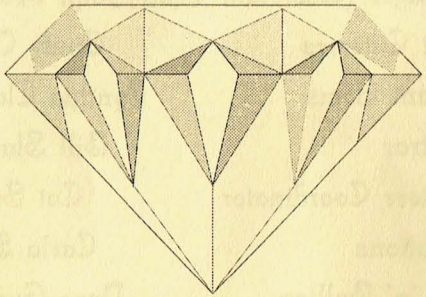
Volunteer Staff

Book Sale	Millie Stevens
Fool's Gold (Art & Design)	Carol Mason
Yes We Have Buttons	Vicki Snavely
Photographer	John Muellner
Master of the Games	Mark Thompson
Hotel Prospector	Randy Stallings
Fort Knox	Allison Stallings





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24 Karat (Carat and Carrot) RG

Orange you glad that you came? We hope that your time here will be golden!

I welcome you to HalloweeM 24, the 24 Karat RG. We've got plenty of wonderful stuff lined up for you this weekend. We've got more awesome programming from Cynthia Clampitt, who has scheduled many things that are sure to delight, amaze, and educate you. Back this year is Möebius Theatre, which will break away from its usual comic stylings to bring us radio theater at its best with *The Island of Dr. Moreau.*

We want to give all our speakers the 24-Karat-HalloweeM treatment, so we've identified each one with a star (gold of course) on their name badges. So if you see someone with a gold star on their badge, you may thank them for sharing their gifts with our group. Or just smile.

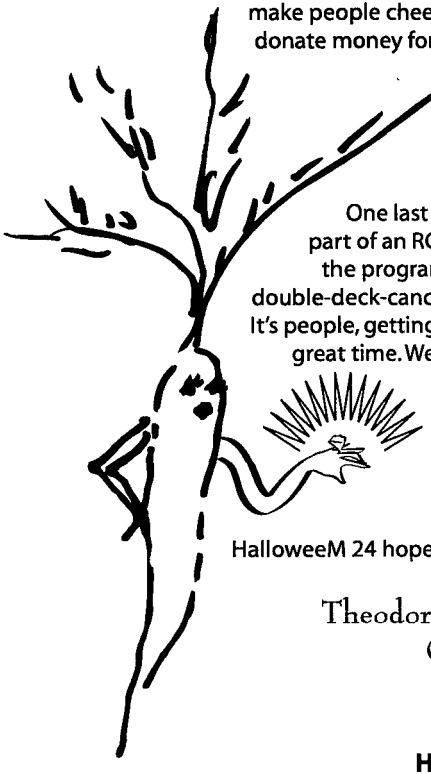
What would HalloweeM be without our first-class hospitality? This year is no exception, and Cindy Ogilvie will keep your tummies happy with our 24-hour hospitality suite. She's got all sort of delectable and decadent ways to keep your palate entertained.

Is this your first HalloweeM, or are you looking for a way to more fully participate in all of the excitement? Please see Cat Sterrett—she'll gladly help you meet more people by finding you a volunteer position that puts you into the swing of things. It's amazing who you'll meet while chopping broccoli, helping people register, or setting up for the next speaker.

The 24 Karat RG

Welcome from the Chairman

Is there some talent that you've been dying to show your fellow Mensans? Don't worry, the gong is gone. Of course, that means we're looking for *real* talent—singing, dancing, musical-instrument-playing, reciting-the-value-of-π-to-the-95th-position—the sorts of things that will make people cheer, applaud, and donate money for an encore. We respectfully ask that you keep it clean; this is a family show.



One last thing. The best part of an RG isn't the food, the programs, or even the double-deck-cancellation hearts. It's people, getting together for a great time. We on the staff of HalloweeM 24 hope that your time is golden!

Theodora Nebergall,
Golden Girl

HalloweeM 24 Program

Welcome to HalloweeM, Chicago-area Mensa's Regional Gathering and the World's Longest Halloween Party.

We have a lot of great programs lined up for you—more than you can possibly fit into one weekend. So as you look over the schedule, be thinking about what you'd like to have us do again next year, and let us know. We want you to have a great time this year, and we want you to keep coming back.

PLEASE NOTE: To facilitate movement from one program to the next (and to allow for "comfort stops" and coffee breaks), we have inserted 15-minute intervals between programs. This should make it easier to get to the various programs you want to attend. However, it means that very few programs begin on the hour, so check times carefully.

Also, because not everyone wants to dance, or at least not all night, we now have several programs offered in the evening. So don't think programming has stopped just because the music has started. From Native American Music to Learning Differences and Disabilities, Behind the Movie Screen to Pretentious Drinking, Quiz Bowl to Joke-off —things are still buzzing after the sun sets.

☞ Before you get started with the festivities, we ask that you review the tips and reminders that follow. They'll help you and those around you get the most out of your HalloweeM experience.

Notes From the Program Chair

Adults Only: Some programs contain material that is adult in nature. Admission to these events will be restricted to adults.

Alcohol and Youth: Illinois law, hotel rules, and Mensa of Illinois, Inc. policy are strict when it comes to underage drinking. The legal drinking age in Illinois is 21. Please do not be insulted if you are asked for proof of age. Adherence to this rule has been stressed to all Hospitality gHosts. **Parents:** Even if you allow your children to consume alcoholic beverages at home, you are NOT free to do the same at HalloweeM. It's the law.

Bulletin Boards: A bulletin board will be available near the registration desk for the posting of personal messages, program changes, and other announcements.

Decorations: Every year we make a sizable investment of time and money in creating the right ambiance at HalloweeM. Please leave the decorations for future generations to enjoy.

Food and Beverages: HalloweeM food and beverages must remain in the hospitality suites.

gHosts: HalloweeM is a big event. It takes a LOT of volunteers to make things run smoothly. Our Volunteer Staff (also known as gHosts) is always happy to accept new recruits. We need only an hour or two of your time. In exchange, you get a HalloweeM Volunteer collector's pin, an invitation to the Survivors' Party (volunteers only!), and a warm feeling deep inside.

Hugs: To hug or not to hug, that is the question. Pick up a button at the registration desk that signifies your hugging preference, and make a point of checking the pins that others wear. When in doubt, ask first.

Late Checkout: As noted in your confirmation packet, the hotel needed to know ***at the time you checked in*** whether or not you would need a late checkout time at the end of the weekend. If you did not request it then, do so as soon as possible. Based on their expected vacancy level, hotel staff will do all they can to accommodate as many as possible, but late checkout will probably NOT be available if you wait to make your request.

Meal Tickets: A ticket for each meal ordered will be provided at registration. This ticket will be collected at the meal, so don't lose it. It will not be possible for us to replace lost meal tickets. ☞*Even if you have not ordered any meals, feel free to attend the cocktail party (with Renaissance Trio) before the Saturday Banquet, and the awards ceremony after the Sunday Brunch.*

Name Badges: Your name badge is your ticket to all the joy and wonder of HalloweeM. Please wear it at all times. With a group as large and diverse as ours, the tags are the only way we have of knowing who belongs to the RG. Anyone without a name badge should be referred to a committee member. Sorry, lost name badges cannot be replaced.

Smoking: Smoking is permitted in designated areas only. This includes the smoking hospitality suite, as well as any areas (such as the restaurant and bar) where the hotel permits smoking. No smoking is permitted in the seminar sessions.

About the Speakers: Please bear in mind that the speakers have donated their time and resources to be with us this weekend and are not paid for their efforts. Also, many of them are not Mensans, and this is their first

(and maybe only) exposure to the organization. Mensa's reputation depends on the actions and attitudes of each of us. If you must enter or leave during a program, please do so quietly in deference to both the speaker and the other attendees. Show consideration, even if you disagree with a speaker. We're here to have a NICE TIME. Make us proud of you. Thank you.

All weekend

Book Sale

CC1-9

Find out what your fellow Mensans have finished reading. Take home some treasures. Proceeds go to the Mensa of Illinois Gifted Children's Fund.

Children's Room

CC1-11

A room where you can go to spend some quiet time with your child. Will offer toys, building blocks, and art supplies.

Games Room & Tournament Room

Rooms 1204 & 1205

Rooms stocked with puzzles and games await you, one room (1204) informal, one (1205) with organized competitions. Open 24 hours a day.

Hospitality Suites

Rooms 1230 (non-smoking), 1239 (smoking), 1231 (Food Events), 1222 (Hospitality Overflow), and Senator's Suite (Gay and Lesbian SIG)

Food and beverages are available 24 hours a day in separate smoking and non-smoking suites. All food events are scheduled in the Board Room directly across from Main Hospitality (Room 1231). Hungry between meals? Check here to see what other tidbits may have been 'scared' up. Please be patient... we will try to keep meal times as close to advertised as we can. However, there will be ample provender regardless of the hour of night or day.

Massage, Reiki, Reflexology

Room 1215

Linda Krejcik and collegues return to HalloweeM. Come experience the joyfully relaxing effects of massage, Reiki (energy balancing), or reflexology at the hands of these very gifted HalloweeM favorites. See the sign-up sheets posted outside the room to reserve a reasonably-priced session. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Mensa of Illinois, Inc. Scholarship and Gifted Children's Funds.

Pool Tables

CC1- 13 and CC1-14

Two pool tables will be available all weekend. See sign-up sheet outside the room for details and available play times.

Singles' Mailboxes

CC1-4

Post your stats. Read the "ads." Leave a message. Find out ahead of time whether the individual sporting a single's number on his or her badge is just your cup of tea, or a polar opposite. Available 24 hours a day.

Vendors' Area

Rooms 1214 and 1222

During the day, browse through the offerings in the Vendors' Area. On board as of this writing: Native Sounds (CDs and instruments from varied cultures world wide), Genius Cups, Mensa Boutique.

Friday

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see pages 8-10.

3:30-4:30

Integrated Energy Work: An Alternative Approach to Health

Linda Krejcik

CC1-Boardroom A

Integrated Energy Work facilitates healing on all levels using an individual's electromagnetic field. An explanation and demonstration will be given. Linda will also be offering individual sessions throughout the weekend.

Singles' Mixer

Catherine Woytowicz

CC1-16

Mingle, meet, learn the ins and outs of the singles' mailboxes. Catherine, who heads up Young Single Mensans, will help single Mensans of all ages feel welcome.

Finding Mr./Ms. Right

Carol Blauw Smith

CC1-16

Do you sit at home wishing you had a "significant other"? Are thoughts of the dating scene scaring you into isolation? Do you keep meeting Mr./Ms. Maybe and end up disappointed? Then this course is for you! Learn how you can enhance your attractiveness and opportunities for success in this program designed to help you enjoy the dating game and develop skills for finding the right relationship. The book written to accompany this popular course (which normally runs for six weeks) will be available for purchase, if you are interested in gaining additional insight.

Expanded Consciousness Training for Wisdom, Strength, and Healing

Mark Dorian Wenner

CC1-Boardroom A

Based on his experience and research, Mark will explain his views on the dimensions of consciousness and how

expanded consciousness inspires spontaneous healing, athletic performances "in the zone," and increased intuition, strength, and wisdom. He will present techniques designed to help you activate the "zone" for yourself, and will offer for sale his book, Tapping Universal Source.

Writing Very Short Poems

Arlene Gloria Hirsch

CC1-Boardroom B

Writing in session: haiku, limerick, cinquain, and "newku." Newku is a form created by Arlene for HalloweeM and designed to fit the space allowed on animated cyber greeting "cards." Or maybe you'd like to write a snappy couplet or limerick to go with your costume for later tonight. Paper and poetic forms will be provided. Bring a pen if possible. Arlene will be on hand for two hours, to offer encouragement, advice, and a creative atmosphere.

6:00-7:00

InQUIZition

Charlie Steinhice

Paramount Ballroom

Lively quizbowl competition described by one spectator as "College Bowl meets vaudeville," with the most entertaining questions from the seven tournaments Charlie has run in the past year. Charlie warns, "I have a buzzer system, and I'm not afraid to use it." Competition will be between four-player teams. Be sure to sign up in advance if you want to participate. Late entrants will be accepted at the last minute *if* there is space available. However, you don't need to be a member of a team to attend, or to enjoy the hilarity. The bigger the crowd, the better.

Sharing Shabbos

Laurel Smith

CC1-Boardroom A

Light candles, break bread, drink wine, nosh kibitz, and... Short, informal meeting of Jewish Mensans (and their friends or families) to welcome our day of community and reflection together at the RG; share traditions, jokes, and stories; and whatever else you'd like to suggest. (Guitars and voices are welcome, too!) Please join us.

The War on Drugs: A Libertarian Viewpoint

Charles Sila

CC1-12

Learn how the war on drugs is being used to deprive us of Constitutional freedoms and threaten property rights. The war on drugs encourages public officials to seek out any hint of drugs among the politically powerless, then to confiscate property and arrest people in order to make themselves look effective.

(Poetry-Writing continues; See 4:45)

7:00
Pizza! Pizza!
Hospitality 1231

The traditional start to the HalloweeM weekend. Come enjoy a little slice of Chicago with your hosts John Massura, Jane Berman, and the HalloweeM XXIV committee.

7:15-8:15
Hell's M's Meeting
Skinner
CC1-12

A meeting for current and potential Hell's M's. Find out what is going on with the party SIG. Note: Hell's M's—don't forget to vote for "Party Animal" on Sunday—results will be announced at the Sunday brunch.

The Art of Home Brewing
Tom Pyter and Loretta Olson
CC1-16

Brewing good beer in five-gallon batches is easy and fun. You can make the beers you enjoy most at a modest price. Tom and Loretta will share the basics, and beyond. A tasting of two of their brews will follow.

You must be of legal drinking age to join us

Tom and Loretta have already won an award for one of their brews. They expect to be entering more competitions this year—ask them about the results.

The Structure of Genesis: Puzzles, Patterns, and P(m)aternity
Derek Chong
CC1-Boardroom A

In the history of textual interpretation, the book of Genesis has raised some peculiar questions which have befuddled scholars, clergy, and serious readers for centuries. Applying insights and methods from the fields of discourse analysis, Biblical narrative, and hermeneutics, Derek proposes a novel, text-based solution to some of this book's unsettling questions. Based on the interplay of the Hebrew terms toledot (genealogy) and zerah (seed), Derek hopes to show that Genesis is structured around organic conversations which grow and expand to become Torah (the five books of Moses), Tanakh (the entirety of the Hebrew Bible), and the foundation for a new culture and nation, that of Israel.

Pay Less Tax Legally: Tax Free and Tax-Deferred Income
Robert Berend
CC1-Boardroom B

What can you do this year to pay less tax legally? Robert, a Mensan stockbroker, attorney, and registered investment advisor, will review tax-free and tax-deferred income options (municipal bonds and annuities), variable life insurance, tax credits, and the benefits of retirement plans.

(InQUIZition continues—see 6 p.m.)

8:15-9:00

Time to nosh, change into your costume, talk with speakers, shop for books.)

9:00-10:00

Costume Parade and Judging

Paramount Ballroom

It's one of the things for which we are (justly) famous—COSTUMES. Mensan costumes range from weird to wonderful, elegant to outlandish, hilarious to enigmatic. Prizes will be awarded in several categories, including "Best Traditional,""Best (or Worst) Pun," and "Best Children's." Please SPEAK LOUDLY AND CLEARLY when you get to the microphone, so everyone (including the judges) can hear and enjoy the description of your guise.

10 p.m.–1 a.m.

Costumed Dance

Paramount Ballroom

Costumes are optional, but dancing is a must! A large dance floor, hot DJ with all the hits, and plenty of tables at which to relax and chat with your partner(s) all contribute to an excellent evening.

10:00-11:00

Learning Differences (& Disabilities)

Karon Roberts

CC1-12

Karon takes a look at how we learn — and don't learn. Discover how to maximize your potential. Learn how to

cause others to be more effective. An information-packed, fun, interactive presentation. In addition, Karon's book, Bright... and Behind, will be available for purchase, if there are any children you want to encourage who might be having trouble learning.

Scotch Tasting: Hanging the Critics

CC1-16

When choosing Scotch, you can probably ignore the critics. Star ratings mean little to nothing—it's what you like that matters. In this participatory, user-friendly program, you will not simply taste Scotch, you will get the chance to sample the "component tastes." Discover what critics mean when they say "it tastes like resin," or oats, or nougat. In addition, learn some of the lore and ledgens of whisky and hear stories from master distillers. Then sample two different Scotches, to explore the nuances. Not only will you taste great whiskey, you will be among the first in the US to try a newly introduced single-malt, thanks to program sponsors, William Grant and Sons.

You must be of legal drinking age to join us

11:00

Paté Like It's 1999!

Hospitality 1231

Whether you believe this marks the end of the old millenium or the start of the new, this is definitely the best way to party! Plenty of breads and spreads to satisfy those late-evening or early-morning munchies.

11:00-?

Sing-Along

Clyde Forrester, Facilitator

CC1-12

Gather 'round for a sing-along. Folk, filk, rock, blues, punk, show tunes, whatever you really love to sing. Feel free to bring a NON-AMPLIFIED instrument—or just your voice. Clyde will bring an acoustic bass guitar and an electronic keyboard. Sing till you run out of songs.

11p.m.-1:30 a.m.

The Matrix

CC1-Boardroom A

Bob Finnegan

Mensa's movie maven will be treating us once again to a selection of hot flicks this weekend. Tonight's offering is the mind-bending sci-fi wonder of this last summer (you can probably tell I liked it) -- The Matrix -- followed by a video on how the movie was made.

Midnight-?

Carnelli

CC1-16

Come play the word/idea association game invented by D.C. Ms Jan Carnell and Jim Lange, now a fixture at RGs across the country. Never played? Come and learn how! Facilitated by a quick-witted gHost.

Saturday

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see pages 8-10.

8:00

Breakfast with Einstein

Hospitality 1231

Einstein Bagels, that is. OK, if he's so smart why hasn't he been to HalloweeM? Or has he, relatively speaking?

8:45-9:45

Money, Planning, and the Passage of Time

Robert Berend

Room 222, Second Floor

If you are over 18, have a job, or have parent(s), you will learn useful things from this program. Robert, a stock-broker, investment counselor, and attorney licensed to sell long-term-care insurance, will cover estate planning, elder care, long term care insurance, and all related topics. All questions will be answered.

Stretching Exercise

Skinner and Yvonne

CC1-5

Skinner and Yvonne will lead a morning exercise session to help you get stretched out and ready to party (and to help you recover from Friday's dance). The program is not strenuous, consisting of various non-aerobic stretching exercises designed to loosen you up, not wear you out.

Isolated Incidents: Tales from the Prisons of Illinois

Kevin Thomas

CC1-12

Kevin will share stories from behind the walls of Illinois prisons—and with long years of employment within the prison system, Kevin says, "boy, do I have stories." The title of his book, Isolated Incidents, refers to the common practice of identifying all problems as aberrations—isolated incidents— rather than symptoms of bigger problems.

Reading of the Snark

Bill Slankard

CC1-Boardroom B

If you like to listen to poetry read aloud, or if you'd like to help out by reading for a few minutes, join fellow M Bill Slankard as he presents an hour of light verse, including Lewis Carroll's "The Hunting of the Snark." A delight for all ages.

10:00-4:00

Blood Drive

CC1-6 and CC1-7

It isn't just Dracula who wants your blood. Area hospitals are always looking for someone who's just your type. Open your heart—or at least a blood vessel—and donate. It saves lives.

10:00-11:00

Coloring Workshop

Carol Mason

CC1-Boardroom A

Artist Carol says, "Come play with me and my toys. I'll bring crayons, colored and drawing pencils, paper, oil pastels, and whatever else my helpers and I can carry. You bring your inner child. Real children also warmly welcomed. (Children young enough to want to eat the supplies should be accompanied by a responsible adult, as some art supplies are toxic.) This is an extremely friendly workshop. I'll be here for two hours, but you're free to come and go. And nobody cares if you stay inside the lines; as a matter of fact, there may not be any lines."

Health & Stress Management: Using Magnetic and New Energy Technologies

Linda Cocciarella

Room 222, Second Floor

Magnets have been used therapeutically to relieve pain and discomfort for thousands of years, perhaps even longer than acupuncture. With the development of stronger, rare-earth magnets after WW II, newer and more effective applications arose for magnets, with recent applications in the health field. At the end of this talk, attendees will understand the types of magnetic and far-infrared products on the market, the clinical and historical evidence supporting their use, and how to use them to reduce stress and improve health.

Napoleon Bonaparte: Emperor of the French

Todd Fisher

CC1-12

Todd, a leading authority on all things Napoleonic, offers an examination of the rise and career of history's greatest captain.

Creative Thinking Exercises

10:00-11:30

Classical Music Appreciation

Alexis DeFotis

CC1-5

Enjoy listening to glorious music and learning about the composers—from Bach to "Rach" (Rachmaninoff, that is). An excellent introduction and overview of great music.

11:15-12:15

Timekeeping: Pertaining to Seasick Clocks and Some Modern Remedies

CC1-Boardroom B

Robert Stalzer

The instability of shipboard clocks was once a curse upon shipping, since safe navigation demands precise timekeeping. In England, a lucrative clock-designing contest to modernize navigation ended with the construction of Harrison's "number four chronometer." Learn Harrison's story, what a clock really is, the principles of timekeeping, why the late George Fenneman makes an excellent timepiece, why atomic clocks rely on radio waves, how the US got its time zones, and how to measure the size of the solar system with a truly enormous clock. Learn why all clocks are comparable on an abstract level, and why breakthroughs in clock making—or "horology"—require advances in physical technology.

A Writer's Life

Julie Bennett and Patricia Commins

CC1-12

What does it take to publish your prose? Two experienced nonfiction writers will talk about the process—from the birth of an idea through article and book proposals, dealing with crazy editors, writing, rewriting (thanks to the same editors), and finally, marketing the finished product.

Melting Away Stress and Pain with Jin Shin Jyutsu

Kebba Buckley

Room 222, Second Floor

Jin Shin Jyutsu is a simple-to-use accupressure system for holding points to release discomfort. Attitudes, emotional distress, tightness, and pain can all be balanced away with this ancient oriental art. Unlike some healing modalities, this can be self-applied.

(Coloring and Classical Music continue—see 10:00 slot for details.)

Saturday

11:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Improv Games

Mara Martin

CC1-5

Jump right in or (if you must) just watch. Play non-threatening theater/improv games. You'll have fun and learn to think on your feet. Let your creativity run wild.

Noon

Soup(s) and Salad(s) Bar None

Hospitality 1231

Featuring homemade chocolate chili, chicken, and vegetarian soup along with a well-stocked salad bar. Who says Mensans are only good at intellectual pursuits?

12:30-1:30

Möbius Theatre: The Island of Dr. Moreau

Paramount Ballroom

In a change-of-pace presentation, the popular SciFi comedy/theater troupe presents the radio drama, "The Island of Dr. Moreau." This presentation was a hit at this year's CapriCon (SF convention). **Please note:** *because this program runs slightly longer than one hour, it needs to start right at 12:30—so* ***please be on time.***

Mysteries of the Anasazi

Roger Mattingly

CC1-12

Three hundred years before Columbus visited the Caribbean, the Anasazi Indians of the Southwest created numerous large, skillfully-made, stone communal buildings. But by 1300 the Anasazi had disappeared, and the culture was forgotten—until the ruins they left behind were discovered in about 1900. What is known about this mysterious people will be discussed, accompanied by photographs from Mesa Verde, Hovenweep, Mule Canyon, and the Valley of the Gods.

The Recent Checkmate: Evolution vs. Creationism

Neal Roys

CC1-Boardroom A

In this presentation, Neal separates knowledge from mere belief on issues related to evolution, intelligent design, the Big Bang, and world religions.

12:30-2:00

Fiendish Armchair Treasure Hunt

Jay Smith

Room 222, Second Floor

A perennial favorite of the HalloweeM crowd, the Fiendish Armchair Treasure Hunt is a game where teams work with fiendishly-clever, rebus-style clues to reveal geographic locations, garnering points in the process.

Some teams get organized in advance, others form on the spot. Everyone is welcome. Warning! This is an addictive game—it may change your life! The Sacred Judges for the Hunt include Jay Smith (the game's originator), Helen Kupper, Louise Howe, Mara Martin, and Nadine McBeth.

1:45-2:45

Spend an Hour Aboard the *Hindenburg*

Dennis Kromm

Paramount Ballroom

Everyone knows about the Hindenburg disaster, but few know much about the Hindenburg. Learn more about the history of the world's largest aircraft and the newest theory about its destruction.

How We LIE in Bed

Dorothy Funk-Werblo

CC1-12

How we lie in bed (double entendre intended) provides us with a powerful key to our lifestyle and to understanding relationships. This is true whether we lie alone or with a partner. Audience participation is invited during this enjoyable, often hilarious, hour of life-enhancing information.

Introduction to Pathways to Successful Living Seminars

Tom Theodore

CC1-5

The Pathways to Successful Living seminars offer people the opportunity to challenge themselves to go beyond their current levels of success and to discover their full potential. Learn ways to communicate more effectively, feel more in control of handling life's challenges, create outstanding results through teamwork, improve relationships, and live a more balanced life.

Legendary Hornet Underground Coding Demos

Clyde Forrester

CC1-Boardroom A

Coding demos are programs written to show off new programming techniques. They are generally written by teenaged hackers in northern Europe. They're not dry and technical. In fact, they're really quite fun to watch and listen to. Some are humorous. Some are very punk and intense. All are interesting.

3:00-5:00

Sexyg Fishbowl Forum
ADULTS ONLY

Cat Sterrett

CC1-Boardroom B

Curious about what others do and think about sex? Now's your opportunity to ask questions anonymously and learn a lot! We'll pick questions one by one out of a "fishbowl" and answer them candidly. Confidentiality and discretion a MUST. To minimize disruption, PLEASE BE ON TIME, and note that we'll lock the doors 15 minutes after we begin. Cat leads this popular program with respect and good humor.

3:00-4:00

Hospital/No Hospital: Secrets of Stage Combat

Richard Gilbert and David Gregory

Paramount Ballroom

Violence and fighting are often portrayed on theatrical stages and are a mainstay of American cinema. Ever wonder how it's done? Professional stunt men/fight choreographers, Richard and David give you a behind-the-scenes look at the craft of stage combat in a 30-minute lecture/demonstration that pulls no punches. Or does it? Time for questions and answers follows.

Human Computer Interaction, Usability, and Low-Fidelity Prototyping

Marianne Gorczyca

CC1-5

Have you ever experienced a Web site where the layout and organization were difficult to use? Or been frustrated when looking for a desired feature in a word processing program? Development teams that include expertise in Human Computer Interaction (HCI) are working to improve situations like these. This talk will give an introduction to HCI and related techniques that improve software usability.

Scaling Traits Such as Intelligence

Richard Hinton

CC1-12

How is intelligence scaled from high to low? What kind of measures are used to create the Intelligence Ruler? Is intelligence measured on an interval scale? A ratio scale? What are the traditional methods for scaling intelligence? Are there new ways of measuring intelligence? Richard will describe the method of scaling traits known as Item Response Theory (IRT) as it relates to scaling intelligence.

Saturday

Great Books Discussion

Gary Schoepfel

CC1-10

You've probably heard of the Great Books Foundation—now you can enjoy a sample of what GBF has to offer. All you need is an open mind and a sense of humor. Gary will bring copies of Franz Kafka's short work, Before the Law, which will be read aloud before the discussion starts. Enjoy the kind of enthusiastic, literate discussion for which the GBF is famous. You'll learn something about the extent of the foundation's programs, too.

4:15-5:15

The Use and Abuse of English

Erin McKean

Paramount Ballroom

What's good English? What's bad English? Should you care—does it really matter? Spend an hour with the editor of Verbatim, The Language Quarterly, discussing hot topics. We promise more light than heat! (You'll also be able to pick up a free copy of Verbatim.)

Black Holes and BSE (and unrelated topics)

John Blinke

CC1-5

Part one: BSE, or mad cow disease, has faded from the headlines, but not from the Earth. Hear about this fascinating and exotic killer: what caused the epidemic and how the disease agent kills.

Part two: The latest ideas about the nature of the dark stars we call black holes, including their origin and fate.

Will there be a part three? Depends on what's happening in the world of science.

Warner Brothers Animation

CC1-10

Kirk Sullivan

Kirk will cover the history of Warner Brothers' animation—so many of the characters you know and love—and will discuss the fine art of animation collecting.

The Contribution of Scots to Early American History

Wayne Rethford

CC1-12

Come learn how the Scots, fighting for Britain or against England, seeking a better life, or simply displaced by the "Clearances," came to America, and discover how great their contributions have been to America's history. Or just come to see Wayne in full kilt attire.

(Sexyg Continues)

5:30–6:00

Cocktails

Michigan Superior Room

Wind down from your busy day. Ease into evening with something pleasant from the cash bar.

Saturday

Renaissance Recorder Trio

Michigan Superior Room

Home Street Players

The trio will perform during cocktails. Enjoy it as background music or sit and listen more intently.

6:00

Taste of SEMMantics 2000...

Hospitality 1231

...or, Chicago Mensa goes to the dogs (and barbecues, too). Loretta Olson and Tom Pyter feature good ol' American fare with a touch of Mexican to start you thinking about SEMMantics 2000. ¡Olé!6:00-7:00

The Banquet

Michigan Superior Room

Enjoy HalloweeM's formal feast. The Banquet requires a ticket, purchased in advance (when you registered, or if you were able to pick up a spare at Registration). Seating is limited. If we're sold out, you may want to check the bulletin board in hopes of buying an unneeded ticket or two.

7:15-8:45

Talent Show

Paramount Ballroom

Come display your talents, hidden or otherwise, and help us raise money for the Mensa Scholarship Fund. Alan Baltis will emcee this popular event. Vote for your favorite acts with your contributions. Pay for encores. Write a check; it's for a great cause!

9:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m.

Formal Dance

Paramount Ballroom

The second dance extravaganza of the weekend. There will be plenty of tables, where you can chat, catch your breath, or just sit and enjoy the music.

9:00-Midnight

Quiz Bowl

Gary Smith

CC1-10

Is JEOPARDY! your idea of fun? Do you just love to get the answers have before everyone else? If so, then this Quiz Bowl, loosely based on the old Quiz Kids, GE College Bowl, and Dr. I.Q. shows, is for you. The rules sheet/entry from combination is in your registration packet. Get together a four person team, then deposit the complete in the box in the Games Room. Team playing times will be posted outside the meeting room. Spectators and cheerleaders welcome to come and go at will. Teams must submit aentries to Gary Smith by 6:00 p.m. Saturday.

9:00-11:00

The Return of Pretentious Drinking

Alan Baltis & Gary Kryvko

Hospitality Overflow

Liqueurs. The fancy stuff. Polished, cosmopolitan, perhaps even a bit... snooty. The stuff you graduate to

from beer and wine. You'd like to know more, but they cost $10/$30/$50 (or more) per bottle, and what if that French name you thought sounded so sophisticated actually translates into "Spam™ jelly and brandy," and isn't quite the palate-pleaser you expected. Rejoice! Tonight, for a reasonable cost, you can sample to your heart's content. Alan & Gary will supply a wide range of weird and wonderful concoctions from around the world, and you can determine which you'd like to own, which should be left on the shelf, and which you should give to your arch-nemesis as a "thoughtful" gift. Obviously, you must be of legal drinking age to join us Snobbish accents and extended pinkies optional. A huge hit in its first incarnation last year.

9:00-10:00

Behind the Movie Screen—The Sequel

Bob Finnegan

CC1-Boardroom A

A sequel to last year's videotape presentation—where filmmakers tell behind-the-scene stories about famous movies. Among the films featured in this evening's revelations and interviews are Jaws (Steven Spielberg & Richard Dreyfuss), Spartacus (Peter Ustinov), Bambi, and Life of Brian.

Contemporary Native American Music: Forms and Influences

Mike Becker

CC1-3

A lecture/demo about the current forms of Native American music, both commercial and traditional/ceremonial, with discussion of how these current forms relate to and are influenced by historical models and present-day trends. There will be a display of instruments, live performance, and recorded examples.

10:00–Midnight

The Mummy

Bob Finnegan

CC1-Boardroom A

Bob's choice for this evening's flick is The Mummy -- a perfect choice for the HalloweeM weekend. Come and enjoy the spooky special effects.

(Quizbowl and Pretentious Drinkiing continue)

10:00

Vegetarian Buffet and the Vampire Slayers

Stacey Kirsch

Hospitality 1231

Hummus, baba ghanouj, falafel, tabouleh... you might not be able to pronounce these Middle-Eastern, dishes but we guarantee your palate won't care.

The 24 Karat RG

11:00 p.m.–1:00 a.m.
Joke-Off
CC1-3
Alan Baltis, Denny Bender, and Dave Plottel will act as hosts, judges, and agents provocateurs for an evening of infinite jest. Come share your latest witticisms and drolleries—perhaps you will capture the coveted title of Jokemeister for this year's HalloweeM.

(Quizbowl continues)

Midnight–2:00 a.m.
Rocky Horror Picture Show
CC1-Boardroom A
Outrageous, campy romp has become a standard feature of HalloweeM at midnight.

Sunday

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see pages 8-10.

8:00
Breakfast with Einstein's brother Phil
Hospitality 1231
Actually, this is a lie. But the sumptuous array of fruits, warm and cold cereals, bagels, pastries, muffins and juices is not.

9:00-10:00
Macintosh: The Only Computer for Smart, Creative, Self-Respecting Users
Alan Baltis
CC1-10
A cross-platform software developer, consultant, and user for 16 years, Alan is exposed daily to the Horror That Is Windows and the Joy That Is Macintosh, and is continually confounded by why anyone would wallow in a world of virulent viruses, incompatible and fragile software, plug-and-pray hardware, and monopolist tactics unless forced to do so by corporate group-think. Please join him as he dispels the fear, uncertainty, and doubt that folks stuck in the Windows lobsterpot love to spread, and shares the orders-of-magnitude differences in power, elegance, ease of use, compatibility, and fun that the Mac platform offers. First-time computer buyers and frustrated Windows users are especially welcome. Windows apologists and quislings—this is NOT a debate; you can do your own program next year.

The Key to Locks
Conrad Pomykala
CC1-18
How does a master key work? Why are mechanical safe locks obsolete? Is lock picking as easy as it looks on TV? Why are some keys so odd looking? How do you rekey a lock? Conrad, a locksmith at the University of Illinois at Chicago, will answer these and as many other "layperson"

questions as time will allow in a friendly chat with a slightly technical bent. Some tangible tool/hardware examples provided.

Creating a Sustainable Society Through Wise Use of Resources

Ken Dunn

CC1-12

Urban areas are disintegrating, with divisions growing between people based on income, class, and color. Wise use of factory discards, organic waste, and vacant lots can provide jobs and move us toward restoring health in society. Ken does not speak as an abstract theorist, but from the actual experience of having radically changed areas with which he has come in contact—all by means of simple, sensible steps. Come hear what he's done so far, and learn what is possible.

10:15-11:15

Future Folktales—Modern Storytelling

P. C. Swanson

CC1-12

The folktales that we share about "the olden days" are in actuality PR releases and oral history about notable characters in the past. The current "grown up" generation is not doing its part to preserve the wondrous feats in which they have participated. We don't realize that a saga of facing a major computer crash will be as interesting to future generations as tales of how Davy Crockett killed a bear is to our generation. The point of the presentation is to make people aware of the fact that they have participated in events worth capturing. To illustrate this, P.C. will share examples of mostly humorous happenings in his career as an engineer and as a small-time entertainer trying to eke out a living part time.

Zambezi River: White-Water Rafting in Africa

Ken Levine

CC1-15

Ken, a veteran white-water rafter, will share slides from his trip down the Zambezi River, on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. In addition to images of the rafting trip, there will be slides of Victoria Falls and wildlife in Zimbabwe.

Successful Interpersonal Communication

Deborah Dimond

CC1-16

Deborah notes that, as Ms, we all live in our heads to some extent, which leaves some of us wondering why we can't make connections with friends of either gender. If you wonder why you have trouble making and/or keeping friends or relationships, this is the program for you! Come find out how to communicate successfully with almost anyone. Deborah will give you simple, clear-cut rules that she says will, if followed, guarantee successful interpersonal communication.

Contemporary Worship

Vineyard Worship Band

Paramount Ballroom

Tap your foot, clap your hands, raise your spirits. Join us for a joyous, rocking time of non-denominational worship music. If you haven't heard "church music" for a while, you may be surprised to see electric guitars, drums, keyboards—this is great music, with a great beat, but with heart and soul, too. Sing along (words will be projected) or just watch and listen. There will be a sign-language interpreter, so come even if it's just for the blessing and the beat. Prayer will be offered after the music, if you have any needs you would like to share.

11:00

Jackson Potluck

Hospitality 1231

Help us clean out the larders. Prize given for most creative use of celery. OK—that's another lie, but we always have tons of food left. Come, fill a plate, eat!

11:30-1:30

Brunch and Awards

Paramount Ballroom

A sumptuous brunch awaits you. As with the banquet, tickets must be purchased in advance. However, whether you're brunching or not, you are welcome to attend the Awards and Announcements that follow (approximately 12:15).

Animation Fest

Kent and Theo Nebergall

CC1-12

Wallace and Gromit™ and *Veggie Tales*™ videos will be shown for those of you who don't need to be at the brunch. Come and go as you please.

1:45-4:00

Proctored Tests

CC1 Boardrooms A and B

1:45-2:45

(Not) Getting Away With Murder

Catherine Woytowicz

CC1-10

How forensic chemistry helped solve several difficult and not-so-difficult puzzles to put the criminals in jail.

Signing: When Hands are a Conversation Piece

Melinda Spencer

CC1-16

Hands are expressive in any culture, any language, but for the deaf, hands are an expression in and of themselves. Hands can contain accents, education, jokes, puns, anger, joy, information, questions. Come learn about the joys of signing, the humor of the language, as well as a bit about the culture that promotes the use of sign language.

Why Y2K Yoga?—An Introduction to Yoga for the Millennium

John Hansen

CC1-5

Join John for an enjoyable sampling of yoga and its many facets. Stress relief, increased flexibility, improved physical and mental well-being, and spiritual unfolding and growth are just some of the many benefits that will be discussed and experienced. Please wear loose, comfortable clothes, and refrain from eating for one hour before the class. If you like, bring a large towel to use on the floor.

3:00–4:00

Get Inline! Inline Skating for Beginners

Danita Fleck

CC1-16

Weather permitting, will move outdoors after initial instruction. Inline skating is a safe, recreational activity for Mensans of every age. Feel more alive, lift your mood, manage your weight, develop a bodacious bod, or cross-train for downhill skiing. We'll discuss skate and safety gear selection and fit, and review SLAP (smart, legal, alert, polite) skating. You'll learn the safe-T position, scissors, and the swizzle. In an hour you'll be striding, stopping, turning, stroking, and gliding. Attendees should bring inline skates (with heel brake) and safety equipment (bicycle helmet, knee and elbow pads, wrist guards) and a beach towel. If you don't have equipment, feel free to watch. There will be handouts, but equipment will NOT be provided.

Proctored Tests (continued)

3 p.m.–?

Clean-Up

Mostly Hospitality

Time to clean up. Feel free to pitch in and give us a hand.

Thanks for coming. See you next year.

The HalloweeM Committee

HalloweeM 24 Speakers' Bios

Alan Baltis

Pretentious Drinking (Sat); Macintosh: The Only Computer For Smart, Creative, Self-Respecting Users (Sun.)

Alan is president of Lankmar Corporation, a software development and consulting firm specializing in custom database development and Internet applications of both power and elegance, which may explain his preference for the Macintosh platform. He's the creator and caretaker of www.thesmartlife.com, a website dedicated to sharing smart folks' choices of the best books/music/magazines/games/whatever—the whole "smart lifestyle." And he's the third-term LocSec of Chicago Area Mensa, which may explain his penchant for strong drink. http://www.thesmartlife.com

Mike Becker

Contemporary Native American Music: Forms and Influences (Sat.)

Mike has a B.A. in music and an M.M. in musicology. He is a musician, educator, ethnomusicologist, and expert on world music—particularly traditional music of the Americas. He is also a business man and proprietor of Native Sounds, a purveyor of instruments, books, and recordings of indigenous music from around the world (which you can enjoy in our vendor area). Mike is also a member of the Home Street Players *(q.v.)*.

Julie Bennett

A Writer's Life (Sat.)

Since graduating from Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism, Julie has published over 2,000 freelance articles, from celebrity profiles (ask her about Ann Landers) to analyses of business, technology, and employment issues. Her work appears frequently in the Wall Street Journal, the Chicago Tribune, on the Arthur Anderson web magazine, and in various magazines. She is the president of the Midwest Writers Association.

Robert Berend

Pay Less Tax Legally (Fri.), Money, Planning, and the Passage of Time (Sat.)

Robert has been a professional investment advisor and stockbroker since 1983. He is a California attorney with a strong background in estate planning and taxation. Robert, who has clients across the US, has given about 400 lectures around the world on various topics related to investing, financial planning, estate planning, long-term-care insurance, etc. He hosted the first TV show in the US on socially responsible investing, and is the author of the book *The New Investor's Compass*, as well as numerous articles on investing, law and estate planning. http://www.postmodern.com/~rberend/

John Blinke

SuppleMentally: Science from the *Mensa Bulletin* (Sat.)

John is widely known in Mensa, both for the *Bulletin's* "SuppleMentally" column, which he has been writing for about ten years, and for the enthusiastic, well-informed

Speakers' Bios

presentations that he has made at RGs and AGs over the last four to five years. Science is his life-long passion. He has had every science-related hobby you can imagine, and keeps current on cutting-edge developments. Plus, working in the hands-on industrial world gives him a look at the real-life applications of technology. John is an electrician and plant newsletter editor working for Visteon (Ford) Automotive Systems. He has a B.A. in English from Wayne State University in Detroit. John was the recipient of the 1998 Mensa Service Award.

Kebba Buckley

Melting Away Stress and Pain with Jin Shin Jyutsu (Sat.)

Kebba is a Master's degree scientist, owner of a holistic healing clinic in Scottsdale, AZ, and author of *How to Unstress NOW!* She has been helping people with stress-caused pain, fatigue and illness since 1975, combining a wide range of healing arts, including massage therapies and un-stress coaching. A certified instructor of Jin Shin Jyutsu, Kebba has included this oriental art in her practice since 1985.
http://www.kebba.com

Derek Chong

The Structure of Genesis (Fri.)

Derek is currently finishing his Ph.D. work in English-language, literacy, and rhetoric at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he also teaches. He has an M.A. in English composition and rhetoric from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and a B.A. in psychology from Creighton University. Additional, on-going graduate work is in the fields of hermeneutics, literary criticism,

discourse analysis, biblical narrative, and Milton studies. Languages known include Classical Greek and Biblical Hebrew.

Linda Cocchiarella

Health & Stress Management: Using Magnets and Energy Technologies (Sat.)

Linda is an M.D. who received her training at Johns Hopkins in epidemiology and at Northwestern University for her medical degree. She is board certified in both internal and occupational medicine. Several years ago, she began researching, then using, magnetic and far-infrared modalities in her practice with great results. Her interests include integrating Western and Eastern approaches, especially in the area of energy medicine, enabling individuals to learn to care for their own health, and developing networks of like-minded individuals.

Patricia Commins

A Writer's Life (Sat.)

Tricia was a business journalist and correspondent for Reuters America. She lost her mother at age 26, and her first book, *Remembering Mother, Finding Myself,* explores the psychological and spiritual connection that remains after a mother's death, and helps readers to reconnect with their deceased mothers. She wrote *The Day Trader* in partnership with the book's subject, the son of an Italian mobster who became a top Chicago futures trader. Tricia is under contract to write two more books.

Speakers' Bios

Alexis DeFotis

Classical Music Appreciation (Sat.)

Alexis is a life-long musician. She was a music major at the University of Illinois. She spent six years with the Chicago Symphony Chorus. Classical music continues to be her passion, and she listens to and studies it daily.

Deborah Dimond

Successful Interpersonal Communication (Sun.)

Chicago M Deborah has an M.A. in Communications Theory. She is currently teaching Interpersonal Communication for Waubonsee Community College and Robert Morris College.

Ken Dunn

Moving Toward a Sustainable Society Through Wise Use of Resources (Sun.)

Ken, who has a B.A. in philosophy and an M.A. in ideas and methods, is the founder and director of the Resource Center, which has been in operation since 1975. He has designed and implemented recycling/reuse services for numerous Chicago-area communities. Programs implemented by the Center include curbside collections, buy-back centers, composting, community garden centers, alternative technology exchange, and demolition salvage, and involve both creating jobs and training youth. He designed and constructed a high-volume glass transfer facility that processes one ton of glass per minute. In addition, he provides technical assistance to communities starting recycling projects, is a consultant to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and other related organizations, and is coauthor of the citywide recycling plan, *1,000 Jobs for Chicago.*

Matt Ellin

Scotch Tasting: Hanging the Critics (Fri.)

Matt is the manager of Binny's Beverage Depot in Buffalo Grove.

Bob Finnegan

Behind the Movie Screen—The Sequel (Sat.)

Bob is an avid movie and video buff, with an exceptionally large collection of documentaries and information on movies and moviemaking, behind-the-scenes footage and movie star insights.

Todd Fisher

Napoleon Bonaparte: Emperor of the French (Sat.)

Todd is a historian, the Executive Director of the Napoleonic Alliance, owner of the Emperor's Headquarters (Napoleonic memorabilia, military history, war games, etc. — now at 7047 W. Barry St. in Rosemont, IL), and publisher of *Empires, Eagles and Lions* magazine.

Danita Fleck

Get Inline! Inline Skating for Beginners (Sun.)

In September 1997, Danita successfully passed the International InLine Skating Association Level I Instructor Certification Program, and is fully certified and insured to teach Beginning Skating Techniques. She has been inline skating for nearly six years and has been racing with Team Rainbo for the past three years. In addition to racing, Danita also enjoys roller aerobics, inline hockey, and wind skating. She takes her skates everywhere and can recommend scenic places to skate and explore all over the world.

Speakers' Bios

Clyde Forrester

Sing-Along (Fri.), Legendary Hornet Underground Coding Demos (Sat.)

Clyde has been a Mensan for about 15 years. He says he comes from a long line of tinkerers and ne'er-do-well musicians, which he believes is why it was natural for him to gravitate toward computers and music.

Howard Freedland

Scotch Tasting: Hanging the Critics (Fri.)

Howard, who has worked for Gold Standard International for seven years, is currently the company's Spirits Director. His responsibilities include knowing a great deal about distilled spirits (it's a tough job, but somebody has to do it) and keeping the sales force knowledgeable.

Dorothy Funk-Werblo

How we LIE in Bed (Sat.)

Dorothy—more widely known as Dr. Dot—says that she has "lived the life." A former member of Chicago Mensa, Dr. Dot is the producer of an the international award-winning documentary, "Gifted Children: Our Untapped Resource." She is an award winning artist, author, Texas-certified professional educational diagnostician, and family counselor, and has taught at six universities.

Marianne Gorczyca

Human Computer Interaction, Usability, and Low-Fidelity Prototyping (Sat.)

Marianne has more than 15 years in the Information Technology industry. She has held positions as a systems programmer, corporate trainer, database performance tuner, and application software developer. She is currently working as a technical analyst at CNA Insurance in Chicago. She is now three courses away from completing her Master's Degree in Computer Science, with a concentration in Human Computer Interaction and Computer Graphics, at DePaul University.

David Gene Gregory and Richard Gilbert

Hospital/No Hospital: Secrets of Stage Combat (Sat.)

David and Richard, of R&D Choreography, have more than 20 years combined experience as professional fight choreographers, stage combat instructors, and stunt men. They are members of the Screen Actors Guild and Society of American Fight Directors, and are adjunct instructors of stage combat at Lewis University, Romeoville, with ad hoc classes at Northwestern University, University of Rhode Island, University of Missouri, Stephens College, *et al.* Website— http://www.theatrechicago.com/randd

John Hansen

Why Y2K Yoga?—An Introduction to Yoga for the Millennium (Sun.)

John is a Himalayan Institute-certified yoga instructor. He currently teaches yoga classes in Chicago's Northwest suburbs.

Richard Hinton

Scaling Traits such as Intelligence (Sat.)

Richard received his Ph.D. in Quantitative Psychology from IIT in 1983.

Speakers' Bios

Arlene Gloria Hirsch

Writing Very Short Poems (Fri.)

Arlene is a teacher, poet, and member of Chicago Mensa's Poetry SIG. Arlene has led poetry-writing workshops for both adults and young people. She considers herself an emerging poet, though she is published and has won prizes. Founder of The Poetry Factory, Arlene's goal is to create a variety of outlets for poets.

Home Street Players

Renaissance Recorder Music (Sat.)

Mike Becker, Kathy Smart, and Mary Anne Wolff are the Home Street Players, a recorder ensemble that has performed widely in the Chicago area. Their wide repertoire includes pieces from more than seven centuries of recorder music, medieval to modern, European, English, and American.

Linda B. Krejcik

Integrated Energy Work (Fri.) — and massage/Reiki/reflexology throughout the weekend

Linda, who has a Master's Degree in education, is a certified massage therapist and Reiki master and instructor, and has been doing integrated energy work for seventeen years. (If you want a personal recommendation, talk to our LocSec, Alan Baltis—he visits her monthly to get de-stressed.)

Dennis Kromm

Spend an Hour Aboard the "Hindenburg" (Sat.)

Dennis has been a student of airship history for forty years. He was consultant for the book *Hindenburg: An Illustrated History* by Rick Archbold, and for "The Hindenburg," a two-hour documentary on the History Channel.

Ken Levine

Zambezi River—White-Water Rafting in Africa (Sun.)

Ken, a white water enthusiast, has participated in rafting expeditions around the world. He has rafted down rivers in Chile, Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Papua New Guinea, and Turkey.

Mara Martin

Improv Games (Sat.)

Mara is a working actor who is seen regularly in commercials, industrial films, local theater, and on Channel 11. She was trained at Second City, and has worked with improvisational theater groups in clubs throughout the region.

Carol Mason

Coloring Workshop (Sat.)

Carol's artwork has been featured in several group exhibitions, including shows at the DuPage Art League, College of DuPage, Woman Made Gallery, DiFalco Gallery, and Gallery 1633, and in one-person shows in Roselle, Schaumburg, and Woodridge, IL. Her art education includes classes at the Art Institute of Chicago, DuPage Art League, and College of DuPage. In addition, she holds a Master's in biochemistry from IIT and Bachelor's in biology from DePaul University. She says that the love of life and search for truth fueled both careers.
http://members.ync.net/cfmason

Speakers' Bios

Roger Mattingly

Mysteries of the Anasazi (Sat.)

Roger, a professional photographer and co-president of the Chicago/Midwest chapter of the American Society of Media Photographers, is part American Indian and a lifelong student of history. He has been a war correspondent (Viet Nam), but now operates a commercial photography business in the generally safer region of Chicago's NW suburbs.
http://www.chimwasmp.org/Mattingly

Erin McKean

The Use and Abuse of English (Sat.)

Erin has spent seven years in lexicography and is the current editor of *Verbatim, The Language Quarterly.* She has a B.A. and an M.A. in Linguistics from the University of Chicago.
http://www.verbatimmag.com

Möbius Theater

(Sat.)

Off-the-wall Science Fiction Comedy Theater group. You may know them from SciFi Conventions, or from last year's HalloweeM (their Kabuki version of *Star Wars* was certainly memorably hilarious). If not, there is no way to describe them.

Conrad Pomykala

The Key to Locks (Sun.)

Conrad took his first locksmithing training back in 1976, just for a hobby. Since 1990, he has been employed full-time as a locksmith at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he is involved in all aspects of the trade

on a campus with more than 35,000 occupants, 90+ buildings, and in excess of 70,000 locks. He is a member of the Greater Chicago Locksmith Association, and has taught several specialized seminars to trade members.

Yvonne Porter

Stretching Exercise (Sat.)

Yvonne works out regularly and, with husband Skinner, has been leading stretching classes for Mensa since 1990.

Tom Pyter and Loretta Olson

The Art of Home Brewing (Fri.)

Tom and Loretta started homebrewing in 1997. Quick learners, they won a ribbon at a homebrew competition with their third brew, a cyser (fermented honey and apple cider). Thus far, they have made porter, Scotch ale, India pale ale, nut brown ale, pepper porter, and holiday ale, as well as mead and three cysers. Tom and Loretta enjoy sharing their experience with other Mensans, and have presented programs on beer tasting and homebrewing at RGs.

Wayne Rethford

The Contribution of Scots to Early American History (Sat.)

Wayne is the president of the Illinois St. Andrew Society and licensed administrator for the Scottish Home, the oldest charitable organization in Illinois (chartered in 1853). He is an amateur historian who has spent the last 13 years researching the Scottish people and their contributions to the world, and is co-author of a book titled *The Scots of Chicago.* Wayne also edits The Scottish-American History Club Newsletter, which has a circulation of about 3,000.

Karon Roberts

Learning Differences & Disabilities (Fri.)

Karon is a California Mensan with an M.S. in Education/Counseling and a B.S. in Recreation/Recreation Therapy. She is also the mother of a gifted child who has both visual and auditory learning disabilities. She is the author of *Bright...and Behind.*
http://www.thelearningdifference.com

Neal Roys

The Recent Checkmate: Evolution vs. Creationism (Sat.)

Neal currently teaches AP Calculus, Honors Precalculus, and Honors Advanced Algebra, and is Math Team Coach, at Adlai Stevenson High School in Lake Country, IL. He is coauthor of *Technology,* published by D.C. Heath, and has published articles on mathematics and teaching. He speaks regularly at conferences around the country, including those for NCTM, ICTM, and MMC, addressing teachers and mathematicians on such subjects as "Does Mathematics Inform Morality" and "The Big Bang: Where Math, Physics, Theology, and Evolution Overlap."

Gary Schoepfel

Great Books Discussion (Sat.)

Gary has been with the Great Books Foundation for thirteen years. Currently the Director of Adult Programs for the GBF, he is an enthusiastic promoter of great literature, good discussions, and the foundation's goal of injecting more of both into the world.
http://www.greatbooks.org

Charles Sila

The War on Drugs: A Libertarian Viewpoint (Fri.)

Charles has seventeen years' experience as a volunteer with a drug prevention agency and ten years' experience as an elected town official. A member of the Libertarian party, he was their candidate for lieutenant governor for the state of Illinois in 1998. Charles is a Certified Public Accountant, a father, and a grandfather.

Skinner

Hell's M's Meeting (Fri.), Stretching Exercise (Sat.)

Skinner has been involved in Mensa since 1980 and has been SIG coordinator of Hell's M's since he founded it in 1988. He and wife Yvonne have been leading stretching classes for Mensa since 1990. He has been studying martial arts since the late 1980s.

Bill Slankard

The Reading of the Snark (Sat.)

Aside from the many other talents and skills he possesses, Bill feels that his main qualification for doing this program is that he has done it before, with Mensans at an RG, and it was wonderful. So he's doing it again.

Carol Blauw Smith

Finding Mr./Ms. Right (Fri.)

A counselor and motivational educator, Carol conducts personal and professional growth classes, seminars, and retreats throughout the Midwest. Topics include professional success strategies, self-esteem for adults and kids, surviving divorce, and finding and enhancing love relationships. She has been featured on radio and TV, and is a popular speaker. The success of her "Finding

Speakers' Bios

Mr./Ms. Right" classes resulted in the writing of a book of the same name. Currently Carol is also directing a singles' group called "Crossroads Connections."

Gary Smith

Quiz Bowl (Sat.)

Gary, a Mensan since 1974, originated the Quiz Bowl at HalloweeM many years ago, because he felt that the "trivia" to which most games were limited did an intellectual disservice to Mensa-level competition. He has structured Quiz Bowl to offer more challenge. Gary has presented Quiz Bowl at other RGs and at two AGs. He does wish to give credit to the many people with whom he has interacted in his Mensa "knowledge competition" experience, most especially Jim Draper, Sandy Topping, Rick Magnus, and Michael Mason, who have provided valuable insights, suggestions, and ideas which have been incorporated into the ongoing effort to improve the scope and challenge of Quiz Bowl.

Laurel Smith

Sharing Shabbos (Fri.)

Laurel is a Chicago M from a Reform (read Freeform) background and has enjoyed celebrating Sabbath holidays with fellow Mensans at home, but has felt a distinct lack of Yiddishkeit at Mensa gatherings. She welcomes the opportunity to establish ties with other Jewish Mensans for discussions about "what our culture means to us, and just hang out with people who get our jokes. Shalom!"

Melinda Spencer

Signing—When Hands are a Conversation Piece (Sun.)

As an interpreter for the hearing impaired, Melinda thought it would be natural to adopt two deaf children. She soon discovered that it was one thing to "speak" the language, and it was another thing to understand and accept the culture. As her children grew, Melinda started seeing the obstacles that exist in a hearing world, while exposure to the deaf culture caused her to reassess her views on deaf issues. Through her 20-year association with the deaf and hearing impaired, Melinda has seen a need to constantly re-evaluate her views on deaf education, and though she knows she doesn't have all the answers, she feels she understands at least some of the issues. In addition to being a sign-language interpreter, Melinda is a teacher (computer, K-3).

Robert Stalzer

Timekeeping: Seasick Clocks/Modern Remedies (Sat.)

If you attended Robert's presentation on calendar reckoning last year (at the AG or at HalloweeM), you will know that he is skilled at making celestial mechanics accessible. This year he does the same for horology (clock making). Past president of the Chicago Astronomical Society (America's oldest astronomical society), he has contributed to *Through the Telescope,* published by TAB Books. Robert has a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Bradley University and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in software engineering at DePaul University.

Charlie Steinhice

InQUIZition (Fri.)

Charlie coaches the quizbowl team at UT-Chattanooga. A veteran of academic and not-so-academic trivia competitions, Charlie was on the University of Tennessee team that won the 1991 ACF National Championship. When not playing Grand InQUIZitor, Charlie is a research librarian/analyst for BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee and (with the help of wife Jane) struggles heroically to answer all the questions from his two young daughters.

Cat Sterrett

Sexyg Fishbowl Forum (Sat.)

Cat has been a member of Chicago Area Mensa for seventeen years. She was the Chicago Sexyg Coordinator for six years, and has led Sexyg Fishbowl Forums at RGs and AGs around the country. She works as a fitness trainer, has a Master's degree in Exercise Physiology, and is the AMC Membership Officer.

Kirk Sullivan

Warner Brothers Animation (Sat.)

Kirk is the group gallery manager for Warner Brothers Galleries. He has been with WB for six years. In addition to supervising and training staff for numerous galleries, Kirk is also responsible for selecting the art from the WB archives that goes into the stores.

P.C. Swanson

Future Folktales - Modern Story Telling (Sun.)

P.C. "retired" after thirty-seven years as an engineer at a major corporation. He currently teaches computer science at a local junior college. He has performed professionally as a magician for the past forty-plus years, and creates, designs, and builds equipment for magicians. In addition, he publishes a newsletter about puns/wordplay: *The Punster.*

Tom Theodore

Introduction to Pathways to Successful Living Seminars (Sat.)

Since 1985, Pathways to Successful Living seminars have reached a nation-wide audience of more than 12,000 people. http://www.pathwaysseminars.com

Kevin Thomas

Prison Tales (Sat.)

Kevin is now retired from a long career working in the Illinois prison system. He is the author of the book *Isolated Incidents*, which relates stories, and problems, behind the walls of the state's prisons.

Vineyard Worship Band

Contemporary Worship Music (Sun.)

Vineyard founder John Wimber was a former member of the Righteous Brothers, so it's not surprising that music has always been a big part of Vineyard worship. Vineyard Music has grown so much that it is now listed as a separate music category. Hundreds of musicians have fueled this growth at Vineyard Christian Fellowships around the world. The talented musicians performing at HalloweeM are from the Vineyard of Mundelein. http://members.aol.com/vcfmundele

Speakers' Bios

Mark Dorian Wenner

Expanded Consciousness Training for Wisdom, Strength, and Healing (Fri.)

Mark has a BLS in humanistic management and a minor in sociology, plus graduate-level credits in gerontology, folk medicine and clinical psychology. He is the author and publisher of *Tapping Universal Source,* and a health and fitness instructor who includes John Elway among his clients. http://www.angelfire.com/il/5thdimension

Catherine Woytowicz

(Not) Getting Away With Murder (Sun.)

Catherine is a Ph.D. chemist and Congressional Science and Technology Policy Advisor, and is a court-qualified expert in narcotics identification and quantification.

Carrot Caterers

Pizza, Breakfasts — **Chicago Mensa**
Chocolate — **Cindy Ogilvie**
Vegetarian — **Stacy**

Chairs

Golden Girl	Theodora Hartman
Goldfinger (Assistant Chair)	John Massura
Carrot Caterers	Cindy Ogilvie
Program Gems	Cynthia Clampitt
Registrar	Bill Blankard
Volunteer Coordinator	Cat Sterrett
Decorations	Carla Scheid
Booze 'n' Bullion	Dave Gudjonis
Gort (Logistics)	Jim Mason