



**Sunflower
SEEDS**



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

June 2017

Volume 44 No. 6



Pig Out Saturday, June 3, 12:45 p.m. at *Two Olives*, 2949 N. Rock (SW corner of Rock and 29th, near 29th).

We have been at this location before but not under this name. At that time it was called *Cometara's* and was near the *Olive Tree*. It is now run by the same family, but has a different style.

<http://twooliveswichita.com/>

Program Meeting Saturday, June 10, 2:00 p.m. downstairs, at *Watermark Books*, 4701 E. Douglas Ave, at Oliver St.

The speaker this month is our own Igor Ponomarev. His topic will be: *France, through the eyes of writers of the time, 1610 – 1715*. Igor is well traveled. Having been born in the USSR and spending some time in France, he should have some interesting insight to give us.

Food for Thought Saturday, June 17, 11:00 a.m., downstairs at *Watermark Books*, 4701 E. Douglas Ave, at Oliver Street. We try to engage in the kind of conversation that Mensa is famous for.

Banter and Books Saturday, June 24, 7:00 p.m., *Barnes and Noble Bookstore* Café, 1920 N. Rock. Drinks and snacks are available here. Join us for congenial socializing. Significant others are welcome also.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The people below have a birthday in May or June. Congratulations to all of you.

MAY

William Henson	6
Warren Meyer	19
Robert Byrne	19
Linda Hohman	21
Ronald Waln	23
Gary Witham	30

JUNE

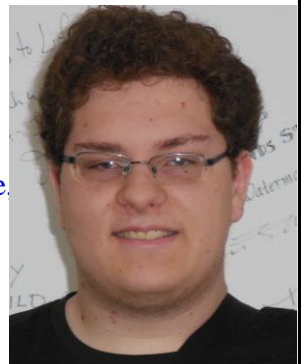
Josh Durner	1
Lon Beadles	1
Richard Chipman	2
Richard Foster	9
Igor Ponomarev	10
Geoffrey Brown	11
David St John	19
Marshal Christman	25

May Program Meeting

Charles Heminway (our \$1000 Scholarship winner) spoke on a subject that was a bit unexpected. It was the history and significance of York, England.

Once the British Isles' largest city, it had many rulers: Britons, Romans, Saxons, Vikings and finally the Church. They all left their mark.

Since Charles had lived there for some time, he was quite knowledgeable about it as well as quite fond of it. Now we all know more about it and appreciate better its importance to the nation of England.



WHAT CREATED THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION?



Being at one time a mechanical Engineer, I wondered what caused the industrial revolution that I was part of. Prior to the 1800s there were almost no machines. At least there were very few machines compared to what there are now. What happened to cause so many inventions to appear so quickly – in about 200 years – which is merely a moment in the whole history of man?

My first guess was that it was the invention of metal, and the ability to form it. There could hardly be a machine built without metal. I checked into it. Bronze, which is a mixture of copper and tin, was invented about 4000 years ago. Iron was discovered about 2000 years ago. Yet virtually no machines were built from them. The items that were made of metal were mostly tools of war... chariots, helmets, armor, swords, shields, etc. Hardly any machines were created to be labor saving devices.

It also was not science. Many scientific discoveries were made long before the 1800s. Also, most early machines were so simple they required little knowledge of science.

My next guess was that it had something to do with the end of slavery. Slavery began to get a bad reputation near the end of the 1700s. That is close to the time of the Industrial revolution. Many countries began to outlaw it, at least in Europe. The US was one of the last in 1863. Other nations, such as those in the Middle East, Asia and Africa, did not do so. Even today, most of those areas have slaves, and the industrial revolution has hardly reached them. It seemed I had found the cause.

It made sense. Why try to create a labor saving device when you had slaves to do the labor? You need something done? Just yell, “hey you.” But then when there were no slaves, there was no one to do it but yourself. It was time to start inventing machines.

Continued

Thus my conclusion is that it was the philosophers that argued that slavery was immoral, rather than engineers and scientists, who actually caused the revolution that brought us the comfortable life we now enjoy.

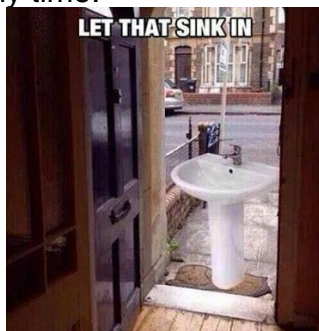
Gordon Bakken

PRIZE WINNER

Imagine that you had won a contest. These are the rules.

1. Each morning your bank will deposit \$86,400 in your account.
2. Everything that you didn't spend during that day will be taken away.
3. You cannot transfer any money into another account. You may only spend it.
4. Each morning upon awakening, the bank opens your account with another \$86,400.
4. The bank can end the payments at any time.

What would you do if this actually happened? You would buy anything and everything you could. You would try to spend every penny, because you knew anything remaining at the end of the day would be gone. You would be happy because you know your account would be replenished in the morning.



Actually, this has happened. The prize you have been given is time.

1. Each morning you awaken to receive 86,400 seconds.
2. When you go to sleep, any remaining time is gone.
3. You cannot give your time to any one else.
4. Each morning the account is refilled.
5. Someday the account will be closed. You will die.

What will you do with your 86,400 seconds today?

Author Unknown



The deadline for voting in the Mensa national election is Wednesday, May 31. We can vote for three offices: First and Second Vice Chair and our own Region 7 vice Chair. There are also 6 national referendums to vote on. You should have a ballot. If not call 1-817-607-5512.

Information on the candidates and the referendums are at:

us.mensa.org/2017election.



**I MAY NOT BE THAT
FUNNY OR ATHLETIC OR
GOOD LOOKING OR
SMART OR TALENTED,
BUT.... LET ME
SEE.....WHERE WAS I
GOING WITH THAT?**



OFFICERS



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Region 7 Vice Chair: Gregory Kontz, 701-290-0743, grjk@fisherind.com
American Mensa Ltd.: 888-294-8035

MENSA ANNUAL GATHERING

This year the AG (Annual Gathering) will be in Hollywood, Florida, July 5-9. Most anyone who has been to one will tell you that it is Mensa fun at its best. A few of us will be going this year, for sure. If you are interested call Gordon Bakken, Larry Paarmann, Bill Barnett or Dexter Schnebly. They will tell you that it is fun. They may be able to help you find a roommate, if desired.

Member News

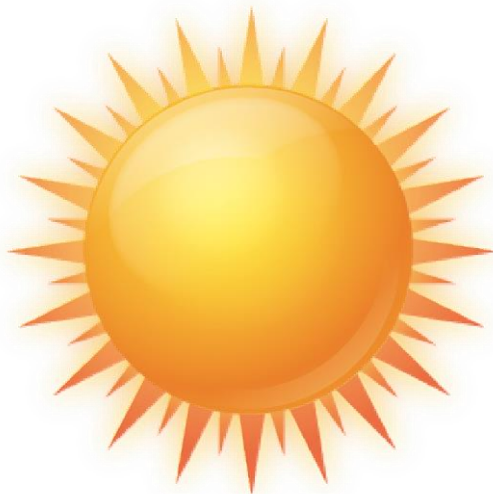
Lucille Campbell, our Member-at-large, had surgery Thursday. This is her second in two weeks, and the doctors are not encouraging. Pray for her.



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