

The

SCAM

page oast rea ensa



Volume 31, No. 10

October, 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@cflrr.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

membership@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.

**THOMAS GEORGE THOMAS,
RVC10**

37647 Sky Lake Cir.

Wesley Chapel, FL 33544-

7646 (813) 994-3981

RVC10@us.mensa.org

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

Often, I have heard it said, time flies when you're having fun. So it is true for me. This issue of *The SCAM* is the 120th issue produced while I have been Editor. Yes, it has been ten years since my first issue. I can honestly say that, for the most part, producing these issues have actually been fun.

Of course, newsletters like *The SCAM* are never entirely the work of one person. While I have been responsible for the design of each issue, it takes quite a few of us to make these issues a reality.

First, there are those who contribute material each month. We have two relatively recent contributors, T.C. Shaw with his various stories and Stacy Strickland with a monthly column introducing us to various mathematicians who have contributed much to their field.

Our longest running column, *The Gourmet's Guide*, by Art Belefant, is forever bringing to us a wide variety of topics of interest. I cannot envision an issue without this excellent column.

Then we have those who, without them, there would be no *SCAM* to read. George Patterson handles the issues as they progress from the printer to the Post Office. Karen Freiberg makes it possible to maintain our Web presence. In fact, did you know that every issue published since I became Editor is available on our website for you to read?

Many thanks to all of you for supporting *The SCAM* for the past 10 years. I cannot guarantee ten more years, but I have no immediate plans to retire.

***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.

Okay! Okay! The stand-up box with the pretty girl inside supposedly being impaled on three foot long swords; this is old stuff. The slight-of-hand with little foam rubber balls appearing out of nowhere.

Ho Hum!

A little practice and, I'm thinking, I could very well be a stage performer.

AHHH! The lure of show business.

The sword swallower? Now, that would take a bit more practice. He's done three swords at once and now he's oiling up a neon bulb.

What if the bulb breaks? Looks like it would be curtains for sure but even something that dangerous can become routine with a little practice. A few reps a day and it would be just like doing sit-ups.

Now, what is this? The sword swallower is going to swallow nails? And--- that sardonic grin---

What's that all about? He's swinging his head across the audience like he's challenging us?

He's clanging two six inch nails together and wiping them with what I suppose is a disinfectant.

And now----*Oh No! Not swallowing!* He's shoving them up his nose. This can't be!

It just isn't possible. He now has two six inch nails (*swallowed*) up to his flattened nostrils giving him a very porcine appearance and looking very much like a pig ready to butcher----*Uh Oh!*

Now I know where I've seen that grin before. It was the bad guy just before he consummated his brief engagement with Ned Beatty. (*Which was not about nose-nail swallowing*). Is he the schoolyard bully daring us to knock the chip off his shoulder? (*Do you have the guts to try this chump?*)

But, wouldn't the nails be piercing the gray brain stuff in there and causing it to at least give him the sniffles? They must be through the gray and scratching the inside of his skull. Are they made of surgical steel especially for brain piercing? Is it hereditary and progressive? Did his father, possibly on a rainy day, decide he couldn't play golf and surely wouldn't watch Oprah so why not stick something, like a surgical tack, up his nose? (*Honey, have you seen my box of surgical nose tacks?*) Is the FDA involved with minimizing the chances of a nose nail infection pandemic? Are there other, 'Nose Nail Swallowers', who might swallow longer or thicker nails? What is the Guinness World Record?

(Continued on page 6)

Editor's Note: Due to illness, the next scheduled article in the Measurements series has been delayed. We wish Art a speedy recovery. The following article is a reprint from the April 2002 SCAM; enjoy...

When I first began to write articles for SCAM I limited myself to one subject – food. I can claim some knowledge and expertise about food, writing about it from my days in Japan where I was the restaurant reviewer for The Asahi Evening News. Both Rita and I attended a Chinese cooking school in Tokyo so also I can claim some academic credit.

From my articles on food I expanded my repertoire to include toilets. I also can claim some academic credit and expertise on the subject as I am a licensed engineer and in my career have designed hundreds of toilet facilities in the U. S. and abroad. Of course, most of my toilet related articles are non-technical, as befits a general interest magazine. My interest in toilets and related matters was initiated by my vocation and the necessity of learning about toilet matters in other cultures. The transition from food to toilets is logical, as what goes in must come out.

Now I am going to delve into a subject for which I claim no academic credit or special knowledge – women's underwear, but this is also a logical sequence. In my general research on matters toilet I came across several references that indicated that until the 19th century most women did not wear underwear.

First we must define "underwear" for this article. In the broadest terms "underwear" is anything worn under the outer garments, which for some writers includes: petticoats, slips, shifts, girdles, blouses, and perhaps even sweaters. For the purpose of this article I am restricting the word "underwear" to that subset of clothing encompassed in the broad term to those articles of clothing worn next to the body that also go between a woman's legs. In other words, an article of clothing that covers her genitals.

It became apparent that my sources, in saying that women did not wear underwear until recently, reference was being made to Western culture only, primarily Germany, France, England, and the United States. Prior to the middle of the 19th century women in those countries and other countries of similar cultures wore plenty of skirts and petticoats, but nothing underneath. Even earlier, in the Middle Ages, the prevailing costume was a wrap around skirt, but again, nothing underneath.

The reason that most women abjured the use of trousers or other close fitting garment was the ever present threat of crab lice and yeast infections

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 4)

Where are the stores that sell surgical nose nails? Do they have special dressing rooms for such commodities? *(Oh Miss, may I try on an eight penny please?)* I remembered, as a child, shoving a little pebble up my nose, blocking the other side, blowing hard and launching the pebble like it was shot from a pea-shooter. Now I'm thinking bazooka or nose canon with built in sights.

Oh WOW! This guy has a real weapon if he decides to use it. I've slid down a bit in my seat.

(AP---The CDC has issued a report of the third person this month to be killed by a stainless steel projectile while---)

When, in a person's life, does one decide to stick nails up their nose for entertainment?

Is sword swallowing too tame? Has he tried sticking them in his head sideways from ear to ear? Could he stick little electric neon bulbs up there and maybe light up his eyes from within? Could he hide his car keys---*Okay! Okay!* I realize the nose can be a very entertaining toy but this is beyond entertainment. It's *scarreeee!*

But wait! ---- Could the nails be made of foam rubber like the balls? Could he be daring us to attempt a life threatening maneuver when he is perfectly safe?

But, I heard the clang. They must be real.

And----just the thought of rubbing shoulders with the giants of the industry like Gary Coleman, Florence Henderson, Tanya Harding and *ahhh---No, no----* forget about it.

I'm out of the show business idea. This is just downright scary.

I'm out of even wanting to see pigs or banjos. I'm out of wanting to canoe through a pristine wilderness and I'm out of my mind if I go home and even slightly attempt a ---*ahhh*, well maybe just a very small rubber hose in the nose to start and---*ahhh*.

(Continued from page 5)

(thrush). In those unsanitary and generally unwashed days, the enclosing of a warm and moist area would encourage the growth of both. Also, consider how uncomfortable it would be with wool (think of the itchy bathing suits before the advent of synthetic fibers) or coarse linen underwear as compared to the airy coolness of nothing.

In the Middle East, women did wear loose fitting trousers, which, when they were introduced in Europe became known as drawers because, before the days of rubber elastic, the trousers were held in place by a draw string around the waist. Also, women in the Middle East and southern Europe bathed more often than their northern compatriots and didn't need to wear such heavy outer clothing because of the milder climate.

There are (ancient) Roman mosaics depicting women dressed in what would best be described as bikinis. But this did not extend to northern Europe.

Of course, the lack of an under garment had one other advantage before the coming of flush toilets. A woman can urinate almost anywhere as readily as a man and did. Any ditch or alley way would do.

And in those lustier times, a woman could accommodate her husband or lover with ease and dispatch. In opposition to that, rape was also easier.

By the middle of the 19th century improvements in sanitation, personal hygiene, the breaking of the rubber monopoly in Brazil, and the bicycle all contributed to the increased use of women's underwear. Improved sanitation made it less necessary for women to urinate in public areas without toilet facilities. Toilets, both public and private, became common. Personal hygiene was advanced by the bringing of running water into the home so that women can clean themselves more effectively.

The breaking of the rubber monopoly allowed for cheap elastics, which removed the need for drawstrings for under trousers. Drawstrings were uncomfortable and had a tendency to come undone at the most inopportune times, such as during a tennis match. The bicycle became fashionable, even a fad, at the turn of the 20th century, necessitating a woman's garment that would allow her to sit astride a vehicle. That garment was the Bloomer.

Amelia Jenks Bloomer did not invent the eponymous garment; that was done by Elizabeth Smith Miller. Bloomer did popularize it starting in 1850. Originally it was loose ankle length trousers under a knee length skirt. Since then women's skirts have gotten both shorter and longer, but the trouser part has become shorter, tighter, and skimpier until today, for many women, it is hardly

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

more than a string and a triangular piece of cloth, or what the French would call a *cache-sexe*.

As a corollary we can look at other countries and cultures. In Japan, the kimono traditionally is worn with nothing underneath, as is the burnoose in Morocco and similar garments in the Arab world. There is the story told in Japan that in a previous century when all women wore the kimono there was a fire in a two story building. Several women refused to jump from the windows because they thought that their dresses could be blown upwards and they would be exposed. They were burned in the fire.

Among men's clothing with skirts, Scottish kilt wearers do not (traditionally) wear any underwear whereas Greek Evzones, who also wear skirts, wear what could be called white cotton panty hose.

Which brings me to a conjecture. In the late eighteenth century a law was promulgated in France that "no actress or dancer should appear on stage without drawers" which indicated that the general female population did not wear drawers. Laws are not written to prohibit an action that is not usually done. One century after the law was passed, the Can-Can as danced at the Moulin Rouge was considered to be scandalous and caused a sensation in Paris. Was it because the dancers were truly following the law, when at the finale, they would turn away from the audience, bend over, and flip up their skirts?

A Mensan in the Workplace?

Are you the Mensan at work? Do you work with other Mensans...or...are you the only one? If the latter is true, do your coworkers know you're in Mensa? What about your boss? What are your impressions and experiences at work? Do you have a leadership position? Do you serve in any kind of "support" (formal or informal) role? Does your status as a Mensan have a positive or negative impact on your work relationships? Finally, if preparing a resume, would you include your Mensa membership as an item (or would you state that you qualified to join Mensa)? Why or why not? Let's hear from *you*.

It's been a rather slow month. Small computer night came and went. We had four guests, and had a good time, but no younger members or potential members showed up. This is the second function in a row that was aimed at younger members that no younger people showed up. It may be time to move on.

Due to publication deadlines, this is being sent to the editor before the last issue has been out for any period of time. So far we've had no members that could use the visiting computer program contact us. If by the end of the month, that remains the case, we'll chalk it up as another bad idea, and move on to the next bad idea. :-)

I'll be looking into starting a SIG with national in the next few weeks. We have a few people locally that are interested in cryptography. We are toying with the idea of starting the Cryptographic Interest Group. (The CIG SIG.) It will distribute an electronic newsletter, and at least initially, will be covering the history of cryptography. If we get another member that expresses interest, we'll have local meetings.

We still need to complete our audit. George Patterson is working on coordinating the meeting where the audit will take place.

The bylaws overhaul appears stalled again. I'll need to devote more effort to making this happen. I'd really like to get this finished and off our plate.

I assume everyone is very satisfied with what is happening within SCAM as we've received no complaints for several months. One, this is not like Mensans, they tend to complain about finding money laying in the middle of the road. Two, I know you know how to contact us, we pester you every month for input. Three, is it possible we have the only chapter in American Mensa where everyone is satisfied? That would be just too weird!




In the meantime, we'll just press on with what we've been doing until course corrections are required.

I would like to thank everyone who submits articles to the newsletter. We don't give credit where credit is due often enough, so many thanks to everyone, including a new member who is very active in this area. Hint, Hint.

I'd also like to thank the members that drove many miles in order to attend small computer night. We don't often get members from the south end of the county attending functions in the north end. Thanks for putting in the windshield time, we really enjoyed talking with you. That turned out to be much like the SCAM of olden days, and was very refreshing!

October 2013

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1		3		5 GO!
6	C.A.B.A.G.E. 7	8	9	10	11	12 GO!
13	C.A.B.A.G.E. 14	15	16	17	18	19 GO!
20	C.A.B.A.G.E. 21	22	23	24	25	 GO!
27	C.A.B.A.G.E. 28	29	30	31		

SCAM Calendar of Events for October 2013

2nd - Wednesday 6:00 PM

EXCOMM MEETING

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

MENSA TESTING

Oct. 19 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 Nov. 16.

Contact: Hank Rhodes, mensatest@cfl.rr.com, for details. **See ExComm minutes for Special promotion.**

4th - 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.

26th - Saturday 5:45 PM

S.N.O.R.T.

Join us for some Japanese cuisine at The SCAM's best attended event at our new venue, **Hioki's**, 3200 NE Dixie Hwy. (US 1) in Palm Bay. It is about 2 miles south of US 192.

Contact: George, 777-3721 *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 the **Space Coast Area GO Association**.
1 p.m. **Host:** George Lebovitz,
the.rokkitsci@rocketmail.com

Membership Notes for October 2013

WELCOME TO SCAM

Robert Allen

Jeff Horger

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

1st	James Staal	17th	Rudolph Hardick
4th	Robert Barber	18th	Christopher Kalil
8th	Christopher Buccieri	23rd	Karen Todd
8th	Rex Repich	27th	Maximo Salinas
9th	Philip Devlin		
14th	Frank Tremaine		



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.

Editor's Note: This is a reprint of my column that originally ran in the January 2012 issue of The SCAM. In the next few months, as we approach the 2014 election cycle, I believe the issues raised herein are still timely.

Throughout the 2010 campaign season and now, as we approach “Campaign 2012”, it is no secret that we are not living in the best of economic times. One of the pressing issues was, and is, what we should do about the persistent unemployment problem. Thus far, candidates from both major parties declare that we need to create more “private sector jobs” and place particular emphasis on inducing “small business” to create these jobs.

I believe these efforts are, at best, misguided. Anyone who has ever attempted to live on an income earned in the employ of a small business has undoubtedly needed to seek additional employment to supplement these earnings merely to subsist. Additionally, there is little job security. This is, in part, because the prospect of a small business surviving more than just a few years is bleak at best. One needs only to look around to see the abundance of empty retail space sporting the all-to-familiar “For Rent” signs. Much of this is due to their inability to compete with Wal-Mart and its clones.

In fact, the private sector, in general, has over the years not been exactly a haven for steady employment for a living wage. Wal-Mart, America’s largest private employer sets the standards for wages and working conditions. Its competitors follow suit; it’s either that or their businesses cannot survive. Yet, how many politicians, especially those with conservative agendas, heap praises (and tax breaks) on these employers as “contributing” to the economy?

The irony to this story is that most depending on public assistance (such as food stamps) are NOT those too lazy to work; rather they work day and night for minimum wage in the private sector. The few of us who are left in the middle class literally subsidize the payrolls of these benevolent private employers; we also subsidize these businesses by not insisting they pay their fair for the public services they use. It’s a “win-win” situation, unless you’re one of those stuck with the tab.

Meanwhile, for the last thirty years, our infrastructure has been literally crumbling around us. As public services are cut back in the name of austerity, the situation will only get worse. But, hey, it’s the free market, the panacea of all the tycoons and wannabes. Yet, something’s not working.

Perhaps we ought to rethink our values. Perhaps it’s time to revitalize our public sector. We can start with our “job creation” efforts.

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

As we are seeing less and less of public services, undoubtedly due to the “invisible hand” of the marketplace, one can see only too well that free market solutions will not work this time. It is time to put public services back in the hands of the public sector. Just from an employment standpoint, the advantages are many. More public employees mean a larger middle class. It also means more taxpayers and fewer people in need of public assistance. We, as a society, already pay (perhaps “bribe” is a better term) private employers to employ people who, too often need government subsidies to make ends meet.

If we are going to spend our public treasury to employ people, would it not make better sense if they work for us? Another beneficiary would be the private sector itself. While by no means an expert in the business world, I have noted that businesses cannot thrive unless there are customers.

Moreover, public services are necessary for sustained business growth. A well-maintained and updated transportation system is essential for the rapid movement of goods. A high quality educational system not only makes for better workers, but allows the more ambitious among us to achieve greater financial success – this translates to more customers who can afford the goods and services offered by the private sector. These are just a few examples.

I have no illusion that a larger public sector will solve all our problems. However, unless we are serious about our public services, we will only continue in our decline. The real problem is that those who wield power in our current society are concerned with only immediate gratification and not with long term benefits that comes with a viable infrastructure. To ignore this aspect would be like building a fine mansion without a firm foundation.

I believe that now as we approach 2014, as you have read the preceding words, the issues I raised nearly two years ago, are still critical today. In fact, the situation has actually worsened. If we are to remain as a viable society, we need to become serious in revitalizing our much-maligned public sector.

This month, I thought I would consider my wife and my mother-in-law (both born in October) with an article about a female mathematician born in October: Kathleen Timpson Ollerenshaw

Dame (female equivalent of knighthood) Ollerenshaw was born Kathleen Timpson on 1 October 1912 in Manchester, England. Her passion for numbers began as a young child. In 1921, a combination of a viral infection and family genetic history led to deafness. She quickly learned to lip read, a skill that allowed her to succeed in school and university, and at her job. At the age of 37, she received her first effective hearing aid. Throughout her life, she has never allowed her handicap to slow her down.

After finishing school in 1930, she studied privately with Professor J.M. Child of Manchester University in areas of higher algebra (number theory, theory of equations, functions and series) while preparing for entrance exams at Oxford and Cambridge. She received a scholarship to Oxford, where she met her husband to be, Robert Ollerenshaw, who was studying physiology in preparation for a medical career. An excellent athlete (those Mensa multi-talents again?) she played hockey and was team captain. She earned a B.A. in mathematics after three years at Oxford.

After Oxford, she worked in the statistics department of a cotton research company. She continued to play hockey for various regional teams and also competed in figure skating competitions (in 1938 she was runner up in the English-style British Pairs Ice Skating Championship). Remember: this woman is supposedly 'handicapped'. An academic mathematician, impressed by her mathematical skills, suggested she consider returning to Oxford for a DPhil degree. Over the next two years, while caring for her son while her husband was away at WWII, she wrote five original research papers which were sufficient for her to earn her DPhil degree without the need of a formal written thesis.

In addition, this remarkable woman was serving on committees such as the city council of finance, chairperson for the Association of Municipal Corporations (to present information to members of Parliament), a term as Lord Mayor of Manchester, and chairperson of the Association of Governing Bodies of Girl's Public Schools (during which she wrote two books dealing with girls' education in public schools). She served on the governing bodies of five universities in northwest region of England, including the Royal Northern College of Music which she helped establish in the 1970s.

During all of this, Ollerenshaw continued her work as a senior researcher at the University of Lancaster and was a Foundation Fellow at the Institute of

(Continued on page 16)

(Continued from page 15)

Mathematics and its applications. During this time, she was invited to give a Friday Evening Discourse at the Royal Institution of London. These lectures were founded in 1825 by Michael Faraday with the goal of introducing advanced sciences to the general public in an easy-to-understand format (a type of project a Mensa member would like). Ollerenshaw has been only the second woman to ever give this presentation for the Royal Society.

While a Foundation member, she wrote a paper that gave one of the first general methods for solving the Rubik cube puzzle (which was later applied to other fields of geometric problems by mathematicians). She also worked with the prominent cosmologist Hermann Bondi to solve problems involving the field of magic squares (popular in geometric designs and art and used in understanding architectural and cosmological designs....one can be found in the painting *Melancholia* by Albrecht Durer).

Her research has been used in electrical engineering for the development of printing of fast production for pictures in newspapers. Her studies led to the development for the first time of an algorithm for constructing a whole class of magic squares as well as a formula for counting their number, a remarkable accomplishment for a woman of age 85 (with a disability yet?) She has written, "... the solutions will always remain one of the most magical revelations that I have been fortunate enough to experience. That this should have been afforded to someone who had, with a few exceptions, been out of active mathematics research for over 40 years will, I hope, encourage others. The delight of discovery is not a privilege reserved solely for the young."

That is an attitude that probably should be considered for all of us as we solve all the 'magic squares' of personal experiences we encounter in a long life.

References:

1. Ollerenshaw, Dame Kathleen. *To Talk of Many Things: An Autobiography*. Manchester University Press, 2004.
2. Edwards, Terry. "An interview with Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw", *Mathematics Today*, Vol.38 (2002), 165-166 and Vol.39 (2003), 10-12.
3. Gardner, Martin. "Magic squares cornered," *Nature*, Vol. 395 (17 September 1998), 216-217.

This Page is RESERVED:

JUST
FOR
YOU

We want to hear from YOU...!

See Page Three of every issue for
SCAM submittal guidelines.

Over this past Labor Day weekend I attended the bi-annual Broward Mensa RG (this year called “Suite 16”) in Ft. Lauderdale. As usual, it was a fun event at a beautiful facility. They drew approximately 150 members from across the state and country, and Mensans were spilling out of the hospitality area into the lovely atrium for games and socializing. As usual there was a crowded scholarship auction, which raised \$2,500 for the Joe Vitale Scholarship Fund. The presentations were very well-attended – the crowd at Dr. Stan Cohen’s talk about his relationship with Albert Einstein was the largest I’ve seen outside of an Annual Gathering. And they dedicated a full day to a Mensa Kids’ Track with terrific attendance, while the adults participated in presentations, tournaments, and of course the auction. Kudos to Robin Rhea, Kris Martin, Jackie Callaghan, Micki Hawn, Laura Peralta, Christina Westerberg, and all the dozens of volunteers who made the event a success.

No Mensa event, large or small, happens without the volunteers. The newsletters don’t get put together, the calendars don’t get filled, the events don’t get hosted, the on-line communities don’t get material – none of this happens unless there are volunteers to do them. And all of these volunteers are dues-paying members just like you (or their family members) – they don’t get paid (though most groups do reimburse expenses on authorized events). However, while no group has enough volunteers, every group has a pool of potential volunteers. That would be YOU. Volunteering doesn’t have to be an onerous task. It could be as simple as offering to join a calling tree to get word out about an event, or designing a postcard to reach out to lapsed members or prospects, or setting up chairs at a meeting, or becoming certified as a Proctor (did you know that Mensa defines a “solid investment” in Testing to include at least one proctor for every 100 members?).

Contact your *volunteer* local group board members, whose contact information is elsewhere in this newsletter. Ask them what you can do to help, or if there is something you would like to do, offer that. The strongest groups are the ones with the most participation. Be part of the success of your group!

I’ll be attending the American Mensa Board of Directors meeting in early October. The agenda has been posted at <http://www.us.mensa.org/meetingreports> under the 2013-10-05 – Irving, TX dropdown. I would like to hear any questions or comments you may have about the agenda.

Thomas George Thomas
RVC10@us.mensa.org

The ExComm met at the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955, on Wednesday, September 4th, 2013, called to order by LocSec Wynn Rostek at 6:06 pm.

Members Present: Wynn Rostek, Karen Freiberg, and George Lebovitz.

Guests: Zanne Rostek.

The minutes of the July, 2013 meeting were approved.

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

Treasurer's report¹. The Treasurer's report was not available at the time of the meeting.

Testing coordinator, Hank Rhodes, reported via email².

Wynn is starting a Cryptography Interest Group SIG – **CIGSIG**.

“Something” will be happening at Wynn's house in a month or so.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, October 2nd, at the home of Karen Freiberg, 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 pm.

1. At the time of this writing, the Treasurer's report was still unavailable. Those with a burning interest in monitoring the status of SCAM's funds can email our Treasurer at: Treasurer@SCAM.us.mensa.org.

2. Contacted 1 candidate for the first time, 10 candidates for the second or third time; tested 0. Next test session will be Saturday, September 21, 2013 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa. Note also that National is having a promotion: Reduced price on Mensa Home Test in AUG/SEP, and MHT takers in AUG/SEP get a discount on the Mensa Test in OCT. Here is the announcement: “If an October test taker presents a receipt from the Online Home Test from August or September, Local Groups will be asked to charge them just \$22 for their supervised admissions test taken in October.

Aug 1 – Aug 18: Online MHT is \$18

Aug 19 – Sept 15: Online MHT is \$1

Sept 16 – Sept 30: Online MHT is \$18

Again, anyone who takes the online MHT in August or September and presents the printed receipt at an OCTOBER Mensa Admission testing session will receive their testing session for just \$22. (\$18 off) The link for the online home test is <http://www.us.mensa.org/mht>.