

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

# ***BROADCAST***

Vol. 25, No. 4 April 2019

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



**It's Never Too Early to Celebrate!**

*Check out what Anne and Ron Jones  
(and that other guy) have been up to!*

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Cover photo provided by Ron Jones

***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**

**Get Well & Stay Fine:** Best wishes for a sustained recovery to the many FBM members who weren't able to attend Games Night at Grace's or Trivia at Jack of the Wood in March. Let's hope April is kinder to all of us.

**Tuesday, April 2, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting**  
at Haus Heidelberg, 630 Greenville Hwy in Hendersonville  
Phone: (828) 693-8227  
Contact: [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com)

**Friday, April 5, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch**  
at Outback Restaurant, 30 Tunnel Road in Asheville (near the Beaucatcher Tunnel)  
Website: <https://www.outback.com/locations/nc/asheville>  
This activity encourages attendance of those who drive only during daylight hours, and new members often come for their first group activity. Contact: Fae Armstrong, [one4fae2@yahoo.com](mailto:one4fae2@yahoo.com)  
Or drop in if you can!

**Monday, April 8, Trivia** (6:30 for dinner, 7:30 to play)  
at Jack of the Wood, 95 Patton Ave. in Asheville  
Website: [jackofthewood.com](http://jackofthewood.com)  
Contact: Will McGuffin, [wmcguffin@charter.net](mailto:wmcguffin@charter.net)

**Thursday, April 25, 6pm:**  
at Yao Grand Buffet, 153 Smokey Park Highway in Asheville  
Website: [www.yaobuffet.com](http://www.yaobuffet.com)  
Contact: [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com)

(continued on the following page)

**Tuesday, May 7, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting**

at Zia Taqueria, 521 Haywood Road in West Asheville

Website: <https://ziataco.com/avl>

Contact: [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com)

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



**New Members: French Broad Mensa welcomes you! Watch your mail for a coupon that you can trade for a \$5 contribution to your first meal with the group.**

***Meet a Fellow Mensan***

Lizz Russell of Franklin, NC, has volunteered to manage the French Broad Mensa website.

She's been working with computers for most of her adult life.

She worked as a Certified Maintenance Technician in the USAF, as a capability engineer at AT&T Bell Laboratories, and started her own computer business in 1985.

Right now, Lizz is semi-retired--fixing computers, hosting and designing websites, trying new things such as Brainwave, taking classes, and is obsessed with computer security.

Thank you, Lizz!

## ***Never Too Early to Celebrate!***

When I lived in Virginia, I was in a development which had been carved out of farmland. The farm kids gave us a lot of trouble – vandalism/graffiti/slashed tires. I understood the problem: we had invaded their territory. I gradually formed a teen club that included farm kids and community kids. We went to amusement parks and concerts. They had a lot of fun, but my main drive was to show them how they could help people who were needy. The group bought doughnuts and sold them door to door on Sunday. Nobody turns down doughnuts on Sunday morning. The money was saved and on Thanksgiving and Christmas we provided needy families with food. At that time social services and churches would provide us with the addresses of the people who needed help. Eventually all the services would not give us the addresses because they had those addresses as their realm. We had had a party at the dissolving of the group. I asked the group what they wanted to be when they grew up. The best comment I have ever heard: “I want to be just like you.”

Again in Virginia, I found that there was a home for unwed mothers; half went to work and the other half cared for the children. These women did this all by themselves – no outside money. I had a friend that worked for Mattel Toys. Mattel took back packages that had a ripped cover. My friend bought me \$5000 worth of toys for \$500. The home had no idea that I was coming. I put on my Santa costume and delivered the gifts. I have never had a better Christmas.

I don't know of any of these type of homes in NC. In addition the people who are in need are part of the services' realm. You may want to give your donations to the Boy Scouts or Ingles.

Submitted by  
Ron Jones

## ***Regional Vice-Chairman's Message***

I want to begin this column by welcoming some Mensans who are now part of Region 5. About two dozen residents of Western Kentucky have switched their membership from Central Indiana Mensa to Middle Tennessee Mensa. Their area was moved after consultation between the two groups as well as me as RVC 5 and Jon Gruebele, RVC 4. This is something that I began thinking about 5 years ago, while serving in my 1<sup>st</sup> year as RVC. I am proud that it was accomplished during my term of office.

If you haven't registered your CultureQuest® teams, there may still be time. Registration is open until March 31 and the contest is April 30. You can register and get more information at: <https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest>. Several Region 5 teams have done quite well in the past. Maybe this year is your turn.

Now, don't you want to attend the American Mensa Annual Gathering, "Mensa Rising"? It will take place in Phoenix, AZ, July 3-7. Registration and hotel rooms are available, and it should be a great event. Great tours are on the website and speaker programs will be online soon. If you are heading on down there, you might also want to check out the Colloquium, which deals with: Privacy in the 21st Century: Mystery or Myth? You can get more information at: [ag.us.mensa.org](http://ag.us.mensa.org).

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, it's not too late. Renew today so you don't forget.

The National Community Service Committee is sponsoring "Mensa Cares". The idea is for local groups to participate in a community service event National Service Week, April 7 – 13. Check with your local group Ex Com and see if they have an event scheduled. If not, work with them to schedule something. If that week doesn't work in your area, plan an event on another day in April. And, if you participate, you can order cool "Mensa Cares" t-shirts for just \$15 from the Mensa Store. Here is a link: <https://www.us.mensa.org/volunteer/community-service/>.

As you know, I have chosen not to run for re-election. Two of my friends have chosen to run to fill my spot as RVC 5. Nancy Campbell of Charlotte/Blue Ridge and Dan Brown of Middle Tennessee have both served their local groups well and whichever is elected will do a great job. Dan and Nancy have both been helpful to me during my term and both served as Asst., RVCs.

National and International elections are coming soon. Keep on the lookout for election material.

I highly encourage you to vote for your Mensa leadership at both levels. This is your organization and you need to be involved in making it better.

Baker Ring,  
Regional Vice Chairman



**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 5, 2019**

The ExComm meeting was held at the Atlanta Bread Co at 6:00 PM. Attendees included Sharron Armel, Bob Bouvier, Grace Lehto, and Will McGuffin.

The schedule for the coming month (see page 3) was agreed upon.

We tossed around some ideas for activities that might pique the interest of our members. This included the possibility of tours of the Citizen Times, the recycling center, a boat trip on Lake Lure, a brewery tour, train ride, a scavenger hunt, WLOS, UNC Asheville, Warren Wilson College, an organic farm, a cemetery, and much more. If any of these interest you, please let us know. And if you have other ideas, by all means make a suggestion or two.

Sharron announced that we have a volunteer for our Mensa website. Lizz Russell has volunteered to do this important work and we all appreciate her contribution to French Broad Mensa. Thank you, Lizz.

Submitted by  
Grace Lehto,  
Deputy Local Secretary

You may suggest topics for future agendas by emailing [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com).

**Financial Report for February 2019**

Opening Balance .....	\$4,476.27
Receipts:	
Am. MENSA Contribution 1/18/2019 .....	\$119.60
Total Receipts .....	\$119.60
Disbursements: None	
Total Disbursements .....	\$0.00
Closing Balance .....	\$4,595.87

Submitted by Bob Bouvier, Treasurer



## ***Who Drove the Ford to the Mensa Meeting?***

At a recent Mensa meeting, five members (Lee, Max, Nora, Ollie, and Pete), drove their cars (Ford, Lexus, Honda, Porsche, and Toyota). They had bought the cars in five towns: Asheville, Black Mountain, Chimney Rock, Dillsboro, and Etowah.

1. Ollie bought his car a year before the Ford was bought.
2. The Porsche was bought two years before Nora bought her car.
3. Of the Porsche and Max's car, one was purchased in Black Mountain and the other was bought in 2015.
4. The five cars are: Lee's, the Honda, the one purchased in Asheville, the one purchased in Etowah, and the one purchased in Black Mountain.
5. The car purchased in Dillsboro is either the Porsche or the one bought in 2018.
6. The Lexus was bought a year after Lee's car.
7. Neither the Honda nor the car bought in 2019 is the one purchased in Black Mountain.
8. Of the Toyota and the Honda, one was bought in 2017 and the other was bought in Etowah.
9. No two cars were bought in the same town, or in the same year.

Who drove the Ford?

Send your best guess to [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com) for absolutely no prize at all. You will, however, get mentioned in the next *Broadcast*, when the solution to this puzzle will be published.

## ***Trivial Report***

We missed playing Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in March! Due to various members' health, weather, and travel issues, there were only three of "The Whoos" (Will, Sharron, and Robert) so we had a good dinner but chickened out on challenging the other teams.

We've won money in six of our last seven attempts. The team that wins splits \$40, the second-place team \$20, and the median-score team gets \$10. Why don't you join us next month? The answer you know could be the one to extend our winning streak.

## ***Help Wanted: Treasurer***

Bob Bouvier's departure date gets a little closer every month. When he moves to Texas later this year, we'll need someone to replace his Treasurer duties. Now would be a great time to join the ExComm, learn what's up, and make a smooth transition to Treasurer duties when Bob and Leslie leave the FBM area. The ExComm meets every month at 6pm on the first Tuesday.

If you're interested in supporting your chapter, contact LocSec Sharron Armel at [sharronarmel@gmail.com](mailto:sharronarmel@gmail.com).



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**National Office**...817-607-0090...AmericanMensa@mensa.org

### **Region 5 Vice-Chairman**

Baker Ring ..... RVC5@us.mensa.org

### **French Broad Mensa Officers:**

#### **Executive Committee**

#### **Local Secretary**

Sharron Armel..... 828-280-6234 ... sharronarmel@gmail.com

#### **Deputy Local Secretary**

Grace Lehto..... 828-575-2877 ... grace@mychickensheet.com

#### **Treasurer**

Bob Bouvier ..... 828-713-0270 ... bouv1946@gmail.com

#### **Member-at-Large**

Jeff Patterson..... jefflpatt@icloud.com

### **French Broad Mensa Appointed Officers:**

#### **Proctors**

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Carmen Jessup ..... ciej@aol.com

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#### **Ombudsman**

Will McGuffin ..... 828-296-7544 ... wmcguffin@charter.net

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

**Membership Coordinator** ..... Position Open



# BROADCAST

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