

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

# BROADCAST

Vol. 25, No. 6 June 2019

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



*What do these things have in common?*

***In this issue***

Broadcast Submission Guidelines .....	2
Events Calendar, June, 2019 .....	3
Non-FBM Events of Interest .....	4
Looking Back to 1968 (Cover puzzle solved!) .....	5
Regional Vice-Chairman’s Message .....	7
Local Secretary’s Message .....	8
Executive Committee Minutes, May 6.....	9
Financial Report for April 2019 .....	11
New Treasurer .....	11
Trivial Report .....	11
Contacts .....	15

***Cover Puzzle***

What do all of these things have in common?  
Check page 5.

***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**

**(Too much fun ahead to fit on one page!)**

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.**

### **MONDAY, June 3, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting**

at Stone Ridge Tavern, 1003 Brevard Rd in Asheville

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

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

### **Friday, June 7, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch**

at TGI Friday's, 115 Hendersonville Road, just off I-40

Contact: Fae Armstrong, [one4fae2@yahoo.com](mailto:one4fae2@yahoo.com) if you can attend; drop-ins are welcome, too.

### **Monday, June 10, 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: [wcmcguffin@charter.net](mailto:wcmcguffin@charter.net)

### **Saturday, June 22, 3pm: White Labs Kitchen & Tap**

at 172 S. Charlotte St. in Asheville

Tour a local brewery, see how it's done, and perhaps stay to sample.

Website: <https://whitelabs.com/locations/white-labs-kitchen-tap>

Contact: [wstanko@charter.net](mailto:wstanko@charter.net)

**Thursday, June 27, 6pm: Thu.D!**

at Taste of El Salvador, 1565 Patton Ave. in Asheville

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

**Sunday, June 30, 3pm: Discussion Group**

at the home of Fae Armstrong, 60 Gerber Rd, Apt.209 in Asheville

Let's talk about books you are currently reading, or books so interesting that you could hardly put them down.

Contact: Fae Armstrong, [one4fae2@yahoo.com](mailto:one4fae2@yahoo.com)

### ***Non-FBM Events of Interest***

**June 15, 3pm Book Launch**

at City Lights Bookstore [www.citylightsnc.com](http://www.citylightsnc.com)

3 E. Jackson Street, Sylva, NC 28779 (828) 586-9499

***Ben Bones & The Uncivil War***

***A Genealogical Misadventure in the Ben Bones Series***

by our fellow Mensan Michael Havelin

A family split over Civil War issues. The search for a Confederate war hero's pension; some people doubt his heroism. Danger at the Battle of Cloyd's Mountain reenactment. Ben is in trouble again, and... Who is he working for when his boss is murdered?

**Charlotte/Blue Ridge Regional Gathering:** After 25 years,

Charlotte/Blue Ridge Mensa will be hosting an RG on November 15-17, 2019. I've attached the registration flyer. More information can be found on our website at <https://cbrmensa.org/rg/>.

## ***Looking Back to 1968***

Yes, all of the events noted on the cover (and many more) took place in 1968. But there was a bit of calm optimism in the midst of that tumultuous year – Wayne Stanko joined American Mensa. For the math-avoiders among us, that's



## ***Congratulations, Wayne!***

*Bob Bouvier recalls...*

From my first meeting Wayne, I recognized he was the driving force behind our local group: founder, long-time LocSec, activity organizer, group memory, knowledge source on what and how to do everything. He has been completely supportive of me and the other officers which has made taking on the duties of a new responsibility less mysterious and stressful. Now I learn he's been a member for 50 years, nearly as long as American Mensa has existed (est. 1960)! We all owe a great deal to this man.

*Marie Lewis recalls...*

The definition of the term "Renaissance Man " is "a cultured man of the Renaissance who was knowledgeable, educated or proficient in a wide range of fields."

I have lived many years and have met thousands of people but have only met one man who fits this bill, and his name is Wayne Stanko.

Bring up any subject and he usually knows more about it than the rest of us. He even told us recently that one of his last chemistry assignments was to create diamonds, and not through fusion.

As for non-Mensa activities, I have always been amazed by what he does - running, biking, power walking, hiking and always involved with his community and handling events such as the races at Bele Chere.

He started the French Broad chapter 24 years ago and has been nurturing it ever since, handling everything from planning events, arranging for speakers, testing of new members, and publishing the BROADCAST and distributing it to us (that's 24 x 12 so that's 288 issues and that's really a lot of work).

We're very lucky Wayne and his wife Jan live in Asheville.

*One member reports, to show it wasn't "all work and no play" ...*

Over 20 years ago Wayne arranged for the head of the Asheville Nudist Society to speak at a Mensa meeting. It was early in January and the weather suddenly turned very cold and icy so there were only 5 of us huddled around the living room fire. It was a very interesting conversation, including the way the group used to meet at the Asheville YWCA for a nude swim. They had to cover those very large glass windows first, and I remember those windows which almost reached the ceiling and thought "good luck with that." I believe those windows are gone now.

Other FBM members added...

Wayne holds dozens of patents.

Wayne is a great source of information on Asheville's many breweries.

Wayne almost single-handedly formed French Broad Mensa as a new group nearly 25 years ago. Before that, members had to travel to Greenville, SC for meetings.

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

This will be my last monthly column as your RVC. As I write this, the election is over and by the time you read this, you may know who will hold that position for the next 2 years. Both candidates, Dan and Nancy, are good friends of mine and of each other. Whichever is the victor will have the full support of the other candidate as well as my support.



I was a member of Middle Tennessee Mensa for about 5 years before I attended a single event. The first activity that I attended was an RG in Nashville. I volunteered for the registration table because it gave me a way to meet people without having to engage in small talk and break out of my introvert shell.

Attending that first event is difficult, especially when you don't know anyone. However, the best way to meet people is to show up.

Although I am leaving office, I'm not disappearing. I do plan to attend this and future years AGs. I will also attend RGs, so I will continue to see the many friends that I have made in Mensa.

Mensa has become my second family and it's that way for many of the Mensans that I know. Mensa is a volunteer organization. Yes, there are professional staff in Texas who deal with herding 50,000 Mensans; however, at the local level, all of us are volunteers. Some of our leaders have served their local groups for many years. They are always welcome to new folks coming up to them and asking, "Can you use my help?"

Without new volunteers, the Mensa that we know today will not last much longer. Some local groups have had to shut down and merge with other groups. I'm pleased to say that we haven't had to do that in Region 5, however, that may change in the future. Although many Mensans are only active online, we don't want to give up the local group activities and

the Mensa that we know. If you have not been part of your local group's leadership, it's never too late to step up.

Again, thank you to all the people who have made my Mensa AMC experience so wonderful.

See you soon,

Baker Ring

### ***Local Secretary's Message***

2019 has been an eventful year so far. We've welcomed a new webmaster, Lizzz Russell, and her work updating our website. We've said "thank you" and "farewell" to Jason Whisnant as our previous webmaster, and to Bob Bouvier as our departing treasurer.

The Executive Committee, inspired (or was that "prodded"?) by Deputy Local Secretary Grace Lehto's campaign promise of "more fun," has begun scheduling a variety of special events to interest and entertain members. We heard from Jeff Catanese, an FBM member who recently appeared on Jeopardy By the time you read this we will have had the first "Show & Tell" event of the year. June will bring a tour of a local brewery.

What kind of events would you like to see? Would any of these, recommended by your fellow members, bring you to an event?

- Byron Ballard -- speaking on the topic of Wicca (for our Fall schedule)
- Point Lookout Vineyards in Hendersonville – tasting tour
- Michael Havelin – a talk about the process of writing, and a reading from his works
- Grace Lehto – a guided cemetery tour, with background information on gravestones
- Roger Winchell & Sharron Armel – a special guided tour of the Asheville Quilt Guild's annual show in September



- Bruce Frank – a talk about his globe-spanning career with the United Nations
- Dr. King’s Farms – a guided tour of this enterprise in Leicester
- Great Smoky Mountains Railroad – a tour in the Caboose (to be scheduled for FBM this fall)
- Liz Cotton – a talk about her career with ABC news, NPR, and the US Department of State
- The Collider – a variety of presentations and events at this climate science innovation center in downtown Asheville
- Tourists – see a game with Asheville’s professional baseball team

Are there other ideas that you can suggest? Destination meetings, how-to meetings, movie nights, game nights, etc.? Don’t forget, FBM will pay for the guest speaker’s meal, and yours as well if you help to arrange the event.

Please, make my job easy: Tell me what you’d like to see happening in French Broad Mensa!

Thank you,

Sharron Armel,  
Local Secretary

### ***Executive Committee Meeting Minutes May 6, 2019***

The ExComm was held at Zia Taqueria in Asheville at 6:00 PM. Attendees included Sharron Armel, Bob and Leslie Bouvier, Michael Havelin, Grace Lehto, Will McGuffin, and Wayne Stanko.

The June schedule of events was planned (see page 3).

Reminder: In April, the ExComm voted to change our usual first Tuesday to the first Monday in order to address scheduling conflicts of some of the participants.

In the process of reviewing our Bylaws, it was suggested that we change the terms of office from one year to two years. Sharron will contact Becky Folger at American Mensa to find out if this is allowed.

The group said farewell to Bob and Leslie Bouvier, who are headed for Texas. French Broad Mensa is particularly grateful to Bob for his service as Treasurer and as a member of the Executive Committee.



From left: Bob Bouvier, Will McGuffin, Wayne Stanko, Michael Havelin, Grace Lehto, Leslie Bouvier, and behind the camera, Sharron Armel

Wayne Stanko suggested a group event for June: a tour of the White Labs Kitchen & Tap in Asheville. We can meet at 3pm for a tour of the brewing process, and some sampling afterward.

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 April 2019***

Opening Balance .....	\$4,524.69
Receipts:	
Am. MENSA Contribution 3/15/2019 .....	\$115.60
Total Receipts .....	\$115.60
Disbursements:	
Check #636, Bulk mailing & labels .....	\$70.95
Total Disbursements .....	\$70.95
Closing Balance .....	\$4,569.34
Submitted by Bob Bouvier, Treasurer	

### ***New Treasurer***

Wayne Stanko has agreed to serve as Treasurer for the remainder of Bob Bouvier's term. Thank you, Wayne, for adding one more hat to your FBM hatrack!

### ***Trivial Report***

There were 17 teams competing at Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in May. Representing French Broad Mensa were Wayne, Jan, Karen, Pat, Carol, Will, and Sharron.

The theme of the first round was words in the Oxford English Dictionary.

1. What is the name of a monstrous woman obsessed with wedding plans?
  2. Name a Thanksgiving dinner triple combination.
  3. What is a two-word term for a scientist and what he may study?
  4. What is a four-letter abbreviation for the Crimson Tide?
  5. What is a Native American hoop with feathers in the center?
- Extra. On *The Simpsons*, what was Jebediah Springfield's term for making things bigger?

6. What is a hyphenated term for an extra person on an invitation?
7. What flying alliterative object represents an alternative life style?
8. What is an eight-letter term for someone who passes on a gift?
9. What numerical problem does the U.S. and U.K. have that African countries do not?
10. What is the name of a small telescope attached to a large telescope?

*Answers*

1. Bridezilla; 2. Turkducken; 3. Lab rat; 4. Bama; 5. Dreamcatcher; Extra. Embiggen; 6. Plus-one; 7. Freak flag (Sharron); 8. Register; 9. First World (Sharron); 10. Finder (Will).

We missed only one question, “jokered” the round to double our score, and were in a five-way tie for second place, six points behind the leader.

The theme of the second round was Earth Science.

1. A caldera is formed by the collapse of what?
2. What is the name for the large liquid center of the Earth?
3. Sedimentary and igneous are two of the three kinds of rocks. Name the third.
4. Aristophanes determined what as 25,000 miles?  
Extra. What is the name of the inner of two radiation belts?
5. What scale is used to measure the hardness of minerals?
6. What is the name of the small tide caused by the sun and moon being in opposition?
7. What phylum means jointed foot?
8. All weather takes place in what lowest level of the atmosphere?
9. Radio signals bounce off what layer of the atmosphere?
10. A discontinuity in the Earth’s structure separates the crust from what?

*Answers*

1. Volcano; 2. Core; 3. Metamorphic; 4. Circumference of the Earth; Extra. Van Allen (Will); 5. Mohs; 6. Neap; 7. Arthropod; 8. Troposphere; 9. Ionosphere (Will); 10. Mantle (Will).

We again missed only one question and were now in a two-way tie for first place.

The third round is the speed round. We were given a sheet of questions. We had five minutes to give the answers. The theme was answers containing the word “buck.”

1. A cowhand who breaks wild horses.
2. A horse chestnut or an Ohioan.
3. Conservative columnist who founded The National Review.
4. Member of Fleetwood Mac.
5. Kansas City Chiefs’ hall of fame defensive lineman.
6. A corner-of-the-ring support.
7. Engineer that founded the Dymaxion Corporation.
8. Triangular seed plant; *Fagopyrum esculent*.
9. The only one in Italy is in Milan.
10. One of five who found the Golden Ticket.
11. Hee Haw host backed by the Buckaroos.
12. Nobel Prize winning author of *The Good Earth*.

*Answers*

1. Buckaroo; 2. Buckeye; 3. William Buckley (Will); 4. Lindsey Buckingham (Karen); 5. Buck Buchanan; 6. Turnbuckle (Wayne); 7. Buckminster Fuller; 8. Buckwheat; 9. Starbucks; 10. Charlie Bucket (Wayne); 11. Buck Owens; 12. Pearl Buck.

We answered 10 of 12 correctly. We were now in fourth place, three points behind the leader.

The theme of the fourth round was potpourri.

1. What queen lends her name to the wild carrot?
2. What fashion designer is famous for the “little black dress?”
3. What 2600 year old tree was found in an east Carolina swamp?
4. What was the number of the last Apollo mission in 1972?
5. Lhasa is the capital of what Asian country?
6. Party City stores are closing because of a shortage of what?

7. What German tennis player won the Golden Slam?  
Extra. What Austrian actor played in *Django Unchained* and *Inglorious Bastards*?
8. *The Thing* and *The Human Torch* are part of what super hero team?
9. King Zog was the king of what country that Italy annexed in 1935?
10. A mesa in Venezuela was the inspiration for what Arthur Conan Doyle novel?

*Answers*

1. Anne; 2. Chanel (Karen); 3. Cypress; 4. 17; 5. Tibet; 6. Helium (Karen); 7. Steffi Graf; Extra. Christoff Waltz; 8. Fantastic Four;
9. Albania (Wayne); 10. *The Lost World* (Wayne).

We only answered six questions correctly. We ended up in fifth place, 8 points behind the winner.

Do you turn to the Trivial Report as soon as you open the *Broadcast*? Were you able to answer a few of these questions (or maybe a lot of questions)? The Whoos could definitely use your knowledge and enthusiasm at the next Quizzo contest. The question you answer could be the one to help us resume our winning ways!



**Clark**  
COMMUNICATIONS

- OFFSET PRINTING
- DIGITAL PRINTING
- STRATEGIC MARKETING
  - SOCIAL MEDIA
- SIGNAGE & DISPLAYS
- MAILING SOLUTIONS

**828/254.1432**

**[www.oneclearchoice.com](http://www.oneclearchoice.com)**

## **French Broad Mensa Contacts**

**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 ... gracelehto@yahoo.com

#### **Treasurer**

Wayne Stanko ..... 828-253-8751 ... wstanko@charter.net

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

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

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

#### **Proctors**

Karen Youket ..... 828-645-4569 ... kyouket@charter.net

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

#### **Editor**

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

#### **Webmaster**

Lizz Russell..... lizz@dnet.net

**Testing Coordinator** ..... Position Open

#### **Ombudsman**

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

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

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



# BROADCAST

BROADCAST (USPS 0013-506) is published monthly for \$8 per year by French Broad Mensa.

Periodical postage paid at Asheville, NC 28810.

BROADCAST is the official newsletter of French Broad Mensa Group 287 in Region 3 of American Mensa.

**POSTMASTER: ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
AMERICAN MENSA**

**1200 East Copeland Road, Suite 550  
Arlington, TX 76011-1344**

Periodical Postage  
**PAID**  
Asheville, NC 28810

**TIME VALUE MATERIAL**