to go back to that self-same Salvation Army store and find a couple nice suits. I clean up pretty well and can be quite charming given the right circumstances. What

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better circumstances could I find then gaggles of giggling golden-age girls, groping for gaiety with a gregarious, gracious gentleman? A few laughs, a couple of drinkie poos, p'raps some dancing, compliments, witty repartee, and *voilà!* I hear that they can be quite generous with their appreciation. A win-win deal!

After that, ideas become more sparse and sketchy.

A few years ago, my lovely wife went to get fitted for a bra at a bra store (*where she learned that about 50% of women are wearing the wrong bra*). She told me about the rather intricate and intimate process of being properly fitted for a bra. So I was thinking that maybe I'd become an apprentice bra fitter at one of those shops, willing to work for minimum wage until I learned the trade. However, for reasons I don't quite understand, my wife put the kibosh on that idea.

Another notion I had was the roadside hot dog stand. I mean... you're tooling along US 1 thinking about lunch and you pass the tempting sign advertising a nice *Nathan's* or a jewcy *Hebrew National* just a half mile up the road. And there I'd be, with my cart full of franks, all the condiments, chips, drinks, and me in my skimpy little thong dispensing highway hotdogs. The thong idea came from reading about other successful similar endeavors, except the wearers in those cases were usually young, attractive females. Welp, knowing how my dear spouse would probably feel about me spending the days with some scantily clad young lady, I figured that since sex discrimination is illegal in this wonderful country of ours, why not take on the task myself? When I presented the idea to my better half, she went on about some *Seinfeld* episode concerning "good naked" and "bad naked." I'm not completely certain of the point she was trying to make, but it was obvious that she had serious doubts about the success of my roadside venture.

I thought about volunteering at a nursing home, except I kept having visions of the staff trying to get me to go back to my room.

Pretty much too late to start my own rock band. Don't know if I could handle the rigors of touring. What with having to schlep my CPAP machine and getting pretty sleepy after 9:00 p.m., I don't think the lifestyle would be suited to me. Plus I don't play a musical instrument and can't sing worth a damn. Maybe next time around.

At this point, I'm out of ideas. Maybe I'll finally have to figure out Facebook or get myself a Twitter account. Join Second Life? Nah.

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Not gonna happen. More likely some part time job. Might as well start practicing my lines: “Welcome to Wal-Mart;” “You want fries with that?”

## *The George*

**AMC NEWS**

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aside the decision of any committee, local group, or other entity operating under our By-Laws, unless we are specifically prohibited from doing so by New York law, our By-Laws, or the Constitution of International Mensa. This power, however, should be used sparingly in the extreme. There are many sound policy reasons for not inserting the AMC into any dispute any two Mensans might have. That is especially true in the case of the Election Committee, which was created specifically to be independent of the AMC. And so, a majority of my colleagues decline to intervene here. Normally, the only check and balance we exercise is to refuse to allow the reappointment of a chair with whom we have policy differences (which may well happen here; I’m certainly disinclined to vote to reappoint the current Election Committee after this).

I think there’s a good case to be made for reversing the Election Committee in this instance. This decision is unfortunate in the extreme. Normally we have to literally beg people to run for office, and the idea of turning away someone who has offered to run for office strikes me as bizarre. It appears to me that the Election Committee is responsible for most of the confusion surrounding when exactly the submission deadline was, and Mr. Klueck is being punished for their ineptitude. I am hard pressed to think of anything positive to say about this decision, and the anal-retentiveness it displays is unbecoming to one of our national committees. In my mind, the only thing that even makes this a close case is the strong policy in favor of the AMC staying out of such disputes.

I agree that the AMC should use its supervisory power sparingly. At the same time, I am deeply disappointed in the Election Committee’s bad judgment.

## SCAM Calendar of Events for June 2010

**2nd - Wednesday 5:30 PM**

### EXCOMM MEETING

This is our monthly business meeting. All members are always welcome to attend. This month, it will be held at the home of George Patterson in Indialantic.

Contact: George, 777-3721, for details.

**25th - Saturday 5:45 PM**

### SNORT

Join us for some sushi and tempura at The SCAM's best attended event at Miyako's, 1511 S. Harbor City Blvd. (US#1) in Melbourne.

Contact: George, 777-3721 for details.

**Your Event Here!**

### ATTENTION SCAM MEMBERS!

Do you have a great idea for that perfect event? Do you have the urge, even the *desire* to socialize with other Mensans, but simply do not want to use the extra gasoline? *Why not host that event in your own home?* If this sounds good to you, contact our Calendar Coordinator today. You'll be glad you did. *Info on Page Two.*

**Calendar Updates**

### ATTENTION SCAM MEMBERS!

Every effort is made to bring to you an accurate up-to-date Calendar of Events. However, last minute changes can and do occur past newsletter deadline. For up-to-date info, visit [spacecoast.us.mensa.org](http://spacecoast.us.mensa.org) and click on "Calendar". Also, we are putting together a current e-mail notification list of all members who wish to be kept up-to-date on our activities. If you wish to be included, please contact George Patterson at 777-3721 or [George3141@cfl.rr.com](mailto:George3141@cfl.rr.com).

### Of CABBAGES and Coffee: (Our Regular Events)

C.A.B.A.G.E.: **Every Monday at Books-A-Million**, Merritt Square Mall  
6 p.m. Host: Karen Freiberg, 633-1636

GO!: **Every Sunday at Books-A-Million**, Post Commons, Melbourne.  
Host: George Lebovitz, 259-3070, [rokkitsci@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rokkitsci@cfl.rr.com)

## Membership Notes for June 2010

### *WELCOME TO SCAM AND MENSA*

Sydney Perrine  
Gabriel Cenker

### *WELCOME BACK!*

Eric Rantanen  
David Garutti  
Christian Pelaez

### *JUNE BIRTHDAY GREETINGS*

<i>2nd</i>	Robert Goodrow	<i>17th</i>	Arthur Belefant
<i>2nd</i>	Bill Emmons	<i>24th</i>	Sam Kirschten
<i>3rd</i>	Stacy Strickland	<i>24th</i>	Christopher Moss
<i>8th</i>	Robert Ruhge	<i>26th</i>	Judith Wiksten

# **MENSA AG**

## **DEARBORN, MICHIGAN**

## **JUNE 30—JULY 5, 2010**

### **The "Fine Print" for Calendar Events:**

Membership in American Mensa, Ltd. makes you eligible to attend SCAM social functions. Escorted and invited guests of a member or host are welcome. Adult family members of Mensans are encouraged to participate in SCAM activities, as are well behaved children. However, attendance at any social function in a **private home** is subject to the hospitality of the host. Compliance with published house rules is required, and "Kitty" payment is **not optional**. As a courtesy, notify the host if you plan to attend. Announced hosts should attend their events or arrange for a stand-in if unable. **When reservations are required, you may not be able to participate if you fail to call.**

**S**-Smoking; **NS**- No **Smoking**; **SS**-Separate **S**Smoking Area; **P**-Pets in the home; **NP**-No **P**ets present; **BYO**-Bring Your Own: **\_**Snacks, **\_**Drinks, **\_**Everything.

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In the same vein, I do have more good (*or bad, depending on your view*) news for you. Once again, I have been reappointed as Editor of The SCAM. As this is my 80th issue, if I have become an expert in newsletter editing, I can certainly be characterized as experienced! Now I have the honor of producing 12 more exciting episodes of life at The SCAM. I would like to take this time to once again remind you that The SCAM is *your* newsletter; *you* determine its content every month.

As I have mentioned quite often during my tenure as your Editor, *you*, the member, determine its content. The SCAM always welcomes your submissions. All you need do is submit them to me by deadline. Details are on Page Three of every issue. The topic could be just about any of your choosing. It can be an article, a work of fiction, it can also be poetry. The choice is truly yours.

This year, however, I do have one specific wish: I would like so much to have a cover artist. If your talents include this kind of artwork, and you are so inclined, I would like to hear from you. My contact info is on Page Two.

As you know, last month's issue contained a ballot to enable you to vote for the candidates of your choice. But of course you knew that, as all of you participated on our democratic process. No doubt you have also noticed that, in order to detach your ballot, there was this pesky flyer in the way...

While, as Editor, I apologize for this inconvenience, I believe it was important for you to know that we, at SCAM, are hosting our biennial RG later this year. Knowing that you would not want to pass up a good deal such as our RG, I did not believe you would mind the minor inconvenience presented by placing the flyer in front of the ballot.

Now that I've called your attention to our RG, why not take a moment to register? If, by chance, you misplaced the flyer, or your spouse used the back of it for the weekly grocery list (or the dog ate it), do not despair. If you have an Internet connection, just go to our website (listed on Page Two), click "gatherings" and go to our RG registration form. You can also call Bud Long (also listed on Page Two), for details.

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Finally, on Page 4 (normally reserved for our LocSec) contains an item of business from National. This is a departure from my normal policy of not publishing business from National, since their forum is the Mensa Bulletin, National's publication. Moreover, the issue presented does not directly affect our Local Group or Region Ten.

So, why publish it here? I do so, because I believe the issue described therein is symptomatic of what is wrong with our organization as a whole. In this case, a would-be candidate for National Ombudsman was denied his candidacy due to a technical violation of the Election Committee rules. However, in reviewing these rules as presented to potential candidates, one could charitably state they were ambiguous.

It appears to me that some of our leaders get off on needlessly enacting stringent rules while, at the same time, sloppily presenting these rules to the rest of us. I have long criticized American Mensa for running its affairs as a "top-down" corporation that regards the general membership as employees rather than the reason for its existence.

After reading about the ruling in this case, I should find it should come as no surprise why so few Mensans wish to volunteer to help run the organization. If, at some future date, one of our National Officers should, in their Bulletin columns, bemoan the lack of volunteers, I will be much amused at the irony while, at the same time, be sufficiently angered to contribute a Letter to the Editor challenging his or her statement.

I do wish to commend our RVC, Mel Dahl, of bringing this issue to our attention. It does show that he cares enough. I encourage you to read the statement on Page 4 and draw your own conclusions.

**R**ecently, a 16-year-old Eau Gallie High School student, Cameron Lee Kage, was arrested for attempting to make a bomb to use on campus. This story was widely reported by the local television news, as well as by *Florida Today* and the *Orlando Sentinel*. According to the news accounts, Kage was merely one step away from accomplishing his deadly mission.

School authorities were alerted when weeks-long monitoring of the school's computers turned up Kage's numerous Internet searches on how to make bombs. A search of Kage's backpack and locker turned up tools, ingredients and instructions for use in making the bomb. As a result, Kage was arrested and turned over to juvenile authorities. He was later released in the custody of his parents, but was banned from returning to the school.

We do not know much about Kage. A newcomer to Eau Gallie, his family moved here from South Carolina. At his previous school, he played the tuba in their band. The authorities believe Kage acted alone in the current case. No mention was ever made of any friends or confidants; it seems Kage mostly kept to himself. Moreover, Kage apparently had no known prior history of violence or other disciplinary or legal problems.

Most of all, the main question remains unanswered: *Why?* What motivated Cameron Kage to attempt to construct a bomb to use at school? It seems no one wants to tackle *that* question. Yet, more than anything else, it is extremely important for us to understand why acts such as this one, with potentially deadly consequences, would be committed by those among us -- quite often -- whom we least suspect. What would drive a person with no prior history of violence to commit such a heinous act?

Since the popular news media regularly entertains us by engaging in speculation, I will, for the sake of stimulating some meaningful discussion, likewise speculate. First, let us start by ruling out possible gang activity. Kage, as a loner, is unlikely to have been in a gang, since gangs, by their nature, are no place for loners.

I would also rule out terrorist activity. First, the media never mentions terrorism. Second, had Kage been suspected of terrorism, his case would have been handled much differently. He would have been in a maximum-security facility instead of the juvenile facility.

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Moreover, he would never have been released to anyone, much less his parents. Instead, there would have been much heated argument as to whether Kage should enjoy the legal protections normally afforded criminal suspects.

So, what's left? Let's review a few factors. First, Kage is new to the school. Second, he is a loner. I believe we can infer Kage is an introvert. We can also infer that Kage does not easily make friends. I also suspect that Kage may be somewhat lacking in social skills.

Finally, Kage has been in school bands; from that we can infer his parents are at least somewhat involved in his education. It also points to (but is not evidence of) that Kage was not in the school's mainstream.

From my own experiences dating back to my school days, it would seem to me Kage is an ideal target for school bullying. By school bullying, I do not mean the occasional teasing that most, if not all, kids face as a part of growing up; rather I mean the relentless torture that is reserved for the one or two "misfit" kids that seem to be at every school. To make matters worse for these "misfits", the majority of the student population will shun them, lest they become the next victims of that same bullying. Their lives are truly a living hell. I can tell you from experience that the resultant scars never really heal.

This I know, because more than forty-five years ago I was such a "misfit". I vividly remember the anger and frustration that comes along with the feeling of powerlessness resulting from that daily torture. Yes, I've been there. Of course, in those days, there was no Internet. There was no instant access to information, so it would have been far more difficult to find instructions on how to build and deploy a bomb. Had I been born forty years later, it could have very well been me instead of Cameron Kage. This is a disaster that I, thankfully, avoided.

Was Cameron Kage a constant victim of bullies? I don't know. Yet, it is a reasonable explanation for his acts. For Cameron's sake, as well as ours, we deserve to know. Am I off the mark, perhaps, because of my own experiences (therefore biases), reading into an unfortunate incident something that does not exist? Perhaps. Yet, if that's the case, we need to know that, too. Until we know why Cameron Kage committed these acts, the dangers he presented will not go away. For this reason, we *do* need answers.

**O**n occasion, when I am home in the middle of the day, the ABC talk show, *The View*, will be on. For those who don't know, the show features an all-female panel that will discuss just about any topic deemed of interest to an audience of housewives. Today was such an occasion; the major topic concerned annual renewals of wedding vows, a practice engaged in by (as I understand it) a number of celebrities.

Those who favor this practice seem to believe that by periodically renewing one's vows, it would be less likely for one's marriage to become "stale", or, less romantic. Yet, somehow, I find this troubling. As I remember the wedding vows (the ones that contain such phrases as "*for better or for worse*", "*in sickness and in health*" or "*for richer or poorer*") they have as the final phrase, "*until death do us part*". This would (at least, to me) imply that marriage is intended to be a lifetime contract. No, folks, the term "*lifetime*" as used here does not mean "*Television for Women*".

Why would a lifetime contract require annual renewal? Do the terms and conditions change with each succeeding year? I wouldn't think so. Then, why do it? One possible answer is that the wedding vows have become no more than empty words. This might explain our divorce rate and some of the related fallout. It is no secret that our society no longer truly values commitment. Yet, on that topic, I would be remiss if I didn't point out that women's publications often bemoan the human male's "fear of commitment" yet women, *not men*, are less likely to marry, and are far more likely than their male counterparts to end their marriage in divorce.

Already, for the man, marriage seems to be a never-ending "probationary period" whereupon, if he doesn't make the cut, he is subject to a divorce and spousal support payments. In a different, but related, context, I discussed the "probation period" concept last year in the May 2009 issue of *The SCAM*. With this new trend of annual renewals, will divorce now become automatic unless she agrees to renew the marriage?

This seems to be in keeping with our developing "zero-tolerance" attitudes towards one another. There is absolutely no incentive for the partners to make the necessary effort to get along with one another. It also seems that one word in the Eng-

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lish language has been dropped from our vocabulary: *compromise*. Yet, *without compromise, most marriages are doomed to fail*. Unless, as seems to be the current trend, compromise is replaced by a newer concept: Total capitulation (*we can only guess by whom*).

If this ever becomes the case, I fear this will defeat the purpose of the institution of marriage. Why would a man ever commit himself to a relationship where the woman isn't likewise committed? What benefit would be derived from such a relationship? Why would anyone make a lifetime commitment that can be broken at will by the other party?

If this apparent trend of annual renewals of wedding vows ever catches on and, assuming the renewed vows are not reduced to meaningless words, marriage as an institution would likewise become meaningless. Perhaps, for us as individuals, we would be better served by donating to a sperm bank (*in case we need kids to keep up our Social Security*), getting sterilized and engaging in casual sex. Yet, where does that leave society as a whole? What about our children? We truly need to give some serious thought about our drift away from the concept of mutual commitment.

### **SCAM Treasurer's Report**

***As of 4/30/2010:***

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General Fund	\$796.23
Post Office Acct.	69.91
Reserve Fund	1617.07
RG Fund	572.24

**Total Funds Available:**  
**\$3055.45**

<u>Deposits</u>	
Mensa Funding:	\$196.25
Interest Income	0.09
RG Registrations	70.00

<u>Withdrawals</u>	
Postage	57.25
Printing	202.72

—Bud Long, Treasurer



**M**ensa's life blood, both at the national and local level, is testing. Testing brings in revenue as well as new members, and we need both to grow as an organization. Almost everyone reading this is in Mensa because they tested.

Every RVC has been asked by the national office to set testing goals for his or her region, and I have two goals for Region 10. First, I want every local group to have at least one proctor, and preferably two. Most groups have proctors; not all do. If you are interested in becoming a proctor please let me know. If you are a local group leader and you do not have at least two proctors and you need help finding another one, please let me know.

The requirements for becoming a proctor are not that difficult. You must have a degree, and you must attend four testing sessions; two as an observer, and two testing under the supervision of a proctor. Think of the new people you can meet. Think what a great ambassador for Mensa you can be. Think how impressive it will look on your resume. Above all, think about how Mensa could use your talents.

Second, I am asking every local group some time within the next six months to identify a place in your area that is a likely recruiting ground for new members, and focus on getting new members from that place: Maybe a college or university, maybe an arts or cultural center, but surely each group has a place where intelligent people are likely to be found. If they have a newsletter, advertise; if a few Mensans can take a Saturday to go over there and pass out leaflets, do that; if they have regular meetings and they're willing to let someone make an announcement on behalf of Mensa, do that. Be a little creative; you might be surprised at the positive response you'll get. There are still many members who trace their membership to an article in *Readers Digest* years ago.

And let me know how it goes. Anything I can do to help, let me know.

Until next month,

*Mel Dahl*  
RVC-10

*Minutes of the ExComm Meeting.*

**T**he ExComm met at the home of George Patterson on Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Called to order at 5:48 pm by LocSec George Patterson.

*Attendees:* ExComm members George Patterson, Karen Freiberg, Terry Valek, and Joe Smith. Bud Long was unable to attend.

Minutes for the April 7, 2010 meeting were approved as published in the May 2010 SCAM.

*LocSec Report:* George reported that he sent a copy of the RG flyer to Broward for inclusion in their newsletter. He said he was working on several versions to send to other Florida groups. He also reported that we needed an Audit committee and that he had a third volunteer (see below).

*Treasurer:* Bud submitted the Treasurer's Reports for April via email. It showed a final balance of \$3,055.45.

*Testing:* Hank Rhodes (proctor coordinator) reported via email that one individual was tested in April. During discussions regarding first impressions of Mensa, the candidate made complimentary remarks regarding the SCAM website (*kudos to Karen*). Also, 9 candidates were contacted for the first time, and 12 candidates for the 2nd or 3rd time. A test was scheduled for May 15 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa.

*New Business:* Karen nominated George Patterson, Joe Smith, and Art Belefant as the 2010 Audit committee. Seconded by Terry. Passed 4-0. It is expected that the audit will be conducted following the June ExComm meeting.

*There was no old business.*

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 pm. Next meeting will be at George Patterson's house at 301 Sand Pine Rd., Indialantic on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at 5:30 pm.