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Contents

LocSec/Editor Report <i>Maxine Kushner</i> _____	3
Birthdays and New Members _____	4
Mensaversaries _____	5
Last month's FSM _____	6
RVC Report <i>Elissa Rudolph</i> _____	7
Holding Hands <i>Sandra Kischuk</i> _____	8
November 2004 Calendar <i>Ronan Heffernan, Calendar Editor</i> _____	10
That Old Hurricane Refrain <i>Dan Chesnut</i> _____	16
USPS Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation _____	20
Tampa Bay Mensa Officers _____	22



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Tampa Bay Sounding encourages submissions from all members. Submissions must be signed, but names may be withheld or pseudonyms used if requested. All letters to the editor will be subject to publication unless the author specifically requests otherwise. All material submitted will be considered for publication, but nothing can be guaranteed. *Everything* is subject to editing. Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Articles, casual essays, opinion pieces, poems, short stories, puzzles, and artwork are all encouraged.
- Personal attacks and bigoted, sexist, hateful, or otherwise offensive material will not be published.
- E-mail submissions are preferred, either embedded or in Word-readable attachments. Computer printouts and typewritten pages are fine. If you submit hard copy, please make sure your printer has enough toner or your typewriter has a fresh-enough ribbon. *Legible* handwritten submissions will be considered (but not given preference).

You may send your submissions by either of the following means:

- (1) E-mail — maxine.kushner@verizon.net (Please indicate "TBM" in the subject area.)
- (2) U.S. Mail — Maxine Kushner, 7442 Hollylake Lane, New Port Richey, FL 34653 (Telephone 727-841-6043)

Unless otherwise specified in the calendar, the deadline for unsolicited contributions is the tenth day of the month.

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LocSec/Editor's Report Maxine Kushner

Hello Tampa Bay Mensans! First, a big thank you goes out to the several members who contacted me to volunteer to become Proctors! It looks like we'll be able to get a few people trained before too long. I'm also happy to report that a testing session has been scheduled for October 30, and we hope to resume testing at least every three months. And, Les Milewski is our new Publisher, so thanks and welcome to Les!

Second, our Third Annual **North County Campout** is later this month. I hope you'll be able to join us. Don't forget to RSVP to host Chris Clement so we'll know how many burgers, etc., to purchase. This event will be held November 19-21 (details on page 11).

This issue contains another article by our own Dan Chesnut. Member Sandra Kischuk also sent something for your reading enjoyment. More information about Sandra can be found in the Crewe List. Sylvia Zadorozny contributed another Cryptopoeem. Donna Myhrer has decided to take a well deserved hiatus. I know I have enjoyed her puzzles for years, and I want to thank her for all the time she has put into creating these challenging puzzles for us.

We are still in need of a new **editor** for the *Sounding*. C'mon, be brave! You know you've been thinking you might like to try it...

And on a personal note—my boys are doing great! Evan graduated this summer from UCF with a degree in Computer Engineering and was accepted in the PhD program. Brian has begun his fourth year (architecture) at Cooper Union, teaches architecture and drawing on Saturdays, and is working during the week for Chuck Hoberman, a Cooper grad. You might remember Chuck as the inventor of the Hoberman Sphere, that ingenious spherical toy that expands and contracts. He also designed the Hoberman Arch for the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

Are you, or do you know, an M who deserves a shout out? Drop me a line. Let's get the AttaM column going again. I'm sure you guys are doing things of note all the time!



November Birthdays

- 2 Richard Konopasek, Jane Pattison
 3 Dan Hill
 4 Lux Devoid, James Francis
 5 James Francis, Deborah Rupe
 6 Mary Matthews
 7 Susan Anderson, Charles Greenwood
 10 Donna Ippolito
 11 Randall Chan-A-Shing, Barbara Loewe, Paul Miller,
 Mildred Satterfield
 12 Mikael Magnusson
 13 Ryan McKeon
 18 James Clement, Norman Linton
 20 Ann Basso
 21 Thomas Incorvia
 22 Max Loick
 23 Joseph Dunning, Thomas Gordon, Wayne Harper
 24 Patricia Farnum, Alan Walter
 25 Malcolm Haynes
 26 Jason Doolittle, Philip Hair
 27 Howard Berry, John Cattell
 28 Carol Partington, Donald White
 29 Gretchen Kulisky, Audrey Silver
 30 William Gilmer, Luke McCoy, Zachary McLemore,
 Roland St. Marie

Welcome to Tampa Bay Mensa!

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Jessica Frenkel* | Wayne Harper* |
| Jacqueline Frenkel* | Lannis Harris |
| Marie Hankinson* | Ned Moren |
| Chris Knight | |

*= new member; others are moves in, preferences in, or reinstatements.

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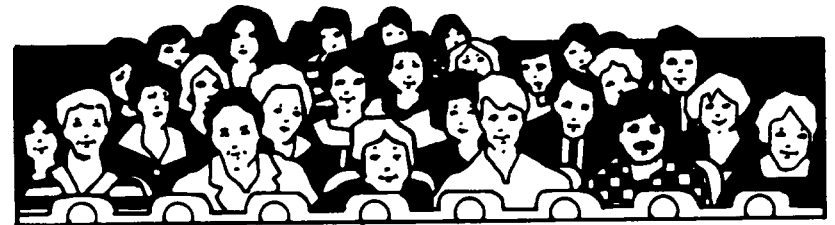
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November Mensaversaries

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Richard Konopasek, Carol Park, Dennis Zweifel |
| 2 | Katrina Christiano, E Mitchell, Ben Pethe, Marcus
Reinhart, Lori Stangherlin |
| 3 | Thomas Johnson |
| 4 | Michael Geiger |
| 5 | Richard Flatau, Logan Johnson, Susan Tharp |
| 8 | Meredith Craig, Marguerite Loy |
| 10 | Karen Payne |
| 12 | Christyne Lettermann |
| 13 | Phil Caraway, Eric Dehlinger, Joseph Joeb, Donald
White |
| 16 | Deborah Rupe, Thomas Timberlake |
| 18 | Martha Metcalf |
| 19 | Deb'Y Gaj, Philip Hair, Elliott Loyless, Sandra
Schulman |
| 23 | Kerry Lawson, Stanley Pleban |
| 24 | James Francis, Joyce Liberty |
| 25 | John Schutt, Esther Talledo Snook, Alan Walter |
| 29 | Vel Jaeger |
| 31 | Nan Owens |



** Mensaversaries come from the membership list provided by national Mensa; some may represent rejoin dates after a lapse in membership.*

FSM - Wednesday, September 29
Sylvia Zadorozny

Despite extremely short notice for September's Fold, Staple, and Mutilate--Hurricane Jeanne had forced a postponement (not to mention destroying the beautiful willow tree behind my house)--we had an amazing turnout for FSM, proving the indomitable spirit of Tampa Bay Mensans.

Maxine Kushner, who arrived first, brought the *Tampa Bay Sounding* from the printer; apparently getting it printed with a hurricane pending had proven to be quite an ordeal. Don Davis told of his ordeals with his current job, but noted it is helping him perfect his Spanish. Richard Manno suggested that language might affect the paths of a child's brain development. Ronan Heffernan, who speaks Italian, and his wife Dea Heffernan, who is fluent in German, thought there might be something to that, since they had experienced differences in these languages. Delphine Jenness, who is a teacher, informed us that after about age 12 it's much more difficult to pick up a second language; before age 6 is better. Kathy Crum had tried to enroll her young son in a preschool teaching program but had discovered there was a waiting list. Sylvia Zadorozny asked former math teacher Dan Chesnut about an e-mail she had received on the Fibonacci sequence; Dan had once written an article for the *Sounding* about this sequence. Thomas Thomas, who along with Don, Richard, and Sylvia had assembled the last *Sounding* issue, was surprised how quickly we finished FSM with this many people helping out. In all, it took about two hours, including breaks for pizza, homemade brownies and cheesecake, and, of course, plenty of interesting discussion.

If you'd like to join us putting together our newsletter, consider attending, or even hosting, an FSM. (To host, contact Sylvia at 813-855-4939.) The date and location are listed each month in the calendar, and hopefully we won't have to reschedule for yet another hurricane!

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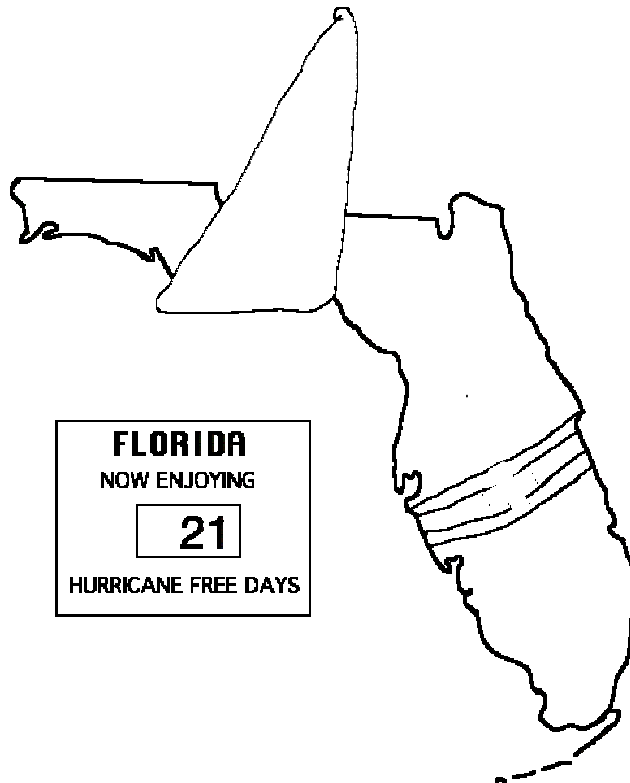
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I propose they devise a list of really scary names for our hurricanes. They could go on TV and say, "Look out! It's HURRICANE EBOLA! Leave! Now!" Or, "HURRICANE FUNGUS is going to affect your area! (My "area?" Yikes!) If for some devious reason officials wanted to evacuate only the Democrats here in Florida, they could call it HURRICANE NADER. "Noooooo! I thought they retired names of previous disasters!"



The Tenth Story: RVC column Elissa Rudolph

September blew by punctuated by those pesky hurricanes. While my particular area of Delray Beach suffered uprooted trees and power outages, my neighbors to the north and west endured much worse. I hope all of you reading this got through September relatively unscathed. We live in paradise 364 days a year. Then one day (or more) it is definitely not paradise.

During one weekend in September when there was no hurricane, I went to the AMC meeting in Portland, Oregon. A few business items you might be interested in: The preliminary budget for the World Gathering in 2006 was approved. Early registration is \$60 until next July (the Web site should be able to take your registration now). There is now a requirement that at least one member of the hospitality committees for large gatherings complete a food safety course prior to the events. And the AMC confirmed that membership in SIGs is limited to members of American Mensa; the SIGs can have participants who are not Ms, but they are not considered "members." The full minutes of the meeting are available online. The next AMC meeting is in our region—Orlando, at the Coronado Springs Resort, site of WG06. If you'd like to see the venue, come to the meeting December 3 through 5. There will be hospitality, of course, and a chance to meet members of your board of directors.

Thank you all (you know who you are!) for participating in the WG06 logo contest. I'll know the winner soon—hope it is one of Region 10's members!

Coming: AMC Meeting, Dec. 3-5, no reg. fee, Disney Coronado Springs Resort 407-933-1000. SR/DR \$109 + tax. Contact: Elissa Rudolph, RVC10@us.mensa.org

Colloquium 2005, Earth in Mind: Fueling the Future, March 4-6, 2005, Tucson, AZ, www.colloquium.us.mensa.org

At the beginning of August, I went hiking in the Poconos in Pennsylvania. I was refreshed by the lush, green foliage, the moist dark earth, the moss and wildflowers, delighted with the deer wandering through the woodlands, the ducks on the lake. Fourteen years ago, I left the north and moved to Florida, and never looked back. I forgot about the lacy fluttering of quaking aspen foliage, and the purple crowns of bee balm flowers. In the Poconos, my children and I picked crab apples from heavily laden trees, and tasted the sourness of not-quite-ripe fruit.

Walking uneven surfaces, particularly downhill, uphill, rock strewn, root-corded paths is a challenge. Even more so because my M.S. makes walking a little interesting anyway. Falling down in an asphalt parking lot or on a concrete sidewalk is not unknown. My parents, my brother and his wife, my son and his wife, my daughter, and my nephew descended into the leafy coolness of the woods. At Mom's recommendation, over the rough stretches, my son held my hand. I felt shy about it, a fierce price not wanting to admit that I might not be able to do it alone, but also, intensely aware, that if I tried to maintain too much independence, I could inconvenience everybody seriously.

I spend a lot of my time watching my feet now. I used to watch the woods around me, but, with the way my legs act, priorities have changed. I have to think about each step, make sure the ankle feels solid, that the leg is not going to give way beneath me. Walking is a mental exercise as well as a physical one. I look at it as therapy. Consciously thinking about the action continues to send the message to my body/brain connection that this is how things are supposed to act. Maybe, I will strengthen that connection, and one day, again walk freely.

A little less than half a mile into the trees, we were faced with an icy stream with a band of loose stepping stones to the shore on the other side, the clear water rushing over the spillway. We could see where the path continued through the rocks and dark earth on the other side. Mom and Dad determined it was too dangerous for them to continue, seeing as neither was interested in teetering their way across the shifting rocks, and turned to go

days of repeating the same, scintillating forecast: "High of 89 degrees. Low 78. Light afternoon breeze. The Devil Rays will lose." I figure the latter prediction probably enhances a forecaster's accuracy.

Sometimes we see one of these so called meteorologists on scene after a storm, with streets buried in sand, houses blown away, and they put on their long, sad face and talk real sad, but once they cut to commercial it's, "Man, this is awesome! Look how that tree went right through that guy's house. Cool." My favorite scenes when they are on camera are when they pretend they are braving hurricane conditions. They put on a rain coat, go out behind a building when it's raining, and start leaning into the wind. "John, the wind's really picked... (break) Oh! That was a big gust there. I can hardly talk!" Yet after the heroic reporter "stumbles" almost out of view, the camera pans up to the tree tops, which are slow dancing to "Unchained Melody." Those people aren't about to get anywhere near the storm's landfall, but they do their best to either win a Peabody or land a job at the local comedy club.

Every time a big hurricane hits the coast, some clowns stay at home (in Zone sub-A) to "ride out the storm," and afterwards, they are basically not seen again. I have a suggestion about this. If officials want 100 percent evacuation, they need to use more convincing names for these storms. I understand what it is like to receive evacuation orders. The sun is still shining, you are in at least partial denial that your physical world is about to disappear, but they are telling you to watch out for... HURRICANE LISA! Huh? The last Lisa I saw was nothing to flee. One time it was... HURRICANE FERNANDO! Are we supposed to run from a Caribbean, cross-dressing connoisseur? Now, I agree that Hurricane Ivan was a fantastic name for a hurricane. "Ivan the Terrible" was a Russian czar who killed a lot of people. Actually, the killing part probably goes without saying when it comes to czars, but, anyway, that name was an exception.

That Old Hurricane Refrain
by Dan Chesnut

As I write this, the first coolness of early autumn is upon us and it is a rare, hurricane-free week here in Florida. Hallelujah! I would feel totally fine, except now, like a "bad trip," my storm weary head has these deranged, robotic sounding messages going through it: "Must go to Home Depot. Buy more plywood. Need more bottled water. Thirty gallons from previous storms still not enough. Beep!"

My hurricane procedures are now well honed. Batteries are fresh, the car is full of gas, and I know just what hurricane party foods to have on hand. Thanks to trial, error, and nerve-racking lengths of waiting-for-the-storm-to-get-here time, I also know what clueless weather forecaster to tune in to so I can find out what happened to the hurricane since I last checked five minutes earlier.

We have all these evacuation zones: A, B, C, D, and - heaven forbid we ever need it - E. Your assigned zone depends on your distance from a log-jammed evacuation route. There should be a special evacuation zone sub-A, for those who live not only near the shore, but right at the water. That is where the storm surge rises and your house turns basically into a reverse aquarium. The fish are looking in. At you. And by then you have the same bug-eyed, open mouthed look on your face as they have! And there also is the little known zone K, for the surfing freaks, who cry "Kawabunga, dude!" as they charge into oblivion and afterward to the great surf zone in the sky, where hurricanes always hover offshore generously pushing great waves to the beach.

The only people who actually like having a hurricane come at them are those weather forecasters on TV. They love it. For them, it's, "Whee! We get to talk about storms! Yay!" They know the rest of their summer consists of 90 straight

November 2004

9

back. Whether I would continue or not, with my compromised balance, was also a question.

I looked at the stones, watched as people adjusted balance as the rocks moved beneath their feet, then watched as one man took off his shoes and waded across. That I could do, particularly if someone walked next to me on the stepping stones. I removed my shoes, and stepped into the stream, holding hands at different times with my brother, my son, my sister-in-law, my daughter-in-law, my nephew, and my daughter, as I passed through to the other side. By the time I had crossed, my feet were numb from the cold. I sat on a rock to put my shoes back on, and we walked to view a waterfall where the frothing cataract of our stream plunged 50 feet or so over a rocky outcropping.

We did the tourist thing, snapping digital pictures of our group against a backdrop of the falls, then hiked some more to a different vantage. Then we walked back, me removing my shoes again; the only one in the party wading across the water. I walked next to them, not the same path, but passing from one to the next. Briefly we touched. The people I was with, all six of them, waited while I put my shoes back on.

We hiked out of the woods together, me picking a few wild raspberries as we passed the pathside rakes, dropping them into my son's hand, telling him what they were.

That afternoon in the woods was a gift. Even more of a gift was having people there who cared for me, who held my hand when the path was stony. Only a couple of days before, my parents had held my hands as we walked down a dark and uneven sidewalk. We steadied each other. And it was easier with someone, not to cling to, because we still wanted to walk, but to give us that little balance.

I can also remember being married to a husband who walked six feet in front of me and ridiculed me for not keeping up. I'm not married to him anymore. Go figure.

Who is there to hold your hand when things are rough? Who do you help along the way? Are you willing to hold someone's hand? And to have someone hold yours?

10

Tampa Bay Sounding

Mensa events are open to all Mensans, their spouses, and accompanied guests. A party at a private home is a private event, and who may or may not attend is at the complete discretion of the host. While kitty amounts are mandatory, hosts often spend far more than the specified amount. Donations excess of the kitty amount will be appreciated.

Ronan Heffernan (813-907-8147) is the Calendar Editor. Please e-mail your calendar event notices to Ronan@tampabay.rr.com, or visit <http://tampa.us.mensa.org/cal> for complete instructions. Your deadline for the following month's calendar is the 12th of the preceding month.

Hosts: Please remember to mention any special concerns about your location, such as limited access for the handicapped, smoking restrictions, or presence of pets.

Guests: If you have special needs or restrictions, it is prudent to discuss them with your host before attending an event.

November - 1st, 15th - Mondays - 3:30 PM - \$2

Children's Game Day/Play Day

For ages 0-10. Come join us. Bring your favorite games. For directions contact:



Linne Katz - 727-372-9438 - LINNEKATZ@aol.com
10037 Wheatland Road - New Port Richey

November - 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th - Thursdays - 12:30 PM

Lunch Bunch

We meet at Piccadilly Cafeteria, on 11810 North Dale Mabry Highway (next to Barnes and Noble Bookstore), in Tampa. For directions, descriptions, and/or encouragement to attend, call:

Jim Perry - 813-837-3473 - philart@gte.net

NEO WAMHC IMO WOODOM NEIH NEOZ
TOMO,

NEO HVNC IMO PONNLHP XMATH;

NEO XOMMZ'C REOOD LC FSVWFOM,

NEO MACO LC AVN AG NATH.

NEO WIFSO TOIMC I PIZOM CRIMG,

NEO GLOSY I CRIMSON PATH.

SOCN L CEAVSY XO ASY-GICELAHOY,

L'SS FVN I NMLHDON AH.

--OWLSZ YLRDLHCAH, "IVNVWH"



November - 26th - Friday - 6:00 PM

TGIF

You don't have to be an Anglophile to enjoy the Horse & Jockey British Pub, but you do have to be prepared to celebrate TGIF! The Horse & Jockey is located at 1155 Pasadena Avenue South, South Pasadena. State law does not permit smoking in restaurants.

Brigitte Walker - 727-346-0656

November - 27th - Saturday - 7:00 PM

Last Saturday Games Night

Sylvia Zadorozny - 813-855-4939 - sylviachocolate@juno.com
651 Timber Bay Circle West – Oldsmar

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Solution to the October Cryptopoeam

By Sylvia Zadorozny

The Frog

Be kind and tender to the frog,
And do not call him names,
As “Slimy skin,” or “Polly-wog,”
Or likewise “Ugly James,”
Or “Gap-a-grin,” or “Toad-gone-wrong,”
Or “Bill Bandy-knees”:
The frog is justly sensitive
To epithets like these.

No animal will more repay
A treatment kind and fair;
At least so lonely people say
Who keep a frog (and, by the way,
They are extremely rare.)



--Hilaire Belloc

November 2004

November - 11th - Thursday - 7:30 AM

Breakfast Gathering

Breakfast Gathering, Village Inn at Walsingham Road in Largo, 7:30 AM, 2nd Thursday of every month. Gather for food and conversation. Please call Lori Puterbaugh at 727-399-2419 for directions and so we have a headcount.

Lori Puterbaugh - 727-399-2419

November - 19th, 20th, 21st

2004 North County Campout

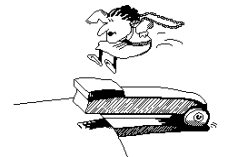
The provisions from Tampa Bay Mensa are intended for members only who should RSVP ASAP. I may extend invitations to a few select "virtual M's" who would, without a doubt, add much to the occasion by their presence. Please BYOB and, if not a member, some goodies to share. I will have my cell phone with me.

Chris Clement - (727) 422 6162

November - 21st - Sunday - 3:00 PM

FSM

This month's FSM is hosted by Carole Austin in Sun City Center.



Directions: Take I-75 south from Brandon or north from 275 west of St. Pete. Take exit 2 40A (from Brandon) or exit 240 (from the south) and go east on State Road 674. At the 3rd stoplight, turn right into Kings Point. Give the guard my name and address and password "Mensa". Follow Kings Blvd, about two miles to a large green Nantucket sign, turn right onto New Point Loop. Turn right at the next large green Nantucket sign and follow Nantucket Drive to 2019.

Carole Austin - (813) 633-3843 - cgaustin@juno.com

2019 Nantucket Dr - Sun City Center