

Plains Peaking



The Newsletter of Plains and Peaks Mensa, Southern Colorado

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<http://www.plainsandpeaks.us.mensa.org/>

March 2008

LocSec News

Hello, fellow Plains & Peaks Mensans! Once again, my favorite holiday approaches! St. Patrick's Day is just around the corner and as I type this LocSec news in late February, I'm already getting excited about celebrating my Irish heritage on the appointed Saint's day. For those new to our group, St. Paddy Day is the biggest holiday of the year in the city I grew up near – Butte, Montana – and I intend to carry on with tradition, even though I may be far from Butte and home. That mostly means I decorate the house (more for St. Pat's than any other holiday) and imbibe beer and Irish spirits to excess! Aw, well, now, the best be to you and yours ... and here's a go! Now on to Mensa business.

Please do check out our new web-site at www.plainsandpeaks.us.mensa.org. Our webmaster, Windy Haddad, has revamped and updated our site and it's spectacular! Take a look at the photos page – members' trips, FAC visit, ExComm dinners and Poker Night, USS. Also check out the links Windy has added, like to FreeRice and the new Colorado Springs Scrabble club. Please contact Windy to add other links or send in photos to be posted.

The February Main Monthly Meeting was a tour of the newly remodeled Fine Arts Center and visit to their special exhibit, the Impressionists, on loan from New Orleans. A Fine Arts Center docent gave us an overview of

the entire special exhibit, then allowed is to wander and tarry as we wished through the all rooms. The Impressionist Exhibit was, well, impressive! And, the FAC has more than doubled its display space with its recent expansion and is planning on several special exhibits in the future, the next being exclusively about Marilyn Monroe. You can see a photo of Rent-A-Mike, Bill, Jane and me at the FAC on our web-site.

You can also view photos of the February USS at Sonterra Grill on our web-site. The food was very good and we had a great time ... and as usual with Mensans, conversation never ceased!! Thanks to all who attended for their patience while waiting for our table!

Coming up in March: our MMM will be a casual affair – an “open conversation” night at my house, with the main topic “Travel Stories.” Bring your travel stories to share with group, and perhaps a photo or two. This will be a great opportunity just to visit, get to know some fellow Mensans, have a drink and some food, and relax! If you've been hesitant to attend a “meeting,” this may be more your style and will certainly be casual and laid-back. Please feel free to join in – just show up and be ready to enjoy yourself!

Also in March – our usual events: ExComm Meeting and dinner, Scrabble®, Trivia Night, Texas Hold'em

Poker Night, and Ultimate Saturday Supper. Please note: for both Texas Hold'em and USS, reservations will be required! If you plan on attending either or both of these events, please let the host/hostess know by the RSVP date! Thanks!

Please try to join us for one or all of these events – and, as always, Mensa members and their guests are always welcome at our Plains & Peaks happenings! Hope to see you soon!

-Sandy



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Project Inkslinger

by Paul Jensen

We have found people we can serve with Project Inkslinger. Recent flooding totally destroyed the school library at an elementary school in Watseka, Illinois: all books, shelves, fixtures were ruined. The January floods put five feet of water in the lower area library in Nettie Davis Elementary School.

Donated books should cover K-5, although the 200 K-1 kids need them most!

Books should be sent to the school:

Nettie Davis Elementary School
Attn: Principal Robert Walker
495 N. 4th St.
Watsseka IL 60970.

The contact number if needed is 815-432-4581. I recall from the procedure that the groups are responsible for all transportation costs. Books sent should be sent in box sizes of 20-30 lb. maximum weight. I continue to search for others in need of our services. If you send books to the school, please let Paul know the details. Contact Paul at inkslinger@us.mensa.org .

Region 7 News

by Peggy Panke-Smith



Lots of Region 7 news for March! Congratulations to RON KROENKE and D. MICHAEL NOLAN of Nebraska/Western Iowa for getting the Bylaws revisions going. Speaking of Bylaws, did you know it's VERY EASY to revise your bylaws? Contact Dan Burg (who will be a new daddy any day now) at by-laws@us.mensa.org and say that you're ready! In addition to NEBRASKA/WESTERN IOWA, our other Region 7 groups with up-to-date Bylaws are KANSAS SUNFLOWER, MISSOURI OZARKS, BOULDER/FRONT RANGE and DENVER.

Proctors? If your group needs help in that area, our Region 7 Proctor Coordinator, KAREN KOZAK is a ball of fire and willing to help you with any testing questions, ideas, etc. You can reach Karen at katyakoza@cox.net or (402) 397-3173.

Welcome LINDA SHARP for jumping in as new Editor for Central Iowa; ERIC WAMPLER and KYLE WENDLING, new Local Secretary and Assistant Local Secretary for BOULDER/FRONT RANGE; JERRI CAMPBELL new Treasurer for BOULDER/FRONT RANGE; MARY ETHEL HEIN and SAMANTHA BESLER new Local Secretary and Treasurer for WYOMING.

Games Next month is Mind Games in Phoenix - a weekend of games playing - I'll be there eager to see many of our Region 7 members at the gaming tables.

Website Our Region 7 website is up and revised, thanks to our talented Region 7 Webmaster, BILL SCHIEB. Visit region7.us.mensa.org to learn the latest. See what other Region 7 groups are up to and to share your group's ideas and events.

HELP WANTED: TREASURER!

Larry Lukenbill, who has been our Plains & Peaks Treasurer for many years, will be stepping down in March/April. Since we're a small group, our finances are not complicated and about all that is required is a twice-yearly report to American Mensa and keeping our checkbook balance up to date. If you'd like to take over from Larry, please contact me at 528-5483 or mandshalby@comcast.net.

I sincerely appreciate the support Larry has given our group over the years and wish to extend a heart-felt "Thank You" to him for his friendship and service.

Bizarre and Unique Holidays in March

- 1 National Pig Day
Peanut Butter Lovers' Day
- 2 Old Stuff Day
I Want You to be Happy Day
If Pets Had Thumbs Day
National Anthem Day
Peach Blossom Day
- 4 Holy Experiment Day
Hug a GI Day
National Salesperson Day
- 5 Multiple Personality Day
- 6 Dentist's Day
National Frozen Food Day
- 7 National Crown Roast of Pork Day
- 8 Be Nasty Day
International (Working) Women's Day
- 9 Employee Appreciation Day
Panic Day
- 10 Middle Name Pride Day
- 11 Johnny Appleseed Day
Worship of Tools Day - guys, you can relate
- 12 Girl Scouts Day
Plant a Flower Day
- 13 Ear Muff Day
Jewel Day
- 14 Learn about Butterflies Day
National Potato Chip Day
National Pi Day- Why today?
Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi.
- 15 Everything You Think is Wrong Day
Ides of March
- 15 Incredible Kid Day
Dumbstruck Day
National Quilting Day
- 16 Everything You Do is Right Day
Freedom of Information Day
- 17 Submarine Day - hero sandwich or boat??
Saint Patrick's Day
- 18 Goddess of Fertility Day
Supreme Sacrifice Day
- 19 Poultry Day
- 20 International Earth Day
Extraterrestrial Abductions Day
Proposal Day
- 21 Fragrance Day
- 22 National Goof Off Day
- 23 National Chip and Dip Day
Near Miss Day
- 24 Dyngus Day always the Monday after Easter
National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day

- 25 Pecan Day
Waffle Day
- 26 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day
- 27 National "Joe" Day
- 28 Something on a Stick Day
- 29 National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day
Smoke and Mirrors Day
- 30 National Doctor's Day
I am in Control Day
Take a Walk in the Park Day
- 31 Bunsen Burner Day
National Clam on the Half Shell Day



Plains and Peaks Mensa Officers

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March Calendar

Sunday, Mar 9th, 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 just-for-fun Scrabble®. Sodas, wine and snacks provided. Allergy alert - cats and dogs!

Tuesday, Mar 11th, 6:00 pm: Trivia at Bennigan's! Tasty appetizers, soothing drinks, good grub, and some real head-scratchers are the highlights of Mensa's monthly trivia outing. Join us at Bennigan's at 3502 N. Academy for an hour of puzzlement and pure delight!

Wednesday, Mar 12th, 6:30 pm: March ExComm Meeting and Dinner. This close to St. Patrick's Day, the only place to go is Jack Quinn's Irish Pub, 21 South Tejon. To see their menu, visit www.jackquinnspub.com. Please join us for a short (very short) Executive Committee meeting and then dinner afterwards. As with all our events, Mensa members and their guests are welcome.

Saturday, Mar 15th, 6:00 pm: Main Monthly Meeting: Calling All Travelers! Your dream destination? Cruises ... love 'em or hate 'em? Worst experience... Luftansa or "Montezuma's revenge"? Best experience?? Advice for someone going to China? South America? Please join your fellow Mensans for an open conversation evening and share your travel stories - stateside or overseas, recent or from many years ago. Come get some great travel hints and share your knowledge, too. We're meeting at Sandy's house, 6066 Del Rey Drive (near Flintridge and Dublin); call 528-5483 or e-mail mandshalby@comcast.net for directions. Wine, beer, soda and munchies provided. As with all our events, all Mensa members and their guests are welcome. Allergy alert - dogs and cats.

Thursday, Mar 20th, 8:00 pm: Reservations for Texas Hold 'em due!! Call Dave & Jen at 442-6451 for RSVP, directions, and other specifics about this event!

Saturday, Mar 22nd, 6:00 pm: Texas Hold'em Poker Night. YOU MUST HAVE RESERVATIONS FOR THIS EVENT! Dave & Jen will host a Texas Hold 'em "tournament." Beginners are welcome. Snacks and diet sodas will be provided. Bring your own drinks if you want something else. There will be a dealer's choice table available for those who want to continue playing poker after they get eliminated from the tourney. Allergy alert - friendly cats.

Tuesday, Mar 25th, 8:00 pm: Reservations for Ultimate

Saturday Supper!! Call Al at 635-4910 to confirm a seat at the table at the fabulous Craftwood Inn on Saturday!

Saturday, Mar 29th, 6:30 pm: Ultimate Saturday Supper! Bring your thickest wallet because the USS for March will be a pricey outing, compared to where we usually go. The Craftwood Inn, 404 El Paso Blvd in Manitou Springs, features a hunting lodge atmosphere and an appropriate menu of pheasant, antelope, elk, venison, bison, and even some ordinary dishes, all prepared with a gourmet touch. Entrees generally run more than \$20, but it's a unique dining experience you won't want to miss. Won't let you in without reservations, though, so call Al at 635-4910 by Tuesday, 25 March, to reserve your place at the table. Visit www.craftwood.com for a preview of the menu.

Advance Notice: Monday, Apr 7th, 6:30 pm: April ExComm Meeting and Dinner. The April ExComm Meeting and Dinner will be at Good Company, 7625 North Union (at the corner of Briargate and Union), www.goodcompanybar.com. Please join us for a short (very short) Executive Committee meeting and then dinner afterwards. As with all our events, Mensa members and their guests are welcome.

March Birthdays

Michael Shoaf	Mar 7
Ralph Walter Trickey	Mar 16
Michael D Colgate	Mar 17
Susan Gibson	Mar 17
William Irelan	Mar 17
Brian Herbert	Mar 18
Mark Kevin Sarlo	Mar 18
Christopher S McGranahan	Mar 21
Deirdre Bauer	Mar 23
Jerry L Emanuelson	Mar 24
Robert P Weaver	Mar 28

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.

FAREWELL:

Edward Kaplan, who moved to Washington, D.C. Good luck to you!

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 6:00 PM Poker Night
9 1 PM Scrabble®	10	11 6:00 PM Trivia@ Benningan's	12 6:30 PM Ex-Comm Mtg & Dinner @ Jack Quinn's	13	14	15 6:00 PM MMM @ Sandy's
16	17	18	19	20 8:00 pm RSVP For Texas Hold'em	21	22 6:00 PM Texas Hold'em
23/30	24/31	25 8:00 pm Reservations for Ultimate Saturday Supper	26	27	28	29 6:30 PM Ultimate Saturday Supper @ Craftwood Inn

Culture Quest - April 27 2008

On the 27th of April, throughout the U.S. and Canada, Mensa teams of up to five members each will be trying to answer "trivia" questions that cover subjects from film to politics, from literature to geography and from music to history. No reference materials of any sort can be used or consulted during the quiz. The time limit for over 300 questions is 90 minutes and team complete for cash prizes and cultural literacy bragging rights.

CultureQuest® teams may consist of up to five primary players, and up to two alternates.

"CultureQuest®: Classic" is open to all Mensa members regardless of age. Each team member must be a dues-paid Mensa member (U.S. or Canada) for the 2008-2009 membership year by April 1, 2008.

"CultureQuest®: The Next Generation" is the Youth Division. Entrants must have been born AFTER April 28, 1990. Only the Youth Division team captain must be a current Mensa member.

Here's some sample questions from years past:

Do you know who won the first Nobel Prize for Physics? How about what musical art form originated in Italy about A.D. 1600? Or maybe you know what spice is also known as "wild marjoram"?

You can also go to: www.okmensa.org/features/cq/ for a quick quiz using old CultureQuest® questions. It's fun to see how you score on this!

Another great site for 'Questers, which features original CultureQuest® questions, is: www.amyx.org/mensa/goingforward/backissues/v4n1/quest.htm

Another great CultureQuest® warm-up is at www.us.mensa.org where you can sign up for the CultureQuest® Question of the Day.

If you're interested in forming a team or joining a team, let Sandy know by the 15th of March. We'd really like to field two teams again this year – and we already have 4 players signed up!

PlainsPeaking

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