Neva-Mind



Neva-Mind, Northern Nevada Mensa
Volume 37, Issue 12, December 2013

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Cover Credits:

2 Anna Wright has created all of the cover logo/banners.

A Note From the Editor

by Anna Wright



Wasn't that a terrific November issue! I think so too. All kudos go to guest editor Anne Stewart, for collecting all those wonderful items. **Thanks Anne!**

We are, of course, still in search of a new *Neva-Mind* editor. Are you interested? Email editor@northernnevada.us.mensa.org.

Since this is my last issue as editor I want to take the time to thank all of those who have made this editorship successful.

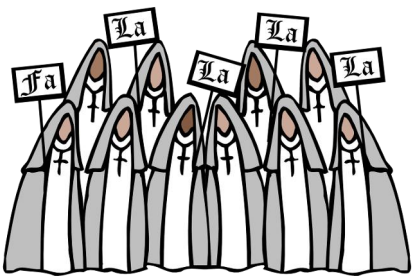
Thanks to my regular contributors, Bob McAllister *From the LocSec*, Ashley Cullins *Meet a Mensan,* Mark Simkin *Fraud*, Howard Chen *Ask the Doctor,* Harold Ward *From the RVC,* Julie Kriss *Mensa for Kids,* Gloria Dondero Pedro our *Poetess,* and Ken Wright *Notes From Your ExComm*. Thanks to our calendar contributors who gave us wonderful things to do and see (and eat!): Richard Arbib, Sandra Lackovic, and Don and Laura MacGregor. I'd also like to thank those who helped train this "newbie" editor over the past few years, Mindy Hsu, who originated the *Meet a Mensan* series, Joe Kisenwether, our original *Puzzle Page* Master, Maurice Pollack, who helped me start the *Mensa for Kids* page, and RVCs John Recht and Debra Reiger, who kept us informed on the national and regional levels in *From the RVC*.

I'd like to thank all of those who contributed feature items from time to time, and that's nearly everyone I've ever met in Northern Nevada Mensa. Even though there are too many for me to name, their articles and photography gave us all an insight into the depths of their experiences and displayed the real diversity that is Mensa. Thank you all. Also, an extra-special thanks to Ken Wright and Bill Kositzky who jumped in to help every time I got stuck and needed a little extra something for the publication.

I'd also like to thank those who have made a kind and consistent effort to try and teach this "numbers" person the mysteries of the written English language, my proofreaders. Thank you Anne Stewart, Mary Neuhoff, Bob McAllister, Mindy Hsu, and Loren MacArthur.

Lastly, a huge thank you to my dear husband, who has put up with my alternating deadline manias and hermit behavior. Your love and support has made all the difference.

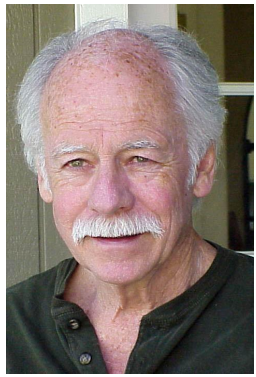
If I have missed anyone, please forgive me. I've been so lucky to have so much help during the last few years. Thanks everyone!



It's been a glorious adventure.
Your Retiring Editor, Anna Wright

(PS: If this were the Academy Awards, they'd probably have started the exit music long ago.)

From the LocSec



by Bob McAllister

Guns and Rose

Guns

On leaving the service, I found that I pretty much liked languages and linguistics in general. I also soon found myself married and with children. Getting involved with something related to linguistics on a college level had an appeal. All I needed to do was find a job that had a decent pay and left my days free to prepare for such an endeavor and still allow me to support a family while engaged in that preparation. Along came the police department.

Shortly after having my nose rubbed in the reality of what seemed arrant lack of respect for knowledge as demonstrated by ostensible students during the numerous student riots of the 60s, I came to lose my fervor for the idea of sharing my attraction toward languages. And so I just kept on being a cop. Duty bound riding the range, as it were. Doing some good, even though it amounted merely to shoveling against the tide.

I gained experience, advanced and found myself in Investigations. I settled in a unit that investigated primarily assaults — stabbings, shootings, beatings, a wide variety of unbelievably inhuman conduct. We dealt with domestic violence investigations as well, for a long while, until that aspect had developed enough political clout to garner its own sizeable budget and autonomy. Frequently physically abused and absolutely terrorized women would end up in an interview room in my office, asking where they might obtain training, licensing and purchase of a firearm. Many were at their wits' end. Some quite apparently harbored feelings of vindictiveness. Most were from backgrounds that were grounded in sensationalizing media and Hollywood. They seemed to think that fantasy solutions were their out.

(What I mean by that is that where guns are involved one doesn't walk down darkened corridors with a weapon extended in front of one's self, highlighted with a flashlight. The gun extended in front of an advancing individual is actually being proffered to the "bad guy" to be taken away. The flashlight, also held out in front adjacent to the gun, highlights them as the target. For that matter, a cop wouldn't really even walk up to the door and bang on it announcing, "Police! Open up!" Whoever is on the other side likely will open fire through the door. Better to be off to the side banging, at least not directly in front of the door. If Hollywood has any decent advisors, they certainly don't listen to them.)

We don't live in a savage society, but we do have brutal people in our society. Most people, even those who have been abused don't want to hurt others.

They want to keep a separation from others who would hurt. The old perception of a lion trainer with a whip and a chair comes to mind. The chair is a barrier that maintains that separation. Unwittingly, in the minds of those who don't want to hurt others, but who do want to maintain separation, a gun is that chair. They will put that gun out as a barrier, saying, "Back! Back! I don't want to hurt you." And the menacing person will take away the chair/gun. And very well might use it on the well-meaning victim. I would explain in my office that much better than a gun, or a knife, or a bat — is pepper spray. A pistol would infuriate a bear. Pepper spray would incapacitate a bear long enough to allow a brief window of escape. If not pepper spray, wasp/hornet spray. The ostensible victim could then make a hasty retreat or take that bat to get past the temporarily blockading menace. If the spray is wrested from the victim, it won't be used to injure or kill.

I mention all of this because firearms have recently become an issue in our chapter. Mensans are of all stripes, as we know, and we are proscribed from making political advocacies. So, in the eight years that I've been LocSec, I've not got onto my soapbox (too much) with that thought (making political stances) in mind and still have tried to stir things somewhat for the sake of keeping lively participation. Recently, it was brought to my attention that perhaps Second Amendment advocacy had been broached in one of our chapter website links. I checked and it didn't seem to be out of hand after all. And yet... I'd like to lend some of my perspectives about guns as they are much in the media of late.

Some of what briefly follows may make some bristle and yet it would be difficult to deny. In the 70s a federal suit was brought to San Francisco's Police Department charging that it was discriminatory both in its hiring and in its promoting practices. Two concurrently running academy classes were engaged wherein numerous minorities and many (I'm thinking 75 or 76) females were enlisted. This was during a time when the fashion models of the television series *Charlie's Angels* were shown to be able to karate chop large football player types quickly and easily into submission. It wasn't true. At the end of the academy training, it had become painfully evident that many recruits (male and female) weren't capable of handling themselves "on the street." They were given two months of special training which was video-taped and monitored by several special interest, political and governmental groups. The outcome showed that they were still incapable. The federal judge (Robert Peckham) had a laugh and said, "Okay, you proved your point. Now put them out on the street." And what happened then? Sometimes some embarrassing moments. Sometimes some actual heroic moments. For the most part, time went on as usual. Why? That great equalizer The Gun. The serious business in established police infrastructures entails armed members. Some members had occasion (rarely) to be disarmed. Some ran the other way. For the most part, though, most stood their ground and prevailed.

It may sound odd, coming from a retired cop, I'm not much of a fan of hunt-

(Continued on page 17)

Meet a Mensan

by Ashley Cullins

Special Focus on a Veteran.

Meet Ken Wright, a member since 2005.

Favorite quote:
"Do, or do not, there is no try." — Master Yoda



Ken Wright

When did you serve in the Military?
1971-1987

Which branch(es)?
Army and Navy

What's the lesson you learned in the service that you use most often in civilian life?
Always keep your appointments and never be late for them. It is disrespectful to be late; everyone's time is as valuable as yours.

What is the biggest challenge facing veterans today?
Multiple deployments and then re-entry into civilian life with civilian rules.

What is your favorite war movie and why?
I do not have a favorite war movie. War is not entertaining for those who have experienced it first hand.

If you were 18 now, would you join all over again and why?
Yes. To get valuable training and a way to go to college. Every young person needs guidance and a way to learn discipline and responsibility.

What do you think is the biggest difference between when you served and what servicemen and women are doing now?
Respect. America has finally learned to hate the war and not the warrior. ■

Northern Nevada Mensa wishes to thank

Grassroots BOOKS

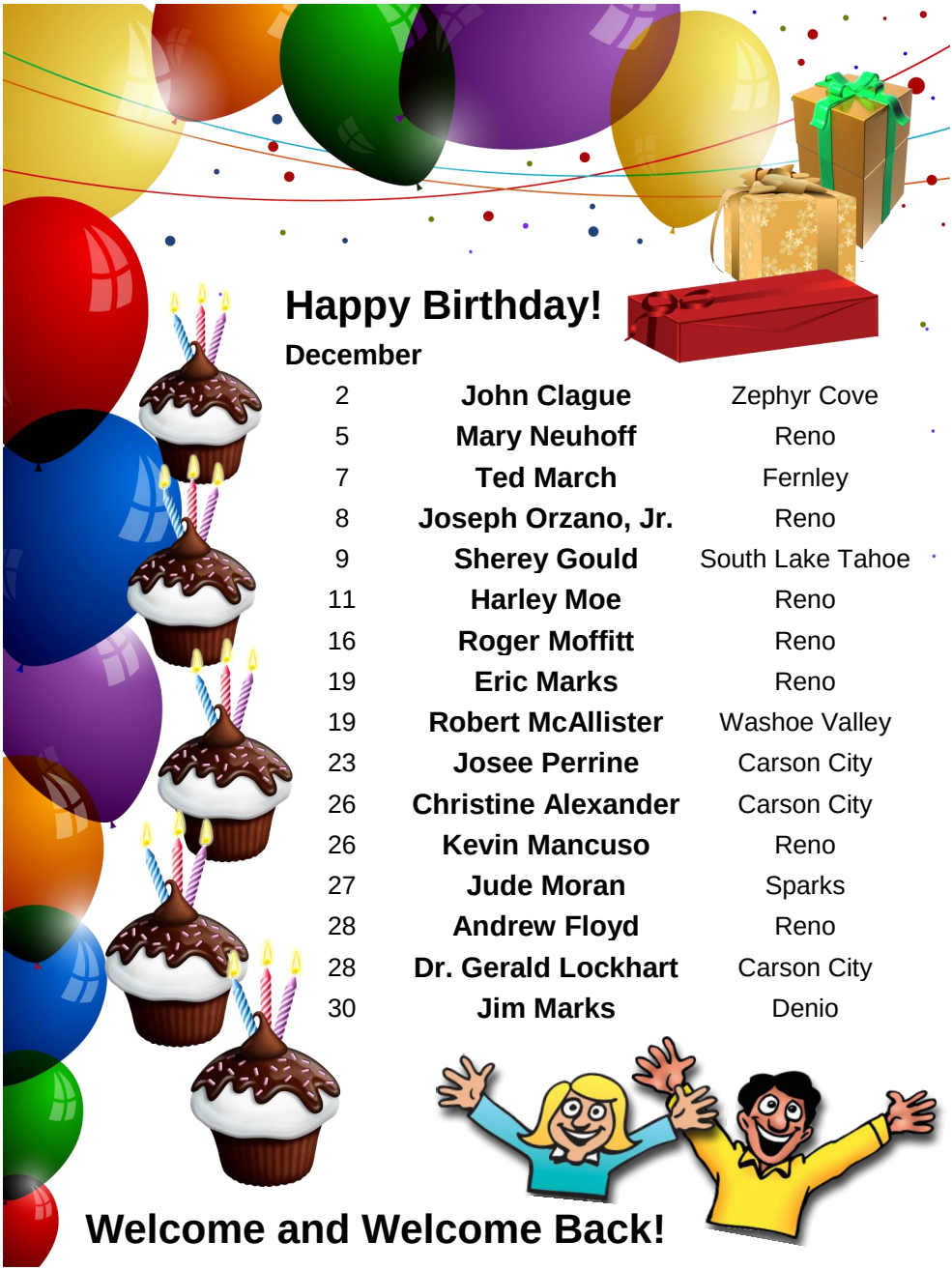
Grassroots Books
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Reno, NV 89502
(775) 828-2665

For donating their space for Mensa Admissions Testing.

Thanks!

Show this paragraph for a free unstickered book. More than 10,000 to choose from, any genre. Limit one/person from any promotion in a calendar year.





Happy Birthday!

December

2	**John Clague**	Zephyr Cove
5	**Mary Neuhoff**	Reno
7	**Ted March**	Fernley
8	**Joseph Orzano, Jr.**	Reno
9	**Sherey Gould**	South Lake Tahoe
11	**Harley Moe**	Reno
16	**Roger Moffitt**	Reno
19	**Eric Marks**	Reno
19	**Robert McAllister**	Washoe Valley
23	**Josee Perrine**	Carson City
26	**Christine Alexander**	Carson City
26	**Kevin Mancuso**	Reno
27	**Jude Moran**	Sparks
28	**Andrew Floyd**	Reno
28	**Dr. Gerald Lockhart**	Carson City
30	**Jim Marks**	Denio

Welcome and Welcome Back!

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

Robin Katz	Carson City
Douglas Williams	Reno
Susan Wiessner	Reno

Free Money… Almost

by Mark G. Simkin



I've devoted so many columns to scams designed to steal money, I thought it only fair to devote at least one column to a way to get money. It's not exactly free money, but it comes close. Here's the scoop:

It is a violation of both federal and most state laws for a bank, utility company, landlord, or payroll department to keep monies that rightfully belong to someone else. Examples include the funds in dormant bank accounts, unclaimed payroll checks, undelivered dividend checks, rental-security deposits, or unclaimed property of any kind (such as cash that belonged to a deceased person with no known heirs). Instead, and after a sufficient amount of time has passed, the property holder (e.g., bank, landlord, or electric company) must transfer ("escheat") the funds to the treasurer of its state. That "sufficient amount of time" varies with the state and also with the type of funds — e.g., 3 years for a dormant bank account and 15 years for unclaimed traveler's checks in Nevada. Once deposited in the treasury of the state, the property is held in perpetuity, or until the rightful owners claim them.

The origins of escheatment may be found in feudal English common law, when landholders died without heirs and the king or lord to whom the deceased had sworn allegiance merely reclaimed the property as his right. Such deaths were common, and most lords established magistrate offices in every province for such seizures. Interestingly, the law did not apply when the king himself died.

Today, every state in the union has an unclaimed property office as well as laws that require the holders of unclaimed property to send monies to it. In aggregate, states now hold billions of dollars in unclaimed funds — called escheat funds — including some accounts that individually exceed $1 million! Unclaimed property can also include diamonds, jewelry of any type, cars, planes, and even gold bullion! (See photos at: http://sco.ca.gov/eo_photos_12196.html).

The total amount of funds held by the states varies, but is generally larger for those states with larger populations. California, for example, now holds over $6 billion in such funds. As you might imagine, the total amounts of escheat funds in state coffers grow yearly, and the question of what to do with these funds, most of which are never claimed, is hotly contested in state legislatures.

Think back: did you ever move and forget to collect that security deposit you left with the phone company or those few bucks you left in a savings account? How about any funds that a recently deceased uncle may have left in his accounts? If so, the state is holding those funds for you — even now, years later!

Now, to the business of claiming funds. Again, the exact procedures vary by state, but most mirror those here in Nevada, where you simply "shop" for your funds online! Follow these steps:

- Step 1: Start by accessing Nevada's Unclaimed Property home page at: https://nevadatreasurer.gov/UPSearch/. (In California, the page is https://scoweb.sco.ca.gov/UCP/Default.aspx and in Hawaii, it is: https://www.ehawaii.gov/lilo/app.) On the home page, enter your name where indicated and click on the search button.
- Step 2: Add found items (monies from various sources owed to you) to your "shopping cart." When you are ready, click on the "File Claim for these Properties button." The next screen enables you to enter in your personal information, including your address.



- Step 3: Print your claim. In Nevada, this form must be signed, notarized, and sent to the Nevada Unclaimed Property office, along with copies of your driver's license, social security card, and perhaps additional documentation if required. Hawaii only requires notarization for claims in excess of $50.
- Step 4: Mail in everything and wait for your money ("allow 90 days for processing").

In writing this article, I had no idea that I, too, had unclaimed money waiting for me. But I did — a total of $25 in dividend checks that somehow never made it to my mail box. Woohooo! Meet me at the bar — I'm buying!

For further reading: Michelle Hickman, "Federal Law: Escheats" accessed at http://www.ehow.com/info_8510412_federal-law-escheats.html#ixzz2TPRQvdh9.

Mark G. Simkin is a professor of Information Systems at the University of Nevada. You can contact him at MarkGSimkin@yahoo.com. ■

Wishing you the happiest of holidays from the staff and contributors of the *Neva-Mind!*

mindgames

Mind Games® 2014 will be held April 18-20 at the Hilton Austin Airport, 9515 Hotel Drive, Austin, Texas 78719.Tel: (512) 385-6767. http://www.mindgames.us.mensa.org/





Ask the Doctor *by Dr. Howard Chen*

Question:

When I go to the doctor, she puts a small device that looks like a clothespin on my finger to measure oxygen levels. How can it do this? I don't breathe through my fingers! What is a "good" reading? What does a "bad" reading mean?

The device that the medical assistant places on your finger is likely to be a device commonly known as a “pulse oximeter,” which measures the saturation of oxygen in red blood cells in the arterial blood. One of the main benefits of the pulse oximeter is its ability to provide immediate, noninvasive, and continuous data on the patient’s level of oxygenation. Because of this, it’s become the standard of care in medical offices around the world, and a measure of pulse oximetry is often referred to as the “fifth vital sign.” Pulse oximeters often provide other clinically useful information as well, such as the pulse rate, and an estimation of the pulse waveform. In addition, noninvasive “pulse co-oximeters,” which also measure carbon monoxide levels, are currently being developed and refined.

Rudimentary versions of the pulse oximeter were invented in 1935, but it wasn’t until 1974 that the direct ancestor to the modern day device was developed. The development of the pulse oximeter was a significant improvement to clinical diagnostic techniques. Previous to its widespread adoption, the only method to obtain accurate information about the oxygenation status of the arterial blood was to perform a painful procedure called the Arterial Blood Gas (ABG), which provided only a snapshot of the oxygenation status of a patient, not a timely or continuous estimate.

To determine the proportion of oxygenated red blood cells relative to the proportion of deoxygenated red blood cells, the pulse oximeter shines two wavelengths of light through your finger — a red wavelength (660nm), as well as an infrared wavelength (940nm), to a detector on the other side. The microprocessor inside the pulse oximeter measures the differences in light absorption between deoxygenated and oxygenated red blood cells, and subsequently calculates the percentage of red blood cell oxygenation.

A “good” reading indicates normal oxygenation of the red blood cells, and at our altitude, is generally thought of as anywhere between 92% and 100%



(the maximum value). A “bad” reading is anywhere less than that. Interestingly, because of limitations in their calibration methods, only pulse oximeter values between 82-94% are generally thought of as an accurate representation of the patient’s red blood cell oxygenation. In clinical practice, this means that these devices are not to be relied upon when very high or low oxygenation states are suspected.

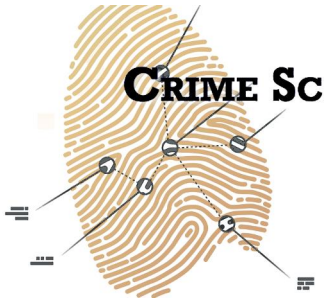
It is important to note that pulse oximeters can also be fooled, especially when they are attempting to shine light through darkly pigmented skin, very thick skin, or in the presence of nail polish (especially blue, green and black pigments). They can also give erroneous results if the light detector gets overwhelmed by ambient light, the finger probe is placed incorrectly, or if there is motion artifact. Impaired blood flow, anemia, or abnormal red blood cells can also cause errors.

Even though you may not breathe through your finger, through pulse oximetry, we can actually measure the effect of your breathing on the oxygen content of your finger’s blood!

Ask the Doctor yourself: Email editor@northennevada.us.mensa.org.

Dr. Howard Chen is board certified by the American Board of Family Medicine, a fellow of the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture, and Medical Director of Preventive and Integrative Medicine Services at Renown Health, Reno. ■

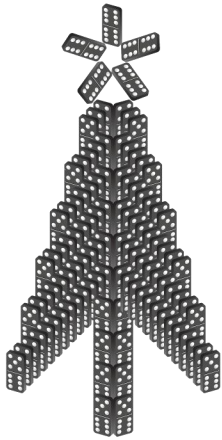



Colloquium 2014
Crime Scene Intelligence
July 1, 2014 - Boston
www.colloquium.us.mensa.org
MENSA Education & Research FOUNDATION

Puzzle Page

by Travis McCord

Well, as we say goodbye to another year…
These are the last lines of several movies, TV shows, novels, and a few other things. Can you identify where they came from?



1. Very few castaways can claim to have survived so long at sea as Mr. Patel, and none in the company of an adult Bengal tiger.
2. ♫ Do-on't stop…♫ (cut to black)
3. "I was cured, all right…"
4. "I'll go home, and I'll think of some way to get him back! After all, tomorrow is another day!"
5. "They'll see and they'll know and they'll say, 'Why, she wouldn't even harm a fly.'"
6. "Mein Fuehrer, I can walk!"
7. "I used to hate the water." "I can't imagine why."
8. "You know, they're totally irrational and crazy and absurd and - but uh, I guess we keep going through it...because...most of us need the eggs."
9. "Well, I'll give him another twenty minutes, but that's it."
10. "It's too bad she won't live -- but then again, who does?"
11. "It's not like that at all. He's my brother."
12. "Mediocrities everywhere. I absolve you! I absolve you! I absolve you! I absolve you! I absolve you all!"
13. "I LOVE THIS TOWN!"
14. "Grandpa, maybe you could come over and read it again to me tomorrow." "As you wish."
15. "Hail to the king, baby."
16. "I look up at the moon, and wonder: When will we be going back? And who will that be?"
17. "You met me at a very strange time in my life."
18. "Go, bid the soldiers shoot."
19. But wherever they go, and whatever happens to them on the way, in that enchanted place on the top of the Forest, a little boy and his Bear will always be playing.
20. La commedia è finita!
21. Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody.
22. I never saw any of them again--except the cops. No way has yet been invented to say goodbye to them.
23. Zoom in to the hospital… inside a snowglobe.
24. That was the funeral of Hector.

Answers on page 27

25. So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.
26. “We once laughed at the horseless carriage, the aeroplane, the telephone, the electric light, vitamins, radio, and even television! And now some of us laugh at outer space. God help us... in the future."
27. But I reckon I got to light out for the Territory ahead of the rest, because Aunt Sally she’s going to adopt me and sivilize me and I can’t stand it. I been there before.
28. He would be there all night, and he would be there when Jem waked up in the morning.
29. He loved Big Brother.
30. For though he was master of the world, he was not quite sure what to do next. But he would think of something.
31. “Hey, you’ve been great! See you in the cafeteria!”
32. The old man was dreaming about the lions.
33. And strangest of all is it to hold my wife's hand again, and to think that I have counted her, and that she has counted me, among the dead.
34. "I'm too old for this."
35. Overhead, without any fuss, the stars were going out.
36. It was not till they had examined the rings that they recognized who it was.
37. “Sorry, we’re closed.”
38. “Where we go from there is a choice I leave to you."
39. The word “GOODBYE” spelled out in rocks on the edge of the helipad, then the chopper leaves.
40. "You're still here? It's over! Go home. Go!" ■

Do you know someone who should belong to American Mensa?

Free prior test score review through 2013!

Submit your qualifying scores from accepted intelligence tests before Dec. 31, 2013, and we will waive the review fee (a $40 savings). We accept the LSAT, GMAT, and a number of other tests including the Stanford Binet.

Find out about the qualifying tests we accept. American Mensa does not test children under the age of 14, so submitting prior test scores is a great way to get your child qualified for Mensa. Plus, many children have taken these tests as part of standard testing in a number of school districts.



Download the application at us.mensa.org/application, **enter code FPE2013**, and follow the instructions to receive free test score review this November and December.
Offer expires Dec. 31, 2013.

Events and Activities Continued

December: No lunch and target shooting this month, but it will resume in January. Due to cold weather, it will be at the Safe Shot indoor range in Reno in January.

Sushi Lovers
Saturday, Dec 7 at 6 p.m.
Tha Joint – This year's favorite!
222 Los Altos Pkwy, Sparks
(775) 626-8677
RSVP: ssmarticle@gmail.com,
NNM Facebook group, or (631) 398-6393

Lunch Bunch is cancelled for December.
Contact Don or Laura MacGregor
(775) 826-5904.

Mensa Program
Saturday, December 14, 6 p.m. Potluck dinner and Christmas party!
Our Hostess: Loren MacArthur.

Look forward to an evening of good food, good conversation and holiday spirits. The gift exchange, strictly optional, works like this: everyone bringing a gift takes a number. Number One chooses a gift, having no idea what it is and opens it; Number Two has the option of choosing another gift or taking Number One's gift. Number One then chooses a replacement gift, and Number three takes a turn — and so forth around the circle. No gift can change hands more than three times. The gifts themselves can be funny or an item you've — ummm — been wanting to get rid of. Purchased gifts have a price limit of $10. It's luck of the draw, and person with the highest number can take anyone's gift! Get ready for a little give and take.

Location. 6240 Stone Valley Drive, Reno. Phone: (775) 746-2938

Loren says a reservation at lmacarthur1015@gmail.com or by phone would help so she'll know how much eggnog to have ready.

Directions: Take I-80 west and exit on Robb Drive. Follow Robb to Mae Anne Avenue (second light), turn left, drive two blocks, then right on Stone Valley. 6240 is fifth house on the right. If driving on McCarran, turn west on Mae Anne past Robb to Stone Valley.

Contact Richard Arbib at Calendar@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

Metropolitan Opera Encore and Supper Club
Wednesday, 5 p.m. Meet for dinner or dessert prior to opera
Chocolate Bar, 95 N. Sierra St. Reno (775) 337-1122
6:30 p.m. Metropolitan Opera Encore
Century Riverside 12, 11 N. Sierra St. Reno (775) 786-2753
Wednesday, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. Verdi's *Falstaff*
For more information, synopsis, etc:
www.metoperafamily.org/metopera/liveinhd/LiveinHD.aspx
Contact Sandra at ssmarticle@gmail.com, NNM Facebook group.

Mensa Admissions Testing: First Saturday from 3-5 p.m.
December 7, January 4, at **Grassroots Books**, 660 E. Grove St., Reno. Contact Sandra Lackovic: Testing@northernnevada.us.mensa.org.

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 **Lunch & Target Shooting** Cancelled	4	5	6	**7 Mensa Testing** & **Sushi Lovers** Tha Joint
8	9	10	11	12 	13	**14 Mensa Program** Christmas Party at Loren's
15	16	17	**18 Supper Club and the Opera** Chocolate Bar	19	20	21 Winter Solstice
22	23	24 **Lunch Bunch** Cancelled	25 Christmas	26 Kwanzaa begins	27	28
29	30	31	Jan 1 New Year's Day			**Jan 4 Mensa Testing** Grass-roots Books

January Monthly Meeting, Saturday, January 11. Dinner and speaker at Famous Dave's Restaurant 4925 Kietzke Lane, Reno. Time: Dinner at 6 p.m. Speaker around 7 p.m. Vicki Kawelmacher, founder and CEO of The Women's Safety Academy, will present the Home Safety Hour. Hear her powerful personal story and you will understand why she is so passionate about your safety.

The Spirits of Giving

by Anna Wright

Each of these names represents a "Spirit of Giving" from somewhere around the world. Find the regions of origin in the grid. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line.

I M H O L L A N D D R E I T A L Y
A M I N N O R W A Y G O F A W H I
T P M U I G L E B E C H R N I S T
M A O S J U S F T L I Y A K M E T
D N A L T O C S R H N P E D E I O
N E S I A U S E D A A T O N X L N
G A K N O N W M M J N A Y A I I I
R Y I O U R D R I D A C N L C H A
E Y S M B L E E R M E I E N O C P
E R D A E G I R E Y H A N I D P S
C B N H I H R Z L C I G H F O R T
E A A N U R O D A M A Y A R U U L
L Y L O U N T B N R R C T S S H R
I S G T M A G S D S B U S A E S B
E W N H I T E A U A G I N D P E A
C E E O N E A R R A A T H J W K W
I I A W A H J M L Y B W Z P C K K



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Kriss Kringle _____
Old Nick _____
King Winceslas _____
Papai Noel _____
Viejo Pascuero _____
Dun Che Lao Ren (nice old father) _____
Father Christmas _____
Joulupukki _____
Pere Noel _____
Weihnachtsmann _____
Hagios Nikolaos _____
Kanakaloka _____
De Kerstman _____

Mikulas _____
Wren Boy _____
Babbo Natale _____
Hoteiosho (god who brings gifts) _____
Pancho Navidad _____
Juleniessen (Christmas gnome) _____
Swiety Mikolaj _____
Padre Nicholas _____
Ded Moroz _____
First Footer _____
Papa Noel _____
Bellsnickle _____

Answers on page 26

(LocSec continued from page 5)

ing. I'm by no means a vegetarian and can only ask that the meat I consume is humanely dispatched. I don't believe in the death penalty, though sometimes it seems like a necessary evil. Shooting can be an interesting sport, but guns, by and large are not trivial, but serious business.

Three important points: 1) When confronted with gunfire, find and obtain cover. 2) There is no such thing as an unloaded gun. 3) When confronted with deadly force, a gun is maybe the only the answer.

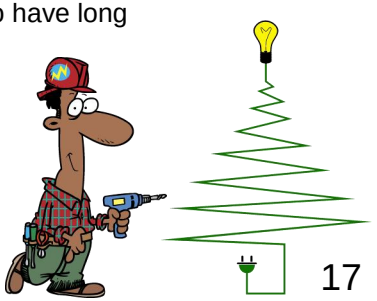
The Rose

Kind of harsh for a last column and especially for the holiday season, but it lets me segue into making mention of my Rose. Cops have a notoriously high divorce rate. In some respects that could just be an excuse for not trying. I've been married more than once. People have commented that Mary and I seem to have an enviable relationship. That's flattering. And I feel that we do have a great relationship. Mainly because of Mary, I'd have to say. Sort of like that song, if anyone might be familiar with it, "Desperado." I let someone in by coming in from "riding that range" of being duty bound to do the right thing. Doing the right thing to the extent that I didn't have to let myself be too vulnerable. At long last, along came Mary. It didn't hurt that she's a family therapist. Toward the end of my thirty-five year police career, I began to change. I didn't just get older and not necessarily became "more vulnerable" — just less uptight, less ready to take my self too seriously. (One of her father's favorites aphorisms was "Thirty years from now no one will know the difference.") We (she, I and our extraordinary daughter) moved here from Marin County in the San Francisco Bay Area in 1999. We've been living pretty much happily since, our daughter having gone to college and moved on (a bit). My wonderful son from a previous marriage lives nearby.

Life is good. The simple recipe ingredients for that good life come from my Mary: kindness, patience, mutual respect, laughter, and, of course, love.

Thank you, Northern Nevada Mensa, for allowing me to be your LocSec these past eight years. 'Twas a nice ride. I should say that, as Mary makes me look good. Ken and Anna Wright, Carole Preisach, Gerry Lockhart, Annemarie McTaggart, Mindy Hsu, Richard Arbib, Ed Hanley, Anne Stewart, Sandra Lackovic, Bill Kositzky, Prof. Mark Simkin, Dr. Howard Chen, John Recht — all local Mensa brains and persons extraordinaire who have long been regular contributors to our chapter's good will — have all made me take undue credit for a successful run. Here's hoping for our continuing success.

Have a joyous holiday season and I wish everyone great New Years to come. . ■





Our hostesses: Anne Stewart and Anna Wright





Fiesta for Education



Also thanks to those who donated items for our raffle: Robbie and Leigh Lunt, Bob McAllister, Anne Stewart, Anna Wright.



Thank you to Grassroots Books for donating a $25 gift certificate for our door prize.







Our thanks to all who attended. Through your generosity, we raised $351 for scholarships.

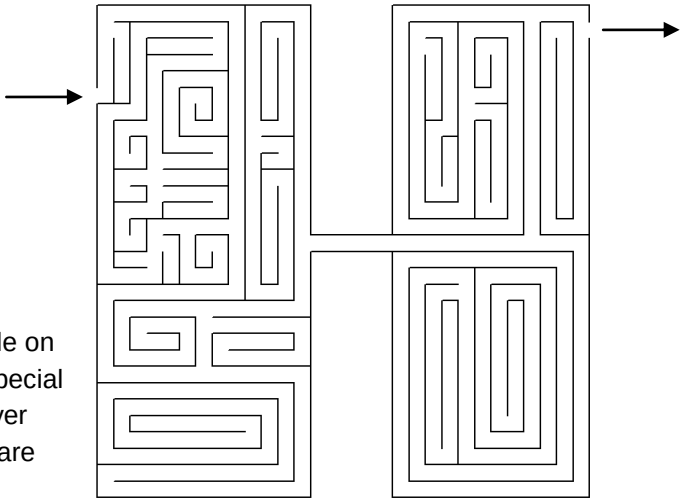






Mensa for Kids! *(and kids at heart) by Julie Kriss*





Research Project

In the word search puzzle on page16, there are two special names that you may never have seen before. Who are the Wren Boy and First Footer?

Answers begin on page 24.

C R Q F N P S Y P S A N X K K
Q H R O N K T L L T K K Q W K
J J R Y L I M A F F Q D A C S
H H K I N O Q W G I C N O B P
L C A U S U A G P G Z I K K R
T I V C F T T P E A C E S J C
N Z G F Y W M J A B U H T U Z
V P W H D D X A P M G A P C M
E V O L T Q V C S C F N B I H
L Q Z M X Q F F P O E U B O B
E C U P L A T Z O N K K C H G
M F E D H W R D D R S K S I E
L D R M N B E K X O G A K Q Q
O C B A P P E T R U Z H H I E
V R Q F D S Q B K X L R U K F

Holidays Word Search

Christmas	Peace
Kwanzaa	Music
Hanukkah	Light
Family	Love
Unity	Tree
Gifts	Food

Number Blocks

Use the numbers from 1 to 10 to fill the spaces in the grid. The correct sums for each of the rows, columns, and the two diagonals are found in the separate boxes.

9			6	18
	6	9		26
10			5	26
				22
30	24	14	24	26

28



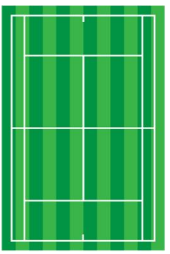
Graffiti Wall

by Anna Wright



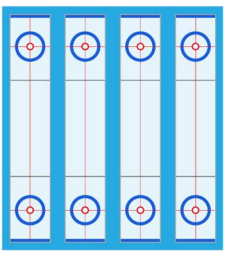


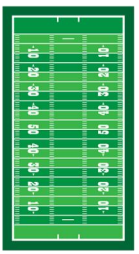




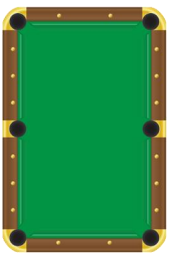
Easier:
Match the sports equipment to the "fields" of play.

Harder:
Rank the sports by the size of the playing "field." Each icon represents the regulation size in competition. (no minis)

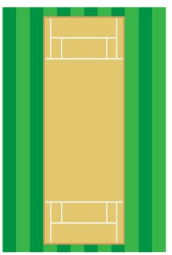














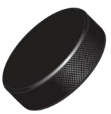
















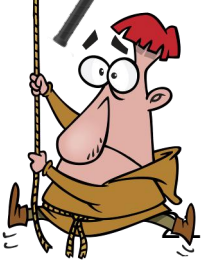












From the RVC *by Harold Ward*



The American Mensa board of directors met in October in the suburbs between Dallas and Fort Worth. Since this was the first meeting of the current board after we assumed office at this year's AG, we visited the national office in Arlington, Texas. While there, we had the opportunity to meet many of our organization's staff in person rather than only over the phone and by email.

Our day on Friday, October 4, was spent in presentations about the efforts in place to improve Mensa and help us better attract, engage and retain members. The highlights of these were:

- A presentation by AML Marketing Director John McGill and Development Officer Dr. John Sheehan. Their discussion was part tutorial presenting the four major components of the American Mensa development plan: public relations, marketing, advertising, publicity and licensing. All of these have tactics and ties to our strategic plan. You may have seen John McGill's coup when he managed to insinuate a group of lab-coated Ms into the cheering section when Bill Nye, "The Science Guy" appeared on "Dancing with the Stars."
- A presentation by Communications Officer Marc Lederman, Roger Brooks, Publications Director and Howard Prince, Director of Operations. Roger discussed several improvements in the Mensa Bulletin and announced that we will soon be able to view it online and, optionally, obtain our copies as pdf documents, which should result in some serious printing and postage cost reductions as a large fraction of Ms opt to receive their copies online rather than on paper. Paper recipients should see little or no change in their copies but online recipients will now have better access to the content in the magazine and our organization will have another bit of feedback from members. Howard discussed American Mensa's efforts to become more visible to eligible Americans through social media like Facebook, Twitter, etc. He also pointed out a number a new features of interest to local group volunteers in our website's fifth iteration including many new online tools, the fact that we are rolling out an improved Mensa Forum with new software and the announcement of a new feature called the "Compendium" to go online, if all goes well, later in this year. The Compendium will give site visitors better access to Mensa history, volunteer training materials and much more.

The actual board meeting included a briefing by Mark Silverstein, American Mensa's Interpretive Counsel, to help us understand issues related to legalese terms the board may encounter. On the agenda were a large number of motions involving shortening, clarifying and removing previously enacted ASIEs*. Merci-

fully, there were fewer ASIEs added although the list of actions still in effect is still not a little light reading for any of us.

The motion that made the most waves this time was to forbid members from bringing lethal weapons to major national Mensa gathering such as the AG. It was extensively argued on both sides and very narrowly approved. I received a handful of civil and constructive comments about it from this region's advocates of second amendment rights but no feedback at all from members in the region who might support this new action still in effect. Also of note was:

- A $10 discount for all dues paying adult members on their AG registration beginning in 2015
- A codification of a practice under which AG Committee members are able to get the lowest registration cost even if they are late to register, so volunteer for your local AG Committee!
- Permission for American Mensa to rent its address and email lists to selected advertisers. Note that no member's particulars are being disclosed to advertisers directly and that any member will be able to opt out. This effort is expected to earn between $8,000 - $12,000 per year.

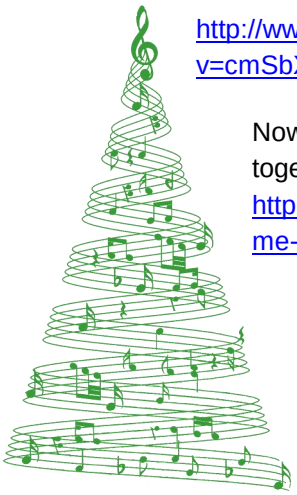
You may read/download/print the agenda for board meetings before the meeting and the minutes of board meeting afterward by visiting us.mensa.org, logging in, clicking "Lead" then "Board of directors" then "Meeting reports". Then click the "Select meeting" drop-down, etc.

I hope everyone in attendance enjoyed *Brilliance by the *East* Bay*. Our next regional gathering, *BeavRG XVI*, will be held over the weekend of May 8-10, 2014 in Vancouver, Washington and is hosted by Oregon Mensa. Mark your calendars. ■

* ASIE (sometimes spelled out; sometimes as the acronym "aysee") is the abbreviation for action(s) still in effect — rulings by the board while awaiting changes in the bylaws.

We've all enjoyed Anna Kendrick's hit song nicknamed the cups song. Bet you've not heard it done this way! Here's the original hit:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmSbXsFE3l8



Now watch 600 Irish kids do it together and in Gaelic!
http://www.flixxy.com/the-cup-song-you-re-gonna-miss-me-when-im-gone.htm



It could be the perfect way to dance your way into fame.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q4FYNF02yEM

Links provided by Anne Stewart. Thanks!

Notes from Your ExComm: November 16, 2013

- Present were Bob McAllister, LocSec; Gerry Lockhart, 2nd Vice-Secretary; Anna Wright, *Neva-Mind* Editor; and Ed Hanley, Past LocSec. Also present were Barbara Day, Elections Chair; and other members-at-large.
- Barbara Day gave an update on the ExComm election. Ballots are still arriving and the turnout is better this time than last. (Reminder, you still have time to cast your ballot until December 10. Your ballot can be found in the November issue of *Neva-Mind*.)
- We are also reminded that our New Webmaster, Alan Lattaner, needs a software update. Searches are currently being made for software packages. Financial impact is not yet known. This issue will also be taken up by the new ExComm.
- Meeting adjourned — Anna Wright

1	Golf course	highly variable, but clearly the largest area	many acres
2	Cricket Pitch	not consistent, diameter varies from 450 ft. to 500 ft.	160,000 sq. ft. to 200,000 sq. ft. or 17,600 to 21,800 sq. yd.
3	Baseball Field	variable, but about 2 acres	87,000 sq. ft. or 10,000 sq. yd.
4	Soccer Field	FIFA: (*Fédération Internationale de Football Association*): 120 yd. by 70 to 80 yd.	8,400 sq. yd. to 9,600 sq. yd.
5	Football Field	100-110 yd. by 53.3 yd.	5,300 sq. yd. to 5,800 sq. yd.
6	Ice Hockey Rink	200 ft. by 85 ft. (North American. International is larger.)	16,000 to 20,000 sq. yd.
7	Basketball Court	NBA: 94 ft. by 50 ft.	4,700 sq. ft. or522 sq. yd.
8	Tennis Court	78 ft. by 36 ft. wide (smaller for singles play)	2,808 sq. ft. or 312 sq. yd.
9	Curling Sheet	WCF: 160 ft. by 16 ft. 5 in but may be reduced to fit existing ice rinks if necessary	2,627 sq. ft. or 292 sq. yd.
10	Billiard Table	IOC and WBA: 2 sizes for competition, 8 ft. by 4 ft. and 9 ft. by 4.5 ft.	32 sq. ft. to 40.5 sq. ft. or 3.5 sq. yd. to 4.5 sq. yd.

Mensa for Kids

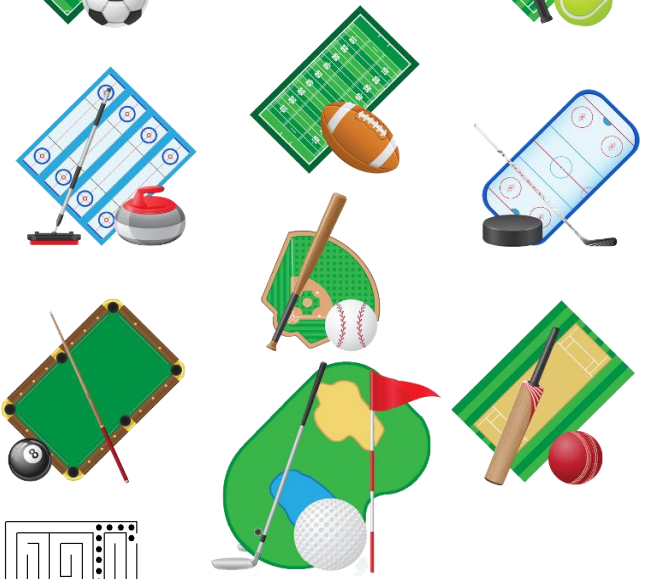
answers:

Easier:

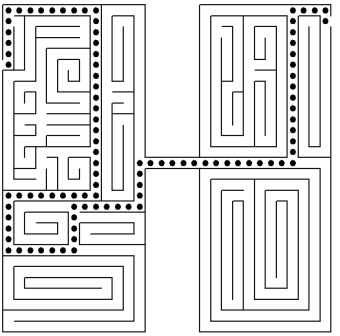


Research project:
Wren Boy
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wren_Day

First Footer
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Footer



Harder: (approximates)



Number Blocks

				28
9	1	2	6	18
7	6	9	4	26
10	9	2	5	26
4	8	1	9	22
30	24	14	24	26

Holidays Word Search

G R Q F N P S Y P S A N X K K
Q H R O N K T L L T K K Q W K
J J R Y L I M A F F Q D A C S
H H K I N O Q W G G N O B P
L C A U S U A G P G Z I K K R
T I V C F T T P E A C E S J C
N Z G F Y W M J A B U H T U Z
V P W H D D X A P M G A P C M
E V O L T Q V C S C F N B I H
L Q Z M X Q F F P O E U B O B
E C U P L A T Z O N K K C H G
M F E D H W R D D R S K S I E
L D R M N B E K X O G A K Q Q
O C B A P P E T R U Z H H I E
V R Q F D S Q B K X L R U K F



Spirits of Giving

Answers:



Kriss Kringle	Austria
Old Nick	Belgium
King Winceslas	Bohemia
Papai Noel	Brazil
Viejo Pascuero	Chili
Dun Che Lao Ren (nice old father)	China
Father Christmas	England
Joulupukki	Finland
Pere Noel	France
Weihnachtsmann	Germany
Hagios Nikolaos	Greece
Kanakaloka	Hawaii
De Kerstman	Holland

Mikulas	Hungary
Wren Boy	Ireland
Babbo Natale	Italy
Hoteiosho (god who brings gifts)	Japan
Pancho Navidad	Mexico
Juleniessen (Christmas gnome)	Norway
Swiety Mikolaj	Poland
Padre Nicholas	Spain
Ded Moroz	Russia
First Footer	Scotland
Papa Noel	France
Bellsnickle	U.S.A. (antique)

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Puzzle Page answers:

1. *Life of Pi* (Book)
2. *The Sopranos* (TV)
3. *A Clockwork Orange* (Movie)
4. *Gone With the Wind* (Book and movie)
5. *Psycho* (Movie)
6. *Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (Movie)
7. *Jaws* (Movie)
8. *Annie Hall* (Movie)
9. *Airplane!* (Movie)
10. *Blade Runner* (Movie — director's cut)
11. *Return of the Jedi* (Movie)
12. *Amadeus* (Movie)
13. *Ghostbusters* (Movie)
14. *The Princess Bride* (Movie)
15. *Army of Darkness* (Movie)
16. *Apollo 13* (Movie)
17. *Fight Club* (Movie)
18. *Hamlet* (Play)
19. *The House at Pooh Corner* (Book)
20. *Pagliacci* (Opera)
21. *The Catcher in the Rye* (Book)
22. *The Long Goodbye* (Book)
23. *St. Elsewhere* (TV)
24. *The Iliad* (Literature)
25. *The Great Gatsby* (Book)
26. *Plan 9 From Outer Space* (Movie)
27. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (Book)
28. *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Book and Movie)
29. *1984* (Book)
30. *2001* (Book)
31. *Seinfeld* (TV)
32. *The Old Man and the Sea* (Book)
33. *War of the Worlds* (Book)
34. *Lethal Weapon* (Movie)
35. *The Nine Billion Names of God* (short story)
36. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* (Book)
37. *Cheers* (TV)
38. *The Matrix* (Movie)
39. *M*A*S*H* (TV)
40. *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (Movie)

Mensa-Speak *What are we saying?*

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

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