

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

BROADCAST

Vol. 24, No. 12 December 2018

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



Winter is coming...

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Holiday Party

December 15

Details on page 4 (It’s a big deal!)

Submissions to the Broadcast

Deadline for articles, letters, comments, etc. is the 15th of each month preceding publication. Original material is welcomed. Maximum length is 250 words. Editor reserves the right to decline publication or to edit submissions, as long as intent and meaning are retained.

Please, no personal attacks!

Events Calendar

Tuesday Dec. 4, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting

at Chiesa's, 152 Montford Ave. in Asheville

Website: <http://www.chiesaavl.com/>

Contact: SharronArmel@gmail.com.

Friday Dec. 7, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch

At TGI Friday's, 115 Hendersonville Rd in Asheville

Website: <https://locations.tgifridays.com/nc/asheville/115-hendersonville-rd.html>

Contact: Fae Armstrong, one4fae2@yahoo.com

Monday Dec. 10, Trivia (6:30 for dinner, 7:30 to play)

at Jack of the Wood, 95 Patton Ave, Asheville NC (828) 252-3445

Website: <https://jackofthewood.com/>

Contact: Will McGuffin, wmcguffin@charter.net

Saturday, Dec. 15, 5:30pm: Chriskwanzakahyule Party

at Grace Lehto's home

Details on page 4.

Thu.D! will resume in January 2019.

NOTE: RSVPs are important for table planning. Please respond if you plan to attend an event. If you don't reply to the contact person, we might not be able to seat you. Seating preference goes to those who confirm attendance. And don't forget to look for the Big Yellow M Table on the table at Mensa events!



Scholarships

Wayne Stanko, FBM's Testing Coordinator for the Mensa Scholarship Program, has requested nominees from regional high schools and colleges. The deadline for applications is January 15, 2019.

Do you know a deserving student you could encourage to apply?

Chriskwanzakahyule Party

Let's get together for a year-end celebration! Grace Lehto has graciously agreed to host the party at her home, 25 Hopedale Circle, in Asheville, on Saturday, December 15, 2018, beginning at 5:30pm.

French Broad Mensa will provide dinner – sandwich fixins', side dishes, and cookies for members and guests. Please choose ham, turkey, or beef in your RSVP. If you don't RSVP, we'll still be happy to see you but you may not get fed.

If you like, please bring a special dessert to share.

Grace will provide coffee, iced tea, and water. FBM will provide soft drinks. If you wish, you may bring your own wine or other spirits.

Able-bodied members are requested to park in the Emma Baptist Church lot at the corner of Goodwill Street and Hopedale Circle, just one house away from Grace's home. This will leave Grace's driveway available for those who deliver the meals/drinks, and those who need a shorter distance to walk.

Gift Grab (Optional): If you'd like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$15 to \$20. Numbers will be assigned and drawn, gifts grabbed and re-grabbed, until all gifts are distributed.

RSVP: SharronArmel@gmail.com by December 8. Please note the number attending and your choice of meat (ham, turkey, or roast beef) so we can order the proper amounts of each.

Watch your email for a reminder!



Regional Vice-Chairman's Column

Join us Feb. 15-17, 2019, in Birmingham, Ala., for Central Alabama Mensa's RG: Owlabama Blast from the Past. And when we say past, we're talking ancient! Celebrate the discovery of King Tut's tomb in the 1920's, learn how to "walk like an Egyptian" and dance the Charleston, and solve the riddles to escape Pharaoh's tomb. And we'll have lots of good food and good fun, as always. The hotel is in walking distance to many restaurants, including James Beard award winner, Highlands Bar and Grill.



Registration is \$60 until Dec. 31; \$65 until Jan. 31; and \$70 thereafter. Veterans receive a \$5 discount, children 13–17 are half-price, and children under 13 are free.

It will take place at the Residence Inn and Suites in Birmingham. Room rates are \$119/night, guaranteed until Jan. 25, 2019. King studio suites and two-bedroom suites are available, and both include breakfast, parking, and a full kitchen.

To register, contact registrar Mary Ambridge. For more information, contact William Shadix by email or by phone at (205) 516-8536.

Speaking of RGs, Piedmont Area Mensa's 2019 Carolinah NaNa NaNa NaNa NaNa RG! honors the 80th anniversary of the introduction of "the Bat-Man" in Detective Comics, Vol. 1 #27, May 1939. Join them March 22-24 for fun and thought-provoking programs as well as their famous Carolinah hospitality. Registration includes snacks and light meals as well as all programs and activities, from Speakers and Presentations to the Saturday evening Karaoke Dance Party!

Registration rates are: Registrations postmarked through January 4, 2019, are \$70. A rate of \$80 then applies January 5, through March 15. The regular rate of \$90 applies for March 16 through March 21, and then the walk-in rate of \$95 applies. Weekend registration is free for ages 6 and

under, \$25 for youngsters 7 - 12 years old, \$45 for ages 13 - 20.

Registration refund requests will be honored, less a 5% handling charge, through February 22, 2019. FIRST-TIME Carolinah RG attendees may take a \$5 discount off the regular or walk-in rate. These rates include dinner both Friday and Saturday nights and Saturday lunch. The Drury Inn provides a free hot breakfast for hotel guests.

Room rates: Standard king or double queen rooms are \$110 and suites both king and double queen are \$120 guaranteed until March 8; use code 2336709.

To register or for more information, contact Mary Ann Cox at (864) 963-2335 or registrar@piedmontareamensa.org, (864) 963-2335.

Don't forget that the 2019 Annual Gathering, Phoenix Rising, will be held in Phoenix, AZ July 3-7. AG and hotel registration are now open. Tours are already posted and some of them may sell out fast. They've even located the Keynote Speaker. As always, it will be preceded by a Colloquium, "Privacy in the 21st Century: Mystery or Myth?" on July 2.

Scholarship applications are available online through the Foundation's website until January 15. Remember, there are scholarships for both members and non-members.

In October you received a code for a voucher so that someone can either take the Mensa Admissions Test or submit Prior Evidence at no cost. Last year, I gave mine to my nephew, who was a senior in high school. These years will be going to another high school senior that I know. (I teach high school. I know a lot of seniors.) I'm sure that you know someone who would qualify for Mensa membership. Now is the time to get them qualified.

Baker Ring
Region 5 Vice-Chairman

Meet a Fellow Mensan: Ron Jones

(continued from November issue)

NORAD: North Bay, Ontario, Canada

by Ronald Jones, MSPE

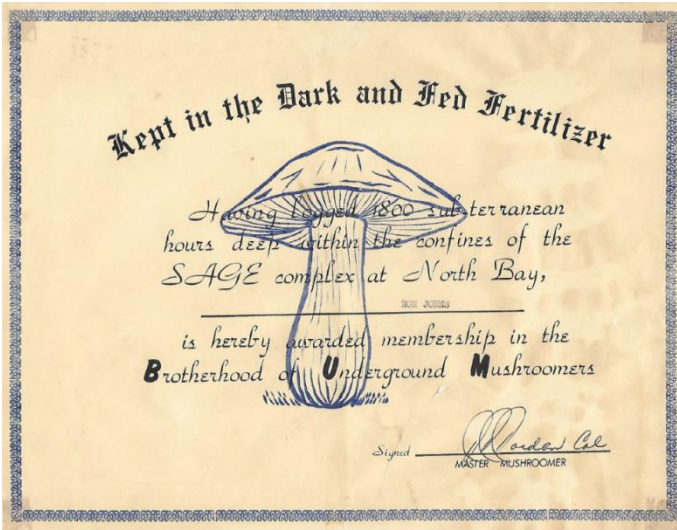
Some Experiences While Working on SAGE

The first memory of working on SAGE that comes to mind happened during a simulation. There was a command available from the weapon director's position called RTB (return to base). This would take control of the fighter and bring it back to the base. I tried this command on a BOMARC missile, and it turned around and headed back to the base. I was not the programmer that implemented that code. The weapon director could control the fighters from the computer.

In one instance, the director caused a fighter to climb from 5,000 feet to 25,000 feet. The director thought he had implemented this on a *simulated* fighter. It wasn't. You cannot imagine the profanity that came out of his speaker. I won't repeat what it was. Another instance concerned flushing the air base. A command was put on the weapon director's position to cause the hanger doors to open. He tested this in the winter and didn't realize that some pilots were playing cards in the hanger—more profanity. A bad instance: the generator within the complex blew up, and only parts of the technicians were found.

On one occasion, Red and I were asked to act as saboteurs. We were given small cans, that were supposed to be explosives, and paint sprays to “murder” the weapon director chairs. We were told to ask at the guard shack for our passes. Red was supposed to ask for mine, and I for his. I guess guys with beards all look alike. I placed some bombs and killed some chairs. Red got caught relatively early; I lasted a bit longer. Then one of the security guys noticed that my beard wasn't red. He had me against the wall with my arms spread and a loaded weapon trained on my back. I was screaming at him to please call his commander and that this was only a training exercise. Because I lasted longer as a saboteur, my award was to fly in one of the fighters. It took three weeks of various tests and exercises to prepare me. The flight was fantastic. We never saw the guard who was in the shack again.

In 1969, when I was finished with the job at Northern NORAD, I was awarded membership in the Brotherhood of Underground Mushroomers. The certificate reads, "For Being Kept in the Dark and Fed Fertilizer: Having logged 1800 subterranean hours deep within the confines of the SAGE complex at North Bay, Ron Jones is hereby awarded membership in the Brotherhood of Underground Mushroomers."



Phil deMaintenon

Former French Broad Mensa member Philip Arthur deMaintenon, age 90, died peacefully at Pacifica Senior Living Center in Ellensburg, Wash., on Saturday, July 14th. He is remembered as a kind and gentle person who organized at least one Mensa visit to Franklin where he and his wife Dorothy lived. We toured a little gem museum there and went to an indoor flea market on a nice sunny day many years ago. Phil and Dorothy came to a number of meetings in Asheville as well. He was also very active in the Better Hearing Group of Macon County, N.C., a support group for the hearing impaired. All of us who knew Phil and Dorothy will remember them fondly.

Will McGuffin

↕Fold hereabouts.↕

French Broad Mensa

December 2018

Official Election Ballot

Only this ballot from the newsletter will be accepted.

Copies are not acceptable.

Instructions:

1. Print your membership number here _____
2. Vote for any four candidates.
3. Return your completed ballot to Mensa Elections, c/o Wayne Stanko, 26 Greenleaf Circle, Asheville NC 28804-2320
4. Fold, tape, and add a first-class postage stamp to your ballot. Mailed ballots must be received by December 15, 2018.
or
5. Deliver your ballot in person at the Annual Seasonal Party on December 15. The four candidates with the most votes will form the new Executive Committee, and will distribute the various offices among themselves as their first official act. The results will be announced at the seasonal party and in the January issue of *BROADCAST*.

French Broad Mensa

Candidates for Executive Committee 2019

(Vote for four)

- Sharron Armel
- Bob Bouvier
- Grace Lehto
- Jeff Patterson
- James Stewart
- Aixia Wilson



Stamp
Here

French Broad Mensa Elections
c/o Wayne Stanko
26 Greenleaf Circle
Asheville, NC 28804-2320

↑Fold hereabouts.↑

Candidate Statements

Introducing the candidates for your 2019 Executive Committee

Sharron Armel (current Local Secretary)



After becoming Local Secretary quite unexpectedly a few months ago, I'm having fun learning the inner workings of the organization, the duties of the LocSec, and (most importantly) whom to ask when I don't know enough. I would be happy to continue in this role or any other as requested. My priorities are getting to know more members, and learning what

might interest those we don't see very often.

Bob Bouvier (current Treasurer)



I have served as Treasurer of French Broad MENSA for two years. I have never missed a deadline for submitting reports to either our Local Group (LG) or to American MENSA headquarters. Our LG remains financially healthy and I do not foresee anything that will change that even with subsidizing some of our activities more frequently to keep costs affordable. I

hope these subsidies will encourage more of our members to participate in our activities.

Grace Lehto



If elected for office, I will lobby for more fun and laughter. I have no hidden agendas and can absolutely affirm that I have accepted no PAC money for this campaign. I approve this message.

Jeff Patterson

James Stewart

Aixa Wilson

November Fun



Wayne & Jan Stanko, Will McGuffin, Bob Bouvier, Sharron Armel, Michael Havelin and Meredith Lenell, Ret., boarded the purple LaZoom bus for a comedy tour of downtown Asheville.

Tour Guild Oliver entertained us with historical facts and contemporary jokes. And fire-eating, of course!

Following the tour, the hungry few had dinner at the new Continental Lounge.



Photos by Michael Havelin

Discussion Group

The FBM Discussion Group met November 11 at Fae's home to consider the question "Why does the United States behave as it does in the world?" We discussed a political history, *The Brothers: John Foster Dulles, Allen Dulles, and Their Secret World War* by Stephen Kinzer.

The next gathering will be January 27th, weather permitting, and the topic for discussion will be "What three books would you take with you on a time-travel adventure?"

Financial Report for October 2018

Opening Balance	\$4,386.05
Credits:	
Am. MENSA Contribution 10/19/18	\$108.80
Total Credits	\$108.80
Debits:	
Ck#630, S. Armel, LaZoom tickets	\$264.42
Ck#631, W. Stanko, mailing labels.....	19.88
Total Debits	\$284.30
Closing Balance	\$4,210.55

Submitted by Bob Bouvier, Treasurer

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2018**

Held at Pomodoro’s Restaurant, 75 Long Shoals Road, Asheville

Present were ExComm members Sharron Armel, Bob Bouvier, Johanna Dokter and Will McGuffin, and guest Michael Havelin.

The Financial Statement submitted by Bob Bouvier was discussed and approved. Bob will contact the bank to inquire about the possibility for a second member of the committee to receive check signing authority.

The December Party has a confirmed host in Grace Lehto and will be held at her home. The date is December 15. Details to follow in the December Broadcast.

At the time of this meeting, 6 members are candidates for the Executive Committee for 2019. Candidates’ statements as well as ballots will be in the December Broadcast.

Submitted by
Johanna Dokter
Deputy LocSec

You may suggest topics for
future agendas by emailing
SharronArmel@gmail.com.

Trivial Report

Five members of the Whoos were competing with ten teams at Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in November.

The theme of the first round was eponyms.

1. In 1936 Portland, who invented a screwdriver with a cross shaped head?
2. What is a “do over” shot in golf called?
3. What was the name of the judge who executed people without due process?
4. What 18th century hair style was named after Louis XV’s mistress?
5. What term is named after a soldier devoted to Napoleon who believed in their nation’s superiority?

Extra. A 20 quart wine bottle is named after what Babylonian king?

6. What is the name of the Israeli who invented a sub machine gun in 1950?
7. In 1839, who invented the process to record images on copper plate?
8. Who stated the theory of computer processing doubling every two years?
9. What is the name of the Croatian scarf worn as a tie in the 30 years’ war?
10. What term is named after Ned who smashed knitting machines during the industrial revolution?

Answers

1. Phillips; 2. Mulligan; 3. Lynch; 4. Pompadour (Sharron); 5. Chauvinist (Robert); Extra. Nebuchadnezzar; 6. Uzi; 7. Daguerre (Sharron); 8. Moore; 9. Cravat; 10. Luddite (Will).

We answered 8 correctly, “jokered” (doubled) our score, and were in second place trailing by two points.

The theme of the second round was copper and Coopers.

1. Large copper mines are located near the Atacama desert in what country?
2. What is the name of the animated girl with copper coins for eyes on *Peewee’s Playhouse*?
3. What gem stones are found near copper mines in Arizona?

4. What group opposing Lincoln was named after the northern pilot snake?
5. What is the other metal in brass?
- Extra. What character did Danica McKellen play in a 1988-1993 TV show?
6. Copper and tin make what alloy?
7. What actor did the voice of the gun-toting raccoon in *Guardians of the Galaxy*?
8. Jim Parsons plays what character on *The Big Bang Theory*?
9. In 1881, Cooper and who merged with Barnum to form a new circus?
10. Who wrote *The Leatherstocking Tales*?

Answers

1. Chile; 2. Penny; 3. Turquoise; 4. Copperheads (Will); 5. Zinc; Extra. Winnie Cooper; 6. Bronze (Robert); 7. Bradley Cooper (Sharron); 8. Sheldon Cooper (Wayne); 9. Bailey; 10. James Fenimore Cooper.

We got ten right. We were still in second place and still two points behind.

The third round was the speed round. We were given a sheet of questions that we had five minutes to complete. The first part was a list of Greek gods. We had to name the Roman equivalent. Robert answered all of them. The second part was words containing only one vowel. We got nine points for the round. We were now in sixth place, nine points behind the leader.

The theme for round four was potpourri.

1. Muscovite was an old name for a citizen of what country?
2. What four letter word is removed from yogurt to make it Greek yogurt?
3. Does the Great Wall of China run east-west or north-south.
4. In what French town is an endurance auto race held?
5. Bannock, bammi, and bublick are types of what?
- Extra. In 2015, a Mexican who survived at sea for 438 days was sued for what?
6. What discipline uses the half-boat and full-boat asanas?
7. What does the Italian word crostini mean?
8. What instant messaging service was acquired by Face Book?

9. In human childbirth, when is the cervix considered fully dilated?
10. The Wikipedia logo contains what Greek symbol?

Answers

1. Russia, 2. Whey (Sharron); 3. East-West (Robert); 4. Le Mans;
5. Bread; Extra. Cannibalism; 6. Yoga (Sharron); 7. Bread stick;
8. What's app, 9. 10 cm; 10. Omega.

We got eight right and finished in sixth place, nine points behind. Because our score was in the middle of the team scores, we received a consolation prize of a \$10 Gift certificate. We have earned money in four out of the last five months.

Why don't you join us next month? The answer you know could be the one to keep our winning streak going.

Dinner and a Show?

Have you heard a speaker who might interest your fellow FBM members? Your Executive Committee is eager to resume this fun and rewarding program. If you can arrange a speaker and a location for one of our Thu.D. events (4th Thursday of each month except November & December), FBM will cover the cost of the speaker's dinner, and yours as well.

Contact SharronArmel@gmail.com with your ideas.



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S.I.G.H.T...... Position Open

Membership Coordinator Position Open



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