

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

# ***BROADCAST***

Vol. 25, No. 9 September 2019

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



**CONGRATULATIONS  
to French Broad Mensa!**

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***How Hot Was It?***

Not very hot, apparently, as no one chose to comment!

***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 just 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, September 2, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting**

At Mr. Kabab Grill, 801 Fairview Road #4 in Asheville

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

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

**Friday, September 6, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch**

at Longhorn Steakhouse, 3 Restaurant Court in Asheville

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

**Monday, September 9, 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: [wmcguffin@charter.net](mailto:wmcguffin@charter.net)

**Saturday, September 14 at 11am: Amboy Road Greenway Cleanup**

Riverlink will provide gloves, safety vests, grabbers, and bags. Please let Wayne know if you are coming, so we know how much equipment we need. After the cleanup, FBM will host a lunch for the volunteers.

Contact Wayne Stanko, [wstanko@charter.net](mailto:wstanko@charter.net) or 828-253-8751

**Saturday, September 21, 6pm: Games Night**

at the home of Grace Lehto, 25 Hopedale Circle in Asheville.

Grace will provide light snacks; you may BYOB and snacks.

Contact: [gracelehto@yahoo.com](mailto:gracelehto@yahoo.com)

**Sunday, September 29, 3pm Movie & Book Discussion Group**

at 60 Gerber Road, Apt. 209, in Asheville. Topic: “Are you happy, excited, scared, or indifferent about a future that will include AI?” Drinks furnished or BYOB. Two people could bring small desserts to share. Please contact Fae at [one4fae2@yahoo.com](mailto:one4fae2@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend.

**Saturday, October 12: “Heart of Horse Sense” tour.** Some details are in ExComm Minutes, page 14.

**Saturday, October 26: Caboose Ride** on the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad – see details in Local Secretary’s message on page 8.

***MERF Scholarships***

French Broad Mensa invites western North Carolina residents to apply for Mensa Education and Research Foundation Scholarships. One does not need to be a member of Mensa to apply. Anyone who will be enrolled in an accredited U.S. college, university, or community college for the Fall term of 2020 is eligible.

Awards will be made on the basis of an essay of fewer than 550 words, which describes the applicant's career, vocational, or academic goal and how they plan to achieve the goal.

Entries will be judged and awarded at three levels: local, regional and national. There will be at least one local \$600 award. Awards at other levels could be as much as \$1000.

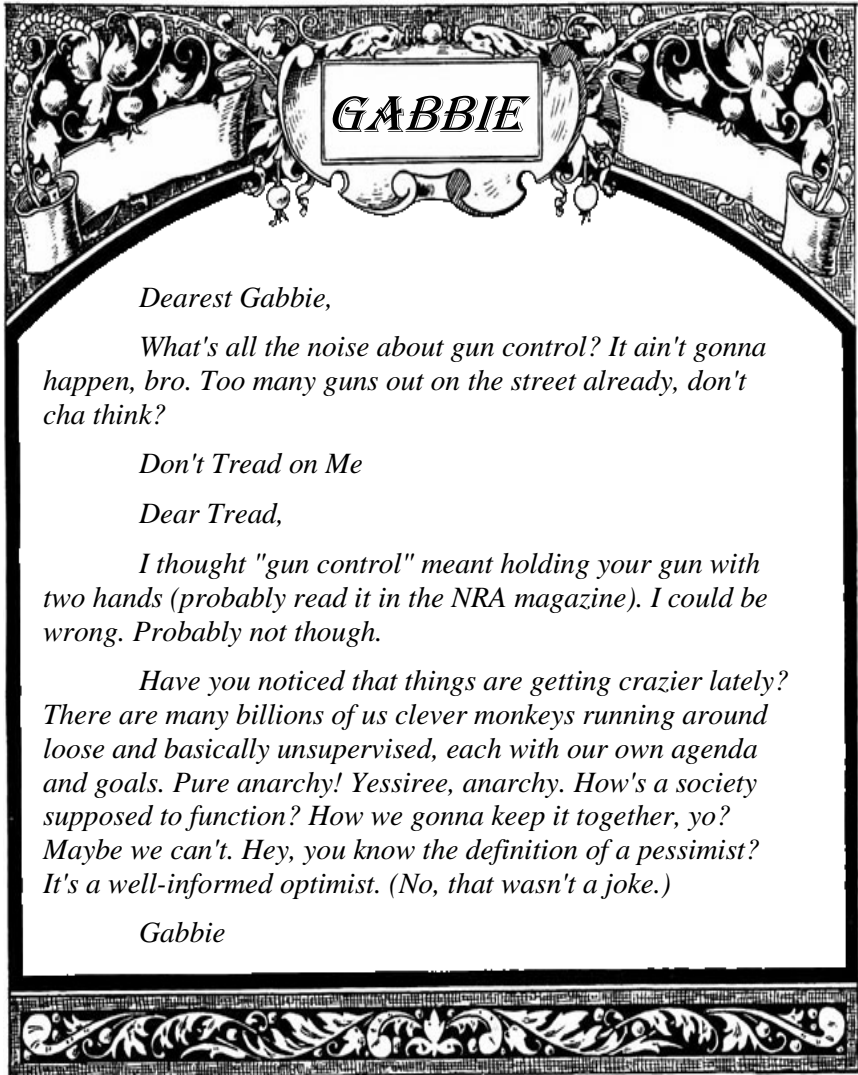
To apply for a scholarship, visit <http://www.mensafoundation.org/scholarships>. There are also scholarships for Mensa members. Information can be found at the same site.

Applications will be accepted starting September 15. Deadline for application is January 15, 2020.

For more information, contact Wayne Stanko, [wstanko@charter.net](mailto:wstanko@charter.net).

## ***Mediocre-Okay Advice from Gabbie***

Back by popular demand! Gabbie hears your woes, and offers advice.  
Send your quandaries to Gabbie c/o the BROADCAST Editor.



*Dearest Gabbie,*

*What's all the noise about gun control? It ain't gonna happen, bro. Too many guns out on the street already, don't cha think?*

*Don't Tread on Me*

*Dear Tread,*

*I thought "gun control" meant holding your gun with two hands (probably read it in the NRA magazine). I could be wrong. Probably not though.*

*Have you noticed that things are getting crazier lately? There are many billions of us clever monkeys running around loose and basically unsupervised, each with our own agenda and goals. Pure anarchy! Yessiree, anarchy. How's a society supposed to function? How we gonna keep it together, yo? Maybe we can't. Hey, you know the definition of a pessimist? It's a well-informed optimist. (No, that wasn't a joke.)*

*Gabbie*

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



I'm pleased to announce that South Coast Mensa has agreed to host a Leadership Development Workshop (LDW) in Mobile, AL on March 6-8, 2020. The last two regional LDWs have been hosted by Charlotte Blue Ridge Mensa, so having one on the western side of Region 5 is really good news. There will be folks from nearby regions there, too, if past experience is any predictor.

So, what's a Leadership Development Workshop? Glad you asked! It's a gathering of leaders and wannabe leaders from across the region to learn how to make a local group stronger. Don't let the word "wannabe" put you off. Mensa is totally led by volunteers, and volunteer means YOU! Of course, we expect the LocSecs and Editors and Treasurers to be there to learn more about their crafts, but if you have ever thought about getting Youth activities started in your local group, or increasing attendance at local events, etc., then YOU should be there, too. The LDW is open to any Mensa member who resides in Region 5, or nearby regions.

Participants pay for their transportation, lodging (we have negotiated room rates of \$75 per night, including breakfast), and \$25 registration fee. Region 5 will pay for everything else, including Friday night dinner; Saturday lunch and dinner; meeting room rentals, AV equipment, badges, handouts, etc.

If you have presented an LDW workshop session at a regional or national gathering, we'd love to hear from you. The actual workshop sessions will be determined by polling the attendees in advance, but we are looking for regional and national leaders to teach the sessions.

So – write March 6-8, 2020 on your calendars now. We'll be sending out more information in the coming months.

A favorite theme of mine is that the Jewel awards are a Blueprint for how to make your local group stronger in both participation and numbers. You can see the points allocations for various activities at <https://www.us.mensa.org/recognize/group-awards/local-group-jewels/> (Please note that attending an LDW is one of the ways to earn points – 5 per person attending.)

Peachtreat 44 is right around the corner! Help Mensa in Georgia celebrate 44 years when they meet Friday September 20 through Sunday, September 22, 2019. Need to register? Go to [www.georgia.us.mensa.org/generalinfo.html](http://www.georgia.us.mensa.org/generalinfo.html) Be sure to reserve your room by August 18<sup>th</sup>.

See you at Peachtreat!

Nancy Campbell  
704-533-3351  
[mensanancy@gmail.com](mailto:mensanancy@gmail.com)



***Snowy Egret***

Photographed by Will McGuffin  
at Huntington Beach Wildlife Preserve

## Local Secretary's Message

# TOOT-TOOT!

# ALL ABOARD!

On the afternoon of Saturday, October 26, we'll be taking a steam engine train ride on the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad, starting at 2pm in Bryson City, and ending there about 4 hours later. The leaves may be at their peak at that time, and the company certainly will be. FBM has reserved the caboose, which can accommodate a maximum of 15 people. Light snacks and soft drinks will be provided by the railroad, and we may bring additional food and drinks (no alcohol).



Check out a sneak preview at

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmc2m\\_yC-o&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mmc2m_yC-o&feature=youtu.be)

Or get more info at [www.gsmr.com](http://www.gsmr.com)

FBM is subsidizing the cost of the trip, so that attendees will pay only \$20. As seating is limited to the first 15 who reserve, please send your check (payable to French Broad Mensa) **ASAP** to Wayne Stanko, 26 Greenleaf Circle, Asheville, NC 28804-2320,

Sharron Armel, Local Secretary  
SharronArmel@gmail.com



↕Fold hereabouts.↕

French Broad Mensa  
September 2019  
**Official Ballot on Proposed Change to By-Laws**

Only this ballot from the newsletter will be accepted.

Copies are not acceptable.

Instructions:

1. Print your membership number here \_\_\_\_\_
2. Consider the By-Laws proposed change and vote “Yes” or “No”.
3. Return your completed ballot to French Broad Mensa, 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 October 1, 2019.  
or
5. Deliver your ballot in person at any FBM event prior to October 1, 2019. The results will be announced at the October ExComm meeting and in the November issue of *BROADCAST*.

## French Broad Mensa

### Proposed Change to By-Laws

Article III(10)

**Now reads:** “The terms of office of elected officers shall be one year, from January 1 to December 31, or until installation of a properly-qualified successor, except in the case of resignation or removal from office as provided in Article III(13).”

**Proposed:** “The terms of office of elected officers shall be two years, from January 1 to December 31, or until installation of a properly-qualified successor, except in the case of resignation or removal from office as provided in Article III(13).”

Yes

No



Stamp  
Here

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

↑Fold hereabouts.↑

## ***The Ruby Award***



Congratulations to French Broad Mensa for earning the American Mensa Ruby Award. The Local Group Jewels recognize and reward Local Groups' membership-related activities and participation in all that Mensa has to offer to positively impact the experience of the Local Group members.

Points are earned for a variety of activities and accomplishments, earned by the group as a whole, including participation in Mind Games®, CultureQuest®, Mensa Testing Day, and Leadership Development Workshops. Accordingly, the program awards points for participation in Mensa rather than winning other Mensa awards.

The achievement levels are, lowest to highest: Emerald, Sapphire, and Ruby Awards. The Local Group with the most points in each class will be recognized with the Diamond Award. (FBM received the Diamond Award last year.)

from <https://www.us.mensa.org/recognize/group-awards/local-group-jewels/>

## ***Executive Committee Meeting Minutes August 5, 2019***

The ExComm meeting was held at Grace Lehto's home in Asheville. Attendees included Sharron Armel, Michael Havelin, Grace Lehto, Will McGuffin, and Wayne Stanko.

The September schedule of events was established. Sharron noted that since our request for use of the Governor's Western Residence pavilion for our August Thu.D. was not approved, she has requested the space for September.

Grace Lehto presented information about the "Heart of Horse Sense" farm that provides therapy to children and adults dealing with autism, PTSD, and other issues. The owner/manager has offered a special one-hour orientation tour just for our Mensa group on Saturday, October 12. Grace will provide more details in the October newsletter.

Regarding our June decision to seek approval of a By-Laws change to allow two-year terms for ExComm members, Sharron Armel reported on our process as required by existing By-Laws:

1. Becky Folger, on behalf of the national office, gave approval to proceed.
2. Publication in our newsletter was done in late June.
3. More detailed article appeared in the August newsletter.
4. Lizz Russell will publish the current By-Laws on the FBM website.
5. Group members will vote by paper ballot to be published in the September newsletter.
6. Deadline for ballot return (no fewer than 90 days following the first publication of the proposal) is October 1, 2019.
7. To become effective, an amendment requires an affirmative vote of the majority of those casting valid ballots, as well as the above approval of the AMC.

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 July 2019**

Opening Balance at June 30, 2019.....	\$3,692.98
Receipts:	
Am. MENSA Monthly Subsidy.....	\$110.80
Total Receipts.....	\$110.80
Disbursements:	
(none)	
Total Disbursements.....	\$0.00
Closing Balance at July 31, 2019.....	\$3,803.78

Submitted by Wayne Stanko, Treasurer

### **Trivial Report**

Jan, Karen, Sharron, Wayne and Will, representing “The Whoos,” played Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in August, competing against 15 other teams.

Shout-Out Questions are asked of the entire group, with no team points scored, but the winner gets a prize.

First: What 1972 film starring Marlon Brando was rated X?

Second: What is another name for the seasoning “Jamaica Pepper”?

We knew both answers (*Last Tango in Paris* and Allspice) but couldn’t shout out quickly or loudly enough. Do you like to yell indoors? Come help us next month.

The first round of questions required answers with 3 or 4 consecutive vowels.

1. What adjective describes George and Benjamin Button?
2. What is a line of people called in England?
3. In the NYPD, what is the rank just below captain?
4. The seven sisters constellation is in what group of stars?
5. Name a 1964 song by the Kingsmen.
6. At the “Roof of the World” in Tibet, what word describes what the land did?

Extra: What is the term for a word that imitates the natural sound of an object?

7. What is the fourth-largest Hawaiian island?
8. What adjective means obsessive fawning?
9. Ralph Waldo Emerson said what without grace is like the hook without bait?
10. What is the largest California conifer?

### *Answers*

1. Curious (Sharron); 2. Queue; 3. Lieutenant; 4. Pleiades (Karen);
5. Louie, Louie (Sharron); 6. Plateaued; Extra: Onomatopoeia; 7. Kauai;
8. Obsequious (Will); 9. Beauty; 10. Sequoia.

Each team can choose to double their score for one round. We did not choose to do that for this round. Other teams did double their scores. Although we answered 9 of 11 questions correctly, we trailed the leader by 13 points.

The theme of the second round was moustaches..

1. Many products copied the ad for Vermont's state beverage. What is it?
2. What National Memorial has a 16-inch mole and a 10-foot moustache?
3. A duck with glasses dropped down when the secret word was mentioned on what TV show?
4. Jon Stewart called what 20-term California congressman "The Moustache of Justice"?

5. On what album cover did all four Beatles have moustaches?
6. In a deck of cards, which is the only king without a moustache?

Extra: Which king in a deck of cards has a sword placed to his head, and is known as the suicide king?

7. Who was the long-time movie reviewer on *The Today Show*?
8. A moustache with two ends extending down was named after what Mexican rebel?
9. British author Sax Rohmer wrote about what Chinese doctor?
10. What Hall of Fame relief pitcher played for the Yankees and the Padres?



*Answers*

1. Milk (Karen & Sharron); 2. Mount Rushmore (Will); 3. *You Bet Your Life* (Wayne); 4. Henry Waxman; 5. *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* (Karen); 6. King of Hearts; Extra: King of Hearts; 7. Gene Shalit (Sharron); 8. Emiliano Zapata; 9. Fu Manchu; 10. "Goose" Gossage (Wayne).

We answered only 8 questions correctly, and were now trailing the leader by 14 points.

Round three, always a speed round, gave us a sheet of questions to answer in 5 minutes.

In Part 1, we were given a state and had to name the state with the longest border on its east.

1. Vermont; 2. Montana; 3. Mississippi; 4. Nebraska; 5. Arkansas.

*Answers*

1. New Hampshire; 2. North Dakota; 3. Alabama; 4. Iowa;  
5. Mississippi.

In part two, we gave numeric answers to sports questions

1. Seconds in an NBA shot clock
2. RBIs credited to the batter of a Grand Slam
3. NFL points for a touchdown plus a two-point conversion
4. Minutes in an NHL period of play
5. In MLB, the minimum number of pitches to reach a full count
6. Yards in the "Mel Blount Rule"
7. Holes played in the Masters Tournament without a playoff

*Answers*

1. 24; 2. 4; 3. 8; 4. 20; 5. 5; 6. 5; 7. 72.

We got ten correct, and doubled our score, so we were now trailing the leader by 5 points.

The theme of the fourth round is always Potpourri.

1. A 2000 art auction featured paintings by Congo. What type of primate is Congo?
2. What type of heir is less secure than an heir apparent?

3. A hip-hop group with Method Man is named after what mythical martial arts sword?
4. At the Summer Solstice, the sun is over what tropic?
5. From 1909 to 1958, what U. S. coin was minted with sheaves of wheat?

Extra: What Hindu sect was featured in the movie & play *Hair*?

6. In a 1938 flight from Oakland to Chicago, a woman performed what occupation for the first time?
7. In photography, polarizing, star, and ND are what type of lens add-on?
8. What TV series on FX shares a title with a 1950 book by Robert Frank and Jack Kerouac?
9. What is the term for the delicate type of needlework that includes point d'angleterre?
10. What quiet Frenchman claimed that Michael Jackson stole the moonwalk from him?

*Answers*

1. Chimpanzee; 2. Presumptive (Will); 3. Wu-Tang; 4. Cancer; 5. Penny; Extra: Hari Krishna; 6. Cabin attendant; 7. Filters; 8. *The Americans* (Sharron); 9. Tatting (Sharron); 10. Marcel Marceau (Wayne).

We got 9 of 11 right. We finished in sixth place, seven points behind the winner.



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Nancy Campbell..... mensanancy@gmail.com

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

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

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#### **Ombudsman**

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

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



# BROADCAST

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