



Tampa Bay Sounding

A Publication of Tampa Bay (Florida) Mensa

Vol. 29, No. 11

December 2004

Happy Holidays



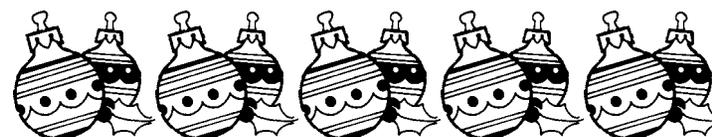
Mensa is an international society whose sole qualification for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on a standard IQ test. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization whose main purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. All opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors, and not necessarily those of the editors or officers of Mensa. Mensa as an organization has no opinions. Visit American Mensa at <http://www.us.mensa.org>.



Tampa Bay Sounding is the official newsletter of Tampa Bay Mensa. See the inside back cover for copyright information. Tampa Bay Mensa, which split off from Central Florida Mensa in 1975, serves Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Hernando, and Sumter counties. Visit TBM at <http://www.tampa.us.mensa.org>, which provides full instructions on how to join *tbm-gm* and *tbm-discussion*, our two Yahoo Groups.

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LocSec/Editor's Report
Maxine Kushner

Hello Tampa Bay Mensans!

This issue contains another article by Dan Chesnut. The subject of this well researched piece is global warming. Sylvia Zadorozny contributed another Cryptopoem, and I generated three little math puzzles for your enjoyment.

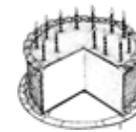
Newly minted ExComm member Thomas Thomas has volunteered to create the January issue of the *Sounding* with the idea that he might assume the role of editor for a while. Be sure to tell him how much you like his first issue... ☺

New activities alert: two members have come up with new events for this month. Ellen Berry has scheduled a reading group for Wednesday, December 1, in Tampa. She expects the focus will be primarily nonfiction, and I think this will appeal to many of us. My multi-thousands collection is mostly nonfiction, and I'm sure I'm not alone among TBMer's in that regard.

The other new activity is a wine tasting. Member Wayne Harper will host this event in his home on Saturday, December 11. This event is also in Tampa. More information on both gatherings can be found in the calendar.

Several new and prospective members have written to me recently asking if we have any activities for children. New Gifted Children's Coordinator Theresa Hohmann would like to get some activities for gifted children on the calendar, so if you are interested or have ideas to share, please contact Theresa and let's see what we can get going. Theresa's contact information can be found on page 38.

Until next month,
Maxine



December Birthdays

- 1 Dana Groulx, Marie Hankinson
- 2 Barbara Bishop, Raymond Celli, Roger Preslar
- 4 Betty Gorman, Robert Miller
- 6 Susan Dunlevy
- 9 Dorothy Butler, Marcus Reinhart, Colleen Sturtz
- 10 Richard Flatau, Larry Paradis
- 11 Robert Crabtree, Elliott Loyless
- 12 Robert Van Dyke, David Wilson
- 13 Michael Wenditz
- 14 Dhyan Appachu, Anthony Citta, Susan Entringer,
Ryan Kennedy, Ryan Smith
- 15 David Goodspeed
- 17 Daniel Chesnut, James Clack, Renee Foran
- 18 Geoff LeCain
- 19 Frank Clarke
- 21 Alvin Bedgood
- 23 Richard Bruckart, Dorothy Gondela
- 24 Joe Jenkins, Edwin Kelley, Keith
Kelly
- 25 Rush Miller, Cynthia Weatherby
- 26 Allen Garber, Buddy Meyer
- 27 Richard Bachmann, John Henderson
- 31 Robert Ayres, William Dennis, Les Milewski



Welcome to Tampa Bay Mensa!

Dianne Cox
Richard Flynn
Stephen Gelis
Nichole Keller

Ronald McDonald*
Edgar McGonigal
Diane Ocampo
Michael Oldenburg*

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

December Mensaversaries

- 1 Jeff Jeter, Rohan Malkhare
- 2 Robert Crabtree, Patricia Oldfield
- 3 Ryan McKeon, Michael Nies, Dennis Wilcoxon
- 4 Cindy Bethel, Ronald Dubs, Deepak Srinivasagupta, Charles Sumner
- 5 Michael Garrett, George Hall
- 6 Catherine Barnard, John Cunningham, Beverly Kraft
- 7 Maureen Brush, Paul Sharp
- 8 John Olmstead
- 11 Michael Clifford, John Henderson
- 12 Kaye Ryan
- 14 Susan Anderson
- 16 Matthew Snook
- 17 Leo Reilly
- 20 Rodney Sturtz
- 21 Cathy Hansen
- 22 John Beaumont, Ken Poynter, Jane Semones
- 23 David Goodrich
- 25 John Emerson
- 27 Mary Matthews
- 30 Betty Gorman
- 31 Jean Ainsley
- 35 Betty Taylor



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

Math Puzzles Maxine Kushner

	-		/		-1
X		-		-	
	X		-		6
+		-		-	
	+		X		65
11		-7		-8	
	X		-		14
X		-		X	
	-		+		13
+		-		+	
	-		X		-50
39		-8		14	

Try to fill in the missing numbers.
 Use the numbers 1 through 9 to complete the equations.
 Each number is only used once.
 Each row is a math equation. Each column is a math equation.
 Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

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Halloween Party/Games Night

Sylvia Zadorozny

A green-faced witch in steeple hat,
Tarantula and giant bat,
All hung about as down we sat
To play fun games and chew the fat.

Spirited Mensans haunted my house on the evening of October 30. Dan Chesnut, purveyor of soy barbecue chips, started the games going with Celebrity TaBoo. Hope Hill, beautifully dressed as a Mardi Gras queen, played Othello with Rodney Phillips, a.k.a. Rodney Dangerfield and Taboo universal guesser, while Theresa Hohmann, who contributed brie and French bread, observed. Jane Davis, who came as a vampire, sank her teeth into a Big Boggle game, beating Sylvia Zadorozny, who resembled a giant candy corn. Camille Box from Atlanta and new member Wayne Harper brought a lovely bottle of wine which we served in elegant(?) styrofoam cups. Richard Manno, who arrived bearing pizzas, barely topped the competition in Acquire. George Zadorozny, cleverly disguised as Superman, suggested Guesstures, which Autumn Malagies, who had the foresight not to eat dinner beforehand, enjoyed playing. We tried out a new DVD movie game James Browning had just bought that day called "Scene It?". Kathy Zadorozny, dressed as a jack-o-lantern, Barbara Loewe wearing a decorative Halloween shirt, and Delphine Jenness, who said she came to spend time with friends, demonstrated their knowledge during Superquiz. Thomas Thomas told us a non-Mensan had said Thomas was the only person he knew who spoke in complete sentences; Thomas had responded by apologizing, in complete sentences, naturally. LocSec Maxine Kushner, present for the Executive Committee meeting earlier, decided to stay most of the evening, as we chatted and played other games such as Tribond, Paired Up, Ultimate Outburst, and TransAmerica. There were lots of games, lots of food, and lots of fun with lots of friends. What more could one ask for?

The Tenth Story: RVC Column

Elissa Rudolph

Now that we're past hurricane season and election season—did our state get battered, or what? — it's time to start thinking about renewing your Mensa membership early. You can renew at the current amount, \$49, until December 31. Then dues increase to \$52 on January 1, 2005. You can renew online at <http://www.us.mensa.org/>, click on "renew now." How easy is that?

Over the next few months the Mensa website will be implemented with new features, some of which will be an online directory, threaded discussions, and personalized "My Mensa" pages. You'll need your member number and your password or PIN to access current services and new features after December 31. Visit the AML website or contact webservices@americanmensa.org or call 817.607.0060, ext. 119 if you have not already received your PIN. You want to stay in touch with all things Mensa, don't you?

Meanwhile mark your calendar for these gatherings coming up. Hope to see you in Orlando at the AMC meeting! Have a wonderful December.

Coming:

Smarti Gras 2005, Jan. 28-30, Central Florida Mensa's long-running RG, www.cfm.us.mensa.org/rg05.htm for info.

ValenTime, Feb. 11-13, Northwest Florida's RG on the white sand beaches of the Panhandle, www.nwflorida.us.mensa.org/valentime.html for info.

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

MindGames, April 15-17, hosted by our very own Tampa Bay Mensa, Double Tree Hotel-Tampa Westshore Airport. Registration is \$65 to 4/1. Send registrations to MindGames 2005, 1229 Corporate Drive W, Arlington, TX 76006-6103.

FloRanGe '05-Suite Mayhem, Broward Mensa's RG over Memorial Day weekend, May 27-30, Tampa Bay Mensa's traditional spot on the calendar. Since that group is doing MindGames, Broward Mensa is hosting the 3-day RG in Fort Lauderdale. Can't miss a chance to party! Contact Robin Rhea, 954.575.1639, robinrhea@bellsouth.net for information.

Elissa Rudolph
 RVC10@us.mensa.org
 5054 Lakefront Blvd., Apt. D
 Delray Beach, FL 33484
 561-496-0124, http://wg06.us.mensa.org

Number Block

(Solution on page 37.)

Try to fill in the missing numbers.
 The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 9.
 The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right.
 The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom.
 The diagonal lines also add up to the totals to the right.

										44
			4		9		6		6	50
	2		4	1	1		0		8	44
7	2			2		0	8		3	43
2		9	5		8	8		8	6	63
	5	2		3	1		6	8		40
	3				7	7		3	1	45
2		8	4	5	0		5	8	4	40
7	0	0				8	7	3		47
2		8					4	9	8	47
9		5		1	0		9	2	4	46
43	26	54	46	39	36	54	63	55	47	45

Whiny Americans
 Les Milewski

It's amazing how many Americans criticize France for not joining us in the war in Iraq. These people act like America entered WWII to liberate these ungrateful French people, and they owe us!

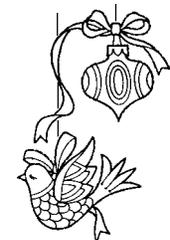
Well, excuse me, all along I thought we entered WWII because of that little incident in the Pacific on December 7, 1941.

We "invaded" France (I never heard the Normandy landing referred to as a "Liberation") because it happened to be between Hitler's Germany and Us! It could have been Timbuktu as far as we were concerned; we were coming through!

The enemy was Hitler's Germany. France and its people were fallen allies. Rather than American lives being lost to "liberate France", many American lives were saved by the French patriots.

Some Americans need to rethink their stance. Pass the FRENCH fries, please.

If you would like to update your Crewe Lists:
 Paul Sharp's correct phone number is 727-461-4979
 Marcus Reinhart's new address is:
 9404 N. Valle Dr.
 Tampa, FL 33612
 813-505-4539



Marnie Herring, Life Member of TBM,
 passed away on 11/12/04.

Cryptopoem
by Sylvia Zadorozny

NP BUDYIZH SGG AIML COSC D SN HOP,

XTC COY RODENTIA DH CLDRY SH HOP SH D.

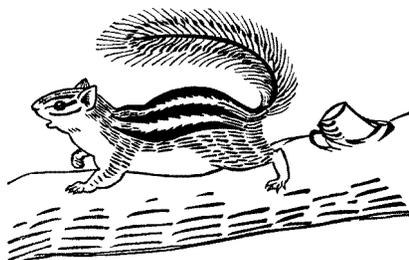
OY NMFYH LDCO BGDRA YUDIV DIZYRDHDMI

GDAY HCUDEYH SRUMHH COY CYGYFDHDMI.

OY'H GDAY COY HOSZML MB S RGMTZ,

MU YNDGP ZDRADIHMI UYSZ SGMTZ.

--MVZYI ISHO



Treasurer's Report March 20, 2003 to October 29, 2004

Kathy Crum, TBM Treasurer



This Treasurer's report gives the general membership a quick update on the finances of Tampa Bay Mensa. Since my last report, we have had Beach Bash '03 and MaRGaritaville '04, both of which turned decent profits for TBM. TBM's finances are in great shape, as we continue to have a large surplus held over from years past.

To request reimbursement for approved expenses, please use an expense reimbursement form (a .pdf version is located on our website), attach your receipts to it, and mail it to me. I always have the checkbook and forms with me at Excomm meetings. Please mail your completed forms to me, and I'll get a check in the mail to you.

Till next time...

ASSETS as of 03/20/03		Mind Games '05:	
First Union Checking	5,829.67	Advance from National	1,000.00
Heritage Bank CD	8,928.99	Registrations	1,356.00
2nd Class Mailing Account	288.34	TOTAL Mind Games '05	2,356.00
TOTAL	15,047.00		
		Contributions-Scholarship	350.00
ASSETS as of 10/29/04		Contributions-TBS	230.00
First Union Checking	7,789.77	Interest Income	447.96
First National Bank CD	10,208.54	Misc Income	82.55
First National Bank Checking	100.08	National Support	7,579.50
2nd Class Mailing Account	658.85	Proctor Revenue	425.00
TOTAL	18,757.24	Subscriptions	36.00
		TOTAL INCOME	13,493.82
CASH FLOW for 03/20/03 to 10/29/04		EXPENSES	
INCOME		Fees	10.00
Advertising Income	225.00	Miscellaneous Expenses	324.88
Beach Bash '03:		Office Supplies	126.73
Food Expenses	-5,252.55	Postage- Miscellaneous	402.04
Miscellaneous Expenses	-1,675.74	Postage - TBS	1,454.37
Registrations	8,002.50	Printing - TBS	6,278.19
TOTAL Beach Bash '03	1,074.21	Refreshments	709.42
MaRGaritaville '04:		Scholarships	300.00
Food Expenses	-3,694.08	TOTAL EXPENSES	9,605.63
Miscellaneous Expenses	-1,991.32	OVERALL GAIN	3,888.19
Registrations	6,373.00		
TOTAL MaRGaritaville '04	687.60		

TGIF
Phoebe McCann

October's TGIF was not attended by a huge number of people, but it was hugely successful in that we had a great time with lots of stimulating conversation. It was great to see Bob Topper, Brigitte (Gitti) Walker and Ronnie Dubs. We all met U.K. Wabi for the first time. When questioned as to his hobbies he said his passion is dancing ... all forms with partners young and old depending on the style of dance. When questioned as to his day job, he said he was a hit man. I, for one, believe him but I did always think that sort of job took place mostly at night. Live and learn.

We were saddened to learn that Gitti's friend Bill Ernard has been in and out (mostly in) of the hospital ever since August and is seriously ill. Please keep a good thought and/or a prayer. Gitti herself will be here for our Christmas meeting (YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A CHRISTMAS MEETING ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF DECEMBER SINCE THE FOURTH IS CHRISTMAS EVE AND THE FIFTH IS NEW YEAR'S EVE.).

The bad news is that Gitti will be moving to Colorado Springs in February to be near her son. We've kept this meeting going for so many years and she will be greatly missed!

Husband Dan and I enjoyed our summer in Vermont enormously, as usual, but it's good to be back too. I am back to work teaching piano, voice, guitar, speech and drama. Busy busy busy! Never too busy to read, however.

Hope to see you soon. If not, have a wonderful holiday season!



CENTRAL FLORIDA MENSA
PRESENTS

Smarti Gras 2005
JANUARY 28-30, 2005
HOTEL ORLANDO NORTH
MAITLAND, FLORIDA

Do you want the taste of the French Quarter in Central Florida? Come on down to celebrate Smarti Gras 2005 at the Hotel Orlando North. Join us to share the flavors and fun of New Orleans. Don't forget that your registration covers all meals except for Saturday dinner on the town. Our hospitality will always be Central Florida-food, fun, and conversation.

This year we have moved to a new location. Our hotel is offering a \$65 room rate, and up to 4 can share at this rate. Reservations need to be made prior to December 29. The hotel will not be able to guarantee this rate or availability after this date. Contact the hotel at 407.660.9000 or 1.800.628.6660 and ask for the Mensa rate.

The hotel is located at 600 N. Lake Destiny Drive in Maitland. This is near the intersection of I-4 and Maitland Blvd.

Send your registration with checks payable to "CFM" to:
Eddie Truelove, Registrar
3333 Honeysuckle Ln
Belle Isle, FL 32812
407.855.9078
email Smarti-Gras@cfl.rr.com

Smarti Gras 2005

NAME _____	Registration
ADDRESS _____	
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____	\$55 until November 1, 2004
PHONE _____ LOCAL GROUP _____	\$65 until January 15, 2005
EMAIL _____	\$75 after January 15, 2005
PREFERRED NAME ON NAMETAG _____	



MindGames will be hosted right here in Tampa at the Double Tree Hotel-Tampa Westshore Airport, April 15-17. Registration is \$65 to 4/1. Send registrations to MindGames 2005, 1229 Corporate Drive W, Arlington, TX 76006-6103.



Broward Mensa Presents FLoRanGe '05
Suite Mayhem!

Memorial Day Weekend May 27-30, 2005

A mélange of speakers, demonstrations, contests, tournaments, an auction, Charlie Steinhice and his Trash Bowl, Rick Friedman, Joke-off, paper games, Pundemonium, John Klase's Treasure Hunt, Wit Tee Shirt Contest, special activities for Teens and 'Tweens, 24 hour Game and Hospitality Suites, pool, hot tub, all meals except Saturday Night on the Town, plus all the old and new friends you can stuff into a steamer trunk!

Location:

Fort Lauderdale, FL
 Sheraton Suites Cypress Creek
 All rooms are suites.
 \$79.00 per night for 1-4.
 Must reserve by May 6, 2005

Registration:

\$75.00 until January 31
 \$80.00 after January 31
 \$37.50 for children under 12
 Make checks payable to:
 Broward Mensa

Sheraton Suites Cypress Creek
 555 West Cypress Creek Road
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
 Phone: 954-492-5849
 1-800-325-3535

Mail to: Darcy Schiller, Registrar
 6075 N. Sabal Palm Blvd. #313
 Tamarac, FL 33319-2645

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Officer/Position _____
 Name on Badge _____
 Email address _____



Want more information?

Contact RG Chair Robin Rhea (robinrhea@bellsouth.net)
 954-575-1639

ANA, APS, PC-LM, USPCS-LM, USCS, FUN-LM, FAS-LM, MPOS
 UPSS-LM, AAMS, AFDCS, MPPC-LM, PSS, PNC3, MPHS

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Dolores Puterbaugh, LMHC, PA

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- Stress, anger
- Personal growth/development
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 puterbaugh@mindspring.com
 balancedlifestylecoaching.com

CALENDAR

December 2004

Ronan Heffernan, Calendar Editor

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.

December - 1st - Wednesday - 7:00 PM*Reading Group*

Location: Borders Books & Music - 909 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa



Join us for the TBM Reading Group's first meeting! We'll spend time sharing our enjoyment in reading, discussing what kinds of reading we'd like to do, and figuring out logistics.

A casual reading group for Tampa Bay Mensa members and guests. We'll be focusing primarily on non-fiction –

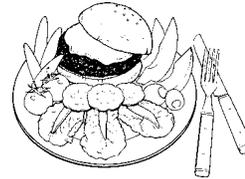
biographies, magazine articles, creative non-fiction, business and career -- with a few books like the DaVinci Code and Umberto Eco's works for good measure. We may read the same material as a group and discuss, or each pick our own material to share with the group. Once a month, we'll meet at Borders or Barnes & Noble.

When you arrive, look for me in the coffee shop inside Borders. I'll be carrying a copy of "The Cluetrain Manifesto". Bring along books you'd like to exchange or give away!

Ellen Berry - 727-480-7938 - ellen_berry@yahoo.com
Borders Books & Music - 909 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa

December - 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th - 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:



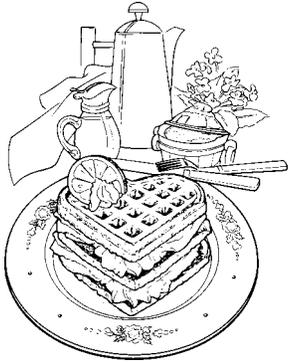
Jim Perry - 813-837-3473 - philart@gte.net

December - 6th, 20th - 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



December - 9th - 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

December - 11st - Saturday - 7:00 PM*Wine Tasting*

Every attendee or attending couple should bring a bottle of their favorite wine to share and any snacks they would like to eat. Host will provide cheese, crackers, glasses, etc.

DIRECTIONS:

Take 275 to Howard/Armenia Exit or Kennedy (Route 60) to Armenia Ave. Go south on Armenia Ave to end. Go left on Swann, then Right on Howard (2 blocks down) Go 0.5 miles south on Howard and go under the cross-town. Go 2 blocks on left -> Marjory Ave, side street next to Bern's Steak House. (old restaurant, not SideBerns) Go Left on Marjory, 2112 is 4 or 5 houses down on south side of street (white 1 story bungalow).



Wayne Harper - 813-254-6902 - harper_wayne@yahoo.com
2112 W. Marjory Ave - Tampa

December - 17th - 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

December - 18th - Saturday - 5:00 PM*ExComm Meeting*

Executive Committee meetings are open to all Tampa Bay Mensans.



This month's meeting is at Sylvia's and will be followed by a Holiday Party/Games Night. Call for directions; please leave a message if you get the machine.

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



December - 18th - Saturday - 7:00 PM - potluck*Holiday Games/Party*

Have yourself a merry little games night, make a friend tonight.

Play a game, then take a break and grab a bite.

Celebrate a merry little games night, here where I reside,

But I must request that you keep smoke outside.

We meet here in my Oldsmar home (warning: cats may roam the floor);

Mensans from all around the Bay come to chat and play once more.

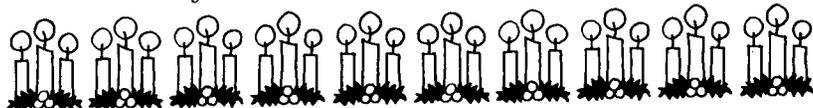
Through the years we've often got together, friends both old and new,

Celebrating as we play a game or two.

Oh won't you join our merry little games night crew?

Sylvia Zadorozny - 813-855-4939 - sylviachocolate@juno.com

651 Timber Bay Circle West - Oldsmar

**December - 19th - Sunday - 2:30 PM - Free***FSM*

This month Billie Noakes will be our hostess as we prepare the Sounding for mailing. Billie will have a tasty spread of munchies on hand, including low-carb and low-sugar selections for the watchful of diet, but even these are disguised as such pleasing favorites as spinach-artichoke dip and a chili-cheese fondue. Candies and cashews, dips and desserts ... all we need is a big crowd. DIRECTIONS: From I-275, take exit 28, the Gandy/Seminole/Pinellas Park exit. Head west toward Pinellas Park/Seminole. Gandy will become Park Blvd as you pass ParkSide Mall. Go through lights at 43rd, 49th, and 52nd Streets, and watch for 56th Street. Turn right (north) onto 56th Street, then right onto 77th Avenue. It's the 2nd house on the right.

Billie Noakes - 727-647-8057 - salauthor@yahoo.com

5580 77th Ave. N. - Pinellas Park

What You Should Know About Global Warming

by Dan Chesnut

Floridians hardly need to be told 2004 was a busy season for hurricanes, and a small part of the discussion of this season has been the possibility that it was a symptom of global warming. As this issue gains more importance in our lives, we should be aware of the facts. As a serious student of weather for over 30 years, I am happy to share with you what I have gleaned from prestigious sources, so that in your own thoughts and debates you can use data that is reliable and, to the best of my ability, comprehensive.

Most of the hard data used in this article comes from one of the agencies under NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), which includes the National Climatic Data Center, the National Weather Service, and the Tropical Prediction Center. Other sources include the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and NASA, particularly NASA's Goddard Space Flight Institute.

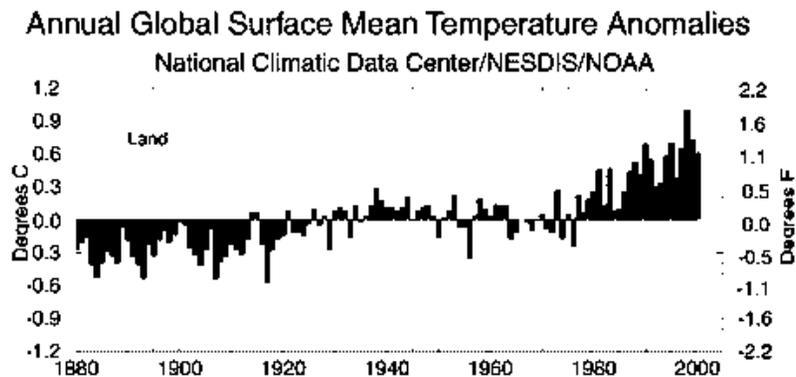
To not believe in global warming is understandable. Even intelligent people can think, "What's all this about global warming? In all my years I've noticed no change in the weather. I bet this is just some tree huggers trying to scare us. If global warming exists, then why isn't it warmer?" Another line of thought might be, "I believe global warming is just some political issue and isn't all it's cracked up to be." Some people dispute the reliability of the data and still others agree with it yet believe it is no cause for concern. As someone who read as a child about the rising ocean levels in Rachel Carson's *The Sea Around Us* and has seen key data on the subject for many years, I see the existence of global warming as obvious. As to lay people like you and me not being able to sense climate change, I will explain later why this is so and why even subtle changes in global temperatures are significant.

Global warming is a fact and this article provides you with

compelling evidence for believing this and to aid you in your discussions with nonbelievers (in hopes that they are rational enough to be persuaded by evidence). The simple fact that Earth's climate has warmed since the last Ice Age – about 15,000 years ago – makes this trend indisputable on a large time scale. On the other hand, many uncertainties remain, especially in the area of predicting climate change. Also, and quite importantly, it is not certain to what extent human activity is the cause of – or even a contributing factor to – the most recent warming period. However, evidence regarding this important issue is included and that information likely will also seem quite persuasive.

If you choose to skim the article for its topic headings, please bear in mind these topics are included to clarify their place in the global warming issue, not because they necessarily are contributing factors to global warming. Read carefully and enjoy!

Air Temperature Let's look first at the data showing that Earth's weather is warming, and return later to the effects of human activity. Air temperature itself has been measured at weather stations for some time now, and an effort to construct a global average over time results in a graph like the one below. Temperatures shown are departures (anomalies) from the 1950 - 1980 average:



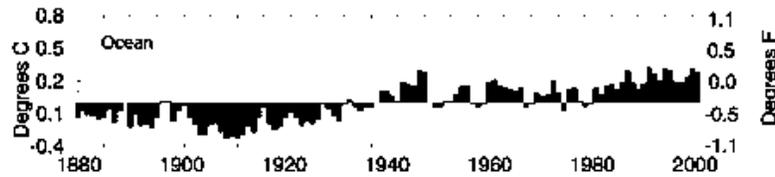
Having seen this graph, it should not be surprising that the ten warmest years of the 20th century occurred in its last 15 years. Another temperature graph having a much longer time frame is presented later under “Effects of Human Activity on Global Warming.”

Ocean Temperature You may hear from those who dispute the data in the preceding graph. They might say, for example, that urbanization, with its increases in concrete and reduction in foliage, have raised surface absorption of light and accordingly the temperatures where many of the data recording stations exist, thus creating the illusion of global warming. This “urbanization” effect is a very real possibility, but the conclusion that it invalidates the data for global warming has several flaws. When urban readings are corrected for such misleadingly high temperatures, the data still show a long term rise. Furthermore, urban stations account for only 27% of all stations globally.

I have seen a graph showing a correlation between population rise in California counties and rising temperature. This graph is most impressive, until you consider the possibility of a coincidence. Of course population rise and temperature correlate! Climate has warmed at the same time human population has risen. For that matter, global temperature over the last 15,000 years also correlates to the cumulative number of lunar eclipses during that time period, as well as to many other variables having nothing to do with climate. It is a basic tenet of statistics that correlation does not imply causation. The population/rising temperature correlation in no way demonstrates this urbanization effect.

But global warming is substantiated by another, very important measurement: sea surface temperatures, which account for about 70% of the Earth's surface. Note the striking similarity between the graph below and the one above for land temperature.

Annual Global Surface Mean Temperature Anomalies National Climatic Data Center/NESDIS/NOAA



The rise in ocean temperatures cannot be explained by “urbanization” effects of recordings located in cities.

Melting Glaciers and Polar Ice Glaciers lost substantial amounts of ice during the 20th century. The rate of loss has more than doubled since 1988 (University of Colorado). Since 1850, the glaciers in the European Alps have lost about 35% of their surface area and about half of their volume. Three glaciers in the U.S. Pacific northwest have lost ice at a greater rate since 1989 than for any other period, and glaciers on Mt. Kenya and Kilimanjaro have lost over 60% of their area. Glaciers in Africa and South America (Peru) will be completely gone in about 15 years. The rate of melting has accelerated even further in just the few years since the end of the 20th century.

Ironically, the glaciers in Glacier National Park are predicted to be completely gone in 25 years based on present trends. One of its glaciers – Grinnell Glacier – has lost 90% of its volume since 1850, and the total number of glaciers in the Park has dropped from 150 to 35 during that time period. Perhaps the Park Service will erect a museum there later this century.

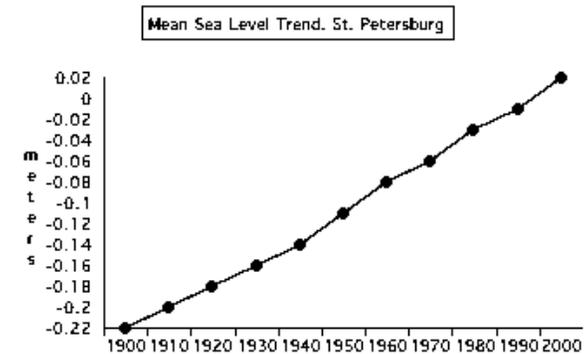
The global warming trend is not evenly distributed. Polar regions are warming faster than Earth as a whole leading to large reductions in polar ice. The Arctic Sea ice is losing 14,000 square miles of ice each year (about the size of Maryland and Delaware), and its thickness has shrunk from 10 feet in the mid-20th century to six feet in the mid-1990’s. Greenland is losing 11 cubic miles of ice annually. Antarctica, which

contains about 90% of the world’s ice, is also melting. Note that ice melting from ice shelves, which surround Antarctica and Greenland, does not contribute to rising sea levels because it already is floating in the ocean. This also is a good point to note that this accent on polar warming is partly why many of us do not sense global warming for ourselves.

The effects of melting ice are not simple. Obviously ice (not already in the ocean) that melts causes a rise in sea level. In addition, the melted ice decreases salinity and therefore density of ocean currents, pressuring changes in their course. As these currents transport heat, any changes in their course also affects climate. Ironically, melting Arctic Ice could temporarily cool the climate of the U.S. east coast and Europe. Another result of melting ice is that less solar radiation is reflected back into space.

The melting of ice, in turn, leads to yet another substantial indicator of global warming: The rise in ocean levels.

Rising Sea Levels Ocean levels have been rising overall since the last Ice Age. Tidal gauges show that global mean ocean levels have risen about 18 cm in the last 100 years, but also that this rate is higher than the rate for the few thousand years previous, based on archeological and geologic records. For the graph showing this aspect of global warming I chose a tide gauge within Tampa Bay Mensa’s region:



This trend is “only” 2.4 millimeters per year, which is less than a foot in one century. This rate might accelerate considering warming has accelerated.

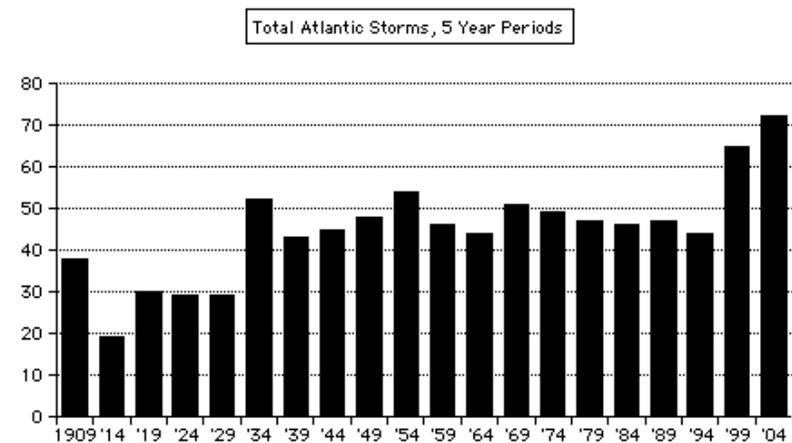
As someone who has spent the last quarter of a century living where I can throw a stone out my back door into seawater, I would like to add another thought about rising sea level. As long as the ocean is calm, a rise of a foot, or even several feet, would cause no flooding in many places because the seawall is that high. The problem with even tiny increases in sea level comes from storm surge, because where the land slopes only slightly or is flat, a one foot increase in storm surge could result in an increase of perhaps a hundred yards - and possibly much more - in how far inland the flooding extends during the storm. What do you suppose this means for future waterfront property values?

Number of Hurricanes The relevance of tropical cyclones (the umbrella term for hurricanes, tropical storms, and tropical depressions) as evidence of global warming is not clear. Their annual frequency follows cyclical ups and downs and their formation is more complicated than warming air and ocean temperatures. For example, their formation may be suppressed by warmer air aloft, yet analyses also have shown a close association between sea surface temperature and the overall intensity of a hurricane season, where intensity refers to a certain combination of duration and strength of storms. Considering the fact that sea surface temperatures have been rising, this latter point may be significant.

While warm seas may breed many potential storms, in El Nino years the prevailing upper level winds from the west - which is opposite the prevailing east winds at the surface in the tropics of the Northern Hemisphere - will blow the tops off individual thunderstorm clouds before they can organize en masse into tropical cyclones. The last, great El Nino year was in 1997, which produced the rainiest September - March season in Florida history, yet the total number of tropical

cyclones that year was only seven, four of which occurred before the August through October peak months of hurricane season. Once El Nino kicked in, tropical cyclone formation was pretty much throttled shut.

The graph below shows an overall trend upward over the last 100 years in the annual number of Atlantic storms, with two features of note. The 60 year period from 1934 to 1994 actually shows a slight trend downward. Also, of the ten seasons of highest tropical cyclone frequency, five were bunched in the ten years preceding 2005.



Changes in Seasonal Animal Behaviors and Plant Phases Quantified changes in animal behaviors and plant phases are consistent with warming climate. A few, quick examples: In the northeast United States, the frost free season begins an average of 11 days earlier than in the 1950's. Polar bears in the Hudson Bay area are having to retreat north earlier in the spring because ice packs are breaking up earlier. A species of bird called the Arctic Guillemot has been found farther and farther north over the last 100 years. A European study of plant phases shows that spring has advanced on average six days and autumn has extended five days over the period 1959 - 1993.

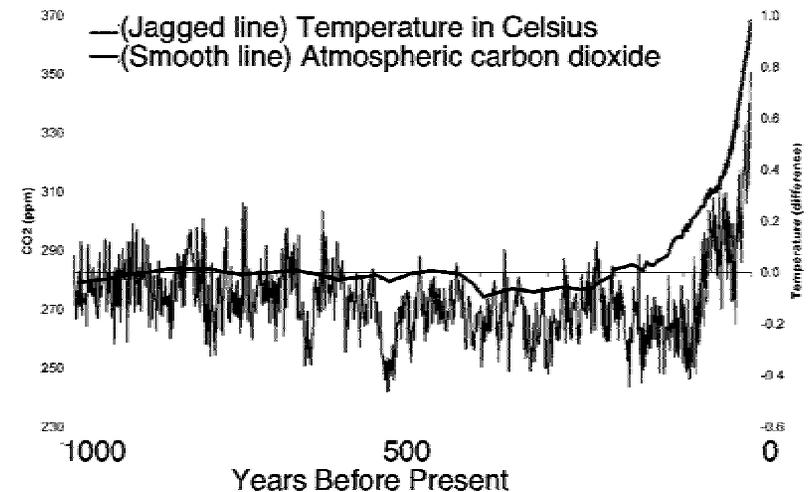
Effects of Human Activity on Global Warming As it applies to Earth's atmosphere, the greenhouse effect is a warming, caused by differences in the degree to which specific forms of radiation pass through air. Air is mostly transparent to the heat from visible radiation from the Sun, but the Earth's surface warms considerably. This warmth creates infrared radiation, which propagates up toward the sky. Gases such as carbon dioxide, water vapor, and methane, which have little effect on visible radiation arriving from the Sun, are not transparent to this IR radiation from the Earth's surface. Thus, they absorb this IR heat and the air warms, preventing Earth from losing all the heat it receives. This is a natural effect and makes it possible for life as we have known it to exist.

Human activities since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in the 19th century have greatly increased the amount of these natural "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere, and introduced industrial chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's). Environmental regulations have actually reduced the rate of increase in the output of CFC's, and have "successfully limited" pollutants such as sulfur and nitrogen oxides, but have done virtually nothing to control output of carbon dioxide, whose emissions continue to rise. Since the 19th century, CO₂ levels have risen about 30% and methane about 50%.

The Kyoto Treaty is aimed at these CO₂ gases, but even if implemented by all industrial nations it would make only a slight decrease in emissions. The treaty only specifies a decrease by 5.2% below 1990 levels, but remember that carbon dioxide has been increasing since before 1900. A reduction in these emissions of at least 60% would be needed to make a real difference. One rule of thumb is that preventing the rise in atmospheric CO₂ would require the Kyoto Treaty ten times over. Full implementation of the present treaty would be somewhat like trying to paddle upstream while going over Niagara Falls. Industry depends so heavily on processes that

emit CO₂ that it would be difficult to drastically reduce such emissions without severe economic consequences.

On one hand, it should be noted that plant respiration and decomposition of organic matter release more than ten times the carbon dioxide released by human activities. On the other hand, atmospheric CO₂ contributions tend to be cumulative, so even a proportionately slight increase in annual CO₂ contribution will eventually increase total CO₂ in the atmosphere, thus increasing the greenhouse affect and necessarily raising global temperature. Furthermore, data from ice core samples and instrument readings show a pronounced relationship between rising atmospheric CO₂ levels and rising global temperatures. This graph shows how these two quantities have varied over the past 1000 years.



It would not be unreasonable to conclude that human industrial activity is accelerating the greenhouse effect and raising global temperatures. Atmospheric CO₂ began rising at the same time human industry began producing large quantities of CO₂ (and other greenhouse gases); CO₂ is known

to enhance the greenhouse effect by trapping infrared radiation; and global temperatures accelerated upwards during the same time. The skeptic can point out that unknowns remain, such as exactly how much CO₂ is needed to raise global temperatures by any specific amount, and it is not clear exactly why Earth's climate changed in past epochs. Such doubts leave a chance that our present global warming is coincidental to human activity and would have occurred with or without industrialization. Climate has fluctuated naturally since the Earth began and no experiment can test whether our lifestyle causes or even contributes to the warming trend. One should ask, however, how likely is such a coincidence? Given the data, it seems more reasonable to believe that human activity has accelerated global warming. And if it has, then what problems – or calamities – lie in our future because of our effect on the atmosphere?

The Ozone Layer Industrial CFC's contribute not only to greenhouse effects, but to depletion of O₃ – ozone – which absorbs ultraviolet radiation from the Sun. UV rays cause sunburn and skin cancer, and weaken the human immune system. (By the way, sunburn is not caused by the warmth of solar radiation. People can get sunburned while swimming in the pool while their skin remains cool, or remain unburned while getting quite hot in the morning or late afternoon sun when UV radiation is weak.)

An increase in ultraviolet radiation at the surface affects not only humans but also many other life forms, including plankton, which provide a basis for the marine food chain and are responsible for 50% of all the photosynthesis on the planet. Increases in UV radiation cause a reduction in photosynthetic production in plankton.

In the upper atmosphere, CFC molecules break apart, releasing chlorine atoms, each of which destroys up to 100,000 ozone molecules over the 100 years it takes for it to become inactivated or diffuse back down to the ground.

Inasmuch as CFC's contribute to both the greenhouse effect and reduction in ozone, bear in mind that a reduction in ozone does not itself cause global warming, just more UV radiation at the surface.

An Interesting Thought I found a passage consistent with a notion I believe many of us hold, that a colder climate suppresses life and a warmer climate promotes life:

Mankind is moving the carbon in coal, oil, and natural gas from below ground to the atmosphere and surface, where it is available for conversion into living things. We are living in an increasingly lush environment of plants and animals as a result of the CO₂ increase. Our children will enjoy an Earth with far more plant and animal life as that with which we now are blessed. This is a wonderful and unexpected gift from the Industrial Revolution.

While this makes sense at one level, I find it horribly simplistic. If we could transplant ourselves to a lusher epoch, we might find benefits from it, but the transition to any different climate – unless it were gradual – likely would be catastrophically disruptive. Furthermore, climate change is not nearly so predictable as to say it would be a “gift.”

Climate Change We should remember that, while climate has changed very slowly during our lifetime, it has changed quite rapidly in the more distant past and there is good reason to believe global warming will induce abrupt climate changes.

I mentioned earlier the possibility of changes in the flow of ocean currents and how this would affect climate. It is expected by climatologists that such changes in particular would be quite swift. The Gulf Stream, for example, might withstand changes in the temperature and density of conflicting currents until a critical point is reached, when it might submerge beneath a less dense, less saline current enhanced by melting Arctic Ice, or turn back south before

reaching the latitude it presently travels across the Atlantic. At such point all the heat the Gulf Stream carries to northern latitudes would cease to warm the atmosphere over that region, thus changing wind currents, heat distribution, and most of all climate. Historically, climate shifts have occurred in less than 10 years, lasted centuries, and have been associated with changes in ocean currents.

Weather is a nonlinear system, and such systems – whatever form they take – are known to maintain stable patterns even while one or more parameters change incrementally, until some critical value is reached when the system’s patterns change abruptly, like a switch being turned on. Just remember that future climate change should not be expected to always be gradual, whether it results from shifts in ocean currents or from some other “switch” in the patterns of global heat distribution.

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 Answer to November Cryptopem

The morns are meeker than they were,  
 The nuts are getting brown;  
 The berry's cheek is plumper,  
 The rose is out of town.  
 The maple wears a gayer scarf,  
 The field a scarlet gown.  
 Lest I should be old-fashioned,  
 I'll put a trinket on.

--Emily Dickinson, "Autumn"

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ExComm Minutes  
 Sylvia Zadorozny, Scribe

October 30, 2004

ExComm members present: Dana Groulx, Kathy Crum, Maxine Kushner, Barbara Loewe, Thomas Thomas, Ronan Heffernan, Dan Chesnut, Sylvia Zadorozny (hostess and scribe)

ExComm member absent: Richard Manno

LocSec Maxine called the meeting to order at 5:27 pm.

Minutes from the last ExComm meeting were accepted as printed in the October Tampa Bay Sounding.

Editor: Thomas has volunteered to edit the January issue of the Tampa Bay Sounding, and may continue on as editor, depending on how it goes.

Gifted Testing: Richard was absent, so we had no news on how his attempts to get testing for gifted children were progressing.

Proctor: Dan proctored a Mensa testing session this morning at Seminole Heights library in Tampa; it was our first testing session in some time. Eight people tested, and Barbara Counts and Paul Sharp also attended as part of their training to become proctors.

Circulation: 337 zip code resident Les Milewski has volunteered to be publisher, enabling Sylvia to continue using the St. Pete post office for mailings, rather than having to transfer our account to Tampa.



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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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