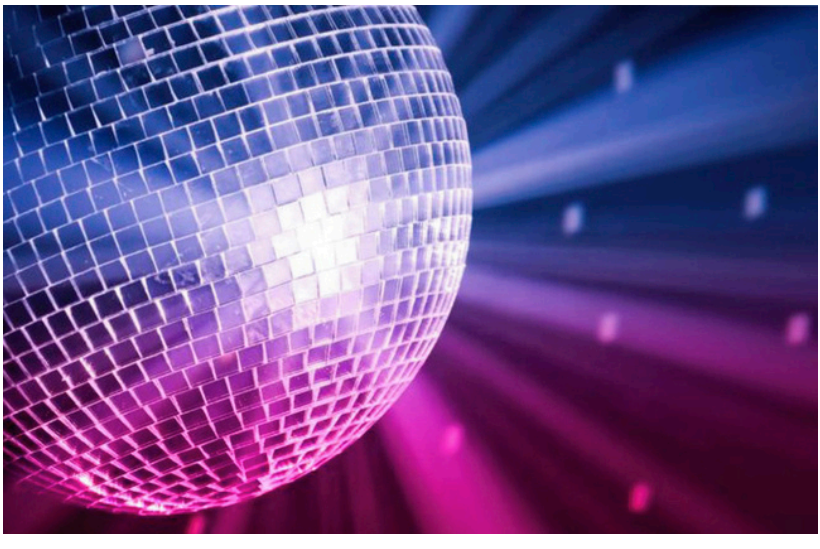





October 27-30, 2022

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Notes from Heather Booton, HalloweeM Chair



Aw sooky sooky! We are back in business, baby, and feelin' groovy! Welcome, and thank you for joining us at "HalloweeM 46 - Reunited and It Feels So Good." I'm truly glad you can attend this year as we work our way back to presenting you with our full-scale RG. I'm so proud of the work that the WeeM TeaM has done to make this year a fun and safe event. Please be sure to thank them for their hard work. They can be identified by the purple WeeM TeaM ribbons or their hip green badges.

Can you dig it? We still have some COVID restrictions in place. Please make yourself familiar with our COVID policies and the new flow for food service in Hospitality. Flyers with details on this can be found at the registration desk.

Peace man. Our Peace Force is back in action again to keep the flower power flowing freely. They are here to check badges, make sure alcohol is being consumed responsibly, and act as a friendly face in the unlikely event that you have any problems. They can be identified by their white hats. Feel free to approach them if you need anything.

We couldn't run WeeM without the help of great volunteers. To all of you foxy mamas and cool cats who've already signed up for shifts—THANK YOU! If you haven't signed up yet, please consider helping out. Many hands make light work.

Given all that's been going on, there's so much I want to say about this year's RG. I love that our theme is the 70s since the very first WeeM was held in 1975. This is a good time to remember how long we've been coming together to put our differences aside and enjoy the nerdiness that unites us all. So no harshing anyone else's mellow.

Have a groovy WeeM!

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Notes from the Program Chair

Hey, cool cats! Welcome to WeeM 46: "Reunited and It Feels SO GOOD"… especially to be once again able to boogie-down with an in-person event! Each passing year we get a little bit closer to the top-notch gig we all remember. Many thanks go out to my groovy webmaster, Barb Pohl. If you are a speaker or if you used our website at any point along the way, she is the reason you had access to get the lowdown at every step of the way! I also had some amazing help from Cynthia Clampitt (former WeeM programming chair) and Heather Booton (your mistress with the mostest) in finding funky fresh content, rounded out with some classic faves. We've also tried to include some far out content for some of our younger members to keep them engaged and occupied. As always, do me a solid and be respectful to my speakers and volunteers, who are volunteering their time, expertise, and skill. This may be their first or only experience with Mensa, so please do your best to leave them with good vibes.

Hit up the registration desk to find this year's printed PAAG (Program-At-A-Glance). While the PAAG is the most updated printed version of the programming schedule, the QR code at the bottom will take you to our WeeM page where you will be able to see any changes, updates or cancellations that are even fresher than the "hot off the press" PAAG. Each program on our schedule has a link with descriptions and any updates for you. When you're done with the PAAG, please use it to dish the skinny about your thoughts on WeeM 46- I personally read every comment and aim to improve my scheduling and programming based on what you share in those comments. Before you book, drop those comments in the box by registration.

It will be wonderful to see everyone's faces again this year, but please remember that we're all in a different place in this ongoing pandemic. Masks are optional, but please spread that flower power and be mindful that those that choose to wear them may appreciate a little extra space.



One final note, I encourage you to partake in any program that piques your interest. Maybe you'll find a new passion, learn something life-changing, or just belly-laugh until it hurts. This year will be unique no matter what, and we're so glad you're here to get your groove on with all of us. Keep on keepin' on, and I'll catch you on the flipside! Peace out!

Laceé Hudec

2022 WeeM Programming Chair

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Policies & Reminders

Before you enjoy the festivities, please review the policies and reminders that follow.

Name Badges: Your name badge is your ticket to all the joys and wonders 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 registration or to an event host (designated by their green badges). Sorry, lost name badges cannot be replaced.

Smartphone, Tablet, and other E-Gear Users: Please be courteous by silencing your devices when at programs or events. If you don't know how to silence your device, please leave it in your room, lest you be mocked mercilessly. Free Wi-Fi is available in the hotel lobby. Scannable QR codes are posted near registration to allow you to easily download the program booklet and Program at a Glance (PAAG) in PDF form.

Program At A Glance (PAAG): The PAAG includes some updates to the program which were too late to make it into the program book. There may be signs posted at the programming rooms or near registration with information that is fresher still. We're confident you'll know what's up. Some events are age-restricted (usually 21+), and you may be asked to show proof of age. Finally, please note that a few events do not start and end on the same time boundaries as most.

Program Schedule: There are often intervals set between programs in the programming grid. Check the times listed carefully. The PAAG is the most up-to-date source with respect to error corrections, room changes, speaker cancellations, etc.

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About the Speakers: Please bear in mind that the speakers have donated their time and resources to be with us this weekend. 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 enter or leave during a program, please do so quietly in deference to the speaker and other attendees. Show consideration, even if you disagree with a speaker. Unless a speaker requests otherwise, please hold questions and comments until the end of the presentation.

Alcohol and Youth: Illinois law, hotel rules, and Chicago Area Mensa policies are strict when it comes to underage drinking. The legal drinking age here is 21. Please do not be insulted if you are asked for proof of age. Anyone with a brightly colored "under 21" badge is not permitted to be in areas where alcohol is available. These areas are easy to spot in hospitality and in the program guide. Adherence to this rule has been stressed to all Hospitality gHosts. Even if you unwisely choose to allow your children to consume alcohol at home, you are NOT free to do the same at HalloweeM.

Dry-Erase Board: A dry-erase board will be available near the registration area for posting personal messages, program changes, and other announcements. Please re-cap the markers after use.

Decorations: Every year, we make a sizable investment of time and money in creating the right ambiance at HalloweeM. Please do not disturb or remove the decorations. Many of them are haunted. We cannot be held responsible for any paranormal activities if you remove the sacred monkey paw from its resting chamber.

Food and Beverages: HalloweeM food and beverages MUST remain in the Ravinia Ballroom. Food will NOT be permitted in the games room this year, but beverages are allowed. However, please DO NOT take food or beverages into the other speaker rooms. Water is available outside most of the speaker rooms, if you become parched. **And friends, please, clean up after yourselves! Just like life: strive to leave the table better than when you sat down. If you drop something, don't leave it there. If something spills, contact a WeeM-Teamer or hotel staff. Thank you.**

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Policies & Reminders, cont'd.

Volunteers: HalloweeM is a big event. It takes a LOT of volunteers to make things run smoothly. Our volunteer staff (The WeeM TeaM) is always happy to accept new recruits. (Please sign up for Hospitality in advance. Mealtime shifts begin 30 min. prior to posted meal times to allow for implementation of sanitation protocols.) In exchange for your time (4 hours or more), you get a HalloweeM volunteer collector's pin (pictured here) and a warm feeling deep inside. A volunteer grid will be posted near registration. Please sign up!

Of Special Note: Volunteer Drawing

We're holding a raffle to reward our valued volunteers. Volunteers will get a raffle ticket for every 2 hours they help. On our onsite sign-up board, certain volunteer slots will double (designated "warp-speed") or even triple (designated "trans-warp") the rate at which you accrue raffle tickets. Additionally, volunteers will receive double the normal number of raffle tickets for any slot they sign up for online, before WeeM begins. Logical, right? But wait - there's more! The very important Tear-Down slots will also be entered in a raffle of their own IN ADDITION TO the other raffles! NEW LAST YEAR: HalloweeM is modernizing! In addition to our on-site signup board, volunteers will be able to signup online from their phone or computer DURING WeeM! Volunteers do not need to be present at the raffle drawing to receive major prizes, but minor prizes (< $21 value) will be awarded only to those who are on-site during the awards ceremony. So please, sign up. Just a few individuals can't do this alone; it takes a collective. The RG wins, our guests win, and you win!

A break from the crowds: There is a nature walk along the river just outside the south door of the hotel. It's a great place for a breather.

Hugs: Yes, maybe, no? Colored stickers signify your hugging preference. Pick up a sticker for your name badge at the registration desk and check the stickers that others wear. If a hug sticker isn't on someone's badge, or if there is any doubt, please ask before hugging. And please remember, even if the sticker is green, "NO" means "NO."



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Harassment: HalloweeM will be a friendly and safe environment for our attendees. Unwelcome physical contact and other forms of harassment will not be tolerated. **Failure to comply with this policy may result in removal from the event without a refund, and police intervention, if warranted**. If you have concerns or need to report misconduct, find a member of the Peace Force, recognized by their white hats. If you need immediate and direct intervention for your personal safety, request assistance from security at the front desk.

Late Check-out: When you check in, please let the hotel desk staff know if you need a late check-out time at the end of the weekend. Based on their expected vacancy level, they will do all they can to accommodate as many as they can.

Smoking: By Illinois state law as well as hotel policy, smoking (including vaping and E-cigs) is permitted outside the hotel in designated areas only.

Pet Policy: In keeping with Chicago Area Mensa's pet policy, no non-human animals are allowed in any event space (hospitality or speaker/meeting rooms) unless they are service animals. Pets are still allowed in guest rooms. Iguanas and cephalopods must be masked.

Hotel kitchens and service corridors: Due to concerns from the hotel staff, **only** authorized volunteers will be allowed in the service corridors and hotel kitchens. If we are out of something and it needs to be replenished, please alert one of the hospitality volunteers or one of the event hosts who are wearing lavender badges. We reserve the right to revoke the badges of anyone who goes in these areas without permission.

Photo Booth Is Back! A photo booth will be available from 7:00 - 11:00 PM Saturday, in the front hall outside Pretentious Drinking. There will be props you can use to make your photo even more special. You will get a copy of your masterpiece, and electronic copies will be saved. (Keep that in mind, if you're thinking about running for Congress or Supreme Court or something.)

LIKE THE LAST FEW YEARS: Alcohol will **NOT** be available all night. Exact times will vary, but generally, alcohol will be unavailable between 2:00 AM and 10:00 AM.

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WeeM Lo

All Weekend

Young Children



For kids 8 and under, we will again have activities and plenty of opportunities for supervised play all weekend long in Maple. To help cover the cost of the babysitters, parents who did not pre-register their child for babysitting will be charged $20 per day per child ($50 for the whole weekend). The Kids' Room will be open Friday & Saturday from 4:00 until 11:00 PM, and Sunday from 9:00 AM to noon. We will close the room for an hour during all scheduled meals (including Saturday evening) and will take "field trips" to some of the WeeM Programs that are especially good for kids. Look for signs outside the Kids' Room for up-to-the-minute details.

Little ones are welcome in the Kids' Room if they are able to play with a group of older children. While there will be two responsible adults with the children at all times, this is a popular program that draws a lot of kids and features plenty of "ages 3 and up" toys. If your children are not potty trained, parents are responsible for diaper changes. Snacks will be provided in the Kids' Room at intervals throughout the weekend, but you must pick up your kids and visit Hospitality when the Kids' Room is closed for meal breaks or whenever you are hungry.

Tournaments

Game Room: Ravinia A & B

The Game Rooms will open Thursday evening and remain open around the clock until Sunday afternoon, even if there is a tournament. (These times will be posted.) We have a wide assortment to choose from. Please do not leave your small children unattended in the game room.

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ves Kids!

We will once again have a kids-only costume parade at 6:30 PM Friday before the adult parade. Bring your kids directly to the parade in costume. Kids do not need to be registered for babysitting to participate in the costume parade.

IMPORTANT: For the children's safety, a responsible adult must sign each child in and out of the kids' room *every time* the child leaves or rejoins the program. Parents must remain in the hotel at all times when their children are in the Kids' Room. If children prove to be uncontrollable or dangerous, their parents will be asked to remove them from the room and they will not be allowed to participate further.

All Weekend

Tweens and Teens (12-17)

Participants under 18 years of age who are old enough to be unsupervised must register with a responsible adult or have their parents sign a release form at registration and provide contact information where a responsible adult can be reached ***at the hotel*** throughout the weekend.



and Games

Tournaments

Check in Hospitality near games entrance for Amazing Race sign-up and late-breaking tourneys. No sign-up required: 7 Wonders on Thursday at 7 p.m. and Logic Tournaments at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Please note: the Axe-Pong tournament has been cancelled until all of the needed prosthetics are obtained.

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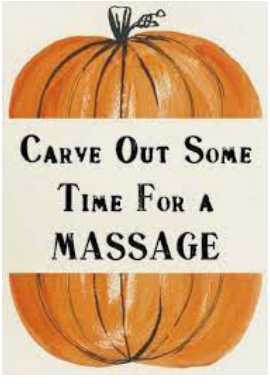
All Weekend

Massage Therapists

Chair Massage will be available in the vendor hall on Friday and Saturday from 9 am - 1 pm and Sunday from 9 am - noon. Cost is $20 for a 15 minute session. CASH ONLY! Sign-up in advance to reserve your spot.



Book Sale

Browse through donated book and non-book items, and take home some real treasures. We charge 50¢ per book or 3/$1, for paperbacks; $1 each for hardcovers or 3/$2.50; and $1.00/bag on Sunday. VHS and audio cassette tapes are $1, CDs are $2, and DVDs are $3. Books on tape or CD are $2. All proceeds are going to Experimental Station, which fosters a dynamic ecology of innovative educational and cultural programs, small business enterprises and community initiatives. Website is https://experimentalstation.org/.



New This Year: Please Read!

This year we have three alcohol-related programs: Thursday's Whiskey Tasting, Friday's Curative Cocktails, and Saturday's Wine Tasting. Space at each of these programs is limited, and we want to give all our attendees an equal opportunity to participate in these events. So, when you attend, your badge will be punched, and you will not be able to attend another unless there is still space available 5 minutes after the program has started. Please arrive early for your event, as they are expected to max out.

This new policy does NOT affect attendance at Pretentious Drinking, which, as always, is open to all WeeM attendees over the age of 21.

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Due to the timing for the program book preparation, any last-minute changes to the schedule will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance," available at the registration desk.

Thursday

Early Morning to Late Afternoon

Setting Up

Mostly in the the Hospitality Area

Welcome! We're so glad you came to our RG! And you're so early! We don't officially open our doors until 6:00 PM, but you are more than welcome to roll up your sleeves and help out. There are dozens of things to do, and your help will be greatly appreciated. If you choose not to help out, please leave the sandwiches and beverages for those who are working, and don't be offended if we ask you to please get out of the way!

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Naval Aviation: a 50-year Retrospective of Carrier Aviation

Gary Lehman

Birch

Gary flew the A-6 Intruder with VA-165 off the aircraft carrier USS Constellation. He has 198 carrier landings. Learn what the pilots and aircrew wore, how they trained, and what some of the flying was like during the "work-ups" prior to deployments to Southeast Asia and the two cruises Gary was on. Some current information will also be provided.

7:00 – 8:30 PM

Dinner

Hospitality

Catered by Hel's Kitchen – Fall Salad (V), BBQ Beef Sandwiches (GF w/out bun), Maple Glazed Chicken (GF), Orzo w/Tomato & Spinach (V) (some foods GF, however, their kitchens are not GF certified)

Please friends, make the effort to clean up after yourselves. Thank you!

7:00 – 9:30 PM

Seven Wonders Tournament

Glenn Sutton

Willow

Come play & compete in Antoine Bauza's critically-acclaimed game! Experience with the game is ideal, but not critical. (Come 15 minutes early if you are not familiar with the game.) Tables will be split to distribute participants as evenly as possible. After each complete game, the winner from each table will move on to the next round. Rounds have a time limit of 30 minutes each.

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7:30 – 9:00 PM

Cannabis and You - Pros Cons & Mythconceptions

Bruce Lee

Birch

With the broad availability, and increasing decriminalization of cannabis, the information available on the scientific and medical studies on cannibis and its effects on the human body still seems hard to get. This presentation attempts to bring forward the latest information on the Pros AND Cons of marijuana - CBD, THC, Sativa, Indica, etc. We will discuss the benefits of CBD & THC to counteract the effects of chemotherapy, as well as the recent British study on cannabis as a help for those with ADHD.

9:00 – 10:30 PM

How Gerrymandering Cripples Our Legislatures, and What We Can Do About It

Ed Spire

Birch

At the federal level, our legislatures are severely divided, and compromise is extremely difficult. We will examine how gerrymandering contributes to this problem, and even though we have been unable to agree to outlaw political gerrymandering, we do see ways to ease this divisiveness through better electoral processes. We will examine those, and see how they played on in practice in the recent Alaska special election.

9:00 – 11:00 PM

Whiskies of the World (ATTENDANCE RESTRICTION! See page 10)

Franck Mounier

Michigan B

All the whiskies in the world are made with simple ingredients following a similar process while leading to an enormous diversity. In this session, you will learn how whisk(e)y is made and how its making can lead to different profiles. You will taste whiskies coming from different countries, with different makes and aroma profiles: you will feel the differences and be immersed into the fascinating world of nosing and tasting. By the end of the experience, you may very well feel that your nosing and tasting skills have greatly improved!

The goal? Have fun, learn and drink together!

9:00 PM – Late

Social-Deduction Games: Werewolves of WeeM

Stephen Rider

Elm

Are you a werewolf? If not, who is??? Come discover which of your friends is secretly harboring special dietary needs in this classic game of social deduction.

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Friday

Another reminder:
Due to the timing for the program book preparation, any late changes to the schedule (like today in Michigan A) will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance."

8:00 – 9:30 AM

Breakfast

Hospitality

Continental Breakfast. Individually-packaged bagels & schmear, hot (microwavable) & cold cereals (some GF), fruit, yogurt, milk, coffee, and juices.

Please friends, make the effort to clean up after yourselves. Thank you!

9:00 - 10:30 AM

CAM Craft Supplies Swap

John Bradford

Willow

Do you have a ton of feathers? A plethora of pom-poms? Glitter in the gazillions? Come trade your excess or no longer used craft and scrapbooking supplies for new treasures sure to spark your creativity!

Get your "BUT" out of the way!

Robb Hill

Birch

We all have awesome thoughts dripping with possibility. We get a smile on our face and consider how nice it would be, then, out of nowhere comes "BUT." The whole show stops when the "BUT" gets in the way. The thinking then turns to all the reasons why we "CAN'T" realize our vision. We must not let what we can't do get in the way of what we can do. There was a time in my life when it seemed that failure was following me around; however, that was not the case. I was following failure around. I was being misinformed by misinformed people. This realization has made all the difference in my life.

A Setback is a Set Up For a Comeback

R. Brady Johnson

Michigan B

Brady speaks to people about persevering through their trials and tribulations through his own personal story, encouraging individuals to not limit themselves and to instill hope and will in all he speaks to. At 31, Brady had a massive stroke that left him paralyzed on the right side of his body. However, he was able to regain mobility on his right side without feeling his right side. Two years after his stroke, Brady participated in his first 5K. He is currently a competitor in Natural Body Building.

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10:30 - Noon

HalloweeM Paint-a-Pumpkin-Palooza

John Bradford

Michigan B

We supply a collection of communal art and craft supplies. You paint and accessorize a mini-pumpkin (also provided) as your HalloweeM/Halloween decoration.

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Monsters of the Moon - Lost Film Found

Melinda Grayson

Birch

Ray Bradbury, Ray Harryhausen and Forrest J. Ackerman. You know these guys, right? Well they knew each other, too. And they, in their 20's, found a stop motion animated film and wanted to produce a full length feature from the scraps. No kidding. So they clipped together a promotional trailer, distributed pamphlets, debuted their 5 minute creation at the 1940 World Science Fiction convention in Chicago, and then lost the film. Until one day...

10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Clandestine - Strategy Game Playtest

Jason Brooks

Willow

Playtest a strategy board game heading to Kickstarter in early 2023. Seats are limited! In CLANDESTINE, you are the head of a SECRET SOCIETY. The mysteries of your order are known only to a privileged few, and it's your job to make sure they last forever. Compete with your rivals to ensure the survival of one of five unique Societies, from the vigilante Weeping Masks to the technocratic Mariner's Union.

Noon - 1:15 PM

Lunch Break

Hospitality

Pub Burgers, Chicken Patties or Veggie Burgers (V), along with toppings, accompanied by sides.

1:00 - 2:30 PM

3 Journeys through Breast Cancer

Lynn Collier, et. al.

Willow

Three different ladies, three different journeys on the path to dealing with a breast cancer diagnosis. There's a wealth of choices out there, but when you're first diagnosed it's hard to think clearly. From cancer removal to chemo and radiation to reconstruction, we will talk you through our decision making processes and share our outcomes in making it through to the other side.

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1:00 - 2:30 PM, cont'd.

On the Trail of the Ancient Ones

Terry Poppleton

Birch

Join Terry as he takes you on a journey to another place and another time. The place is the Four Corners region of the U.S. and the time is a thousand years ago. On this journey, we will visit such storied places as Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde, and Hovenweep. Discover how this remarkable culture flourished, changed, and survived in the challenging environment of the American Southwest.

Meet Your American Mensa National Board of Directors (AMC)

Jon Gruebele

Elm

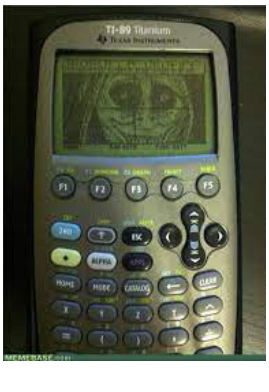


Please join Region 4 Vice Chair Jon Gruebele and other members of our national Board of Directors for a roundtable discussion about what's going on in Mensa. Tell us what you like and what you don't. Give us some ideas about how to do things better. Meet a new friend. If you don't have questions for us, we'll have some for you!

Don't Slow Me Down with that Calculator (Mental Math Methods)

Cliff Petrak

Michigan B



Learn as many calculating shortcuts as time will allow along with a number of proofs which are rarely seen in other books. In mental math competitions with other industrialized countries, U.S. teams consistently finish in the bottom 1/3. Cliff will demonstrate how these methods will always prove faster than with our old algorithmic methods. Once learned, these methods and strategies will help elevate our calculating methods into the 21st Century and, at the same time, will leave your calculator-dependent friends in the dust!

1:30 - 2:00 PM

Self-sufficient Ms: Carry-in & Seed Swap

Lacee Hudec

Hospitality

Pickled, canned, frozen, or foraged... share some of the bounty that you have made with other self-sufficient Ms. If you have (labeled) seeds to share, please bring those as well.

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2:30 - 4:00 PM

The Case for Kindness
Marie Genevieve Pawlak

Willow

What would happen if kindness was put on trial? Does it really pay to be kind In leadership? How does kindness really help us in today's fast-paced world? This talk will provide insight and humor into what it really means to be kind, and how being kind is the secret ingredient to success.

Words in Red
Roger Breisch

Birch

In his TEDx video entitled "Words in Red," (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gP6yH3lUNGo) Roger explores the harmful nature of incomplete and inaccurate self-images. Recalling thousands of calls on the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and thousands of hours working with teens, he shows how negative self-descriptions arise from past failures and mistakes, and what to do about them. Roger loves to share what he has learned about the challenges and miracles that comprise much of the human journey.

Firehouse SIG Meet and Greet
Susan Woodill

Elm

If you've heard of Firehouse, but you are not quite sure what it is, it's just a bunch of Ms that enjoy each other's company. If you are already a member, come meet some fellow Hosers in person. If you are not a member, come and say hello. We're harmless. I promise.

Make Your Own Hedgehog
Erika Bruhn

Michigan B

Tap into your inner child, and come learn how to make a hedgehog out of a paperback book. This fun craft project involves folding, gluing, and decorating, and is appropriate for all ages. You'll leave with an adorable, low-maintenance pet. (Paperback books and other supplies will be provided, or bring a paperback of your own.)

2:30 - 4:30 PM

Lagniappe Pub Trivia
Kenya Zarns

Botanic

Compete with your team of up to 5 people in this pub-style quiz! Win bragging rights and the chance to be the Brainiest of the Brainy. PLEASE arrive 10-15 minutes early, and bring the beverage of your choice. (This *is* Pub Trivia, after all.) NOTE: one member of your team will need to download the TrivNow player app on their phone prior to the game.

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4:00 - 5:30 PM

Live Better With Less - Transforming from Excess to Right-Size

Karen Guse

Willow

In this discussion, we'll first explore the significant benefits of living better with less, perhaps even approaching minimalism. We'll next explore some tried and true techniques for decluttering the excess in your home and then better organizing your remaining possessions.

Coleman, Coffey, and the Condor: Chicago's African American Aviation Pioneers

Michael Haupt

Birch

Three pioneering Chicago African American aviators, Bessie Coleman, Cornelius Coffey, and John C. Robinson (also known as the Brown Condor), overcame major obstacles changing the course of aviation both inside and outside the U.S. Black and female, Bessie Coleman went to France to learn to fly. Cornelius Coffey and Johnny Robinson gained admittance to a white aviation school then formed their own flight programs long before the renowned Tuskegee Airmen. Robinson volunteered helping Ethiopia and became commander of their air force. He was the first American to combat Fascist aggression.

Gen X Ms Meet & Greet

Tom Schnorrenberg

Elm

Pining for the totally tubular halcyon days of the 80s? Or are you more hazy flannel 90s alternative rocker? Maybe you enjoyed Saturday Night Fever on 8-track as a child while eating lava-hot fast food apple pies. Will we make people on a scavenger hunt do the Macarena again? Who knows! No matter the decade, join us for a meet and greet to hang with old friends and meet new ones. You'll also want to apply to our Facebook group at https://www.facebook.com/groups/GenXMs to keep up with national goings-on. See you there!

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Model Ts: The Car that Changed the World

Stan Ward

Birch

In the early 1900s, cars were a luxury that only the wealthiest could afford. There were over 16 million Model Ts built—at an affordable price. Come hear more about how Henry Ford's inspiration changed the world.



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5:30 - 7:00 PM cont'd.

Gen Y Ms Meet & Greet
Billie Lee

Elm

GenY Mensans are members of Mensa born between 1976 and 1996, but we always keep it 100. Meet and greet with us so we can spill the tea on adulting, cancel yet another archaic establishment, and keep the FOMO away. Be forewarned though that you may meet some rather odd personalities; we literally can't even.

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Dinner
Hospitality

Pot Roast (GF), Ham steaks, Breaded Eggplant (V), accompanied by Sides.

Please note – Since the children's costume parade begins at 6:30, please allow families with children to eat first. Thank you.

As always, make the effort to clean up after yourselves. Please leave the space in better shape than how you found it. Thank you!

6:30 – 7:30 PM

Kids' Costume Parade/Contest
Michigan A/B

All children are invited to show off their costumes for prizes. Come see some little ones who are so cute, it's scary! Kids registered for babysitting are welcome to wear their costumes to the Kids' Room for the remainder of the evening.

7:30 – 9:00 PM

Adults' Costume Parade/Contest
Robert Stalzer, Emcee

Michigan A/B

It's one of the many things for which we are (justly) famous: costumes. Prizes will be awarded for Best Pun, Worst Pun, Best Traditional, Best Group, and whatever other categories strike the fancy of our judges, who are, as always, very open to bribes. If you will be entering the costume contest, be sure to get a numbered ticket. Please SPEAK LOUDLY AND CLEARLY when you get to the microphone. The judges and the audience would like very much to hear the description of your costume.

9:00 – 10:30 PM

HELL's Ms Meeting
Beth Weiss

Elm



For historical reasons, the HELL's Ms SIG has meetings rather than meet & greets. At our meeting, we share SIG news, recognize the PARTY ANIMAL, PARTY ANGEL, and HELL ON WINGS participants present, hand out cool Hell's Ms stickers, and then, well, we meet and greet.

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9:00 – 11:30 PM

Curative Cocktails, Both Modern and Antique
(ATTENDANCE RESTRICTION! See page 10)

Nathaniel Arons

Willow

A night of drinking and learning with friends. We will discuss herbal medicine and its contributions to modern drink making; taste a variety of craft cocktails and rare shots; learn which ones have actual health effects and which just taste good (or bad) enough to make you think they do. Limit to 25 audience members plus six volunteers. Must be 21+ vaccinated and sober upon arrival.

9:00 – Midnight



Friday Night Movie: "Death on the Nile"

Robert Finnegan

Birch

For the 2nd time, Sir Kenneth Branagh directs and stars as Agatha Cristie's super sleuth Hercule Poirot. He solves 2 murders while on a giant cruise ship on the Nile. Also starring Gal Gadot and Annette Benning. Runs 2 hours to the end credits. Plus extras.

10:30 PM – Late

Social-Deduction Games: Werewolves of WeeM

Stephen Rider

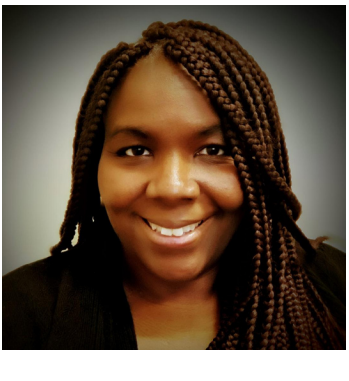
Elm

Are you a werewolf? If not, who is??? Come discover which of your friends is secretly harboring special dietary needs in this classic game of social deduction

Friday Night Dance with DJ Kenya

Botanic

Let's end this long, enjoyable, event-filled day with a spin on the dance floor, shall we? Kenya will bring the tunes, and will take your reasonable requests.



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Yet another reminder:
Due to the timing for the program book preparation, any late changes to the schedule will be reflected in the "Program At A Glance."

Saturday

8:00 – 9:30 AM

Breakfast

Hospitality

Continental Breakfast Items plus Hot Breakfast … Scrambled Eggs (V); Egg, Bacon, Cheese Scramble; Tater Rounds (V), Sausage & Bacon (GF).

Please remember to clean up after yourself. Thank you!

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Elevator versus Cocktail Speech

Marty Jalove

Willow

Learn how and when to grab their attention, make a connection, and get them wanting to hear more.

Our Future Kids

Stephen Schneider

Birch

Parents/Teachers - help prepare your kids for their changing work future and help them get started now! Stephen shows how kids can learn skills and gain experience that will allow them to control their adult work life.

9:30 – Noon

Logic Problem Tournament

Oriel Maximé

Michigan A

You know the type: 5 people, with 5 different types of cars and 5 different pets, live on the same street... See how you rate against your fellow Mensans on these six never-before-seen problems: three traditional and three less common. Best solver over the 90 minutes wins accolades and praise!

10:30 AM – Noon

Stress/Anxiety Management

Frank Sassetti

Willow

It seems that lately, our inner resources are being taxed to their limits, and it feels like relief is a long way away. In just a few minutes Dr. Sassetti will teach you simple, efficient stress reduction techniques. These techniques can be implemented immediately, practiced with minimal effort, and give you much needed respite from the extraordinary stressors we are experiencing.

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10:30 AM – Noon, cont'd.

Family Heirloom Recipes from the Illinois State Fair

Catherine Lambrecht

Birch

Since 2009, Catherine has judged Family Heirloom Recipes contests on behalf of Greater Midwest Foodways in Illinois as well as IN, IA, KS, OH, MN, MO, SD, and WI. Contestants enter their best scratch family heirloom recipe suitable for a family or community dinner. The recipe should have originated 50 years ago or earlier. Contestants bring a prepared dish to the fair along with a history of who passed the recipe down to them. This presentation offers an opportunity to follow the judging experience with histories, recipes, and pictures.

Dundee Scottish Pipe Band

Lacee Hudec

Botanic

Come and see the great Highland bagpipes in all their glory in a mini performance by members of the Dundee Scottish Pipe Band, along with some of our friends from the Chicago Highlanders Pipes and Drums.

Noon – 1:15 PM

Lunch Break

Hospitality

Beef Tortellini, Cheese Ravioli (V), Chicken Tenders (GF) with sides.

As always, make the effort to clean up after yourselves. Please leave the space in better shape than how you found it.Thank you!

1:00 – 2:30 PM

Video Game Storytelling

Stephen Schneider

Willow

A hands-on workshop targetting middle grade kids (but it can be enjoyed by everyone). We focus on telling stories in video games and how to prepare for this as a career choice in the future.

Adventures in the Comic Book Multiverse

Alan Baltis

Birch

Fantasy fiction is replete with lost cities & the world of comic books is no exception. We'll take a transdimensional tour to dozens of mysterious cities, fictional countries, strange worlds; in fact, entire other dimensions & alternate universes! We'll revel in the endless creativity of 90 years of comic book writers & artists as they go geographically wild. Have your omniversal passport ready! Alan Baltis has 40,000 comic books, so he knows whereof he speaks. Write him at alanbaltis@gmail.com, friend him on Facebook, catch the Relentless Geekery podcast every Tuesday at relentlessgeekery.com!

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1:00 – 2:30 PM, cont'd.

Whimsical M Family Reunion
Ruth Danielle

Elm

SIG members and interlopers alike meet & greet, tell the Perpetrator what to do, and desperately search for the one f**hoot you haven't heard. Isolated and Integrated Mensans equally welcomed.

Improvisation For Fun and Profit
Steven Duberchin

Michigan A

Have you ever watched an Improv show live on stage or on TV and wondered, "How do they make it all work?" Or perhaps you were thinking, "I bet it'd be fun to do that!" Maybe you've even wondered, "Could I make a living doing Improv?" In this session, you'll join ImprovThis CEO Steve Duberchin and many seasoned improvisers on stage where we'll be playing improv "games" and "scenes" together to help answer those and many other questions! Prepare to have a lot of fun, think on your feet, and maybe even find a new hobby or career!

Destination: Heartland History
Cynthia Clampitt

Michigan B

The history of the Midwest is remarkable and often surprising. Come enjoy a "tour" of destinations across the Greater Midwest that reveal how a region famed for supplying food actually supplied so much more, including iconic images, legendary individuals, and inventions that would change the world. From prehistory to present, Wild West to Wright Brothers, hear tales and "visit" museums, living-history venues, archaeological digs, historic towns, vintage farms, reenactments, and more that make the Midwest's past accessible—and fun.

2:30 – 4:00 PM

Calefaction or Gelid? A Compare/ Contrast of Wine Tasting (ATTENDANCE RESTRICTION! See page 10)
Catrina Hays

Willow

We will be tasting the same wines at different temperatures to explore how this impacts the aroma and flavor. Bring all your best tasting adjectives and an open mind!



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Welles Does Wells

Robert Finnegan

Birch

For Halloween 1938, Orson Welles' Mercury Theater broadcast a radio drama version of H. G. Wells "War of the Worlds." It famously panicked listeners who tuned in late & missed the disclaimer about it only being a work of fiction. Imagine you live in a world without TV or the Internet and radio was your only source of current news.

Improv Comedy Show: The BlueBs

Steve Duberchin

Michigan A

Join us as we present an improvised comedy about everything and anything. Maybe we'll do a long-form montage or maybe we'll put together a running order of short-form "games." We just never know what we'll be doing until we get on stage. We'll use your suggestions to improvise scenes that will have you thinking, laughing, and maybe even groaning. This will be a unique performance as these scenes have never been performed before and most likely will never be performed again. Crazy Shades Of Blue & Queen Bs are Improv troupes who perform in Chicagoland and combined at WeeM we're the BlueBs.

Relentless Geekery-Live Podcast-Reunited & It Feels So Good!

Alan Baltis & Stephen Schneider

Michigan B

We host a weekly podcast where we cover everything geeky: science fiction, fantasy, mystery, technology, computers, smart phones, the internet, movies, music, television, books, comic books, magazines, video games, Maker faires, comedy, theater, puzzles, travel, shopping, science, mathematics, arts & crafts- you name it! All with curiosity, humor, enthusiasm, & geeky flair. In alignment with WeeM 46's theme, we'll focus on geeky reunions, returns, reboots, & reformations. Audience participation encouraged!

www.relentlessgeekery.com

alan@relentlessgeekery.com

stephen@relentlessgeekery.com.

Human Hungry Hungry Hippos

Heather Booton

Botanic

A life-sized version of the popular board game, teams of 3+ will compete to see who can collect the most balls each round. This event is definitely kid-friendly. Come with lots of energy for this fast-paced and action-filled game. Spectators are welcome. All participants will need to sign a waiver or have one signed by their guardian.

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4:00 – 5:30 PM

The Wonderful World of Pun Competitions – A Modest Travelogue

Gregg Siegel

Willow

Like many Mensans, you probably love puns, but did you know that punning is actually a competitive sport? This Mensan didn't either, but once he learned about it he jumped right in. Join him to see and hear some of his live and virtual performances — some successful, some not so much — at DC's Pun DMV, the UK PunOff, NYC's PUNDERDOME®, the legendary O. Henry PunOff and more. He'll also challenge the audience with original puzzles, and discuss books, games & other fun pun stuff too. There is a world where puns are considered an art form, and inspire respect, not derision. Join us there.

4:00 – 5:30 PM, CONT'D.

The Microbiome and Autoimmunity; Unlocking Clinical Opportunities for Health

Robert Zoboski

Birch

Uncontrolled intestinal permeability can modulate our immune response, and if left unchecked, may lead to autoimmune diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, rheumatoid arthritis, thyroid disease and many others.

Introduction to Crypto

Richard Herrell

Michigan A

Crypto is a mechanism for creating real world value from artificial digital scarcity. This talk will review the history and nature of Bitcoin, Ethereum, Defi, and NFTs.

Exploring Ecuador

Beth Weiss

Michigan B

Ecuador is about the size of Colorado, but it includes the Amazon rainforest and the Galapagos Islands, as well as cities and villages. It was a bucket list trip, so come see some bucket list pictures and hear bucket list stories.

5:30 – 7:00 PM

Endless Optimism!

Marty Jalove

Michigan A

We are bombarded by reasons to be sad, afraid, and angry. Happiness is outnumbered 3-to-1. Learn how to beat the odds!

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5:30 – 7:30 PM

Flatland/Sphereland
Robert Finnegan

Birch

In 1890, English head master & Shakespearean scholar Edwin Abbott published his most beloved work: "Flatland." It was about the geometric residents of a 2-dimensional world and a square's encounter wth a circle with seemingly super powers. In 1965 the sequel "Sphereland" was published about 4-dimensional beings and curved spaces. I will show the computer-animated versions of both these classics using the voice talents of actors such as Martin Sheen & Michael York.

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Dinner Break

Like the last several years, there will be no dinner served tonight, though light snacks will be available. Ask a local for suggestions.

7:30 – 9:30 PM

The Epicurean Experience
Hieu Nguyen and John Bradford

Hospitality (Ravinia C/D/F)

We'll have an all-new variety of thematic, diverse, and sometimes bizarre foods and non-alcoholic drinks to explore. Take a nibble of things you've never seen and/or heard of before...or perhaps you are familiar with, but were reluctant to try. This event is ALCOHOL FREE, so anyone not wearing an "under 21" badge should visit before partaking of Pretentious Drinking. Please note: we aren't serving a meal, just samples and sips, so come for curiosity, not dinner.

8:30 – 10:00 PM

Pretentious Drinking **(21 and older)**
Alan Baltis

Botanic

Liqueurs. The fancy stuff. Polished, cosmopolitan, perhaps even a bit snooty. You'd like to know more but are too sensible to plunk down the price of an unknown beverage. Rejoice! As in years past, you can sample some truly amazing liqueurs—and your money's no good. Unlike years past, however, we will be making a few small changes for the sake of safety, chiefly related to cup handling. So come on by and sample our weird and wonderful distillates and decoctions from around the world. You can determine which you'd like to own, which should be left on the store 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, and valid proof of pretensiousness may be required. Snobby accents and extended pinkies remain optional.

PLEASE NOTE: The alcohol in Pretentious Drinking **MUST** remain in Michigan A & B. Please help us maintain our wonderful relationship with the hotel. Thank you.

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9:00 – Late

Saturday Night Movie - "Jurassic World Dominion"

Bob Finnegan

Birch

Probably the last Jurassic movie, with the 2 stars of the Jurassic World movies and the 3 stars of the Jurassic Park movies. The dinos are loose in North America and there are mutant locusts threatening the world's food supply. Also the best CG dinos of all. This is an extended version 13 minutes longer than the theatrical version (2.5 hours to the end credits), plus extras.

Social-Deduction Games: Friends of Lawrence (Werewolves of WeeM)

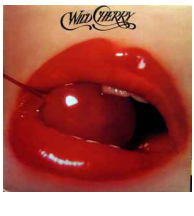
Stephen Rider

Elm

Are you a werewolf? If not, who is??? Come discover which of your friends is secretly harboring special dietary needs in this classic game of social deduction and cold-blooded murder. New players welcome.

Saturday Night Dance

DJ: Ed Barta



Botanic

There will be music. There will be beverages. There will be all of the friends you've made this weekend.

Also Sunday (Couldn't fit it over there)

12:30 – 2:30 PM

Betsy T turns 100

Stan Ward & Beth Weiss

The South Parking Lot

Betsy is Stan and Beth's 1923 Model T Touring car. Her engine was built in November, 1922, meaning she's turning 100! Come join us in the south parking lot to meet Betsy and enjoy her birthday cake. Weather permitting, she'll be offering rides.

3:15 PM – Later

Anyone with time to spare?

Just about everywhere

Time to clean up! Please pitch in and give us a hand. If you volunteer, you ***may*** go home with some unused food or beverages, but you will ***definitely*** go home with our thanks, and a collectable volunteer pin.





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Sunday

8:00 – 9:30 AM

Breakfast
Hospitality

Continental Breakfast Items plus Hot Breakfast … Scrambled Eggs (V); Egg, Bacon, Cheese Scramble; Tater Rounds (V); Sausage & Bacon (GF).

9:30 - 11:00 AM

Amazing Race - WeeM Style
Jill Sackett

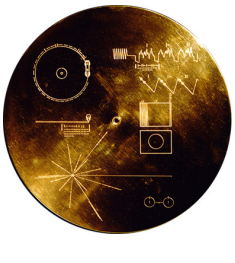
Michigan B

Need some help in recovering from your Saturday night revelry? Join us for an Amazing Race for Mensans! Based upon the popular TV reality show, teams of 2-4 competitors complete a variety of tasks, some cerebral, some lighthearted, on their way to the final "Pit Stop" and victors' bragging rights. Our version is designed for all ages and activity levels. Please sign up in advance to facilitate our planning. Not on a team? No problem; we'll get you on one. Don't miss out on one of the most entertaining events of the weekend!

9:30 – 11:30 AM

Voyager Gold Record
Bob Finnegan

Birch



Since the Voyager space probes of the 70s were going to be the first man-made objects to leave the solar system, Carl Sagan & others decided to include a record that would inform any aliens who discovered the probe about humans & Earth. I will play CDs of the greetings & musical selections & bring a large hardcover with the photos of humans & Earth also included on the record.

10:00 – 11:00 AM

CAM Board Meeting
Michigan A

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Awards and Announcements
Hosted by Heather Booton & Beth Weiss

Hospitality (Ravinia C/D)

Find out who did and won what this weekend.

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Proctored Tests (Note: Cost discount 50%)
Willow/Birch

Not a member yet? Here's your chance to qualify.

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Presenter Biographies

Nathaniel Arons

Curative Cocktails Both Modern and Antique. (Fri.)

Former Herbal practitioner, nearly trained chef, occasional lush, and lover of historical oddities.

Alan Baltis

Adventures in the Comic Book Multiverse, Relentless Geekery, Pretentious Drinking (Sat.)

Alan Baltis is an alpha geek, an app/website/database developer, consultant, author, investor. Music lover, game player, puzzle solver, movie buff; fan of stand-up comedy & live music & theater. Life-long reader & collector of comic books (>40,000), also tens of thousands of magazines, books, puzzles, games, CDs & LPs. Hiker & traveler who has been to 48/50 state capitols with his wonderful M wife, Colleen. Email at alanbaltis@gmail.com, podcast at relentlessgeekery.com, friend him on Facebook.

Heather Booton

Human Hungry Hungry Hippos (Sat.) Awards (Sun.)

Heather is your fearless WeeM Chair who has spent the last two years fighting crime as Miss T Mountain, a member of Chicago's prestigious Owl Academy. She is a native of the Chicago area where she puts her tasseography talents to use for the good of all humanity. Heather and her new husband John Caffeinetime like to explore their creativity by creating fictional bios in their spare time when they're not collaborating on bad puns or dark humor.

John Bradford

Craft Supplies Swap (Fri.) Epicurean Exp. (Sat.)

John is a librarian, the co-author of a highly regarded reference book, and an occasional sketcher. He's also a member of several secret societies.

Roger Breisch

Words in Red (Fri.)

Roger holds an MS from NIU and an MS in Management from MIT. He was a manager for a Fortune 100 company, and owned a management consulting company. Roger has worked with teens in an anti-alcohol, anti-drug program, and has spent more than 4,000 hours answering calls on a suicide hotline. Roger spoke at three TEDx events and published two books: "Questions That Matter" and "Humanity's Journey Home." Today, Roger focuses on helping others discover a "Life That Matters."

Jason Brooks

Clandestine - Strategy Game Playtest (Fri.)

Jason created Brookspun Games, which designs and publishes tabletop games including the heavyweight strategy game "Legacies," released in early 2022.

Erika Bruhn

Make Your Own Hedgehog (Fri.)

Erika Bruhn is a member of Chicago Area Mensa. She made her very own hedgehog at the AG in Sparks earlier this year and wants to share the joy with others.

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Cynthia Clampitt

Destination: Heartland History (Sat.)

Cynthia is a writer, speaker, and food historian. She has pursued her love of culture, history, and food in thirty-seven countries on six continents but has in recent years increasingly focused on the American Midwest. Her newest book is Destination Heartland: A Guide to Discovering the Midwest's Remarkable Past (U of IL Press, May 2022). She is a member of the Culinary Historians of Chicago, Society of Women Geographers, Agricultural History Society, and Midwestern History Association.

Lynn Collier, et. al.

Three Journeys through Breast Cancer (Fri.)

Lynn first knew she had breast cancer when her personal care physician called her at home at 8pm on a weeknight in June. After more tests, surgery, and reconstruction just before the pandemic, she is now a 3 year breast cancer survivor.

Co-presenter Karen has learned that life is what you make of it. She tries to keep things in perspective and makes sure to laugh every day. Between spending time with her family, taking college classes, doing her Mensa work, and trying to fit in a trip here and there, she keeps very busy, but not necessarily out of trouble. Karen hopes you find information in this session that can help you or a loved one through their individual breast cancer journey.

Co-presenter Beth Weiss' bio is below, alphabetically.

Ruth Danielle

Whimsical M Family Reunion (Sat.)

Ruth usually talks about her travels. But her business card says Intrepid Artist. Her jewelry ranges from wire work to complex beaded designs to simple accessories. She has written for Bead and Button and is mentioned in Beading for Dummies. In Mensa, she ruffles feathers in her local group and coordinates Whimsical M SIG, an informal friendly group with a quirky newsletter.

Steve Duberchin (The BlueBs)

Improvisation For Fun and Profit, and the Improv Comedy Show: The BlueBs (Sat.)

President, CEO of "ImprovThis'" Steve earned his MBA from DePaul University and has worked at Fortune 50 & Ad Age 50 companies. He found his true passion when he took his first improv class at the Second City Training Center in 2002. ImprovThis focuses on training people in communication and leadership skills through the use of the "Three Pillars of Improv" and Steve instructs teams on how to communicate more effectively, grow their emotional intelligence, and create a positive corporate culture.

The Queen Bs and Crazy Shades of Blue are combining forces again this year to bring you the improv stylings of The BlueBs. Together we have almost a century of combined improv performance experience and our players have been seen at almost every major improv venue in the Chicago area. If that's not enough to prove we're talented in our craft, at least it shows we're tenacious.

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Robert Finnegan

Friday Night Movie (duh), Welles Does Wells, Flatland/Sphereland, Saturday Night Movie (Sat.) Voyager Gold Record (Sun.)

Bob Finnegan is an avid film buff with an impressive collection of documentaries and information on a wide range of topics. Favorites include illusions, animals, disasters, and especially movies and moviemaking, behind-the-scenes footage, and movie-star insights.

Melinda Grayson

Monsters of the Moon - Lost Film Found (Fri.)

Lifelong darkroom photographer and daytime Analytical Chemist, Mindy has worked as a forensic photographer and moving film preservationist since her teens. Sister of world renowned film historian Eric Grayson, she supports the preservation, restoration and presentation of one of America's most unique and sometimes dying art form: motion pictures. In her spare time, she performs as an Irish dancer for Celtic Motion dance troupe.

Jon Gruebele

Meet Your National Board of Directors (AMC) (Fri.)

Jon is serving his third term as Regional Vice Chair 4 on the American Mensa Board of Directors (AMC). He's a former LocSec, longtime Proctor, and a Life Member. Jon co-chaired Chicago Area Mensa's "A Gathering of Gamers" (AGOG) Regional Gathering and is Chair of the American Mensa Strategic Planning Committee. His background is in management, IT, and international marketing for a Fortune 100 corporation. He is a process and quality improvement expert.

Karen Guse

Live Better With Less (Fri.)

Karen loves to help others live a decluttered and more minimalistic life. Karen joined Central Indiana Mensa in 2006 and enjoys presenting at RGs and AGs.

Michael Haupt

Coleman, Coffey, and the Condor: Chicago's African American Aviation Pioneers (Fri.)

Michael Haupt weaves a fascinating story revealing many otherwise forgotten events which have shaped the world we live in today. His book, Aviation Chicago Timeline, is a well-written account of aviation activity in and around the Chicago region. Based on decades of research, the book is a product of the author's insatiable curiosity coupled with a fastidious attention to detail. Many regard it as the definitive history of aviation activities in Chicago and the surrounding region.



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Catrina Hays

Calefaction or Gelid? A Compare/Contrast of Wine Tasting (Sat.)

Catrina started her wine explorations when she was a grad student in the little known area of Sonoita, AZ, where she picked the brain of the former UA chemistry professor who ran a winery there. She has been a member of Lynfred Winery since 1999 and recent wine tasting trips have included Paso Robles and Woodinville, WA. Catrina's favorite oenophile hobby is food and wine pairing, especially how the same wine can taste completely different with various foods.

Richard Herrell

Introduction to Crypto (Sat.)

Richard is a member of Mensa from Michigan. He is a software engineer for a major global corporation. He writes poetry, paints using digital tools, and cooks and cleans. He is active in several Mensa groups on Facebook.

Robb Hill

Get Your "BUT" Out of the Way! (Fri.)

Robb is a licensed financial professional, and the founder of R Hill Enterprises, Inc. He has been conducting lectures on basic financial planning, and has appeared on numerous media outlets across the nation A proud US Army veteran, he earned a BS in business management, and is the author of "Ask the RIGHT Questions Get the Right ANSWERS for Sound Financial Retirement Planning," which is available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc. Robb Hill is a forcefully energetic and entertaining speaker.

Lacee Hudec

Self-sufficient Ms - Carry-in & Seed Swap (Fri.) & Dundee Scottish Pipe Band (Sat.)

Lacee is an avid gardener, baker, bagpiper, and mom. Sometimes these things align to create some exciting ventures, and sometimes they pull her in opposite directions. In either case, life is never boring!

Marty Jalove

Endless Optimism! & Elevator vs. Cocktail Speech (Sat.)

Marty Jalove is a high-energy, award-winning speaker, and an international business and life coach who loves to share!

R. Brady Johnson

A Set Back is a Set Up For a Comeback (Fri.)

Brady Johnson is a veteran who spent 13 years in USAF/ANG. He survived a terrorist bombing in Saudi Arabia and was awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal. At 31, Brady had a massive stroke that left him paralyzed on the right side of his body. Using his military discipline through months of rehabilitation, he was able to regain mobility on his right side without feeling his right side. He is an Ambassador for the American Stroke Association, telling his story to other young stroke survivors.

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Catherine Lambrecht

Family Heirloom Recipes from the Illinois State Fair (Sat.)

Catherine Lambrecht is a veteran of culinary competitions at the Lake County and Illinois State Fairs. A former University Program Director for the Highland Park Historical Society of Illinois Extension volunteer, her specialties were Master Food Preserver and Master Gardner. She is also a founder of Greater Midwest Foodways Alliance, Chicago Foodways Roundtable (sister organization to Culinary Historians of Chicago) and LTHforum.com, a Chicago culinary chat site.

Billie Lee

GenYMs Meet & Greet (Fri.)

Billie is the National Coordinator for the GenYMs SIG and Chair of the Gifted Youth Committee. She currently resides in Ann Arbor, Michigan, with her M husband and toddler.

Bruce Lee

Cannibis and You - Pros Cons & Mythconceptions (Thur.)

Spending 30+ years in the tech industry, working on such world-changing programs as PowerPoint, Microsoft Office, and mobile device apps for companies like Amazon, ShareBuilder, and T-Mobile, Bruce developed a wide range of interests, from filmmaking to home renovation & property management. Bruce has attended every WeeM since 2016, the one at which he met the person who would become his wife.

Gary Lehman

Naval Aviation (Thur.)

Gary started his Navy career as an enlisted sailor and left as a Lieutenant Commander. He holds a degree in engineering from the University of Nevada and was selected for Tau Beta Pi. He held jobs with major international firms and small businesses. Gary, married to Patricia for the past 45 years, has three adult children living in Brisbane, Australia; Anchorage, Alaska; and Southern California. He is Loc-Sec of the Northeast Indiana Mensa group.

Oriel Maximé

Logic Problem Tournament (Sat.)

Oriel Maxime is a general-purpose STEM-y Mensan. He is a published Logic Problem creator, and has run this WeeM tournament for well over a decade.

Franck Mounier

Whiskies of the World (Thur.)

Franck is a whisky educator and consultant. He has a distillation diploma from the IBD (London), is a Whisky Ambassador Tutor from Scotland, and a judge to national and international whisky competitions, like the World Whisky Awards. He has toured the world to visit more than 160 distilleries from Japan to the US, Scotland, and everywhere in between. He has entertained and educated more than 5,500 participants to date with his tastings and classes. https://whiskey-gourmet.com.

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Marie Genevieve Pawlak

The Case for Kindness (Fri.)

Marie-Genevieve Pawlak is the Managing Principal and Chief Problem Solver (CPS) at Planning101 Group, the parent company of Prime Alchemy. Marie believes in organizational health through game-based learning as a way to build better workplaces and critical skills for all employees.

Cliff Petrak

Don't Slow Me Down with that Calculator (Fri.)

Now retired, teacher and author Cliff Petrak taught math for 40 years at Brother Rice H.S. For his academic and coaching accomplishments, he has been recognized by inductions into 6 different halls of fame. His book "Don't Slow Me Down with that Calculator" details 62 little-known computational techniques and strategies. Cliff has given presentations and workshops in speed and mental math since 1996 at schools and math conferences in 16 states & Canada. This will be #150!

Terry Poppleton

On the Trail of the Ancient Ones (Fri.)

Terry Poppleton has lived in Glen Ellyn, IL, for over 50 years. He taught history for 33 years at Hadley Junior High School. He has had a lifelong interest in Native Americans. Since his retirement, he and his wife Sharon have made many trips to the southwest. It was on these trips that Terry became interested in the archaeology of the southwest. He is here today to share with you some of the excitement and insight that has come about through his travels.

Stephen Rider

Werewolves of WeeM (Fri., Sat, & Sun.)

Stephen is a life member of Mensa, and probably best known for his ongoing struggle with lycanthropy. He holds nightly support meetings throughout WeeM.

Jill Sackett

Amazing Race - WeeM Style (Sun.)

Jill is an Amazing Race fan, avid gamer, and occasional event-planner who's back for a 9th year of planning whimsical and cerebral challenges for her fellow Mensans, with devious input from former contestants. She is joined by a terrific team of fellow Amazing Race fans to help execute this annual event.

Frank Sassetti

Stress/Anxiety Management (Sat.)

As a licensed psychologist and a National Academy of Sports Medicine certified personal trainer, Dr. Sassetti brings a unique perspective to his practice. He fully embraces the mind-body connection and uses a holistic approach to well-being. He has worked with a wide demographic, in settings ranging from inpatient to major corporations.

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Stephen Schneider

Our Future Kids, Video Game Storytelling (Sat.)

Computer consultant and middle grade author, Stephen works with teachers and parents to prepare their kids for the future.

Tom Schnorrenberg

Gen X Ms Meet and Greet (Fri.)

Tom is the Coordinator of the national Gen-X Ms SIG, the Assistant LocSec of Boston Mensa, and your fierce and fabulous co-host of the Mister Mensa Pageant at the Annual Gathering.

Gregg Siegel

The Wonderful World of Pun Competitions (Sat.)

Gregg has participated in more than 30 pun competitions and shows over the past three years. He is a freelance copywriter, a short humor writer for several publications on Medium, and former freelance jokewriter for several late night shows and comedians.

Ed Spire

How Gerrymandering Cripples Our Legislatures, and What We Can Do About It (Thur.)

Mr. Spire recently retired from a lengthy career in software engineering management. He works in conjunction with several progressive groups (such as Indivisible, the League of Women Voters, and Represent.US) and is actively engaged in the promotion of progressive policies, including election integrity, and campaign finance reform. Mr. Spire is an election equipment manager and deputy voter registrar in Cook County – Suburban Chicago.

Robert Stalzer

Costume Parade Emcee (Fri.)

Robert is a long-term member of Chicago Area Mensa, a former HalloweeM chair, and a former LocSec. This is his 11th year hosting the children's and adult's costume parades. If he keeps accepting this invitation, they might just keep inviting him back.

Glenn Sutton

7 Wonders Tournament (Thur.)

Glenn is an avid gamer, programmer, and project manager. He also volunteers extensively in his community, as well as at WeeM. He has run the 7 Wonders tournament at WeeM since 2013.

Stan Ward

Model Ts: the car that changed the world (Fri.), Betsy's Birthsay (Sun.)

Life Member Stan Ward has loved Model Ts for 50 years and now that he's retired has acquired Betsy, a 1923 Model T Touring car.

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Beth Weiss

HELL's M's Meeting (Fri.), Exploring Ecuador (Sat.), Betsy's Birthsay (Sun.)

Beth Weiss is running out of ideas of what to put into her program bio. She is recently retired and that has given her more time to pursue her passions - or at least decrease the time she was supposed to be working. She is the CAM LocSec, a proctor, and the Coordinator of HELL's M's, the Party SIG of American Mensa.

Kenya Zarns

Lagniappe Pub Trivia, Fri. Night Dance (Fri.)

Kenya is a New Orleans-born former St. Louis-based 'Geeks Who Drink' host, and a current member of Chicago Area Mensa who resides in North Dakota. Eventually, she will make it to the North Pole. Kenya writes all of her own trivia just for the sheer joy of watching geniuses turn red and pull their hair out while searching fruitlessly for meaningless answers. If you're a masochist, check out her games at: facebook.com/lagniappetrivia.

Robert Zoboski

The Microbiome and Autoimmunity; Unlocking Clinical Opportunities for Health (Sat.)

Dr. Zoboski is actively engaged in clinical study and research related to the gastrointestinal microbiome related to irritable bowel syndrome, gastroesophageal reflux disorder, and autoimmune diseases.

Very Special Thanks to:

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Hospitality Chairs . Susan Woodill, Rhonda Peek
Hospitality Minion..... Lora Mitchell
Beverages & Program Book.....Dave Gudjonis
Beverages Co-Chair.....Ben Peek
Game Warden .....Ed Barta
Volunteer Coordinator.....Nat Arons
Vendor Coordinator..... Rae Goodman
Registrars ..... Lynn Collier,Theo Sparks
Treasurer..... Karen Gruebele
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Costume Contest MC .....Robert Stalzer
Room and Ride Matching ..... Kris Petzinger
Epicurean Experience.....Hieu Nguyen &
John Bradford
Decorations Chair..... Megan Bratkovich
Social Deduction Games.....Stephen Rider
CAM LocSec, Publicity Chair.....Beth Weiss

These are the people who will be wearing green badges. Please express any concerns, problems, or offers of thanks to them.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

