

The French Broad Mensa Newsletter

# ***BROADCAST***

Vol. 26, No. 3, March 2020

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



***Turks' Cap Lily and Spicebush Swallowtail Butterfly  
Photographed at Craggy Gardens by Will McGuffin***

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***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 March 2020**

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, March 2, 6pm: Executive Committee Meeting**

at the Green Tea Sushi & Japanese Restaurant  
at 3 Regent Park Blvd in West Asheville

Website: [greenteasushiasheville.com](http://greenteasushiasheville.com)

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

### **Friday, March 6, 11:30am: First Friday Lunch**

at Longhorn, 560 Airport Rd in Fletcher

Website: [longhornsteakhouse.com/locations/nc/fletcher/fletcher/5613](http://longhornsteakhouse.com/locations/nc/fletcher/fletcher/5613)

Contact: Fae Armstrong, [one4fae2@yahoo.com](mailto:one4fae2@yahoo.com) if you can attend.

### **Monday, March 9: Trivia (6:30 for dinner, 7:30 to play)**

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

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

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

### **Saturday, March 14, 6:00pm: PI Games Night**

Players and kibitzers, gather at Grace Lehto's home, 25 Hopedale Circle in West Asheville. Bring munchies to share. Coffee and iced tea will be available. BYOB. RSVP via email to [gracelehto@yahoo.com](mailto:gracelehto@yahoo.com)

### **Thursday, March 26, 6pm: Thu.D!**

at Pack's Tavern, 20 S. Spruce St. in downtown Asheville

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

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

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



You still have a few days to register for the Piedmont Area Mensa RG coming up March 27-29, 2020. It's a Pirate themed RG. Registration is \$85. Until March 20. The walk-in rate of \$95 applies from March 21 until the RG. For information and application forms, <http://www.piedmont.us.mensa.org/rg2020.htm>

This month I want to emphasize the Jewel Award Program, and I am doing it this month because Mensa's award year runs April 1 through March 31 the following year. I want Region 5 to hit the ground running!

From the very inception of this program about five years ago, I have felt that it is a Blueprint on how to grow a strong Local Group. There are four awards, from lowest to highest, Emerald, Sapphire, Ruby, and – for the highest group in each size category – Diamond. Each local group is competing with others groups of the same size. Group I has over 1100 members; Group II, 400 --1099; Group III, 200-399; Group IV, 125-199; and Group V, fewer than 125 members.

The Newsletter Editor alone can contribute 76 points by putting out monthly newsletters with an events calendar, LocSec Column, RVC Column, ExComm minutes, an Officer Listing, and a member submission (a photo, poem, piece of art, article, etc. by a member), and, at least quarterly, a Treasurer's report. Group V (fewer than 125 members) only has to get 80 points for an emerald award, so the Newsletter Editor is really powerful here !!

Proctors, too, can earn lots of points for the Local Group. They earn three points for every proctored test session; 5 points for every unique testing location (we in Charlotte Blue Ridge Mensa use the local Red Cross buildings in Salisbury and Charlotte for free. If you have a member who is in the American Legion, you might get use of the meeting room free. A lawyer member might offer the conference room at his law office for an occasional testing session. You get the idea!) Each proctor who tests twice a year earns two more points. If the group tests on National Testing Day in October, they earn 5 more points.

If a group participates in Mensa Cares, they earn 2 points; in Culture Quest, 1 point per team. And finally – a shameless plug for the LDW being held in Mobile, AL March 6-8, 5 points per member attending PLUS a bonus of five points if three or more members participate! The group hosting a standalone LDW or an RG earns 8 points.

You can read all the rules at <https://www.us.mensa.org/recognize/group-awards/local-group-jewels/> Please consider making points in the Jewel Award system a priority this year. Not only do you get a nice frameable certificate and trophy, mention in the Mensa Bulletin, and bragging rights, but your group will surely be stronger and maybe larger by the end of the year!

Nancy Campbell, 704-533-3351 or [RVC5mail@gmail.com](mailto:RVC5mail@gmail.com)

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

Are you being served? What can French Broad Mensa do to please you?

What kind of activities would you like to see FBM host? Do you have any venue suggestions? We would like to find some quiet locations where we can talk and actually hear each other; this seems to get more difficult every year for me.

What kind of topics would you like to see covered in this newsletter? When you see something that interests you, why not send an article of your own, either agreeing, disagreeing, or going in an entirely different direction?

What would you like to see on our website? Have you checked it lately? Webmaster Lizzz has added a “Show and Tell” page, and as much as I have tried to promote this, I haven’t yet submitted something for her to post. You may guess from my photo above what the topic might be.

Please join me in congratulating our fellow member Lisa McDonald, who recently was honored as News 13 WLOS Person of the Week! <https://wlos.com/news/person-of-the-week/person-of-the-week-entrepreneur-rescues-animals-and-is-devoted-to-humanitarian-work>

Sharron Armel, Local Secretary, [SharronArmel@gmail.com](mailto:SharronArmel@gmail.com)



## ***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,*

*What is the safest speed for driving on the Blue Ridge Parkway? If I drive the speed limit I accumulate a string of annoyed drivers behind me, and if I drive faster I'm sure to get a speeding ticket. Is "But officer, I was just trying to keep up with the cars behind me" a valid excuse?*

*Mystified Motorist*

*Dear Mysty,*

*I'd suggest that you sell your car and buy a bicycle. Take it up on the Parkway (not during winter, of course) and crank yourself to death. No more car worries. No speeding tickets. No crossing the double white line felonies, either. If you aren't run off the road into the woods by irate auto drivers who think the roads are for them, you'll end up in better shape with more money in your pocket than you saved by not buying gas and insurance, and a better attitude about your fellow sapiens. Oh yea, I almost forgot... carry a gun, just in case.*

*Gabbie, Citizen of Earth*

**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**February 3, 2020**

The ExComm meeting was held at Creekside Taphouse. Attendees included Sharron Armel, Mark Crossley, Michael Havelin, Grace Lehto, Will McGuffin, and Wayne Stanko.

The March events schedule was planned.

Mark Crossley, our new Testing Coordinator and newest Proctor Trainee, asked questions of the group about our testing program, and talked over some new ideas. Wayne suggested we might want to offer testing on a regular monthly schedule, instead of trying to set up tests only when we get an interested candidate. The \$10 fee we pay for using the library classroom might be a reasonable expense to see if this plan could increase participation. Mark will also follow up with his contacts at UNCA and A-B Tech to see if they could help us publicize the testing opportunities for their students.

We talked about seeking feedback for our newsletter and website, to learn what would appeal to members, and what we might do better.

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 January 2020**

Opening Balance at December 31, 2019.....	\$4,208.59
Receipts:	
Am. MENSA Monthly Subsidy .....	\$127.40
Total Receipts.....	\$127.40
Disbursements:	
Bulk Mail deposit.....	\$50.00
Webmaster's dues .....	79.00
Total Disbursements.....	\$129.00
Closing Balance at January 31, 2020.....	\$4,206.99

Submitted by Wayne Stanko, Treasurer

## ***Trivial Report***

The Whoos were joined by Jim Marks for the first time for Quizzo at Jack of the Wood. Jim played with the FBM team many years ago, at the Mellow Mushroom. He has recently rejoined the group. Jan, Jim, Karen, Sharron, Wayne, and Will played against 11 other teams.

The theme of the first round of questions was *STATE NAMES*.

1. What state holds the first Presidential primary election?
2. The names of Colorado and Tennessee are derived from what physical features?
3. The Evergreen State is named after what President?
4. What letter is not in any state name?
5. Eight states begin with M. Another eight states begin with what letter?
6. Maine's name came from an English word to distinguish it from nearby islands?

Extra: What other state name comes from an Aleut word?

7. What state is named after the Sun King who ruled for 72 years?
8. What state is named after the Choctaw word for red people?
9. What state was originally called Columbia?
10. What state is named after the Indian term for flat river?

### *Answers*

1. New Hampshire; 2. Rivers; 3. Washington (Karen); 4. Q; 5 N;  
Extra: Alaska; 7. Louisiana (Wayne, Sharron); 8. Oklahoma; 9. Oregon;  
10. Nebraska (Wayne).

We got 9 right. Other teams chose to double their scores for this round, so we were in eighth place, 13 points behind the leader.

The theme of the second round was *OSCARS*.

1. What movie won this year's Oscar for Best Picture?
  2. What South African double-amputee was convicted of killing his girlfriend?
  3. Who won an Oscar for writing *Get Out*?
  4. An Oscar given to Edgar Bergen was made out of what material?
  5. What NBA player was Captain of the 1960 Olympic basketball team?
  6. What picture was only the second sequel to win Best Picture?
  7. Tom Hanks won a best actor Oscar for what 1994 movie?
- Extra: Tom Hanks won a best actor Oscar for what 1993 movie?



8. What Canadian piano player won eight Oscars for musical score?
9. What 1993 movie had 12 nominations?
10. Born in Vienna, who played the German Captain in *Inglourious Basterds*?

*Answers*

1. *Parasite*; 2. Oscar Pistorius; 3. Jordan Peele; 4. Wood; 5. Oscar Robertson (Wayne); 6. *Lord of the Rings Return of the King*; 7. *Forrest Gump*; Extra: *Philadelphia* (Wayne); 8. Oscar Peterson (Jim); 9. *Schindler's List* (Sharron); 10. Christoph Waltz.

We only got 6 correct, so we were now in ninth place, 17 points behind.

The third round is always the *SPEED ROUND*. We were given a sheet of questions that we have 5 minutes to answer. We were asked to name the actors that supplied the voices in the following animated movies:

1. Mister Potato Head in all the *Toy Story* movies
2. The teapot in *Beauty and the Beast*
3. Fiona in the *Shrek* movies
4. Po, the title character, in *Kung Fu Panda*
5. Mushu the dragon in *Mulan*
6. The donkey in *Shrek*
7. Princess Anna in *Frozen*
8. Horton in *Horton Hears a Who*
9. Barry the bee in *Bee Movie*
10. Dory in *Finding Nemo*
11. Puss in Boots from *Puss in Boots*
12. Meg Griffen from *Family Guy*

*Answers*

1. Don Rickles; 2. Angela Lansbury (Wayne); 3. Cameron Diaz (Karen); 4. Jack Black (Wayne); 5. Eddie Murphy (Sharron); 6. Eddie Murphy (Sharron); 7. Kristen Bell; 8. Jim Carrey; 9. Jerry Seinfeld (Sharron); 10. Ellen DeGeneris; 11. Antonio Banderas (Wayne); 12. Mila Kunis.

We got only 7 right and were still in ninth place, now down 20 points.

The theme of the final round is always *POTPOURRI*.

1. What was the name of the redhead movie star on *Gilligan's Island*?
2. What is  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{15}$ ?

3. What player succeeded Lou Gehrig for the record of most consecutive games played?
4. What is the current name of the company started as Queensland Aerial Service?
5. William McKinley was in what bloodiest battle of the Civil War?  
Extra: What other future President was in the same battle?
6. What is the name for a long narrow scarf knotted in the front?
7. Who was the only President to be sworn in by a woman?
8. What is a synonym for level, candid, and consecutive?
9. Walter Shelly died on a very hot day during the 1619 meeting of what Virginia assembly?

*Answers*

1. Ginger (Jim); 2. 1; 3. Cal Ripken (Sharron); 4. Qantas; 5. Antietam; Extra: Rutherford B. Hayes; 6. Ascot; 7. Lyndon Johnson (Will, Sharron); 8. Straight; 9. House of Burgesses (Sharron).

We got 7 right, and joked (doubled) our score, but it was too little, too late. This was a game where the topics didn't match our knowledge.

You probably knew some of the answers we missed. How about joining us next month? (Or any month? Or every month?) Our efforts are more about good company than about winning... but if you could help us win, we'd enjoy the evenings even more.



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## **French Broad Mensa Contacts**

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

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

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

### **French Broad Mensa Elected 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**

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

#### **Editor**

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

#### **Webmaster**

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

#### **Testing Coordinator**

Mark Crossley ..... 704-798-3247 ... mcrossley@qualman.com

#### **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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