

THE FRENCH BROAD MENSA NEWSLETTER

BROADCAST

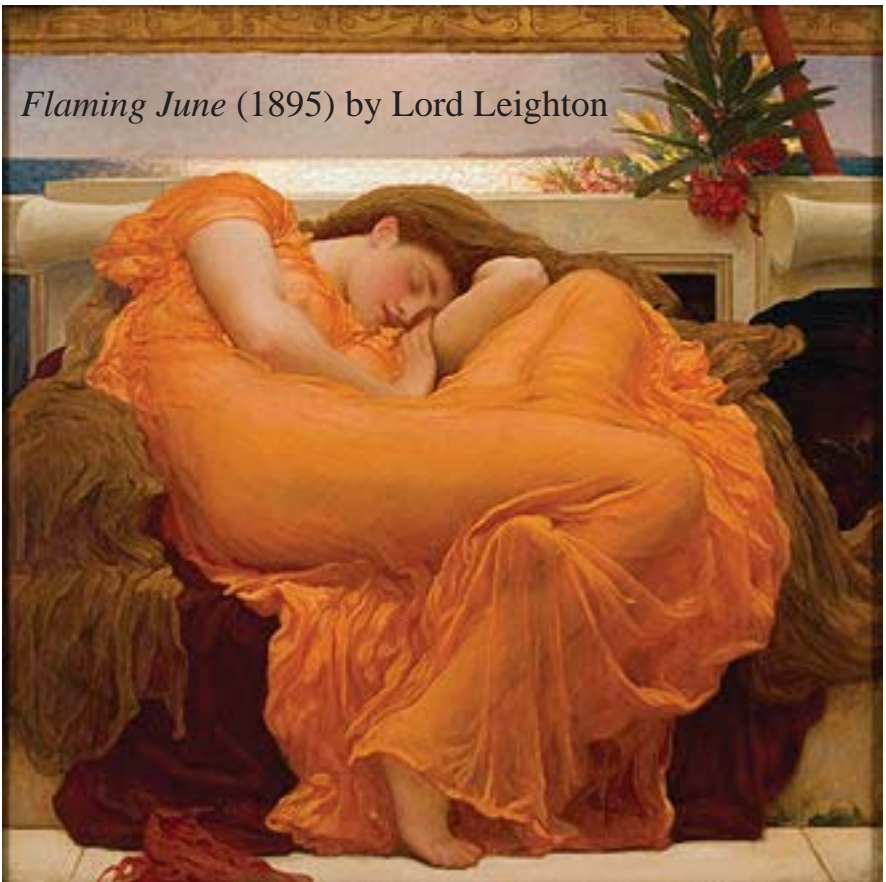
Vol. 23, No. 6 June 2017

<http://frenchbroad.us.mensa.org>



June

Flaming June (1895) by Lord Leighton



Editorial Muttering

I'm not supposed to be political as editor, but y'know, as hard as it's been to keep silent, it's becoming impossible as the travesties pile up day after day.

I have to say that I'm an American, not a Democrat or Republican, not a commie or fascist. The fact of being an American citizen seems to be an elusive concept for our politicians to grasp. I thought those folks were supposed to be working for us, Americans all, for the benefit of the country and its people, my fellow citizens. Was I misled in my basic education? Who should I sue?

My family came to this country a century-plus ago to escape the heavy hands of European monarchs and dictators. Now I see my country being pushed in the direction of those same rulers of old. Like I said, I'm an American. I've enjoyed my life here in the "Land of the Free," and I don't want to think about having to leave. The problem is, the thought of leaving makes lots of sense these days. I have cousins who are thinking of fleeing the current madness, the misrepresentations, the flat out lies by you-know-who and the irresponsible creeps who echo the lies. What has happened to integrity?

Our country is being embarrassed by those people. Who do they think they are fooling? The world recognizes what's going on here. Some approve. Others are appalled. Which group do you belong to?

I'd better shut up. If I continue ranting, I might be fired from my exalted position. It seems to be the fashion of the day.

Your Gasping-For-Air-For-Laughing Editor,
That Havelin Creature





June

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

June is the sixth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars and the second month to have the length of 30 days. June contains the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, the day with the most daylight hours, and the winter solstice in the Southern Hemisphere, the day with the fewest daylight hours (excluding polar regions in both cases). June in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to December in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa. In the Northern hemisphere, the beginning of the traditional astronomical summer is 21 June (meteorological summer begins on 1 June). In the Southern hemisphere, meteorological winter begins on 1 June.

At the start of June, the sun rises in the constellation of Taurus; at the end of June, the sun rises in the constellation of Gemini. However, due to the precession of the equinoxes, June begins with the sun in the astrological sign of Gemini, and ends with the sun in the astrological sign of Cancer.

The Latin name for June is Junius. Ovid offers multiple etymologies for the name in the *Fasti*, a poem about the Roman calendar. The first is that the month is named after the Roman goddess Juno, the goddess of marriage and the wife of the supreme deity Jupiter; the second is that the name comes from the Latin word *iuniores*, meaning “younger ones”, as opposed to *maiores* (“elders”) for which the preceding month May (*Maius*) may be named.

In ancient Rome, the period from mid-May through mid-June was considered inauspicious for marriage. Ovid says that he consulted the *Flaminica Dialis*, the high priestess of Jupiter, about setting a date for his daughter’s wedding, and was advised to wait till after June 15. Plutarch, however, implies that the entire month of June was more favorable for weddings than May.

Certain meteor showers take place in June. The Arietids takes place May 22 to July 2 each year, and peaks on June 7. The Beta Taurids June 5 to July 18. The June Bootids take place roughly between 26 June and 2 July each year. 🏠

Minutes - French Broad Mensa

Held May 2, 2017, 6 pm, at Phil's BBQ, Black Mtn. NC
Present: John Federspiel, Pat Benard, Bob Bouvier, Nel Ruffin,
Will McGuffin, Michael Havelin, Grace Lehto

Financial Report for April 2017

Opening Balance: \$3,690.94

Credits:

Am. MENSA Contribution 3/17/2017. \$188.60

Total Credits: \$188.60

Debits:

Check 610 - proctor postage \$6.20

Check 611 - D. Diehn dues, family guest dinner \$150.08

Check 612 - proctor mileage \$21.51

Total Debits: \$177.79

Closing Balance: **\$3,701.75**

Nel will continue member outreach for our dinner at Chai Pani on
May 25.

Maggie H will continue working on FBM Facebook group.

Meeting adjourned 6:45 pm

Submitted by Pat Benard, Deputy Loc Sec.

Editor's Note: Please see Page 7 for June's events calendar.



Re: Mensa Member Directory

Did you all know that you can find other members by searching on the national American Mensa website? Find them online at us.mensa.org. Will McGuffin provides these directions:

Every member should have access to the membership list on the new web site, just as they did with the old one. The only information there is what the individual member allows to be shown. I don't know if officers have additional information aside from that shown. Log in, go to the "Connect" menu option, 3rd from left on the top, and the drop-down gives several options including Member Directory. I initially had a problem logging on because they mistakenly converted secondary email addresses to primary and you had to log on with your primary email address. A call to Mensa got me to a nice person who solved it for me in about a minute. Since then, no problems, although it's rather slow. You can search the list using several criteria but there's no way to print only FBM members, at least not that I've found.

National Mensa phone number is (817) 607-0060.

Member News

Jeff Catanese is encouraging everyone to see the Montford Park Players' production of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*. It will be performed June 2-July 1, Friday, Saturday and Sunday @ 7:30pm at the Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre, 92 Gay St. Asheville, NC

Michael Havelin will be reading from his mysteries and talking about writing on two occasions:

- June 10, 10am and 3pm at Burke County Library in Morganton.
- June 17, 3pm at City Lights Books in Sylva.

These events are free and open to the public.

RVC Column, June, 2017



A few days before writing this, I returned from the Carolinah RG in Greenville, SC. PAMinal House was great fun for everyone. If you missed it, put it on your calendar for next year. This won't be your last chance to attend a Region 5 RG. We still have Mensa in Georgia's RG, Peachtreat 42, "The Answer – to Life, the Universe, and Everything," September 22- 24. For more information, check out their website.

I certainly don't want to forget the the Annual Gathering in Hollywood, FL, July 5-9; with the Colloquium on July 5. There is a lot of information about the AG on the website. If you are bringing children, there is a great schedule for SPARK.

It's always exciting to see so many folks from Region 5 at each AG. We will have a Region 5 Meet and Greet where new AG goers and those who are experienced at AGs can get together and compare notes. If you haven't already registered, there is still time. From Programs to SIGs, to Meet and Greets, to Tours, and Hospitality, there is something for everyone at the AG. If you aren't able to attend AG 2017, start planning now for AG 2018 in Indianapolis.

As you know, the Mensa membership year ended March 31. If you know someone who hasn't renewed, encourage them to do so this month. You wouldn't want them to miss out on anything.

The elections for Mensa International and American Mensa are now over. American Mensa's new officers will be taking office at the Annual Gathering. Four years ago, when I was first elected, almost half of the Board of Directors (AMC) was new. As one of the new ones, I appreciated the support and encouragement that I received from people in Region 5, as well as from across the country. I hope that our new Board members will receive the same support that I have received.

If you want to renew your membership for next year, before the dues increase, you can do so by contacting the National Office before July 1. This might be a good time to buy a multi-year or Life Membership.

Here's to a great summer. Enjoy some Mensa local group activities while you're at it.

French Broad Mensa
June 2017 Events Calendar

NOTE: RSVPs are important for table planning. Please RSVP if you plan to attend an event. If you don't RSVP to the contact person, we may not be able to seat you. Preference goes to RSVPs.

Fri, June 2, 11:30am - First Friday Lunch at TGI Fridays, 115 Hendersonville Road. Further details will be furnished later in a reminder e-mail to members. Contact: Fae Armstrong at one4fae2@yahoo.com or phone 828-298-1707.

Tues, June 6, 6pm - ExCom at Phil's BBQ, 701 NC Hwy 9 Black Mt. Contact: John Federspiel, 828-450-8463 or federspiel@bellsouth.net

Mon, June 12 - Trivia at Jack of the Wood, 95 Patton Ave., Asheville. 6:30pm for dinner, 7:30pm to play. Contact: Will McGuffin, 828-296-7544 or wmcguffin@charter.net.

June 15, BROADCAST deadline.

Sat, June 17, 6:23pm - Games at Grace Lehto's Home, 25 Hopedale Circle, Asheville (Emma). Contact: Grace Lehto, 828-575-2877, grace@mychickensheet.com.

Thurs, June 22, 6:30pm - Sure Happy It's Thursday Dinner at Papas and Beer, 1000 Brevard Ave. Asheville. Contact: John Federspiel, 828-450-8463 or federspiel@bellsouth.net



Trivial Report

Seven members of **The Whoos** competed against 21 teams at Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in May. These are some of the questions. The theme of the first round was science.

1. Which is hotter 100 degrees Celsius or Fahrenheit?
2. What is the first stage of a bee's life?
3. What is the name for the 15 metals at the bottom of the periodic table?
4. Radiation with a range of 1- 300GHZ is called what?
5. What woman in 1875 connected health and religion?
6. Roentgen discovered what type of radiation?
7. From 1988 - 1992, who collaborated in a genetics study with Crick?
8. What is the common name for an equal sided hexahedron?
9. What poisonous herb is associated with Socrates?

Extra: How is a salamander classified?

We got all the questions correct and were tied with one team.

The theme for the second round was 1933.

1. What immigrant founded the New York City Ballet?
2. Art Rooney founded what National Football League team?
3. What banned novel featured Molly Bloom?
4. In an attempt to assassinate FDR, the mayor of what city was killed?
5. Pat O'Brien changed his speakeasy to a legal bar in what city?
6. During the New Deal, what river was dammed for flood control and power generation?
7. The first cigarette lighter was made in Bradford, PA. What was its name?
8. Who was the eye patch wearing pilot to be the first to fly around the world?
9. What was the name of the police force in Nazi Germany?

We were perfect again and were in first place by one point.

The third round is a speed round. Each team receives a list of questions we needed to answer in 5 minutes. The first part was seven letter words starting with F. The second part was a list of Presidents. We had to name their Vice Presidents. The only one we missed was James K. Polk. His VP was Dallas. We were tied for first again.

The theme of the third round is potpourri.

1. Sherpas put butter and salt in what beverage before climbing Mt. Everest?
 2. What Mars candy bar is named after a horse?
 3. What number is displayed when there is an internet error?
 4. The % symbol is what number on a qwerty keyboard?
 5. Wopsil is a character in what Dickens's novel?
 6. What local brewery was bought by Inbev?
 7. Alpha, Nevada, and snow crown are types of what vegetable?
 8. What is the name of an old heroic English poem?
 9. JZ and Will Smith formed what cosmetic start-up company?
 10. Kirimati is the first land mass to celebrate New Years. What is its common name?
- Extra: What horse won the Kentucky Derby?

We won first place by one point, earning the \$40 prize.

Join us in June to help **The Whoos** defend our championship.

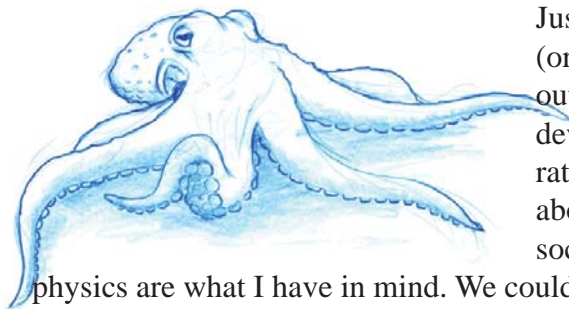
Answers

Round 1: 1. Celsius, 2. Egg, 3. Lanthanides, 4. Microwave (Robert), 5. Mary Baker Eddy, 6. X-rays (Wayne), 7. James Watson (Robert), 8. Cube, 9. Hemlock. Extra: amphibian.

Round 2: 1. George Balanchine, 2. Pittsburgh Steelers (Wayne), 3. Ulysses (Carol), 4. Chicago (Will), 5. New Orleans, 6. Tennessee, 7. Zippo, 8. Wiley Post (Wayne), 9. Gestapo.

Round 4: 1. Tea, 2. Snickers, 3. 404, 4. 5, 5. Great Expectations, 6. Wicked Weed, 7. Cauliflower, 8. Beowulf, 9. Julep, 10. Christmas Island (Robert).
Extra: Always Dreaming (Karen).





Just putting out a feeler (or two). Is there interest out there in a book club devoted to “thought” books rather than fiction? Books about everything from sociology to astronomy and

physics are what I have in mind. We could all take turns picking a book. Maybe meet once a month at some mutually agreed upon venue? If so, give me a call at 828-575-2877 or send me an email at gracelehto@yahoo.com. Suggestions and ideas welcome.

Mediocre-Okay Advice from Gabbie

Dear Gabbie,

I've read lots of science fiction during my life, but it seems that it's all come true. Am I right about this, or am I still hallucinating?

Sci-fi Fiend

Dear Fiend...

You're not hallucinating. The weird has become commonplace and there is no more normality. Sorry. Try some new drugs. That might help. Maybe not.

Gabbie

Send your quandaries to Gabbie c/o the BROADCAST editor.



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BOILERPLATE: Deadline for articles, letters, comments, etc. is the 15th of the month preceding publication. Original (!) material is welcome. Editor reserves right to refuse publication or to edit submissions, as long as intent and meaning is retained. No personal attacks. Email submissions, with a subject line, to Editor at michael@michaelhavelin.com. Editor deletes suspected spam or emails without subject lines without reading. Opinions expressed are those of the author, not necessarily Mensa's or the Editor's.



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