NEVA-MIND

Northern Nevada Mensa
Volume 35, Issue 10, October 2011



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HISTORIAN
Volunteer needed

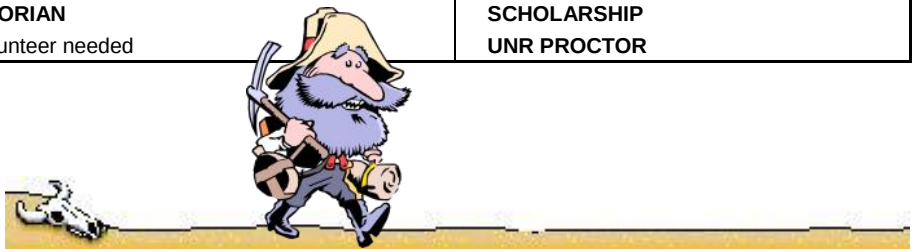
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Volunteers Needed:
TEST PROCTORS
S.I.G.H.T. COORDINATOR
RECRUITMENT
MEMBERSHIP
SCHOLARSHIP
UNR PROCTOR



Cover Credits: *Bill Kositzky*



Photographer Bill Kositzky and camp mate, Tickles. 65 Mensa members camped this year in the Burning Man Mensa camp.

Cover:
Burning Man 2011 honorarium art project *Exsuscitare Traiectus* created by Orion Fredericks. (PS: The photo behind the title font on the cover is also a Bill Kositzky creation of the playa.)

Readers interested in learning more about Burning Man or the art and artists mentioned are invited to start at http://burningman.com

A Note From the Editor

by Anna Wright



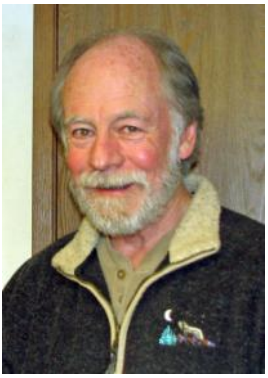
What a month October will be! Our Regional Gathering (RG), which is always a big hit, will begin on September 30 and continue through October 2. This year's event promises to be even better than ever. And, it will be our last small gathering before we host the entire American Mensa next year at the Annual Gathering. (It usually brings between 1800 and 2000 Mensans together to celebrate during the July 4 week. Wow!) Check out our RG schedule beginning on page 9 and then make yourself a promise to come out and meet your fellow Mensans at our event.

For those of you who selected e-version *Neva-Mind* only, every quarter we are required to send you a newsletter (or a condensed version) with a quarterly calendar (similar to page 14.) In order to align our quarters with the calendar you will be receiving this edition in the mail and then another in December as well. Sorry for the confusion.

Lastly, we (meaning your humble editor) are always seeking your input to make this newsletter represent you better. Please take the time to share with us. We'd love to publish your prose, poetry, haiku's, or reminiscences; your artwork, photography, or your photography of your artwork. Or, how about a great quote you've heard or an awesome website you've found. Don't be shy; yes, we need you!

editor@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

From the Locsec



by Bob McAllister

A New Evolutionary Phase

I'd like to make an observation that could induce the skeptic to say that I've merely been moved by sybaritic hedonism in action.

Burning Man. Though there was no symphonic orchestra, no major medical center, no research center, nor even public transportation. Very little in the way of public services.

There was something that I couldn't put my finger on, at first.

I'm not much of a fan for "diversity" as it currently seems to present as a state-sanctioned grievance industry.

And my past history has left me very leery of crowds, my experience with them having been that they tend to be hostile and all too ready to be taken over by mob mentality.

There were crowds galore at Black Rock City and they were absolutely inconsequential to the overall feel. An anomaly for me.

It could be said that, not necessarily diversity, but universal freedom of expression in a civilized and artful manner was what stood out.

Perhaps a new level of our evolution has been to create a being that can be free and do so with out stepping on toes.

'Twas moving.

Target Shoot

We had our first target shoot get-together. It was held on an inconvenient mid-week day, to the detriment of those who might have liked to attend but only have weekends off. The unpredictability of potential crowds on weekends at the free, public range was the reason for this choice. That notwithstanding, there was a decent first time turn out, after all.

Some knew what they were doing and some came for a chance to get in some needed practice. There was a participant who is new to our group and one who admittedly had been somewhat alienated in the past, but decided to give it a chance.

Casual friendly conversation. Casual shooting. A snack and parting.

It's getting late in the year. Trees are starting to turn. Weather will become inclement. The possibility of future shoots can be re-visited after winter. ■

Notes from Your ExComm

September 10, 2011

- Present were Bob McAllister, LocSec; Annemarie McTaggart, 1st Vice-Secretary; Gerald Lockhart, 2nd Vice-Secretary; Anna Wright, *Neva-Mind* Editor.
- Also present were Richard Arbib, Programs Chair; and Don MacGregor, member-at-large.
- Don MacGregor volunteered to be on the Nominations Committee for the upcoming election of officers. All potential candidates are encouraged to contact Don at 826-5904 by October 31 to have their names placed on the ballot.
- Meeting adjourned.

It's nominations time!

We need volunteers to run for local Mensa offices:

- **LocSec (Local Secretary i.e. President)**
- **1st Vice-Secretary**
- **2nd Vice-Secretary**
- **Treasurer**



What would you like to see happen? What would you like changed? Mensa needs you. Volunteer for an office position and become one of those folks who help shape the future of our organization. Candidates are self-nominated.

Call Don MacGregor at 826-5904.



Northern Nevada Mensa Flash List



Sign up now! It's easy and it's free!

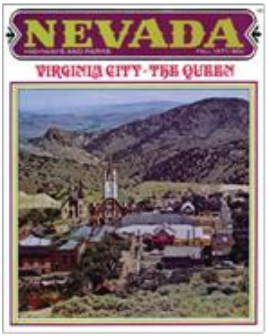
1. Go to Google,com
2. On the black bar at the top, click "Gmail."
3. Follow the directions to set up a free Google (Gmail) account.
4. Open your Gmail.
5. On the bar at the top, click on "more." Chose "groups."
6. In the open Google groups bar, type "Northern Nevada Mensa".
7. In the block at the right, click on "Join this Group" and follow the directions.
8. By following steps 6 and 7, you can easily "Unsubscribe" to any group.

Double Double Take: *Bill Kositzky*





Congratulations to Bill Kositzky, whose double photo above was selected to be featured in the new September 2011 *Mensa Bulletin*, "Parting Shots." Bill also won second place in *Nevada Magazine*'s Photo contest, "Then and Now," shown here.
Well done Bill!









Happy Birthday!

October

1	**Phillip Fuller**	Ely
5	**Anne Stewart**	Sparks
8	**Gloria Dondero**	Reno
9	**Kelly Heapy**	Truckee
9	**Becky Smith**	Sparks
10	**Richard Campbell, Jr.**	Carson City
10	**Stuart Finlayson**	Carson City
12	**Diane Howard**	Carson City
14	**Minnis Alderman**	Ely
14	**Mark Hadley**	Reno
15	**Loren MacArthur**	Reno
17	**Matt Henry**	Carson City
25	**Anne-Louise Bennett**	Reno
27	**Donald Newman**	South Lake Tahoe
30	**Jennifer Sanches**	Fallon

Birthstone:
Opal, Tourmaline

Flower: Calendula

Astrological Signs:

Libra:
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Scorpio:
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21



Congratulations!

New Life Members:
Dr. Howard Chen, Reno
Capt. James Lockridge, Reno

Welcome!

And Welcome Back!

David Britton, Spring Creek
Christopher Lanski, Reno
Maria Nucci, Sparks
Thaddeus Segura, Reno

Willkommen, Bienvenidos, Chaire, Irashaimasu, Dobro pozhalovat', Bienvenue Howdy!





More Valuable Than Gold

by Ken Wright

(The following is a sequel to "I'm Not Throwing Them Away…" which was published in our last issue.)

The books we rescued from a watery grave had to be hidden, but there are only so many places that you can hide twelve hundred pounds of books. There were many, many more books already occupying the racks and upright lockers of those involved in "Project Literacy," so named by a scrawny kid from Brooklyn, which meant that we needed another safe place.

There were places that could handle the volume but were too damp, or, worse, vulnerable to spies who would run to the admiral to gain favor. In order to be able to keep the books safe we split them between locations.

We moved the bags of books from the hangar bay in laundry carts, which we had to lift over the knee knockers and roll along the passageways. Perversely enough we went by the admiral's stateroom and collected his laundry right on top of the books. It just seemed so fitting to do that, like he helped.

One of our best sites, (six bags there) was in a boatswain's space which contained hazardous chemicals and was kept locked up. My personal favorite was the linen supply locker for the admiral and captain's staterooms. The steward who took care of their rooms was a long-suffering and much-abused young man who insisted upon having "Mutiny on the Bounty" in that bag. It made him laugh every day.

After several close calls, we decided to get as many of the books off the ship as possible at the next port of call. Columbo, Sri Lanka, was that port.

Discussion ensued as to how we could get bags of books off the ship without calling attention to ourselves and getting busted. Carrying seabags (aka duffel bags) wouldn't work; they would get inspected. The senior staff actually provided the necessary transportation and didn't know it.

A helicopter was to be dispatched to Columbo to procure fresh fruit for the Captain's Mess, the dining room where the ship's royalty dined with guests by invitation and alcohol was consumed regularly, with private, personal chef and wait staff, and climate controlled wine storage. They suffered no hardships.

The pilots and controllers aboard the America routinely did favors for each other, so hauling bags and a crew to unload them was no big deal. The arrangements were made and four of our strongest young men rode with the bags while the rest of us rode the liberty boats ashore.

Once in Columbo, we needed to find someplace away from the wanderings of the sailors who would recognize the U.S.S. America stamp inside the book covers and talk about it aboard the ship. We drank some tea and talked with locals as we worried about having enough money to rent a vehicle to transport the bags of books. The worry was completely unfounded. The average income of Sri Lanka workers at that time (1984) was $263 U.S. dollars per year.

For twenty U.S. dollars we rented a Mercedes lorry and driver to take us to an

(Continued on page 22)

WILD WEST, RENO STYLE!

Friday **at the Silver Legacy Resort/Casino, Reno**

Rooms:	E	C	D	1 & 2	Games	Hosp

11:00 Registration for tour members and payment of tour fee

12:00	V.C. Tour with the Ghost of					
3:00	Mark Twain:	Registration Opens				
4:00	McAvoy Layne					
5:00	Moon Buggy	Psychopaths				
5:15	Dan Ruby & Kids	Among Us				
5:30		Dr. Piasecki				
5:45						
6:00						
6:15	Black Rock Solar	Ghosts of Nevada				
6:30	Marnee Benson	Janice				
6:45		Oberding				
7:00			Chocolate	AG 2012		
7:15			Tasting	Meeting		
7:30	Burning Man &		Michael Eager			
7:45	the Black Rock	Really Old West				
8:00	Rangers	Gus Quinlan				
8:15	Ranger Boisee					
8:30	Ranger Gemini					
8:45						
9:00	Lightning Talks	Motorcycle	Texas Hold'em			
9:15	Andy Lampenfeld	Awareness for	Poker			
9:30		Non-Riders	Howard			
9:45		J. & C. Preisach	Beckerman			
10:00	Joke Off					
10:15	Andy Lampenfeld					
10:30						Banana
10:45						Bandana
11:00						Daiquiri
						Party
			end?		end?	end?



Come join our party!

Friday only, one-day registration fee $35

Saturday only, one-day registration fee $45

Check in with registrar in the hallway of the Silver Baron conference area.

Saturday

	E	D	C	B
8:00	Hospitality opens for continental breakfast and coffee			
9:00	The True Story of the Comstock Lode Fred Holabird	Round Table Discussion	First Aid in the Field Howard Chen	
9:15				
9:30				
9:45				
10:00				Mensa Admission Test
10:15	Disney Land Russ Waters		Pioneer Women Diaries Dr. Doris Dwyer	
10:30				
10:45				
11:00		Explaining the Pain Dr. Bob		
11:15				
11:30	Victorian Fashion: Reflections of the Past Paulette Grune		Green Houses: Strategies Loren Loiseau	
11:45				
12:00				
12:15				
12:30	Lunch	Open Discussion	Lunch	Crafts with Sam Beckerman
12:45				
1:00				
1:15				
1:30				
1:45				
2:00	Steampunk Fashion Accessories Mary Crawley		Apollo Bioenergy Lauren Scott	
2:15				
2:30				
2:45				
3:00				
3:15				
3:30	The United States of Armageddon Kel Munger		Schemes, Scams & Flim Flams Cookie Bakke	
3:45				
4:00				
4:15				
4:30				
4:45				
5:00		C.W. & Mr Spoons Nevada Entertainers		
5:15				
5:30				
5:45				
6:00				
6:15				
6:30		Parade to banquet		
6:45				
7:00		Banquet is served in the Reno Ballroom		

Games	Hosp
	Cont. Bkfst.
	Light Lunch
	Beer Tasting time TBA
	Closed for Banquet

Late Night Saturday

	Reno Ballroom	Games	Hosp
9:00	"The Whole		Dessert &
9:30	SheBang" Show		Coffee
10:00			
10:30			
11:00		end?	end?

Sunday

	E	Games	Hosp
9:00	Awards & Brunch		
9:15			
9:30			
9:45			
10:00			
11:00	Hotel Checkout		

HELP WANTED!

We need your help at our Regional Gathering. Some jobs that take only an hour or two are:

- Speaker shepherd (great job — you would be our local host to our guest, read the speaker's intro, and stay in the speaker's room to hear all of the presentation!)
- Hospitality aide (refill the snack dishes and keep the conversation going.)
- Registration aide (say "hello," and "welcome," to folks and then give them their registration materials.)

Contact: the RG Chair Ken Wright

PUZZLE PAGE

by Travis McCord

I want to start this month's thing with a little *mea culpa*: I goofed up slightly on the answers to last month's quiz. I initially had "Eve of Destruction" as a Dylan song. Fortunately, I was able to correct that before the newsletter went to 'press'...it was actually by Barry McGuire. (And even then I still goofed, telling Madam Editor it was MacGuire.) Which, of course, makes me think about getting things wrong in general, something I do way too often. (Of course, most of us probably feel "once in a blue moon" is too often...)

Anyway, trivia quiz time. Here goes:

1) Probably the most famous newspaper blooper has a simple explanation: they were relying on a telephone poll (one of the first times ever,) at a time when only rich people had telephones in their homes. Which, needless to say, skewed the results considerably. What mistake?

2) It used to be that you heard about the brontosaurus, but you don't hear that name now. What exactly happened to the brontosaurus?
   a) There never was such a dinosaur
   b) It was first named the apatosaurus, so that name takes precedence
   c) It has to do with mislabeled fossils
   d) It has to do with mismatched skulls and bodies
   e) It was because of a rivalry between paleontologists



3) In the you've-probably-always-wondered department: it's a campanile, or bell tower. That was built on sand. They put the heavy bells in anyway. You can still photograph it now, over 800 years after the first stone was laid, but be quick because it's liable to collapse any moment. What?

4) And now, a quick terminology lesson. Say you want to go to a store you've never been to. You know you can get there, because it's close to the route you usually use to get to work. Which of the following would be a "capture error?"
   a) You drive right past it without seeing it because you're looking elsewhere.
   b) You run into a tree because the parking lot entrance is in a different place than you expect.
   c) You have a "brain fart" and go to work instead of to the store.
   d) You find the place and then forget why you wanted to go there.
   e) Any or all of the above.

5) Identify the contexts of these quotes:

1876: “...too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us.”

1962: “We don't like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out.”

1985: “We're not that smart and we’re not that stupid.”

6) In South Korea, they have a widely held yet false belief that leaving this on all night can kill you:

a) a heater
b) a light
c) a fan
d) a radio
e) an electric blanket

7) It turns out, something your mother may have used to treat your “boo-boos” actually doesn't help, and in fact may impede healing. What?

8) Which of the following is not in the Bible?

- Adam and Eve partook of the same apple
- Satan taking over Hell, and ruling from within
- Three wise men came to visit the baby Jesus bringing gifts
- Those who die having done all the rites and observances and are therefore without sin shall become angels.



9) The statement “Anything that can go wrong, will.” is:

a) Murphy’s Law
b) the Peter Principle
c) Sod’s Law
d) Occam’s Razor
e) far too cynical

10) Not to end on a downer, but... what happened to Walt Disney after his death?

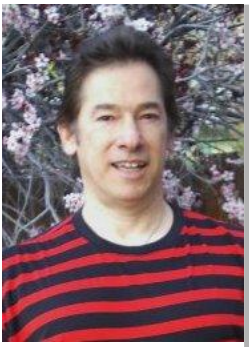


Answers on page 26



Program Listing and More

The next three months at a glance.



Mensa Dinner Meetings (6 p.m.):

- October: There will be no monthly meeting because of the Regional Gathering.
- November 12, John and Carole Priesach will give a slide show of their motorcycle trip. Our host will be Bob McAllister. (Potluck dinner.)
- December 17, Christmas musical concert at the home of Annemarie McTaggart. (Potluck dinner.)

Contact Richard Calendar@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

Game Night at Joe's (4 p.m.):

- October: There will be plenty of games and fun available at the Regional Gathering with your host, Joe, of course!
- November 5: Game Night returns to it's usual venue at Joe's Place, 4 p.m. until 8:30 (Potluck dinner.)
- December 3: Game Night at Joe's Place continues. Come and join the fun! (Potluck dinner too.)

Contact: Joe (775) 338-6521 or joe_kisenwether@hotmail.com.

Lunch Bunch (11:45 a.m.):

- October 25: Meet at 11:45 a.m. at the Bonanza Café, 27 N. C St. in Virginia City.
- November 22: We'll meet at the same time but this month we'll travel to the Wigwam, 225 W. Main in Fernley.
- December 27: We'll dine at the Holiday Inn; 55 E. Nugget Ave., Sparks. IMPORTANT: the Holiday Inn requires reservations ahead. Please RSVP to Don or Laura.

Contact Don or Laura at 826-5904.

Supper Club (6 p.m.):

- October 18: Anchors Bar & Grill, 325 Harbour Cove (big blue building at the Sparks Marina)
- November 15: Yay! Road trip to Carson City! Red's Old 395 Grill,1055 S. Carson Street
- December 20: Los Compadres, 1490 E. Fourth St., Reno

Contact Anne maytheroad@gmail.com



October 2011



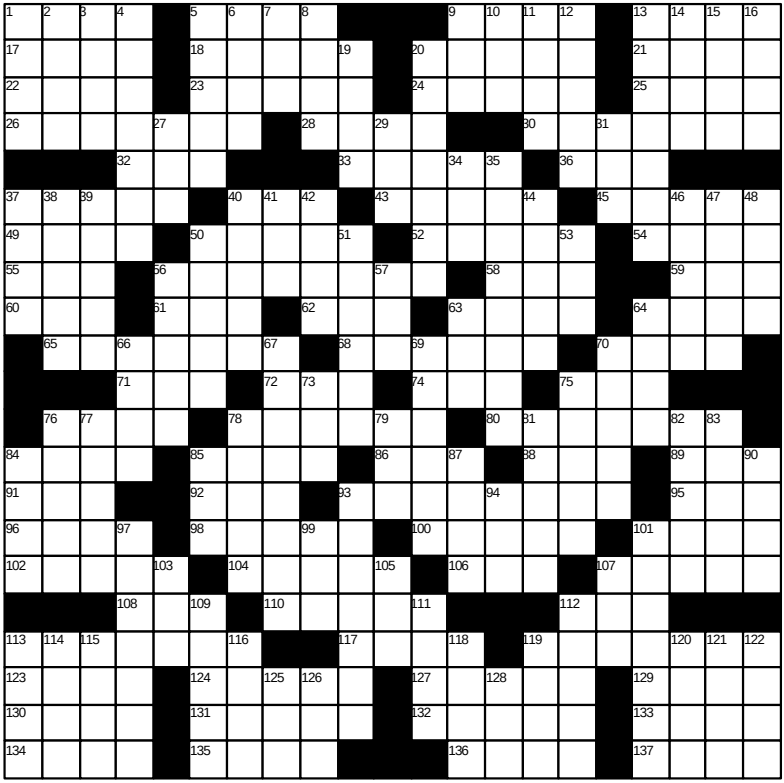
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Sept 30 Wild West, Reno Style!	1
2 **Wild West Reno Style!**	3	4	5	6	7	8 Jewish Yom Kippur
9	10 Columbus Day	11	12	13 Jewish Sukkot	14	15
16	17	18 Supper Club	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Lunch Bunch	26	27	28	29
30	31 Hallow-een	Nov 1	Nov 2	Nov 3	Nov 4	Nov 5 Game Night at Joe's

Lunch Bunch will travel to the heart of Nevada's Wild West on Tuesday, October 25th. Meet at 11:45 a.m. at the Bonanza Café, 27 N. C St. in Virginia City. Call for info: Don or Laura 826-5904.

Supper Club Anchors Aweigh! Yes, really! On October 18, set your course for Anchors Bar & Grill at 325 Harbour Cove at the Sparks Marina. You'll find it on the second floor of the big blue building. 6 p.m. Need more info? Contact Anne at maytheroad@gmail.com

You Might Just Be a Nevadan If You Know These.

by Anna Wright



© 2011 Anna M. Wright

ACROSS

1 Heroic tale
5 Despot
9 Fraud
13 Pedestal part
17 *56-across commodities
18 Shore bird
20 Priest
21 Chilled
22 *Original territorial namesake
23 Passageway
24 Loft
25 Peddle
26 *Lake of the cuiui
28 Grassy area
30 Approaches
32 *With 65-across, BRC major attraction
33 *Management position for a Conforte enterprise?
36 Lending no.
37 Pigment
40 Buzz
43 Caffeine pill brand
45 Strike workers
49 Not amateur
50 Cherub
52 Might
54 European moola
55 Vase
56 *Lode locale
58 Neither's partner
59 Liquor
60 Turf
61 According to
62 Compass point
63 Barrister (abbr.)
64 Baggage
65 *With 32-across
68 Scandinavian country
70 *Cuiui
71 And so forth
72 Regret
74 Forman foe
75 Accommodate
76 *Not your grandmother's bingo
78 *Possible "August Nights" celebrity
80 Closest
84 Hello!
85 Ascend
86 Brainpower
88 Palter
89 Proof ending

91 Pilot's concern (abbr.)
92 Loose gown worn at mass
93 *With 35-down, state bird
95 Card game
96 Ghetto
98 Cadet
100 *One armed bandits
101 El __
102 Dead
104 Gravy
106 Caustic substance
107 Arbor
108 Drunk
110 Recognizes
112 *RNO abbr.
113 Period after WWII
117 *Hoover Dam lake
119 *Reno rio
123 Length times width
124 *Ormsby __
127 *Home of the Candy Dance
129 Rope fiber
130 New driver often
131 *Fallon's nickname
132 Gives off
133 Cleveland's lake
134 __ Kong
135 Notable times
136 Otherwise
137 Dreadful

DOWN

1 Broth
2 Pretentious
3 Hiking equipment
4 Attritional
5 *V.C.'s favorite author
6 Spoken
7 Spots
8 Depend
9 Rested
10 Des Moines zone
11 Opera solo
12 Islam's holy city
13 *6-weeks claim to fame
14 *Reno's baseball team
15 Nick
16 *Gambling math
19 Stack of paper
20 Fenced grazing area
27 Mutilate
29 Dashed
31 Rate (abbr.)
34 Flurry
35 *With 93-across
37 Composition
38 Chocolate substitute
39 Eastern religion
40 Mortal
41 Highs
42 Small amount
44 Polish currency
46 Halos
47 *With 111-down, state flower
48 Few
50 Digestive condition
51 *Name associated with ill-fated wagon train
53 Dull
56 Long poem division
57 Business top dog
63 Tool
64 Invoke
66 *Location of AG 2012
67 Passerine bird
69 Wheel spoke
70 Discharged
73 North American Indian
75 Carnivals
76 "To __ Mockingbird" (2 wds.)
77 Devour (2 wds.)
78 Valleys' partners
79 Night bird
81 Privileged
82 *Valley of 1960 Winter Olympics
83 Edgy
84 Vessel
85 Knock
87 Inform
90 Entry
93 Turns into
94 Sonny
97 Native equine
99 Hairdo
101 Stewed
103 Pull
105 Female sheep
107 Heat unit
109 *Famed for its crystal clear waters
111 *With 47-down
112 Remove
113 Lane
114 Dunking cookies
115 Was looked at
116 Howl with laughter
118 Interbreeding population within a species
119 Children
120 Lotion brand
121 Native ruler in Asia
122 Fencing sword
125 N. A. nation
126 Bro's sibling
128 Nix

Answers on page 26



Burning Man

Photo essay by Bill Kositzky

This troupe of puppeteers was camped right next to us in Snowflake Village. From time to time they would dress up and entertain.

A highly creative and famous group of artists called Flaming Lotus Girls set off a remarkable fireworks display around their art piece.





A local burner, Nathan Heller, organized a group photo event and invited all burners from Nevada to show up and bring their art cars.

The Temple of Transition by Chris Hankins, Diarmaid Horkan and the International Art Megacrew. Sunrise photo on Sunday morning. It is burned by custom and design on Sunday after dark.





Mensa camp mate, Feather Belly, blowing bubbles in front of the Mensa camp which was named “Shack of Sit.” Notice the Man in background.



Really big chair next to Dustfish camp. Octopus kite in background.



Sunrise photo showing The Man and the Temple of Transition.

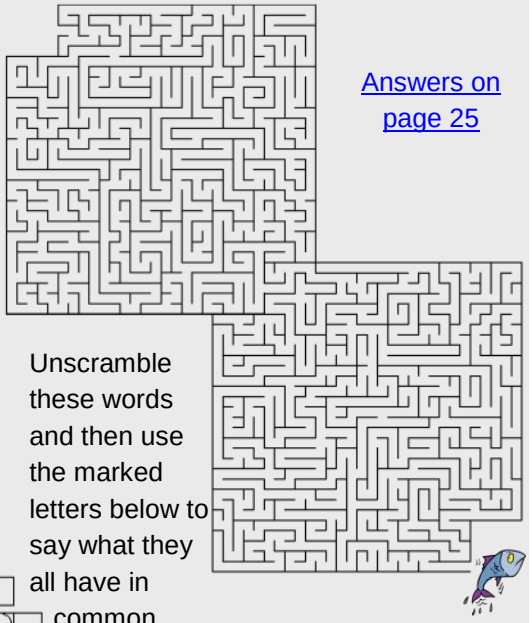
Mensa for Kids!

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

Double Puzzle

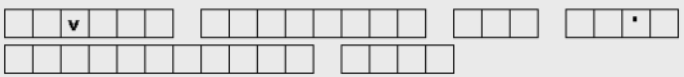


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ACNORS CTYI



Answers on page 25

Unscramble these words and then use the marked letters below to say what they all have in common.



Last month's research problem introduced geometric shapes like these. These are the 13 Archimedean solids. Each is made up of a mix of regular polygons. The Swiss mathematician, Leonard Euler (pronounced oiler), discovered a formula that relates the number of faces, edges, and vertices. What is it?

Geronimo Jones especially likes thinking about the soccer ball (One of his favorite games is soccer.) By counting the shapes, he found that it is made up of 20 hexagons and 12 pentagons. But then, how many edges and vertices should there be?



GRAFFITI WALL

Anna Wright



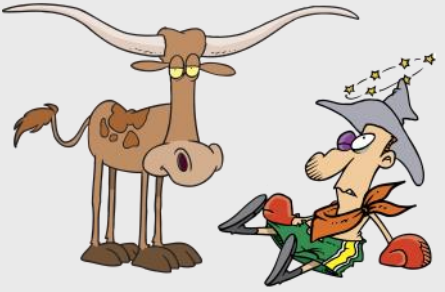




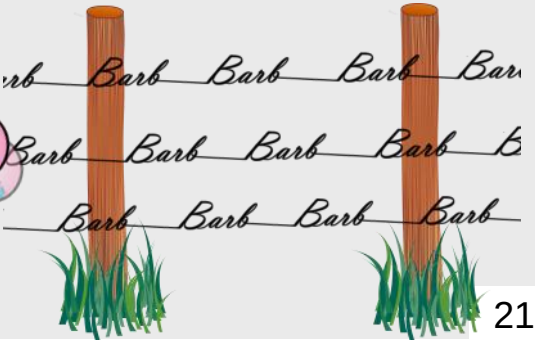












Answers on page 25

(More Valuable continued from page 8)

orphanage school in Ratnapura, about 90 clicks (about 50 miles) inland where no one else would go.

We were advised not to go into the interior of Sri Lanka because the rebel Tamil Tigers...

According to a monk that we spoke with, the orphanage had no books. That monk was so impressed with our mission that he went with us and worked twice as hard as any one of us. His name, as best we could decipher his English, was Thic, which cracked us all up because he was so THIN! He would only accept food for his part in our project and stayed on in Ratnapura to help at the orphanage for a while. He was wearing orange robes and carried only his bowl and prayer beads and a shawl. This was the custom of Tibetan monks who were not based at a monastery and were traveling the country trying to help people. He certainly earned our respect.

We were advised not to go into the interior of Sri Lanka because the rebel Tamil Tigers, or more properly The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam roamed the countryside capturing government officials and holding them for ransom. We did encounter them, but after we showed them the books, they gave us an escort to the orphanage and guaranteed our safe passage back out as well! They approved of educating the children and the freedom to learn and read.

Our driver introduced us to the Orphanage Master and the monk blessed the bags of books. The schoolmaster was in shock at even seeing so many bags of books. He started crying when we opened the first bag and I don't think had stopped weeping when we left. They had one old Bible and a couple of German magazines. There was one blackboard in a sad state, and no chalk for it. The kids sat on the floor, or an overturned bucket or crate for school, because they had no desks. You don't even want to know about the bathroom situation.

We had planned to go Ratnapura, dump off the books and take off again, back to Columbo and the bars and sights we could see there. It took about five minutes with the children to change all of that.

Among our little band of book thieves we had many talents and abilities. I went scrounging and scamming with the truck driver and we scored a load of lumber right off of a delivery truck, for which we traded a can of Skol beer, and which the driver promptly hid in his shirt under the seat. There was some question about which construction site it was destined for. No wonder things get lost and misdelivered in this part of the world all of the time. We traded a U.S. Navy version of a Boy Scout knife with "USA" engraved on the side for some pipe and flashing from a local craftsman. He will undoubtedly be able to trade it for many times its value in supplies he needs.



While we were gone a couple of guys repaired the leaking roof and replaced a piece of cardboard that had covered a big hole in a wall, with a window in a frame that a neighbor had

used as a wall for his chickens. They repaired the chicken coop with a section of wire they found that had sticks in it and had been dragged back up over itself into a snarl, making it basically useless as it was. My guys straightened it out and removed the debris. That made it serviceable enough to repair the chicken coop, thereby talking the owner out of the piece of a wall and window (likely, it was originally from the same building that was now the school) that he was using to keep his chickens corralled. Some of the shorter boards worked well to finish the window installation and it was ready for painting, if that ever happened.

We used the flashing to rat proof the food storage area and shaped one piece into a rain gutter to funnel water into a bucket or barrel to collect fresh water when possible.

With the lumber we were able to build tables and benches for the kids to use in their classroom and one boy told us that the tables were so beautiful that he was going to sleep on them every night. There was enough plank lumber to build bookshelves and that actually became a library used by the school and community. Only the very rich residents, the gem stone businessmen and the tea plantation owners, had books written in English. Very few people had books of any kind at all.

We were lucky enough to have a plumber's son in our crew and using the pipe he rigged up some running water from the well to the building with a real faucet attached. We took the blackboard off the wall and discovered that the other side was still as good as new. The next day we sent a big case of chalk out by a truck driver who made that drive daily. We paid him, but he gave the money to the orphanage. Good deeds are contagious.

The orphanage was a real eye opener for most of us who had only heard about such places. It had a real impact on one of our group who was seriously religious. He kept saying over and over, "How can God allow this?" To his credit, he set up a regular donation to that orphanage and has gone back on his own multiple times since that trip to do more work and visit the kids.

That load of books was ten of the twelve bags and we felt that the hundred or so kids of that orphanage would benefit far more from them than the creatures of the deep ocean. The other two bags were high-lined across to a supply ship on the condition that they mark out the U.S.S. America stamp and forget where they got them.

Later on we heard via the grapevine that the captain of the supply ship followed our example and after his crew had read all of the books they took them ashore in two successive port visits and spread the books around the places that they could reach, also doing repair work on schools and clinics as they went.

No one ever told the admiral about the books, but I did hear about him taking credit for sailors doing volunteer work in port of call communities, which he had nothing to do with. I am sure that my partners in crime are willing to let him strut like the stubby Napoleon he was. We know what happened and we are fine with it. Project Literacy was the right thing to do and we are proud to have done it. ■



The Simpsons

Nellie Bly

Q	T	S	R	O	S	I	S	N	T	C	Y	T	T	A	P	B	L	R
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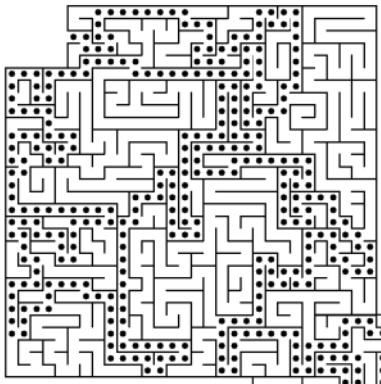
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cowabunga
detention
discostu
doh
edna
elementary
flanders
groundskeeper
homer
lenny
lisa
lou
maggie
marge
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mensa
milhouse
moe *
mona
montgomery
nelson
nuclear
patty
principal
quickimart
quimby
ralphie
rod
seacaptain
selma
simpson
skinner
smithers
snowball
squishee
todd
treehouse
wiggam
willie

Answers on page 26



Mensa for Kids

answers

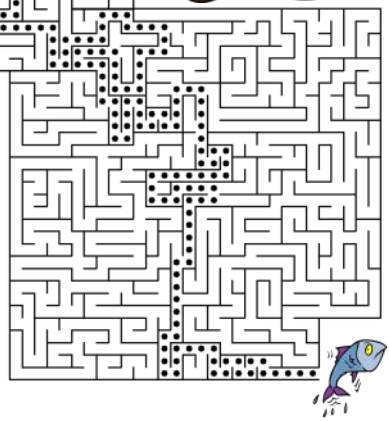




Graffiti Wall:

Calf roper
Square dance
Water hole
Greenhorn (inexperienced person in the wild west)
Necktie party (lynching)
"Get Along Little Dogie."
(A dōgie is a young calf.)
Cow puncher (cowboy)
Nest of baby rattlers
Barbed wire fence





The soccer ball problem.

Euler's formula is v - e + f = 2

- How to figure the faces:
  20 hexagons plus 12 pentagons makes 32 faces. (f = 32)
- How to figure the edges:
  12 pentagons, each with 5 sides, means that there are potentially 60 sides to glue to make the edges. By the same thinking 20 hexagons, each with 6 sides, will provide 120 sides to be glued. Since it takes 2 sides to glue together to make each edge, 180 total sides divided by 2 = 90 edges. (e = 90)
- There are other ways to find the number of vertices, but by using Euler's formula, we can calculate them:
  v - e + f = 2
  v - 90 + 32 = 2
  So, there are 60 vertices. (v = 60)

(PS: The soccer ball would be called a truncated icosahedron in a geometry class.)

Double Puzzle

answers

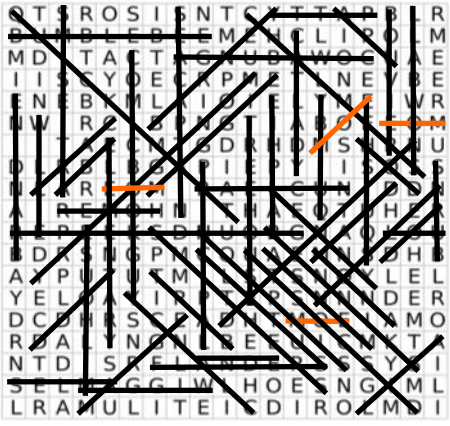
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LNYO	L Y O N
EKOL	E L K O
CAKLR	C L A R K
DNRLAE	L A N D E R
ERUEKA	E U R E K A
RSETOY	S T O R E Y
OWHESA	W A S H O E
DGOSLAU	D O U G L A S
MRLNAEI	M I N E R A L
LNILNOC	L I N C O L N
CCHHUILRL	C H U R C H I L L
SMRALEEDA	E S M E R A L D A
ODHLMTBU	H U M B O L D T
PSGERIHN	P E R S H I N G
IHWTE PENI	W H I T E P I N E
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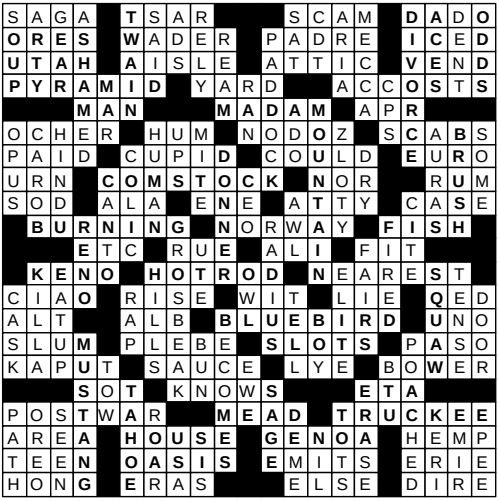
Getting Things Wrong Trivia Quiz answers:

1) The Chicago Tribune headline “Dewey Defeats Truman”
2) All of the above! This stems from the long-term rivalry between O. C. Marsh and Edward Drinker Cope. In his race to beat Cope, Marsh accidentally took pieces he found of camarasaurs and apatosaurs and “created” the brontosaurus. You can find a more extensive account of the confusion at http://www.straightdope.com/columns/read/371/is-it-true-the-brontosaurus-never-really-existed
3) The Leaning Tower of Pisa.
4) C. A “capture error” is when an unfamiliar activity is “captured” by a similar, more familiar one.
5) 1876: Western Union refusing to buy the patent for the telephone.
   1962: Decca refusing to sign the Beatles.
   1985: A Coca-Cola executive, when asked if “New Coke” was really just a marketing ploy for “Coca-Cola Classic.”
6) An electric fan.
7) Hydrogen peroxide. Turns out it doesn't really help clean a wound, but it does impede the growth of new skin cells.
8) None of those are in the Bible…
   - The Bible never identifies the actual fruit.
   - Satan is mentioned as a corrupting force, but is never mentioned in context with Hell.
   - The Bible mentions three gifts, but doesn't say how many gift givers there were.
   - The Bible never mentions the dead becoming angels.
9) C, Sod’s Law. Murphy’s Law is “If there are two or more ways to do something, and one of those ways will result in disaster, someone will do it.”
10) Contrary to popular belief, he was not frozen; he was cremated, and his ashes interred in Forest Lawn. The first person who was cryogenically suspended was a few months after Disney’s death; someone conflated the two events. ■

You Might Just Be A Nevadan answers



Simpsons answers



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)

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