

http://frenchbroad.us.mensa.org

# We Won!



# Landslide Election **Results and** Executive Committee Assignments Within.

### Editorial Mutterings

Well... it's an entirely new year again and I haven't been fired or replaced (not even reprimanded for political incorrectness) yet. Does anyone want this job? (I didn't think so.)



We have new officers. Isn't that amazing? And we didn't even have to change our position from red to blue. That's even more amazing. I guess that means that no overwhelming controversy on any topic surfaced in our election process. Too bad. I would've liked to have seen a Mensa fist fight up close. Might have even had an opportunity to use my Red Cross First Aid Certification. Maybe next year.

Krisquanzikah (Festivus for the rest of us) was celebrated in good order also. No fist fights. (I'm losing faith in Mensans' not very strongly held opinions.) No drunken orgy. Nor even moderate groping... the issue of the moment in history. But the Gift Grab was fun.

#### Your Doomed-to-Remain Editor, Michael Havelin

## Conundrum from Bill Smith

Member #1057594 Cherokee, NC

When I made a cup of instant coffee recently I used a cheap 12 oz china mug that was cold. After I poured in the hot water and stirred the mix I tapped the edge of the mug twice to knock the coffee off the spoon. I noticed two different tones or notes. (I'm not sure what term to use as I'm not musical.) I kept tapping the edge of the mug and the sound kept changing. It started off high I think and went right down the scale. I first thought the change was caused by the swirling coffee slowing down but now think it was from the cup warming up. Does anyone know?



### French Broad Mensa Election Results

As determined by secret ballots tallied at the Annual Chriskwanzikah (spelling varies) Extravaganza, the members of the elected 2018 French Broad Mensa Executive Committee (based on the one-plus ballots received), by a landslide, are:

> Sharron Armel Bob Bouvier Nel Ruffin Scott Samson

Congratulations and best of luck to them all.

Last night at dinner, most of the new ExCom members attened and they decided on their respective roles for the 2018 year. They are:

Scott Samson - Local Secretary (LocSec) Sharon Armel - Deputy LocSec Bob Bouvier - Treasurer Nel Ruffin - Member-at-Large

Contact info for the new officers will be found on the boiler plate page at the end of this issue.

Thanks to our 2017 officers for a fine job.



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#### Baker Ring, RVC's Column for January, 2018

We are moving from one year to the next. This is a time for transitions. Some of us will make resolutions and others will reprise the resolutions from past years. As we, individually look forward to a new year, so does American Mensa.

Pam Donahoo, Mensa's Executive Director of 20 years, has left to take a position with another association. The AMC is working towards finding the right person for that important position. Mensa Chair, LaRae Bakerrink has appointed a 5-person Transition Team to work toward that goal. In the meantime, the AMC has appointed Trevor Mitchell, the Director of Membership and Strategy, as Acting Executive Director.

The Transition Committee polled Mensans and staff about the ideal qualifications and traits that are needed in an Executive Director. The Transition Committee report can be found under Meeting Reports on the National Website. You can navigate there from the "READ" at the top of the page.

In the same location, you will find the Mini-Minutes for the December AMC meeting in Houston and presentations about: Mensa Connect, Governance Projects, Leadership Active Training, and a Local Leadership Survey. If you are interested in any of these Mensa projects, I encourage you to check them out.

Central Alabama Mensa will be holding their RG, "Mensa Family Reunion" on February 16-18 at the Hampton Inn and Suites, Hoover, AL. Their Facebook page; facebook.com/centralalmensa will have all the information you need. The registrar, Mary Ambridge can be reached at: ambridge@bellsouth.net. You can reserve your hotel room at: https://tinyurl.com/CAM2018RG-HOTEL. They always put on a fun RG with great programming. Hope to see some of you there.

Don't miss Piedmont Area Mensa's 2018 Carolinah Regional Gathering in Greenville, South Carolina, March 23-25. This year's theme is "Get Smart." Registration is \$70 until February 23. Then the rate goes to \$80 until March 16. After that, the walk-in rate of \$90 will apply. Registration includes all programs and activities, meals, snacks, and drinks. Bring the whole family! Mail checks payable to Piedmont Area Mensa to the registrar, Mary Ann Cox, 509 Bethel Drive, Mauldin, SC, 29662, phone 864-963-2335, e-mail: registrar@piedmontareamensa.org (Please call or e-mail to request credit card instructions.)

We don't want to forget the Annual Gathering, taking place July 4-8 in Indianapolis. Event and hotel registration are open. You can find out everything that you need to know on the Mensa website.

The deadline for Scholarship applications is January 15. If you know someone entering or continuing in college, let them know about the Mensa Foundation. Any additional money is always welcome when you are in college. Any donation that you would like to make to support the Foundation's scholarship fund is always welcome.

Stay warm this winter and spend some time with your Mensa family.

#### French Broad Mensa Minutes

Held 6 pm, 12/5/17, Ole's Guacamole, Black Mountain Present: John Federspiel, Pat Benard, Will McGuffin, Wayne Stanko

Financial Report for November 2017

Opening Balance: \$4,123.71
Credits: Am. MENSA Contribution 11/17/2017
Debits: Check 619 - Federspiel cookout
Closing Balance: \$4,105.48

Events for January:

ExComm - Tues, Jan. 2, 6 pm, location TBA - the new committee will decide on a venue, and a contact.

Fri, Jan 5, 11:30 - First Friday Lunch at Cheddar's,106 Bleachery Blvd. Further information will be furnished in a reminder e-mail to members. Contact Fae Armstrong at one4fae2@yahoo.com or phone 828-298-1707.

Trivia - Mon. Jan. 7, Jack of the Wood, 95 Paxton Ave, 6:30 to eat, 7:30 to play. Contact: Wayne Stanko

Sure Happy It's Thursday - dinner, Thursday, Jan 18, 6:30 pm, Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse, 2 Hendersonville Rd, Asheville. Contact - Wayne Stanko

Meeting adjourned 6:58pm Submitted by Pat Benard, Deputy Loc. Sec. **P** 

## French Broad Mensa January 2018 Events Calendar

**Tues, Jan 2, 6pm - ExCom Meeting.** Location and contact will be announced by the new Officers after the election.

**Fri, Jan 5, 11:30 - First Friday Lunch at Cheddar's,** 106 Bleachery Blvd, Asheville. Further information will be furnished in a reminder e-mail to members. Contact Fae Armstrong at one4fae2@yahoo.com or phone 828-298-1707.

**Mon, Jan 8 - Trivia at Jack of the Wood,** 95 Patton Ave, Asheville. Dinner at 6:30 pm, game at 7:30 pm. Contact: Wayne Stanko, 828-253-8781 or wstanko@charter.net.

Jan 15 - Deadline for Scholarship Essays. Apply & submit online at www.mensafoundation.org/scholarships.

Jan 15 - *BROADCAST* content submission deadline (letters, articles, clever rude remarks). Submit to Editor Havelin.

Thurs, Jan 25, 6:30pm - Sure Happy It's Thursday Dinner at Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse, 2 Hendersonville Rd., Asheville. Please RSVP for table planning.

Contact: Wayne Stanko, 828-253-8781 or wstanko@charter.net

# MERF Scholarship Judges Needed

This is French Broad Mensa's eighth year of participation in the Mensa Education and Research Foundation scholarship program. The awards are based on an essay of not more than 550 words describing the applicant's academic and career goals. Three judges are required to evaluate the essays. Judging guidelines are provided. The deadline for entries is January 15. The judging process will be online. The essays will be sent to the judges as a PDF. The judging forms are Excel files. If you would like to serve as a judge, please contact Wayne Stanko at 253-8781 or wstanko@charter.net.

### Trivial Report

#### by Wayne Stanko

**The Whooos** had five members playing against 16 teams at Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in December. Some of the questions and answers are below.

The theme for round one was bordering Tennessee.

- 1. Which state is full of kernels and the colonels are full of corn?
- 2. The 1967 law suit Loving vs. interracial marriage was in what state?
- 3. The city of Tupelo is in what state?
- 4. The author O' Henry was born in what state?
- Extra: Which state's flag contains four large stars?
- 5. The play *The Color Purple* debuted in what state?
- 6. Which state's largest city is called the Pittsburgh of the south?
- 7. In 2010, the 150th anniversary of the Pony Express was celebrated in what state?
- 8. The book *The Help* was based in what state?
- 9. The highest mountain in the Ozarks is in what state?
- 10. Which state has the world's largest lithium mine?
- We got all except the extra question right and were in first place with a ten point lead.

The theme for the second round was explosions.

- 1. What captain was injured by an explosion in the Virginia colony in 1609?
- 2. What year did the space shuttle Challenger explode?
- 3. The King Dome was demolished in 2000 in what city?
- 4. The loudest sound in the last 3000 years was an explosion on what island.
- 5. The 9 o'clock gun salute is performed in what Canadian City?
- 6. What is the last name of the Henry who developed an artillery shell that exploded in to fragments?
- 7. What is the Latin word for massive explosion?
- 8. A meteor caused the Tunguska explosion in 1908 in what country?

9. 300 people were killed in New London, CT in 1937 by this unodorized material?

10. The 1907 explosion in the Menahga mine occurred in what state? We got seven of the ten correct. We were still in first place, but our lead was cut to three points.

The third round is the speed round. We are given a sheet of questions that we had five minutes to answer. In the first part, we were given a year and a senator's name, and we had to name the state. We got five of seven correct. In the second part, we were given Elon Musk's business ventures, and we had to name the company. We only got two of five correct. We were then tied for fourth place, five points behind the leader.

The theme of the fourth round is always potpourri.

1. The vein down the middle of a leaf is called what?

2. An isohel connects two points of the same duration of what?

3. The Man in the Red Turban was painted by whom?

4. Who did the voice of Jack Kahuna Lagoona in the Sponge Bob Square Pants movie?

5. In Norse myth, the first man was created from the wood of what tree?6. Bud Light served a cease and desist order on a craft brewery for the

use of what phrase?

7. To fake a disease to gain attention is called what syndrome?

8. Algeria obtained its independence from what European country?

9. The only remaining Swiss Guard lives in what city?

We only got five right and finished tied for fourth place, six points behind.

#### Answers

Round one: 1. Kentucky, 2. Virginia, 3. Mississippi, 4. North Carolina, Extra. Arkansas, 5. Georgia, 6. Alabama, 7. Missouri, 8. Mississippi, 9. Arkansas, 10. North Carolina.

Round 2: 1. John Smith, 2. 1986, 3. Seattle, 4. Krakatoa, 5. Vancouver, 6. Shrapnel, 7. Nova, 8. Russia, 9. Natural gas, 10. West Virginia.

Round Four: 1.Mid rib, 2. Sunlight, 3. Jan van Dyke, 4. Johnny Depp, 5. Ash, 6. Dilly dilly, 7. Munchausen, 8. France, 9. Vatican City.



#### Word of the Month: nonagium

In old European law, a ninth part of movables which was paid to the clergy on the death of persons in their parish, and claimed on pretense of being distributed to pious uses. - Black's Law Dictionary (5th Ed.)

## Mediocre-Okay Advice from Gabbie

Dear Gabbie, Now that we have new French Broad Mensa officers, are they going to actually <u>DO</u> anything? Concerned Anonymous Member

Dear Anonymous, Don't ask me. I didn't run and I wasn't elected, selected, spindled, or mutilated. Ask the ExCom. Gabbie

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



French Broad Mensa again thanks Clark Communications for their help in making this the best looking local group publication in the nation.

#### NATIONAL OFFICE

**REGION 5 VICE CHAIRMAN** FRENCH BROAD MENSA OFFICERS **Executive Committee** Local Secretary (LocSec) **Deputy Local Secretary** Treasurer Member-at-Large Nell Ruffin ......ruffianspamson@gmail.com FRENCH BROAD MENSA APPOINTED OFFICERS **Proctors** Carmen Jessup ...... ciej@aol.com **Editor & Web Geek Testing Coordinator** S.I.G.H.T. Ombudsman Membership Coordinator - Position Open

**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. **BROADCAST** 

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