



Tampa Bay Sounding

A Publication of Tampa Bay (Florida) Mensa

Vol. 30, No. 6

July 2005



**TBM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ELECTION ISSUE – SEE INSERT**

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 *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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WISE GUY

Thomas George Thomas

Over Memorial Day weekend I attended my first Regional Gathering, as Broward Mensa hosted FLoRanGe '05 in the traditional Tampa Bay Mensa time slot (which brings to mind that it's not too early to reserve your spot at our RG for 2005, to be held in October – see page 9). It was great fun – lots of activities, contests, games and presentations (not to mention the road trip through the Everglades - or at least Alligator Alley). The one that stood out most for me was Rick Friedman's presentation on King Tut's tomb, and the mystery of who was buried there (apparently it may not have been Tutankhamen). Friedman had a style which made the lecture more exciting and suspenseful than some *Stargate SG-1* episodes, and I look forward to the next time he appears at an RG.

I begin to suspect, however, that no Mensan event can be without some controversy, big or small, and this was a prime example. There was a somewhat contentious presentation on Civil Liberties and the Anti-Terrorism Laws, in which the guest speaker didn't really get to hit her points with all the half-informed challenges being tossed her way. It was an example where a display of respect would have been more meaningful than a display of "intelligence". There was also a LARGE contingent of the Gen-X SIG present at the RG, for members born between 1961 and 1981. It was good to see so many younger Mensans participating, although the fact that there were several activities specifically listed as Gen-X events had a number of older M's feeling shut out. There's grist for a future column, if someone wants to write it...

One last note: On behalf of the ExComm, we congratulate Maggie Truelove on her election to Regional Vice Chair for Region 10.

ERRATA: Last month I made an inexplicable mistake in the FSM column; it was Delphine Jenness, of course, who helped us to prepare the May edition of the *Sounding*. Apologies to Delphine for the error.

Also, apologies to those of you who have tried to reach me by phone in the past couple of months – my answering machine had developed a pronounced stutter, giving me every third syllable or so, and I couldn't always make out the names or phone numbers. The machine has been replaced, so if I haven't called you back, please try again!

SOUNDING BOARD

To The Editor:

After reading Manasota Mensa 4M's humorous article concerning Social Security Privatization pointing out how little money would be left from investments in Enron, World Com or Nortel, or any of the other stock fraud manipulation schemes that flourished under the watchful eyes of Janet Reno and the Clinton administration, I feel forced to respond.

While it is true investments in those stocks would leave one with pennies on the dollar, I must point out how much cash is left from the thousands of dollars deducted from your paycheck for SSI (Social Security Insurance) last year, or how much cash is left from your lifetime contributions. The answer is the same - zip, zero, null, nada, nothing. The sad truth is every single dollar ever put in SSI has been spent. They purchased no hard assets with the money: no gold or silver, no proven coal, oil or gas reserves, no undersea minerals, no land, no stocks, no power plants or future technologies. No, the only thing there in the Social Security Trust Fund is Government bonds, which will be worthless as they would have to be paid off by the same people who want to collect the money from them. Like having written yourself an IOU but you can't collect it because you must first pay it off. Con artists call it a Ponzi scheme, like a chain letter where the early entrants are paid off by the later entrants until the scheme falls apart - in this case what FDR created is the greatest monetary fraud scheme ever.

As for 4M's Beer Can analogy: if you actually bought 1,000 dollars worth of beer then you paid an additional 214 dollars for the deposits, which after cleaning, storing, and returning the cans then your own 214 dollars is refunded to you.

Here is the truth about SSI as I see it, though I beg your indulgence and some leeway on dates as they change according to the source.

Two dates are said to be important here: 2012 and 2040. The first is 2012 which is right around the corner, considering Mr. Bush will be in office until Jan 2009. This date of 2012 represents the date when the revenues the government takes in from SSI will become lower than the amount they have to pay out. This is really the more important date; the government has taken in and spent trillions of dollars from SSI and will now be losing money from the program.

Anyone who believes the system won't be drastically changed after this date just does not understand Washington.

The second date - 2040 - is when theoretically both the SSI tax and Federal tax revenue together will be unable to pay out the SSI benefits. The truth is this second date will never occur because after 2012 date when we begin paying out more then we collect we will be unable to service other obligations like the Debt and Deficit.

Social Security is often called the third rail of American Politics because, like the third rail of a subway line, whoever touches it is dead; it is the kind of sensitive issue which can only be tackled by a second term President with no re-election concerns. Courageously George W. Bush has accepted this responsibility of office and has proposed a portion of a plan where younger workers can save some of these "contributions" in personal accounts with real assets to ensure their confidence that something will be left for their future. He has respectfully asked all parties for additional ideas to save this valuable program. However, predictably, what the President has gotten from the Democratic Party is their usual: obstruction, name-calling, and scare tactics, calling Seniors night and day telling them Mr. Bush plans to take away their SSI.

What else can be done? Well if the Democratic Party were smart they would realize many of the most realistic ideas to save this program would directly affect the rich and could in effect negate the Bush tax cuts which the Democrats seem to hate so much.

Means testing: Establish a level of wealth were people could not collect their SSI. It is after all an insurance program, and no insurance program can give everyone their money back. Should Donald Trump, the Kennedy's and Bill Gates really be collecting public money?

Raising the retirement age: When this program was established, 65 was close to the average life expectancy, which has now been moved up to the mid 70's.

Raise or eliminate the upper bracket for contributions: Right now SSI is only paid on the first 90,000 in income so people below that bracket are in effect paying an additional 12.5 % tax. If SSI money has not been invested in real assets and is spent like general revenue then it should be paid as general revenue with no upper bracket.

For someone like myself, paying 15% Federal tax and 12.5 % SSI for a total of 27.5 % is higher than many rich people.

Exempt Gay Marriage from SSI survivor benefits: While many people have been fooled by the false sentimentality of the Gay marriage issue what really drives it is a massive raid on the SSI trust fund. The traditional marriage when SSI was enacted was a man as the breadwinner and his wife as homemaker. Based on this came SSI survivor benefits so the widowed spouse would be able to collect from her husband's contributions. Gay marriage would allow perfectly healthy men and women - mostly without children - to draw tens of billions from the ailing SSI system.

I've heard many Democrats say the system's fine, it's solvent, there's no need to change it now, but if this same crooked scheme were being run by Halliburton these same people would be spitting razor blades.

Ronnie Dubs

(It's not that I'm speechless. Actually, to be frank, I've run out of time; this magazine has to go to the printer. NOW. So I'll leave it to next month's issue; if I get some responses, maybe I won't have to rebut this myself... TGT)

ATTA M!

Sylvia Zadorozny

FLoRanGe, Broward Mensa's Regional Gathering, was held over Memorial Day weekend. Congratulations to Tampa Bay's tournament winners:

Treasure Hunt ----- Jack & Jacquie Brawner, Sylvia & Kathy Zadorozny
 Fictionary ----- Thomas Thomas
 Cribbage ----- Jack Brawner
 Double-deck Hearts --- Thomas Thomas
 Blackjack ----- Jack Brawner

JULY BIRTHDAYS

2	Charles Lardent Jr.
4	Patricia Leslie
6	Marguerite Loy, Mary Reid
8	Cathy Hansen, Warren Hunnicutt
9	Alan Sloan
10	Gary Drake
11	Harriet Dyer
14	James Dowling, Donald Mihokovich
17	Stuart Angelo, Warden Beebe, Stephen Gelis, Ramon Martinez
19	Bram Frank, Rodney Sturtz
20	Gerald Lundquist
24	Jackie Campos, Oris Parker
25	Devlon Buckner, Michael McBride
27	John Schutt
29	Julius Jahnke
31	Ellen Berry, Bonnie Wilpon

WELCOME TO TAMPA BAY MENSA!

Thomas R. Buonomo	Laurel Moore
Don Alan Davis	Bryan Scofield
Victoria C Foust	Karen Thomas *
John D Kotsch	Brynne Vanhettinga
Joseph Larsen	Nathan Whitaker *
Dianne Delmar Magee	Doug B. Wilcock
Melissa Milliken	

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

JULY MENSAVERSARIES

31 Years	Anthony Citta
28 Years	Michael LaBance
26 Years	Sylvia Cesanek
25 Years	Edward Roots Jr.
23 Years	Harriet Dyer, Thomas Nall, Susan Slutsky
21 Years	Ronald Cribbs
20 Years	Lee Milewski, Jay Nelson, Paul VeHorn
19 Years	Keith Kelly, Caroline MacDowell
18 Years	Sandra Davanzo, George Simms
16 Years	Nabil Dajani
14 Years	Lewis Prichard
12 Years	Susan Entringer, Marion Gregory Jr., Pat LaBarbera, Sandra Stroud
10 Years	Paul Miller
8 Years	Scott Wilson
3 Years	Scott Holloway, Todd Jennings
2 Years	Anthony Ferrara
1 Year	Jaime Barnes, Buddy Meyer, Kurt Weber

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

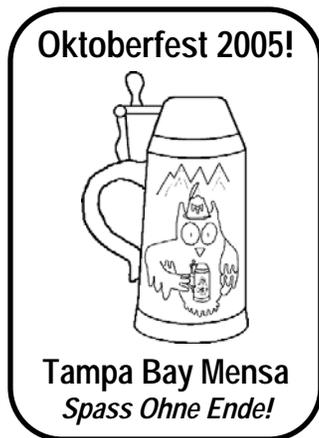
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Friday night folk dance!
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Dan Chesnut and Dana Groulx
(727) 434-0353, dchesnut@tampabay.rr.com, AND:
(813) 996-5552, lemmiwinks@tampabay.rr.com



Holiday Inn Select Clearwater
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Rooms: \$89/night until September 23, then \$109.
Phone: (727) 577-9100. Call direct for Mensa rates, else \$109.

Registration: \$70 in adv., \$80 door, Children's discount.
Make checks payable to: Tampa Bay Mensa
Mail checks to: Kathy Crum
7164 Quail Hollow Boulevard
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

T-shirt(s) (\$10 ea): S M L XL or XXL (\$12 ea)
of attendees: _____ Total amount enclosed: \$ _____
I want my Name Tag to read " _____ "

Yes, I would like to volunteer (hospitality, presenter, etc.)

FAREWELL AND HELLO (RVC COLUMN FOR REGION 10) – JULY 2005

Elissa Rudolph and Maggie Truelove

FAREWELL –

From Elissa: To all of you who voted me into the office of Second Vice Chair of American Mensa, thank you for your support! My goal in the next two years is to be worthy of your confidence. We will have a great team working for you headed by Russ Bakke, whose many years as a Mensa official give him a solid foundation as Chairman. And with two Floridians on the board, how can our Mensa organization not succeed??

My successor, Maggie Truelove, will take Region 10 beyond what we've accomplished in the past four years. Give her your support. If you have a regional problem or question, call or email her. If your problem goes beyond regional borders, call or email me. We're there for you.

And now, here is your new regional representative...

HELLO –



From Maggie: I know you all join me in congratulating Elissa on her election to Second Vice Chair. She has done such a terrific job as RVC10, leaving me huge shoes to fill, and I am sure she will continue to do an excellent job in her new position on the AMC as the Second Vice Chair. As for me, I am pleased that I will still have her to work with as we both embark on our new journeys in new positions. I imagine I will lean on her a lot!

As for me, I have been giving serious thought to what I would like to see Region 10 accomplish over the next two years. I find myself setting some lofty goals for us. We may not be able to fully accomplish them, but I hope we can all give it the

old college try. Notice that I said WE. These are not things I can accomplish on my own. The best I can do is to facilitate, so that the region can improve and benefit. Over the next few months I will introduce these goals one at a time, and ask for your help in accomplishing them.

The first of these goals is to improve how we welcome new members. I have heard from several new or fairly new members that one of the hardest things they ever did was to venture into that first Mensa event, unless they already had a friend in the group. Every group has its own method – or not, and I would like to hear from someone from each of the twelve groups in Region 10 about what your group does to welcome new members. My hope is that sharing these ideas among the groups will help spread the things that work.

You should be reading this in the July issue of your local newsletters. I hope I will be seeing many of you during July at the Annual Gathering in New Orleans. Following this AG, we will focus attention and effort on the World Gathering to celebrate Mensa's 60th birthday. If you haven't heard already, this World Gathering (August 8-14, 2006) will be held right here, in the heart of Region 10, at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. What an opportunity for all of us, to meet Mensans from around the world, right here at home. I imagine we will be seeing most of you at THIS event!

Until next month,
Maggie Truelove

Maggie Truelove, RVC10
3333 Honeysuckle Lane
Belle Isle, FL 32812
RVC10@cfl.rr.com
407-855-9078

LOCSEC'S REPORT

Maxine Kushner

As we head into the hottest part of the year in the furnace otherwise known as west central Florida, why don't you stay cool with some of your fellow Mensans at one, or some, of the many activities on this month's calendar? Or, if you have an idea for another gathering, try posting it to the TBM-gm list and see who shows up. All our activities are sponsored by, and for, our members and guests, so chances are if the idea appeals to you, it will appeal to a few others in our group. I went to the monthly NTN trivia gathering in New Port Richey last night. I am glad to have an event in my neck of the woods, but would really like to see some of you other northerly folks come on out and join us. Honestly, you don't even have to play if you don't want to. The trivia is mostly an excuse for a bunch of us to gather and socialize. This is a family friendly activity. Gifted Children Coordinator, Theresa Hohmann, is always accompanied by cutie-pie, smart-as-a-whip daughter Isabel.

In other news:

- Testing Coordinator Barbara Counts plans to continue working her way through the long list of people interested in testing for Mensa. If you are interested in qualifying to proctor testing sessions, contact Barbara for more information (see officer page for contact info). Our chapter covers five counties, and we would like to have several members qualified to proctor occasionally, so we can better cover our rather large geographic area.
- TBM purchased a large kit of testing materials and donated it to a local school district in order to allow more elementary school students being considered for admission to the full time gifted program to be tested in a timely manner. Thanks go to ExComm member Richard Manno for spearheading this effort.

Until next month,
Maxine

YUPPIES**Maxine Kushner****Are you familiar with these acronyms?*

1. BOBO _____
2. BUPPIE _____
3. DINKIE _____
4. DINKY _____
5. DUMP _____
6. GOLDIE _____
7. GUPPIE _____
8. NIMBY _____
9. OINK _____
10. PIPPIE _____
11. SCUM _____
12. SILKY _____
13. SINBAD _____
14. SINK _____
15. SITCOM _____
16. WOOPIE _____
17. YAPPIE _____
18. YUPPIE _____

*This information appeared in *Schott's Original Miscellany*.

MensAGumbo

Fun for Both Sides of Your Brain!

Laissez le bon temps roulez! The Annual Gathering 2005 will take over New Orleans July 6-10. Adult registration is \$90. Young Mensan registration is free for ages 4 and under, \$30 for ages 4-12 and \$50 for ages 13-20.

And what do you get for your money? Fun for both sides of your brain! Access to all the food, music and culture New Orleans is known for, plus the inimitable experience of spending a long weekend with more than a thousand of your favorite Mensans:

- Take high tea at the Longue Vue house and gardens.
- Tour the Stennis Space Center and the Southern Regional Research Center.
- Step back in time at two of the plantations on the River Road.
- Play golf to raise money for the Mensa Education & Research Foundation.
- Ride a Segway.
- See the largest hypnotic production show in the world.
- Hear the secrets of "the Canal Street Madam," the Countess Pontalba and the voodoo queens.
- Learn about baseball, fencing and tae kwon do; about reality, adult stem cells, digital forensics, ancient Egyptian measurement of the planet...

...And more activities are being added all the time. Don't forget about the full schedule of Leadership Development Workshops designed to make the jobs of Local Group officers easier. Workshops will focus on banking changes since 9/11, Web design, mailing newsletters and member privacy issues - and that's just for starters.

Check it all out for yourself at www.ag.us.mensa.org, and while you're there, register online. We'll see you in the Big Easy!

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

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URBAN COWBOY

Bud Urban

'It's different than it was.'

'No it ain't. No it ain't. But you gotta know the territory.' - Willson

The June *Bulletin* was devoted to "alternative medicine". I represent that. And it IS different than it was. Now there is a PDR for nonprescription drugs and herbal remedies. When I was a D.O. student in the 1950's, the school had to know somebody to even *get* a PDR. In these days pharmacists are allowed to prescribe, as are nurse practitioners. I have benefited from both.

I hope they don't indicate that alternative medicine was hatched like Athena stepping from the skull of Zeus. Ta-Dah! In my informed opinion, alternative medicine was achieved by revolutionaries who often sacrificed "their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor."

A couple of comments:

1. It was easier for non-physicians.
2. It was the only revolution in which the opposing factions, if they were honest, had the same goals.

If I receive the national publication before I submit this to the *Sounding*, I will let you know if they mention anyone I knew. It's been 20 years. (No, they didn't.)

I got my *Bulletin*, and I have a few comments. I go along with the statement that medical practices that are considered alternative in one country, ours for instance, may not be thought of as alternative in some other countries. But mainly, the *Bulletin* articles did what I feared. They depicted medicine, orthodox, alternative, or imported, as a static. No history of medicine was offered.

Now, I think of all forms of medicine as evolving. If you know where you have been, you can have a better idea where you are going.

(P.S. I thought I had been turned out to pasture, but it looks like I am still needed. Hope to keep you informed. - B.U.)

CRYPTOPOEM*Sylvia Zadorozny*

UHDDUY BUG,
 DKG PRAAYZ'P SUNG
 AG DKLRTKDUYPP KNOW
 KNP FZRPKYW NXNG.
 NA H OLD
 N BUG UHMY DKYY?
 LZ NZD OLD DKLR
 N ANO UHMY AY?
 BLZ H WNOVY
 NOW WZHOM NOW PHOT,
 DHUU PLAY FUHOW KNOW
 PKNUU FZRPK AG XHOT.
 HB DKLRTKD HP UHBY
 NOW PDZYOTDK NOW FZYNDK,
 NOW DKY XNOD
 LB DKLRTKD HP WYNDK,
 DKYO NA H
 N KNSSG BUG,
 HB H UHEY
 LZ HB H WHY.

--XHUUHNA FUNMY

CALENDAR**July 2005***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.

July – 2nd - Saturday - 7:30 PM – \$2
Games Night

Games Night (*to the tune of "America the Beautiful"*)

O bountiful are Mensa Games
 Where you can use your brain,
 Eat chips & dips or M&Ms
 In peanut or in plain.
 I've cats that hide;
 Please smoke outside
 (I hope you understand).
 Come out today,
 It's time to play
 The best games in the land!

Sylvia Zadorozny - 813-855-4939 - sylviachocolate@juno.com
 651 Timber Bay Circle West – Oldsmar (call for directions)

July – 4th, 18th - 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

July – 6th, 20th - Wednesdays - 7:00 PM
Erudite Lite Reading Group

Location: Perkins - 612 N. Dale Mabry, Tampa

We meet twice per month (on the first and third Wednesday). Our meeting location has changed to the Perkins on Dale Mabry, just north of Kennedy. Bring along books you'd like to exchange or give away.

Check out our website: www.rovingarts.com/eruditelite

Ellen Berry – 727-480-7938 – eberry@rovingarts.com
 Perkins Restaurant - 612 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa

July – 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th - 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

July 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Games Night 7:30 PM
3	4 Children's Game Day/Play Day 3:30 PM	5	6 Reading Group 7:00 PM	7 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	8	9 Card Night 7:00 PM
10	11	12	13 MHunch 1:15 PM	14 Breakfast Gathering 7:30 AM Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	15	16 Election Committee Meeting 2:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting 3:00 PM
17	18 Children's Game Day/Play Day 3:30 PM	19	20 Reading Group 7:00 PM	21 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM Shakespeare SIG 7:00 PM	22 Fourth Friday Madness 6:00 PM	23 Card Night 7:00 PM
24 RSM 2:00 PM	25	26	27 MHunch 1:15 PM	28 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	29	30 NTN Trivia Night 7:00 PM
31						

TBM ExCOMM CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Petitions for the following Tampa Bay Mensa Executive Committee nominees were received by Wednesday, June 15, 2005. All those supporting the candidates below were verified as members of Tampa Bay Mensa by virtue of their names appearing on the Crewe list as published in the September 2004 issue of Tampa Bay Sounding. The signatures of those supporting more than one candidate were compared and found to be consistent.

Steve Poreda
Election Committee Supervisor

DANA GROULX

Hi, I'm Dana Groulx. I've been a member of Tampa Bay Mensa for 20 years and have always been involved with the local group in some capacity. I enjoy meeting fellow Mensans at events that I attend and those that I host at my home in central Pasco County. The official positions that I've held in the past were LocSec, Treasurer and I've even honchoed an RG or two. I am co-honcho for this year's RG, Oktoberfest. I am even-tempered, logical and experienced in local group affairs. Once again, I am asking for your vote to re-elect me to the executive committee.

RONAN HEFFERNAN

Please vote for me...pretty please. Seriously, I am happy to run for reelection to the TBM ExComm. Despite the monthly cry of "Why don't more people do stuff?", it seems to me that our members have built the Mensa that they want to have. And our leadership has respected our members' quiescence with only gentle prodding and velvet-gloved browbeating. Here's to two more years of the same.

(Candidate Statements continued on Insert Page 4)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

Please follow steps #1 - 3 carefully to help insure that your votes are counted.

1. Complete your ballot. Write-in candidates are also welcome.
2. Prepare an envelope to contain the ballot.
 - a. Print your full name and address on the upper left hand corner, where the return address is placed. This name will be verified with the current official Tampa Bay Mensa roster to verify your eligibility to vote.
 - b. Address the envelope to the Election Supervisor:
Steve Poreda
10203 Waterside Oaks Drive
Tampa, Florida 33647-3194.
 - c. Write Ballot Enclosed in the lower left corner of the front of the envelope. This will identify your envelope as containing a ballot and prevent it from being opened prematurely. Please do not include regular correspondence with the ballot, as it will not be opened until the meeting of the Election Committee on July 16, 2005.
 - d. Seal your completed ballot in the envelope.

The front of your envelope should have this appearance:

Your name	Steve Poreda
Street Address	10203 Waterside Oaks Drive
City, State, Zip Code	Tampa FL 33647-3194
Ballot Enclosed	

3. Mail the ballot to the Elections Supervisor. It must be received by Friday, July 15, to ensure it being counted on the 16th. If the mail arrives before the start of the meeting on Saturday, the 16th, ballots received then will be counted. Ballots may also be hand delivered to the ballot counting meeting, which starts at 2:00 pm on July 16th.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Elections Committee:

Steve Poreda (Election Supervisor) (813) 994-4791
Steve@Poreda.com

Ellen Berry (727) 480-7938
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Theresa Hohmann (727) 942-7735
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**TAMPA BAY MENSA
2005 ELECTIONS BALLOT**

Please see instructions on the previous page.
All ballots are due Saturday, July 16, 2:00 p.m.

Vote for any of the candidates listed below. Only one vote per candidate will count. Print clearly the names of write-in candidates.

_____ Dana Groulx

_____ Ronan Heffernan

_____ Maxine Kushner

_____ Barbara Loewe

_____ Thomas George Thomas

Write-in Candidates:

NOTE: The total votes cast may not exceed five candidates. For example, you may vote for four official candidates and one write-in, or one official candidate and four write-ins, and so on. Fewer than five total is also acceptable, but not more than five.

All terms are for two year terms.

Thank you for contributing your vote. You are welcome to attend the meeting of the Elections Committee at 2:00 pm, July 16, 2005, when ballots will be counted and results announced. The July meeting of the ExComm, with new members, will follow at 2:00. Meetings are open to all members. Directions can be found on next page and on page 22.

TBM ExCOMM CANDIDATE STATEMENTS (CONT.)

MAXINE KUSHNER

Since I first became active in Tampa Bay Mensa several years ago, I have enjoyed working for our group, first as editor and then as LocSec (with a few stints as interim editor worked in). We are fortunate to have an ExComm that works well together and accomplishes a lot. It's election time once more, and I am again asking for your support. Thanks!

BARBARA LOEWE

I am running for re-election to the Ex-Comm because I feel that I have much to offer Tampa Bay Mensa. I participate in many of the activities and work where I am able. When possible, I host events and support our activities. It's hard to know what to say so I'll close with the plea that I hope you will vote for me to remain on the board.

THOMAS GEORGE THOMAS

Last year I was fortunate to be chosen to finish the term of a departed ExComm member, and in that time have learned much about the membership of Tampa Bay Mensa. I now ask to be elected to a full term in order to use what I've learned to expand the benefits offered by Tampa Bay Mensa to you, our members.

**DIRECTIONS TO
ELECTION COMMITTEE/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Take I-75 North to SR-56 (I-275 North merges with I-75 less than one mile before SR-56 exit). Follow ramp right (East) and take SR-56 for 2.3 miles to Bruce B. Downs (CR-581 South). Turn right (South), then take first right into The Lakes, onto Sky Lake Circle. Follow road straight and then around loop, on the right. Meetings will be at Thomas Thomas' home at 27647 Sky Lake Circle, (813) 994-3981.

July – 9th, 23rd - Saturdays - 7:00 PM - \$2*Card Night*

Card Night- either bring a card game you like to play or we will play Hand & Foot (a type of Canasta). Can be played with partners and is GREAT fun!

Directions: At Terri Elston's- at On Top of the World in Clearwater. Come North or South on Belcher Rd. to World Parkway Blvd.(stop light) Two lights North of Sunset Point or three lights south of Main Street (580). Turn West- go through guard gate-turn left on Americus Blvd- go one block and turn left on Philippine Drive- go to second bldg on right (Delhi) 2287 Philippine #23 (first floor- end.) Parking in slots marked V for visitor or on the street. Cats on premises- smoking on patio.

Terri Elston - 727-723-3493 - TeriProfsr@aol.com
2287 Philippine Dr #23 - Clearwater

July – 13th, 27th - Wednesdays - 1:15 PM*MHunch (Mensa Humpday Lunch)*

Locations: Andrea's – Winter Haven (2nd Wednesday)
Carmelita's – Lakeland (4th Wednesday)

MHunch is a series of lunches at various locations around the region. The day (Wednesday) and time (1:15 PM) are consistent, but there is a different restaurant for each lunch.

Your RSVP is important! Please either email or call me at (863) 701-7109 so we can save a seat at the table for you!

Merrell Fortner – 863-701-7109 – mini@mindless.com

July - 14th - 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

July – 16th - Saturday - 2:00 PM*Election Committee Meeting*

The Election Committee will meet at Thomas Thomas' house to count the ballots for the current Executive Committee election. Tampa Bay Mensa members who want to see how the election process works are welcome to come and observe.

Thomas Thomas - 813-994-3981 – FardleBear@aol.com
27647 Sky Lake Circle - Wesley Chapel

July – 16th - Saturday - 3:00 PM*Executive Committee Meeting*

The ExComm (first the old one, then the newly seated one) will meet after the ballots have been counted. This is the yearly meeting where all officers are appointed, so if you've been considering volunteering for a position, this would be a good meeting to attend. It wouldn't hurt to tell one of the current ExComm members ahead of time what position you're interested in volunteering for (contact information is on the back page of the *Sounding*).

Thomas Thomas - 813-994-3981 – FardleBear@aol.com
27647 Sky Lake Circle - Wesley Chapel

July – 21st - Thursday - 7:00-9:00 PM – \$2*Shakespeare SIG*

Join us as we begin the Shakespearean Canon with a reading from (arguably) his first play, *King Henry VI Part I*. You may opt to read, discuss, or just listen; your level of participation is voluntary and no one will be pressured to read should they not wish to do so. Bring a copy of the play if you can; a couple of additional copies will be on hand. Note that there is a mellow but friendly cat in residence, if you are subject to allergies. Please RSVP.

Thomas Thomas - 813-994-3981 – FardleBear@aol.com
27647 Sky Lake Circle - Wesley Chapel

(Directions for above meetings: Take I-75 North to SR-56 (I-275 North merges with I-75 less than one mile before SR-56 exit). Follow ramp right (East) and take SR-56 for 2.3 miles to Bruce B. Downs (CR-581 South). Turn right (South), then take first right into The Lakes, onto Sky Lake Circle. Follow road straight and then around loop, on the right.)

July – 22nd - Friday - 6:00 PM*Fourth Friday Madness*

Come party on down with us every fourth (not necessarily last) Friday at Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, 6700 US 19 N in Pinellas Park from 6pm to whenever. This is just southeast of Gandy Boulevard The phone number for the restaurant is (727) 525-4339.

Phoebe McCann - 727-546-4030

July – 24th - Sunday - 2:00 PM*FSM*

This month's Fold, Staple, and Mutilate (FSM) is in St. Petersburg, at Max Loick's place. FSM is where we prepare the monthly newsletters for mailing. While the assembly work is fairly mindless, the conversations which take place during FSM can get very interesting. The free snacks are also nice. Come on out and meet your fellow Mensans.

Max Loick - 727-896-4270 - oldmax1@juno.com

440 4th Ave N - St. Petersburg

July – 30th - Saturday - 7:00 PM*NTN Trivia*

Location: Buffalo Wild Wings, Gulf View Square Mall,
9409 US Hwy. 19 N., Port Richey, FL 34668

NTN Satellite Trivia is a daily and nightly nationwide contest (pretend that we annex Canada) for people who aren't satisfied with merely knowing more useless information than everybody in the immediate vicinity. There's plenty of time between rounds to have philosophical conversations, witty repartee, or just impersonate the television character who was the subject of the last question. For more information about NTN, and the different games available, check out http://www.ntn.com/hospitality_tech/players_corner/faqs.asp. We meet at a non-smoking family sports bar called Buffalo Wild Wings in the Gulf View Square Mall. Join the party!

Thomas Thomas - 813-994-3981 – FardleBear@aol.com

FICTIONARY

Sylvia Zadorozny(word-finder), Jack Brawner, Dan Rhea, Jessica Burstrem, Thomas Thomas, Bonnie Wilpon, Jason Knight, Mary-Lynn Boylen, Evvy Rabin, and Kathy Zadorozny

Choose the correct definition for each word below.

1. AMRITA

- a. the government department "American Rail Interstate Transportation Agency" which regulates American rail traffic during times of war or crisis
- b. a Balinese beetle with a bright yellow thorax and green stripes
- c. a greenish-blue emerald
- d. a type of flowering vine
- e. the coming of age ritual for young women in mountainous regions of Honduras
- f. a piece of music that includes numerous flourishes and dramatic passages
- g. the youngest handmaiden to a princess
- h. Hindu Myth. the beverage of immortality
- i. a parasite, related to the flea, that lives primarily on livestock
- j. Pass. Don't vote for this.

2. GALYAK

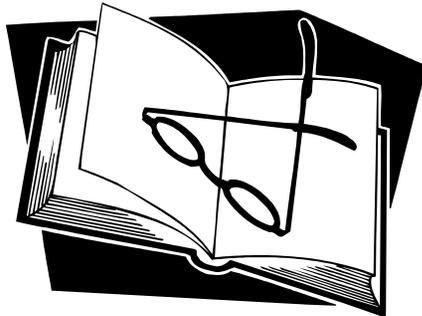
- a. a type of kayak made from the skin of a yak
- b. a spicy paste from Turkey made from potatoes
- c. a loose net made of thick rope and used for decoration indoors
- d. a sharp knife used by aboriginal tribes for skinning seals in the arctic
- e. the hoist and pulley system used to lower lifeboats from large ships
- f. fur blanket used by Alaskan Inuits for protection against cold weather
- g. a small flightless bird native to the southern Andean mountain range
- h. the clamp, attached to the side of a boat or ship, on which ropes are tied
- i. a sleek flat fur made from lambskin or from the pelt of a young goat
- j. a boat constructed primarily of wood and reeds by a West African bushmen tribe

3. NAVETTE

- a. a small ship
 - b. a corridor with an arched ceiling, connecting areas of a church
 - c. the narrow blade in a pair of scissors
 - d. a small, round lace head-covering, worn by Belgian girls for their First Communion
 - e. a gem, especially one not a diamond, cut as a marquise
 - f. a small bone of the inner ear
 - g. an embroidered collar made by young ladies, used to show their sewing skill
 - h. the small bowl, usually filled with scented water, used for finger-dipping during meals
 - i. a small bowl used for preparing a sauce in French cuisine
 - j. the in-house name given to small scale clay prototypes of the Chevrolet Corvette
-

4. JACTITATION

- a. the hopping motion of a rabbit
 - b. a false boast or claim that causes injury to another
 - c. the term applied to the wear patterns of wooden gears in old clocks or similar machines
 - d. the drying or setting stage in the manufacture of intricate glassware or mosaic
 - e. the process of misdirecting a debate by focusing on a minor point
 - f. unlawful spitting in a public area
 - g. the communication dance of African bees
 - h. the act of levitation performed by Hatha yoga masters
 - i. the act of sandwiching wood between the wallboard and a stud to shim it tight
 - j. a tool for lifting heavy objects
-

**5. DROUK**

- a. a stick used by nomadic Arabic tribes to control the speed of camels by tapping them on the shoulder by the rider
 - b. Classical Myth. a monstrous creature which hunts at night
 - c. the Russian dagger used in ceremonial butchering of the first goat of the herd
 - d. Slang. companions or compatriots who are inferior in social status
 - e. a fool; buffoon
 - f. a fungus native to east Asian marshes
 - g. multicolored tent
 - h. a small marsupial indigenous to South American rain forests
 - i. a wooden ladle
 - j. to drench; wet thoroughly
-

6. MITTIMUS

- a. an untidy pile of gloves or mittens
 - b. a small furry mammal; rodent
 - c. shyness or tendency to withdraw in social settings
 - d. a warrant of commitment to prison
 - e. degrading; insulting
 - f. the middle child of a Roman emperor
 - g. a reed growing in a potted gourd in a small village in western Africa
 - h. having multiple gears or parts
 - i. scatter-brained; disorganized
 - j. larval form of the caliban mite
-

7. FLOCCULANT

- a. the raised material on a flocked sheer panel
 - b. a spray coating used on wood by exterminators
 - c. a chemical for producing flocculation of suspended particles, as to improve the plasticity of clay for ceramic purposes
 - d. the process used to remove hair from hides prior to tanning
 - e. Linguistics. a manner of articulation in which the tongue temporarily blocks the passage of air before allowing it to be expelled
 - f. having a floral design, especially hand-painted
 - g. a flocculated vegetable used as a garnish in salads
 - h. impressionable; easily persuaded
 - i. a tool for cleaning, or one who uses it
 - j. having nothing whatsoever to do with flocks of birds
-

8. RUBABOO

- a. a baby carriage used in the nineteenth century
- b. kindling used in Hindu funereal burning ceremonies
- c. a yakherd
- d. a species of ape native to southeastern Africa
- e. plant of the turnip family
- f. a children's game of Australia played with a small hoop and circular wooden pieces, in which the goal is to throw the greatest number of pieces into the hoop
- g. soup made from pemmican, flour, and water; a dish once common among fur trappers, hunters, etc.
- h. a traditional African ceremonial dance
- i. a dark tar-like substance used in ancient Egyptian medicine produced from rendered lotus root
- j. the act of playing with your grandchild using a handwoven cloth

9. XOANON

- a. habitual loser at tic-tac-toe tournaments driven to attend 12 step meetings
- b. an assumed identity used in writing; pseudonym
- c. a simple hut of the Amazon region common among the indigenous people
- d. a rare compound used to cleanse the feet of marriage couples in Madagascar
- e. a breed of miniature horse
- f. a simple carved image, especially one in which the original block of either stone or wood is readily apparent
- g. an emoluant used in laundry detergent
- h. the pale green gas released from the reaction of flourine and light metals
- i. a synthetic isotope of xenon
- j. the absence of moisture in a closed system



(Answers on page 37)

FSM GETS POLITICAL – MAY 22, 2005

Sylvia Zadorozny

At May's Fold, Staple, and Mutilate, besides assembling hundreds of copies of the Tampa Bay Sounding, we had a lively discussion focused on "fixing" the social security system, with Richard Manno and Thomas Thomas debating, while Don Davis and I mostly listened. Every so often I inserted my 2 cents worth, challenging assumptions such as 1) we all pay income tax* and 2) we all contribute to social security**. By the end of FSM, the fate of social security resembled the remains of the pineapple upside-down cake we were eating.

Not being one to waste crumbs, I'd like to point out (based on recent family experience) how easily personal retirement savings can be eaten up by high medical bills, long before social security or Medicare kick in. Old folks in doctor's offices tell my daughter that she's "too young to be sick." But chronic illness can strike anyone at any time--even you!

Private insurance, if you can get it, often has caps that are out of line with medical bills today. For instance, student insurance programs pay \$1100 per day for hospital coverage, which on the surface seems reasonable. But a recent 3-day hospitalization for an infection exceeded that by more than \$10,000!

Pharmaceutical costs, once a minor part of medical bills, have skyrocketed. Antibiotics administered during the above-mentioned hospital stay cost several thousand dollars. A single dose of Remicade*** received in a doctor's office costs over \$2000 and must be repeated every eight weeks to be effective. This is in addition to other necessary prescription drugs which add hundreds of dollars more every month.

According to the financial aid staff at a local hospital, Medicaid is only available to those 21 and older if they're declared "permanently and totally disabled." Our government

won't help anyone else who needs assistance with huge medical bills unless they're old enough to get Medicare.

What's the solution?

Bush's advice at the beginning of last flu season was "Don't get sick!!"

Yeah, right.

* Those with very low incomes or off-setting credits don't pay income taxes.

** Substitute teachers in Pinellas County are excluded from social security.

*** Remicade is an infusion treatment for Crohn's disease (and rheumatoid arthritis) which helps maintain remission.

ANSWER TO JUNE CRYPTOPOEM

A cheerful old bear at the zoo
 Could always find something to do.
 When it bored him to go
 On a walk to and fro,
 He reversed it, and walked fro and to.



THE ODYSSEY OF THE AMAZING GEORGE, TO OCOEE, FLORIDA, AND FRO, MAY 22, 2005

©2005 by George Zadorozny

Our George he did borrow Craig's Cherokee Jeep,
 So on down the highway he could tootle, "Beep! Beep!"
 Air, ice cold air, 'twas what he thus sought,
 Lacking gold, for his Volvo, same
 Not could be bought!

Fourteen dollars in cash, his starvéd wallet did hold;
 Admire, then, the brav'ry of this man sweet and bold!
 But--mayhap not so brave; for Craig him did tell
 That the Cherokee Jeep, for few bucks, would so well
 Bear George miles ninety, to Ocoee (and fro-ee),
 Place of the Voice-Mistress, Ginny the Mighty
 Teacher of Voice, his road to wealth magic,
 If George could but get there,
 Might dissolve all the tragic.

"Yon Jeep, for now, it runneth on fumes," Craig did warn,
 "Get thee to a gas-sery, or Jeep dies forlorn!"
 And so to a gas-sery bald George he did hie,
 And twelve bucks of gas, he did there pump and buy!
 Twelve buckies of gas, for did Craig not say,
 Ocoee, to-ee, fro-ee, ninety miles, Jeep would convey
 George where he wished, as if on to Oz,
 Or even to George's
 Runcible Palace of Zoz!
 (A most private place that, o'er which now a veil,
 Lest George prattle on, of that and of Yale!)

So on one quarter-tank, along he does zip,
 And, thinking Britishly, doth emit a "Pip Pip!"
 (Accents British they are learning
 For three weeks in the class,
 Accents British, groaningly bad, thus make him an ass!)
 Thus mindlessly George drives, he Brits all the way,
 Whilst unnoticed, the needle

Is NOT bonnie and gay!
 No; needle plungeth towards empty, towards naught, towards
 zero,

A-birthing test grueling; will George be a hero?
 The class he approacheth at last, his mind all a-twitter;
 Will ever the needle he see, this blithering Britter?
 He sees it! GASP! His heart, yoked to needle, like
 Balloon made of lead it doth plummet;
 And he, in a rare salty outburst,
 Swears horribly, "Dag-nummit!
 "Good Craig, your good Jeep you may not soon see,
 "Perforce might it sleep with the weeds nigh the
 "World of Disney!"

"Onward, mighty Jeep-Jeep, beep now your beep!
 "Deliver me unto the voices, before the tide neap!
 "There shall you rest, in the shade of bosky plants,
 "Hopefully ethanol-bearing," he prays, but says God,
 "Hmpfh! Fat chance!"

And so he hears voices, fakely British,
 For the next hours three,
 And then to his daughter, sweetly bright, sends a plea!
 On a borrowed phone cordless (for cell phones
 Scorneth he)
 (Especially since he lacketh a gold mine
 For the cellular fee)--

Says he, "O daughter, good daughter, so conveniently
 A student at nearby Universitatem C.F.,
 "Do not to the pleas of your old man be deaf!
 "Perhaps long ago I found not the precise present
 "You did want, that particular Barbíe,
 "Or I did nó brush, long enough, the tail
 "Of your `My Little Pony'!"

"But did I not gift you with the films of Three Stooges,
 "Not to mention Mister Magoo, the finest of legions of
 "Ebenezer Scrooges?"

"For the sake of old Curly,
 "In your car ZOOM! hurly-burly,
 "Ere the Ghost of Next Christmas see
 "My skeleton, akimbo, in bleak Ocoee!"

"Hmpfh!" sayeth she,
 Perhaps recalling Barbíe,
 Or even (shudder) "My Little Pony";
 "Talk longer we must!," quotha, imperiously!
 Meanwhile Ginny the Mighty is tapping her foot,
 And her eyes, speaking German, flash,
 "Dies ist nicht gut!"
 Off of her phone I must get, don't deny,
 Or high up in the air she will heave me, oh my!

"From the hótel's pay phone, yclept
 "Best of the West,
 "I shall call you again,
 "In a kind of Western BestFest!"

Strangely groaning, she hangs up,
 And did I hear a sigh?
 Then Jeep-Jeep I ignite; "Hi-Ho!," I do cry!
 To the Westerly Besterly, nearby, bumpety-bump,
 Jeep it does limp;
 Whilst I dream of Charles Goodyear,
 And a ride in his blimp!

But yanked back to reality (such as it is),
 To the pay phone I vroom;
 Will Kathy prove deliverance, or daughter of doom?
 I dial; the operator robotic wants coins,
 So many, they stretch--from here to Des Moines!
 Her phone it does ring; do I dare hope much hope?
 Do I dare hope as much hope as I have to be Pope?
 She answers; she clucks, "O silly Daddy!
 "Do not mope re Pope hope; that just will not be!
 "For fitter, much fitter, are you to be
 "My Amazing, Supreme, Sweet Daddy Silly!"

After the first games were over, we regrouped (literally) and the kitchen group tried *Guesstures* and *Play It with Clay*, while the living room group played *Smarty Party*. During *Smarty Party* we were surprised to find out that the best selling brand names in the world didn't include Coca-Cola. We also had a tough time with the category of Starbucks drink menu options, but we did better with the heaviest land mammals, the longest bones and largest organs in the human body, and the words for police, city, and house in Spanish, French, and German.

Towards the end of the night, Cassandra and Mark played chess, while the other late nighters finished by crossing the United States playing the railroad game *TransAmerica*. It was a fun trip.

TBM BULLETIN BOARD

Baywinds seems to be unavailable for Adult Education Classes after about 20 years of unique and high quality instruction in the area. I have undertaken to create a similar school under a new name and administer it online. Most of the original course descriptions and instructor bio's can be found at www.ozonasystems.com. Former instructors and students are invited to sign up at www.ozonasystems.com and continue this fine tradition using Internet technology.

Chris Clement
612 Orange St. North, Palm Harbor, FL 34683-5219
(727) 784 0186

I'm inviting Tampa Bay Mensa singles age 25-35 to connect with me to enjoy active interests together, such as: dancing, triathlons, swimming, biking, running, roller-blading, sailing, skiing, Club Med, Windjammer Barefoot Cruises, Super-Clubs, roller-coasters, SCUBA diving, volleyball, Frisbee, vegetarian restaurant-dining, co-investing, Renaissance-fairs, masquerade-dance-parties, improving the world's happiness quotient through the exploration of U-U-ism, New Thought, Noetic Sciences, Episcopalian creative-tension, Freemasonry, etc.

U.K. Wabi
Intertel #85-04-20 85 2 1 4
interfaith2000@yahoo.com

FOURTH FRIDAY MADNESS – MAY 27

Phoebe McCann

THINK SPAGHETTI!

Before I forget it, because of potential seating problems at the Olive Garden on weekends, this event will from now on be a suggested RSVP to me at (727) 546-4030 or my email theboogiewoman1@yahoo.com. If you use the email, try to get to me by the day before because I don't get on the computer every day. Believe it or not, I don't use a cell phone. We do have a trac phone we keep in the car for 911 emergencies but that's it. We can't receive calls on it. If you forget to call ahead, come on anyway but we may have to scramble to find a chair for you. Dan and I will continue to try to get there by 5:30 or 5:45 but we hit glitches too.

Because of the RG, I had asked for a large round table for 7 instead of a banquet style table. This worked out perfectly and was very pleasant because we could all see each other and converse more easily. Someone, I think it was Tom Handcock, made a comment that another event was fun because no topics were banned. Actually, the only reason I had asked people to stop talking about religion and politics was because some of the members were practically foaming at the mouth and becoming downright uncivil. I'm not Miss Manners, goodness knows, but I do feel that when you're in a restaurant (and especially when the management knows that you're there under the auspices of a particular group), it's just common decency to be polite to your tablemates. I couldn't care less what you talk about as long as you keep it down to a dull roar. Maybe it's just Dan and me but we find it embarrassing to be in a restaurant and have people at our table yelling at each other. Let's have FUN!

Al Church and his wife Linda attended again. Terry Wells was BEAMING. He just bought a new house (new to him). We talked quite a bit about boats because most of us had done some sailing of one sort or another. Terry has been a boat-owner in the past but said that for the next couple of years, he's going to be plowing the buckeroonies into fixing up his new abode.

We had a new member in attendance ... a lovely young lady named Gina Boogher. We hope she'll attend again next month. See you then.

Phoebe McCann

YUPPIES ANSWERS

From page 7.

These abbreviations mean:

1. BOBO = Burnt Out But Opulent
 2. BUPPIE = Black Urban Professional
 3. DINKIE = Dual Income, No Kids
 4. DINKY = Double Income, No Kids (yet)
 5. DUMP = Destitute Unemployed Mature Professional
 6. GOLDIE = Golden Oldie, Lives Dangerously
 7. GUPPIE = Gay Urban Professional
 8. NIMBY = Not In My Backyard
 9. OINK = One Income, No Kids
 10. PIPPIE = Person Inheriting Parents' Property
 11. SCUM = Self-Centered Urban Male
 12. SILKY = Single Income, Loads of Kids
 13. SINBAD = Single Income, No Boyfriend, Absolutely Desperate
 14. SINK = Single, Independent, No Kids
 15. SITCOM = Single Income, Two Children, Outrageous Mortgage
 16. WOOPIE = Well-Off Older Person
 17. YAPPIE = Young Affluent Parent
 18. YUPPIE = Young Urban Professional Person
-

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