



Tampa Bay Sounding

A Publication of Tampa Bay Mensa

Vol. 31, No. 1

February 2006



OH, TO BE A PIRATE...

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 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'S REPORT*Maxine Kushner*

Hello TBMs!

AS I WRITE THIS IN early January, things are quiet, Mensa-wise. We are still (can you believe it?) looking for three people to volunteer for the **Election Committee**. Honestly, this is about the easiest job for which you could volunteer. The entire job for the Election Supervisor amounts to a couple hours of your time: gather up the ballots as they arrive at your home, bring them to the election meeting, open the ballots, tally the votes, record and announce the results. That's it. For the other two members of the committee, the job is even simpler: come to the election meeting and help open and tally. The meeting will be held in June. We will include the Call For Candidates in the March and April issues of the *Sounding*. Sure would be nice to have a committee in place...

Registration for this year's RG, Sense and Mensability, is easier than ever—you can register online at our web site: <http://www.tampa.us.mensa.org> (the RG 2006 link is to the right). Registration will be \$65 until February 14 and will then go up each month until it caps at \$85.

I close with what struck me an interesting Valentine's Day fact. During the late 1800s, postage rates around the world dropped, and the obscene St. Valentine's Day card became popular, despite the Victorian era being otherwise very prudish. As the numbers of racy valentines grew, several countries banned the practice of exchanging Valentine's Days cards. During this period, Chicago's post office rejected more than 25,000 cards on the grounds that they were so indecent, they were not fit to be carried through the U.S. mail. (Copied from <http://www.corsinet.com/braincandy/valtrivia.html>)

Until next month,
Maxine



WISE GUY

Thomas George Thomas

THE FIRST PRIORITY OF THE *Sounding* is to keep Tampa Bay Mensans informed about events and news within our chapter. We only publish once a month, however. What keeps you informed when new things happen, before the next issue of the *Sounding* reaches your mailbox?

In January we had news of two proctored tests, an invitation for our group to participate in a trivia competition, and an unavoidable change in venue for one of our calendar items. By the time this issue reaches you, all of these events will have passed (including the Gasparilla Festival referenced on the cover).

Technology offers a solution. We have a website with an online calendar at <http://www.tampa.us.mensa.org>, where changes can be posted when necessary. There is a general membership email list (*TBM-GM*) to announce schedule reminders and changes to you, as well as a discussion group (*TBM-Discussion*) to allow discourse unrelated to events.

But why is it that so many members of our chapter do not take advantage of this technology? E-mail has been commonplace for over ten years, yet a surprising number of our members do not have or use email – we have email addresses for less than two-thirds of our membership. Some who have spoken to me about it stated that they will never get email, although at least one of them uses a computer for games.

And what is the nature of this technological divide? It's been suggested, and borne out by my experience with those who choose to correspond via the postal service, that this divide is age-related. And it's not the only one – there seems to be another wave coming, if my conversation with a younger member about the post-Gen-X movement towards text messaging holds true.

There is no foreseeable reason other than failure of imagination that communication will not continue to evolve. I encourage everyone to visit the Tampa Bay Mensa and American Mensa websites and to sign up for our e-lists. For those who don't, I am also interested in hearing perspectives from members who have chosen to remain computer-free (letters are welcome, but please print legibly if you don't type).

WELCOME TO TAMPA BAY MENSA!

- Nathan B Albright *
- Robert Allen Farabee
- Sophia K Goodenough *
- Leslie B J Greene
- Talida M Iancu *
- Sara Mrozinski *
- Daniel A Nobbe
- Erica Rogers
- Jillian O Sajdak *
- Kyle Walker *

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

KICK IRRATIONAL by Brian Lord www.KickComics.com



It's time to renew your membership.
Visit www.us.mensa.org
or call (817) 607-0060 ext. 199.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 John Kincaid
- 2 Ruby Leah Agnir, Ronald Croft, Danny Ervin Taylor
- 3 Gerri Almand, Billie Susan Noakes
- 5 Matthew Eason, Yvonne Robin Meadows, Melissa Milliken
- 6 Janet Carol Darmanin
- 7 Jeffrey Scott Croker, Martin Jenns
- 8 Carol Dressel, Sophia Goodenough
- 9 Nathan Whitaker
- 10 Esther Maria Talledo Snook, Robert Topper, Norman Urich
- 11 Diane Marie Church-Smith, Philip Watson
- 12 Wendy Coughlin, David Gunn
- 13 Joseph Hickey, Robert Pressner
- 14 Kevin Drew
- 15 Mark Komula
- 16 William Allen, Albert Church
- 17 Peter Fournier
- 19 Janet Parker Irish, Ned William Moren
- 20 John Reece
- 21 Rudolph Frederick Trosin
- 22 Joseph Welch
- 23 Carl Regenhardt Sr
- 25 Elizabeth Genevieve Maguire, William Michael Schneikart
- 26 Arthur Kelland, Gregory Pitts, John Woerner
- 27 Maryl Brayton Curry, Ben Pethe

FEBRUARY MENSAVERSARIES

33 Years	Jean Chambliss
32 Years	Patricia Benton Bowker
25 Years	Delphine Felicia Jenness
24 Years	Edwin Michael Kelley
23 Years	J Ellis Blanton II
22 Years	Henry O'Neill
21 Years	Patricia Arline Johnston
20 Years	Norman Cleghorn
16 Years	Carol Partington, K E Schneider
15 Years	Peter Forret
13 Years	Michael Grant McBride
11 Years	Patrick Rhodes
6 Years	Billie Susan Noakes
5 Years	Nancy Margareta Mitchell
4 Years	Jeffrey Scott Croker, Jason Doolittle, Andrea Fisher, Carlos Hernandez, Sharon Ann Johnson
3 Years	Pamela Lynn Dodge, Keith Halbasch, Janet Parker Irish, Sheldon Livingston Jr, Thom Thibodeau
2 Years	Gretchen Gregory Kulisky, Shannon Mahoney, Robert Joseph Miller, Barbara Stetzko, Kristi Van Sickle
1 Year	Mary Britain, Michael Demko, John Gove, Terra Maggiolino, Oris Parker, Helen Martin Parramore, William Trudel

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

PERSONAL BIOGRAPHIES NOW AVAILABLE

Howard Prince

AS PROMISED LAST MONTH, PERSONAL biographies are now available to you through your Profile Update (www.us.mensa.org/profile) and the online membership directory (www.us.mensa.org/directory). With very little arm-twisting, a few members have already posted their pictures and short biographies!

Have you felt that the Personal Data Questionnaire responses didn't cover everything about you? We're seeing that the addition of member-provided biographies is helping this along. By visiting www.us.mensa.org/bio - or "Members," then "Profile Update," then "Biography Update," - you'll have the opportunity to provide your own short biography and a paragraph about your involvement in Mensa. Also, you'll be able to upload a picture of yourself for other members to see on your directory results page!

Remember, if you decide that you don't want some information displayed in the directory, update your privacy releases by visiting www.us.mensa.org/profile or www.us.mensa.org/PDQ. Look for your directory releases specifically.

If you have any questions or concerns about this new service, don't hesitate to let us know.

Best regards,

J. Howard Prince
Director of Operations
American Mensa, Ltd.

howardp@americanmensa.org

817/607-0060 x116

KICK IRRATIONAL by Brian Lord

www.KickComics.com



VOLUNTEER FOR A VALENTINE!

Marion Gaskins

HERE WE ARE IN THE New Year. The holidays are over and store shelves are packed with those heart-shaped boxes of Valentine candy. Windows of lingerie shops are filled with red lace. What should you get for your significant other? Or are you starting another year with no one special?

Volunteering with Mensa can change that. For decades, Mensa has been "The Place" to meet potential mates. There are a number of well-known couples who have met, married, and been living Happily Ever After since meeting at Mensa Gatherings.

The upcoming World Gathering to be held at Disney World in Orlando this year has the potential of setting a new record for number of couples created with Mensa as matchmaker. Even if you're shy and reluctant to talk to strangers, you have the opportunity to meet hundreds of intellectual equals in comfortable and supportive surroundings.

Just bring your smiling face to help Registration Chair, **Eddie Truelove**. (Eddie, by the way, met his Maggie, Region 10 RVC, at a Gathering.) It's a great way to meet a wide variety of people under positive circumstances without feeling awkward.

If you're a little more outgoing, try Hospitality. (Hospitality Chair **Jerry Fortner** met Merrell through Mensa and they were married at the Central Florida Mensa RG.) If you're secretly longing to perform or are already an established musical artist, there'll be plenty of opportunity to show off your talent to a captive audience.

Dave Bryant and his handpicked Hunks (or is that Hulks?) will be there to assure Security, so there's no need to worry about disobeying your mother - it's safe to talk to strangers at the Mensa World Gathering, August 8-13, 2006.

Check out CONTACTS on the National website and let **Kay Klasen**, Volunteers Coordinator, know what you want to do to help. (Incidentally, Kay met her husband, John, at one of the first MENSA events that she attended!)

Of course, volunteering could create a problem for you: What to do with all those valentines you'll receive in 2007!

THE TENTH STORY**(RVC COLUMN FOR REGION 10) – FEBRUARY 2006***Maggie Truelove*

FEBRUARY - THE SHORTEST MONTH - FEBRUARY 2 is Groundhog Day, February 14 is Valentine's Day, but even of more interest is that February 1 is the day that Willie Wonka took the children on the tour of the Chocolate Factory! And now back to Mensa... February is also the month of ValenTime, the wonderful little RG in the Panhandle, February 10-12.

See you in Destin!

It is finally 2006, and the World Gathering is only seven months away. As of the end of 2005, there were already more than 900 people registered for the WG. Are you registered yet? And if you wish to be part of the WG, have you signed up as a volunteer? It is not too late, you know. Find out more at <http://WG06.us.mensa.org>.

Some of the more recent member benefits available include both National and Alamo Car Rental companies offering Mensans unlimited mileage and year-round discounts. Find out more details (and the code to use) on the National website. The most recent member benefit involves the opportunity for you to research, design, and reserve vacation travel exclusively through <http://mensa.virtuocard.com>.

Through this easy-to-use website, you will be able to book with some of the best travel companies in the world, and because of the American Mensa membership, you will receive discounts and added value.

The Mensa Discussion Forums are up and running. On the National website (<http://www.us.mensa.org>), go to the members section. Be prepared to enter your member number and password, then click on "discussion forums". WARNING: Use of the forums can be addictive and consume tremendous amounts of time!

By next month, I hope to be able to report that we have a Region 10 e-list up and running. This will be an opportunity for all of you to keep in touch with each other - and with me. I do want to know your opinions. In the meantime, the discussion forums give you an opportunity to open up topics for discussion and express

your opinion on that topic or any other already open. So let's look for each other, on the web, at the RG, or at the WG. See you there!

Maggie Truelove, RVC10
 3333 Honeysuckle Lane, Orlando, FL 32812
rv10@cfl.rr.com or rv10@us.mensa.org 407-855-9078

SUDOKU

Ronan Heffernan

Each digit (0-9) will only appear once per row and once per column.

Each digit (0-9) will only appear once per outlined 'block' of 9 squares. Based on the numbers that are already given, there is only one possible solution.

1	4		8	5				3
		9	2			7	8	
		8	6	9		4		1
	1	4		3		2	6	5
3	7						1	4
6	8	2		4		3	7	
4		7		2	9	5		
	5	3			6	1		
8				7	5		4	2

INTELLIGENT DESIGN

TWO TBM PERSPECTIVES

IN THE DARKNESS OF THE Middle Ages Religion repressed Science, like the trial of Galileo, and now in the age of enlightenment we have Science repressing Religion. Today's Secular Scientists are acting like Grand Inquisitor Torquemada pouring hot lead in the boots of heretics who dare challenge their THEORIES on Darwin's Evolution and the Big Bang origin of the universe.

I do not know why the concept of Intelligent Design scares these secular scientists so; as I understand it, it's completely compatible with these theories of modern science, which do nothing to explain the existence of man or the universe. The Intelligent Design concept seems very broad and accommodating. Yes, it can be cited by Religious Creationists in schools to leave open the possibility of divine intervention and I see nothing wrong with that; they pay taxes too. It can also be cited by those of a scientific nature who ask what was there the day before the Big Bang, who created the matter which supposedly banged, and why are the laws of physics as they are? Albert Einstein, implying that the Laws of Physics were Universal, once stated "God does not play dice with the Universe" and while the laws of physics may be the same across the Universe, the question of who created those laws and the light, and the matter, and the energy remains an open question. Call it Intelligent Design if you like or call it God.

Ronnie Dubs

FLORIDA'S SCHOOL SYSTEM RECENTLY RECEIVED a grade of "F" in science from a study conducted by the Fordham Institute. It wasn't just an F; it was 48 out of 100. The full report is available at www.edexcellence.net. Florida scored 0 points for avoiding the teaching of evolution. In fact, they did not even use the word evolution in their science curriculum.

Many creationists want to discard evolution because it is only a "theory". What they don't seem to understand is the meaning of the word theory. All scientific studies must follow the scientific method. The first step in this process is to make an observation, which is then followed by a hypothesis. The hypothesis is a possible

explanation to the observations recorded. Experiments are then carried out to both prove and disprove the hypothesis. Thousands of experiments are designed, completed, and verified by other scientists before a hypothesis becomes a theory. Any idea that has not undergone this process is in itself not science and should not be taught in a science class. This includes all religion, including the idea of intelligent design. Intelligent design is not a scientific theory; it is an idea that a supernatural being created life on earth. This is not science. You cannot design experiments to prove the existence of a god.

I really don't understand why people discard the theory of evolution, but don't discard other scientific theories such as Newton's Theory of Gravitation. How come they don't think floods and earthquakes occur because God is angry with us? Why are they threatened by the idea of natural selection? I have studied biology, Mendelian genetics, molecular genetics, pharmacogenomics and numerous other sciences. Without natural selection, the entire science of biology would make no logical sense whatsoever. Natural selection is the process of species changing over time. We have seen this in action. Anyone who breeds animals or grows crops knows that this process occurs. So, why don't people want to see this taught in schools? I have blue eyes because my parents both carried a gene for it. I don't believe that a supernatural being decided that my eyes should be blue and I just popped out of my mom that way. Traits are passed from generation to generation. Sometimes the changes are great enough that a new species is created. Evolution is the word given to this gradual change over time.

Intelligent design came about because of overwhelming scientific evidence. We know about DNA. We've unraveled all 3 billion base pairs of the human genome. The design is so simple, yet elegant and refined that some people do not believe that the variation in species could have happened by random chance. They believe that God took these building blocks of DNA and created all the forms of life. I don't have a problem with that belief, but it should not be taught in a science class. It belongs in a religion class. When I went to Sunday school, I was taught that God created life. They didn't teach me about evolution. Biology classes should not teach religion, even when creationist coin a scientific sounding name like intelligent design.

Dana Groulx

EYES*Phoebe McCann*

The floating empire gown of Alice blue silk peeps through an overskirt
of seed pearls and lace as pure white as the prayer of a child
and rests on a padded hanger over a hook on the door.

The beaded chapel train drapes over a brocade wingback chair.

The delicately embroidered veil lies where it drifted like a snow bank
on the ancient braided rug.

On the rose velvet cushioned window seat,
the bride stares dry-eyed down the path beneath the weeping willows
to the chapel at the end of the lane
where no handsome beloved groom arrived today.

Her grandmother's tears tumble down the girl's long black curls.

Her grandfather sits atop the staircase outside the closed door,
face in his hands, eyes burning, throat constricted,
heart trembling unevenly in his fragile, bony chest.

The girl slips the broken promise from her slender ivory finger
and presses it into her grandmother's gnarled hand.

She swallows hard and whispers,

"Sell this and give the money to the blind
for that's what I have been."

T.S. / TODAY'S WORLD

BOB TOPPER

SHE GAVE ME A SMALL package and told me "These are instructions on how to use the injections." She's a doctor, a urologist no less. And she's a very nice young lady, even petite, with a sense of humor and very slim fingers. I looked in the package and realized it was a video. I told her I didn't have a VCR. "You don't have a VCR?" as though I'm the only one in the world who doesn't. So she took the package back and gave me pamphlets instead. This made me wonder if I'm really the only one. On my way out I asked the valet parker if he had a VCR. "No, but I have a DVD." What the hell is going on?

I've finally mastered the toggle switch, an underutilized electrical device which is in dire need of resurrection (not to be confused with the injections mentioned above). Did you ever enter an elevator to find all the buttons lit? Stop on every floor to the 26th? And have to pee? A toggle switch!!

In today's world if you buy a new car, you have to buy air bags even if you don't want them. (Hell, I've had one in my cars for years.) When they learned that air bags kill small people they offered an option to turn off the air bags. A toggle switch!!

Seat belts? Years ago VWs were designed so that if you sat in the car you couldn't start the car unless the seat belts were engaged. One Halloween eve I went to the farm for a bushel of apples, put them on the passenger's seat, and you know the rest. I resolved that problem too with a T.S.

So I ask you, with over 90 channels of TV available to me, do I need a VCR, unless to watch dirty pictures from my urologist? It's all T.S.

CRYPTOPOEM*Sylvia Zadorozny*

LRY MEW AES QGWWTOC

DTTQC ENL

DATO TFTYZWAGON LRWCGST DEC COLD.

CL CAT CWEZTS GO

EOS QTHW WATX DEYX

EOS CEPT PYLX EBB WAT MBLRSC EOS CWLYX.

IRW ZTCWTYSEZ

DATO WATYT DEC CRO

CAT CORKKBTS LO WAT CXEBBTCW LOT

EOS WRYOTS GW LFTY

PYLX ITOTEWA

EOS WLLQ GWC PRY ITWDTTO ATY WTTWA

EOS MEYYGTS GW

LRWCGST WL CTT

ALD OGMT E DGOWTY SEZ MEO IT ...

--XZYE MLAO BGFONCWLO



**Mark your calendar
now for
February 10-12
Valentime RG
on the Gulf**

The dolphins are smiling because we've got:

♥ Bob & Lynda 's wonderful chili (beef or turkey), Mabel's famous jambalaya and cornbread, and a

CHOCOLATE LOVER'S ORGY on Friday night. Saturday starts with a continental breakfast, then sandwiches and salads for lunch and a Saturday night fried chicken and salads picnic, or you can visit a renowned Emerald Coast restaurant.

- ♥ Hearts Tournament, interesting speakers, a Pirates Dance with a Treasure Hunt and more.
- ♥ All weekend: great Hospitality overlooking the Gulf from the ninth floor; hot tub, indoor swimming pool, white sand beaches, and ocean waves.
- ♥ Sunday morning, our popular auction, and box lunches to go.

Call the Holiday Inn, 1020 Highway 98 East, Destin, FL 32541. Phone 850-837-6181, toll free 877-837-6181, FAX (850)-837-1523. Tell them to give you the Mensa rate, ranging from \$75 to \$108 per night depending upon the view.

Registration: \$45 per person if paid by Feb 9, \$50 per person at the door, or \$20 for Friday night, \$35 for Saturday, and \$10 for Sunday. Please make checks payable to Northwest Florida Mensa.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please mail this form to: Registrar — ValenTime, 616 Overbrook Dr., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547-3528.

Contact: John Mochan, (850)-585-3194, jmochan@cox.net

Visit us at: <http://nwflorida.us.mensa.org>

CALENDAR

February 2006

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 (813-732-2310) 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.

February 1st & 15th - Wednesdays - 7:00 PM

Erudite Lite Reading Group

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

Ellen Berry – 727-480-7938 – eberry@rovingarts.com

Perkins Restaurant - 612 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa

February 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd - 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

February 4th & 18th - Saturdays - 7:00 PM - \$2*Card Night*

Either bring a card game you like to play or we will play Hand and Foot (a type of Canasta, played with partners. It's great fun!) Please make sure that you RSVP at 727-734-9646 at least two days in advance.

Directions: From the North - Come South on Belcher Rd. After Curlew Road is a Traffic Light at Solon Road. Keep coming South – BEFORE you get to Main Street (580) there is a blinking light for a Fire Station. On your RIGHT (West) is Beverly Lane, into Forest Park Villas.

From the South: Go North on Belcher Rd. Just past Main Street (580) is a blinking light for a fire station- on your LEFT (West) is Beverly Lane, into Forest Park Villas.

After turning onto Beverly Lane, go to the second street: Rebecca Lane. Turn Right and go to 1542 (short street). Park on street.

Terri Elston - 727-734-9646 - TeriProfsr@aol.com

1542 Rebecca Lane – Dunedin

February 8th & 22nd - Wednesdays - 1:15 PM*MHunch (Mensa Humpday Lunch)*

Locations: Cleveland Heights Restaurant – Lakeland (2nd Wednesday)

International Buffet – Winter Haven (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.

Due to the current gas situation, MHUNCH events away from Lakeland will be subject to cancellation if there is a lack of interest (that means 'yes' RSVPs!)...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

February 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Reading Group 7:00 PM	2 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	3	4 Card Night 7:00 PM
5	6	7	8 MHunch 1:15 PM	9 Breakfast Gathering 7:30 AM Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	10 Sounding submissions deadline	11 ExComm Meeting 3:30 PM Games Night 7:30 PM
12	13	14	15 Lunch Date with Vickie 11:30 AM Reading Group 7:00 PM	16 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	17	18 Busch Gardens Outing 10:00 AM Card Night 7:00 PM
19 FSM 3:00 PM	20	21	22 MHunch 1:15 PM	23 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	24 Fourth Friday Madness 6:00 PM	25 NTN Trivia Night 7:00 PM
26	27	28				

March 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Reading Group 7:00 PM	2 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	3	4 Card Night 7:00 PM
5	6	7	8 MHunch 1:15 PM	9 Breakfast Gathering 7:30 AM Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	10 <i>Sounding</i> submissions deadline	11 Games Night 7:30 PM
12	13	14	15 Lunch Date with Vickie 11:30 AM Reading Group 7:00 PM	16 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	17	18 Busch Gardens Outing 10:00 AM Card Night 7:00 PM
19	20	21	22 MHunch 1:15 PM	23 Lunch Bunch 12:30 PM	24 Fourth Friday Madness 6:00 PM	25 NTN Trivia Night 7:00 PM
26 FSM 3:00 PM	27	28	29	30	31	

February 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

February 11th - Saturday - 3:30 PM*ExComm Meeting*

Executive Committee Meetings are open to all Tampa Bay Mensans. Before the ExComm meeting, organizers of our RG will also conduct an after action review. Games to follow.

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

February 11th - Saturday - 7:30 PM - \$2*Games Night*

St. Valentine's will be a day
for hearts, both red and pink,
And my heart wants fun games to play,
and ones that make me think.
If you, as I, think games are neat,
please come and join me here
For fun & games that can't be beat
and lots of heartfelt cheer.
Just one request: please smoke outside,
and cats may walk about,
But if these things you can abide,
you'll fit right in, no doubt.
So come on, bring a friend (or two!),
and join us here today.
We've all got endless chores to do,
but make the time to play!

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

February 15th - Wednesday - 11:30 AM*Lunch Date with Vicky - Spring Hill*

This "Lunch Date with Vicky" will be at Chili's in Spring Hill (restaurant address and phone number below). Your Host will be Vicky Foust, entrepreneur, world traveler, & Queen of Chocolate.

Victoria Foust - 352-596-8242

Chili's: 3085 Commercial Way - Spring Hill - 352-686-2265

February 18th - Saturday - 10:00 AM*Busch Gardens Outing*

If you have (or want to buy) a Busch Gardens pass, come out and see if any fellow M's show up. Maybe there'll be some M's who want to ride rollercoasters, hang out and read or talk, or join with other parents in kids' activities. This will be a low-organization affair; just look for me in the Crown Colony House at an inside table overlooking the zebras (first floor) and we'll find out who's up for what.

Ronan Heffernan - 813-732-2310 - ronansan@gmail.com

February 19th - Sunday - 3:00 PM*FSM*

This month we'll Fold, Staple, and put Mailing labels on our Mensa newsletters at Ronan's in Wesley Chapel. Everyone is encouraged to come help out. You can get your newsletter early! Hope to see you here.

Directions: Take I-75 to Exit #275 (SR56, North of Tampa (this exit is north of the I-75/I-275 split, so you can take either Interstate north. After I-75 and I-275 merge, the next exit is #275)). Turn east onto SR56. Go to the stoplight and turn right (south) onto County Road 581 (same road as Bruce B. Downs, with a different name in Pasco County). Turn right at the next stoplight onto County Line Rd. Turn right into the second housing development (Northwood). Take the second right onto Breakers Dr. Our house (#27504) is on the right, at the sharpest part of the curve.

Ronan Heffernan - 813-732-2310 - ronansan@gmail.com

27504 Breakers Dr - Wesley Chapel

February 24th - 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. RSVP to Phoebe McCann at 727-546-4030 or theboogiewoman1@yahoo.com.

Phoebe McCann - 727-546-4030 - theboogiewoman1@yahoo.com

February 25th - Saturday – 7:00 PM*NTN Trivia - NEW LOCATION! (let's try this again...)*

Location: Prime Time Sports Grill, 14404 N Dale Mabry Hwy,
Tampa, FL

NTN Satellite Trivia is a nationwide contest held in assorted restaurants and bars in our region. Three short rounds of five questions each are interspersed with breaks for conversation and socializing. **We have moved** to Carrollwood to yet another trivia-friendly sports bar, this one being Prime Time Sports Grill (this one puts the trivia games on a BIG screen!). Look for the table with our mascot, Owlbert. Come join the party!

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

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MINUTES FOR TAMPA BAY MENSA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - DECEMBER 17, 2005

EXCOMM MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Chesnut (scribe), Kathy Crum, Dana Groulx (host), Ronan Heffernan, Maxine Kushner, Barbara Loewe, Richard Manno, Thomas Thomas, Sylvia Zadorozny

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm.

The minutes were approved and we moved directly to reports:

EDITOR: TBM updated its 20 subscriptions to newsletters from other chapters, representative of all American Mensa Regions and from chapters of similar size to TBM. Thomas brought some copies to share at the meeting.

WEBSPINNER: Ronan provided this meeting's report. Ronan will work with Ellen Berry to update the website for the Regional Gathering in May, 2006.

AUDITOR: Sylvia completed the audit, after extensive review of the Treasurer's records. A copy of the auditor's report appears following these minutes. In summary, the chapter's finances and financial records are in good order. Miscellany: The equipment list was updated during the meeting. A written statement for our certificate of deposit had not yet been obtained due to the need for a letter from Maxine or Kathy (LocSec, Treasurer). Richard agreed to draft such a letter. Some uncashed checks were found, some of considerable age. Kathy agreed to follow up on those. (Note: the audit was initiated at the July, 2005 Excomm meeting.)

For Sylvia's long work on this audit, she was thanked in abundance, both by acclamation/applause and by the giving of a large bar of Sylvia's favorite food: chocolate.

Thomas moved to accept the audit, Ronan seconded, and the motion was approved.

TREASURER: Kathy reported that the chapter's overall balance sheet is looking good. While the chapter's annual activities for 2005 yielded a net decline in value, we are still up by \$1,400 over the past two years, which included Mind Games.

Of note: Revenues from proctored tests and advertising are up. Refreshment reimbursements to events hosts are up.

REGIONAL GATHERING: Sylvia told us that programs are getting lined up for the "Sense and Mensability" theme, the first being a chocolates program, where attendees are encouraged to bring their own specialties. Also in the works: wine tasting, tai chi, treasure hunt, and many other possibilities. The hotel is Best Western near Busch Blvd., Kathy Crum will be registrar, and most of the meal plan has been determined.

Other programs involving the "senses" are being sought. Note: We are seeking a Licensed Massage Therapist to provide therapeutic massage so we can include the sense of touch and because we really like the idea.

Ronan will work to provide PayPal and online registration on the chapter website.

CIRCULATION: We are in need of a volunteer to handle this for the upcoming year. Our acting circulation officer is currently overextended.

OLD BUSINESS: None was brought up.

NEW BUSINESS: Maxine reminded us that we are in need of an Election Committee. The committee should be in place within a few weeks of the mailing of the January issue of the *Sounding* in order to stay ahead of the timetable prescribed in the by-laws.

The annual spring picnic will return this year after being missed in 2005 due to a scheduling conflict. The picnic will be in April (specifics TBA) and will include the April ExComm meeting and the chapter's 2006 Annual Meeting.

NEXT EXCOMM MEETING: Saturday, February 11, 2006 at 3:30 pm at Sylvia's house.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

(Submitted December 18, 2005 by Dan Chesnut)

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Sylvia Zadorozny

TAMPA BAY MENSA AUDIT RESULTS--December 16, 2005

Upon careful review of the books and records of Tampa Bay Mensa, provided by Treasurer Kathy Crum, I believe the financial statements dated 11/22/05 give a fair representation of the organization's financial picture, in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), subject to the following qualifiers:

- 1.) 5/3 Bank (formerly First National Bank) would not confirm the amounts of the Certificate of Deposit and checking account there, as they refused to reveal those amounts to anyone other than the person who initially opened the accounts, and even then they would not discuss it over the telephone. The original CD document was examined and agreed with the amount reported.
- 2.) Tax documents were not available, since taxes are handled by American Mensa, Ltd.
- 3.) Canceled checks were not available for review. However, bank statements (Wachovia Bank) were entirely consistent with the check register as far as recording the amount of each check, and expense reports also agreed with the check register and bank statements.
- 4.) I reviewed records back to June 2004. Anything before that was not checked.

The above review leads me to suggest Tampa Bay Mensa take the following actions:

- 1.) Update the equipment list. The locations of equipment owned by Tampa Bay Mensa are out of date.
- 2.) Eliminate lost checks (very old, uncashed) from the books. A few checks dating back as far as 1998 are still being carried forward as liabilities, probably unnecessarily.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Zadorozny



TREASURER'S REPORT

OCTOBER 25, 2004 TO
DECEMBER 26, 2005

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 held Mind Games '05 and Oktoberfest '05. While Mind Games was very profitable for TBM (>\$2300 profit overall), the Oktoberfest RG '05 lost money, mostly due to an unusually high cancellation rate. Gasoline prices, as well as Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, definitely had an impact on the TBM budget in 2005! TBM's finances are still in good shape though, 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, attach your receipts to it, and email or snail-mail it to me. I always have the checkbook and forms with me at ExComm meetings.

Till next time...

ASSETS as of 10/25/04

First Union Checking	8,589.28
First National Bank CD	10,208.54
First National Bank Checking	100.09
2nd Class Mailing Account	495.38
TOTAL	19,393.29

ASSETS as of 12/26/05

Wachovia Checking	5,957.79
Fifth Third Bank CD	10,584.00
Fifth Third Bank Checking	100.15
2nd Class Mailing Account	230.97
TOTAL	16,872.91

CASH FLOW for 10/25/04 to 12/26/05

INCOME

Advertising Income	560.00
MaRGaritaville '04:	
Registrations	80.00
TOTAL MaRGaritaville '04	80.00
Mind Games '05:	
Food Expenses, Ice	-9991.04
Misc. Expenses	-380.29
Misc. Income	1,500.00
Registrations	8,270.40
TOTAL Mind Games '05	-600.93

Oktoberfest RG '05

Food Expenses	-4,295.20
Misc. Expenses	-1,050.19
Misc. Income	80.00
Registrations	4,022.05
TOTAL Oktoberfest RG '05	-1,243.34
Contributions-Scholarship	70.00
Contributions-TBS	140.00
Interest Income	386.60
Misc. Income	194.75
National Support	5,588.61
Proctor Revenue	550.00
Subscriptions	48.00
TOTAL INCOME	5,773.69

EXPENSES

Fees	-20.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	65.91
Office Supplies	65.17
Postage- Miscellaneous	92.73
Postage - TBS	1,264.41
Printing - TBS	5,551.92
Refreshments	806.00
Scholarships	465.00
Telephone	2.93
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,294.07
OVERALL GAIN	-2,520.38

HILDEGARD – A PLAY (FINAL PART IN A SERIES)*Carl S. Hammen*

Scene: Office of the Abbess, convent of St. Rupert, May 1152, five years after previous scene.

ACT II, Scene 3

Knocking at the door.

Hildegard: *(Seated at her desk, wearing the fancy dress given to her by Eleanor of Aquitaine)* Who is there?

Richardis: It is I, Richardis. May I come in?

Hildegard: *(Stands)* Yes. Enter quickly. *(Enter Richardis)* You are the only person allowed to see me in this ridiculous costume. I have been depressed about my sins. I thought it might improve my mood.

Richardis: You look wonderful. You should have been a queen, Hildegard. *(Pause.)* Have you heard about the royal wedding at Poitiers? The bride is that lady from Guienne, the one who was going on Crusade because she did not trust her husband out of her sight.

Hildegard: That is not fair to Aliénor. She had more than one reason for going on Crusade. She was quite devout, and had little reason to suspect infidelity. *(Pause)* As you may know, the Crusade was not successful. Her marriage to Louis was not successful, either. He seemed to love her, but they were like north and south, ill-suited to one another. I heard recently that a synod of archbishops at Orleans has granted an annulment, and has allowed their young daughters to remain with the King. I wish archbishops would not accept large donations from royalty in exchange for legalizing divorce. I must write a letter to the Pope.

Richardis: Well, Eleanor wasted no time finding a replacement husband.

Hildegard: Who is the bridegroom?

Richardis: That is the amazing part! She has married the son of Matilda and Geoffrey of Anjou. His name is Henry, the same as his grandfather. He is much younger than Eleanor, but some say that she is still beautiful.

Hildegard: Extraordinary! Both the bride and the mother of the groom are my friends. (*Aside:* And I know the great teacher who taught little Henry.)

Richardis: Hildegard, you never cease your writing labors. With the great success of *Scivias*, why do you continue? What are you working on now?

Hildegard: This project is very important. I cannot rest until it is complete. I plan to write a full account of all our native plants and animals, and list as many others as I can, depending on the availability of reliable information. The work will be called *Subtilitatum diversarum naturarum creaturarum*.

Richardis: And what does that title mean?

Hildegard: There is no exact translation, but it signifies a sort of catalog or dictionary of all creatures.

Richardis: Your energy amazes me. I think that you have already described about thirty different kinds of fishes in *der Rhein und die aubere Flusse*. And the number of birds must be even greater, if you count those that we see each fall, flying south for the winter. I call them "snowbirds".

Hildegard: Yes, you are correct. The size of the task does not deter me. You have been very helpful, bringing in specimens for me to study, and getting their names from the fishermen. I am not happy, however, with different fishermen calling the same fish by different names. Some day, I hope that a diligent and astute Englishman (or Russian, perhaps) will produce a system of Latin names for all animals and plants. Then, we will have no more confusion about common names.

(Knocking at the door)

Hildegard: Richardis, *liebchen*, will you see who is there?

(Exit and re-enter Richardis.)

Richardis: It is a messenger. Will you see him?

Hildegard: No, I do not wish to be seen in this costume. Get the message without admitting him, please.

(Sounds of argument and conflict outside the door. Richardis screaming, two male voices shouting. Enter Richardis.)

Richardis: He was not happy, but I obtained the message. Volmar helped me to get rid of him. Here it is. (*Hands scroll to Hildegard.*)

Hildegard: (*Reads silently, then speaks*) Oh! It is about Eugenius. He is very ill. They do not expect him to live much longer. I wish that I could see him. Perhaps I could help him.

Richardis: Oh, I am sure that you could, Hildegard. You have practiced medicine with great skill. You have extracted powerful potions from plants. You have cured many of the peasants of BIngen, and several of the nuns, too.

Hildegard: Perhaps my skill has aided their recoveries. I have simply tried to follow Galen.

Richardis: I do not understand. What do you mean by “follow Galen”?

Hildegard: I mean this: to keep a patient clean, to provide water, to encourage bed rest. Those treatments have been known for a long time, and they are little more than common sense. Prayer is often more effective than my herbal remedies, provided that the sick are good Christians, and have a desire to recover. (*Pause*) Poor Eugenius. Did the messenger say who would become his successor?

Richardis: No. I doubt that he knew what was in the message. (*Pause*) The next Pope surely will be an Italian cardinal, one from a family with much money, and very little morality.

Hildegard: You must try to be less cynical, Richardis. However, I must agree that there is no suitable candidate from Germany. (*Aside*) All the clever cardinals are Italian.

Richardis: When I first entered, you aroused my curiosity. I cannot imagine any sins that you have committed. (*Pause*) Where did you get those little shoes, and those diamond earrings?

Hildegard: Well, of course, I confessed long ago, but I still feel terribly guilty. The shoes were a gift from Matilda. The English scholar, Adelard, who visited us at Disibodenberg, gave me the earrings. After Volmar got him to bathe, and trim his beard, he seemed quite handsome and charming. (*Pause*) We talked about geometry and cosmology late into the night. After his long solitary travels, he needed affection badly. Volmar should not have given us wine, and then left us alone.

Richardis: (*Cries*) Oh, Hildegard, I am sorry that I was so curious.

Hildegard: Never mind, Richardis. I know that you will be discreet.

(*Exit Richardis.*)

Hildegard: (*To herself*) Perhaps my good deeds will atone for my sins, and I will not go to hell. I once believed that we are all sinners, and all deserve to be punished, each according to how much evil she has done. Now, I suspect that there may be no such accounting. Now, I think that God may give His grace according to His inscrutable will. Although He is omniscient, our deeds may be as nothing to Him. What we do may be important only to those we help or harm, and to ourselves.

CURTAIN

FOURTH FRIDAY MADNESS – DECEMBER 23

Phoebe McCann

NOT BAD FOR TWO NIGHTS before Christmas... 11 people attended and it seemed that everyone had a theory.

RONNIE DUBS had a theory about global warming (again) but to be fair, it was **RICHARD MANNO** who tried to bait him on the subject. Ronnie was quite gentlemanly in his response. Sadly, the problem was not resolved.

When we spoke of Evolution vs. Intelligent Design, **TERRY WELLS** had a theory that Creationists and religions in general start with a statement, "I believe," then try to build logical arguments on top of that unsupported belief statement. He said, "Everyone has a right to his beliefs. Just do not try to sell them as scientific theories."

My husband, **DAN McCANN**, had a theory about the Big Bang. He said, "If you accept the premise that the Big Bang started it all off, who or what initiated the Big Bang?"

Dan and I both had a theory that spaghetti should be cooked in salted water. This was an "aha!" moment for Richard. He had me repeat my theory to **SYLVIA ZADOROZNY** and her theory was, "That's what the sauce is for!" We all said, "Euuww!" but **KATHY ZADOROZNY** agreed with Sylvia.

BOB TOPPER had a theory that "Rent" is the best movie to have come down the pike in a lo-o-o-ng time and that *The Once and Future King* remains one of the best books. I agree about the book but haven't seen "Rent" yet. Dan and I did see "Narnia", a movie fantasy based on C. S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Special effects out of this world. Not for small children. We also laughed so hard over "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" when we rented it that we watched it a second time a few days later and laughed even harder because we picked up more of the dialogue. I'm reading *Memoirs of a Geisha* now and enjoying this lovely book very much. I'll be interested to see how closely the movie resembles the book. I've heard there is some controversy because Chinese actors were hired to play Japanese people but I have not verified that so don't quote me.

Speaking of quotes, I've had a couple of people say they're afraid to

say anything to me for fear I'll quote them. Here's the deal: I don't quote anything I hear at anyone else's meeting but anything said at mine is grist for the mill. If you don't want to see it in the *Sounding*, don't say it. We're having fun, intelligent conversations here and I think other Mensans might like to hear about them.

TOM HANDCOCK and new member, **ERICA ROGERS** probably had theories but unfortunately, they were so far down the table I couldn't hear what they had to say.

Richard, thanks for suggesting I finish my poem about baptism. My husband says, "Don't encourage her. You're creating a monster." I'll try to get to it if inspiration rears its ugly head.

Richard brought up the subject of the film "The Bridges of Madison County" at our last meeting and we debated whether the heroine, Francesca Johnson (played by Meryl Streep) was right or wrong to go back to her husband and whether or not she should have told him about the 4-day affair she'd had with Robert Kincaid (played by Clint Eastwood). No consensus was reached at that time. This time Richard brought it up again and drew a parallel to Odysseus and Penelope and the fact that Penelope had kept suitors at bay all the while Odysseus was off to the wars. He said that he felt that Francesca Johnson's ultimate betrayal was not that she had the affair but that 24 years later, after her lover has had his ashes sent to her to be scattered off the bridge where they fell in love, when she dies, she directs her ashes to be scattered there as well. Her husband has already died. Richard said, the ultimate betrayal is that she was not buried with her husband. He contended that in the Story of Ruth in the Old Testament, Ruth says not only, "Whither thou goest I will go; and where thou lodgest I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God my God:" but also, "**where thou diest, will I die and there will I be buried**; the Lord do so to me, and more also if ought but death part thee and me." Now I had to check my references, Chapter 1, Vs. 16, 17 to be absolutely sure on this so I said nothing but here's the problem I have with that. It sounds very romantic and maybe it is but Ruth's husband is dead, awready yet. She is speaking to her also widowed mother-in-law! My theory is that "Bridges" and "Odysseus" are tied together legitimately because the common thread is keeping up appearances and keeping

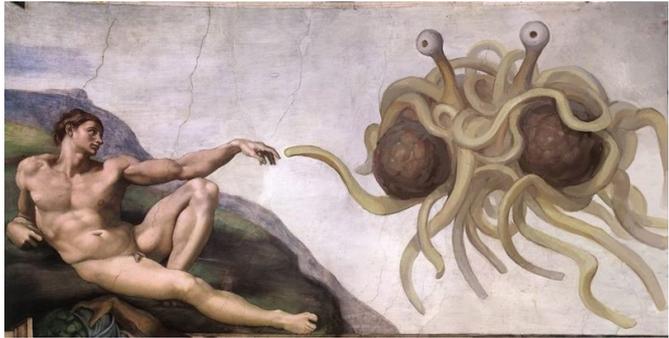
the family together. Ruth is doing the same thing but no longer has any reason to do so (since she has no children) other than her limitless goodness which is eventually rewarded with another husband and with a son (Jesse).

THOMAS THOMAS has a theory that everyone has a theory. Yea verily!

Dan and I had brought goody bags with chocolates, candy canes and little hourglasses that our neighbor had ordered for her church. They were supposed to be imprinted with the message, "Pray for me that when I speak, words may be given to me so I fearlessly make known the Gospel. Eph 6:19." Instead, they were imprinted, "Pray for me that when I speak, words *maybe* given to me so I fearlessly make known the *Gossip*. Eph 6:19"

See y'all next time!

Phoebe McCann



<http://www.venganza.org/>

ANSWER TO JANUARY CRYPTOPOEM

Actual evidence I have none,
 But my aunt's charwoman's sister's son
 Heard a policeman, on his beat,
 Say to a housemaid in Downing Street
 That he had a brother, who had a friend,
 Who knew when the war was going to end.
 --"Rumors" by Reginald Arkell



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TBM BULLETIN BOARD

On Memorial Day weekend (May 26-29), Tampa Bay Mensa will host its 2006 Regional Gathering (RG), entitled "Sense & Mensability." If you register early you can save money, so make plans now to join in the fun!

Although our Regional Gathering theme involves the senses, we're not limiting it to the traditional five--hearing, sight, taste, smell, and touch. For instance, the tai chi presentation might represent "sense of balance", ESP would be the "sixth sense", and then there's "sense of humor", "common sense", "sensitivity training", "a sense of accomplishment", even "non-sense"! (You get the idea.) And "Mensabilities" could encompass all sorts of abilities of Mensans. Let's be creative!

So make next Memorial Day weekend memorable, by having a sensational time at Tampa Bay Mensa's RG "Sense & Mensability." It makes SENSE!

Visit the Tampa Bay Mensa website at <http://www.tampa.us.mensa.org/> for more information.

This year's CultureQuest® will take place Sunday April 30th. Set your calendars and register your teams now. You can register online under Event Registration in the Member Resources area of the Web site at www.us.mensa.org/cq. CQ rules and application are available also. Registration and entry fees must be received by March 31.

For more information on CultureQuest®, contact CQ Chair Dennis Clinefelter at CultureQuest@us.mensa.org.

Anyone interested in helping out with Tampa Bay Mensa's Memorial Day weekend Regional Gathering, "Sense & Mensability", please call Sylvia Zadorozny at 813-855-4939 (leave a message if you get the machine), or e-mail sylviachocolate@juno.com.

Sylvia Zadorozny, RG 2006 Honcho



Watch for your membership renewal notice...

Remember you may renew online now at www.us.mensa.org
(using your American Express, Discover, MasterCard or Visa.)

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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 — FardleBear@aol.com (Please indicate "TBM" in the subject header.)

(2) U.S. Mail — Thomas G. Thomas, 27647 Sky Lake Circle, Wesley Chapel, FL 33543 (Telephone 813-994-3981)

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

SUBSCRIBE! — The subscription cost for local members is partially remitted from annual dues paid to American Mensa Ltd. *Tampa Bay Sounding* is available to other Mensans and to non-Mensans at an annual subscription cost of \$12.00. To subscribe, send a check, payable to Tampa Bay Mensa, to the Treasurer: Kathy Crum, 7164 Quail Hollow Blvd., Wesley Chapel, FL 33544-2525.

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