

The

SCAM

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SPACE COAST AREA MENSA

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(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

Yet another month has gone by ... Where have you heard this before? For this column, I have just a little SCAM business. Of course, I am referring to the Editor's position for The SCAM. Thus far, I have not heard anything back. Is anyone out there interested? If so, please e-mail me to let me know. My contact info is on Page Two.

For this month, I do have a question for you. There is much discussion in the Mensa *Bulletin* as to whether one should (or should not) tell others about their Mensa membership. Quite a few opinions have been expressed on both sides of this issue.

So, here's my question to you: Would you tell someone else that you are a Mensan? In answering, please consider the following:

1. You are looking for a job. Would you include that information on your resume and/or employment application? Why or why not?
2. You are single and subscribe to a dating service. In filling out your biographic info, would you include your Mensa membership (or that you qualify for Mensa)? Again, why or why not?
3. You are in a social situation (NOT a Mensa function). Would you tell anyone else that you're a Mensan? Why or why not?

Feel free to respond to this question as it might apply to some other circumstance. Also, if you are retired (or nearing retirement), have you, during your career, informed others that you are a Mensan? If you did, what were your experiences in that regard?

I look forward to hearing from you.

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.

Bob; you lucky, lucky dog! How can one person be so lucky? I am in total awe. Okay, I know you're not a dog but that's only an expression. You are one lucky individual though. Lucky or, just maybe it wasn't luck at all but the idea of a very clever person who could see the possibilities of having a special name like yours.

I am so envious. The 'Sponge Bob Square Pants 500'-----

I wouldn't mind having a NASCAR event named for me. All those big named drivers saying my name over and over again and vying to win an event named specifically for me. That would be Seventh Heaven and all the other heavenly places rolled into one and all because of a special name.

Special events, ball parks, college bowl games and stadiums are named for advertizing slogans, icons and immediately recognizable names like, well Bob for one and others like Tostitos, Chick-Fil-A and many other personalized events.

Soooo! Is 'Tree Fu Tom' up for grabs? That's not actually me but who would know?

I could get in on some event or have a ball park or arena named for me if only I could come up with a special name for myself then, I could have my name up in lights with the likes of Bob.

I'm thinking---'Dish Rag TC Dirty Drawers' or 'Old Crotchety TC Diaper Wearer' or 'Never late for Supper TC Big Spoon' or-----no,no, no--- those are not unique. Only a poor copy of Bob's truly unique name.

Maybe something like those Ninja Turtles or even a slogan?

Okay, okay----How about---- 'Ring Around the Collar' Daytona 500?---or

'Finger Lickin' Good' Miss America Pageant?---or

'Where's the Beef' Olympic Weight Lifting?---or

'Viagra' Boston Marathon or

'Vagisil' Playmate of the Month or--or

Wait! What am I thinking? Those wouldn't put my name up in lights. I need something with my name, not some silly Turtle-like description.

Okay, how about -- 'Empty Paint Can Operator TC Tangerine' ---or--- 'Hitless Wonder Sandwich TC on Rye Bananas' ---or---or--- 'Crushed Rock TC Vagabond Swimsuit Player' or--- even---- 'Sponge TC Square Pants' ---

Bob, you rascal you!---you truly are one clever, lucky dog!

Naked and pregnant, which pop singer graced the cover of *Elle* magazine in 1991? We all looked at each other, shrugging our shoulders. Fortunately one of our latecomers knew it was **Britney Spears**. Five points!

Which animal carries leprosy (Hansen's disease)? "I got this!" one of our cadre whispered excitedly, while scribbling "**armadillo**" on an answer sheet.

This is how a half-dozen or more SCAMsters spend Thursday evenings. At Slow and Low Barbecue in Viera several ragtag groups of participants play trivia games. Our team, **SCAM-X**, is, perhaps, the ragtaggiest J

None of us knew **the first discovered poisonous bird**. Failing that, we asked each other, "can you name ANY poisonous bird?" Nope.

- Fortunately, the other teams didn't know **the hooded pitohui** either.
- Fortunately, we get to rank our confidence interval to the answers we submit.
- Fortunately, we got two points for putting "velociraptor" into the funny-bucket.

Which **US President graduated from the Naval Academy in Annapolis**? We were pretty sure it was Jimmy Carter, until someone said, "Was it George H. W. Bush?" We agreed it SEEMED like it was Bush 41. It just seemed like the kind of thing he'd have done. We let knowledge win out over perception, and we were right. **Jimmy Carter graduated from the US Naval Academy.**

But is it really knowledge when it's trivia?

You'd be wrong if you think you have nothing to contribute. Ever been to Texas? Read a romance novel? Seen a James Bond film? Listened to pop music? We need you!

We meet at **6:15 p.m. every Thursday at Slow & Low Barbecue in Viera** for dinner, a cocktail, and scintillating conversation. Or just come for **Trivia at 7:00 p.m.** The whole SCAM-X team hopes you can join us!

In spite of its French name, **vichyssoise** is not “of Vichy”, but there is controversy about its origins. Julia Child calls it “an American invention”. Louis Diat, a French chef at the Ritz-Carlton in New York City, claimed its invention. Earlier, French chef Jules Gouffé created a recipe for a hot potato and leek soup, publishing a version in *Royal Cookery* (1869). The combination of pureed potatoes, leeks, and cream is hardly earth-shattering, and people have probably been making various versions of this soup for centuries, although Diat may have been the first to serve it intentionally cold. It is available in many restaurants and cafes, especially those with French pretensions. This is a standard recipe. There are many variations.

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 cups sliced leeks, whites only
- 4 cups diced potatoes
- 7 cups cold water
- 1½ to 2 teaspoons salt or to taste
- 1/2 cup or more heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh chives or parsley

METHOD:

Bring the leeks, potatoes and water to boil in a saucepan. Salt lightly, cover partially, and simmer 20-30 minutes, or until the vegetables are tender. Purée the soup in a blender. Chill thoroughly for several hours or longer. Top each serving with a sprinkle of chives or parsley.

This makes a delicious soup for summer, however the preparation time and effort involved make it unsuitable for a spontaneous lunch or dinner. I enjoy vichyssoise often during the hot summer months. So, how do I do it? I cheat! I keep in our refrigerator several cans of condensed potato soup. I empty a can in our blender, add a half a can of cold milk or cream, add a pinch or less of a spice, blend until smooth, and top each serving with a sprinkle of chopped parsley from my kitchen window herb garden.

Here's a quote from Bill Muckler, our Monthly Gathering speaker for October 10th...

"Imagine, in this high tech age of electronics and computers, stuff clogging up the system. Computers eventually become digital junk drawers. To unclog the clutter, one has to reboot, defrag or run disk clean-up to erase corrupted files on the computer. Keep the operating system. It works. Now imagine the United States of America as a computer hard drive and our Constitution/republic as a superior operating system. Clear out the political confusion and clutter of complicated oppressive taxes, excessive regulations and federal government junk, reboot and start afresh. Keep the Constitution. It works well."

I met Bill at a meeting of the Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce. He's the author of a book entitled "20/20: A Clear Vision For America." Bill was there to promote his book which I have never read, but which I do intend to read. The reason I have not read Bill's book is because that way, I can keep an open mind and arrive at our Monthly Gathering with no preconceived notions about the material. By the way, I don't think that Bill is a politician. I think he is very likely a thoughtful and concerned citizen. He does not push a particular agenda, just asks you to please read his book and make up your own mind.

When people at the meeting asked Bill what his book was all about, I found it refreshing that Bill often asked probing questions rather than spewing information; questions that were like teasers on why you

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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.

SCAM Calendar of Events for October 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, Oct. 6 at 6:00 pm. This is our monthly business meeting. See back page for location.

10th - Saturday 6:00 PM

MONTHLY MENSA GET-TOGETHER

Featured speaker this month will be Bill Muckler, author of: "20/20: A Clear Vision for America". Red Ginger Restaurant at Melbourne Square Mall. Hosted by: *Joe Janson, 338-5833.*

MENSA TESTING

Oct. 17 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 Nov. 21.

31st - Saturday 5:45 PM

S.N.O.R.I.

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.

Calendar Updates

ATTENTION SCAM MEMBERS!

Every effort is made to bring to you an accurate up-to-date Calendar of Events. However, last minute changes can and do occur past newsletter deadline. For up-to-date info, visit spacecoast.us.mensa.org and click on "Calendar".

Membership Notes for October 2015

WELCOME TO SCAM

Tristan Miles

WELCOME TO SCAM AND MENSA

Michael Beyer

Evan Nace

WELCOME BACK!

Robert Scheppy

OCTOBER BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

4th	Robert Barber	17th	Rudolph Hardick
8th	Rex Repich	18th	Christopher Kalil
8th	Christopher Buccieri	23rd	Karen Todd
9th	Philip Devlin	25th	Frank Stockman
11th	Michael Hansen	27th	Maximo Salinas
11th	Elizabeth Lay		
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.

Committee (AMC) scheduled for September 12, which will be long over by the time you read this. Unfortunately, due to newsletter deadlines, I can't provide the results of the meeting for this column, but I can mention the major agenda items. The first is a holdover from the July meeting, where a motion was presented to add an RVC to the Executive Committee (ExComm) of the AMC. It was postponed at that time, but there are good points on both sides of this issue. On one hand, the ExComm currently consists of the five nationally-elected officers, who have a legitimate claim to a mandate from the full voting membership of American Mensa. On the other hand, every voting member of the board, whether elected nationally or by a regional subset of the members, has the same fiscal responsibility for the organization. And RVCs have greater day-to-day interactions with local groups of all sizes and therefore have a better – or at least different – sense of the members' needs and preferences. There will undoubtedly be a spirited discussion of this motion.

Additional motions regard changes to the Name and Logo policies. One motion proposes creating special "Members of Mensa" logos and banners for use in events of members' choosing, allowing them to participate in political or socially-related events without suggesting that Mensa itself promotes or has any opinion on said event. I don't like this motion because while saying that the bearer of such a banner represents the members and not the organization may be technically true, it's a distinction that will be lost on outside observers, who will just see the logo on a banner and assume it represents a Mensa position.

At the same time, a companion motion is being made to add a final review to any Name and Logo Committee decision to make sure that new logos are not created that could be interpreted as taking a political or social position. The impetus for this motion was the creation of a logo earlier this year that placed the Mensa emblem on a rainbow background, to which some members have objected. This motion allows the Name and Logo committee to take into account factors beyond whether the proposed use meets the technical requirements of the policy, as this logo did.

Thomas George Thomas

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should read his book. After the meeting before I asked Bill to speak in front of our group, I wanted to know if he had any particular party affiliations. Bill replied, "I have no party affiliations. If you are asking me to describe my politics, I think you could most precisely call me a constitutional conservative."

Bill is a retired military officer and entrepreneur. He was the founder of a typographic business in St. Louis and later became a Work Process Management Consultant. Eventually he started his own consultancy. His firm assessed business operations, conducted management and leadership training, and implemented process solutions as a problem solver in energy, mining, manufacturing, construction, fabrication, assembly, technology, food processing, health care and communications at more than 300 locations over the past 40 years.

I hope that all of you will come out to meet Bill, listen to his thoughts and ideas, and perhaps like me, read a copy of his book... I look forward to seeing you there!

Red Ginger, Melbourne Square Mall, October 10th, 6pm.

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.

This Page is RESERVED:

JUST
FOR
YOU

We want to hear from YOU...!

See Page Three of every issue for
SCAM submittal guidelines.

Over Labor Day weekend I had the pleasure of attending the Broward Mensa Regional Gathering, “Another Excuse to Eat Chocolate”. It was very well attended, as befits the last RG they will have until 2019 (more on that in a moment). Co-chair Robin Rhea announced that over 140 guests attended, including a standing-room only kids’ track on Sunday. There were many excellent programs, including presentations on air traffic control, Thailand, DNA sequencing, and use of a drop spindle for spinning, among several others. There was also a Cabaret performance on Saturday night, along with several games tournaments. A couple of my favorite programs were, a home-brewed mead tasting on Friday night with Jay Bertolet, a presentation on the ecology of the Galapagos Archipelago, and an interactive program on leading difficult people. With all the activity, I was exhausted by the end of the long weekend on Monday! Congratulations to Robin Rhea, Marci Barlolotta, Kris Martin, Micki Hawn, Alice Silver, Heidi Jameson, Jason Knight, and many others (I know I’m forgetting some important volunteers) who created this wonderful event.

Aside from the RG, I took a trip during the weekend to visit the Diplomat resort in Hollywood with Marc Lederman, Chairman of the 2017 Annual Gathering. Because of this major event, Broward will not be hosting an RG that year, which they usually do in odd-numbered years. Many people from throughout the region will be working hard to make this Annual Gathering a success, and Marc has already tapped many good local people to help in important positions. The hotel itself is a beautiful venue, with direct access to the beach for sun-worshippers.

At this writing, I am in Arlington, TX for a meeting of the American Mensa

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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?

Minutes of the September, 2015 ExComm Meeting

The ExComm met at the home of Karen Freiberg at 876 Buxmont Ct., Rockledge, FL 32955, on Tuesday, September 1st, 2015, called to order by LocSec Joe Janson at 6:02 pm.

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

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

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

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

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

Wynn Rostek's draft of the new set of bylaws was made available on the SCAM website, <http://spacecoast.us.mensa.org> under the "Newsletter" tab. At the top, on the right, there is a link to SCAM 2015 Bylaws: http://www.spacecoast.us.mensa.org/scampdfs/SCAM_Bylaws_2015-OL.pdf

The next Speaker Meeting will be held September 12th at 6:00 pm at the Red Ginger restaurant at the Melbourne Square Mall. Tentatively, we will be having a speaker from the Brevard Nature Alliance.

Karen is looking into the possibility of getting a speaker from a local chapter of Toastmasters for our next Speaker Meeting on October 10th. We are also pursuing the possibility of having a local political pundit address us at a future session.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 pm.

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1. Contacted no candidates for the first time, 2 candidates for the second or third time; tested 1. Next test session is September 19, 2015 at the Central Brevard Library in Cocoa. Prospective candidates should contact us at mensatest@cfl.rr.com.