

PlainsPeaking



The Newsletter of Plains and Peaks Mensa, Southern Colorado

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AUGUST 2008

LocSec News

Hello, fellow Plains & Peaks Mensans! It's been a few weeks since the AG up in Denver and I think I've finally caught up on my sleep. Just like the Las Vegas AG in 2004, I was on the go literally from 8:00 in the morning to 11:30 or 12:30 at night. (Some of us were out even later – right, Jenny B and Jose?? Wink, wink!!) There were seminars galore, old friends to meet in Hospitality, and, for me, hanging out in the Hell's M's suite!! Yes – I joined Hell's M's. I've been threatening to for a long time and finally took the plunge. I've even got the T-Shirt and mug, but passed on the tattoo – which I'm still considering, much to Mike's chagrin. Anybody else besides Jennifer B, Betsy and me that are Hell's M's? If you're out there – let us know!!

Plains & Peaks Mensa was well represented at the Denver AG, with over 20 of our members attending the event (either for a day or two or for the whole shebang). One of our members, Dave S., even gave the seminar on GPS satellites when the guest speaker failed to show up! Several people volunteered for Hospitality (boy, can Mensans partake of the free soda/wine/beer and snacks?) and I did a stint at Registration one afternoon. Windy had a booth at the Mensa Marketplace, and several of us met up at different times to attend seminars, the Comedy show, Mensa talent contest (some are not so talented), and the *Steinhilber Capades* (which I again found to be delightful).

An AG highlight: Our webmistress, Windy Haddad, was named the 2008 Web Site Winner for Overall Presentation. Check out her award-winning web-site at www.plainsandpeaks.mensa.org where you can see our calendar, the

PlainsPeaking newsletter and photos of our group at events. Great job, Windy!! Thank you for your work on the web-site and making it so great!

[Speaking of calendars – I sent out two reminders last month that were in error (wrong date or time). My sincere apologies to you all – and I'll be more careful in the future!!]

Now on to our local Mensa news ... our MMM in July was fantastic! About 25 of us showed up at Dr. Mark Seward's house to learn about Gila monsters. Dr. Seward has over 80 Gila monsters he keeps and breeds and he contributes to cutting edge research being done on a component of Gila monster blood that may be very valuable in the treatment of diabetes. We learned about Gila monster behaviors, their biology, feeding and breeding habits and then viewed a couple of his specimens. Dr. Seward showed both young and adult Gilas to us, as well as a Mexican beaded lizard. You can view photos of the meeting, Dr. Seward, and the Gilas on our web-site. Thank you to all who attended and made this such a successful outing.

Coming up in August: MMMMMM! Main Monthly Meeting Mensa Mix and Mingle on Saturday, the 16th!! Several members have asked for this, saying they'd like to meet more of our group in a purely social setting, so that's what we're going to do in August!! Married, single, Gen-X, new member, long time member, Hell's M, shy, outgoing, whatever – you're all invited to my house!! So mark your calendars now and plan on coming over for something to drink and some snacks, and to meet some fellow Mensans! Members, guests are welcome, so if you'd

like to bring a spouse or friend along – please do so. (I am asking that this be adults only, please.)

Also in August – ExComm meeting and dinner at the Edelweiss, Trivia, Scrabble, Poker, and ending up the month with Ultimate Saturday Supper at the Nosh (I've been wanting to go there)!! If you have a new restaurant you'd like to try – please let Al or me know ... or if you have an idea for a guest speaker or activity, shoot me an e-mail and I'll see what we can set up!

Remember - if you have a favorite Local Link, or a Fun & Games web-site you think other Mensans might enjoy, contact Windy at windy@windyhaddad.com to link it up. Also, you can have Windy link your *personal page* or *business page* to our web-site.

Looking forward to seeing you in August at a Plains & Peaks Mensa event!!

~Sandy

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Congratulations to Region 7



RVC7@us.mensa.org

by **Peggy Pannke-Smith**

WHAT A GREAT HEARTLAND REGION WE HAVE!

Over **100 Region 7 members (another record!)** turned up for our Meet & Greet during the convention. They each received a **flashing 4th of July heart** pin so they could easily find other Heartland members during the festivities.

By the time you read this, our **Bismarck Leadership Development Workshop** on Saturday, August 2nd will be another successful fun Region 7 event. My trusty crystal ball tells me we had a great time with many icebreakers and an excellent (percentage-wise) turnout!

Not only did we break all attendance records EVER for our Mensa Annual Gathering in Denver (**over 2,050** in attendance from 49 states and 9 countries), but our very own Heartland members won **ELEVEN awards!** Congratulations to:

- Members of MID AMERICA Mensa who won a **CAP award** for helping their local public television station during a pledge drive.
- WINDY HADDAD of Plains & Peaks for winning the **Overall Presentation** award for web site.
- BOULDER/FRONT RANGE's Rocky & Boulder Thinsles Culture Quest team earning 8th place **and** the HIGH MOUNTAIN MENSA's Highbrows who took **FIRST PLACE** in the Culture Quest earning \$433.00 for their scholarship program.
- WYOMING MOUNTAIN MENSA for the **Innovative Owl** in recognition of outstanding membership retention.
- NEBRASKA/WESTERN IOWA **and** LINCOLN Mensa for winning the very **prestigious GOTYA (Group Of The Year)** awards!
- JUDY VASILIAUSKAS winning a **Distinguished Service Award** in recognition of outstanding and dedicated volunteer service.
- SUSAN RAMSDELL for winning a **Distinguished Service Award** for outstanding and dedicated volunteer service.
- KAREN KOZAK for a **Proctor of the Year** award.
- BILL SCHIEB for the **best Regional Mensa website** in the USA!

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Abbott and Costello

ABBOTT: Super Duper computer store. Can I help you?

COSTELLO: Thanks. I'm setting up an office in my den, and I'm thinking about buying a computer.

ABBOTT: Mac?

COSTELLO: No, the name's Lou.

ABBOTT: Your computer?

COSTELLO: I don't own a computer. I want to buy one.

ABBOTT: Mac?

COSTELLO: I told you, my name's Lou.

ABBOTT: What about Windows?

COSTELLO: Why? Will it get stuffy in here?

ABBOTT: Do you want a computer with Windows?

COSTELLO: I don't know. What will I see when I look in the windows?

ABBOTT: Wallpaper.

COSTELLO: Never mind the windows. I need a computer and software.

ABBOTT: Software for Windows?

COSTELLO: No. On the computer! I need something I can use to write proposals, track expenses and run my business. What have you got?

ABBOTT: Office.

COSTELLO: Yeah, for my office. Can you recommend anything?

ABBOTT: I just did.

COSTELLO: You just did what?

ABBOTT: Recommend something.

COSTELLO: You recommended something?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: For my office?

ABBOTT: Yes.

COSTELLO: OK, what did you recommend for my office?

ABBOTT: I recommend Office with Windows.

COSTELLO: I already have an office and it has windows! OK, say I'm sitting at my computer and I want to type a proposal. What do I need?

ABBOTT: Word.

COSTELLO: What word?

ABBOTT: Word in Office.

COSTELLO: The only word in office is office.

ABBOTT: The Word in Office for Windows.

COSTELLO: Which word in office for windows?

ABBOTT: The Word you get when you click the blue "W."

COSTELLO: I'm going to click your blue "w" if you don't start with some straight answers. OK, forget that. Can I watch movies on the Internet?

ABBOTT: Yes, you want Real One.

COSTELLO: Maybe a real one, maybe a cartoon. What I watch is none of your business. Just tell me what I need!

ABBOTT: Real One.

COSTELLO: OK, I'm at my computer and I want to watch a movie. What do I do?

ABBOTT: You click the blue "I."

COSTELLO: I click the blue one what?

ABBOTT: The blue "I."

COSTELLO: Is that different from the blue w?

ABBOTT: The blue I is Real One and the blue W is Word.

COSTELLO: What word?

ABBOTT: The Word in Office for Windows.

COSTELLO: But there are three words in "office for windows"!

ABBOTT: No, just one. But it's the most popular Word in the world.

COSTELLO: And that word is real one?

ABBOTT: Real One has nothing to do with Word. Real One isn't even part of Office.

COSTELLO: Stop! Don't start that again. What about financial bookkeeping? Do you have anything I can track my money with?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: That's right. What do you have?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: I need money to track my money?

ABBOTT: It comes bundled with your computer.

COSTELLO: What's bundled to my computer?

ABBOTT: Money.

COSTELLO: Money comes with my computer?

ABBOTT: Yes. No extra charge.

COSTELLO: I get a bundle of money with my computer? How much?

ABBOTT: One copy.

COSTELLO: Isn't it illegal to copy money?

ABBOTT: Microsoft gave us a license to copy Money.

COSTELLO: They can give you a license to copy money?

ABBOTT: Why not? THEY OWN IT!

August Calendar

Thursday, Aug 7th, 6:00 pm: August ExComm Meeting and Dinner. The August ExComm Meeting and Dinner will be in the Beer Garden at the Edelweiss German Restaurant, 34 East Ramona (between South Tejon and Nevada on Ramona). Visit <http://www.edelweissrest.com> for a preview of the menu! As with all our events, Mensa members and their guests are welcome.

Thursday, Aug 7th, 8:00 pm: Reservations for Poker Night due!! Call Dave & Jen at 442-6451 for RSVP and directions!

Saturday, Aug 9th, 6:00 pm: Poker Night. Dave & Jen will host a just-for-fun nickel-dime-quarter Dealer's Choice Poker Night. Beginners are welcome. Snacks and diet sodas will be provided. Bring your own drinks if you want something else. Allergy alert – friendly cats. If we don't have at least 5 players by Thursday evening, we may cancel and go to Cripple Creek instead!

Saturday, Aug 16th, 6:30 pm: MMMMMM: Main Monthly Meeting Mensa Mix and Mingle!! This month, something a bit different for our group. Our August MMM will simply be a social gathering – no program or tour. Married, single, Gen-X, new member, long time member, Hell's M, shy, outgoing, whatever – you're all invited to my house!! Come out and meet some fellow Mensans - if you've not been to a Mensa event, this is the one you need to attend to break the ice! Guests are welcome, so if you'd like to bring a friend or spouse with you, please do so! Snacks, sodas, wine and beer will be provided. Bring your own drinks if you want something else. Adults only, please. Allergy alert – cats and dogs. Please contact Sandy at 528-5483 or e-mail mandshalby@comcast.net for directions.

Thursday, Aug 19th, 6:00 pm: Trivia at TGI Fridays! We're playing NTN Buzztime Trivia at T.G.I. Friday's, 7061 Commerce Center Drive (I-25 and Woodman). Good eats, good prices, and plenty of TVs to look at and control boxes to play with. Look for a Mensa "M" flag at a table in the bar and join us for a fast paced Trivia round!

Sunday, Aug 24th, 1:00 pm: Scrabble®! Meet at Sandy's house, 6066 Del Rey Drive (near Flintridge and Dublin, call 528-5483 or email mandshalby@comcast.net for directions) for an afternoon of Scrabble®. Sodas, wine and snacks provided. Allergy alert – cats and dogs!

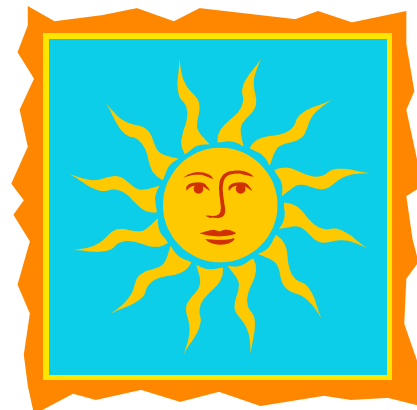
Wednesday, Aug 27th, 8:00 pm: Reservations for Ulti-

mate Saturday Supper!! Call Al at 635-4910 or e-mail him at alackerson@msn.com to let him know to expect you at the Nosh on Saturday!

Saturday, Aug 30th, 6:30 pm: Ultimate Saturday Supper at the Nosh. Let's nosh at the Nosh, 121 S. Tejon in the Plaza of the Rockies (south tower). And they have plenty to nosh on. Noshes include crab cakes, crispy egg rolls, portobello wedges, kushiyaki chicken, tostadas, chimi beef and shrimp skewers, latkes, gnocchi, American kobe beef sliders, shrimp tacos and much, much more, plus they have dinners! Priced a little on the high side (all the above appetizers are \$7 to \$11) and dinners run \$15 and up, but it should be an interesting experience. Be sure to call or e-mail Al to make your reservations!!

Advance Notice: Thursday, Sept 11th, 6:00 pm: September ExComm Meeting and Dinner. We'll be meeting at Solo's, 1665 N. Newport Road (one block east of Powers on Fountain Blvd), for a short meeting and then dinner. You can preview Solo's at www.solosrestaurant.com.

As with all our events, Mensa members and their guests are welcome.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	3
3	4	5	6	7 ExComm Meeting @ Edelweiss 6:00 PM	8	9 Poker Night 6:00 PM
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 MMMMMM 6:30: PM
17	18	19 NTN Trivia @ TGI Fridays 6:00 PM	20	21	22	23
24/31 Scrabble®! 1:00 PM on the 24th @ Sandy's	25	26	27 Reservations due for USS by 8:00 PM	28	29	30 Uss @ the Nosh 6:30 PM

Welcome and Farewell

August Birthdays

WELCOME TO PLAINS & PEAKS MENSA:

Benjamin Sloboda, who moved here from Fort Collins.
Shannon Smith, formerly of Oklahoma.

Andrew Barilla, who moved out here from back east (Pennsylvania).

Tony Ludiker, who lived in Idaho previously.

Jennifer Manship, who joins us from Arizona.

Our newest Mensans: Sean Coincon, Sean McCormick, and Kimball Williams. Welcome to Mensa!

WELCOME BACK TO:

Christine Bryer and Valerie Parker, who are both rejoining Mensa and now are in our group. Hello, again!

Dr. William Riley	Aug 4
Keith Wear	Aug 7
Ginny Leininger	Aug 11
Dr. Michael Fox	Aug 16
Candace Harvey	Aug 16
RC Timm	Aug 21
Kathie Schmidt	Aug 23
Andrew Barilla	Aug 26
Larry Christenson	Aug 30
Stephanie Doris	Aug 30

NOTE: If you don't see your birthday posted here, it's probably because that information (and perhaps more) is marked "non-releasable" on our rosters. If you'd like to check on your personal information release status, please contact American Mensa (1-800-66-MENSA) or go to www.us.mensa.org and under Member resources, select the PDQ section.

PlainsPeaking

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