

Sunflower Seeds



This month's features:

The Sunflower Seeds is now a quarterly publication.

Three new guest speakers to regale the group.

Some new eating establishments worth visiting.

A provocative new column called the skewed view.

More submissions by members, check em out.

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2018

THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE SUNFLOWER CHAPTER OF AMERICAN
MENSA, WICHITA, KANSAS

VOLUME 45, NO. 4,5,6.

Treasurers Report

Sunflower Mensa Financial Report

4th - Quarter

[October 1, 2017 -December 31, 2017]

Diane Powell, Treasurer Sunflower Mensa

Balance - October 1, 2017	\$3,915.45
SEEDS Printing	- \$72.70
SEEDS Postage	- \$130.41
Christmas Party	-\$104.63
Program Speaker	- \$40.00
Testing expenses	-\$21.50
National Funding	+ \$303.60
Balance December 31, 2017	\$3, 849.81

Please note:

Our thoughts go out to long time member Diane Kingsley Powell on the loss of her husband Frank Powell.

I want a ride to the Mensa A□ next July 4.
□ordon □akken

The chapter is still in need of a testing proctor. We really need at least one person to do this much needed service . It would only require a few hours every month, and would go far in helping to recruit new members.

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Heartland Mensa Region 7



*Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote
The droghte of Marche hath perced to the roote,
And bathed every veyne in swich licour,
And tax papers flutt'ring onto the floor*

Memories of sophomore English class, with Mrs Walters proudly belting out Chaucer in her version of Middle English. OK, except for that last line. Yes, it's the time of year when Americans ante up to pay for all the good things that come with residing where we do. Is the world perfect? Of course not, that'll never happen, but most people try to make things better at least a little.

Which brings me to *Mensa Cares*, our national umbrella for community services projects that Local Groups decide to take on. "What kinds of projects?" you ask. LGs have participated in everything from cleaning up a city park to putting up a team for a charity 5K run to sorting books donated to the local public library (how appropriate for Mensa!). The "official" day this year, April 21, coincides with National Volunteer Week, April 15-22. I guarantee that no-one will say "No" if you pick a more convenient date. One Young Mensans group jumped the gun by using part of their Valentine's Day party to make valentines for seniors.

Odds are you're involved with a local charitable organization that needs help. Maybe you have a different idea for a fun community service project some local Mensans could pitch in on. Now's the time to stand up, step up, and volunteer to help your LocSec get that ball rolling and maybe gather a little positive notice for Mensa in your community. Be sure to take a couple of photos for your group's newsletter. Send a note about your project to MensaCares@americanmensa.org and there may be T-shirts.

Speaking of Mensan volunteers, a tip of my hat to the teams who judged this year's Scholarship essays. The final numbers haven't crossed my desk yet, but I know a lot of people did a lot of work to see that Mensa Education and Research Foundation money went to deserving applicants. Thanks, folks. ~ Rich

Pig Out Locations:

April: KABABS, 3101 N ROCK RD

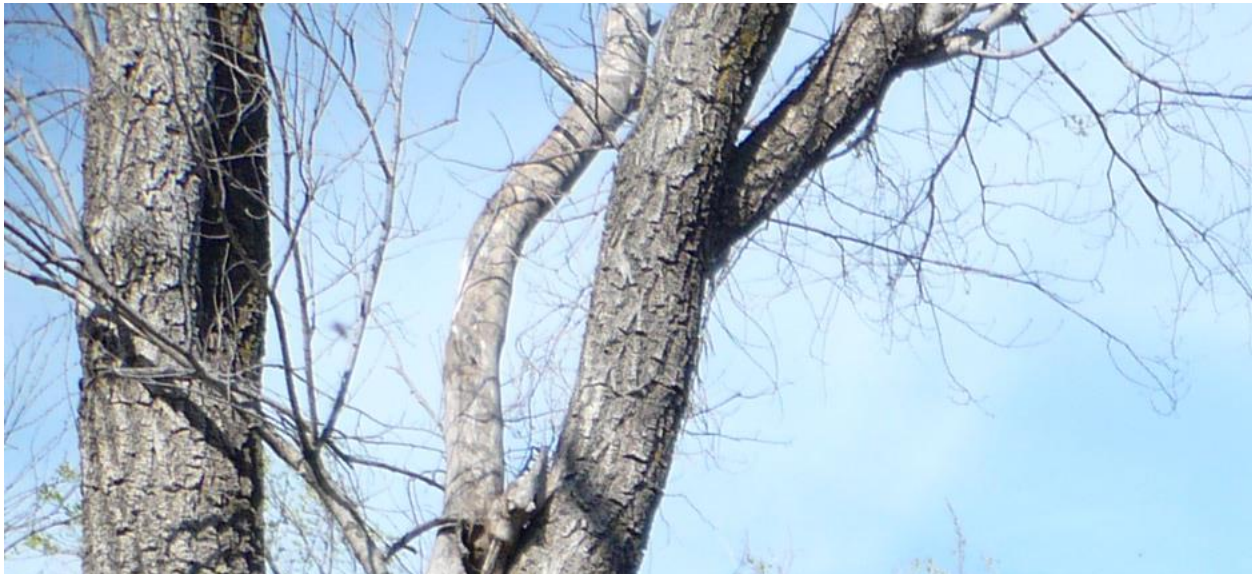
May: 6S STEAKHOUSE, 6200 W 21st ST

June: LE MONDE CAFE & DELI, 602 N WEST ST

April

2018

This Month's Group Events:



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Joseph Yeager HBD	7  "Pig out" 12:45 pm Kababs
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Stated Meeting. 2:00 pm Watermark Books, downstairs. Guest Speaker, Bill Barnett*.
15	16	17	18 John Prechtel II HBD	19	20	21 Food for Thought. 11:00 am Watermark Books, downstairs. HBD - Laura Bornholdt
22	23	24	25	26	27 Stuart Boehmer HBD	28 Banter and Books. 7:00 pm Barnes & Noble's, eating area.
29	30					HBD = Happy Birthday. *Outdoor Adventures Hiking Club.

Jokes as told by our very own Mike Dickson.

- Math is made up of □0% formulas, □0% proofs, □0% imagination
- It's a proven fact that 7□8% of all statistics are made up wholesale. Retail it's even higher.
- There is an error in this sentence, but it is unprovable□what is it□
- Philosophy is a game with ob□ectives □ no rules. Mathematics is a game with rules □ no ob□ectives. □oth may be influenced by enough grant money.
- A pun, a play on words, □ a limerick walk into a bar. No □oke. The □oke was still out parking the car.
- An economist, philosopher, biologist □ an architect were arguing the nature of □od's intent. The philosopher held that intent was proved because □od gave the principles by which we were to live. □Ridiculous□said the biologist, □od first created men, women □ all that lives. There is the intent□□Wrong□chimes in the architect, □first □od created heaven □ earth. □efore, there was only confusion □ chaos. That must mean intent. □ The economist pondered, then asked: □Where do you think the chaos □ confusion came from□□
- An engineer thinks his e□uations approximate reality. A physicist thinks reality approximates his e□uations. A mathematician doesn't care.
- A lawyer strikes up a conversation with a young lady traveling on the same flight next to him. □I want to play a game with you to pass the flight time. □I'll ask you a □uestion□if you can□answer it, you pay me □□ Then you ask. me a □uestion□if I can□answer it, I pay you □□ I warn you, though, I'm well read □ knowledgeable.□She replied: □It doesn't sound too interesting. □I'd rather catch some sleep.□
- e persists: □Look, □I'll make it more interesting - if i can□answer your □uestions, □I'll pay you □□00....□Seeing no way out, she agrees. □e leads off with some arcane statistic □uestion from the early days of baseball. Not knowing the answer, she hands him a □□bill. □er turn. □What goes up a hill with 3 legs, □ comes back down with 4□□□e racks his brain, but comes up with nothing, □ sheepishly counts out □□100 bills into her hand. □Well, what is the answer, then□he asks. □I don't know,□she replies. She hands him a □□bill □ turns away to start her in flight nap.

Sunflower Mensa Financial Report 1st Quarter [Jan. 1, 2018 -Mar. 31, 2018]

Diane Powell, Treasurer Sunflower Mensa

Balance January 1, 2018	\$3,849.81
SEEDS Printing	- \$104.93
SEEDS Postage	- \$88.70
Program Speakers	- \$80.00
National Funding	+ \$313.25
Balance March 31, 2018	\$3, 889.43

May

2018

This Month's Group Events.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5  "Pig Out" 12:45pm 6S Steaks
6 William Henson HBD	7	8	9	10	11	12 Stated Meeting. 2:00 pm Watermark Books, downstairs. Guest Speaker, Dr. Doug Goodwin*.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Food for Thought. 11:00 am Watermark Books, downstairs.
20	Linda Hohman HBD	21	22	23	24	25 Banter and Books. 7:00 pm Barnes & Noble's, eating area.
27	28	29	Gary Witham HBD	30	31	HBD = Happy Birthday *Critical Thinking & Logical Fallacies.

Subject: WAR OF 1812 AT WALMART

Yesterday, I wore my Vietnam Veteran cap to Wal-Mart. There was nothing in particular that I needed at the world's largest retailer but, since I retired, trips to "Wally World" to look at the Walmartians is always good for some comic relief. Besides, I always feel pretty normal after seeing some of the people that frequent the establishment. But, I digress, . . . enough of my psychological fixations.

While standing in line to check out, the guy in front of me, probably in his early thirties, asked, "Are you a Viet Nam Vet?" "No," I replied. "Then why are you wearing that cap?" "Because I couldn't find the one from the War of 1812 . . ." I thought it was a snappy retort. "The War of 1812, huh?" the Walmartian queried, "When was that?" "God forgive me, but I couldn't pass up such an opportunity. "1812," I answered as straight-faced as possible. "He pondered my response for a moment and responded, "Why do they call it the War of 1812 if it was in 1814?" "It was a Black Op. No one is supposed to know about it." This was beginning to be way fun! "Dude! Really?" "He exclaimed. "How did you get to do something that COOOOL?"

I glanced furtively around me for effect, leaned toward the guy and in a low voice said, "I'm not sure. I was the only Caucasian on the mission." "Dude," he was really getting excited about what he was hearing, "that is seriously awesome! But, didn't you kind of stand out?" "Not really. The other guys were wearing white camouflage." The moron nodded knowingly. "Listen man," I said in a very serious tone, "you can't tell anyone about this. It's still top secret and I shouldn't have said anything." "Oh yeah?" he gave me the don't threaten me look. "Like, what's gonna happen if I do?" With a really hard look I said, "You have a family don't you? We wouldn't want anything to happen to them, would we?" The guy gulped, left his basket where it was and fled through the door. The lady behind me started laughing so hard I thought she was about to have a heart attack. I just grinned at her.

Later checking out and going to the parking lot, I saw dimwit leaning in a car window talking to a young woman. Upon catching sight of me he started pointing excitedly in my direction. Giving him another deadly serious look, I made the I see you gesture. He turned kind of pale, jumped in the car and sped out of the parking lot. And these people VOTE!

What a great time! Tomorrow I'm going back wearing my Homeland Security cap. Then the next day I will go to the driver's license bureau wearing my Border Patrol hat, and see how long it takes to empty the place. Whoever said retirement is boring? You just need to wear the right kind of cap!

See you guys at Walmart!!

~~ Dexter Schnebly

Quarterly SEEDS


This issue of the Kansas Sunflower SEEDS is the first quarterly issue. This move to quarterly SEEDS we believe is a very positive move as we attempt to make Kansas Sunflower Mensa more relevant and involving. With quarterly SEEDS, our new editor, Klaus Trenary, will have a little more flexibility in putting the SEEDS together, with more content. We hope that everyone will agree that we are moving in the right direction, while keeping expenses within our budget, as we see this and future issues. If you have suggestions for future content, or would like to submit an article, please contact Klaus.

June

2018

This Month's Group Events.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Richard Foster HBD – 9th	Richard Chipman HBD – 2nd		1 Josh Durner Judith Wherritt HBD	2  "Pig Out" 12:45pm Le Monde
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Stated Meeting. 2:00 pm Watermark Books, downstairs. Guest Speaker, Margarita Barnett.
10 Igor Ponomarev HBD	11 Geoffrey Brown HBD	12	13	14	15	16 Food for Thought. 11:00 am Watermark Books, downstairs.
17	18	19 David St John HBD	20	21	22	23 Banter and Books. 7:00 pm Barnes & Noble's, eating area.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Blue Moon Gathering. Wichita Art Museum Café. 12:45pm



2018 Annual Gathering

The event of the year for Mensans in the USA is the Annual Gathering, or just simply AG. For a few days in early July each year, it is early morning to late night jam packed with activities and events. Although they always have optional activities off-sight, for those who want to tour local sights, in my experience, I seldom, if ever, leave the

hotel for those days, there is so much going on. It is a highlight of my year, and I encourage all who can make it to give it consideration. The AG web site is as follows: <https://ag.us.mensa.org> This year it is in Indianapolis, IN, July 4–8.



Calling All Kansas Mensans:

You are requested at our Program Meeting. Your input for topics and speakers is needed. This is your group and programs are about you and the whole group. Promoting Mensa and bringing in guests and new members is purpose of the Program Meeting, as well as promoting stimulating conversation. Tired of the brain dead world around you? Come speak or tell us about a speaker.

Bring a visitor. Meetings have been on psychology, history, and politics. Know a scientist? Tell us about him if he is willing to speak. We need a scientist. Keep your brain alive. Don't just use it, Mensa use it.

Answers

1. 5050 Add $1 + 100, 2 + 99$, etc. There are 50 pairs of 101, so $50 \times 101 = 5050$.
2. A tesseract is a fourth dimensional "cube". A one dimensional line segment has two vertices, Push that sideways into another dimension and there is a square with 4 vertices. Push that side ways into another dimension and there is a cube with eight vertices. Now push that into another dimension and there is a tesseract with 16 vertices. Either imagine the shape and count the corners or derive the formula: vertices = 2^n where n = number of dimensions.
3. UNCONSTITUTIONAL. The word is made of prefixes and suffixes. Put together the prefixes and suffixes and is is easy to solve. UN, CON, TION, AL, and then sort out the remaining letters.
4. In mythology a chimera is a beast made of parts of different animals, such as a lion head, goat legs, eagle wings, etc. In biology it is a person who is their own twin having 92 chromosomes. Twins have separate bodies, siamese twins are connected and share some parts. A chimera is where two fertilized ova fused and there is one body. Extra credit: Do they have one soul or two?
5. Yes. Identical twins are monozygotic, not the exact same. They form from one fertilized ovum. If they are XXY (Klinefelter syndrome) for sex chromosomes and one loses the Y, or if they are XY (normal) for sex chromosomes and one loses the Y (turner syndrome), or if they are XY and one is immune to androgens, or if they are chimeras and one had adrenal glands with the XY chromosomes and the other had adrenal glands with XX chromosomes.

Kansas Sunflower Elections

It may seem a little early to be giving serious consideration to Kansas Sunflower Mensa elections, but we need to begin thinking about it. Elected officers in our local group are: (1) Local Secretary (President), (2) Assistant Local Secretary (Vice President), (3) Local Treasurer, and (4) Member at Large. Other officers who serve on the Executive Committee with voting privileges, including Program Chair, Local Circulation Manager, and Local Membership Officer are appointed by them. A nominating committee will be appointed later this year. If you have suggestions for the nominating committee, or for those to hold elected office, please contact any current officer. The nominating committee will indicate their nominations for elected office in the July/August/September issue of SEEDS. After that, but prior to September 10, 2018, members can still make additional nominations with 10 signatures. If any positions have more than one nominee, a ballot will be printed in the October/November/December SEEDS for members to send in. The election committee will count the ballots and announce the winners in the January/February/March issue of SEEDS.

Some Harder Puzzles

1. Add the numbers from one to a hundred. What is the total?
2. How many vertices are there on a tesseract? On a five cell?
3. Unscramble the word: OSIUINLNCUNTTTOA.
4. What is a chimera in biology?
5. Can a boy and a girl be identical twins? If so, then how?

Submitted by Bill Barnett. Answers page - 9.



Internet and Social Media

The internet and social media are wonderful ways for the members of any organization to communicate, and also store and share resources. Recently, we have started to expand our usage of the internet by revamping our Kansas Sunflower web site. The web site now has much more than a list of coming events. As before, it lists events for the current month, but it also has not only the current newsletter, but newsletters (SEEDS) for the past several years. We have also started to post articles of interest. There is also information about testing for Mensa admission. There is also a list of contacts with Kansas Sunflower, but also for Region 7 and American Mensa. Significant advantages to the web site include (a) it is always there, and can be accessed at any time, (b) if changes need to be made concerning an upcoming event, such as a postponement or change in venue, it is easy and fast to update the event information, and (c) we have no



essential limitations as to the length or size of the content posted there. That means that the length of an article, or how many articles, is not essentially limited. We encourage suggestions or submissions. We are hopeful that this may encourage some who are some distance from Wichita, where most of our activities occur, to become more active in our local group through web site articles. Our local group web site address is <http://www.kansassunflower.us.mensa.org> Under “Contacts” are links to Region 7 and to American Mensa web sites.

Our Kansas Sunflower Facebook page has been around for a few years now, but only about 72% of our membership participate. We hope we can increase that percentage. We post each issue of SEEDS on our Facebook, and it is also posted on the American Mensa web site, and also, as mentioned above, posted on our own Kansas Sunflower web site. The Facebook page is also, as Facebook is known for, used for communication with other Kansas Sunflower members, and for posting of things believed to perhaps be of interest to other members. It certainly assists our local group as a community. If you are not currently active on our Facebook, and you have access to the internet, we encourage you to become active.

Not everyone has ready access to the internet, and I’m not sure how readily available the internet is to some of our members in rural Kansas. Perhaps you can help us out by letting us know of your situation in terms of internet access. It is a wonderful resource, but not everyone has it.



- Larry Paarmann.

The Askew View:

A new feature meant to increase member participation, foster and promote the dissemination of rational and logical thinking, unencumbered by emotion.

This new section will present controversial subject matter designed to invoke an initial emotional response, and hopefully a subsequent rational and analytical analysis of the subject matter.

Responses, comments and opinions should be directed to the editor, who will make every effort to personally respond to each. Pertinent arguments presenting a salient viewpoint may be published in future issues.

Question: What would explain the wide disparity of IQ between Negroid and all other Human subgroups?

Mandatory disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this section are strictly that of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Mensa, this group or any of its members.

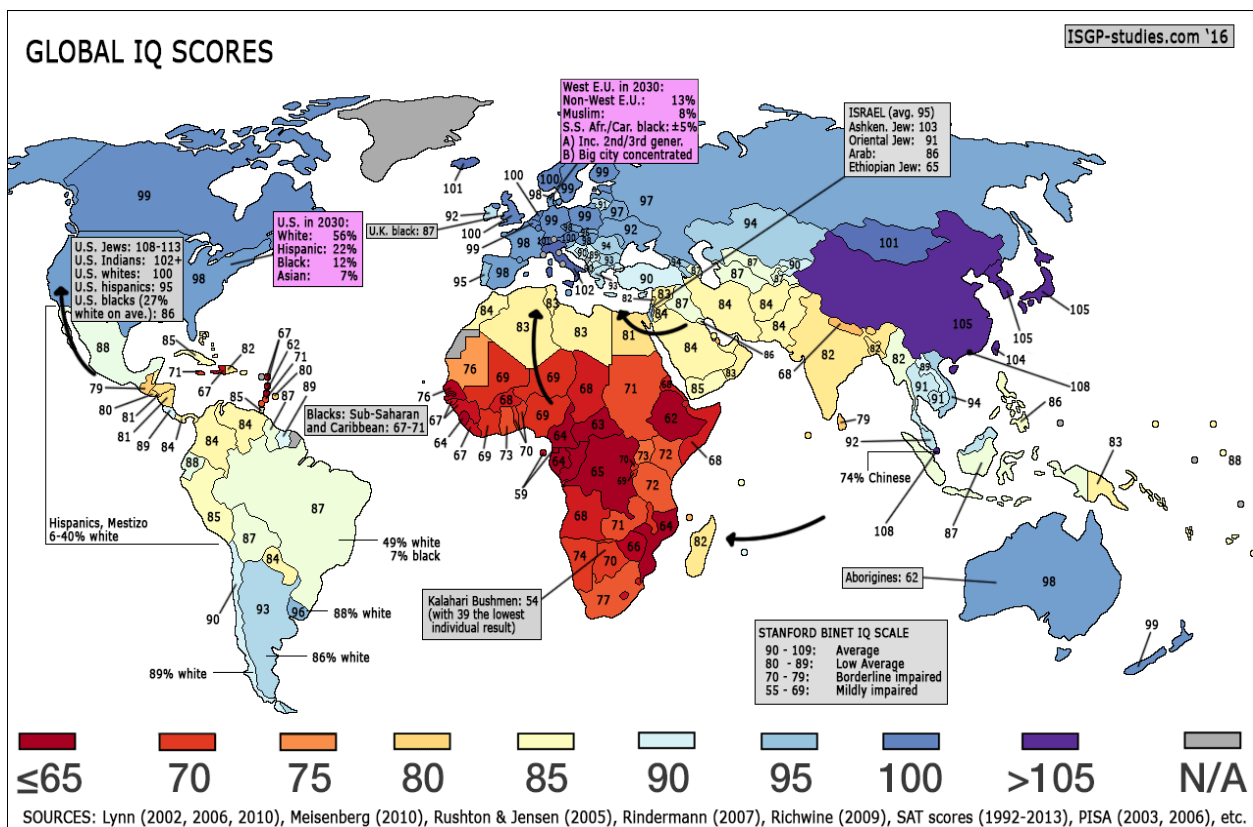


Figure 1: The editor is Klaus Trenary. Comments are not only welcome but are in fact fervently solicited.