

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

BROADCAST

Vol. 25, No. 1 January 2019

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



Bob DeBrecht on Platt Balsam Mountain

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Cover photo by Kathy Gallagher

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

Friday Jan. 4, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch

at Olive Garden Italian Kitchen, 400 Airport Rd in Arden
(near Southridge Shopping Center)

Website: <https://www.olivegarden.com/locations/nc/arden/arden/4417>

Contact: Fae Armstrong, one4fae2@yahoo.com

Tuesday Jan. 8, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting

at Pomodoro's Café South, 75 Long Shoals Rd in Asheville

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

Contact: SharronArmel@gmail.com.

Monday Jan. 14, 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

Thursday Jan. 24, 6pm: Thu.D!

at Cinnamon Kitchen, 1838 Hendersonville Rd, Suite 203, in Asheville
"Authentic, delicious Indian cuisine"

Website: ckcuisine.com

Contact: SharronArmel@gmail.com.

Sunday Jan. 27, 3-5pm: Discussion Group

at Fae Armstrong's home, 60 Gerber Road, Apt 209. The topic: "If you could travel into the past or future (choose one) what three books would you take for the best chance of survival?" (Remember H.G. Well's TIME MACHINE). Coffee, hot chocolate and tea provided, can BYOB or a snack if you like. Contact Fae Armstrong 828 575 0121 or one4fae2@yahoo.com if you have questions or plan to attend.

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!



Scholarship Judges Needed!

French Broad Mensa is again participating in the Mensa Education and Research Foundation Scholarship Program. Application is based on an essay stating the applicant's goals and how to achieve them. There will be at least one local award of \$600. Three judges are needed to score the essays. The essays will be available on January 15 and need to be judged by February 1.

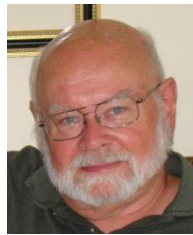
If you would like help, contact Wayne Stanko at wstanko@charter.net or 253-8781.

Executive Committee 2019

On Saturday, December 15, Elections Chairman Wayne Stanko announced the results of the balloting for the coming year's Executive Committee:



Sharron Armel, Local Secretary



Bob Bouvier, Treasurer



Grace Lehto, Deputy Local Secretary



Jeff Patterson, Member-at-Large

French Broad Mensa thanks Johanna Dokter and Will McGuffin for their service on the 2018 ExComm.

Your 2019 ExComm members look forward to hearing your thoughts and suggestions.

Regional Vice-Chairman's Message

2018 is coming to an end and 2019 is upon us. In Mensa, this means that it's another election year. Last election, the first without a national Nominating Committee, most candidates ran unopposed. This year, there will be quite a few contested races. Petitions are available for members to sign at: <https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/elections/>.

There is a new Mensa Store that can be accessed at: <https://www.mensastore.com/>. That's not the only new thing at Mensa. Mensa has temporarily moved its office, while the Foundation looks for a location that will better serve the organization. They hope to be in there by this time next year. Contact information can be found on the website.

This year, the Winter AMC meeting was a teleconference; When the minutes are approved, they will be posted online. I participated in the teleconference while at an RG in Cincinnati. It's always fun to visit RGs both within our region and those outside. You can see what's going on in Mensa by accessing the calendar on the website.

<https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/>

Don't just stay home this winter. Join your fellow Mensans at a local group event:

Central Alabama Mensa's "Owlabama, A Blast from the Past"
February 15 – 17; info at [facebook.com/centralalmensa](https://www.facebook.com/centralalmensa)

Piedmont Area Mensa's 2019 Carolinah Regional Gathering in
Greenville, South Carolina; info at registrar@piedmontareamensa.org

2019 RG in Phoenix July 3-7. You can find all details at: <https://ag.us.mensa.org/>. For the best rates you need to register soon.

Here's hoping that you and yours have a wonderful and prosperous New Year!

Baker Ring
Region 5 Vice-Chairman



Chriskwanzakahyule Party

Many thanks to Grace Lehto for sharing her home for the FBM holiday party. Nearly 20 of us enjoyed a good meal and even better company.

Thanks to Pat Benard for catching us in the act, and sharing her photos:



Michael Havelin, Sheila Lambert, Lan Sluder, and Leslie Bouvier



Will McGuffin and Bob DeBrecht



Background: Wayne Stanko, Karen Youket and Fond DeBrecht
Foreground: Grace Lehto, Sharron Armel, and Bob Bouvier



Background: Aixa Wilson, Wayne Stanko, Jan Stanko
Foreground: Bob, the Amazing Pineapple Christmas Tree

Meet a Fellow Mensan

Bob DeBrecht reaches new heights!



At Luftee Knob peak
(John Cansler photograph)

FBM member Bob DeBrecht recently completed the Carolina Mountain Club's "SB6K" (South Beyond 6000) challenge: To hike 40 Eastern peaks above 6,000 feet elevation. Despite age, health issues, and pathways covered by brush taller than Bob himself, he managed most of those peaks in just three years.

One of the many rewards Bob earned is views like this, from Craggy Dome. (Bob DeBrecht photograph)



Prepare to be amazed as you read about Bob's adventures:

<https://www.citizen-times.com/story/life/2018/12/05/asheville-retiree-parkinsons-climbs-wncs-40-peaks-over-6-000-feet/2124024002/>

<https://www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/newswire/quick-hits-hiker-with-parkinsons-climbs-40-appalachian-peaks-over-6000-feet/>

Financial Report for November 2018

Opening Balance	\$4,210.55
Credits:	
Am. MENSA Contribution 11/16/18	\$149.80
Participant payments (8) for LaZoom tour .	104.00
Total Credits	\$253.80
Debits:	
Ck#630, S. Armel, postage	\$49.70
Total Debits	\$49.70
Closing Balance	\$4,414.60

Submitted by Bob Bouvier, Treasurer

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2018**

Held at Chiesa in Asheville

Present were ExComm members Sharron Armel, Bob Bouvier and Will McGuffin.

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 second signature (of the Local Secretary) will be added after the 2019 ExComm election results are known.

Final plans for the the December 15 Holiday Party were completed, with food from Honey Baked Hams to be provided by French Broad Mensa.

Submitted by
Sharron Armel, Loc.Sec.

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

Trivial Report

The Whoos did not compete at Trivia in December. Due perhaps to our winning reputation, we were ordered to stay home and give other teams a chance. Or maybe the icy, snowy, stormy road conditions had something to do with it.

We've placed "in the money" four of the previous five months. Why don't you join us next month? The answer you know could be the one to extend our winning streak.

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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