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# SCAM

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# 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**

Another month has gone by, and the ExComm elections are finally over. As of the time I am writing this, the election results have not yet been disclosed to me. Also, as I have pointed out in prior years, we do not know yet who will be serving in the various positions. This is because of the way the ExComm is chosen.

When voting, the members choose the five candidates he or she wishes to serve on the upcoming ExComm. Then, at the ExComm meeting, the outgoing officers relinquish office as the new officers are installed. Once that occurs, the new ExComm meets.

The first order of business is for the officers to decide among themselves who assumes each office. The next order of business is to select all of the necessary appointees, including the Editor. The next ExComm meeting will be held July 7th.

I wish to address a couple of items:

As you may know from my prior column, if the new ExComm reappoints me as Editor, I do agree to serve the full term. After that, I plan to retire as Editor of The SCAM. This means a year from now, one of you will be the next Editor. The time to be thinking about this is NOW. This month and next, I am running an article on How The SCAM Works. It is intended as a thumbnail sketch of the Editor's responsibilities.

On a more immediate note, you have probably received this issue late. This is due to some work commitments on my part. It is entirely likely that the issues for the next month or two may be late as well.

**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.

**S**everal years ago I read a book by Harry Lorraine and Jerry Lucas called “The Memory Book”. I thought I could use a little boost in that department and thought it would be handy at family reunions. (You say you’re a sibling. On who’s side?)

Or, in case I wanted to remember a whole phone book, as Jerry has on his various television appearances, demonstrating the almost limitless extent of the mind. My thought was to dazzle family members with my newly acquired astonishing memory.

There are several techniques and combinations they use to help stimulate the memory. One method is called “word association” where you make connections in somewhat bizarre ways to make a pile or string of ridiculously interconnected objects and the more bizarre it is the easier it is to remember.

Another method involves committing to rote the numbers from 0 through 9 represented by consonant sounds which are in turn represented by objects. (1=t=tie—2=n=nose—3=m=ma etc.)

Once this is achieved, objects (called tags) will replace numbers, which is easier to remember and can also be used to tag objects for making numbered lists. It is much easier to remember street addresses or phone numbers. So, to remember a street address of say, ‘231’ in that order you would imagine say-- Jimmy Durante’s (nose=2) that your (ma=3) is ahh, pulling along with a flashy (tie=1) down the Las Vegas Strip. Harry and Jerry suggested making our own ‘tag’ list if we were not comfortable with theirs.

Needless to say, I felt a need to make my own list. I rarely use a tie and substituted the word ‘toe’ instead in the number 1 position and ‘neighbor’ (he weighs at least 600 pounds) instead of ‘nose’ for number 2. I didn’t want my poor dead mother subjected to this type of foolishness and substituted ‘Michael’ (as in Jackson) for number 3 (a choice I soon regretted).

That should have solved my problems but unfortunately, Michael has a few peculiarities which seem to dominate every list or sequence and every memory. He is much too aggressive and tends to steal every image. If I want to remember a number ‘3’, for instance, (he could just hold a huge ‘3’ to his chest which would make a good memory image) but no! He has to grab it in his over-sized glove, rub it where it shouldn’t be rubbed and do things which are not considered exactly ethical. And then, as if that wasn’t enough, like a lusty licentious leprechaun, he just pops up everywhere leaving (rubbed) ‘3’s’ or ‘m’s’ where they don’t belong.

My anemic checking account has developed a nose bleed I can’t seem to

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**O**f all the variables that go into the making of a cheese, one is the most significant. It is what makes a blue cheese different than a cheddar or a brie different than a parmesan. That controlling variable is the cheese culture. The making of a cheese goes through several steps, starting with the forage of the mammal through the milking, the treatment of the milk, and then the most significantly, the introduction of the cheese culture.

The cheese culture is a group of microorganisms introduced into the milk either naturally or artificially. Natural introduction of a cheese culture is done by placing the slabs of formed curds in an environment that contains the cheese culture, such as a cave, a cheese making structure, or another place where the that particular cheese is traditionally made.

Years ago Liederkranz was made in New York. Borden's bought the recipe and moved the cheese making to Ohio where it was making other cheeses. The first batch of the cheese in Ohio was a disaster. It didn't taste anything like Liederkranz. To produce authentic Liederkranz extreme measures were required. It is said that they had to go back to New York and literally scrape the unique mold off the walls of the cheese maker's original cellar in order to obtain the precious culture, and then go back to Ohio, where they smeared it on the walls and ceilings of their curing rooms. This heroic effort worked.

This natural use of a cheese culture has one major defect. As the culture is a living group of organisms, including bacteria, yeasts, and molds, especially lactobacilli, it will grow and change over time. The cave-ripened Camembert we eat today will probably not taste the same as a Camembert from the same cave ten years ago and certainly not as when Camembert was first described in 1791.

Most cheeses today are made with cheese cultures that are preserved and reproduced over and over again to retain the distinctive taste that the cheese maker desires. One cheese maker's version will differ from another's so each cheese maker's version of a particular cheese will be distinctive. Specific cheese cultures can be purchased if you are inclined to make your own cheese.

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stem because of extra '3's' inserted seemingly at random. IRS even sent me a personnel 'Thank You'.

Easy enough, you say! Just burn the book and forget the whole mess. HA! There is a thing called '*dis-remembering*', which is different from forgetting, I think, but, I can't remember what the difference is.

Replace it with a stronger image like Manson? Nope! I want to be able to sleep at night.

Let's just get another image. Let's see---M.--M.A.....Madonna...oh yes..Madonna, provocative outside underwear---the image hits me. Come on now...stand up Madonna, stand up! Oh no, no, no,---I could take it but, do I really have to?

*Hey!--It doesn't have to be a person.*

It could be anything. Let's see---M.—M.A—Mary! Mary had a little lamb. Yes! Just put the two together. That would be unique, easy to remember and should work quite well but...wait...what's happening?

*Not following....chasing...and...Little Lamb! Not so little ...*

OH! You sick sick creature....get out!...get out of my head...Out! ...Out! I say....Time will be my savior. I know that memories will fade in time as all things do.

And where there's a will there is a way.

I have moved on and I have learned to keep Michael at bay to some extent.

But, I have a will and I still like to dazzle. So now, at reunions, I tell people that between me and my brother (who is never present) that we have memorized the entire phone book from 'A' to 'Z' and then when a person asks for a particular number I just say "ummm....that one is in my brother's section".

I really dazz----*"Yes, what is it young lady"?*

Oh Bull! you say! I can't even remember my own telephone number. And, you know how badly my brother's memory sucks and you know that because he is your uncle and I have only one sib and you--you young lady--you look verriy familiar. Ree really! *And what is your name, my dear?*

**W**ell we had a lovely vacation. We sat on the porch of our cabin in our new rocking chairs and watched the fireflies and listened to the creek. It was very relaxing, and a nice change from the hectic schedule I maintain while working.

This experience got me to thinking about retirement, not that I'm ready to retire, but it sure would be nice if I had a choice about working or retiring. Like many people that work in private industry today, I have no pension, only Social Security to look forward to.

More and more younger people are going to end up in the same boat. Pensions are now reserved for the elite few, executives, civil servants, and people that have put in their time in the service of our country.

The thing that irritates me about the whole Social Security running out of money situation is that we, the working stiffs, payed into the system. Every time our government noticed that Social Security was building a good surplus, the government "borrowed" money from the fund for pork-barrel projects. I put borrowed in quotes because the simple truth of the matter is that they just took the money, and never had any intention of paying it back.

Now when all those surplus funds are needed to keep the fund solvent, they aren't there. The government's answer to the problem? Just give less money to the people that have been paying into the fund for decades, that way the missing funds never have to be returned.

I'm reminded of a small child that ate the whole cake intended for dessert. When asked about what to do about the situation, he replies, there are a few cookies, we could have that for dessert.

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### **Our Regular Events:**

- **TRIVIA and DINNER (New!):** Slow and Low Bar-B-Que, Stadium Pkwy., Rockledge. Every Thursday at 6:30pm.
- **C.A.B.A.G.E.:** Food Court at the Merritt Square Mall. Every Monday at 6pm. *Host: Karen Freiberg, 633-1636.*
- **GO!:** Books-A-Million, The Avenue, Viera. Every Saturday at 1pm. Hosted by the Space Coast Area GO Association. Contact George Lebovitz for more info: [the.rokkitsci@rocketmail.com](mailto:the.rokkitsci@rocketmail.com).

# July 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	C.A.B.A.G.E.		1	Trivia & Dinner		4 GO!
5	6 C.A.B.A.G.E.		8	Trivia & Dinner	10	
12	13 C.A.B.A.G.E.	14	15	Trivia & Dinner	17	18 GO!
19	20 C.A.B.A.G.E.	21	22	Trivia & Dinner	24	
26	27 C.A.B.A.G.E.	28	29	Trivia & Dinner	31	



## SCAM Calendar of Events for July 2015

### **2nd - 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.*

### **EXCOMM MEETING**

**Tuesday, July 7** at 6:00 pm. This is our monthly business meeting. See back page for location.

### **11th - 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.*

### **MENSA TESTING**

**July 18** 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 Aug. 15.

### **25th - 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.*

**Contact:** Hank Rhodes, [mensatest@cfl.rr.com](mailto:mensatest@cfl.rr.com).

## Membership Notes for July 2015

### **WELCOME TO SCAM AND MENSA**

Michael Dalvano

Jason Liu

### **WELCOME TO SCAM**

Leona Pratt

### **WELCOME BACK!**

Harry Martin

Milo Zonka

### **JULY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

2nd	Milo Zonka	20th	Jeffrey Barbour
4th	Chari Fry	20th	MaryKay Dailey
5th	Robert Tuck	21st	William Hartman
6th	James Conaway	23rd	R M Livingston
8th	Ian McClure	25th	Leona Pratt
9th	Michael Zielinski	26th	Pepper Stevens
9th	Rick Bugado	27th	Jason Liu
13th	Cary Wood	27th	Paul Hargraves

### **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.**

**A**s most of you know, I am the Editor of *The SCAM*. I have held this position since October 2003, when I published my first issue for November. I generally work “behind the scenes” to get *The SCAM* to you each month. Yet, did you ever wonder what goes into creating our newsletter? I will share some of this with you. First, it is important to make one distinction. SCAM stands for Space Coast Area Mensa, our Local Group with American Mensa (“National”). *The SCAM*, on the other hand, is the official publication for SCAM.

### **Part One: The Position of Newsletter Editor**

In Space Coast Area Mensa, the Newsletter Editor is an appointed position. “Appointed positions” are selected by the Executive Committee (ExComm), the elected officers who run SCAM. Appointments are made at the beginning of the ExComm’s term and expire when the new ExComm assumes office. In this case, the new ExComm can renew the appointment or choose someone else for the position. The difference between the position of Editor and other appointed positions is that the Editor cannot also hold an elected office or vote on any matter brought before the ExComm.

The Editor can be removed by a unanimous vote by the ExComm or by petition from SCAM members.

### **The Content of the Newsletter**

Some of the content you see each month is required either by SCAM or by American Mensa to be included in the newsletter. Examples of required content:

- Official record of proceedings. Included are ExComm meeting minutes as well as any special meetings that may be held.
- Treasurer’s reports when they are submitted for publication.
- A directory of Officers and appointed positions.
- Official communications from SCAM officers.
- A Calendar of Events.
- Ballots for elections of Officers.

All other content is optional. Optional content is published at the discretion of the Editor. The Editor may choose to publish only required content. The Editor may also choose to publish a great variety of material on just about any topic of interest. In soliciting and accepting contributions for publication, the Editor sets policy governing what may be published.

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For example, one of my policies is to never accept any material where the author personally attacks another member. Another policy is, once a topic is deemed suitable for publication, then ALL views on the topic are acceptable for publication.

Material submitted for publication must be his or her own work. Sometimes, an article may quote other (and sometimes copyrighted) material as a source. This is perfectly acceptable, so long as proper attribution is given to the original author or copyright owner.

When publishing opinions on any topic, the Editor (as well as the reading public) must keep in mind that Mensa has no opinions. Mensa members have opinions, but Mensa as an organization does not.

The next Editor of The SCAM is free to develop his or her own publication policies. So long as the required content is published and the Bylaws of SCAM and American Mensa are followed, editorial policy is at the Editor's discretion.

### **Copyright**

The copyright owner of The SCAM is Space Coast Area Mensa. The only exception to this is when an article that is copyrighted by its author is published. In such cases, the author is the copyright owner and gives The SCAM permission to publish his or her article on a one-time basis.

**Next Month:** How we put The SCAM together.

## **A Mensan in the family?**

**A**re 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?

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ond, an event of this size takes time to organize, and there was still work to do to finalize a contract acceptable to both American Mensa and PSCL. Putting this off another month or so would have created an unnecessary delay in the implementation of the event. If the new AMC decides not to go forward with this, it can still be reversed, but the idea is solid enough that I don't foresee that happening.

I will be at the All-Region Meet-and-Greet during the Annual Gathering on Friday morning, July 3 at 9:00 AM. I hope those who are attending the AG will stop by and say hello. Otherwise, I hope to see you at the Broward RG (FLoRanGe 2015: "Another Excuse To Each Chocolate!") on Labor Day weekend.

*Thomas George Thomas*



*(Continued from page 7)*

Not that the Social Security mess is just the Trillions that were stolen from the fund, it has other problems as well, but the truth is, if the original funds had been left there, we would not be talking about the Social Security mess for another 30 years.

I worry that the mess we allowed our government to create is going to be solved on the backs of today's younger generations. What kind of legacy is that to leave to future generations?

**T**he election is now concluded, and I am grateful that you've elected me to another term as your RVC. I want to acknowledge and thank Jack Brawnner for his interest in the position and his spirited campaign. I've stated many times that it's important for members to be involved, and there's no more certain expression of interest and commitment than to run for the American Mensa Committee (AMC). I also want to acknowledge two members of our region who will be retiring from the AMC: Elissa Rudolph (Past-Chairman) and Brian Reeves (Secretary), both from Palm Beach County Mensa. Thanks to both of them for their service.

There will be some significant changes when the new AMC is seated at the first meeting of the term, to be held during the Annual Gathering in Louisville, KY on July 2. With the passing of referenda removing the Past- and Past-Past-Chairmen from the committee, and changing the four appointed committee members to non-voting positions, the AMC has shrunk from 21 voting members to 15. There are now 5 Nationally-elected positions (Chairman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer), and 10 Regionally-elected positions (the Regional Vice Chairmen, or RVCs). The level of experience of the new AMC has also changed, with Heather Poirier (1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman) as the only member with long-term experience (she's served on the AMC for 10 years), and the seven returning incumbents with two years of experience each. It will be interesting to work with the new configuration, and I am looking forward to it.

At this writing the agenda for the AMC meeting has not yet been put together, so I have nothing to report on that front. There was, however, one last item covered by the last AMC, and that was a motion for American Mensa to sponsor an intelligence competition held by the Professional Services Champions League (PSCL), pending a contract acceptable to the ExComm (the five nationally elected AMC members) and AML counsel. This motion passed by a vote of 16-2 (two members were absent and the Chairman did not vote). Details can be found in the minutes of the teleconference at <http://www.us.mensa.org/meetingreports> - select 2015-05-27 - Teleconference for the agenda and minutes.

I think this is an excellent promotional opportunity for Mensa, as well as a benefit for members (who will be able to participate without paying the fee charged to non-members). But I have been asked why this motion wasn't put off until the July meeting, since a new board will then be in place. I had two primary considerations. First, the AMC continues to have fiduciary responsibility to the organization through the end of their term on June 30; that responsibility did not end with the final face-to-face meeting that we held on March 21. Sec-

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**Minutes of the June, 2015 ExComm Meeting**

**T**he ExComm met at the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955, on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, called to order by LocSec Wynn Rostek at 6:02 pm.

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

**(Honored) Guest:** None.

**Officer/Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:** The May report was not available at the time of the meeting.

**Testing:** There was no testing session conducted in May.

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

The issue of the balloting error for the upcoming ExComm elections was discussed. Extensive discussion with Thomas Thomas (Regional RVC) and a thorough evaluation of the proposed alternatives and solutions resulted in the conclusion that the matter should be left alone since it will ultimately resolve itself. Any ballots erroneously cast for Val Valek will not count (she is not eligible), thus write-in ballots cast for Karen Freiberg should result in her re-election to the ExComm.

Based on Joe Janson's experience at the Megacon in Orlando we definitely need to have a broader presence at similar and other local events. Specifically mentioned was the Nerdfest which will take place in Melbourne at the end of May, 2016. Also mentioned was the Melbourne Maker's Fair of 2016.

The June Open Meeting/Gathering will be on Sat, June 13, 6pm – 9pm at the Red Ginger restaurant in the Melbourne Mall. There will be a brainstorming session for ideas on how best to get word of SCAM (and Mensa in general) out to the local community.

The next meeting was set for Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:00 pm in the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 pm.