Northern Nevada Mensa
Volume 35, Issue 11, November 2011

NEVA-MIND



Wild West, Reno Style!

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Cover Credits: *Bill Kositzky*



Cover photo of Anne Stewart at the 2011 RG by Bill Kositzky. "Thanks to Anne Stewart for posing so nicely for this fun photo and thanks especially for all her hard work, artistic contributions, enthusiasm and cheerful involvement in so much of the processes which went into our successful RGs." — Bill

A Note From the Editor



by Anna Wright

Let me start with an apology. When the last edition went to print, I had thought that we would be sending calendar updates to everyone in the mail. It turned out that it wasn't quite feasible to do. So, everyone received (or should have received) an actual copy of the *Neva-Mind*. That will happen again in December when we insert your local ExComm ballots.

We had rip-roaring fun at the "Wild West, Reno Style" regional gathering in October. We hosted attendees from many states and Canada too. Our speakers were awesome and our dinner show is still the best in the West!

Next July we will host the entire American Mensa at the 2012 Annual Gathering: "The End of Time." Please make sure to register on the national web-site http://www.us.mensa.org, and choose from the "Attend" menu. Something this grand and this close to you only happens once! Don't miss it.

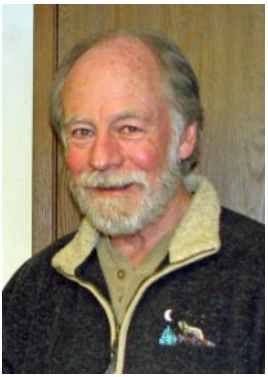
Lastly, wherever you are, please enjoy the last vestiges of fall. We have such a lovely, long autumn season in Nevada. Make yours the best. ■



"You can't wring your hands and roll up your sleeves at the same time."

Pat Schroeder

From the LocSec



by Bob McAllister

It seems not too long ago that people were telling us, “Take it from us. Our experience is — don’t bother with trying to do an RG. It’s a thankless job. No one will help. You’ll get stuck by yourself. It’ll never get off the ground.”

Now we have four under our belt and an AG pending. At our last RG, I overheard a person not from here, but who I know to be quite knowledgeable about RGs exclaim, ”I’ve been to lots of RGs and Reno puts on the best by far!” So much for don’t bother.

Northern Nevada seems to have been making some appreciable history of sorts.

The notion of our local history strikes a note with me. In the six years that I’ve been our LocSec, I’ve seen some significant changes occur. It would smack of hubris though, if I were to imply that “now’” is the only time that anything has been going on. In those six years I’ve come across other former LocSecs who were very pleasant people with whom to speak. They all seemed to have had experiences that bespoke of good times in our chapter: Lena Green, Sam Kumar, Bryan Underdahl, Ed Hanley. The thought occurred to me that the time won’t be far off when people might say, “Hanley? Kisenwether? Kositzky? MacGregor? Wright? Never heard of them.”

So, I’ve asked our good editor, Anna Wright, to leave a regular, allocated space for a newsletter section entitled “The History Corner.” And I would ask anyone who has memories that they might like to share about our un-archived past to pass them on. Even something as simple as, “We used to — blank — and it would be nice to revisit that.”

Giving past occurrences a short shrift in deference to now wouldn’t be fair, merely illusory.

Speaking of illusions, I had submitted the below optical illusion in a long ago column. The point was that in criminal abatement, the emotional impact of a convincing eyewitness account from a person of unarguable reliability often carries more weight than does hard evidence — which isn’t always available, but which is often more incontrovertible.

Akira Kurosawa’s 1950 crime mystery film *Roshomon* showed this anomaly quite well.

(Continued on page 7)

Happy Birthday!

November

Birthstone: Topaz, Citrine

Flower: Chrysanthemum

Astrological Signs:

Scorpio:

October 23 - November 21

Sagittarius:

November 22 - December 21



1	**Michael Shore**	Dayton
6	**Nathaniel Burkett**	Washoe Valley
11	**Patrick Wright**	Sparks
12	**Travis McCord**	Reno
13	**Anna Wright**	Fallon
14	**Frank Riley**	South Lake Tahoe
18	**Diana Carter**	Reno
18	**Maurice Pollack**	Reno
19	**Melanie Supersano**	Reno
20	**Richard Arbib**	Reno
21	**Dr. Bradley Pastro**	Carson City
21	**Keith Winchester**	Carson City
22	**Arthur Chenin**	Reno
22	**Andrew Sadler**	Carson City
30	**Govi Hines**	Sparks



Welcome!

And Welcome Back!

Stephen Dumolt, Carson City,
Joseph Henningsen, Reno,
Candice Oneida, Ravendale,
Leslie Williamson, Gardnerville,
Milly White, Reno.

Wild West, Reno Style!

by Ken Wright



Greetings RG Crew and Local attendees,

Our 4th Reno Regional Gathering was successful and should return a profit (final bill not reviewed as of this writing). As always there will be a discussion with the hotel about what is owed.

We enjoyed the company of 164 attendees from 12 states and Canada and received compliments from our most experienced guests on how well run the RG was, thanks to the volunteer crew who handled whatever came up like it was planned that way. The true measure of success in handling the inevitable problems which will occur at a gathering is for your guests to never know that there was a glitch.

My fear in issuing thanks to the Gatherings Crew is that I might accidentally omit a name and that would be awful.

Our wonderful gatherings would not have been possible without the year long efforts of Anna Wright and Anne Stewart who worked behind the scenes to create the support system for the RG. The files, records, documents and reports I needed were sometimes pulled from thin air. Anna has been both the online and on site Registrar for all four years. Anne produces the beautiful Program Book that rivals AG publications in depth and quality. Anne and AnneMarie McTaggart were our Mensa Admission Test proctors this year.

Along with Mindy Hsu they were my sounding board for ideas and the keepers of the knowledge of what was happening all year long. Mindy also worked all year as an information source for crew and speakers, learned the RG Chairman duties, proctored tests and is now our webmistress.

Our Hospitality Chairs Don and Laura MacGregor went from helping out in Hospitality last year to running it this year. This job has a slow build up as you purchase and prepare for the RG, but goes straight into crazy mode on opening Friday when demand exceeds reality. Joining the Hospitality crew was a gentleman who always stays in the background but isn't afraid to help, Tim Sullivan. From over the Hill in Berkeley, CA my friend Eric Eichorn rode in, rolled up his sleeves and tackled every job he could find. Marilyn Page returns each year to help out in Hospitality, just because she likes us, go figure!

Our Games Guru, Joe Kisenwether, received many compliments on the selection he brought and set up for all to enjoy. Texas Hold'em Tournament Master Howard Beckerman stepped up numerous times for whatever job was asked of him.

Thanks to Entertainment Chair Chelsea Chen for yet another fine show and the performers of Asha, Reno Taiko, Dragonfly Aerials and Bohemian Burlesque who give so generously to us each year.

Some people worked in Hospitality, Registration and assisted Speaker Shepherds Chair, Dr. Gerry Lockhart, so that I saw them in multiple places: Mark Pipes, Becky Sharp Smith, Loren MacArthur, Bob McAllister, Mary McAllister, Ashley Redding, Patrick Wright who also served as our Beermeister this year, Julie Kriss, Dwayne Palos, Bill Kositzky, Donna Swirzcek, John Preisach, Barbara Day, Richard Arbib, Arthur Chenin, John Recht and Linda Roach, and some person in a banana suit that shall live on in our memories forever. You know that when a banana stamps your bandana you have arrived.

Thanks also to Dr. Bob and Cookie Bakke who pitched in upon arrival after having to explain the body in the bag to TSA in Las Vegas. Doesn't everyone travel with a skeleton in their luggage?

Thanks to everyone for contributing to the success of the event.

Ken

(LocSec continued from page 4)

In the spirit of appreciating the wide variety of optical illusions, I'd suggest a visit to these URLs and enjoy how your eyes can be tricked. I believe this illusion was created by Phillippe G. Schyns and Aude Oliva of the University of Glasgow.

First view it close up. Then either step back ten or fifteen feet or squint at the picture. Two "eye witnesses" from different distances could convincingly testify in court that each other is absolutely wrong.

http://neave.com/strobe/

http://www.michaelbach.de/ot/fcs_SpatFreqComposites/index.html



Wild West, Reno Style!





















Photos by Richard Arbib, Bill Kositzky, and Mark Pipes. Thanks!







by Travis McCord

Birthday Scavenger Hunt

A little quirk about my family: me, my sister and her husband all have birthdays in November. Now, going by our zodiac sign that should mean we settle disputes by sending legions of assassins after one another, but fortunately things haven't descended quite to that level. (Yet.)

Of course, like a lot of people we've all checked to see the various rogues' galleries we share our birthdays with as well as the events that happened on those dates. So in an effort to both put together a decent puzzle and possibly confuse the hell out of myself, I'm putting together a combination logic and trivia puzzle. Your task, should you choose to give it a shot, is to determine the dates and a few of the people and events referenced:

1. To start with, two of the days are consecutive while the third is a week off.

2. My sister has an office job, which means she gets her birthday off. She shares it with the guy who said “We need to go deeper” some years after he went way too deep.

3. My brother-in-law you'd think I wouldn't get along with, what with bugging my sister with the song “Born Too Slow.” But, like the guy he shares a birthday with, he gets along famously with everybody he meets. (Or, famously gets along)

4. My birthday is the later one. Going by others with that birthday, you'd think I'd be more into sports, whether whacking the most homers for the Cubs or whacking knees (well, having them whacked) before the Olympics.

5. Back to my sister, if you can handle this quiz getting unstuck in time (as the author she shares her birthday with can)... it's somewhat odd that she's not more into WWII games. Then again, I have yet to see one with a slap-the-shell-shocked-private mini-game.

6. Brother-in-law: at least he's kept the same name throughout his life, unlike the record producer and rapper he shares a birthday with. Of course, he's not making a band... then again, maybe that's just a failure to launch. (I won't say his name, except to say he's not Marshall.)



7. And mine: I may not be a princess — either in Hitchcock movies or about to be a cat... but I keep on rockin' in the free world. Of course, going by the most infamous guy to share my birthday, you'd think I'd want a large “family”…

8. If my brother-in-law parties too hard, at least it's considered OK to wear a mask the next day to stay Anonymous. (Note to editor: that's capitalized for a reason.) Then again, the government agency founded on that day probably could identify him anyway, not that they'd tell.

9. Two of the actresses my sister shares her birthday with are known for their figures: one was famously “enhanced” and shown off in a bad movie. (Unlike her, though, there isn't a huge age difference between my sister and her husband.) The other is famous for the way-too-thin figure — really, a lawyer shouldn't be that skinny if she's in the show's title.

10. And mine: on one of my birthdays a guy became an emperor while another laid the foundation for a miracle of communication. (Not the guy who also signed an environmental agreement on this date, despite what his critics say he said.)

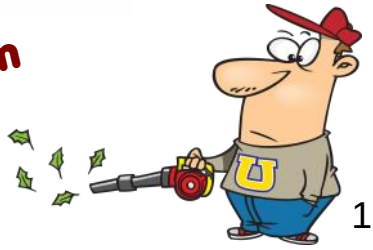
(Many, many thanks to the “Font of All Human Knowledge,” aka Wikipedia, for help with this one.) ■

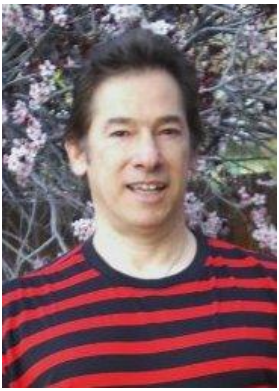
Answers on page 22.



Notes from Your ExComm

- Because of the Regional Gathering, the ExComm did not meet in October.





Program Listing

by Richard Arbib

November Monthly Meeting

Saturday, November 12

Time: Arrive after 6 p.m. for potluck dinner. Bring a dish to share.

Speaker: Local Mensa member, Carole Preisach, will speak. "What we are doing is a presentation about Motorist Awareness and Sharing the Road with Motorcyclists. This is a presentation which we do under the auspices of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) to help educate the general non-motorcycling public about the intricacies of riding a motorcycle and the special hazard which exists when motorists in other vehicles either 1) don't see us; 2) cannot estimate our speed of travel; 3) don't understand why we take up a whole lane of travel while riding; 4) don't know that some of us actually ride thousands of miles 'cross country on motorcycles because we enjoy doing so; or 5) don't feel like they should share the road with us for one reason or another."

Hosts: Bob & Mary McAllister

Location: 350 Old Washoe Circle, Washoe Valley

Phone: (775) 849-2269

Directions:

From the intersection of Highways 395 & 431 (Mt. Rose Hwy.) — the traffic light, go South 7.1 miles. down into Washoe Valley on Hwy. 395 (after passing the East Lake turn-off).

When the cement highway divide ends/disappears, make an immediate left turn toward Dry Creek Garden Company.) (Coming from south on Hwy. 395 in Washoe Valley — approximately 100 yards north of the Old 395 Station, turn right into Old Washoe Estates.)

Drive into Old Washoe Estates. At the gate, key in #9467. The neighborhood consists of a traffic circle with four tributary spokes. The traffic circle is called Old Washoe Circle. The south-east spoke is called Wild Life Way. 350 Old Washoe Circle is at the juncture with Wild Life Way.

Two story house. Grey with white trim. Lots of parking space.

December Monthly Meeting

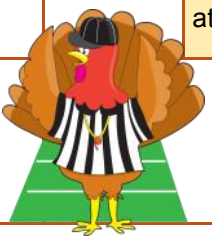
Saturday, December 17

A Christmas party and potluck dinner at the home of Annemarie McTaggart will include her musical performance on harpsichord and piano.

November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Daylight Saving Time ends on November 6; "fall back" one hour.		1	2	3	4	5 Game Night at Joe's
6 	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans' Day	12 Mensa Meeting
13	14	15 Supper Club 	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Lunch Bunch	23	24 Thanks-giving	25	26 Islamic New Year
27	28	29	30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3 Game Night at Joe's

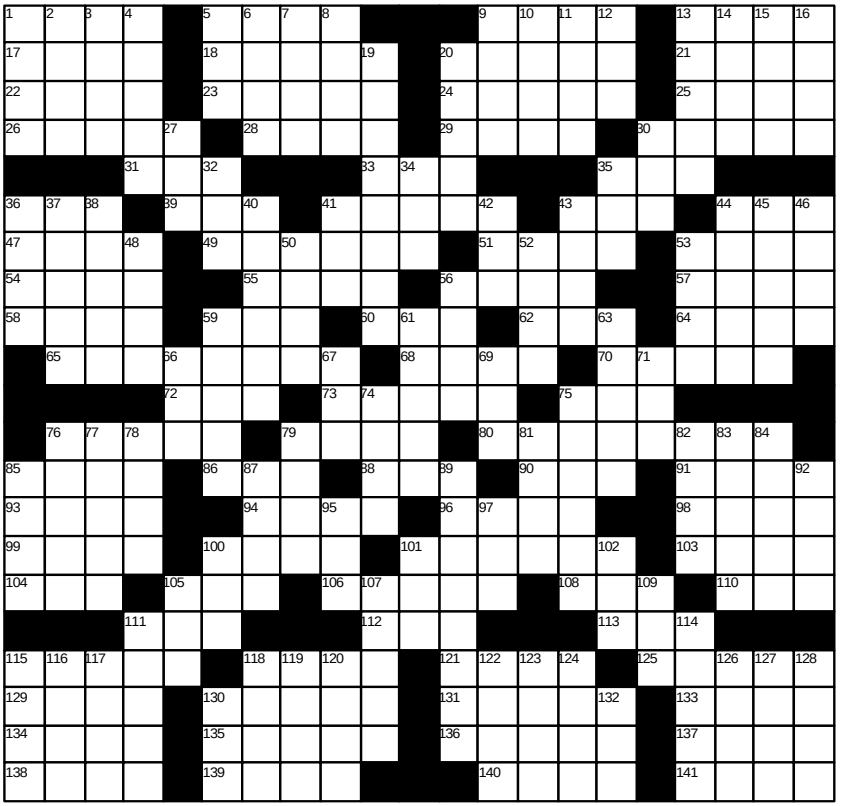
Game Night at Joe's Place: Saturday Nov 5. Potluck. 4:30 until 8:30 p.m. 1047 Table Mountain Court, Sparks. Contact: Joe (775) 338-6521 or joe_kisenwether@hotmail.com.



Lunch Bunch (11:45 a.m.):
November 22: We'll meet at the same time but this month we'll travel to the Wigwam, 225 W. Main in Fernley. Contact Don or Laura at 826-5904.

Supper Club (6 p.m.):
November 15: Yay! Road trip to Carson City! Red's Old 395 Grill, 1055 S. Carson Street. Contact Anne: maytheroad@gmail.com

"World at War" *by Anna M. Wright and dedicated to our most senior veterans (Thank You.)*



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ACROSS

1 ★Follower of 18-a
5 Foal's mom
9 Zilch
13 Parent night organizers
17 Tied
18 ★Companion of 86-a
20 Floral leaf
21 European monetary unit
22 Ripped up
23 Outmoded
24 Squirm
25 Upon restful furniture
26 ★With Juno and Gold
28 See
29 ★Also with Juno and Gold
30 Make flatter
31 ★Explosive used in MK grenades
33 Container top
35 He sang "Daisy" in a Sci-Fi flick
36 Wing
39 Place
41 ★With 7-d, the soft voice of treason
43 ★With 131-a
44 Venice Beach showoffs
47 ★With 130-a, prewar U.S. assistance policy
49 Volcanic stone
51 Dairy product
53 Factual
54 Labyrinth
55 ★Disastrous fate of U.S.S. Arizona
56 Healing plant
57 Leer at
58 ★Continent where Doolittle's raiders crashed
59 Snake like fish
60 Jazz instrument
62 Alias
64 Runs
65 ★City of 13-d
68 Energy
70 Cut of beef
72 Male sheep
73 Popular condiment
75 Dove call
76 ★One of 34-d's first military ranks
79 Docile
80 ★Invasion June 6, 1944
85 Icy
86 ★__ Anna Paula Braun
88 Goof
90 __ de deux
91 Spoken
93 Realm
94 Sports channel
96 City in Yemen

 Answers on page 23.

98 Persona
99 Vigorous
100 ★Lost on Dec 7, 1941; retaken on Sept. 4, 1945
101 Dresses
103 Speck
104 ★Commander in Chief after FDR
105 Grease
106 ★Hero Murphy
108 Take to court
110 Golfer's goal
111 ★U.S. Navy personnel transport
112 ★ "Never have so few..."
113 ★Gen. MacArthur's arena
115 ★Women accepted for volunteer emergency service
118 Homey
121 ★Iwo Jima or Guam
125 Alpha's opposite
129 Fired
130 ★With 47-a
131 ★With 43-a, bearer of the "Little Boy"
133 Affirm
134 Horsefly
135 Redeems
136 Dawdle
137 Pilot's steering mechanism
138 Dried-up
139 Removes the water
140 Popular TV show
141 Pretentious

DOWN

1 Meshes
2 Assert
3 ★Japanese fighter plane
4 Un-reactive
5 Chart
6 Eden dweller
7 ★With 41-a
8 Otherwise
9 Salamander
10 Capital of Western Samoa
11 Punctuation mark
12 Pilot's concern
13 ★Dec 7, 1941 (Harbor)
14 ★London hideout
15 God of war
16 Turfs
19 Tufts of hair above hooves
20 Learn
27 Cell stuff
30 Remit
32 Slope
34 ★General who "We like."
35 Straw
36 __ mater
37 Collar attachment
38 ★Invasion January 24, 1944
40 Artifact show place
41 Can metal
42 Night bird
43 Nerd
44 Element 18
45 ★Battle December 16, 1944
46 Perceives
48 College VIP
50 Shopping center
52 Frost
53 ★The emperor
56 ★Italy, Germany, and Japan
59 Excite
61 More talented
63 ★They're split by "Little Boy"
66 Lode yield
67 ★One of the Allies
69 Bolted
71 Snake
74 Prayer ending
75 Prank calls
76 ★Marine's unit
77 ★State of cautious awareness
78 ★Coded date for 80-a
79 Job
81 Oil cartel
82 Usual
83 Slouch
84 ★Argonaut Conference: February 4, 1945
85 Money
87 Tender beef
89 Made hard to find
92 Eye
95 Pod vegetable
97 John or Jane
100 Intelligence
101 A fed. office
102 Eat
105 ★Now called CIA
107 Goads
109 ★Gen. Bradley's arena
111 Ridge
114 ★Another with Juno and Gold
115 ★"My best soldiers," Gen D. MacArthur
116 Shaft
117 Swerve
118 Scorch
119 ★Under command of Adm. Ernest King
120 Wields
122 Hang-up
123 Lounge
124 Women's magazine
126 Always
127 Money (German)
128 ★Under command of "Old Blood and Guts"
130 Hallucinogen
132 Sailor's yes





From the RVC

by Debra Reiger

First, I need to correct a misstatement from my last column. I said that Velma Jeremiah, winner of a prestigious Mensa award, had moved out of Region 8. I'm pleased to say that I was misinformed and that Velma is still a Region 8 member, still living in the great Pacific Northwest. Sorry for my mistake, Velma!

Here's a way that you can help other Mensa members if you hear from someone that he/she is puzzled about not having received a printed newsletter: please encourage that person to contact Mensa's National Office (1-800-66MENSA) or talk to the local newsletter editor. The default delivery of local newsletters has now been switched to electronic (rather than printed) and I suspect that this will catch a few people by surprise, despite attempts to publicize the change. All that is needed is to make sure that the National Office knows what a member's preference is. If you are reading this, you obviously got your newsletter in some format, but some people may not know why theirs have gone missing. You can help.

Northern Nevada Mensa just held its annual Regional Gathering (RG) in Reno, Nevada. It was fun, as always, and I continue to be impressed with the exceptionally good lodging and convenient free parking at the RG hotel, the Silver Legacy. This is the site for our 2012 Annual Gathering (AG), and it seems like a very good fit for American Mensa. The 2012 AG site features lots of hotel rooms and plenty of good meeting space; the program team already has arranged for lots of excellent speakers and entertainers, and is working on more. I am working on the Leadership Development track (please let me know if there are leadership topics you would like to hear). This is a good time for you to sign up; the registration rate goes up after the end of the year.

Have a great month, everyone. And I hope you will remember the less fortunate as winter sets in. There are many who will greatly benefit from your gently used blankets, clothing, and sleeping bags. And donations of food and beverages to your local food closet will also help people get through the upcoming difficult winter.



Best regards,
Debra Reiger, RVC 8

A 2011 VETERAN'S DAY SALUTE TO ALL

by Ken Wright

We must not forget why we are still free to celebrate these special occasions. Thanks to our citizens who have served their country in the Armed Forces and those who are doing so right now. Thank you to the families and loved ones of our veterans who have to endure the fears and doubts of their service.

Because of the sacrifices of veterans throughout the history of our nation, we can celebrate our personal freedoms and not fear the "knock on the door " in the middle of the night, like so many did in the World Wars parts I & II, when the "bad guys" came to the houses of so many in Europe and took loved ones away, many to never be seen again.

It has never been easy to be a "soldier" (meaning any branch of military service; Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, the Merchant Marines). They ALL served and died for freedom.

Ask the men of the American Revolution who gave up all of their wealth, possessions, and very lives, not for a paycheck or personal glory, but to ensure freedom for the future generations.

In the Civil War, or War between the States, (believe me, there is nothing "Civil" about war), members of the same family fought against each other and friends because of the belief that they had to, in order to preserve what they felt was right and necessary, and to protect their family.



World War I, "The Great War," "The War to End All Wars," was about protecting Freedom and Liberty for All, and many died on foreign soil to defend those ideals, and to make sure that those loved ones at home would stay free.

World War II was supposed to be "A War to End Tyranny," to stop, and put an end to, monsters who would destroy democracy and everything that existed "different" from their own ideals, including entire races of people. We tried to stay out of this "conflict" of European powers and basically hide our heads in the sand, until we were slapped back into the cold light of reality by the Japanese on the 7th of December 1941, when we paid the price of American lives for our "separatism and nonchalance" with our rude entry into this war. We were warned that it would happen by our veteran military leaders, but the politicians chose to ignore them.

We lost men and women both during and after the shooting stopped. It had finally become an accepted reality and not a "sign of weakness of character," that veterans continued to suffer the pains and horrors of war, long after they returned home, and for some, the nightmares would never go away. But, when asked if

(Continued on page 18)

(Veterans continued from page 17)
they would do it again, the overwhelming majority replied that they would "answer the call" anytime they were needed to keep Americans free.

The Korean "War" ushered in a new twist to service to God and Country: the "Undeclared War," or the "Forgotten War." It was called a conflict, not a war. I'm here to tell you that it does not change the results of a bullet hitting a body one bit, call it whatever you want, to play the political word games that came about during these times; but don't tell the veterans of Korean Service, or the surviving family members of a fallen soldier that "It was just a conflict, not a war." They served to keep us free and we still are... we will not forget.

"Vietnam-era veterans," as they are referred to these days, (I guess the powers that be are still trying to deny it ever happened) once again in an "Undeclared War," or "Police Action," as they were so fond of calling it from the safety of Capitol Hill. I can tell you personally, IT WAS A WAR! and for many, it is still being fought in their nightmares.

Never, to my knowledge, has any group of veterans been subjected to such abuse, ridicule, and derision by the people they were serving: the anti-war protests and media blasting, and the lack of support and the jeers and insults upon returning from a slimy green Hell to the place that you dreamed was "sanctuary" and would bring peace and wholeness to your soul once more. What you found was: there was no parade, no hero's welcome, no Thank You for sacrificing the sanity and well being of your body so that others could remain free. Regardless of the politics and awful realities behind why wars are really fought, these children, not yet old enough to buy a beer; fought and died thinking that they were protecting America.

Those that came home alive were called "baby killers" and "murderers" and found out that their jobs had been given to "draft dodgers" who went to Canada and were rewarded by the "Amnesty" program, designed to "heal the wounds" of the divided country... but NOT the for the veterans.

What about the "wounds" of those who served their country? Don't they count? It was obvious that they didn't, they were just the by-product of war, the "How much are they going to cost tax payers now?" group. These were veterans who did what they were asked to do and would still "answer the call."

The Gulf War, Desert Storm, catchy political names for enhanced media coverage and designed to improve ratings on the television... The *Sadam News Network* (CNN) interviewing the head bad guy on prime time TV. This circus was still WAR and Americans died fighting as ordered, far from home. Not because they wanted to, or necessarily gave a rip which "sand dwelling tribe" rode the camel, but because their Commander in Chief said that they must defend



Freedom, here and now. And, American men and women stepped up to be counted, as veterans have done throughout our history; not questioning why doing their duty was necessary, just doing it and trusting that it was right.

If there is anything good that came from the Vietnam War period, it was learning to hate the war and not the warrior. No longer do people spit on soldiers and call them names. No longer do their families have to fear being identified and attacked by anti-war activists. The badge of honor of service to country has been recognized, and rightly so.



Since the original writing of this piece we have entered two more wars, that being Iraq and Afghanistan. I will not glorify them with their catchy prime-time names. I also will not go into the politics behind these wars, as my intention is to thank the veterans and their families for their sacrifice and service. Regardless of the legitimacy or reason, our young men and women have answered the call to duty and given their all, and continue to do so today.

I would call upon every citizen to recognize and respect the men and women who serve and return to us, and pledge to fight for the care that is due to our veterans and never forget what they have given so that we may be free. Taking care of our veterans is not a political chess piece, or a budget item to be swept off the table; it is an obligation and a responsibility that we owe. Never forget that.

WAR SUCKS!

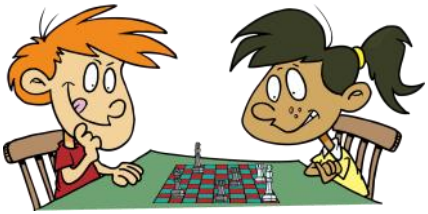
And you are still free to say that, aren't you? It isn't that way in many, many countries around the globe where our service people are sent to serve the cause of peace. Remember why you still are able to dissent and disagree without fear and thank a veteran today.

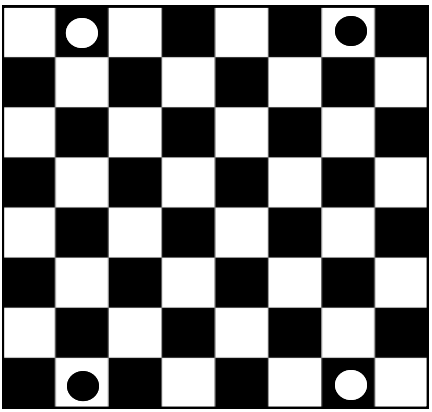
I thank those who serve, for keeping our nation safe and giving of themselves for our good. May we stop making new veterans and find the way to peace. ■



Mensa for Kids!

(and kids at heart) by Maurice Pollack and Anna Wright





Most everyone knows that knights (in the daytime) rescue damsels from the clutches of dragons. But, what do the knights do at night?

They go to a chess board, and jump around so that they land on every square.



Geronimo wonders if you can find such a path.

At the beginning of the game, a chessboard contains four knights which occupy the four marked positions. The knight can move two squares horizontally then one square vertically, or one square horizontally then two squares vertically. Its move is not blocked by other pieces: it jumps to the new location.

This problem has actually been around for a long time. It is called the Knight's Tour. You may start at any position on the chessboard (You do not have to start at the marked places.) But, use only one knight to create your path.

Your knight must eventually land on every square but not land on the same square twice.

Do you love a flash mob? At Copenhagen Central Station they play music!
http://www.flixxy.com/symphony-flash-mob-copenhagen-central-station.htm

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Check out this youtube animated video for a cool optical illusion that you won't believe!

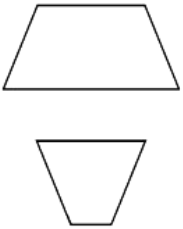
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvvcRdwNhGM&feature=player_embedded

And, here's a 3-d optical illusion that you can build yourself!

http://youtu.be/5xlVUG8qrWM

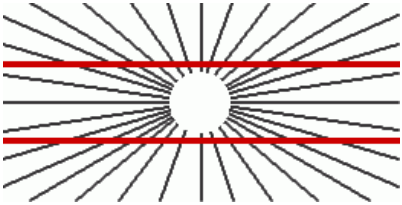
Optical illusions are interesting and fun. Each of the ones on the Graffiti Wall has the quality of distortion. They either change the shape, size or alignment of what you see. The distortions that you perceive are due to the other distracters in the picture. Your mind tries to adjust to compensate. No answers will be given. Measure for yourself!

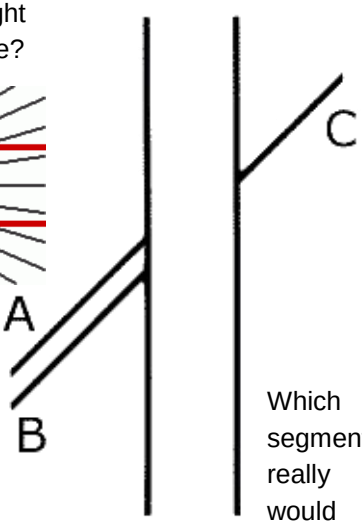
Graffiti Wall



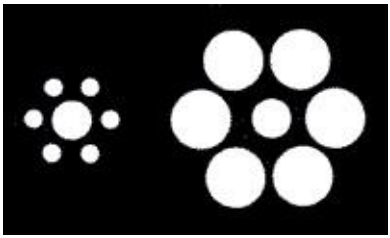
Which of these trapezoids has the longer top?

Are the horizontal lines straight or do they bulge in the middle?

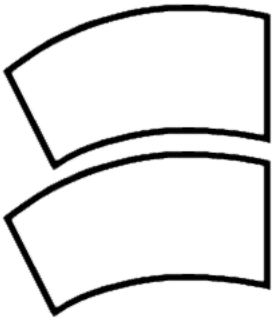




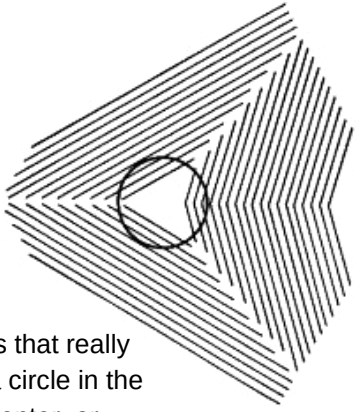
Which segment really would connect to C?



Which center circle is larger?

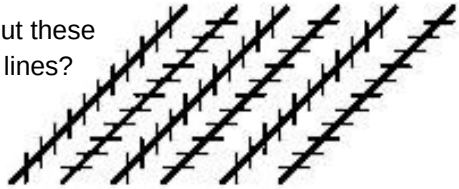


Which of these arcs is longer on top?

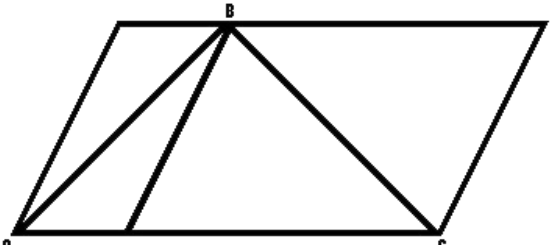


Is that really a circle in the center, or something else?

How about these diagonal lines? Are they parallel?







Which segment is longer, AB or BC ?

The Birthdays answers:

- If my sister always gets her birthday off (2), it must be a fixed holiday. The only one of those is Veteran's Day/Armistice Day, the 11th.
- Going by (3), my brother-in-law's birthday is earlier.
- (8) is sort of a trick. One of the symbols of the "hacktivist" group, Anonymous, is the Guy Fawkes mask. Since his day is the 5th and (8) says his birthday is the day before, it must be the 4th.
- Going by (4), my birthday's the latest of the group and (1) says two are adjacent. It has to be the 12th.

As for the births and events:

2. Leonardo di Caprio (*Inception*, *Titanic*) Nov. 11, 1974.
3. Will Rogers, Nov. 4, 1879.
4. Baseball player Sammy Sosa, Nov. 12, 1968 and infamous skater Tonya Harding, Nov. 12, 1970.
5. Author Kurt Vonnegut (*Slaughterhouse-Five*) Nov. 11, 1922 and General George S. Patton, Nov. 11, 1885.
6. Producer/rapper Sean Combs, aka P. Diddy, Diddy; Puffy, Puff Daddy; *et cetera*, *et cetera*... Nov. 4, 1969 and actor Matthew McConaughey (*Failure to Launch*, *We Are Marshall*) same day.
7. Actress and Princess of Monaco Grace Kelly, Nov. 12, 1929; actress Anne Hathaway (*The Princess Diaries*, *Catwoman* in the next *Batman* film) Nov. 12, 1982; singer Neil Young ("Rockin' in the Free World") Nov. 12, 1945; and murderer and cult leader Charles Manson, Nov. 12, 1934.
8. National Security Agency established, Nov. 4, 1952.
9. Actress Demi Moore (*Striptease*) Nov. 11, 1962 and actress Calista Flockhart (*Ally McBeal*) Nov. 11, 1964.
10. Akihito became Emperor of Japan, Nov. 12, 1990; Tim Berners-Lee published a formal proposal for the World Wide Web, same date; and Al Gore signed the Kyoto Protocol, Nov. 12, 1998.

All dates from Wikipedia.

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Mensa-Speak *What are we saying?*

AG	Annual Gathering (Conference)
AMC	American Mensa Committee (National Elected or Appointed Officers)
AML	American Mensa Ltd. (National Office Employees)
ExComm	Executive Committee (Local Elected Officers)
LDW	Leadership Development Workshop
LocSec	Local Secretary (Local President)
M/Ms	Mensans
MERF	Mensa Education & Research Foundation
MIL	Mensa International Ltd.
NNM	Northern Nevada Mensa
PRP	Publication Recognition Program
RG	Regional Gathering (Conference)
RVC	Regional Vice-Chair
SIG	Special Interest Group
SIGHT	Service of Information, Guidance and Hospitality to Travelers
WG	World Gathering (Conference)



"World at War" answers:

1 N	2 A	3 Z	4 I	■	5 M	6 A	7 R	8 E	■	■	■	9 N	10 A	11 D	12 A	■
13 P	14 T	15 A	16 S													
17 E	V	E	N	■	18 A	D	O	L	19 F	■	20 S	E	P	A	L	■
21 E	U	R	O													
22 T	O	R	E	■	23 P	A	S	S	E	■	24 T	W	I	S	T	■
25 A	B	E	D													
26 S	W	O	R	27 D	■	28 M	E	E	T	■	29 U	T	A	H	■	30 P
R	E	S	S													
■	■	■	31 T	N	32 T	■	■	■	33 L	34 I	D	■	■	■	35 H	A
L	■	■	■													
36 A	37 L	38 A	■	39 A	I	40 M	■	41 T	O	K	Y	42 O	■	43 G	A	Y
■	44 A	45 B	46 S													
47 L	E	N	D	■	49 P	U	50 M	I	C	E	■	51 W	52 H	E	Y	■
53 T	R	U	E													
54 M	A	Z	E	■	■	55 S	A	N	K	■	56 A	L	O	E	■	■
57 O	G	L	E													
58 A	S	I	A	■	59 E	E	L	■	60 S	A	X	■	62 A	K	A	■
64 J	O	G	S													
■	65 H	O	N	66 O	L	U	L	67 U	■	68 B	I	R	R	■	70 T	71 B
O	N	E	■													
■	■	■	■	72 R	A	M	■	73 S	74 A	L	S	A	■	75 C	O	O
■	■	■	■													
■	76 C	77 A	78 D	E	T	■	79 T	A	M	E	■	80 N	81 O	R	M	A
82 N	83 D	84 Y	■													
85 C	O	L	D	■	86 E	87 V	A	■	88 E	R	89 R	■	90 P	A	S	■
91 O	R	A	92 L													
93 A	R	E	A	■	■	94 E	S	95 P	N	■	96 A	97 D	E	N	■	■
98 R	O	L	E													
99 S	P	R	Y	■	100 W	A	K	E	■	101 F	R	O	C	K	102 S	■
103 M	O	T	E													
104 H	S	T	■	105 O	I	L	■	106 A	107 U	D	I	E	■	108 S	U	109 E
■	110 P	A	R													
■	■	■	111 L	S	T	■	■	■	112 R	A	F	■	■	■	113 P	T
114 O	■	■	■													
115 W	116 A	117 V	E	S	■	118 S	119 N	120 U	G	■	121 I	S	122 L	123 E	124 E	■
125 O	M	E	126 G	127 A	128 R											
129 A	X	E	D	■	130 L	E	A	S	E	■	131 E	N	O	L	132 A	■
133 A	V	E	R													
134 C	L	E	G	■	135 S	A	V	E	S	■	136 D	A	L	L	Y	■
137 H	E	L	M													
138 S	E	R	E	■	139 D	R	Y	S	■	■	■	140 G	L	E	E	■
141 A	R	T	Y													



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