Neva-Mind

The most popular pets in the U.S. are dogs, cats, fish, birds, horses, rabbits, turtles, hamsters, lizards, guinea pigs, and ferrets.



Neva-Mind, Northern Nevada Mensa

Volume 37, Issue 2, February 2013

Northern Nevada Mensa Volunteers

Executive Committee

LOCAL SECRETARY
Robert McAllister 849-2269
LocSec@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

FIRST VICE-SECRETARY
Ken Wright 423-4694
strtwlkr2@charter. net

SECOND VICE-SECRETARY
Gerald Lockhart 882-0868
g-lockhart@sbcglobal.net

TREASURER
Carole Preisach 847-4431
Treasurer@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

PAST LOCAL SECRETARY
Ed Hanley 746-0741
ezeflyer@nvbell.net

***NEVA-MIND* EDITOR**
Anna Wright 423-4694
Editor@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

Appointed Officers

PROGRAM CHAIR
Richard Arbib
Calendar@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

GIFTED CHILDREN COORDINATOR
Jennifer Sanches
GiftedChildren@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

WEBMASTER
Mindy Hsu
Webmaster@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

TESTING COORDINATOR
Mindy Hsu
mindyhsu2002@yahoo.com

TEST PROCTORS
Fallon
Anna Wright 423-4694
pirsqrd@charter.net
Reno/Sparks
Annemarie McTaggart 747-7636
jsbach1630@sbcglobal.net
Mindy Hsu
mindyhsu2002@yahoo.com

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR
Anna Wright 423-4694
pirsqrd@charter.net

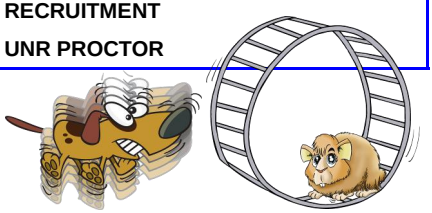
AREA COORDINATORS
Churchill County
Ken Wright 423-4694
strtwlkr2@charter. net
Other Areas Volunteers needed

***NEVA-MIND* DISTRIBUTION**
Robert McAllister 849-2269
robertjmcallister@earthlink.net

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
Sandra Lackovic
ssmarticle@gmail.com

REGIONAL VICE-CHAIR
Debra Reiger
rvc8@us.mensa.org

Volunteers Needed:
MEDIATOR/ARBITRATOR
HISTORIAN
TEST PROCTORS
S.I.G.H.T. COORDINATOR
RECRUITMENT
UNR PROCTOR



"To live long, eat like a cat, drink like a dog." - German Proverb





An Invitation

From the Editor and Scholarship Chair
Anna Wright

Famous Dave's BBQ, 4925 Kietzke Lane, Reno

$25 each, Saturday, March 9, at 6 p.m.

You and 5 table companions will dine on

Dave's Famous Feast:

St. Louis-style Spareribs, Country Roast Chicken, Corn-on-the-cobs, Famous Fries, and Corn Bread Muffins.

Additional choice of Texas Beef Brisket, Georgia Chopped Pork, or Hot Link Sausage.

Then choose two sides: Wilbur Beans, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, or Drunkin' Apples.

Feast served family-style.

Bring a friend!

All funds collected by Northern Nevada Mensa stay right here for use by Northern Nevada Mensans.

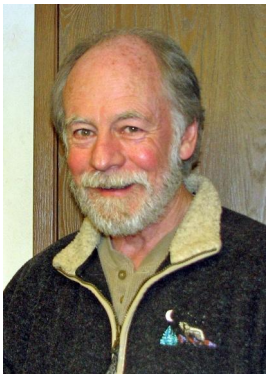
Tickets on-line:
http://northernnevada.us.mensa.org/paypal1.html

Your ticket price includes <u>everything</u>:
dinner, dessert, a non-alcoholic drink,
(No host bar is just steps away),
tax and tip, plus a donation to
the Northern Nevada Mensa Scholarship Fund.



From the LocSec

by Bob McAllister



There are a couple of chemical series that don't fit into the usual elemental groupings. They are called the lanthanide and actinide series. (All of the actinides are radioactive: thorium, uranium, plutonium.) Collectively, they are referred to as rare earth elements. They aren't rare and not really "earths." Because they almost always are in dispersed form and not found as abundant ore deposits (iron, gold), they are rarely encountered in their true form. It was difficult, early on, as the elemental world of different chemicals began to become more apparent, to separate those elements from their mineral forms. Though suspected to exist, due to Mendeleev's formulation of the periodic table, they weren't easily isolated. In a mineral-rich quarry near a Swedish town called Ytterby, isolation of rare earth elements was finally accomplished.

Eventually more were found and they didn't fit into the niches dictated by the periodic table. Ytterbium, terbium and even yttrium and scandium (these last two not technically rare earths) are all named after that Swedish town, Ytterby.

Now, in our ostensible modern times, the relatively abundant "rare" earths have proven to be a boon in technology. Used in medicine, metallurgy, lasers, and powerful magnets — all now indispensible to our current technology.

A few oddities, some rare earths, when alloyed with actual metals, connote attributes unthought-of:

- **Erbium:** doping fiber-optic cables with this element essentially can create a light amplifier doubling light's intensity, strengthening internet and other data transfer venues.
- **Ytterbium:** an alloying agent used in strengthening steel, used in new aircraft alloys which are lighter and stronger than previous alloying additions.
- **Lutetium:** (A pre-Roman name for Paris — Lutetia) medical imaging as only it can do.
- **Terbium:** sci-fi shape changing. When alloyed, it changes its shape in a magnetic field (military uses, so far). When electronically stimulated, flat surfaces can be turned into sound amplifiers — music from windows, mirrors, and table tops.
- **Dysprosium:** (Along with europium and terbium) is more valuable than gold — two, three and four times more costly per ounce. There's a reason: dysprosium comes from Greek to mean "difficult to obtain." One of its attributes is that it "likes" to absorb neutrons. Good for alloyed nuclear reactor rods

in reactor damping processes. It's even used in producing CDs and hard discs for storage.

- **Holmium:** used for super magnets.
- **Yttrium:** in metallurgy is used to make super, ceramic steel for coating the likes of jet engines.

There are many other uses. Dental restorations. Even bulletproof glass.

And, who are the people who seem to have "cornered the market" and are benefitting the greatest from this new technology? Not us. Not Russia.

China. The country that approaches things with a realistic approach to practicality. As I've said before, China is not held hostage to a political cycle of a "get elected at all costs" approach that would go to two-, four-, and six-year cycles. They plan toward a realistic expectation — the future.

The world is becoming as dependent on rare elements as it has become on fossil fuels.

The Baotou Research Institute for Rare Earths in Inner Mongolia was established in 1963 at the behest of Mao Zedong. It has been going on for a while. Foresight. There are an estimated 110 metric tonnes of non-ferrous rare earth metals on our planet. China has a good half. They command the market. They are using their command to their advantage. The U.S.A. has some reserves. They are not being utilized. There are a lot of boring statistical numbers that could be put out and, let it merely be said, this is an important area in which we (U.S.A.) have become woefully left behind.

So, to digress, sort of, there is another element that isn't a rare earth, and, still, has some similarities.

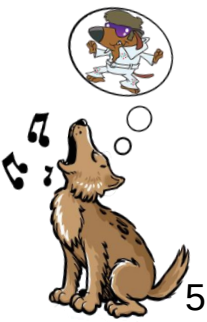
Tungsten. It has new-found qualities in metallurgy and electronics.

It used to be called Wolfram (hence its elemental designation "W").

The name Wolfram comes from a Nordic denigration. It was an "earthy" substance that seemed to mimic valuable (at the time) ore deposits that inured to tin. It (Wolfram) seemed to degrade tin even as it was being smelted. "Wolf" and "rahm" basically mean wolf scat. It was (then) more than worthless. Now valuable, it is called Tungsten (another etymological story).

That, in a round about way, brings me to "wolf."

Our talented editor asked our readership about unusual, neat exotic animals with which our membership might have a tale or two.



Mary and I had the moving experience to have "in our family-pack" a wolf. She was given to us as such. I can't say whether she was a wolf-dog hybrid. A high school friend of mine had a neighbor whom he (high school friend) described as a consummate yuppie. He managed a high profile Italian restaurant in the San Francisco Marina dis-

(Continued on page 13)



Meet a Mensan

an interview by Mindy Hsu

Meet Ashley Cullins.

Tell me something I would know about you if I knew you well for a year.

I'm very goofy. I'm serious when I need to be, but I have the sense of humor of a 12-year-old sometimes, and I love to laugh and make others laugh.

What was the first time you knew you might be different from other people?

I've never really felt different, but I remember points during my life when other people pointed things out to me. My junior year of college my professor mentioned that I was a perfectionist in casual conversation, and I had never realized I was until then. Then in graduate school a different professor told me my brain fascinated him because he'd never met anyone who thinks the way I do. Even now that I know I am different, I still don't really notice it very often.

What are the Pluses/Minuses/Interesting things about your job/career?

As a reporter, I meet new people and learn new things every day. Every day is different. I never know what to expect, and it keeps me on my toes. I also get to do things that most people don't, such as riding along with formation flyers, getting a tour of the Tahoe Douglas Bomb Squad's truck, and interviewing Jon Hamm (aka Don Draper of "Mad Men"). But because my job is so unpredictable, I often work long, crazy hours, have to cancel social plans at the last minute, and miss out on fun events.

If you were to put a bumper sticker on your car, what would it be? / What is a principle that you live your life by?

It would have to be either "Do or do not. There is no try." (Yoda) or "So it goes." (Kurt Vonnegut)

If you gave a 30-minute talk to Mensans, what would the topic be?

Public speaking. It's something that makes most people nervous, and some nauseated, but it's an important skill that helps just about anyone on a daily basis. And it's easier than you might think. ■



"A house without either a cat or a dog
is the house of a scoundrel." - Portuguese Proverb





February



3	**Peter Boyum**	Reno
8	**Howard Chen**	Reno
9	**Cathy Castro**	Incline Village
13	**Frederick Jones**	Yerington
17	**Judith Crillo**	Reno
19	**Steve Packer**	Reno
22	**William Mainland**	Portola
25	**Louise Lang**	Reno
26	**Carole Preisach**	VC Highlands
27	**Lynn Hendricks**	Carson City

Hi,

Are there any members of Northern Nevada Mensa who are "seriously" interested in **art? or "fine art" photography?**

If yes, then I would like to meet and/or be in contact with them — maybe occasionally meet at "Dave's Dingy Diner"?

Thanks, Mauri mauri4476@hotmail.com

ExComm

did not meet on January 13 due to lack of a quorum.



Game On!

The Biggest Little Team is always looking for new members to join us. Are you a trivia buff? A bit competitive? This just might be for you!

Sunday, April 28

Email Anna: editor@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

CultureQuest®

The Sympathy Scammers

by Mark Simkin



They appear at the worst possible time: in the face of terrible setbacks or natural disasters. These are the individuals who prey on the sympathy of others. And while their methods vary, their objective is always the same: your money. Here are some common ploys:

Illnesses: If you have not received an email from Nigeria, asking you to help someone who is ill, I would like to meet you — you'd be my first! The story is bogus, the writer is a scammer, and any money you send them will never be enough. I find it hard to believe these things still work, but they must — or we wouldn't keep getting them. Domestic variations on this theme also abound, ranging from requests to help child cancer patients to advertisements for miracle, snake-oil cures for debilitating diseases.

Religion: Many Americans make charitable contributions through affinity groups — especially their church groups. Knowing this, online scammers exploit this willingness for personal gains. In a typical ploy, a church member will get an email from a "recent convert" who is currently struggling with adversity. The writer "just knows" that you will help him or her because you are a fellow (fill in the blank). Arizona has identified church "affinity scams" as the number one problem in the state.

A recent variant of religious frauds are equipment-leasing scams that specifically target church groups. The ploy begins when church elders receive an offer from an anonymous donor to lease heavily-discounted office copiers, computers, or similar equipment. When the elders accept, an office supply company delivers the equipment, and the church pays a third party, never realizing that the scammer is pocketing the payments. The scam comes to light when that same company comes to reclaim its unpaid equipment.

Disasters: Floods, tornados, hurricanes, and earthquakes are all perfect opportunities for fraudsters to solicit funds to help the victims. Immediately after hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, for example, there were over 4,000 websites ostensibly collecting monies to help its victims. But the FBI estimated that over 60% of those websites were bogus. The recent earth quake in Haiti is another example, where even the Red Cross had to pay "blood money" to gov-



Photo: http://markdmckinney.com/tornadofacts.html

ernment port officials in order to get them to release emergency medical supplies languishing on the docks.

Pet Scams: Some people are devout animal lovers, and therefore prime targets for pet scams. In one example, an online picture or email shows a pet too lovable to be euthanized. All you must do to save it is to pay the shipping. But if you fall for this bait, you must send the money right away, after which, you'll learn that there will be additional charges for shots, inspections, and so forth. A similar scam involves websites that solicit funds for fictitious animal shelters or for the expressed purpose of protecting endangered animals. It's all bogus, and you're the guinea pig!

Synopsis

Protecting yourself against sympathy scammers is not difficult. Rule Number 1 is "don't send money to anyone you don't know." This is an easy rule to follow for illness scammers, but is more difficult if you want to contribute to the relief aid for the victims of natural disasters. In that case, you should stick to known charities such as the International Red Cross. In other cases, heed the advice of the experts: verify, verify, verify!

For further reading: renotahoe.about.com/od/newrenotahoeresidents/a/Avoiding-Scams-And-Fraud-In-Reno.htm.

*Mark G. Simkin is a Professor of Information Systems at the University of Nevada, Reno. ■



Take advantage of the low early registration rates.

American Mensa's AG 2013, Fort Worth, Texas.

http://ag2013.us.mensa.org/



Pair your trip with MERF's "Between Science Fiction and Science" **Colloquium**, same place, one day earlier on July 2.



Only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the noonday sun." - Indian Proverb



Ask the Doctor *by Dr. Howard Chen*

"I'm seeing a lot of ads for "probiotics" lately, both in pill form and also added to foods like yogurt. Is this a miracle bandwagon I should rush to jump on or just another marketing hype?"

To understand whether or not probiotics can be helpful for you, it is first important to define “probiotics” and have an idea of their common uses. “Probiotics” are generally defined as live, helpful bacteria, which are compatible with and normally colonize our intestines. They can be ingested in various forms which, among others, include capsules, powders, drinks, and in yogurt. Probiotic bacteria are generally marketed as an aid in certain digestive disorders, including inflammatory bowel disease, irritable bowel syndrome, and antibiotic and infectious diarrheas. They are also commonly used in the treatment of allergic symptoms, and some skin diseases such as eczema/atopic dermatitis.

There are multiple families and strains of bacteria that are generally considered to be “probiotic.” Some of the common families include *Lactobacillus* and *Bifidobacterium*. Other common strains include *E. Coli Nissle* 1917, *Clostridium butyricum*, *Streptococcus salivarius*, and *Saccharomyces boulardii*.

“Probiotics” should differentiated from “prebiotics”, which are edible, but non-digestible carbohydrates that promote the growth and activity of the probiotic bacteria. Another term, “synbiotics” denotes the combinatory use of prebiotics and probiotics together.

Current medical research does show some promise in the use of probiotics for decreasing the duration of infectious diarrhea, preventing traveler's diarrhea or antibiotic associated diarrhea. Furthermore, probiotics have also been shown to improve some of the symptoms of inflammatory bowel diseases (ie. Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn’s disease), as well as irritable bowel syndrome and atopic dermatitis/eczema. Current research does not yet support the use of probiotics for constipation, lactose intolerance, allergies, or other conditions not listed above.

One of the major difficulties in generalizing research results, however, is the multitude of different families and strains of probiotic bacteria that have been studied. Unfortunately, it does appear that the benefits of probiotics may be limited to different strains for different indications. Furthermore, because each family and strain of probiotic bacteria has different abilities to withstand the rigors of the digestive system and colonize the intestinal tract, the required dosage of probi-

otic bacteria, as well as the duration of treatment, varies significantly. Finally, the specific families and strains of bacteria used in medical research may not necessarily be widely available over the counter.

Currently, I recommend a trial of probiotic bacteria if you have a condition (as listed above) that research supports. Over the counter, I recommend "*Jarro-Dophilus*" capsules, as they contain a majority of the studied probiotic strains, and are easily available over the counter. Other products with multiple strains of probiotic bacteria can be considered as well. Daily dose should be at least 10 billion organisms or "colony forming units." Daily use is generally without side effects. A well researched probiotic powder or capsule known as "VSL#3" is available through your doctor's office for treatment of inflammatory bowel diseases. I do not currently recommend the use of yogurt with "active cultures," or Activia® yogurt, due to their lack of adequate levels of multiple probiotic strains, as well as their trace lactose content, which may worsen digestive symptoms in some patients.

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

*Dr. Chen is board certified by the American Board of Family Medicine, a fellow of the American Academy of Medical Acupuncture, and the Supervising Physician of Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine at Renown, Reno. ■

Northern Nevada Mensa wishes to thank

Grassroots Books

660 East Grove Street
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.



GrassrootsBOOKS



Cover Credits *Anna Wright*

Unusual pets seem to be the norm for my family. Both photos (here and on the cover) were taken a few years ago of my daughter's family pet, an iguana. And yes, we made her a yarn wig and dressed her up for her Mensa portrait. ■

"If you are a host to your guest,
be a host to his dog also." - Russian Proverb

Puzzle Page

by Travis McCord

Speaking for Madam Editor and myself... we get no feedback on this. Damn near zero. There are times when I wonder if my energy would be better spent elsewhere.

Then I remember "Sing until you have no voice... sing because you have no choice..." Needless to say, that's a lyric. Of course it's from a Canadian band that easily qualifies as "obscure" here, but it's still good advice for some situations. (And the first one who can guess how that song got on my radar wins a cookie.)

In fact, there are quite a few songs that give advice to the listener. Now, granted, many give you advice you can't use, like "Mars ain't the kind of place to raise your kids" (1972), or may have advice you don't want to hear, like "Get a haircut and get a real job". But there are still a few songs with advice worth listening to. Some of that advice is below, along with the years they were on the charts. Name those tunes and artists.

- Just because you've become a young man now, there's still some things that you don't understand now... (1960)
- Get an ugly girl to marry you (1963)
- Don't follow leaders, and watch your parking meters (1965)
- Remember to let her into your heart (1968)
- Go placidly amid the noise and waste, and remember what comfort there may be in owning a piece thereof. (1972)
- Troubles will come and they will pass. You'll find a woman and you'll find love. (1973)
- You better let somebody love you, before it's too late (1973)
- Get up, get back on your feet, you're the one they can't beat and you know it (1977)
- Shape it up, get straight, go forward, move ahead (1980)
- Pay attention to the magistrate (1980)
- Growin' up leads to growin' old and then to dyin'... don't sound like all that much fun (1983)
- Live those dreams, scheme those schemes (1984)
- If you are confused, check with the sun. Carry a compass to help you along (1989)



- Believe in yourself, the rest is up to me and you (1994)
- Everyone's got to face down the demons (1997)
- Question everything or shut up and be a victim of authority (2000)
- Your first impression's got to be your very best (2003)
- Never let your fear decide your fate (Now)

PS: If you like these puzzles, or hate them, or have an opinion on anything else in the *Neva-Mind*, please let us know. ■

Answers on page 21



Join us for Mind Games® 2013, April 19-21!

St. Louis Airport Marriott, 10700 Pear Tree Lane, St. Louis, MO 63134
http://www.mindgames.us.mensa.org/register/

(***LocSec*** *continued from page 5)*



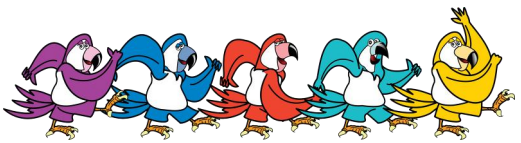
trict, drove a high end BMW, had an obligatory house with a view in San Francisco, and had what seemed to be a "trophy-wife." To make the picture complete, he acquired an exotic "pet" — a wolf.

Wolves are not destined to be "pets." She wouldn't "shake," "sit," "lie down," "heel," nor accede to any other pointless "commands" and so languished in the owner's backyard — isolated.

I had the privilege to rescue her. She seemed eternally to be grateful to "join my pack." Kika kept the other canines in the pack in line. She never challenged me nor Mary. Our daughter, Sarah, came into being and was raised with her. People would ask how I could endanger my family (and strangers) by keeping a wild animal in proximity. Wolves, in my experience, aren't like that at all. Kika was never anything less than a grateful family member.

Wolves live, if they are lucky, to be six to eight years old in the wild. Kika was sixteen when we sadly had to put down her arthritic, pained, deteriorating self.

We shortly after acquired a wolf-dog hybrid. Nice animal. Exotic. Not at all the same. ■



Events and Activities:

February Monthly Program: Second Saturdays, 6 p.m.

- **Saturday, February 9 at 6 p.m. sharp** (Eat at 6 p.m., speaker at 7 p.m.) Location: **Bangkok Cuisine South**, 5851 South Virginia Street, Reno, across the street from Meadowood Mall. The rear dining room is reserved for us.
  Speaker: Peggy Rew is a Sparks-based wordsmith, poet, educator, pet nanny and Nevada's only American Red Cross Dog and Cat First Aid and CPR instructor. She travels to groups interested in Pet First Aid classes including national conventions for Guide Dog Users and Puppy Raisers. Our pets need us to be pack leaders who take control of any situation...emergency or not. Knowing basic pet first aid can save a life or at best, calm a situation so the appropriate decisions can be made. It takes a perceptive pet parent to notice and take charge! Her talk will include First Aid tidbits and info about the many local pet rescue groups with dogs and cats who need homes.
- **Saturday March 9** at 6 p.m. Northern Nevada Mensa Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner at Famous Dave's BBQ Restaurant.



Supper Club: Third Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

- **Feb 19.** Let's celebrate the Chinese New Year at one of Reno's best Chinese restaurants! Our group has 6 p.m. reservations at **Palais De Jade Fine Chinese Cuisine**, 960 W. Moana Lane, Reno, 827-5233. Please let me know if you plan to attend so that everyone can be accommodated. RSVP via the Northern Nevada Mensa Facebook group events page, ssmarticle@gmail.com or 631-398-6393.
- **March 19.** India Kabab and Curry Restaurant; 1091 S. Virginia St., Reno; 348-6222, http://indiakababcurry.com



For more information or to offer suggestions for future dinners contact Sandra Lackovic at ssmarticle@gmail.com.



Lunch Bunch Fourth Tuesdays, 11:45 a.m.

- **February 26**. ♫"...stuck a feather in his cap and called it macaroni."♫ In honor of the Father of Our Country's birthday, we're dining at the Macaroni Grill; 5505 S. Virginia, Reno; 448-9994
- **March 26**. March is Scholarship themed, so it's the Composition Cafe inside the Nevada Museum of Art; 160 W. Liberty, Reno; 560-2368



Contact Don or Laura MacGregor: 826-5904.



Mensa Admissions Testing: Saturday from 3-5 p.m.

at Grassroots Books, 660 E Grove St, Reno

- **Feb 2**. 3-5 pm: $40
- **Mar 2**. 3-5 pm: $40 Contact Mindy mindyhsu2002@yahoo.com



February

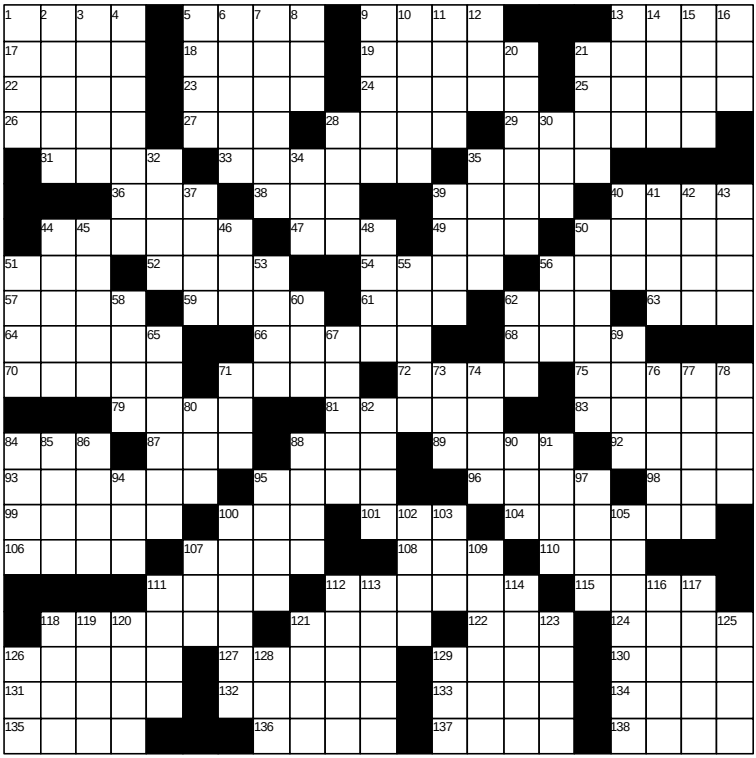
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Game Night at Joe's Place: **First Saturdays, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Potluck. 1047 Table Mountain Court, Sparks. Contact: Joe (775) 338-6521 or joe_kisenwether@hotmail.com.				Ground-hog Day is Feb 2	1	2 Game Night at Joe's & Mensa Testing
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Mensa Program
10 Chinese New Year & Symposi-M	11	12 Fat Tuesday/ Mardi Gras	13	14 Valen-tine's Day	15 Lincoln's Birthday	16
17	18 Presi-dent's Day	19 Supper Club	20	21	22 Washing-ton's Birthday	23
24 Purim	25	26 Lunch Bunch	27	28	March 1	March 2 Game Night at Joe's

Plan now to attend the **Feb. 10 Community Symposi-M** on "Why Eyewitnesses Get It Wrong" by Scott Fraser, a forensic psychologist who thinks deeply about the fallibility of human memory and encourages a more scientific approach to trial evidence. Watch this month's video: http://www.ted.com/talks/scott_fraser_the_problem_with_eyewitness_testimony.html, then attend the live, Mensans-only online discussion at 5 p.m., Pacific time, in the General Chat room of the American Mensa online Community www.community.us.mensa.org).

No Dogs Allowed

by Anna M. Wright

Oh, how we do love animals — in our language, in literature or film, and as companions in our homes.



© 2013 Anna M. Wright

Answers on page 21

ACROSS

1 Left-hand
5 Resound
9 Risk-free
13 Have they found him yet?
17 Affirm
18 Traced
19 Tine
21 Rustic
22 Jacob's son
23 Military officer
24 Remain
25 Favored
26 Bug metaphor word
27 Kitten talk
28 Bus. class
29 Angry Birds disaster?
31 Lily bulb
33 Ridden by the masked man
35 "A horse is a horse..."
36 One of Dumbo's big problems
38 "To the right!"
39 Omen
40 Deeds
44 Cat food gourmet
47 Bolus
49 Lager
50 Tonto's steed
51 Twelve (abbr.)
52 Saturates
54 Waterless
56 "I tawt I taw a puddy tat!"
57 Eager
59 See 93-a
61 Frame
62 Barry B. Benson or a pollen jockey
63 Unpaid
64 Charlie isn't as good-tasting as these
66 Three-masted Mediterranean boat
68 Evil Ursula's minions, Flotsam and Jetsam
70 Warn
71 Second letter
72 Peachy
75 Trots
79 Danish physicist
81 Vendee
83 Subtle
84 Spots
87 *Jungle Book* snake
88 Mr. Akroyd
89 Group
92 Restaurant
93 Mousekewitz (*An American 59-a*)
95 Dust

96 Granary
98 Crookshanks
99 Regions
100 Kitchen need
101 Cereal grain
104 You might find him in the Hundred Acre Wood
106 Buying alternative
107 Huey, Dewey, and Louie
108 Condensation
110 *Rio*'s feathered hero
111 Did
112 Where UFOs might be seen

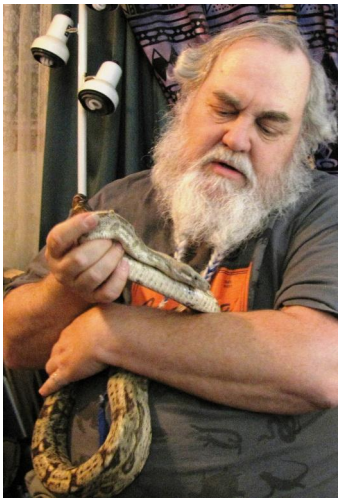
115 Ends
118 Of this
121 Groupies
122 Chap
124 French movie
126 One of 7-d's eight
127 Love
129 Theater award
130 Mend
131 Free him!
132 Faithful plower from *Animal Farm*
133 He's always in boots
134 Pigs who steal these make the Birds Angry!
135 Margarine
136 Saclike structures filled with fluid
137 Star __
138 Baseball's Sammy

DOWN

1 Buddies
2 Bakers needs
3 Theatrical production
4 Starred with cowboy Roy
5 Cheese
6 Bawls
7 Harry's messenger
8 Debt
9 "The final frontier..."
10 Shelter under branches
11 Thrust in fencing
12 Cease
13 Invalid
14 Canal
15 Dull
16 Bullfight cheer
20 He's always curious
21 Swamp grass
28 Always
30 Males
32 Paddles
34 Animal sign of the zodiac
35 Balmy
37 Rampage
39 Stated
40 Whiz
41 Dorm dweller
42 Ballet skirt
43 Eye infection
44 Important person
45 Atmosphere layer
46 Resort hotel
48 Subtitle: *A Little Pig Goes a Long Way*
50 Grows
51 Input
53 Magnitude
55 Bullwinkle's buddy
56 Golf need
58 Attire
60 Lease
62 He's known to be gentle
65 Adds to a fire
67 Brunhoff's elephant explorer
69 No longer for sale
71 Lingerie
73 Brain test (abbr.)
74 Times
76 Bit
77 Acclaim
78 Short drama
80 "Open the pod bay door..."
82 Preposition
84 Far away
85 Dreadful
86 Was looked at
88 Famous pre-historic pet
90 Cut
91 Fluent
94 Brit. equivalent of sales tax
95 Podium
97 Eye
100 Ready-made
102 Totals
103 Drink
105 Midday meals
107 Also
109 Charlotte's pal
111 Renounce
112 Buttermilk, et. al.
113 Neutral
114 Grow
116 Saber-toothed defender (*Ice Age*)
117 Catches or tears
118 Salute
119 *Vanity Fair* competitor
120 Chocolate candy brand
121 Like J. Worthington Foulfellow (*Pinocchio*)
123 Writing table
125 She was *Born Free*
126 Twain
128 MD
129 Choose

Can You sssSneak Up on a sssSnake?

A conversation with Ken Wright (with questions by Anne Stewart)



Ken Wright recently acquired a pair of snakes he hopes to breed. This got me thinking how different snakes are from other animals more commonly found around the house – like dogs, cats, even mice. I had a lot of question about what it's like to be around and care for snakes and Ken was glad to oblige with a wealth of information

Can You sssSneak Up on a sssSnake?

Being squeamish, I first wanted to know if a snake can jump out and get me! Ken says that snakes move at different speeds depending upon their length, locomotion style, and the surface they are moving upon. The fastest snake is the black mamba which has been recorded going 17 mph, although there are unsubstantiated reports of them attaining 20 mph. The sidewinder rattlesnake can move surprisingly fast across loose sand, the sea snake can swim pretty fast.

Snakes have no ears and can't hear, but are very sensitive to vibration and heat. They "see" heat (like an infrared camera) due to a connection between heat sensing pits and their brain. You could sneak up on a snake if it could not sense any vibrations of your movement. Their field of vision varies by species. The big-eyed cat snake can see nearly 360 degrees. The vine snake has eyes set in the front of its head (like humans) and while its field of vision is only about 160 degrees, it does have binocular vision which gives it depth perception and allows it to strike accurately.

Snakes have an acute sense of smell. They use their tongues to "taste" the air (which is what you see when they flick it out), by bringing tiny particles into their mouth and up to their Jacobson's organ located in the roof of their mouth. They have two (left and right) grooves in their upper palates that the tongue goes into to pass off the particles. This is why snakes have forked tongues. The longer the fork, the more sensitive it is and the more they use it

Will it Jump Out and Eat Me?

Uh, no. They have no legs with which to accomplish this motion. They use a method of pushing against the surface they are on to propel approximately the first third of their body towards a prey animal or to defend themselves. The sidewinder rattlesnake uses this method for locomotion.

A snake strike can cover a distance equal to1/3 of its body length in literally the blink of a human eye.

Snakes are both specialized hunters and opportunity feeders. By evolutionary process they adapt physically and mentally to feed upon whatever food source is abundant. King cobras and king snakes feed upon other snakes. Rattlesnakes are rodent specialists, garter snakes eat worms, etc., but all snakes will take other prey if they are hungry and the opportunity presents itself. Boa constrictors are normally rodent eaters, but given the opportunity to grab a bird or a bat, they won't hesitate.

Feeding isn't emotional for snakes like it is for humans. Food is about survival. Do they have preferences? It seems so, but actually they are motivated by an internal need for different proteins, much like we would crave salt or sugar. Given the choice between a rodent and a bird, even rodent specialists will sometimes go for the bird.

Only about 30% of poisonous snake bites are from stepping on or next to a snake and causing a defensive strike. Many more are caused by humans who provoke the animals or have no understanding of their habitat or behavior. They are not malicious, merely in flight or fight mode.

Run Away! Run Away!

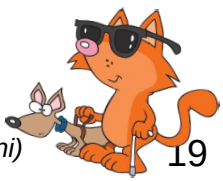
You probably don't have to run unless it is one of the very aggressive species like a mamba, cobra, or water moccasin, which have been known to occasionally engage humans in "combat." If it is non-poisonous there is zero reason for concern. If it is poisonous (or you aren't sure) it is more advisable to either stand still and let the snake move away, or if you are safe to do so, (remember the 1/3 of its body length rule) back away slowly and allow the snake to go on its way. We are much larger than they are (except for rare occasions) and they do not see us as prey species, therefore we are a threat to them (they fear we want to eat them). It is their interest to get away from us.

They may move faster than you can. Snakes move at different speeds depending upon their length, locomotion style, and the surface they are moving upon.

How Do sssSnakes "Do It?"

You'll have to wait until the next issue of *Neva-Mind!*

In our next installment, Ken will tell us about caring for and breeding snakes and whether or not his snakes are "expecting." ■



Mensa for Kids!

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

RSELU _____ (16 20)

ATNRI _____ (13)

OOGD IDTE _____ _____ (18 7)

ERSEEXIC _____ (22 1 17)

IVTNCAAEC _____ (3)

TAHBE _____ (11)

PORCTTE _____ (5)

AIZLSEICO _____ (14 2)

ECNSELI _____ (9)

SVISEREPU _____ (19 4)

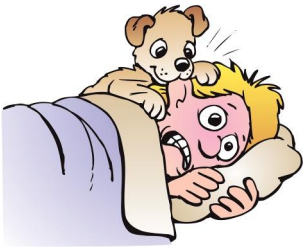
OTYS DAN PALY _____ _____ _____ (6 15 23)

HORABIEV _____ (8)

PRSTECE _____ (12)

ASYP OR RUNTEE _____ _____ _____ (21 24 10)

Pet ownership is a big responsibility. Unscramble the words at the left to uncover some important concepts in raising a happy, healthy pet. Then use the special letters in the bottom boxes to reveal some good advice.

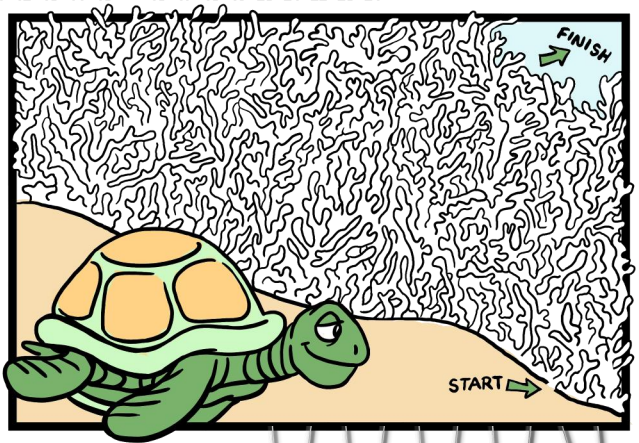


_____ _____

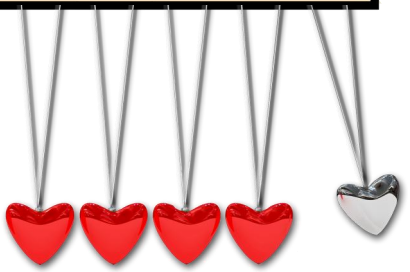
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Geronimo Jones likes to think about prime numbers. So, he wonders if the year 2013 is a prime number. What do you think?









"A cat has nine lives.
For three he plays,
for three he strays,
and for the last three he stays."
English and American Proverb

Graffiti Wall

And, the *EYES* have it!

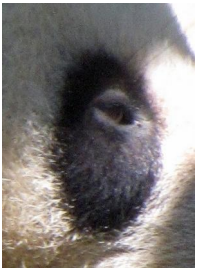


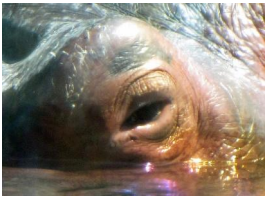







What ***IS*** it?











All photos by Ken Wright, Thanks!

Answers begin on page 22.

Birds

by Anne Stewart



It snowed a few nights ago. When I looked out the next morning I saw an odd track across the snow, almost like someone had dragged a rope or hose in a straight line across the deck. The rest of the snow was smooth and undisturbed. Seemed odd, so I went out to look. The track was made up of small footprints! The quail in my yard tend to travel in a group, usually playing “follow the leader.” Apparently they marched out early to check out the snowfall.

I started feeding wild birds several years ago when I noticed a few around trying to find food after some heavy snow. That first winter there was a small flock of tiny, bright green birds. They were only about 4 inches from nose to tail, with yellow-green tummies and moss-green backs and wings. They left at the first sign of spring and I haven’t seen them since.

That winter I put out some dry food for a skinny stray cat and discovered that birds really like it too. One persistent robin came up to the back door to munch right in front of my cat who was watching from inside.

My yard is a pretty good habitat. The quail live in a large pine tree in the front yard. I dug out the grass and left bare ground so they can take dirt baths in the summer. In back is a gazebo covered with vines where the quail and mourning doves like to hang out in the branches or sit in the sun on the railings. A concrete birdbath on a wrought iron stand works well to keep the seed dry. I put out water in shallow trays. The birds drink and laugh as they splash and bathe.

I have apple trees and grape vines, so they get fruit in the fall as well as berries from the Virginia creeper vines. Somebody else in the neighborhood puts out peanuts; the blue jays bring them here to hide or crack open. Sometimes it sounds like hammering!

The numbers have grown. This winter there are blue jays, robins, quail, doves and a large contingent of finches. It’s impossible to count when they are all hopping around, but it’s safe to say there are 100 or more at times. There is a definite pecking order. Blue jays are first, then the smaller critters get their chance. Quail like to eat on the ground and scratch like chickens. I’m trying to shoo away a pack of starlings who are mooching.



I probably spend way too much time bird watching! ■

"The cat's a saint when there are no mice about." - Japanese proverb



From the RVC

by Debra Reiger

Want a great destination for your fall travel? How about Alberta, Canada?

Mensa's International Board of Directors (IBD) will be meeting in North America, September 19-22, 2013. The location: Calgary. This is a big deal, as the IBD rotates its meeting venues around the globe and doesn't get to North America very often. All Mensa members may attend the meeting sessions and see what goes on with International Mensa planning and decision making.

But there's more! Mensa Calgary will be hosting an RG at Lake Louise just prior to the IBD meeting, and the Facebook descriptions look very appealing. 'The Sound of Mensa RG - Lake Louise 2013,' starts September 13. The scenery is beautiful, and it looks like wonderful tours and side trips are available.

This is a rare opportunity for members of American Mensa to conveniently enjoy a Canadian RG (well, I know some of you Region 8 members up north may get up to Canada frequently anyway, but it will be a rare treat for me).

When I checked 'IBD' on Google to get details about the meeting and RG, I was directed to this Facebook page: 2013IBD. The page also has very appealing information about the Lake Louise RG. I encourage you to check this out.

On another topic, it has been over a year since changes were made on default delivery options for local Mensa newsletters. As it stands now, people who have stated no preference for electronic or printed newsletters will automatically receive them electronically (when electronic ones are available). If you hear from any of your Mensa acquaintances/friends that they are not getting their local newsletters, they may just need to contact our national office to check on this, and to change their preference flags if needed. This can be done easily on the Mensa website (www.us.mensa.org) for those who feel at ease with the internet and have website logins. For those who like to talk with real people, I recommend calling 1-800-66MENSA to ask for help. (There can be other reasons for interrupted newsletter delivery, but this is a good place to start.)

Going to the AG in Ft. Worth? It promises to be fun and informative.

And don't forget the Oregon RG in Portland in May.

Have a great month!

Debra Reiger, RVC 8
rvc8@us.mensa.org

MAY 10-12 2013 PORTLAND BeavRG XV

Red Lion at Convention Center
(same hotel as 2012).
New low room rate: $72+tax per night.
Registration $60 until 28 Feb 2013.
More: www.oregon.us.mensa.org/rg/

We need you!

Your art



Your stories

Your fiction

Your poetry

Your favorite quotes

Your prose

Your favorite websites

Your travel logs (and pictures too!)

Your reminiscences

Your photography

The *Neva-Mind* is **your newsletter**.

Share with us your wit and wisdom, your humor, your thoughts, and your perspectives.

We're always better with you!

Your favorite YouTube video link

Please Contribute.

Send your submission to
editor@northernnevada.us.mensa.org

It's your Mensa!

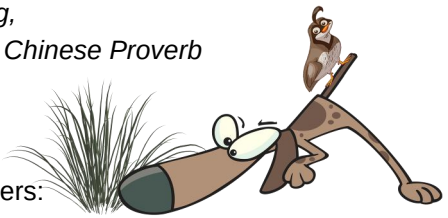


"If you stop every time a dog barks, your road will never end." - Saudi Arabian Proverb

Puzzle Page Answer Key:

1972 (Intro): Elton John, "Rocket Man"
1960: Smokey Robinson & the Miracles, "Shop Around"
1963: Jimmy Soul, "If You Want To Be Happy"
1965: Bob Dylan, “Subterranean Homesick Blues”
1968: Beatles, "Hey Jude"
1972: National Lampoon, "Deteriorata"
1973: Lynyrd Skynyrd, "Simple Man"
1973: Eagles, "Desperado"
1977: Styx, "Fooling Yourself (The Angry Young Man)"
1980: Devo, "Whip It"
1980: Kenny Loggins, "I'm Alright"
1983: John Mellencamp, "Authority Song"
1984: Frankie Goes to Hollywood, "Relax"
1989: R.E.M., "Stand"
1994: TLC, "Waterfalls"
1997: Third Eye Blind, "Jumper"
2000: Green Day, "Warning"
2003: Trapt, "Headstrong"
Now: AWOLNATION, "Kill Your Heroes"

"One dog barks at something,
the rest bark at him." - Chinese Proverb



No Dogs Allowed answers:

1 P	2 O	3 R	4 T		5 E	6 C	7 H	8 O		9 S	10 A	11 F	12 E			13 N	14 E	15 M	16 O
17 A	V	E	R		18 D	R	E	W		19 P	R	O	N	20 G		21 R	U	R	A	L
22 L	E	V	I		23 A	I	D	E		24 A	B	I	D	E		25 E	L	I	T	E
26 S	N	U	G		27 M	E	W		28 E	C	O	N		29 O	30 M	E	L	E	T	
	31 S	E	G	32 O		33 S	I	34 L	V	E	R		35 M	R	E	D				
			36 E	A	37 R		38 G	E	E			39 S	I	G	N		40 A	41 C	T	42 S	43
	44 M	45 O	R	R	I	46 S		47 O	R	48 B		49 A	L	E		50 S	C	O	U	T
51 D	O	Z		52 S	O	P	53 S				54 A	R	I	D		55 T	W	E	E	T	Y
57 A	G	O	58 G		59 T	A	I	60 L		61 B	O	D		62 B	E	E		63 D	U	E	
64 T	U	N	A	65 S			66 Z	E	67 B	E	C			68 E	E	L	69 S				
70 A	L	E	R	T		71 B	E	T	A		72 K	73 E	74 E	N		75 L	O	76 P	77 E	78 S	
			79 B	O	80 H	R			81 B	82 U	Y	E	R			83 S	L	I	C	K	
84 A	85 D	86 S		87 K	A	A		88 D	A	N		89 G	A	90 N	91 G		92 D	E	L	I	
93 F	I	E	94 V	E	L		95 D	I	R	T			96 S	I	L	97 O		98 C	A	T	
99 A	R	E	A	S		100 P	A	N		101 O	102 A	103 T		104 P	I	G	105 L	E	T		
106 R	E	N	T		107 T	R	I	O			108 D	E	109 W		110 B	L	U				
				111 D	O	E	S		112 M	113 I	D	A	I	114 R		115 E	N	116 D	117 S		
	118 H	119 E	120 R	E	O	F		121 F	A	N	S		122 L	A	D		124 C	I	N	125 E	
126 T	A	L	O	N		127 A	128 D	O	R	E		129 O	B	I	E		130 H	E	A	L	
131 W	I	L	L	Y		132 B	O	X	E	R		133 P	U	S	S		134 E	G	G	S	
135 O	L	E	O				136 C	Y	S	T		137 T	R	E	K		138 S	O	S	A	



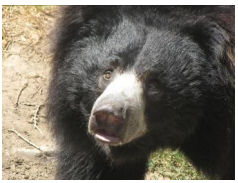
"The barking of a dog does not disturb the man on a camel."
- Egyptian Proverb

Mensa for Kids! Answers:

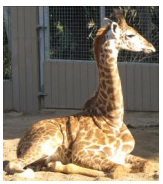















What *IS* it?

answers:

Squirrel	Orangutan	Crocodile	Elephant
Camel	Human	Tiger	Bear
Owl	Panda	Chinese Pheasant	Hippo
Giraffe	Sparrow	Snake	Deer
Komodo Dragon	Frog	Red Panda	Tortoise

Geronimo Jones's answer:

Here are the prime numbers around the number 2013: 2003 2011 2017 2027. But, 2013 is not prime. Geronimo does not know what the factors of 2013 are. Maybe you can help him.

(Holly Polygon does know. Here it is: 2013 = 3 × 11 × 61)



"When the mouse laughs at the cat, there's a hole nearby." - Nigerian Proverb

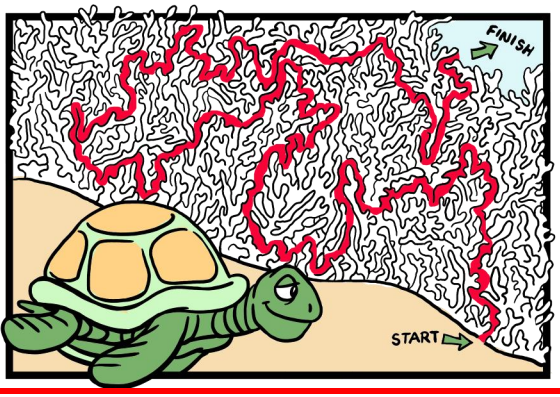


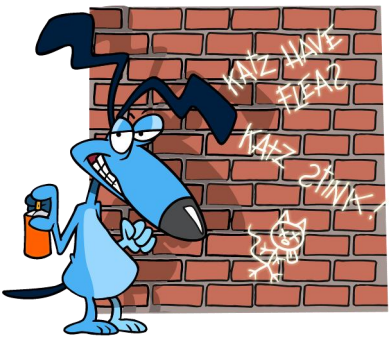
RULES (16, 20)
TRAIN (13)
GOOD (18) DIET (7)
EXERCISE (22, 1, 17)
VACCINATE (3)
BATHE (11)
PROTECT (5)
SOCIALIZE (14, 2)
LICENSE (9)
SUPERVISE (19, 4)
TOYS (6) AND (15) PLAY (23)
BEHAVIOR (8)
RESPECT (12)
SPAY (21, 24) OR NEUTER (10)

SEE (1 2 3) VETERINARIAN (4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15) REGULARLY (16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24)

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)





DISCLAIMER

Mensa as an organization holds no opinions. All views and opinions expressed in the *Neva-Mind* are those of the individual writer or the editor. All material published in the *Neva-Mind*, with the exception of expressly copyrighted material, may be reprinted in other official Mensa publications, including the newsletters of recognized local chapters. Proper credit to the author and publication must be included in any reprints.

All statements of fact contained herein, as well as legal or medical advice, are neither confirmed nor denied by Mensa, and should not be relied upon without consultation with and confirmation from other appropriate and reliable sources.

American Mensa Ltd.
1229 Corporate Drive West
Arlington, TX 76006-6013

TIME DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER
PROMPTLY TO:



Check us out at: **http://northernnevada.us.mensa.org/**

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

The *Neva-Mind* is published monthly by Northern Nevada Mensa. Members of American Mensa local group #893 receive the *Neva-Mind* for a $9.84 portion of their annual membership.

Subscriptions to others are available at $10.00 per year payable by check to *Neva-Mind* Subscriptions, c/o Robert McAllister, 350 Old Washoe Circle, Washoe Valley, NV 89704. Known Office of Publication: Anna M Wright, 510 Michael Dr., Fallon, NV 89406.

Postmaster: Send address changes to:
American Mensa, Ltd.,
1229 Corporate Dr. West,
Arlington, TX 76006-6103.