

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

BROADCAST

Vol. 25, No. 12 December 2019

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



Wisdom Conquers Ignorance

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Cover Art:

Wisdom Conquers Ignorance

Bartholomeus Spranger

(Netherlandish, Antwerp 1546–1611 Prague)

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 December 2019

All Mensa events are open to members in good standing. 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, December 2, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting

at Early Girl Eatery North, 1020 Merrimon Ave, Suite 106. in Asheville

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

Contact: sharronarmel@gmail.com

Friday, December 6, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch

at Copper River Grill, 1302 Hendersonville Rd. in Asheville

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

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

Monday, December 9, Trivia (6:30 for dinner, 7:30 to play)

at Jack of the Wood, 95 Patton Ave. in Asheville

Website: jackofthewood.com

Contact: wmcguffin@charter.net

Saturday December 14, Chriskwanzakahyule Party

at Grace Lehto's home, 25 Hopedale Circle in Asheville

Details on page 4.

Thursday, December 19, 6pm: Thu.D!

at The Shogun Buffet, 1000 Brevard Road, Ste 166, in Asheville

Phone: (828) 665-9963

Contact: SharronArmel@gmail.com

Chriskwanzakahyule Party

Let's get together for a year-end celebration! Grace Lehto will host the party at her home, 25 Hopedale Circle, in Asheville, on Saturday, December 14,, beginning at 5pm.

French Broad Mensa will provide dinner – sandwich fixins', side dishes, and cookies for members and guests. Grace will bake some of her world-famous cheesecakes for dessert! Please choose ham, turkey, or beef in your RSVP. If you don't RSVP, we'll still be happy to see you but you may not get fed.

If you like, please bring a special dish to share.

Grace will provide coffee, iced tea, and water. FBM will provide soft drinks. If you wish, you may bring your own wine or other spirits.

Able-bodied members are requested to park in the Emma Baptist Church lot at the corner of Goodwill Street and Hopedale Circle, just one house away from Grace's home. This will leave Grace's driveway available for those who deliver the meals/drinks, and those who need a shorter distance to walk.

Gift Grab (Optional): If you'd like to participate, please bring a wrapped gift valued at \$15 to \$20. No gag gifts, please! Numbers will be assigned and drawn, gifts grabbed and re-grabbed, until all gifts are distributed.

RSVP: GraceLehto@yahoo.com or 828-575-2877 by December 7. Please note the number attending and your choice of meat (ham, turkey, or roast beef) so we can order the proper amounts of each.

Watch your email for a reminder!



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.



Dear Gabbie,

I was sweating like a pig yesterday. Couldn't drink enough beer to stay hydrated. I'm thinking about a permanent transfusion. Tell me true: is the earth really hottening up? Or is it all a Chinese plot? That's what Trump said and he wouldn't lie to us, would he?

A Questioning Believer

Dear Believer,

It's a plot all right, but it's Mother Nature's. She's mad and PO'd at us humans for indiscriminate procreation. There's too many of us. People need to find a hobby or something to keep them busy and their minds off you-know-what. Did you ever kick an anthill open? Well...think about it. And don't believe everything you hear... or read... or even see. And never believe a politician.

Gabbie

Have you checked out the FBM website lately?

A big FBM “**THANK YOU**” to Lizz Russell for the work she’s doing on the French Broad Mensa website frenchbroad.us.mensa.org. She’s asking for your feedback, and WELCOMES/ENCOURAGES your suggestions for our website. What would you like to see? Would you like to see a member's business/services directory? Would you like a chat room? Would you like a place to publish articles? Would you like a New Recruits section? Talk to Lizz at lizz@dnet.net.

She has agreed to be our S.I.G.H.T. Coordinator and has added a preliminary page to our website to entice visitors from other Mensa groups. (S.I.G.H.T. is Service of **I**nformation, **G**uidance, and **H**ospitality to **T**ravelers)

Lizz Russell has also accepted the position of regional webmaster after RVC Nancy Campbell asked her to do it. She will send us a link to the new regional website after it is set up.

Way to go, Lizz!



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Regional Vice-Chairman's Message

Holiday Greetings to all! Take time to relax, visit friends and family, and enjoy the holidays. I know that's a challenge with holiday traffic...

December is the last month for your friends and family to convert the MVP Code into a testing voucher. This must be done by December 31st. Once converted, the testing voucher will be good for two years, so start nagging your friends to go to the National website

<https://www.us.mensa.org/join/> now

and convert the MVP Code into a voucher. Mention that the MVP Code will not be applied until the checkout page, which will then make the testing voucher free. The voucher is good for Prior Evidence as well as for testing. Can't remember your group's MVP Code? Contact Becky Folger at the National Office. She's a gem!

Don't forget to register for Central Alabama Mensa's upcoming RG in Birmingham, AL from February 14-16, 2020 (Valentine's Day weekend.) Registration before January 1, 2020 is only \$60. From January 1 till February 1, \$65. Walk-ins are \$70. If you have never been to an RG, you're missing out on one of the best experiences in Mensa. Get details about the RG and hotel info from maryambridge@gmail.com

Region 5 will be holding a Leadership Development Workshop in Mobile, AL on March 6-8, 2020, hosted by South Coast Mensa. The LDW is not restricted to current officers. If you want to learn more about leadership in Mensa, then you are welcome, too. The registration fee is \$25. per family. Region 5 will provide all meals, including snacks. There will be some home hospitality available for those who are financially challenged. Plan now to send your LocSec, Treasurer, Gifted



Youth Coordinator, Editor and several members for a weekend of training by regional and national leaders. We won't have another LDW on the west side of the Region for at least two years.

The LDW registration form is available online:

frenchbroad.us.mensa.org/ldw.pdf

Nancy Campbell , 704-533-3351 or RVC5mail@gmail.com

Local Secretary's Message



November was a rather quiet month for French Broad Mensa. Our Quizzo(trivia) team was benched by travel, weather, and health concerns. But we'll be back strong next time -- won't you consider joining? I held off going for a long time, thinking I would embarrass myself and my friends. Seems like much of what I know is buried so deep it takes me a few seconds longer to find it these days. But Wayne assured me that speed is not an issue, at least not in 3 of the 4 rounds of

Quizzo. I'm so glad I gave it a try, and feel very deprived when I'm unable to attend. .

If you missed the October Thu.D.! dinner, and the Great Smoky Mountains Railroad adventure, you missed meeting Nancy Campbell, our Regional Vice Chair. One of her objectives is to visit every local group in Region 5. We're pleased that FBM has racked up two visits already, and look forward to seeing more of Nancy.

Sharron Armel, Local Secretary, SharronArmel@gmail.com

Letter to the Editor: Five More Years?

Friends for many years, some as far back as childhood, what is happening to us? We sang together at church, we stayed up giggling all night at sleepovers, we danced at school parties. Did we agree on everything? I don't think so. Did we hate each other over our differences? We absolutely did not.

We bickered over the Senators or the Yankees, the Camaro or the Mustang, the Beatles or the Rolling Stones. We still loved each other as friends who simply happened to disagree.

But now it seems we're drifting from love toward hate. You write or say something that I think is untrue and maybe even dangerous. I'd like to ask about your sources and if you've considered different possibilities. But we've lost the ability to converse, to disagree, respectfully, without hostility and personal insults. Every day it's harder to have a civil exchange of ideas. And our current social environment legitimizes and furthers this destructive trend. Instead of putting their heads and hearts together to find unity and solutions, our national leaders lean further and further apart, demonizing all who differ.

I can't take five more years of this. Can you?

Submitted by another anonymous FBM member

Candidate for Mensa?

Ron Jones wonders if we'll be seeing this young woman's name on the Mensa roster:

Nine-year-old super genius set to graduate college, won't be able to get a job without at least another 15 years of experience

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/14/europe/university-graduate-child-genius-scli-intl/index.html>

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2019

The Executive Committee met November 4 at Little Pigs B-B-Q in Asheville. Attending were Sharron Armel, Michael Havelin, Grace Lehto, Will McGuffin, and Wayne Stanko.

The December schedule of events was established.

Submitted by
Grace Lehto
Deputy Local Secretary

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

Financial Report for September 2019

Opening Balance at September 30, 2019	\$3,890.84
Receipts:	
Am. MENSA Monthly Subsidy	\$154.20
Train Ride Tickets.....	60.00
Total Receipts.....	\$214.20
Disbursements:	
Testing Expenses	14.80
Total Disbursements.....	\$14.80
Closing Balance at October 31, 2019.....	\$4,090.24

Submitted by Wayne Stanko, Treasurer

Trivial Report

Sad to say, French Broad Mensa did not participate in Quizzo at Jack of the Wood in October. Travel, weather, and health issues kept some of the regulars away. We could REALLY use your help next month and every month!

French Broad Mensa Contacts

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

Region 5 Vice-Chairman

Nancy Campbell..... RVC5mail@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 828-253-8781 ... 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.....

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

Membership Coordinator Position Open



BROADCAST

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