

The

SCAM

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Volume 33, No. 6

June, 2015



SPACE COAST AREA MENSA

Website: 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

On June 20, we will decide who will be elected to the SCAM ExComm. If you have not yet voted, you will still have some time before the vote count is held. For those of you who do not already know, there is an error (on MY part) on the ballot that was included in last month's issue. Terry Valek, who was listed, is NOT running for office. Karen Freiberg, not listed, however, IS running for re-election. If you wish to vote for Karen, you will need to write her name in using the space provided on the ballot.

Once the new ExComm is seated (I expect it will be the July meeting), their first order of business is to choose among themselves which member will assume each office. Then, the ExComm will need to fill the appointed positions (including that of Newsletter Editor).

If the new ExComm chooses to reappoint me as Editor, I agree to serve for the entire term. However, I plan to retire as Editor next year, so I would strongly encourage our new ExComm to begin recruiting another candidate for Editor so, when it is my time to go, the transition will be a smooth one.

In the next few issues, I am planning to run a short series on how each issue of *The SCAM* is created. They are not meant to be all-inclusive, but merely as an outline of the Editor's functions. Ultimately, one of YOU will be the next Editor of *The SCAM*. From my experience, being Editor is no small task, but it has the potential to be very rewarding. In the end, the job is what you make of it. Keep in mind, editing *The SCAM* is a vital function. So, if interested, please step up and let us know.

***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 was watching a man in Gladwin (my town) as he talked to himself. (Come on! You folks have people like this in your towns too.) It was a lively conversation and it got a bit animated at times with arm waving and what sounded like threats. I was kind of hoping he'd get a little carried away and start a fight. It's not every day you get to witness a fight between one. I wasn't sure just how I'd be betting but I didn't see how I could possibly lose if I did. I'll take the psycho in a first round knockout. Oops! My psycho just got knocked out in the first round. No way! My psycho won. I could tell myself that anyway. Self, you just won the bet. Your psycho just knocked out slime ball psycho and he is bleeding all over the sidewalk. Ouch! Maybe I should instigate a bit to insure there will be something to bet on in the first place. Now how would I go about such a delicate operation without getting punched by psycho #1 or psycho #2?

"Hey, your mother thinks one of you is a real wuss."

"First one to draw blood is proof that your mother loves you more."

"Free pizza for the last ONE standing."

What am I talking about? There might be three or more psychos standing there.

How do I know there's not a whole gang standing there? I could get my butt kicked by a pslew of psychos.

"Couldn't"

"Oh yes I could!"

I know that a lot of people talk to themselves, like when they're talking to animals, but they really don't expect answers. Do they? If you start getting answers there's a teensy chance that someone like me will be making book on you.

I just asked my horses yesterday if they would start crapping a little more outside and try to keep the inside of the barn a bit cleaner. Naturally they didn't answer even though I have seen a bit of lip movement from time to time. (No, I don't put peanut butter on the roofs of their mouths.) I just think that they do try to talk sometimes.

"No you don't."

Well it looked like psycho man was getting in touch with his inner self. He seemed calmer and maybe he was ready to buy each other a cup of coffee as a peace offering.

"I'll have mine black."

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Although farmstead cheeses are made in the U. S., most come from England, France, Italy, or Spain, they are of little more than academic interest to us in Brevard. A true farmstead cheese is handmade on a dairy farm, from cows, sheep, or goats raised, pastured, and milked on the farm. A farmstead cheese varies with the season of the year, the pasturage, the altitude of the pasture, even the day's weather. For some farmstead cheeses, those made from morning milk differ from those made from evening milk.

Some cheeses reach their perfection of ripeness for only a few days, therefore with the vagaries of storage and transportation, they must be sold and consumed within a few days of their perfect ripening, and because of their limited supply, they are not available here.

No cheese monger exists in Brevard County nor for that matter, in Florida. Yes, you can order farmstead cheeses over the internet, but for that you are dependent on the transportation system and its handling to get the cheese to you at the proper time and in the proper condition. I, for one, would rather eat a decent second class cheese rather than a debased farmstead cheese.

Between artesian farmstead cheeses and factory made cheeses lies coop or dairy cheeses. In some areas of cheese producing countries, including the U. S., some dairy farmers cooperate in organizations that collect the milk from the farmers and produce the cheeses. As in some artesian cheese producers, some also purchase milk from outside their area. These cheeses and factory produced chesses are available here. I will not reference farmstead or artesian cheeses further in these articles.

One of the most common variables among chesses is pasteurization. No cheese that is made from unpasteurized milk may be sold in the U. S. that has been aged for less than three months.

The reason being that in the aging process, harmful bacteria are destroyed by the end of three months. Many well-aged cheeses are made from unpasteurized milk, but many cheeses that could be made from unpasteurized milk are also made from pasteurized milk. Factory cheeses are often made from pasteurized milk to better control the product by eliminating all or most of the wild bacteria found in raw milk.

Another variable in the making of a cheese is the country of origin. Most common cheeses are designated by name that represents the original type of the cheese, such as Gouda, Swiss, Cheddar, Brie, and Munster. Blue cheeses, however, are often named for name of the prominent cheese in its country of origin. Thus we have Stilton (England), Gorgonzola (Italy), Roquefort (France),

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and Amish (U.S.A). Some of these names are protected, but similar cheeses without the protected names are made in the same countries.

Similar blue cheeses are also made where there is no protection, such as the Danish Blues. Each of these cheeses will have a distinctive taste for the discerning taster.

Still another variable that enters into the classification of cheeses is the age of the cheese. Certain cheeses, such as Cheddars and Parmesans continue to ripen and improve for a long time after being made before they begin to deteriorate, Cheddars for months and Parmesans for years. Cheddars, both coop and factory made can be bought at various stages of ripening, such as three months, six months, and one year.

Soft ripening, washed-rind cheeses, like Camembert and Brie have a peak of flavor for only a few days and should be bought young and eaten when fully ripe.

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"I want cream and sugar."

The turmoil was over. No psycho pscrap today. So much for an exciting day in the rollicking town of Gladwin. Guess I'll just head for the old rancho and rustle up a mess of vittles.

"No you won't. You're on a diet."

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?

Well, another month has come and gone. I lost a week out of it to being in the hospital for a serious kidney infection. The doctors are working on a plan to see if they can't come up with a way to allow to catch fewer of these things.

Being in the hospital caused me to miss the last opportunity to get a new version of our bylaws in order and bringing them to the ExComm for forwarding to national. Our bylaws as they stand are seriously out of date and need to be brought into line with New York state law. (*Mensa was incorporated in the New York, hence our need to comply with their laws.*)

The way this whole process works is that the ExComm creates a draft of the new bylaws and votes on submitting them to national. National will review them, and make suggestions to bring the draft closer to national's idea of correctness. The ExComm then incorporates the required changes into the draft version. This whole cycle can take years to complete. One Florida chapter took 4 years to get everything arranged to the satisfaction of all parties.

Once the ExComm and national are happy with the draft bylaws, they are published to the SCAM membership who vote on accepting or rejecting the draft bylaws. If they are accepted, they then become the new bylaws governing how SCAM conducts its business.






If you are still reading this at this point, then you are either really, really bored, or have an unusual interest in the way SCAM is governed. If it is the interest that kept you reading on, may I suggest that you attend the vote count/games night at my place on June 20th?

You are welcome to attend the games night portion of the evening, the vote counting is usually a side affair that takes ten to fifteen minutes out of the evening. Drinks and snacks will be provided and there is no kitty for this event.

So long and thanks for all the fish!

June 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 C.A.B.A.G.E.		3	4		6 GO!
7	8 C.A.B.A.G.E.	9	10	11	12	
14	15 C.A.B.A.G.E.	16	17	18	19	
21	22 C.A.B.A.G.E.	23	24	25	26	
28	29 C.A.B.A.G.E.	30	Vote Count & Games Night on June 20th (see p.10)			

SCAM Calendar of Events for June 2015

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.*

13th - Saturday 6:00 PM

MONTHLY MENSA GET-TOGETHER

No featured speaker this month. Instead we will have conversation and good food at Red Ginger Restaurant at the Melbourne Square Mall.

Hosted by: *Joe Janson, 338-5833.*

20th - Saturday 6:00 PM

SALON

Come join us at George and Barbara's, 301 Sand Pine Rd., Indialantic, for an evening of "enlightened ?" discussion. 6 PM til whenever.

Hosted by: *G. & B, Patterson 474-4074,5 or george314159@gmail.com*

27th - 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, 474-4075 for details.*

EXCOMM MEETING

Tuesday, June 2 at 6:00 pm. This is our monthly business meeting. See back page for location.

MENSA TESTING

June 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. Next month, testing will be held July 18.

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

Of CABAGES and Coffee: (Our Regular Events)

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

GO! Every Saturday at Books-A-Million, The Avenue, Viera. Hosted by
the **Space Coast Area GO Association**.

Host: George Lebovitz,
the.rokkitsci@rocketmail.com

Membership Notes for June 2015

WELCOME TO SCAM

Terry Grossberg

JUNE BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

2nd	Bill Emmons	20th	Thomas Moor
3rd	Stacy Strickland	24th	Sam Kirschten
7th	Margaret Bartlett	24th	Christopher Moss
17th	Jane Williams		
17th	Ellen Rogers		
17th	Art Belefant		

YET ANOTHER SCAM EVENT...!

20th - Saturday 6:00 PM

VOTE COUNT/GAMES NIGHT

Wynn Rostek will be hosting this event at his home, 3456 Willis Dr., in Tusville. See "WAR Correspondence" in this issue for more details.

Contact: Wynn, (321) 626-3670 for more details.

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.

This Page is RESERVED:

JUST
FOR
YOU

We want to hear from YOU...!

See Page Three of every issue for
SCAM submittal guidelines.

SCAM Treasurer's Report

April 30,
2015

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General Fund	\$575.36
Reserve Fund	1209.01
<u>Total Funds Available:</u>	\$1784.37

General Fund

Beginning Balance	\$850.36
Mensa Funding	247.54
Newsletter Printing	522.54
Postage	0.00
Ending Balance	\$575.36

Reserve Fund

Beginning Balance	\$1208.96
Interest	0.05
Ending Balance	\$1209.01

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centage of members at 35%, followed closely by Gen-X at 30%. Yet nearly 50% of our local group officers are Boomers, followed by 25% Gen-X and 15% “Silent” generation (along with 5% who withheld their age).

Nationally, the types of events members found most appealing were Speaker and Museum events, though in Region 10 dinners rated above these two. Fourth were theatrical/cultural events, followed by games nights, except in Region 10 where members preferred lunch clubs.

There’s far more to the survey, but my column is running long. I’ve shared the full results with the LocSecs of each chapter, but I’ll be happy to discuss with anyone who has further interest. Kudos to American Mensa Membership Officer Stephanie Thornton for putting together this survey.

Thomas George Thomas



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.

In March, an online survey was distributed to 36,081 members of American Mensa who had opted to receive email notifications from Mensa. This survey consisted of 47 questions about members' experiences, expectations, and opinions about Mensa. Approximately 1 in 8 members responded to the survey, though Region 10's response rate was somewhat lower, with 1 in 13 eligible members participating.

When asked for the first three words that came to mind when they thought of Mensa, unsurprisingly the first two for 30% of the membership were "Intelligence", "Smart" and other intelligence-related words. But after those came "Interesting", "Friends", "Fun", and "Social".

A Net Promoter Score (NPS) was calculated to determine how likely a member would be to recommend Mensa to a friend they knew would qualify. On a scale of 1-10, anyone answering 1-6 would get a negative point (detractors), 7-8 were neutral and 9-10 would get positive points (promoters). A positive overall score indicates more promoters than detractors. In American Mensa, the NPS was 16, but in Region 10 we were much more likely to recommend Mensa with an NPS of 22. For members who participate in at least 7 events per year, that number jumps to 44, showing that participation leads one to be a more enthusiastic promoter of Mensa.

In terms of general satisfaction, members who participate in 7 or more events per year scored an 81% satisfaction rate, which decreased accordingly by the level of participation. But even members who didn't participate at all registered a 58% satisfaction rate, with an average satisfaction rate of 67% across all members (here in Region 10 that rate was 69%).

The top three reasons that new members join Mensa were for intellectual stimulation, meeting and socializing with like-minded people, and intellectual validation. However, in Region 10 new members were less interested in validation than in trying something new (53% in our region vs. 32% nationally).

Members were asked to rate a variety of benefits and reasons to belong by both importance and by the satisfaction they provided. Far above all other choices on both factors were the Mensa Bulletin and the Local Newsletters, followed by social activities with other members and local meetings and events, all of which scored over 70% in importance and over 55% in satisfaction. At a generational level, social activities and local group events were valued highest by millennials, while Boomers and the Silent Generation valued the Bulletin and newsletters higher.

In terms of demographics, while the fastest growing sector of Mensa are Millennials (35% of all new members), Boomers are still the largest total per-

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Minutes of the May, 2015 ExComm Meeting

The ExComm met at the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955, on Tuesday, Cinco de Mayo, 2015, called to order by LocSec Wynn Rostek at 6:01 pm.

Members Present: Wynn Rostek, Joe Janson, Karen Freiberg, Dennis Logan, and George Lebovitz.

Guests: None.

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

Treasurer's Report: The April report was not available at the time of the meeting; however, it was reported that the annual financial audit required by Mensa national was submitted before the deadline.

Testing: Testing coordinator, Hank Rhodes, reported via email¹.

The minutes of the April, 2015 minutes as published in the SCAM were approved.

Joe Janson represented SCAM at the Megacon in Orlando and reported a surprising interest in Mensa. Based on his experience, he recommended (and all agreed) that we need to have a broader presence at similar and other local events.

Wynn had a long chat with Thomas Thomas (Regional RVC) regarding our proposed revision of the SCAM bylaws. Apparently, no mission statement is permitted and will have to be deleted. Wynn was told that approving new bylaws can be a multi-year process and the ExComm agreed that we need to renew our efforts on the revision in hopes that the next ExComm can put them into operation.

There was a copy/paste error perpetuated in the ballot published in the May SCAM in which Val Valek's name was inadvertently published as running for the ExComm instead of Karen Freiberg. The error was very regrettable and is causing confusion regarding how best to rectify the situation.

On Saturday, June 20th, at 6:00 pm, Wynn will be hosting Game Night in addition to conducting the ExComm balloting vote count.

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, June 2nd, 2015 at 6:00 pm in the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.

¹Contacted 4 candidates for the first time, 6 candidates for the second or third time; tested 2. Next test session will be Saturday, June 20th, 2015 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa.