



October

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Happy Halloween!

**A Publication of
Tampa Bay Mensa**

Tampa Bay Sounding (USPS 305-830)
Tampa Bay Mensa
11111 N. 20th Street
Tampa, FL 33612

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>

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- Personal attacks and bigoted, sexist, hateful, or otherwise offensive material will not be published.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

(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.

Welcome to Tampa Bay Mensa!

Karen Blackie

Christopher Cain

Jason Coletta

Joanne Gaddy

Mike Hess

Krista Huss

Kathryn Margittai

Stan Nolan

Scott Saidel

Hank Vitan

* New members.

October Birthdays

10/01 Fredrik Tucker

10/03 Anne Murray, Karen Stowe

10/04 Patricia Bowker, Tammy Hicks, Craig Hutchinson

10/05 Thomas Richards, Jacquelyn Wirsing

10/06 Anna Gust, Brian Rabelo

10/07 Lawrence Marlin

10/08 Daniel Holloway, Scott McInnes, Ross Richardson

10/10 Martin Hughes, Keven McGinn, James Pickren, Susan Slutsky

10/11 Paul Frappollo, Arthur Schwartz

10/12 Linda Raymond

10/13 Mike Hess

10/14 Peter Profiro, Frank Valenti

10/15 James Kennedy

10/16 Douglas Woolley

10/17 John Martz, Rodney Phillips

10/18 Michael Cusumano

10/19 Lori Brown, Douglas Linkhart, John Scheldt, John Scholz

10/20 Elizabeth Iadarola

10/22 Ryan Duran, Ronald Olesen, R Rawls

10/23 Frederick Carlson, Kathryn Korstanje

10/24 Dave Bryant, Debborah Dabaj

10/25 Eriq Breland, Catherine Chopping

10/26 Ron Austin, Michael Garrett, Damian Kondrotas, Lawrence Tipton

10/27 Don Chase

10/30 John Emerson

10/31 Robin Burngasser, Christopher Chapman, Cathleen Dunn, Joanne Gaddy, Lee Hargrave, George Wetzel

RVC Column for Region 10

The AMC (American Mensa Committee) scheduled a teleconference for August 23 with four action items: to approve the minutes of the July AMC meeting so they can be published; to appoint **Brian Reeves** (from Palm Beach Area Mensa) as the chair of the 2019 Annual Gathering; to establish a Higher Logic Task Force (HLTF) as an advisory group for the implementation, messaging, and phase-in of the new technology platform; and to appoint Second Vice Chair Billie Lee as the Chair of the HLTF. Minutes will be posted to the americanmensa.org website sometime after the meeting. The next in-person meeting of the AMC will be September 16 in Arlington, TX.

Several awards were presented to Region 10 individuals and groups at the Annual Gathering. A National Certificate of Appreciation went to **Debbie Freeland** of Central Florida Mensa for her service on the Communication and Membership Committees as well as the Testing and Local Group Logistics Teams, and **Ruth Danielle** of Manasota Mensa was given the National Service Award for her service as editor of *Isolated M*. Nine of the Region 10 groups were named Jewel Award winners for Local Group participation in activities and accomplishments:

- Ruby: Broward Mensa, Mensa of Jacksonville, North Florida Mensa, Palm Beach Area Mensa, and Tallahassee Area Mensa
- Sapphire: Manasota Mensa, Northwest Florida Mensa, and Tampa Bay Mensa
- Emerald: Central Florida Mensa

For Culture Quest, in addition to last month's announcement that Central Florida Mensa's "Tragic Kingdom" team had taken first place again, Tampa Bay Mensa's "Flour For Algernon" also placed in the money in 18th position. The local groups for both teams were awarded cash prizes.

I will be looking to fill several Regional positions within the next few weeks. One existing position that is overdue to be filled is the Regional Scholarship Chair. But I'll also be establishing some newer positions. In a couple of cases I will be allocating some of my favorite tasks to others, since I would undoubtedly focus all of my attention on those if I kept them for myself. I've already had someone volunteer for Regional Social Media Coordinator, who will be responsible for working with each group to make sure they are developing and enhancing their social media presence (and helping a couple of groups who don't have a presence to create one). I'll also be looking for a Membership liaison to help groups with strategies for both increasing their memberships and the number of active members.

There are also some unofficial Regional positions that I'm considering. National Membership Officer **Henri Buccine-Schraeder** brought up that Regions 2 and 6 have Regional Gen Y Coordinators, and encouraged other Regions to do the same. While I think it's an excellent idea, I think it may not be appropriate for me to make the appointment, since that group would know better than I who could best represent them as a liaison for the Region.

Until next month (or until I see you online),
Thomas George Thomas
Email: RVC10@us.mensa.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/thomas.g.thomas
Twitter: @FardleBear

Incarnate

Tammy R Hicks

Sunday afternoon, November 4th, is Tampa Bay Mensa's Fall Picnic. Mark the date down on your calendar! Go ahead, do it now; I'll wait right here while you do.

Got it? Good. You won't want to miss it. I am honcho for this event, my first time with TBM in that role, and it's sure to be a huge success--or a colossal failure, but either way, it will definitely be entertaining. (If you come and are bored, be sure to let me know, and I'll remedy that!)

For the first time in a while, we'll be back on the east side of the bay, gathering at the City of Tampa's MacFarlane Park, Shelter #405, right next to the Freedom Playground. (MacFarlane Park is on McDill Avenue, just north of I-275.) Hillsborough people, this is your chance to get involved by participating in a picnic on our side of the bridge! And if you live in Pinellas or further afield, I humbly think that this one will be worth the drive. In addition to the offerings of the park, we'll have some lawn toys and games, as well as some wind-resistant table games, and, of course, nametags to make sure you don't have to wonder who in the world that person with the oh-so-familiar face is.

Above all else, though, it's a picnic, so there will be food--and plenty of it! Tampa Bay Mensa will provide burgers and hot dogs (including some vegetarian options), and we're asking everyone to bring a side dish or dessert to share. If you have a "famous" picnic specialty, this is your chance to shine. If not, a bag of chips or package of cookies from Publix is just as welcome! BYOB (bring your own beverage; park rules prohibit alcohol), and we'll provide cutlery, plates, and other accoutrements.

The fun begins at 1:00 and ends at 4:00; try to be there by 1:30, but I guarantee at least one person will be wandering in after 3:00--although the food might be a bit slim pickins by then; we are Mensa after all, and we like to eat. Bring your spouse and/or family, bring a friend (especially if you have someone who needs to see how "normal" we can be), or come alone like I always do; you won't be alone for long.

See you NOVEMBER 4th!



Calendar of Events

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 » Reading Group	5 » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	13	14 » Oldsmar Games Night
15	16	17	18 » Reading Group	19 » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	20	21 » ExComm Meeting » One week early » Tampa Games Night
22	23	24	25	26 » Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes	27	28
29	30	31				

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

October 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 the event details to calendar@tampa.us.mensa.org 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.

October 4 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

October 5 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes

Location: Sweet Tomatoes on Dale Mabry just South of Bearss

Sweet Tomatoes is an all-you-can-eat salad & soup buffet. Show up at your convenience and join us in the private room off the dining area. Tell the cashier you are there for the Mensa lunch to receive a 15% discount. Non-member spouses or friends are included, too. There is no program for this very informal event, and the conversation is free flowing. Topics range, based on the interests of members, and the backgrounds of participants varies widely, making for interesting discussions. Members are respectful and genuinely interested in listening to each other. New members are always welcomed, even if you can't be a regular. Hosted by Dave Bryant; please email him at SenseiDave@msn.com if you have any questions.

October 12 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes

October 14 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 813-855-4939 (leave message)

October 18 7pm Reading Group

October 19 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch @ Sweet Tomatoes

October 21 4:05pm ExComm Meeting

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

Tampa Bay Mensa's Executive Committee ("ExComm") meetings are open to all Tampa Bay Mensans. This month's meeting is at Melissa Stephens's house in North Tampa near USF. Call 813-476-5405 or email melissalstephens@gmail.com

October 21 7pm One week early - Tampa Games Night

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

ONE WEEK EARLY THIS MONTH! Come play fun board & table games - feel free to bring your favorites! Snacks, sodas, coffee, tea & dinner provided (\$3 kitty helps defray refreshment expenses). My large game room is on a separate AC and additional tables in the dining and living room areas. I have cats who stay in their bedroom, and two Great Pyrenees who will need a walk or backyard play session, but otherwise, will stay in their room until 10ish. (If you're interested in walking with us, they will love to meet you!) I also have some reptiles and my quaker parrots Jasmine and Lucky may make an appearance. No smoking indoors, please. Carpooling encouraged. Street and driveway parking available.

Call 813-476-5405 or email melissalstephens@gmail.com

October 26 12:30pm Tampa Lunch Bunch@ Sweet Tomatoes

About Birthdays

If you notice that your name is not in the appropriate monthly Birthday list, and would prefer to have it listed, you can update your settings at the US Mensa website.

Go to <https://www.us.mensa.org> and log in, then click on My Mensa > My Profile at the top. This will take you to the main profile page. Then click on "My Communication Preferences" at the top right. In the "Member Directory" section, click the "Edit" link. There will be a check box called "Display birthdate online" which will un-block your birthday from the local data.

I'm not affiliated with HQ, so I don't know where else (y)our public information could be used.

Note: It appears this is impossible for members who are under 18. If you have an underage child who is a member, and would like his/her name to appear on the birthday list, please send an email to editor@tampa.us.mensa.org, with the subject "TBM Birthday Announcement" at least a month ahead of time, so I can add the name manually. --The Editor

Mensaversaries

- 53 years Paul Frappollo
- 49 years Norman Linton
- 46 years Lee Hargrave
- 39 years Michelle Kurtz
- 35 years Marylou Seigel
- 34 years Diane Campo
- 33 years Mary Ann Pidick
- 32 years Juana Harper
- 30 years Mitchell Drucker
- 26 years Lawrence Bush
- 24 years Dennis Jauch, Arthur Kelland, David Starr
- 23 years Robert Topper
- 21 years Malcolm Haynes
- 20 years Roger Zitman
- 18 years Michael Wenditz
- 17 years Brett Husselbaugh
- 15 years Wayne Johnson, John Martz
- 14 years Angel Onesty
- 13 years Micheal Oldenburg
- 12 years Daniel Holloway
- 11 years Kenneth Berg, Robert Bradford, Kathleen Johnson, Tom Warnes
- 10 years Rebecca Erwin, Neil Rupani
- 7 years Garrett Cardwell, Susan Cornett
- 6 years Pamela Brown, Lillian O'Neill
- 5 years Jay Myers
- 4 years John Copeland, Taylor Gregory, Robert Shackton
- 2 years Finn Donegan, Alexis Duffey, Brian Rabelo
- 1 year Michael Deloach, Peter Denman, Joseph Markowitz, Jason Stuber

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

Cryptopoem

Sylvia Holt Zadorozny

... BIN COBBCN RENS RZ RFY LRUUFEOBK

BIOS KNMY XMSSNT FX ER RXXRYBFEOBK;

KRF SIRFCT IMWN SNNE BIN DRACOES MET GOBLINS;

MB RFY NQXNESN, BINK GNYN MCC OE SBOBLINS.

BINK SIRRP GOBI SEOLPNYS ZYRU GMYX BR GRRZ

GINE RFY TRRYUMB CMETNT RE BIN YRRZ.

MET BMPN M CRRP MB RFY DMYTNE'S ZRYUMB—

OB ERG YNSNUACNS BIN UOSSOED TRRYUMB....



Cryptopoem (cont)

MET GN LME'B DNB OEBR RFY RGE DMYMDN

SOELN BINK DMWN BIN TRRY BIMB SGTOSI UMSSMDN.

MCC BIOS XNYIMXS O LRFCT ZRYDOWN,

OE CRWOED POETENSS O UODIB COWN,

AFB RE NWNKY GOETRG BINK SLYMGCNT OE SRMX

BIN TNMBICNSS COENS, *UY. EMSI OS M TRXN....*

GINE IMCCRGNE ENQB TNCOWNYS BIN DRRTS,

KRF UMK TFLP ZRY MXXCNS—O'CC TFLP ZRY BIN GRRTS.

~ ZYRU "BYOLP RY BYNP" AK RDTNE EMSI

You Might Be a Neo-Nazi Too

Ronnie Dubs

If you disagree with groups of paid leftist anarchists wearing masks behind black flag banners, tearing down and vandalizing decades-old statues and monuments, then you must be a Confederate sympathizer, and a neo-Nazi as well.

If you don't like these domestic anarchists shutting down free speech on college campuses, instigating inner city racial unrest, then moving on after the damage has been done, that's only because of your own neo-Nazi-like tendencies.

If you think leftist chain emails and tweets targeting politicians, celebrities, voting officials, and businesses with vile hate-filled messages and death threats is un-American, then you need to address your neo-Nazi proclivity, and accept the free speech rights of others to unfairly destroy their political enemies.

If you think the nation has really done enough to help all our minority citizens and that it's time to set aside the special grievances of all the different cultures living here and live by one common set of American values, then accept your status as a bigoted neo-Nazi sympathizer just like Donald Trump.

If you want to know how much money George Soros and other international bankers have spent manipulating our national politics, then you must be an anti-Semite neo-Nazi.

If you no longer trust the FBI, NSA, and 'Deep State' security apparatus with the ability to anonymously access everyone's most personal data to destroy and blackmail others, that's only due to your own paranoia and bigoted neo-Nazi attitude.

If you think our laws should be based on the US Constitution, not pulled from other sources like the UN, or Islamic Koran, that is retrograde neo-Nazi thinking.

If you think the US is an individual nation with borders that should be protected as every other nation does, then accept your own closed-minded neo-Nazi nationalist predisposition.

If you resist an Orwellian world run by global corporations, world banks, despots, and all-powerful computer tech giants, able to crush individuality, monitor everyone, and censor free speech, there must be something wrong with you and your intransigent neo-Nazi inclinations.

If you believe elections should be conducted fairly -- one person, one vote -- and that photo IDs are not too big a burden to assure the integrity of our vote, you must be filled with neo-Nazi hatred for the millions who supposedly don't have and can't get a proper ID card.

If you don't trust the Federal government printing a trillion dollars every 9 months, to take and register your firearms, and actually believe they want to confiscate them to protect themselves, well that's insane paranoid thinking, leading us to label you a neo-Nazi, Enemy of the State, and deserving of special scrutiny.

If you don't trust the mainstream news media for unbiased coverage of political events, still believe Hillary Clinton compromised national security for money, and that the investigation was obstructed by Loretta Lynch and James Comey, then the neo-Nazis must have poisoned your mind.

If you no longer believe Russia hacked the DNC server, that DNC staffer Seth Rich forwarded their internal communications to WikiLeaks just before his mysterious murder? Well, obviously you've strayed from government-approved news sources to the conspiratorial neo-Nazi connected New-Media.

If standing up for free speech, national borders, the Second Amendment, equality under the law, and honest fact-based journalism makes me a neo-Nazi, so be it. ■

On This Month in History: October

Emma Edmund

On October 26, 1881, the famous OK Corral gunfight left three dead in Tombstone, Arizona. Wyatt, Morgan, and Virgil Earp, along with their sidekick John H. ("Doc") Holliday, shot and killed the three men in a short and bloody fight. The men, Tom and Frank McLowery and Billy Clanton, were fatally wounded. The fight did not leave the Earps unscathed, however—Virgil and Morgan Earp were also wounded. The OK Corral remains a popular Wild West tourist destination.

Birthdays in this month include Reverend Jesse Jackson on October 8, 1941, and Oscar Wilde on October 16, 1854. Jackson is an American politician and black civil rights campaigner. Wilde was an Irish-born writer whose works include *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

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

Answer to the September Cryptopem:

*I saw my toes the other day,
I hadn't looked at them for months.
Indeed, they might have passed away,
And yet they were my best friends once.
When I was small, I knew them well.
I counted on them up to ten
And put them in my mouth to tell
The larger from the lesser. Then
I loved them better than my ears,
My elbows, adenoids, and heart.
But with the swelling of the years
We drifted, toes and I, apart.
Now, gnarled and pale, each said, j'accuse! ...
I hid them quickly in my shoes.
- John Updike, "In Extremis"*

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.

Tarzan the Terrible

By Edgar Rice Burroughs

Silent as the shadows through which he moved, the great beast slunk through the midnight jungle, his yellow-green eyes round and staring, his sinewy tail undulating behind him, his head lowered and flattened, and every muscle vibrant to the thrill of the hunt. The jungle moon dappled an occasional clearing which the great cat was always careful to avoid. Though he moved through thick verdure across a carpet of innumerable twigs, broken branches, and leaves, his passing gave forth no sound that might have been apprehended by dull human ears.

Apparently less cautious was the hunted thing moving even as silently as the lion a hundred paces ahead of the tawny carnivore, for instead of skirting the moon-splashed natural clearings it passed directly across them, and by the tortuous record of its spoor it might indeed be guessed that it sought these avenues of least resistance, as well it might, since, unlike its grim stalker, it walked erect upon two feet—it walked upon two feet and was hairless except for a black thatch upon its head; its arms were well shaped and muscular; its hands powerful and slender with long tapering fingers and thumbs reaching almost to the first joint of the index fingers. Its legs too were shapely but its feet departed from the standards of all races of men, except possibly a few of the lowest races, in that the great toes protruded at right angles from the foot.

Pausing momentarily in the full light of the gorgeous African moon the creature turned an attentive ear to the rear and then, his head lifted, his features might readily have been discerned in the moon-

light. They were strong, clean cut, and regular—features that would have attracted attention for their masculine beauty in any of the great capitals of the world. But was this thing a man? It would have been hard for a watcher in the trees to have decided as the lion's prey resumed its way across the silver tapestry that Luna had laid upon the floor of the dismal jungle, for from beneath the loin cloth of black fur that girdled its thighs there depended a long hairless, white tail.

In one hand the creature carried a stout club, and suspended at its left side from a shoulder belt was a short, sheathed knife, while a cross belt supported a pouch at its right hip. Confining these straps to the body and also apparently supporting the loin cloth was a broad girdle which glittered in the moonlight as though encrusted with virgin gold, and was clasped in the center of the belly with a huge buckle of ornate design that scintillated as with precious stones.

Closer and closer crept Numa, the lion, to his intended victim, and that the latter was not entirely unaware of his danger was evidenced by the increasing frequency with which he turned his ear and his sharp black eyes in the direction of the cat upon his trail. He did not greatly increase his speed, a long swinging walk where the open places permitted, but he loosened the knife in its scabbard and at all times kept his club in readiness for instant action.

The rest of this story and thousands of other public domain works are available at www.gutenberg.org

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