



The monthly publication of
the Sunflower chapter of
American Mensa, Wichita, Kansas

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MEETINGS



DECEMBER



Pig Out Saturday, December 5, 12:45 p.m. *Country Café*, 2804 S. Seneca (S. E. corner of 27th S. and Seneca behind Midas). They specialize in breakfast, but have lunch and dinner items also.

Christmas Party Saturday, December 12, 2:00p.m. Same time, but a different place. The party will be held at the Bakken house. It is not far from Watermark Books, and is at 4323 E. Douglas Ave. Park in the driveway or on N. Belmont.

Food and drink will be furnished by the group. However if you care to bring something, feel free. Come prepared to relax and have a good time.

Food for Thought Saturday, December 19, 11:00 a.m. Downstairs at *Watermark Books*, 4701 E. Douglas Ave, at Oliver Street. This is the same location as our program meeting. Food and drink are available. Members and guests are welcome.

Banter and Books Saturday, December 26, 7:00 p.m. *Barnes and Noble* bookstore cafeteria, 1920 N. Rock, Wichita. This is a congenial place to meet, and if you need a book, this is the place.

NOVEMBER'S MEETING

Mat Hagney gave a very interesting talk on the Lyme Disease epidemic. While some were apprehensive that it might be a dull subject it easily held everyone's attention for 2 hours, as questions kept coming. Mat is a gifted speaker and made this much-needed information into an excellent presentation.

School Lunch Kid

When I was a ninth grader, and one of the poor kids in town, I worked in the school lunch program. It paid minimum wage (sixty-two cents per hour), but that was big money in those days.

Among my assorted tasks was cleaning the plates of leftovers as the kids left the lunchroom. It was a dirty job, but not bad.

The third grade teacher had a rule that her students could not leave until their plate was cleared of food. There was a time limit. You could leave then to get back to class.

A new kid showed up one day in that class. He was a small kid, pale and weak, and very quiet. He was always the last to leave as he did not eat anything but the small bottle of milk. (It came in bottles in those days.) Even the day they had hamburgers and fries he would just sit there, head down, hands in his lap and wait. When the time was up he would bring me his plate untouched. He was the talk of the cooks and the entire lunch work group.

One day they had vegetable soup. He was the first one done! When he handed me his bowl and plate the bowl was clean. Then, the lunch workers talked about him even more. The next day there was some leftover soup. Did he want some? He took it.

It was obvious that the only food he ever had was soup. There was always a bowl of soup left from the previous day. He did not mind. He just took it. He was then always the first one done.

A few weeks later something happened to the family and they moved. I never saw the kid again but I think of him often. How many people do you know that have never eaten anything but soup?

I wonder what kind of Christmas he had.

Dexter Schnebly

Hi
Guys

Greg Kontz
Vice Chair
Heartland Region 7

Still doctoring a lot lately. Got off the statin drug that was messing me up. Then a cardiologist thought an angiogram was a good idea. Had a 95%, 75%, and 40% blockage - they put stents in the first two. Also, my wife Susan started scheduling for a knee replacement. Thank God for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Been kind of a long ride this summer and fall.



Not over yet. Figured it was time to get the carpal tunnel thing addressed. Found out it was not carpal tunnel – it's cervical spinal stenosis with cervical myelopathy. The neurosurgeon says I'm not far from being paralyzed from the neck down. I'm wearing a neck brace and trying to be real careful. So – CRAP. I really hope the next thing I write to tell you is that things went OK, and I'm on the mend.

I was a 62 year old 'virgin' 4 months ago – never been hospitalized. Been doing a lot of 'pondering.' Mostly, I'm still grateful. I figured out a while ago that my basic goal was pretty simple: die grateful. I'm not in any hurry, though.

Other Mensa items:

- The discussion over the banner used in a parade last summer is still ongoing. This one is going to take a while.
- Some Local Groups are having their elections soon. Participate. *(Next year for us –Ed.)*
- The agenda for the December 5th meeting should be up soon.

Later – Greg Kontz, grik@fisherind.com, 701-290-0743



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BOARD MEETING

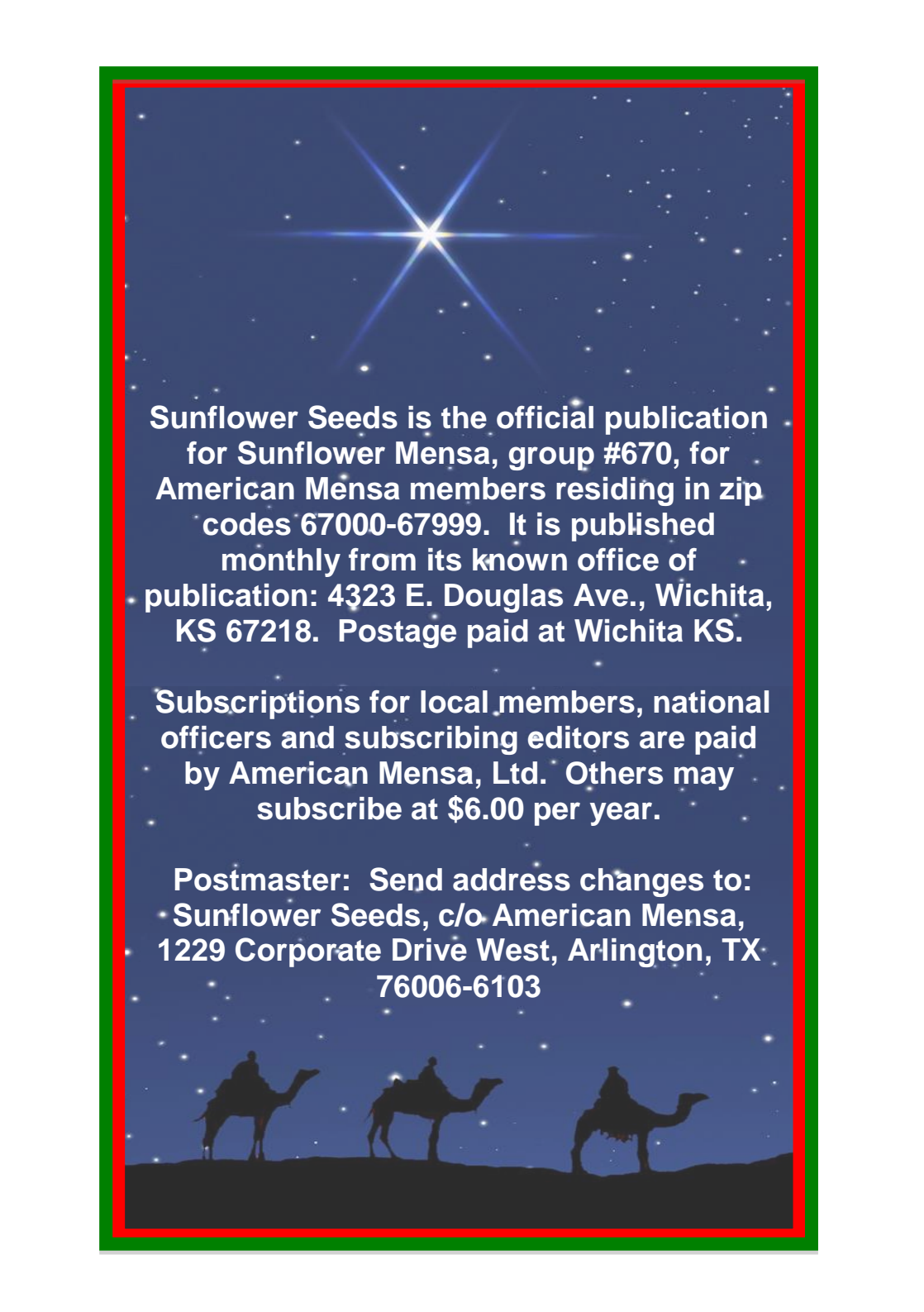
A board meeting was held after the November 14 meeting. It was decided to make the December Program Meeting a Christmas Party. Bill may spend up to \$200 on food and drinks. Since some might be offended by the group buying liquor, you must BYOB.

The board could not agree on an ombudsman.



Sunflower
SEEDS



The background of the entire page is a dark blue night sky filled with numerous small white stars. A prominent, bright starburst with four long, thin rays is positioned in the upper left quadrant. At the bottom of the page, there is a black silhouette of a desert landscape with three camels and their riders walking from left to right. The entire scene is framed by a thick border consisting of a red inner line and a green outer line.

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