

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

# ***BROADCAST***

Vol. 25, No. 7 July 2019

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



***Celebrate!***

***In this issue***

Broadcast Submission Guidelines ..... 2  
Events Calendar, July, 2019 ..... 3  
Meet a Fellow Mensan ..... 4  
Member Poetry ..... 5  
Mensa Scholarship Winner ..... 6  
Regional Vice-Chairman’s Message ..... 8  
Local Secretary’s Message ..... 9  
Executive Committee Minutes, June 3 ..... 11  
Financial Report for May 2019 ..... 11  
Trivial Report ..... 12  
Contacts ..... 15

***Cover***

***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**

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, July 1, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting**

at Galactic Pizza, 339 Sardis Rd in Asheville

Website: <https://www.galacticavl.com/>

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

### **Friday, July 5, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch**

at Copper River Grill, 1302 Hendersonville Rd in Asheville

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

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



### **Thursday, July 18, 7pm: Asheville Tourists Baseball**

at McCormick Field, 30 Buchanan Place in Asheville  
Thirsty Thursday – beer and coke \$1 each!

Website: [www.theashevilletourists.com](http://www.theashevilletourists.com)

Contact: [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com) by **July 5**

### **Thursday, July 25, 6pm: Thu.D!**

at The Cantina in Biltmore Village, 10 Biltmore Plaza in Asheville

Website: [www.cantinabiltmore.com](http://www.cantinabiltmore.com)

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

## ***Meet a Fellow Mensan***

STEVEN LERNER transferred in to French Broad Mensa soon after moving to the Hendersonville area last fall. He describes himself as a “halfback” – grew up in the Northeast, most recently lived in Florida, and has settled in western NC which is halfway back. Several FBM members enjoyed meeting and greeting Steven at a recent Thu.D.!

Steven says his interests include “natural sciences, psychology, photography, and physics, because everything is actually physics. Also I have liked Science Fiction from a very early age (my very early age) . Enjoy walking in the woods, seeing and hearing all the passive and active things going on there. Magnifiers, binoculars, and microscopes let me see more details. I have lots of books including Science Fiction, Speculative Fiction, Fantasy, Science, Biography, Sam Clemens along with other writers from the beginnings of American literature, and books about and by Albert Einstein. I noticed how many books I had when I packed to move to Hendersonville. Have been chronically athletically trained continuously, and will do that indefinitely. Knowing other fellow travelers in life is a common denominator that keeps us well grounded. Have been employed as a Quality Engineer in various manufacturing environments. Eliminating the ambiguous among people in a work setting was a key factor in that work.”

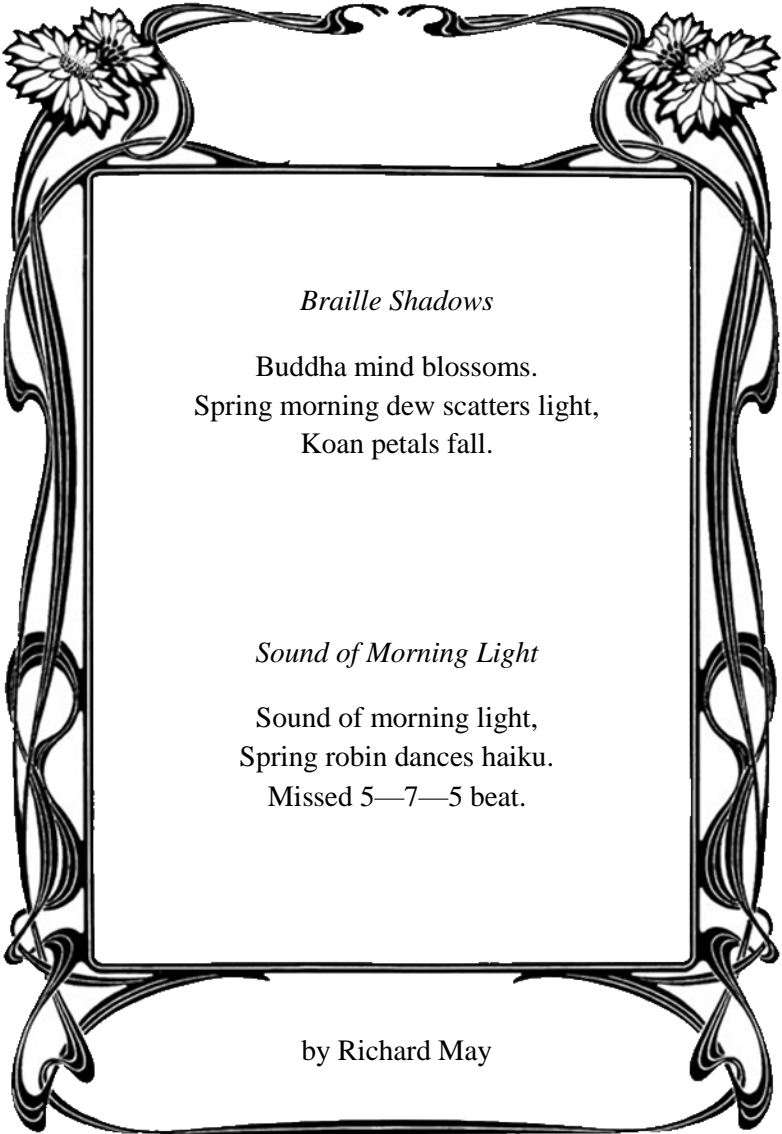


**Clark**  
COMMUNICATIONS

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

**828/254.1432**

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



*Braille Shadows*

Buddha mind blossoms.  
Spring morning dew scatters light,  
Koan petals fall.

*Sound of Morning Light*

Sound of morning light,  
Spring robin dances haiku.  
Missed 5—7—5 beat.

by Richard May

## ***Mensa Scholarship Winner***

Mensa Scholarship Winner JUSTIN SECH submitted the following winning essay.

One morning this past semester, I was finished debating with myself. Half an hour later I was in the registrar's office signing the form to change my major to Computer Science. The next day I was back adding a Robotics minor. A week later, I had picked up a second major in Applied Mathematics and Statistics. I had never felt more certain of anything in my life – I was going to be on the team that puts humans on Mars.

Like many kids, I grew up with a healthy obsession with space and had all of the NASA themed legos and drawings to prove it. I was smart enough to know that telling people I wanted to be an astronaut wouldn't cut it. I grew up assuming I would have to find something more realistic to do with my life. What no one told me was that "rocket scientist", "astrophysicist", and aerospace engineer" weren't make-believe jobs, they were legitimate career options. I entered college as a Chemical and Biomolecular Engineer and told people I was interested in biomedical research. No matter how satisfied I thought I was with my major, I always struggled to explain what it was exactly that I wanted to do, but I figured that was normal. Looking back now, I realize ChemBE represents all of the external cues I desperately latched onto while trying to figure out what I wanted to do with my life. Chemical Engineering felt like a safe balance of biology, chemistry, math, and physics to keep me satisfied. This past semester, however, I realized I was only synthesizing excitement for medicine and research, it was never the topic keeping me awake at night. That was reserved for the one internal passion I was always defaulting back to: dreams of space.

At Johns Hopkins University, I have unbelievable resources at my disposal. Our Applied Physics Lab is contracted by NASA and this past year designed and built the Parker Solar Probe to send on "a mission to touch the sun". The Hopkins Space Telescope Science Institute remotely operates the one and only Hubble Space Telescope. Even my Robotics faculty advisor gets funding from NASA to test extreme environment robots just like the ones we send to Mars.

I came to Hopkins with the intent to take advantage of every opportunity I can get my hands on, and frankly, I can't see a future where I'm not working in the back room of one of those laboratories putting everything I have into learning new skills and making real, professional growth. My current focus is getting through the front doors of the Applied Physics Lab. I've applied for multiple positions and have already built a few connections with people working there. In the meantime, I'm organizing my own self-led projects to sharpen my technical abilities and to open doors to as many future opportunities as possible.

Three semesters into school and my roots are firmly set. I have repeatedly come out of each semester more successful and confident than the last, and I'm as excited as ever to continue pushing my own growth. Rerouting my life trajectory has been beautifully liberating. I finally feel in full control and with a crystal vision of where I'm heading. From here forward it's all engines go.

Justin Sech



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

Several weeks ago, I received the news that you had elected me RVC5 for the 2019-2021 term. To those of you who voted for me, a sincere thank you. To those of you who didn't vote for me, I hope to earn your trust and confidence as I work to make Region 5 the best that it can be.

I want to thank Dan Brown for a friendly, non-competitive campaign. You will be seeing more of Dan in the next two years, because he has pledged to work cooperatively with me to help the region grow and thrive.

I especially want to thank Baker Ring for his six years of exemplary service to Region 5. He has always been available to help when a tough situation arises, and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. RVC is a thankless (and unpaid) job, and Baker showed how to do it right. Again, thanks, Baker!

Shameless plug for upcoming RGs in Region 5: Peachtreat 44, "Double Trouble," takes place in Duluth, GA (near Atlanta) on September 20-22, 2019. The time to register for it is NOW! You can get more information about it at [www.georgia.us.mensa.org/generalinfo.html](http://www.georgia.us.mensa.org/generalinfo.html)

Sweet Carolina RG, "For the Health of it," will occur in Charlotte, NC from November 15-17, 2019. Details at [cbrmensa.org/rg](http://cbrmensa.org/rg) Again, the time to register is NOW!

I will be attending these two RGs as well as the RGs in Greenville, SC and Alabama in 2020. I'm looking forward to meeting those of you that I have not met yet, and seeing old friends again.

I need your help! I hope to have annual Leadership Development Workshops in Region 5 during my term. Charlotte /Blue Ridge Mensa has hosted the last two regional workshops. I am seeking volunteer sites for 2019 and 2020. I will help you locate a hotel, plan the LDW, and find speakers. I just need you to agree to host it.



Finally, I plan to visit all twenty Local Groups in Region 5 during my term. I will be working intensely with several groups who want to grow in numbers or in programming. If you would like your group to be one of the target locations, please contact me as soon as possible. I sincerely want to serve you for the next two years.

Nancy Campbell  
704-533-3351  
mensanancy@gmail.com



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

Thanks to Grace Lehto for hosting Games Night in May. A rousing Scrabble competition was won by Will McGuffin.

Our May Thu.D.! included a "Show & Tell" session after dinner.



**Michael Havelin** read from his *Bloody-Minded Fictions* and gave a preview of *Ben Bones and the Uncivil War*, latest in his series featuring the titular Genealogist and Articulator of Family Skeletons.

**Sharron Armel** displayed a small quilt and shared stories about some of her interesting customers.





**Grace Lehto** showed some of her works and described a current project: creating new artworks in the style of other famous artists such as M. C. Escher and Georgia O’Keeffe. She also distributed a handy “Art Speak Buzz Phrase Generator” to help us sound sophisticated and intellectual when viewing art:

<i>Adverb</i>	<i>Adjective</i>	<i>Noun</i>
Quintessentially	Translucent	Composition
Distinctively	Eclectic	Manifestation
Dynamically	Esoteric	Perspective
Essentially	Egalitarian	Assemblage
Aesthetically	Quixotic	Dimensionality
Excitingly	Qualitative	Work
Artistically	Didactic	Presentation
Principally	Ethereal	Preparation
Manneristically	Innovative	Construction
Eloquently	Exploratory	Exhibition

Complete the following sentence using three-word phrases from the Art Speak Buzz Phrase Generator.

I see it as a \_\_\_\_\_ with a definitive and \_\_\_\_\_.

Sharron Armel, Local Secretary



**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**June 3, 2019**

The ExComm meeting was held at the Stoneridge Tavern in Asheville at 6:00 PM. Attendees included Sharron Armel, Will McGuffin, Wayne Stanko, Michael Havelin and Grace Lehto.

The July schedule of events was established.

The Committee agreed to subsidize the cost of tickets for an Asheville Tourists baseball game on July 18.

After a brief discussion, Grace Lehto made a motion to require two-year terms for elected officers. Wayne Stanko seconded the motion and the proposal was approved. The Local Secretary will follow up with American Mensa, and we will follow the steps required to amend our By-Laws.

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 May 2019**

Opening Balance .....	\$4,539.34
Receipts:	
Am. MENSA Contribution May '19.....	\$108.95
Total Receipts .....	\$108.95
Disbursements: (None)	
Total Disbursements .....	\$.00
Closing Balance .....	\$4,678.29

Submitted by Wayne Stanko, Treasurer

## ***Trivial Report***

The Whoos played against 18 teams at Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in June. The Whoos had only five players (Wayne, Jan, Karen, Will, and Sharron) as the heavy rains prevented some of our regular team members from attending.

The theme of the first round was moon.

1. What is the last name of Moon Unit who debuted on her father's album at the age of 14?
2. What country landed space explorer Luna 2 on the moon in 1959?
3. A Canadian bay was named after the captain of the ship the Half Moon.
4. How many moons does Mars have?  
Extra. Name the moons of Mars.
5. Reproducing Galileo's experiment on the moon an astronaut dropped a feather and what object simultaneously?
6. The harvest moon appears  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the time in what month?
7. Name the 9-time Pro Bowl NFL quarterback.
8. The white morning glory that blooms at night is called what?
9. What is the Palus Somni formation on the moon?

### *Answers*

1. Zappa (Sharron); 2. USSR; 3. Henry Hudson (Will); 4. Two; Extra. Phobos and Demos (Karen & Will); 5. A hammer; 6. September (Wayne); 7. Warren Moon (Sharron); 8. Moon Flower (Karen); 9. Swamp of Sleep.

After the first round, we were in fifth place, seven points behind.

The theme of the second round was Scott and Scotch.

1. What four letter word precedes Livet, Fiddich, and Morangie?
2. What ESPN anchor's book was *Every Day I Fight*?
3. What term can only legally be applied to scotch produced north of Greenwich?
4. What composer wrote *Maple Leaf Rag*?
5. By law scotch whiskey must be made from what malted grain?
6. Which actress played in the BBC series *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*?"

Extra. For 20 years, what scotch ad says “Why I do what I do?”

7. What actor born in 1954 plays on the TV show *CSI New Orleans*?
8. What scotch is named for a clipper ship?
9. What TV weather man was also the original Ronald McDonald?
10. In 1857 who claimed he and his wife should be free because they lived in Wisconsin, a free state?

*Answers:*

1. Glen (Sharron & Will); 2. Stewart Scott; 3. Highland (Sharron);
4. Scott Joplin (Sharron); 5. Barley (Karen); 6. Jill Scott (Sharron);
- Extra. Dewars (Wayne); 7. Scott Bakula (Sharron); 8. Cutty Sark (Will);
9. Willard Scott; 10. Dred Scott.

We did much better in this round, “jokered” (doubled) our score, and were in first place by five points.

The third round is the speed round. We were given a sheet of questions we had five minutes to answer. The theme was Before and After. Use the clues to figure out the “Before and After” answers. As an example, I will give the answer to the first question.

1. Arkansas capital that’s a big stone between Spain and Morocco.  
Answer: Little Rock of Gibraltar.
2. “Tainted Love” band’s pocket communicator.
3. This leader of the Autobots factors are it self and one.
4. Fruit juice company that became the nickname for Joan of Arc .
5. Cold play singer known for portraying Jimmy Glick
6. “Nacho Libre” star becomes a form of extortion.
7. Environmental group founded by John Muir that’s a fizzy water.
8. Famous tobacco heiress in a Gene Chandler hit song.
9. Pirate flag that broke the 4 minute mile.
10. John Gotti nickname for the Man of La Mancha.
11. “1876” novelist who also styles hair.
12. Culture Club singer who penned “1984”

*Answers:*

2. Soft cell phone; 3. Optimus prime number; 4. Minute Maid of Orleans;
5. Chris Martin Short; 6. Jack Black mail (Wayne); 7. Sierra Club soda;
8. Doris Duke of Earl (Wayne); 9. Jolly Roger Bannister (Wayne); 10. Mafia Don Quixote; 11. Gore Vidal Sassoon;; 12. Boy George Orwell.

We only got six correct and dropped back to fifth place, eight points behind.

The theme of round four was potpourri.

1. Who appeared in a 1961 movie ad with a 128 carat Tiffany diamond?
2. In what city is the Grand Bazaar Market located?
3. What hijacker bailed out of a 727 over Oregon?
4. What sewing machine company was the first to spend \$1,000,000 on advertising?
5. As a noun, it means an heroic act or deed. As a verb, to take advantage.
6. Which country has Armenia and Iran as eastern neighbors?
7. The name of what suburb appears in the title of a 1972 Ira Levin novel?

Extra. What is the piece that casts a shadow on a sun dial called?

8. The five stages of grief begins with what?
9. The last of this species died in 1914 in a Cincinnati zoo has the same name as a local river.
10. In 1915, this ship sunk in 20 minutes after being torpedoed by a German U-boat.

*Answers:*

1. Audrey Hepburn; 2. Istanbul (Will); 3. D.B. Cooper (Sharron & Karen); 4. Singer (Karen); 5. Exploit (Karen); 6. Turkey (Wayne & Karen); 7. Stepford (Sharron); Extra. Gnomon; 8. Denial; 9. Passenger pigeon (Wayne); 10. Lusitania.

We got 10 of the 11 questions correct but finished in sixth place, 10 points behind the winners. The winning team missed only three questions for the entire game.

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!

## **French Broad Mensa Contacts**

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

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

Nancy Campbell.... mensanancy@gmail.com

### **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**