

The

SCAM

page oast rea ensa



Volume 31, No. 4

April, 2013



SPACE COAST AREA MENSA

Website: www.spacecoast.us.mensa.org

(All Area Codes are 321 except as noted)



Executive Committee

Local Secretary

WYNN ROSTEK

3456 Willis Dr., Titusville, FL 32796

267-9391 locsec@scam.us.mensa.org

Assistant Local Secretary

TERRY VALEK

626-8523

asstlocsec@scam.us.mensa.org

Recording Secretary

GEORGE LBOVITZ

1649 PGA Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32935

recsecretary@scam.us.mensa.org

Member-At-Large

KAREN FREIBERG

876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955

633-1636 member@scam.us.mensa.org

Treasurer

DENNIS LOGAN

285 Tangelo St., Satellite Beach, FL 32937

501-7547 treasurer@scam.us.mensa.org

SCAM Appointees

Proctor Coordinator

HANK RHODES

MensaTest@cfl.rr.com

Membership

GEORGE PATTERSON

Membership@scam.us.mensa.org

S.I.G.H.T.

KAREN FREIBERG

Sight@scam.us.mensa.org

RG Committee Chair

GEORGE LBOVITZ

SCAM Bylaws Committee

MICHAEL MOAKLEY

editor@scam.us.mensa.org

Publicity Committee Chair

GEORGE PATTERSON

locsec@scam.us.mensa.org

Mediator

MICHAEL MOAKLEY

editor@scam.us.mensa.org

The SCAM Editorial Staff

Editor

MICHAEL MOAKLEY

808 Wisteria Dr., Melbourne, FL

32901

editor@scam.us.mensa.org

Webmaster

KAREN FREIBERG

633-1636

webmaster@scam.us.mensa.org

Assembly/Circulation

GEORGE PATTERSON

777-3721

Calendar

DOUG STARKE

633-1636

doug@starke.com

American Mensa Ltd.

MEL DAHL, RVC10

RVC10@cfl.rr.com

AMERICAN MENSA, LTD.

1229 Corporate Drive West

Arlington, TX 76006-6103

(817) 607-0060

AmericanMensa@mensa.org

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

This month, I have received numerous e-mails from the various candidates running for office in American Mensa. Each has asked me to publish his or her campaign statement in *The SCAM*. After much consideration, I have decided not to run these campaign statements.

Why? First, they are running for National office. National already has an excellent publication that is sent to every member: *Mensa Bulletin*. Since these candidates must win all of their votes on a national basis to win office, it is my opinion that the *Bulletin* is the appropriate medium.

Second, *The SCAM* is a local group publication. Its primary purpose for existing is to publish our local group activities and official proceedings. Anything beyond that is generally reserved for those in our local group who wish to contribute to our newsletter.

In my opinion, it is a total waste of our resources to publish material that is better off published on a national basis. Our RVC for Region 10, which consists of Florida, has a column in *The SCAM*, as he does in all of the other Florida newsletters, because he is our link to National. Please bear in mind, however, that his column, like all others, merely reflect the author's opinions.

Finally, a reminder. In next month's issue, we will be asked to elect a new ExComm. As in the past, a ballot will be enclosed. If, by chance, this election is contested (*6 or more candidates on the ballot*), each ExComm candidate may submit a campaign statement for publication in the May issue of *The SCAM*.

***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.

I **recently had the pleasure** of addressing the Palm Bay Odyssey Charter School-Upper Campus gifted students about Mensa. I went over (very briefly) a little history of Mensa, some of the national and local publications, a few of the ways to participate in Mensa, and, of course I had to mention Regional Gatherings, Annual Gatherings, and Mind Games.

Mind Games was a perfect lead-in to the main event, I had brought a copy of Scattergories the Card Game with me, and played most of a game with the group. Before I broke out the game, they had been fidgeting in their desks. During the game they were on the edge of their seats and didn't want to stop playing.

A smaller group gathered around a table for a demonstration of the game Set. It took a few minutes for them to get the hang of it, but they were soon slapping hands over cards and declaring "Set!" We played Set for about 15 minutes before wrapping things up.

In closing, I urged the students to keep documentation of their test scores that qualified them for the gifted student program, explaining how prior evidence can be used to get into Mensa. I also told them about proctored exams as an option.

All in all, it went fairly well. Having had no kids of my own, I was afraid I would have a very hard time bridging the gap. (It has been a few decades since I was in school.) With a little help from the wife, I put together a presentation that kept from completely boring the kids to death, and I escaped with all limbs and digits intact.

I really feel we (SCAM members) need to do more to reach out to younger people. I'm doing my part. What have you done? Have you talked about Mensa to your kids or grandkids?

Under 40 and looking for comrades? **Check out GenY SIG!** We are open to members 18-36, and looking to pull together activities for Ms our age. Pretty sweet, right? Check us out on Facebook at **'Mensa GenY Space Coast'**!

Recently I was at Winn-Dixie perusing their meat counter when I spied a package of sweetbreads. Utterly amazed, I had been looking and asking for sweetbreads for the last several years at all the meat shops that I visit in Brevard County with the same result, not available. Nobody sells them here. I questioned the meat manager if they were now going to carry them. He said definitely not. Seven packages came in by accident, but he will not nor can he order more. Of the seven packages that came in, six were immediately sold. The one that I had in my hand was the last one.

Included in the common use of the terms offal, organ meats, or variety meats are everything but the muscles and bones of animals slaughtered for human consumption, although it includes heart and tongue which should not be included as they are muscles. They are the edible parts of animals slaughtered for human consumption but not usually eaten in in homes or restaurants the U. S.

Liver is a major exception. It is found in the lowliest diners and the most upscale restaurants, usually as calf liver, but beef liver is also eaten as a main dish. Chicken, duck, and goose livers are especially liked, usually as *paté de foie gras*. Pork liver appears as liverwurst and in *paté*. Chopped (chicken) livers are a mainstay in most delicatessens

In Washington, in K Street's expense-account supported steak houses liver is on the menu, the least expensive item, as it is in the Patio, an upscale restaurant in Vero Beach. Liver and onions is the classical dish, and that is what I had in a Washington D. C restaurant with four of us on expense accounts, three of whom ordered liver. It is also a simple dish that can be made with beef, calf, or pig livers.

For one serving, use one medium onion for a quarter of a pound of liver.

Coarsely chop the onion. On a skillet, heat some oil, I like olive, but any oil will do. Toss the onion in the oil and stir until partially cooked. Move the onion to the side and add the liver. Cook and continue to toss and cook the onion. Turn the liver over and continue to cook. When the liver is done so should be the onion. Serve with mashed potatoes.

Tongue also can be found in many meat markets. The tongue sold is usually calf's tongue. Tongue, although often classified as offal, is pure muscle. In the nineteenth century, the American buffalo or bison was decimated and almost destroyed by buffalo hunters like Buffalo Bill. When a bison was killed, the hunter cut out the tongue and left the rest to rot on the prairie. The tongues were put into barrels, pickled, and sent east to the high-toned steak houses in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. Fresh tongue is now available in many meat markets, but pickled tongue usually can be found only in delicatessens.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

What are **sweetbreads**? They aren't sweet and they aren't bread. They are meat. In American culinary terminology the pancreas and thymus are called sweetbreads. As sweetbreads, the pancreas is considered the better of the two. This was what was in the package that I found in the meat market.

Sweetbreads have a delicate flavor and a soft but firm texture when cooked. It is served as an appetizer in elegant French cooking. There are innumerable recipes for its preparation. The simplest, and I think the best, recipe is *ris de veau au beurre noir* where the flavor of the sweetbreads is not covered by stronger flavors.

Put the sweetbreads in salted water and let them soak for five or ten minutes. Then simmer them in that salt water for about 15 minutes until they become firm. Remove them from the water and let them cool enough to handle. Separate the sweetbreads into individual nodules, removing the membranes while you do that. The sweetbreads can then be cooked immediately or refrigerated to cook later or the next day.

Dust the sweetbreads with flour. In a shallow pan, melt enough butter to more than just covering the bottom and heat until almost smoking. Drop in the sweetbreads and toss, like a stir fry, until they are browned and cooked through.

Brains are cooked similarly to sweetbreads. They also make delicious omelets.

Calves' **testicles** are a rarely sold in most of the U. S. and cannot be readily found in meat markets or restaurants in the East. They can be found in cattle country however where they are known as Rocky Mountain Oysters. When young bulls are rounded up for branding they are castrated to make them steers. Steers make more tender and fattier beef than bulls. The cowboys would deep fry or pan-fry the removed testicles. They can be also be found on the menu in some foreign restaurants, such as in Athens, Greece as : , 8 " J Z " (unmentionables).

Intestines are most communally used as the casings for sausages. What's put in the casings are anybody's guess. Chitterlings are deep fried intestines. Chitterlings are the deep fried intestines of pigs. In some cultures, that would include dog intestines.

Deep fried pork **Skins**, known as Pork Rinds, are available in small packages in almost all convenience stores as a snack food. Chicken Skins, deep fried in chicken fat is a Jewish dish called *gribnets*.

The most well-known culinary use of an animal's **Stomach** is in the Scottish

(Continued on page 17)

It was worth every food stamp we had to cash in for our trip to California. The majesty of the mountains, the beauty of Venice Beach, Santa Monica, Malibu and most importantly, the magic of Hollywood. It was magic and it was just great.

The most fascinating part is listening to everyone's claim to fame and some have many claims.

"I actually sat in a chair only 10 minutes after Tom Cruise sat in it",

"I was in the crowd of extras in the movie 'Ben Hur'",

"I was the one cheering for Riverside on the 'Let's Make a Deal' TV show. If you listen closely you can actually pick out my particular voice because it is deeper than the rest".

Even the homeless have their stories.

"I once lived in upscale Brentwood before the market fell".

"I was part of an investment scheme that Barbra Streisand herself was invested in".

And, if you happen to have a face that's recognizable, you are an instant icon. You will be worshipped on the spot. People are always pointing fingers too. Stars are everywhere.

"Isn't that the guy who played the store clerk in 'Pretty Woman'?"

"That woman over there looks mighty familiar. I think she was the one in that Schwarzenegger movie, you know, the one with Arnie and Danny DeVito".

We made the rounds where only the mightiest had trod.

It was a bit disconcerting to see a drunk lying in his own vomit and covering the 'Walk of Fame' star of none other than Julius LaRosa (of 'The Arthur Godfrey Show', remember?).

The nerve of some people!

But beyond the sleazier side of Hollywood it brightens considerably.

At Grauman's Chinese Theater we saw the tiny little footprints of 'The Duke' John Wayne himself. (*No wonder he walked so funny, he wore size 5 women's shoes*). And, Allen Ladd: well he was only about 4 foot 10 so I expected him to have a ladies size.

It's all so magical, seeing footprints in the concrete, so small and yet so powerful.

Then back to the 'Walk of Stars', more stars than one can possible imagine, stars like the guy who played the butcher in the old Bowery Boys movies, he had a star. The Chinese cook on 'Bonanza', he had a star. They all had

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

stars. Naturally, Rin Tin Tin, Lassey, Trigger, Champ and some that I wasn't sure whether they were ridden or followed behind to carry messages of urgency back to the ranch house. Now what's the name of Roy Rogers' jeep?

I'm just neigh-on certain that it has a star.

Then a trip down, or up, Mulholland to see and imagine which giant of the silver screen or TV occupied the magnificent structures we were so privileged to behold.

The banks of Beverly Hills on Wilshire Boulevard where 'All The Gold In California' is obviously kept and the short but very, very rich Rodeo Drive where even the Meter Maids wear Tuxedos. Just kidding! Every car except ours was chauffeured by drivers who wore tuxedos though.

We even saw someone who just might have been Clint Eastwood. It was his size and shape and well, just about everything. It must have been him. He was wearing what looked like a fake mustache so it was impossible to tell. And another that could have been Ellen Degeneres in jeans and a Tom Selleck mustache with Elvis sideburns. I was pretty darned sure about this one.

Malibu Beach where we were so sure we had found the very house (gated, naturally) that Johnny Carson had lived in. We couldn't actually see the house but we got to see the magnificent gate that enclosed the multi-million dollar beach acreage which could possibly have been the one or at least one of 5 or 6 others that surely had to have been his residence.

What a rush!

Up Topanga Canyon road to see if we could actually find the Spahn ranch where the crazy Manson gang hung out. We saw a place that might have fit the description.

It was awesome!

Then, on the third street promenade in Santa Monica it happened.

I had heard of big stars being discovered on street corners or in drug stores and wondered if talent scouts could actually spot real talent simply by observing a person's demeanor. And, although the star was not present, his TV show name was displayed prominently under the camera which was heading straight for me and my lovely wife. I wondered if a double discovery was possible. My head was reeling. Could my wildest dreams be coming true? Would I finally become a TV star? I visualized myself onstage side-by-side with one of the great performers of our time as the crowd chanted--

Jeh-ree--Jeh-ree!

—TC

SCAM Calendar of Events for April 2013

3rd - Wednesday 6:00 PM

EXCOMM MEETING

This is our monthly business meeting. See back page for location.

5th - Friday 5:30 PM

FIRST FRIDAY AT HOOTERS SIG

Come join us for drinks, open discussion and food (latter two optional) at the Melbourne Hooter's, 877 S. Babcock Street.

Hosted by: *Dennis Logan, 501-7547.*

27th - Saturday 5:45 PM

S.N.O.R.T.

Join us for some sushi and tempura at The SCAM's best attended event at the Miyako Restaurant, 1511 S. Harbor City Blvd., Melbourne.

Contact: *George, 777-3721 for details.*

MENSA TESTING

April 20 at Central Brevard Library, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa. Please arrive by 9:45 am, as testing begins at 10 am. \$40 fee and photo ID required. Reservations encouraged but not required. Candidates must be age 14 or older. Testing next month will be on May 18.

Contact: Hank Rhodes, mensatest@cfl.rr.com, for details.

Of CABAGEs and Coffee:

(Our Regular Events)

C.A.B.A.G.E.: **Every Monday in the Food Court**, Merritt Square Mall
6 p.m. Host: *Karen Freiberg, 633-1636*

GO!: **Every Saturday at Books-A-Million**, The Avenue, Viera. Hosted by
1 p.m. the **Space Coast Area GO Association**.
Host: *George Lebovitz, the.rokkitsci@rocketmail.com*

Membership Notes for April 2013

WELCOME TO SCAM

Melissa Rabano

APRIL BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

1st	Richard Hussey	16th	Sandra Morgan
3rd	Gregory Ashburn	17th	Suzanne Leichtling
3rd	George Lebovitz	19th	James Dace
3rd	Beth Rutenber	21st	Richard Ward
5th	Douglas Solomon	21st	Carol Lane
8th	Adam Cherwinski	23rd	Mary Ellen Donahue
11th	Debra Saltzberg	28th	Clifford Miller
13th	Donald Sheppard		

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 Smoking Area; P-Pets in the home; NP-No Pets present; BYO_-Bring Your Own: _Snacks, _Drinks, _Everything.

I know, it has been a while since you've seen a column from me. Almost four years have passed since I wrote my last article on that comedian-turned-game show host and relationship guru, Steve Harvey. For those who may not be aware, Harvey can be viewed as the "Horatio Alger" of our time. When my 2009 SCAM column was published, Steve Harvey appeared as a guest on the Oprah Winfrey Show touting a book on relationship advice for women, *Think Like A Woman, Act Like A Man*. This book has since become a best seller and has maintained its popularity to this very day. Prior to that episode, I have never heard of Steve Harvey. Today, he is host of the game show "Family Feud" and a relationship advice talk show "Steve Harvey". He is one of several who owe their success, at least in part, to Oprah.

Moreover, his current success as a relationship advisor is due to the popularity of his book from four years ago. In my prior column, "Probation!?" (*The SCAM, May 2009*), I noted that the most significant piece of advice he offers women in his book was that, in a new relationship, the woman should wait 90 days before she gives her new man "the cookies". Harvey expounded on the advice by saying, "At Ford (a prior employer of Harvey's), you don't get the (employee) benefits until you first pass the 90-day probation period." It was evident to me that the 90 day wait for "cookies" was likened to a new employee probation period.

As in my prior column, let me clarify what is meant by "cookies". As used in this context, it means the woman giving her man permission to have sex with her. As it is likened to employee benefits, the implication is that permission to have sex is something that must be earned by the man. I opined that this cheapened the role of sex in a relationship to mere prostitution. I had also contrasted Harvey's advice with the concept that we men were taught that sex is engaged in for the pleasure of both participants, not just for the man.

Why, then, do I write once again on this subject?

In general, there are two reasons. First is the fact that Steve Harvey is now widely accepted as an advisor to women on relationships. This is evident from both the popularity and content of his current talk show. Moreover, his book is still quite popular with women who would seek relationship advice. The usage of the term, "cookies", in the context herein, is well recognized by those who would listen to Harvey's advice. In a nutshell, this issue is still timely.

The second reason relates to Harvey's sex advice being given in an employer-employee context. Since, according to Harvey, the woman is "giving" the benefits to the man who "receives" them, she must then be the employer. So, if

(Continued on page 16)

Part Three: God

Seldom does a day go by when some television preacher does not state that our problems as a country is because, *“They are trying to drive God out of the public square.”* If only we, the United States of America, would simply return to our Christian roots, then all would be well and our great nation would once again prosper.

What are these people talking about? Is it really, as many claim, a small group of “atheistic” liberals conspiring to turn Christians away from God and lead our unwitting fellow citizens down the path to immorality and socialism in the guise of a (so they claim) nonexistent “separation of church and state”? It seems that, at the core of this issue is the document these God-fearing people profess to revere, The United States Constitution. The First Amendment reads, in part, as follows: *“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;”*

The relevant portion of the First Amendment was brought about to prevent our new government from becoming involved in religion. During colonial times, for example, Virginia had an official church where all Virginians were taxed to support that church regardless of whether they actually belonged to the church. Moreover, during that time period, most countries had an official religion, and often persecuted those whose beliefs differed from that of their official church. Given these examples, this partially explains why the authors of the Constitution decided it would be best to keep government out of our churches.

So what troubles these preachers?

One issue is whether we should have organized prayer in our public schools. Currently, under the law, such a practice is unconstitutional. If we were to pray in our schools, under which religion shall we pray? Since public schools are government funded and run, it has no business interfering with anyone’s freedom of religion. When I attended public school, the two major religions in our community were Catholicism and Judaism. Catholics believe, as do all Christians, that Jesus is the son of God and is our Savior. Jews, on the other hand, hold no such belief. If the school I attended engaged in prayer, would they pray to Jesus or not? Who would decide?

Another issue is that of abortion.

When *Roe v. Wade* went to court, it became the latest of several cases challenging a woman’s right to contraception. Even though abortion is not truly contraception, as the woman is already pregnant, the theme was the same.

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

These cases were about enforcing a woman's chastity through the fear of an unintended pregnancy. If a woman could not avoid a pregnancy otherwise, she would effectively have no choice but to abstain from sexual activity. The most notable case up to this point was *Griswold v. Connecticut*, which was about whether or not a doctor had a right to prescribe contraception to a woman. This case represented a significant loss for the battle to protect a woman's chastity.

The *Roe* case was seen as a sort of last ditch attempt at restricting a woman's sexual activity. However, this concept was quickly losing popularity among most people who largely saw sexuality as a private matter. The new spin put on the abortion issue was now the opponents were protecting the life of the unborn baby, which represented a departure from the rationale of the original abortion laws now being challenged.

In any event, since *Roe v. Wade* has become the law of the land, it has been said that our country has lost favor with God, because "abortion on demand" is now permitted by law. Let us assume that abortion is not favored by God. Why, then, would *Roe v. Wade* make a difference? Let us further suppose that "good Christian women" would never get an abortion.

Would, such being the case, our current abortion law interfere with the ability of Christian women to follow their belief as stated above? Not at all. No one is *required* to get an abortion—abortion is simply permitted. All such a woman would have to do is simply not exercise her right to an abortion. In so doing, she breaks no law.

Finally, God, as I understand Him, is "all-powerful and all-knowing". Thus, God has the power to do anything He wants. Unless I grossly misunderstand the Christian concept of God, the notion that we humans can drive God from anywhere, including some nebulous "public square" is silly at best. So, what is the real problem?

It seems in our evangelical communities, just about anyone who has an opinion on religious matters, can call himself a preacher and demand a following among those who seek to go to Heaven. Generally, they are "called" to convert people who are not yet "saved" and to keep them in line (with their interpretation of the Bible) once converted and a church member. In my opinion, many such preachers do not have what it takes to convince many people that their prescribed path is the correct one.

As a result, many of these church "leaders", not succeeding on a spiritual level, try through our political process to force us through legislation to behave in a way they deem appropriate. Unfortunately, they sometimes succeed.

Yet, is this really what God wants?

(Continued from page 13)

the man performs satisfactorily for the first 90 days of a new relationship, is he then entitled to the benefits (“cookies”) he has presumably earned? After all, as in the “Ford example”, one could certainly argue that a new employee, once passing his probation, is now entitled to his employee benefits.

Carrying this over to the relationship, once he passes his 90-day “probation”, is he now entitled to his “cookies”? Certainly, the logic would be clear: “I earned it, now you must give it to me”. This is where Harvey’s analogy breaks down. On one hand, an employee is entitled to his earnings, including fringe benefits as long as he fulfills his employment requirements. On the other hand, no one can ever be legally forced to have sex with another against her will. This is true even when the parties are married to each other (*Oregon v. Rideout*, 1978). Thus, no one is ever “entitled” to sex with another person. It must then follow that sex with another person cannot ever be “earned”.

This gives me cause for concern: How many women, once their current relationships pass the 90 day mark, now feel the pressure to give her man the “cookie”, even though she may not feel right about doing so? Worse, after having explained to her new man about the probation period, once the 90 days are up, she now faces a confrontation with her man who is *demanding* the “cookies” he has now “earned”? How many rape cases come forth as a result? I believe Steve Harvey’s advice is not only wrong, it is potentially dangerous.

Does this mean that women should not wait before having sex with a man in a new relationship? Not at all. I can certainly see merit in waiting to allow an opportunity to first find out if they are compatible with each other and enjoy each other’s company. Giving Harvey the benefit of the doubt, we will assume his suggested 90-day waiting period is appropriate. A viable alternative then, is once a new relationship begins, on the question of sex, she might say: “I’d like for us to get to know each other first, so let’s wait awhile.” No promises should be made, and certainly there should never be any allusion to earnings and entitlements that legally do not exist.

A Mensan in the family?

Are you the Mensan in your family? Or, is your spouse, child, parent or sibling the Mensan in your household? Are two or more (maybe all) in your household Mensans? If any of these apply, *The SCAM* is soliciting an article from *you*. All members of SCAM or family members are invited to respond. What are your impressions and experiences?

(Continued from page 6)

Haggis. Traditionally, the stomach is filled with the heart, liver, and lungs of the animal.

Lungs, also known as Lights, made into a soup, was once commonly served in the morning as a hangover antidote.

Kidneys are served in English steak and kidney pie.

Paul Bocuse's signature dish is Bresse chicken, a dish cooked inside a pig's **bladder**.

Although not strictly classified as offal, it should be noted that in Japan that the head of a large fish, served alone, is considered to be a great delicacy. Rita and I, as honored guests, were served that in a *Ryokan*. In France, *tL te de veau* (calf's head) is served entire; eyes, ears, tongue, brains, *etc.* as I was once served in the Tour d'Argent in Paris.

It's an election year, and I'm doing something I've never done before: Publicly urge all members of Region 10 not just to vote, but to vote for a particular candidate for chair. I'm doing so because it's even more important this year than ever before. American Mensa is at a crossroads, and this election will determine which path the organization takes over the next two or four years. The two candidates for chair could not be more different in both substance and style. I have served on the AMC with both of them, and I like both of them personally. But they have very different views of where Mensa should go and how it should get there, and in my view, only one of them has the necessary policy vision and experience to effectively lead us.

There are two things a chair needs: Good ideas, and an understanding of how to implement them. The best of ideas are useless if the person offering them is unable or unwilling to do the hard work of making them happen. Organizational leadership requires attention to detail and the understanding that stuff only gets done if leaders are willing to actually do the hard work of governance.

Dan Burg has demonstrated over and over again that not only is he a skilled leader with good ideas, but he is willing to master the details and shepherd projects through to completion. As RVC, and as a former member of the Bylaws Committee, I have seen him patiently and thoroughly work with local groups on bylaws issues. I have also been impressed at his mastery of financial, policy and constitutional facts and nuances in AMC meetings. No one has ever been able to accuse him of lack of preparation, on both major policy issues and relatively minor matters. In contrast, his opponent supported a major policy initiative, and when the AMC debated it, candidly admitted that he had not thought it through, did not know any of the details about how it would be implemented, and intended to leave those details to others. That is not the way to run a major organization.

I have not always agreed with Dan on every policy matter that has ever come before the AMC, but I've never doubted his work ethic, his thoroughness, and his willingness to learn everything there is to know about whatever issue we are discussing. I've spoken with him about his long term vision for the organization, and I like what I hear. So, I hope that all of you will not only vote this year, but vote for Dan. He is, in my judgment, definitely the right man for the job.

Mel Dahl

The ExComm met at the home of Wynn Rostek at 3456 Willis Drive, Titusville, FL 32796 on Wednesday, March 13th, 2013, called to order at 6:11 pm. The meeting was originally scheduled for Wednesday, March 7th at the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955, but LocSec Wynn Rostek was not feeling well and the meeting was postponed one week. Just prior to the March 13th meeting, a plague descended upon the house of Karen Freiberg of 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955 and the meeting was hastily relocated to the house of Wynn Rostek at 3456 Willis Drive, Titusville, FL 32796 to avoid the potential contamination of the entire ExComm.

Members Present: Wynn Rostek, Terry Valek, and George Lebovitz.

Guests: none (technically, since Zanne Rostek of 3456 Willis Drive, Titusville, FL 32796 lived there already).

Officer/Committee Reports (details may be found in the footnotes):

Treasurer's Report¹. Treasurer Dennis Logan submitted his report via email prior to the meeting claiming he had to be in an all-day meeting in Clearwater; however, I believe this was a bald face lie to get him out of having to drive all the way to Titusville from his home in Satellite Beach.

Testing Coordinator, Hank Rhodes, reported via email².

A NomElCom composed of Joseph Smith, Art Belefant, and George Patterson was formed and brought before the ExComm and unanimously passed.

An Audit Committee composed of Art Belefant, George Patterson, and Wynn Rostek was formed and brought before the ExComm and unanimously passed.

Wynn brought up the notion that we need a Gifted Youth Coordinator in order to centralize issues pertaining to SCAM's involvement with gifted children in the Brevard area and to field any questions which may arise. For reasons I'm not sure I understand, I (*George Lebovitz, aka "The George"*) volunteered to fill the position.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, April 3rd, at the home of Karen Freiberg, 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955 at 6:00 pm. and the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 pm.

1. General Fund: \$458.25, RG Fund: \$1,630.74, Reserve Fund: \$1,807.46, Total Assets: \$3,896.45.

2. Contacted 19 candidates for the first time, 11 candidates for the second or third time; tested 0. Next test session is March 16, 2012 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa