

Vol. 42, No. 4  
May 2017



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A Publication of Tampa Bay Mensa

# Tampa Bay Sounding

## Games Weekend: May 19-21



Lake Louisa State Park

Plus, a special TLC with Dinner, on May 26

(See the calendar inside, for all events)

**A Publication of  
Tampa Bay Mensa**

*Tampa Bay Sounding* (USPS 305-830)  
Tampa Bay Mensa  
5001 Terrace Palms Cir Unit 101  
Temple Terrace, FL 33617

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. Tampa Bay Mensa serves Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Hernando, and Sumter counties.

Visit American Mensa at:  
<http://www.us.mensa.org>



For full instructions on how to join *tbm-gm* and *tbm-discussion*, our two Yahoo! groups, visit TBM at

<http://tampa.us.mensa.org>

## Submission Guidelines

*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- Personal attacks and bigoted, sexist, hateful, or otherwise offensive material will not be published.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:

E-mail: [editor@tampa.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@tampa.us.mensa.org)

(Please indicate "TBM" in the subject header.)

U.S. Mail: Ronan Heffernan, 27504 Breakers Dr, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544

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

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**ADVERTISING POLICY:** *Sounding* offers free classified ads to Tampa Bay Mensa members for services, items for sale, jobs wanted/available, personals, etc. Ads should be no longer than 50 words. Classified ads need to be renewed on a monthly basis if you wish them to appear in consecutive issues. Tampa Bay Mensa and *Sounding* are not responsible for the content of ads. All commercial ads are subject to the following rates: Full page - \$60; Half page - \$30; Quarter page - \$15. Members of Mensa pay half these rates.

# Welcome to Tampa Bay Mensa!

Angela Adams	* Rachel Grafman	* Amy Radwan
* Josslyn Barcel	Craig Hutchinson	Mary Reid
Sheryl Brock	* Kanu Lala	Aaron Scheiner
Caitlyn Browning	Levi Laxton	Robert Shackton
John Carnahan	Logan Laxton	R Stamm
Shawn Dean	Casimer Marks	Esther Snook
Gary Drake	Lance Meyerson	* Hope Wainraich
Benito Enriquez	Drew Meyerson	Luis Waite
Brett Geer	Matthew O'Neil	* New members.
Kurt Goebel	* Terri Pulley Radwan	

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## May Birthdays

05/03 Eloise Hurst  
05/04 Edwin Tucker, Pat Winne  
05/05 David Dockery, Jim Forsyth, Patrick O'Neil  
05/06 Linda Christina  
05/07 Benjamin Bryant  
05/08 Luis Waite  
05/09 Pratyush Kumar  
05/10 Sprague Owings, Lewis Prichard  
05/11 Charles Cosner, Debra Hartland  
05/14 Kay Shapiro  
05/15 James Hernon, Su'ad Macedonio  
05/17 Thomas Quinlan, Paul Sutcliffe  
05/18 Michael Deloach  
05/19 Edward Zellem  
05/20 Sandra Kischuk  
05/23 Rebecca Sinnreich, John Turnbull  
05/26 Rachel Grafman  
05/27 John Copeland  
05/28 Sheldon Livingston, Christopher Orozco  
05/29 Garrett Cardwell  
05/30 James Kelley, Barry Siegfried  
05/31 Troy Caperton

# Calendar of Events

## May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> » Reading Group	<b>4</b> » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> » Oldsmar Games Night
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> » Reading Group	<b>18</b> » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	<b>19</b> » Games Weekend at Lake Louisa State Park	<b>20</b> » Games Weekend at Lake Louisa State Park » Salon/Potluck
<b>21</b> » Games Weekend at Lake Louisa State Park	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> » Largo Munch Bunch@Suncoast Cafe	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	<b>26</b> » TLC plus Dinner	<b>27</b> » Tampa Games Night
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

For updated event information, check our online calendar: <http://tampa.us.mensa.org/cal>

# May 2017 Calendar

Except for rare cases that hosts will make clear, all events listed in our Calendar of Events, whether hosted in private homes or public venues, are open to all Mensans, their spouses, and accompanied guests.

While kitty amounts are mandatory, hosts often spend far more than the specified amount. Donations in excess of the kitty amount will be appreciated. If you have special needs or restrictions, it is prudent to discuss them with the host in advance.

To add an event to the calendar, send an email with event details to [AMLTBMcalendar@aol.com](mailto:AMLTBMcalendar@aol.com) including the date, time, place, and host contact information. The deadline for an event to appear in the print newsletter is the 5th of the previous month, but the online calendar can be updated after the print deadline.

## May 3 7pm Reading Group

Location: IHOP, 4910 West Spruce Street, Tampa

Read whatever you like and bring books you'd like to recommend, discuss, exchange, or give away.

Ronan Heffernan 727-537-6626 [ronansan@gmail.com](mailto:ronansan@gmail.com)

## May 4 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes

Location: Sweet Tomatoes on Dale Mabry just South of Bears

For directions, descriptions, and/or encouragement to attend, contact: Dave Bryant at [senseidave@msn.com](mailto:senseidave@msn.com)

## May 11 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes

## May 13 7pm Oldsmar Games Night

Location: 651 Timber Bay Circle West, Oldsmar

We play fun board and table games. Snacks and sodas provided (\$3 kitty helps defray refreshment expenses). No pets. No smoking indoors, please.

Sylvia Zadorozny [sylviachocolate@gmail.com](mailto:sylviachocolate@gmail.com) 813-855-4939 (leave message)

## May 17 7pm Reading Group

## May 18 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes

## May 19 - 21 Games Weekend at Lake Louisa State Park

Location: Lake Louisa State Park

Games Weekend Campground: LAKE LOUISA STATE PARK - Site: C06, C07 - Site

Type: Cabin - Arrival Date: Fri May 19 2017 - Departure Date: Sun May 21 2017

Once again we are going to go to Lake Louisa State Park for a weekend of fun and games. If you love games, this is the event for you. This is an event that has really been enjoyed by those who have participated in the past. We have reserved 2 cabins, each with 2 bedrooms and a couch in the living room. The cabins have a full kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, AC and a wraparound screened-in porch. There are also hiking trails and canoe and kayak rentals available. Let me know if you are in (how many) and what you need in terms of space. There are RV spots available to rent as well. Yes, you need to bring your own food, but the group tends to share (especially snacks). I will bring hot dogs and hamburgers, so, weather permitting,

we can grill on Saturday. There is a full kitchen, microwave, oven, fridge, freezer, and a dishwasher. Here is the link for the park: <https://www.floridastateparks.org/park/Lake-Louisa> I will update this with price information soon (please see the online calendar). Please call me in the evening, if you need more info 813-818-8109. Art Schwartz

### **May 20 2pm Salon/Potluck**

Location: 39248 US HWY N (Sun Valley, north of Klosterman near the Hampton Inn), Lot 161, Tarpon Springs, FL

We meet monthly on the third Saturday from 2-5 pm. The purpose of the Salon/Potluck is social and intellectual. Rod Merten 989-293-8854  
[rodneymerten@hotmail.com](mailto:rodneymerten@hotmail.com)

### **May 23 1pm Largo Munch Bunch @ Suncoast Cafe**

Location: Suncoast Cafe: 1921 West Bay Drive [east of 20th St on the south side; southbound traffic on Seminole Blvd must continue to the traffic light and meander through the mall's parking]

The Suncoast Cafe is in a bright yellow building with a good wheelchair ramp on the east side of the building, and room for the big DART vans with lifts on the back. There will be an optional third meeting in months with five Tuesdays. [Sponsored by TREKisM, the Star Trek SIG ~ No pointed ears or uniforms = Promise! No guarantees regarding crazy hat ladies, though.] Vel Jaeger at [veeger1@verizon.net](mailto:veeger1@verizon.net)

### **May 25 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes**

### **May 26 6:30pm TLC plus Dinner**

Location: 18244 Collridge Dr, Tampa, FL 33647, USA

Special Holiday Occurrence of Tape, Label and Chat. This event will be Friday night this weekend and we will be grilling burgers and hot dogs. Side dishes, dessert and beverages will also be provided. So come by to help prepare the newsletter for mailing and stay for dinner. Please RSVP by Noon on the day of the event so we can ensure we are well-supplied. Any veggie burger requests will be accommodated. 18244 Collridge Drive, Tampa FL 33647. Home Phone 813-907-2418. Lisa's Cell for Text 240-205-1684.

Lisa & Bryce Blair 813-907-2418 [distribution@tampa.us.mensa.org](mailto:distribution@tampa.us.mensa.org)

### **May 27 7pm Tampa Games Night**

Location: 11111 N 20th St, Tampa, FL 33612, USA

We play fun board & table games. Snacks, sodas & TBD dinner provided (\$3 kitty helps defray refreshment expenses). I have cats who stay in their bedroom, but one large game room is on a separate AC. I also have some reptiles and my quaker parrot Jasmine will likely make an appearance. No smoking indoors, please. Car-pooling encouraged! Call 813-476-5405 or email [melissalstephens@gmail.com](mailto:melissalstephens@gmail.com)

## Mensaversaries

- 47 years Allen Garber
- 40 years John Evan
- 38 years Marilyn Wolf
- 37 years John Woerner
- 36 years Christopher Clement, Michelle Stencel
- 33 years Bruce Bohnker
- 31 years Sylvia Zadorozny
- 30 years Joanna Gili
- 28 years Gerri Almand, Janet Darmanin
- 26 years Roland St Marie
- 23 years Rick Craig
- 22 years Anne Murray
- 18 years Audrey Silver
- 17 years John Cattel, John Scheldt
- 16 years Geoff LeCain
- 15 years Charles Godfrey
- 14 years Larry Paradis
- 13 years Keith Lussen, Spencer Young
- 12 years Don Davis, Laurel Moore
- 11 years Mary Lou Clark, Edwin Smith
- 7 years Tristan Goodrich
- 5 years Caitlyn Doel, Logan Laxton, Joseph Nolan
- 4 years Drew Meyerson, Edwin Tucker
- 3 years Jim Hawkins, Paul Smith
- 2 years Caitlyn Browning, Caitlin Camm, Shawn Dean
- 1 year Robert Charles, David Hicks, David Kingston, Pratyush Kumar

Note: Years are for continuous membership. Members who let their membership lapse start from the date of reinstatement.

## RVC Column for Region 10

The American Mensa Committee (AMC) met on April 1 at the Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood, FL, taking the opportunity to preview the facilities in advance of the Annual Gathering in July. I would like to thank Region 10 members Dan Tobias and Brian Reeves who attended the meeting. One of the reasons for having the meeting at various sites throughout the country is so members from each Region can have a chance to see the AMC in action for themselves. Regrettably, so few take that chance – even when it is paired with an event like an RG, as it was in New Orleans – that it seems like it's time to reconsider this expense, despite the tradition it represents.

All motions at the meeting passed, most notably an increase in annual dues to \$79 and the fees for Admission Testing to \$60, both effective July 1, 2017. Prospects can still test at the current rate and members can extend their existing membership at the current discounted multi-year rates until then (though extending membership can only be done by calling the office directly, at this time). There were also a couple of licensing deals announced, including a high-profile deal with Hasbro on pairing the Mensa name with their educational board games. The mini-minutes are available at [www.us.mensa.org/read/board-meeting-reports](http://www.us.mensa.org/read/board-meeting-reports) under the dropdown 2017-04-01 – Hollywood, FL, and we have a conference call scheduled for May 2 to approve the full minutes, at which point those will be posted at the same link. If you're interested, there is also an audio recording of the meeting available there.

Membership Officer Stephanie Thornton presented the results of the latest Member Satisfaction survey, which was sent to all members with email. Here are some key metrics, with Region 10 metrics following in parentheses where they vary:

- \* Net Promoter Score (NPS), which is the likelihood that a member will recommend Mensa to a friend they think would qualify: 23 (Region 10: 24). A score > 0 is considered healthy. That ratio is highest among members 46 and older or married members without children, but the score drops significantly for single members under 46 years without children, as that group had an NPS of -6.
- \* 93% of our membership feels that the most important mission of Mensa is to provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for our members, with 58% thinking we do this very or extremely well, compared to 54% two years ago.
- \* The majority of Mensans say their family and friends know they are members, but don't tell co-workers – though they will include it on a resume.
- \* 80% report that they are proud to be members of Mensa, with 5% disagreeing.
- \* 54% (Region 10: 48%) report that they volunteer for Mensa. However, the NPS for volunteers is lower than the average (though still healthy at 18).
- \* Member satisfaction in their local group officers is highest among those who interact with them. Understandably, members are far more likely to interact with their local group officers, while only a few have any interaction with the AMC or National Office staff.

*Continued on page 12*



# Call for Candidates

## ***Tampa Bay Mensa 2017 Elections***

The annual elections to fill open positions on the Tampa Bay Mensa Executive Committee will be held in July this year, to make sure that candidates have time to submit their petitions, despite this Call for Candidates being late. The terms of five members of the Executive Committee will expire in 2017. Four of these openings are for a two-year term and one opening is for a one-year term. Adult members are invited to pursue one of these leadership positions in our organization.

Executive Committee meetings are held six times each year. Officers enjoy the satisfaction that comes from being “in” on what is going on in the chapter, leaving their mark on these activities, and, of course, the great camaraderie that comes from associating with fellow members.

Interested members may contact the Election Supervisor to clarify any details of the election process. Candidates are responsible for fulfilling all requirements as prescribed in the bylaws of Tampa Bay Mensa contained in the Member Handbook and this Call for Candidates.

Our Election Supervisor is:

Dave Bryant

16057 Tampa Palms Blvd. #150

Tampa FL 33647

[election@tampa.us.mensa.org](mailto:election@tampa.us.mensa.org)

Adult members in good standing of Tampa Bay Mensa seeking seats on the Executive Committee in the upcoming election must provide to the Elections Supervisor no later than Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>:

- 1) a nominating petition, and
- 2) a campaign statement

Nominating petitions must contain the printed name, address, telephone number and signature of the candidate, plus the printed names and signatures of five (5) members in good standing as defined by the bylaws of Tampa Bay Mensa. Campaign statements must be limited to 250 words. Note that since campaign statements will be printed in *Tampa Bay Sounding* they must comply with current editorial policy. Petitions and campaign statements must be mailed to Dave Bryant at the address listed above.

**Petition to Nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for  
Tampa Bay Mensa Executive Committee**

**Petition summary and background**

We, the undersigned active members of Tampa Bay Mensa, support placing the candidate named below on the ballot for the 2017 Tampa Bay Mensa Executive Committee election.

Candidate information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>

Petition must be submitted by May 31, 2017 to Election Supervisor Dave Bryant, 16057 Tampa Palms Blvd. #150 Tampa FL 33647 If you have any questions, feel free to email [election@tampa.us.mensa.org](mailto:election@tampa.us.mensa.org)

# Campaign Statement – AMC

*Lori Norris*

## First Vice Chair

What does Mensa mean to me? It has frequently been said that we are a family. I consider my Mensan friends to be a family of my choice. I have spent holidays, vacations, and weekends with this family. I play with my Mensa family, and frequently I manage to win board games. And it has been my joy to serve you on the local, regional, and national levels.

I am a member of RI Mensa. I met my husband, Ron, at an RG. I served in many local group offices, as Region 1 RVC (Regional Vice Chair) from 2007-2011, and I have been a proctor for 20-some years. I have been a local and regional scholarship judge. Our social life seems to revolve around Mensa – so many wonderful friends and I look forward to meeting more of you.

Currently, I serve as the nationally elected Secretary and I prepare detailed minutes to keep the members informed. I have worked with the AMC (American Mensa Committee, our board of directors) to involve members in our decision-making process. As Chair of the Bylaws Committee, I work with local groups to interpret and/or revise their local group bylaws. I have been available as a resource to any member.

I am seeking your vote for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. This is a unique position as the primary duty is to fill in for the Chair if necessary. The thrill of this position for me is that the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair sets their own goals. Mine for the position are simple – communication with the members. I hope to help establish a higher level of communication so we can continue to find different ways to share ideas among our Local Groups, members, and other national Mensas.

LoriNorrisfor1stViceChair.wordpress.com  
[SecretaryLoriNorris@gmail.com](mailto:SecretaryLoriNorris@gmail.com)

Note: The campaign statement by Dave Cahn, the other candidate for this position, was included in the April edition of the Sounding (because it was sent to the editor much earlier).

# Campaign Statement – AMC

*Desiree Elliott*

## Second Vice Chair

Hello! I am Desiree Elliott and I am running for the position of Second Vice Chair (2VC) in the national AML elections. This is May and some of you may have already voted. However, if you are still thinking about your votes, I wanted to reach out and encourage you to consider voting for me. My website has information about my feelings on what is absolutely important moving forward: Transparency, Accountability, and Progress!

I have spent the last four years being open and communicative with my groups and also with the broader Mensa audience through Facebook groups, official and unofficial.

I believe that the AMC needs to be more transparent with our actual goals and to be held accountable for the progress we make towards them.

I support the AMC's efforts towards progress through technological advancements and through better use of our members to enhance our organization.

Our best asset are our members and the largest populations of our membership are still the Boomers followed by the GenX cohorts. Our GenY/Millennials are a growing segment that we must reach out to and invite to our leadership ranks, but as a GenX member, I believe that no member should be ignored on the basis of age and all outreach needs to continue to be towards all of our members.

I remind everyone that there are so many different needs within Mensa that there is likely a job or role waiting to be done by anyone who wishes to get involved.

I invite you to get to know me better by visiting my website at <http://www.desireelliottsagray.name>.

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## RVC Column for Region 10 (cont)

There's much more, but no more room. I'm open to any questions you may have, and will also post to the Mensa Region 10 Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MensaRegion10/> ) so we can discuss it (and other topics) there.

Until next month (or until I see you online),

Thomas George Thomas

Email: [RVC10@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC10@us.mensa.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/thomas.g.thomas](http://www.facebook.com/thomas.g.thomas)

Twitter: @FardleBear

# A Matter of Trust?

*Ronnie Dubs*

For most of my life, the FBI was the gold standard of trust. If the FBI Director said it, you could darn well believe it, and we'd have a concrete starting point for political discussions. Does anyone still trust James Comey and the FBI, after 8 years of Obama? Anyone think Comey took the investigation of Hillary Clinton's unsecured server issues seriously, when simultaneous donations to her 'Foundation' were ignored, her connections to the Russians, Chinese, and other foreign governments were ignored -- and the FBI Deputy Director, chosen to oversee the investigation, received close to 700,000 dollars from a Clinton-connected Super PAC for his wife's Senate run as a democrat?

Is there a journalist you completely trust, when it seems most every one of them is connected to the Democratic Party either by known affiliation or the politically incestuous marriage between elected democrats and journalists? Is there anyone who does not see the overwhelming bias and literal hatred the news media has for Donald Trump? Journalists are people with their own beliefs and prejudices, but it's the essential element of that profession to set that aside for fair objective analysis of the day's events, covering both sides of the political spectrum with equal vigor.

Are there any politicians you trust, when most became multimillionaires in 'public service'? Even socialist Bernie Sanders is a millionaire. Congress has their own private retirement plan -- not Social Security, but their own pension and healthcare for life, from the moment they're elected to Congress. Congressional lawmakers have inside information on the billions to be spent by the federal government, making their financial investments more of a sure thing than an honest endeavor. Add to that the bribes and payoffs from Super PACs, and lobbyists looking for special favors and tax breaks. It's no wonder many of them hate Trump standing in the way of their gravy train.

Does anyone still trust the judiciary to fairly uphold the Constitution as written, not trying to replace existing law with their own extra-Constitutional edicts, and decrees usurping power from the other branches of government?

Anyone still trust the IRS to fairly enforce the US Tax code?

How about the Justice Department? Surely they're above reproach, sending thousands of high-capacity firearms down into Mexico in a still undisclosed scheme, the Attorney General in charge Eric Holder held in contempt of Congress. The AG after him, Loretta Lynch, is seemingly obsessed with matters relating to her own skin color and her 37 minute 'chance' encounter with Bill Clinton, as the DOJ debated Hillary's pending case. Someone very powerful within the DOJ must have authorized that NSA Surveillance of Trump and his associates, I wonder who? Do you trust the DOJ?

What of the Deep State spooks and spies of the NSA who've been given direct access to every single American's most personal data and communications? Surely they can be trusted to do what's right for America, regardless of their own funding and political concerns. Surely they'd never leak intelligence and allow themselves to become the political pawns of a dangerous authoritarian White House. Would they?

It's actually rather sad, such a great country, founded on noble ideals, where almost no person or institution can now be trusted. Except for the person I do trust, under constant attack from all the corrupt people and institutions I don't trust: Donald J. Trump. ■

# Cryptopoem

*Sylvia Holt Zadorozny*

I VYFSUIMY QILTSU RQ LSTV WREN

QFRIMW SE MAY IST,

MAY WHYFF RQ KYM KSFV YITMA

SW YOYTDKAYTY.

TYV WHIFF FYIOYW RQ MAY HIBFY

ITY UFYEUAYV FSPY I AIEV,

FSPY NSTFW IM MAYST QSTWM URHHCESRE

MAY BYIT MTYYW WMIEV.

RA S HCWM BIWW ERMASEN LD

KSMARCM FROSEN SM HCUA,



## Cryptopoem (cont)

MAY TISEVTRB MTD KSMA HD FSBW,

MAY NTIWW KSMA HD MRCUA;

QRT ARK UIE S LY WCTY

S WAIFF WYY INISE

MAY KRTFV RE MAY QSTWM RQ HID

WASESEN IQMYT MAY TISE?

~ "HID VID" LD WITI MYIWWIFY



# On This Month in History: May

*Emma Edmund*

On May 10, 1940, Winston Churchill replaced Neville Chamberlain as British prime minister. Churchill led Great Britain through World War II, and was one of the “Big Three” (which also included Franklin Delano Roosevelt of the United States and Joseph Stalin of the Soviet Union) who negotiated plans for a postwar future led by the Allies. His relationship with the United States helped secure shipments of food and weapons before the country’s involvement in the war. After the war, Churchill said that an “Iron Curtain” had fallen across the world, creating one of the most well-known descriptions of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Birthdays in this month include Audrey Hepburn on May 4, 1929, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle on May 22, 1859. Hepburn was an actress whose most notable films include *Breakfast at Tiffany’s* and *My Fair Lady*. Doyle was a Scottish novelist best known for creating the detective Sherlock Holmes.

Source: On This Day: The History of the World in 366 Days

Answer to the April Cryptopoeem:

*A fire-mist and a planet,  
A crystal and a cell,  
A jelly-fish and a saurian,  
And caves where the cave-men dwell;  
Then a sense of law and beauty  
And a face turned from the clod—  
Some call it Evolution,  
And others call it God.  
- William Herbert Carruth,  
“Each in His Own Tongue”*



## Serial Fillers

*To round-out the page count for publication, here is some not-quite-random public domain content. If you would like to submit articles, stories, etc. for publication, please see the Submission Guidelines on page 2.*

Kim

### Rudyard Kipling

He sat, in defiance of municipal orders, astride the gun Zam Zammah on her brick platform opposite the old Ajaib-Gher—the Wonder House, as the natives call the Lahore Museum. Who hold Zam-Zammah, that 'fire-breathing dragon', hold the Punjab, for the great green-bronze piece is always first of the conqueror's loot.

There was some justification for Kim—he had kicked Lala Dinanath's boy off the trunnions—since the English held the Punjab and Kim was English. Though he was burned black as any native; though he spoke the vernacular by preference, and his mother-tongue in a clipped uncertain sing-song; though he consorted on terms of perfect equality with the small boys of the bazar; Kim was white—a poor white of the very poorest. The half-caste woman who looked after him (she smoked opium, and pretended to keep a second-hand furniture shop by the square where the cheap cabs wait) told the missionaries that she was Kim's mother's sister; but his mother had been nursemaid in a Colonel's family and had married Kimball O'Hara, a young colour-sergeant of the Mavericks, an Irish regiment. He afterwards took a post on the Sind, Punjab, and Delhi Railway, and his Regiment went home without him. The wife died of cholera in Ferozepore, and O'Hara fell to drink and loafing up and down the line with the keen-eyed three-year-old baby. Societies and chaplains, anxious for the child, tried to catch him, but O'Hara drifted away, till he came across the woman who took opium and learned the taste from her, and died as poor whites die in India. His estate at death consisted of three papers—

one he called his 'ne varietur' because those words were written below his signature thereon, and another his 'clearance-certificate'. The third was Kim's birth-certificate. Those things, he was used to say, in his glorious opium-hours, would yet make little Kimball a man. On no account was Kim to part with them, for they belonged to a great piece of magic—such magic as men practised over yonder behind the Museum, in the big blue-and-white Jadoo-Gher—the Magic House, as we name the Masonic Lodge. It would, he said, all come right some day, and Kim's horn would be exalted between pillars—monstrous pillars—of beauty and strength. The Colonel himself, riding on a horse, at the head of the finest Regiment in the world, would attend to Kim—little Kim that should have been better off than his father. Nine hundred first-class devils, whose God was a Red Bull on a green field, would attend to Kim, if they had not forgotten O'Hara—poor O'Hara that was gang-foreman on the Ferozepore line. Then he would weep bitterly in the broken rush chair on the veranda. So it came about after his death that the woman sewed parchment, paper, and birth-certificate into a leather amulet-case which she strung round Kim's neck.

'And some day,' she said, confusedly remembering O'Hara's prophecies, 'there will come for you a great Red Bull on a green field, and the Colonel riding on his tall horse, yes, and' dropping into English—'nine hundred devils.'

'Ah,' said Kim, 'I shall remember. A Red Bull and a Colonel on a horse will come, but first, my father said, will come the two men making ready the ground for these matters. That is how my father said they always did; and it



## Serial Fillers (cont)

is always so when men work magic.'

If the woman had sent Kim up to the local Jadoo-Gher with those papers, he would, of course, have been taken over by the Provincial Lodge, and sent to the Masonic Orphanage in the Hills; but what she had heard of magic she distrusted. Kim, too, held views of his own. As he reached the years of indiscretion, he learned to avoid missionaries and white men of serious aspect who asked who he was, and what he did. For Kim did nothing with an immense success. True, he knew the wonderful walled city of Lahore from the Delhi Gate to the outer Fort Ditch; was hand in glove with men who led lives stranger than anything Haroun al Raschid dreamed of; and he lived in a life wild as that of the Arabian Nights, but missionaries and secretaries of charitable societies could not see the beauty of it. His nickname through the wards was 'Little Friend of all the World'; and very often, being lithe and inconspicuous, he executed commissions by night on the crowded housetops for sleek and shiny young men of fashion. It was intrigue,—of course he knew that much, as he had known all evil since he could speak,—but what he loved was the game for its own sake—the stealthy prowl through the dark gullies and lanes, the crawl up a waterpipe, the sights and sounds of the women's world on the flat roofs, and the headlong flight from housetop to housetop under cover of the hot dark. Then there were holy men, ash-smearing fakirs by their brick shrines under the trees at the riverside, with whom he was quite familiar—greeting them as they returned from begging-tours, and, when no one was by, eating from the same dish. The woman who looked after him insisted with tears that he should wear European clothes—trousers, a shirt and a battered hat. Kim found it easier

to slip into Hindu or Mohammedan garb when engaged on certain businesses. One of the young men of fashion—he who was found dead at the bottom of a well on the night of the earthquake—had once given him a complete suit of Hindu kit, the costume of a lowcaste street boy, and Kim stored it in a secret place under some baulks in Nila Ram's timber-yard, beyond the Punjab High Court, where the fragrant deodar logs lie seasoning after they have driven down the Ravi. When there was business or frolic afoot, Kim would use his properties, returning at dawn to the veranda, all tired out from shouting at the heels of a marriage procession, or yelling at a Hindu festival. Sometimes there was food in the house, more often there was not, and then Kim went out again to eat with his native friends.

As he drummed his heels against Zam-Zammah he turned now and again from his king-of-the-castle game with little Chota Lal and Abdullah the sweetmeat-seller's son, to make a rude remark to the native policeman on guard over rows of shoes at the Museum door. The big Punjabi grinned tolerantly: he knew Kim of old. So did the water-carrier, sluicing water on the dry road from his goat-skin bag. So did Jawahir Singh, the Museum carpenter, bent over new packing-cases. So did everybody in sight except the peasants from the country, hurrying up to the Wonder House to view the things that men made in their own province and elsewhere. The Museum was given up to Indian arts and manufactures, and anybody who sought wisdom could ask the Curator to explain.

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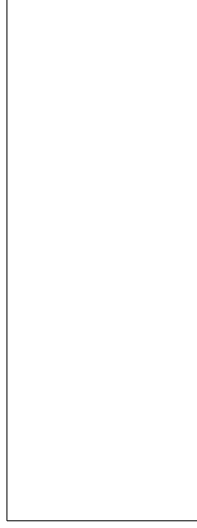
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Tampa Bay Sounding (USPS 305-830) is published monthly by Tampa Bay Mensa at 5001 Terrace Palms Cir Unit 101 Temple Terrace, FL 33617. Periodicals postage paid at Tampa, FL



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Send Address Changes to:  
*Tampa Bay Sounding*  
c/o American Mensa Ltd.  
1229 Corporate Drive West  
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Periodicals Postage Paid  
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