

CHINOOK

Volume 45, Number 20 The Newsletter of Columbia River Mensa Nov-Dec, 2008

<http://www.crm.us.mensa.org>

ELLENSBURG BRUNCH: The first Saturday at 11:00 am—We're back at Café Nicholas (601 W. University Way, Ellensburg; 925-3544). Ask for the Mensa table or look for the table with the nerds. There will be two upturned wine glasses on the table, but only if I remember to bring them. .

Co-coordinators, Alix Drake-Williams and George Drake. Contact:
EasternCascadesArea@crm.us.mensa.org Regarding share rides: locsec@crm.us.mensa.org.



MONTHLY DINNER MEETING 6:00 p.m. the 4th Saturday of each month:

November: Katya's Bistro & Wine Bar, 430 George Washington Way, Richland
December - Anthony's Restaurant, 550 Columbia Point Drive, Richland
January - Apollo Greek Restaurant, 620 Cullum Ave, Richland
February - Cedars Pier 1, 355 Clover Island Drive, Kennewick

Other suggestions are welcome. Email Mark Mitchell at Locsec@crm.us.mensa.org.



MOVIE NIGHT 6:00 p.m., 3rd Saturday of each month (EXCEPT FOR January 2009)

Tim Dees hosts a monthly movie night [at his home](#). We never know what we're going to watch until everyone gets there. The selection is made from Tim's DVD and TiVo collection, or from DVDs that people bring. Tim provides some beverages and light snacks, and you are welcome to bring something to share. Friendly (sometimes too friendly) dog on the premises, as is a 52-inch LCD TV, surround sound system, and comfy chairs. E-mail tim@timdees.com with questions.

WEBSITE REMINDERS

If you have forgotten where the next meeting will be and have lost your newsletter, don't panic - our website (<http://www.crm.us.mensa.org>) now has all upcoming events shown on the front page.



Publicity Person Leaves

We need a new person to handle our publicity. Alma no longer has the time, but was getting out posters and brochures to all libraries, members, high school and college staff, Hanford businesses, keeping prospect email lists, sending prospect test notices, keeping media email lists, sending media test announcements, etc. The new person can take over her electronic files, or several people could take parts of the task. Without it our testing population is very apt to shrink in the future.



Membership Dues to Increase—As you may have heard, American Mensa’s annual dues will increase to \$59 beginning on Jan. 1, 2009; the cost of multi-year membership plans will also go up. This increase is necessary because of rising costs due to inflation, particularly in the areas of fuel, paper and postage.

However, members can renew on or before Dec. 31, 2008, in order to “lock in” the current membership rates, and I’m letting you know this so that you can get the word out in your newsletter about the upcoming change. Members who wish to renew early can visit www.us.mensa.org/renew or call 888/294-8035 ext. 199 to renew with a 1-year, a 3-year, 5-year or Life Membership.

Heather Spillers
National Groups Coordinator
American Mensa Ltd.
817-607-0060 ext. 5528
heathers@americanmensa.org

Websites – Nominate Your Favorite

Whether you visit them daily, weekly or only periodically, what Web sites can you absolutely, positively not live without?

In early February 2009, American Mensa will release a list of American Mensa's Top 50 Web sites as recommended by Mensa members. Throughout November, you have the opportunity to nominate all the Web sites you find most useful, valuable, intriguing, humorous and, of course, family friendly. Include your email address with your submissions, and you'll have the chance to participate in at least two rounds of voting to narrow down the winners.

More than 150 sites have already been entered, but we need your input to ensure we list only the best! Visit the American Mensa Web site at www.us.mensa.org/Top50Sites this month to submit your top picks.

So far, nominated sites are as diverse as Fantastic Contraption, How Stuff Works, Shorpy, The Onion and Lifehacker. The first selection round will begin in December.

From Julie Boone

American Mensa announces its newest member benefit - a Web-based career center that connects job seekers with prospective employers. Don't get lost on the commercial job boards; American Mensa's CareerLink is tailored just for you. Just visit <http://www.careerlink.us.mensa.org> and get started on your job search!

As a job seeker, you can:

- * Manage your job search
- * Access hundreds of corporate job postings
- * Post an anonymous résumé
- * Be notified by email of new opportunities that match your search criteria
- * Take advantage of career coaching in areas including résumé development, salary negotiation and more
- * Use the free "Ask the Expert" service
- * Access the free library of content offering career advice with topics ranging from interviewing tips to finding the job that best fits you

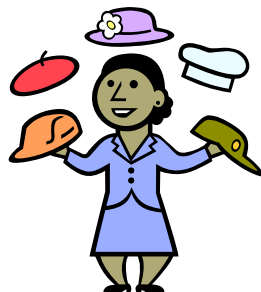
As an employer, you can:

- * Quickly post job openings
- * Manage your online recruiting efforts
- * Take advantage of advanced résumé searching capabilities
- * Reach targeted and qualified candidates
- * Browse résumés for free

Powered by career services leader JobTarget, American Mensa's CareerLink distinguishes itself from generalist job boards in ways including:

- * a highly targeted focus on employment opportunities in certain sectors, locations and demographics;
- * anonymous résumé posting and job application enables seekers to stay connected to the employment market while maintaining full control over their confidential information;
- * access to industry-specific jobs - and top-quality candidates - often not seen on the commercial employment sites.

CareerLink is available to Mensa members and nonmembers alike. However, current members can post résumés and apply for jobs at no charge; they can also post job opportunities at discounted rates.



Support students, teachers and researchers! Donate to the Mensa Foundation at www.mensafoundation.org and click on “Make a Donation.”

Special Promotion for Current and Veteran Service Personnel

With many of our friends and family serving overseas, American Mensa would like to recognize the contributions of our current and veteran armed services with a special promotion. In honor of Veterans Day on November 11, we will be offering free prior evidence review to all current or past military during the month of November. From November 1 - November 30, we will waive the \$40 fee for anyone who submits prior evidence along with a copy of their current military ID or a copy of their DD214 form. American Mensa currently accepts more than 200 tests as prior evidence. To see a list of partial scores, please visit <http://www.us.mensa.org/testscores>.

Do you have questions about this promotion? Please feel free to email me at laurenf@americanmensa.org. Thank you.

Best,

Lauren A. Fernandez
Marketing Coordinator
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E: laurenf@americanmensa.org
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www.us.mensa.org

Colloquium 2009: Weather or Not?

The Colloquium will take place February 27 - March 1, 2009 in Atlanta, Georgia. The programs will explore the past, present and future of climate change and will feature speakers such as The Weather Channel's Dr. Heidi Cullen and Dr. James Hansen of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies.

Visit www.colloquium.us.mensa.org to view the entire program and to register. Regards,

Jill Beckham jillb@americanmensa.org

Foundation Director 817-607-0060 x 5509

American Mensa Ltd. www.us.mensa.org

2009 Colloquium: Weather or Not: The Past, Present and Future of Climate Change, February 27 - March 1, 2009 in Atlanta, GA

(colloq09.us.mensa.org)

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The Election Committee has finalized the 2009 Code of Election Procedures.

The Code will be provided separately to all current nominees and to petition candidates upon approval. It is available on the American Mensa Web site at <http://www.us.mensa.org/election> and will also be published in the January Bulletin.

In accordance with Art. VI, Sec. (4) of the Bylaws of American Mensa, Ltd., nominations for candidacy for office in American Mensa may be made by petition. Each petition must contain the signatures of 50 members of American Mensa in good standing as of December 1, 2008. Petitions must be submitted on official petition forms available on the American Mensa Web site or via the online petition process.

Each petition candidate must submit a completed Acceptance of Nomination form and a completed Candidate Information Form (below). These forms must be received by February 1, 2009. Send completed forms and petitions to Election Committee Chair Deborah Henry at: Deborah Henry, 1182 Wildflower Ln, Maineville, OH 45039. Legible scans of forms may be sent to electionchair@us.mensa.org.

Petition, Candidate Information Forms and Acceptance of Nomination forms may

also be obtained by contacting Howard Prince at the National Office. These documents may be downloaded in PDF format from the American Mensa Web site, or you can start a members-only petition there.

All petition candidates should review the 2009 Code of Election Procedures before beginning the petition process. Any questions regarding the election or the election process should be addressed to Election Chair Deborah Henry (electionchair@us.mensa.org).

All forms, links and information are available online at <http://www.us.mensa.org/election>. Members wishing to sign available online petitions may do so via the same link.

From Howard Prince



Columbia River Mensa Chapter Officer Elections Will Be Held at the December Dinner Meeting

Those wishing to nominate a member for a chapter office (Local Secretary, Asst. LocSec, Treasurer) should contact LocSec Mark Mitchell.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account on December 20, 2007:	\$3558.71
Payments from American Mensa, Dec 2007-Sept 2008	\$946.39
Disbursements (testing expenses) Dec. 2007-Sept. 2008	\$416.97
Balance on September 19, 2008	\$4088.13

The chapter also holds a certificate of deposit valued at \$2419.84 on August 1, 2008. For a more complete accounting or further detail, please contact Tim Dees (tim@timdees.com)

Officer Timeline

Updated October 27, 2008

Reminders Upcoming Events Recruitment Efforts

November 2008

14th - Funding statement sent to treasurers

21st - Funding transferred to Local Group checking

28th - Cut-off for changes (address, officers, or distribution) for monthly mailing in November

28th - Cut-off for newsletters and test session recap forms for funding transferred in November

Special Mailings:

PDQ lists and statistics (all members) will be mailed to LocSecs in the monthly mailing.

LocSecs, Local Scholarship Chairs, RVCs and Regional Scholarship Chairs will receive the scholarship instruction packet.

Miscellaneous:

The National Office will be closed November 27-28th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Don't forget to notify the National Office of any officer changes you have made this month!

New newsletter exchange subscriptions will be entered this month. Your new subscriptions will begin to arrive in January 2009.

December 2008

5th- Monthly mailing to Local Group officers

12th - Funding statement sent to treasurers

15th - Address change deadline for January Bulletin

19th - Funding transferred to Local Group checking

31st - Cut-off for changes (address, officers, or distribution) for monthly mailing in December

31st - Cut-off for newsletters and test session recap forms for funding transferred in December

Special Mailings:

New newsletter exchange labels will be reflected in the monthly group labels.

Local Officer Update Form for the Spring directory will be mailed to the LocSec in the monthly mailing. The form will be due to the National Office on January 2nd. Any forms received after the 2nd will not be included in the directory.

Miscellaneous:

The National Office will be closed on December 25-26th for the Christmas holiday.

Help promote renewals! Please mention renewal season in your Local Group newsletter. Don't forget the dues are increasing, promote early renewal for the current price, deadline to renew using the current dues rate is 11:59 p.m. on December 31st.

Funding for the new newsletter exchange subscriptions takes effect this month.



Northwest Passages

by John Recht
RVC, Region 8
rvc8@us.mensa.org

Ever since I became a member of American Mensa's board of directors I have advocated for improvements in our strategic planning process. Beneficial changes have come about in each of the years I have served, but at the fall meeting of the American Mensa Committee (AMC) we took a giant leap forward with the help of Tecker Consultants.

Over the course of the weekend we reviewed our vision, mission and values, assessed our progress, and refined our goals and strategic objectives. We then practiced developing strategies, setting priorities among the strategies and action planning based on our strategies. What all this is leading to is the implementation of a knowledge based governance strategy that will explicitly incorporate the framework of our strategic plan, and in our meetings it will help us avoid getting bogged down in discussions that do not make much of a contribution to solving the important issues facing American Mensa.

With the help of Mensa members, National Office staff, the Planning Committee and Tecker Consultants, the AMC will continue to refine the strategic planning process over the coming months until we meet again next March. Along the way we will practice our new focus on operating as a strategic board as we have dialogue on the major issues. As always I invite your comments and participation in the process. The Strategic Planning page on the AML web site will be a good place for you to keep tabs on our progress. Look for it in Inside AML under the tab for "AMC & Appointees." There will also be opportunities for discussion in the "Mensa Matters" section of the AML Forums (go to <http://www.community.us.mensa.org/forums/> to find it). And if you wish to write to me directly, I would be delighted to hear from you; please contact me at rvc8@us.mensa.org.

The holidays have begun! On this Thanksgiving I wish to thank you all for being a part of my Mensa family, and I wish you and yours a happy and healthy holiday season.



Dates to Ponder

November

- 11- Veterans' Day
- 11- Washington admitted as the 42nd state in 1889
- 12- Auguste Rodin birth anniversary (1840)
- 17 – Homemade Bread Day
- 18 – Mickey Mouse's "birthday" – *Steamboat Willie* first shown (1928)
- 19 – Lincoln's Gettysburg Address anniversary (1863)
- 20 – Edwin Hubble birth anniversary (1889)
- 21 – Word Hello Day
- 27 – Thanksgiving Day
- 30 – Articles of Peace between the U.S. and Great Britain, ending the War of Independence, signed in Paris (1782)

December

- 2 – Monroe Doctrine anniversary (1823)
- 3 – Dr. Christiann Barnard performed the first successful heart transplant in 1967 at Cape Town, South Africa
- 4 – National Grange Founding (1867)
- 7 – Pearl Harbor Day anniversary (1941)
- 10 – Human rights Day
- 14 – South Pole located and reached by Roald Amundsen in 1911
- 16 – Boston Tea Party anniversary (1773)
- 21 – Chanukah
- 17- Wright Brothers achieved first documented successful airplane flight (1903)
- 25 – Christmas Day

Local Officers			
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Local Areas			
Eastern Cascades	Alix Drake-Williams George Drake	(509) 933-3117	EasternCascades@crm.us.mensa.org
Far North	Frances Rios		FarNorthArea@crm.us.mensa.org
All opinions herein are those of the authors and not those of Columbia River Mensa or of American Mensa Ltd. Mensa as an organization has no opinions.			