

Sunflower
SEEDS



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


December 2016

Volume 43 No. 12



December Meetings

Pig Out

Saturday, December 3. This month it will be earlier, 12:00 noon, and the food and drink will be free. It will be our annual **Christmas party**, and will be at the Bakken home at 4323 E. Douglas Ave. See page 3 for details. 

Program Meeting

Saturday, December 10, 2:00 p.m. downstairs, at Watermark Books, 4701 E. Douglas Ave, at Oliver St.

Julie Dubuc of JBN Global Solutions will speak on "Why Coaching Works." She is a business coach and consultant. Her mission is to help busy professionals find their work-life balance, achieve career goals, and proactively manage their workweek.

Food for Thought

Saturday, December 17, 11:00 a.m., downstairs at Watermark Books, 4701 E. Douglas Ave, at Oliver Street. This is the same location as our program meeting. This is primarily a chitchat group. We would like to hear your ideas.

Banter and Books

This being Christmas Eve, and really Christmas Eve, since we usually meet at 7:00 p. m., we decided that this would be a good month to take off. We will be there next month, however.

Fifth Saturday

Saturday, December 31, 12:45 p.m. Wichita Art Museum Café, in Sims Park, a little north of Seneca and Central.

This is another almost holiday. However, since we meet in the afternoon, and the celebrating usually doesn't start until the evening, we decided to get together. It will be lunch, then the Museum at no charge.

November Meeting.

Glen Schrandt is owner/president of Off-Grid Energy Solutions in Wichita. He discussed the various energy-saving products that he sells (window inserts, tankless water heaters, etc.) and energy saving in general.



CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Christmas Party is this weekend, Saturday, December 3 at 12:00 noon. It will be at the Bakken house, just a half mile west of our regular program-meeting place at Watermark Books. Food and drinks will be furnished by the group, but you can bring something if you wish. Diane Powell, 617-8243, is in charge of the food.

The Bakken house is on the south side of Douglas at 4323. The Arch is on the north side. Drive under the arch and park on North Belmont, or in the driveway.



LONG TIME MEMBERS

Below is the list of the thirteen longest time members in Sunflower Mensa, and the year they joined. Each has been a member for at least 37 years.

Philip Parker	Jan 1965
Ellen Burd	Dec 1970
David St John	May 1971
James Updegrave	Sep 1975
Geoffrey Brown	Nov 1975
Saralyn Smith	May 1976
Gary Hackley	Feb 1978
Randy Holden	Jun 1978
Cynthia Chauhan	Aug 1978
Edward Freeman	Sep 1978



Jack Reffner	Sep 1978
Thomas Chase	July 1979
Don Barry	Nov 1979

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our group. Or in some cases, welcome back.

Marshall Christman	Sean Martchink
David Olson	Jody Fiorini
Jeffrey Akin	Lon Beadles
Ronald Peden	

**Hi
Guys**

**Greg Kontz
Vice Chair
Heartland Region 7**

No column this month. See you in January.



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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our election of officers for the 2017-2018 term is now officially over. The same officers who served the 2015-2016 term have been re-elected.

They are Larry Paarmann- President, Bill Barnett-Vice President, Diane Powell-Treasurer and Lucille Campbell-Member at large.

The nominating committee nominated these four in October. The members had until November 15 to nominate additional candidates with a petition containing the signatures of 10 members. None were submitted.

The President must now appoint, with the concurrence of the board, additional officers. They are Program Chair, Testing Chair, Publications Chair, and Ombudsman.



President

This is the tree on the cover (the cover picture is squashed to make it fit) in the California Sequoia National Park. It is a giant sequoia, a species of redwoods, and has a name, the *President*, to honor President Harding.

At 3200 years old, 247 feet tall and 27 feet in diameter it is not the oldest or tallest tree on earth, but is probably the heaviest. Its volume of 54,000 cu. ft., and 2 billion leaves, make its weight over 1000 tons.

The national Geographic decided to photograph it. The many other tall trees nearby made it impossible to see in its entirety. So, they hung people and cameras from adjacent trees and took many photos. 120 were put together to create the picture you see here.

The rate of growth of a big tree can increase during old age. An elderly monster like the President actually lays down more new wood per year than a young tree. Is that a lesson for us humans? Maybe we can grow faster as we get older.

SCHOLARSHIP

The committee in charge of choosing the winner of our essay-writing contest is having a difficult time picking a winner. We should be able to announce who it is in the January SEEDS.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The people below have a birthday in November or December. Congratulations to all of you.

NOVEMBER

George Hiss	1
Eric Perkins	2
Emily Gorsuch	5
Sean Martchink	8
David Olson	10
Melody Choate	13
Ronald Trenary	15
Dexter Schnebly	26

DECEMBER

Brent Spencer	2
Herbert Brockmeier	7
Gordon Bakken	11
David Johnson	26
Thomas Baalman	27
Eugene Cox	30

People my age are so much older than me.

*

I always advise people never to give advice.

*

You may as well be yourself. Everyone else is taken.

*

I have so many problems that if a new one comes along today, it will be at least two weeks before I can worry about it.

*

TEACHER: Winnie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

WINNIE: Me!



OFFICERS



President: Larry Paarmann, 316-209-3752, ldpaarmann@cox.net

Vice President: Bill Barnett, 316-214-3330, grandledge@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Diane Powell, 316-617-8423

Program Chair: Bill Barnett, 316-214-3330, grandledge@hotmail.com

Publications Chair, Editor: Gordon Bakken, 316-687-9402, g-j-b@usa.net

Recruitment and Testing Chair and Proctor: Dan Gollub, 316-322-3087, dangollub@aol.com.

Assoc. Proctor and Member at Large: Lucille Campbell, 620-221-0304

Ombudsman: Mike Dickson, 316-651-4707

Region 7 Vice Chair: Gregory Kontz, 701-290-0743, grjk@fisherind.com

American Mensa Ltd.: Nichole Sorensen, 888-294-8035 x 5524

Google “Wichita Mensa,” to find our web page, or go to:

<http://www.kansassunflower.us.mensa.org>

We also have a Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/773587949355460>

I don't want to brag or make anybody
jealous, but I can still fit into
the earrings I wore in high
school.



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