

**Metropolitan Washington Mensa  
and  
Maryland Mensa  
Joint Public Calendar of Events  
September, 2008**

**THIS IS A WEB VERSION OF OUR CALENDAR.** Contact information has been removed to protect the privacy of our members. Please see your printed Capital M or M-Anations for full contact information. The full calendar is also available in the on-line Capital M which can be accessed through American Mensa's website when you log in with your membership information.

**IMPORTANT CALENDAR INFORMATION:** We recommend that you contact the host prior to the event to make sure there are no last-minute changes. All events are smoke-free unless noted. No events will be scheduled opposite New Members Open Houses and Saturday Night Parties. All are reminded that, with the exception of official MWM events, attendance at events is at the discretion of the host. This being said, we encourage hosts to be inclusive and welcoming. In general a spouse, significant other, family member, or guest will always be welcome. **The deadline for calendar entries is the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the targeted month.** (If your event is in January, the deadline is December 5.)

We share our event calendar with our neighbors to the north, Maryland Mensa. A notation of (MM) indicates that Maryland Mensa supplied the calendar entry. A notation of (MWM-W) indicates that the event will take place in Virginia, west of the Beltway. (NM) indicates a Non-Mensa sponsored event. NOTE: In the event there are last-minute changes, deletions, or additions to the calendar, updates may be found at the mwm\_calendar group of yahoo groups:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mwm\\_calendar/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mwm_calendar/)

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

**6 PM Pizza SIG/Vicious Rumor SIG**

Kevin McCall invites all to share pizza, sodas, beer, and the check at Joe's Pizza and Pasta, 5555 Lee Highway in Arlington, VA. (There is also a full buffet for those who eschew pizza.) Pizza SIG is sharing its space and membership with a new SIG: Vicious Rumor SIG. Bring an anecdote or two about your fellow M's. If you're not there, the anecdotes could be about you!

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008**

**Noon Suitland Lunch Bunch**

Contact Paul Bethe for the location in or near Suitland, MD.

**6:30-10 PM Games Night**

Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Rd., Potomac, MD (240-777-6960). Take I-270 exit for Montrose west, go left on Falls Rd, PCC is on left after about 1.4 miles. Ask for "Board Games" at front desk. \$2 toward room rental. Non-members welcome. Contact Perry Farrar. (Theme on second Wednesday.)

**8:30 PM Writers' Group**

We are looking for serious writers who will attend as regularly as possible and in turn produce writing for the rest of the group to critique and discuss. We started this group on July 9, and had five writers in attendance. Each of us emails a piece of writing to the others. Thus, the work can be critiqued before the meeting and discussed during the session. Two of us are published authors. I myself have a PhD and teach writing at Montgomery College. I have published over thirty articles and stories ranging from scholarly to scurrilous, and am currently seeking an agent for two manuscripts, "Cockney Girl" and "Diary of a Mad Hatter." We will meet at my home in Wheaton. Non-Mensans are welcome. For directions please call Gilda Haber. Participants can bring drinks. Snacks will be provided.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008**

**6:30 PM First Friday Film Fun (MM)**

Come to the Charles Theater, the 60-year-old Baltimore icon at 1711 North Charles Street (near the intersection with Lanvale Street), to choose and watch a distinctive film with other Mensans. Afterwards, we'll go to a nearby restaurant or coffee shop and share our thoughts about what we just saw. Please tell Mary Sherry if you plan to go.

**7 PM Friday Night Salon**

Enjoy stimulating conversation, as well as the best in French country cuisine at La Madeleine Cafe, 7607 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814, at the corner of Old Georgetown & Commerce and just one block from the Bethesda Metro stop on the Metro red line. Park in La Madeleine's own parking lot, on the street, or in the newly renovated (and

inexpensive) public garage on Woodmont Ave. Our format: We begin with casual conversation. After about an hour, we segue into a question-and-answer period. Each participant writes down a question he or she wants the whole group to address; this guarantees that people get a chance to talk about something they're interested in. Questions are submitted anonymously, then read aloud. No pressure – just fun – and being on time is not a requirement! If you have questions, please call Herb Guggenheim. This event is wheelchair-accessible.

### **7 PM Meeting of the Minds Goes on the Road**

It's September and we're back at school. The minds that come to Meeting of the Minds will still be learning things from other minds at Zorba's. Meeting of the Minds, or "M o M," as it is affectionately known, is a lively open forum for the exchange of ideas, opinions, and sentiments of all stripes, colors, and flavors. We promise eclectic ideas, a laid-back attitude, and a curious mindset. For September, we'll meet at Zorba's Cafe, <http://www.zorbascafe.com/>, 1612 20th St., a half a block north of the Dupont Circle Metro Station. Zorba's features freshly-made Greek specialties at very reasonable prices, free refills on sodas, plus beer by the glass or pitcher and house wine by the glass or carafe. The DC Happy Hour also meets at Zorba's, and they have promised to welcome us and entertain our odd idea of ceding conversational power to the Holder of the Green Marble. I am looking forward to the interaction, and also am looking forward to seeing you. Questions? Contact Stephanie Smilay.

### **7:30 PM DC Happy Hour**

This long-running weekly get-together convenes at Zorba's Cafe, [www.zorbascafe.com](http://www.zorbascafe.com), 1612 20th St., NW, just north of Dupont Circle in Washington, DC. Contact Stefan Patejak for information.

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2008**

### **5:30 PM IDEAs**

IDEAs meet to investigate where your ideas come from and how they were developed. Dinner with the group is optional but you may not join the discussion once we've started. Introverts and new thinkers welcome. If you enjoy exploring the intellectual realm, this is for you. Reservations required: seating is limited to eight. Dinner in DC and discussion at my home. No smoking. Contact Catherine Woytowicz.

### **7:30 PM Capitol Steps**

Democrats, Republicans, and None of the Above, unite! The conventions are over; there's no better time to see a live performance by the nation's premiere political satire troupe, the Capitol Steps (<http://www.capsteps.com/live/reagan04.html>). The venue is the Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, with nearby street parking, steps away from Federal Triangle metro, and two blocks from Metro Center. Leslie Horne is holding a limited number of seats at \$39 each (including service fee); contact her to reserve and make payment arrangements. Followed by...

### **9:30 PM Late Nite at Les Halles**

After the Capitol Steps performance, we may head across the street to Les Halles French Brasserie (<http://www.leshalles.net/washington.php>) for dessert or a late dinner.

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2008**

### **2 PM ExComm Meeting**

MWM's governing body meets at the home of Exchequerer Toni Smiley. All members of Mensa are welcome. Contact LocSec Herb Guggenheim before the meeting if you wish to put an item on the agenda. See page 2 for contact information.

### **6 PM Gourmensans**

We're going to the Burmese Restaurant, 740 6th St NW (on 6th between F and H, close to the Chinatown exit on the red line). The restaurant is on the second floor and isn't wheelchair accessible. The menu can be viewed on-line at <http://www.menupix.com/dc/restaurants.php?id=502216#> New and prospective members, family members, and other visitors are always welcome to attend. Questions/directions? Call Paul or Nancy Vogel.

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2008**

### **5 - 8 PM GenX SIG Happy Hour**

Atomic Billiards, 3427 Connecticut Ave NW (between N. Ordway Street & N. Porter Street), 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Atomic Billiards has a great juke box, six pool tables, two dart boards, and BOARD GAMES GALORE! Anyone up for the Candyland drinking game? Metro: Cleveland Park is 1/2 block away. Contact Heather Poirier.

### **6:30-8 PM World Affairs Discussion Group**

Have you traveled overseas, or would you like to? Were you born in another country, or do you know people who were? Or, do you just like to read a lot? If you would like to tell us what you know or simply listen to others. We will meet in the

Delhi Club restaurant, at 1135 North Highland Street in Clarendon, Virginia. The Delhi Club is across the street from the Clarendon Metro station -- in fact, you can see it from the front door of the station. Please feel free to call Dan Willmore if you have any questions, or go to <http://www.willmore.net/world/>, where you can find a list of topics and selected readings.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

#### Noon **Rockville Lunch Bunch**

Meet at El Mariachi in the Ritchie Center in Rockville, MD, at the corner of Wootton Parkway and Rockville Pike (Rt 355). Call Jewell Golden by COB Tuesday to reserve your place.

#### 6:30–10 PM **Games Night**

See First Wednesday entry for details. Theme: Teacher.

#### 7:30 PM **Chinese Restaurant Odyssey**

To learn the location and to reserve your place (required!), call Gail Korb or Greg Key by Monday.

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

#### 6:30 PM **Harford County Camaraderie (MM)**

Link up with northern Maryland's Mensans for dinner and friendly, thought-provoking conversation at the Grand Buffet in the Festival at Bel Air mall, Bel Air, MD (MD Route 24 and Bel Air South Parkway). The menu features oriental and other foods, all at reasonable prices. Just as in Frederick, no reservation needed: simply ask for Mensa—the manager and natives are friendly. Please contact Barry Williams for more information.

#### 7:30 PM **South Mountain/ Western Maryland Mensa (MM)**

Join Mensans from western Maryland and West Virginia, or ones who wish they were, at the Pizza Hut on U.S. Route 40 on the west side of Frederick, MD (1220 West Patrick Street; 301-695-0100). No reservation needed: just ask for Mensa—the manager and natives are friendly. We're usually in the party room in the back, and we usually order pizzas to share from the menu. Cost for the evening will be in the \$6 to \$8 range. For directions and answers to Mensa-at-Pizza Hut questions, please contact Bill or Jan Todd.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

#### 6:30 PM **Early Zorbas**

**FANTASTIC CREDENTIALS!** Catch an on-street parking spot as such open up at 6:30PM and get quickly taken. Then come to Zorba's (see below) for an early dinner or whatever. See menu <http://www.zorbascafe.com/>. Say 'Hi!' to the regular "DC Happy Hour" MWM crowd and then at 7:50PM walk about 1½ blocks to the Cosmos Club, 2170 Florida Avenue NW for the free 8:15PM meeting of the Washington Philosophical Soc. with light refreshments afterwards. Tonight we'll hear 'Can America Compete in Science and Engineering?' by Norm Augustine, Former Chairman & CEO, Lockheed Martin Corporation!! Talk abstract and complete, fantastic speaker credentials are available on <http://www.philsoc.org/>. For further info. please call Rebecca Prather.

#### 7 PM **Friday Night Salon**

See First Friday entry for details.

#### 7:30 PM **DC Happy Hour**

See First Friday entry for details.

#### 7:30 PM **Northern Area Friday after Work Cards and Games Night (MM)**

What a perfect way to end your work week—going to Gary and Sheila's home on the north side of Baltimore for an evening of playing cards (games such as Hearts, Oh Hell, *etc.*) and board games (such as Taboo, Time's Up, trivia games, *etc.*). If you can't make it at 7:30, that's OK—you can come later (the games should be going on for hours). Also, you don't have to be in the northern area—all are welcome (even y'all from down South!). Please let them know you'll be there. Note: Gary and Sheila have cats in their home.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

#### 12 – 5 PM **"Septoberfest" (MWM-W)**

Yes, we know. Oktoberfest runs from September 20th to October 4th this year which is why we are having a "Septoberfest" - our party is a week early. We had a grand time hosting an Oktoberfest party last year and want to do it again. Come join us at our home in Leesburg, VA, for some delicious German food, Bavarian music and conversation with

friends. We'll supply all the food and beverage. You donate \$5. If the weather is nice, we'll enjoy our party outdoors. Please bring a chair. Kindly RSVP (mark your calendar) by Wednesday, September 10th so we'll have plenty of food for everyone. Contact Chris and George Cooper.

**12:30 BLAMs Go Shooting**

(Blazing Lightly Armed Mensans) Target shooting at the NRA's state-of-the-art range, held monthly on the second Saturday. Women, men, novices, first timers, liberals, conservatives, young, old and experienced shooters attend this event. 5-7 Mensans and their guests usually attend, but often more. For many this is their only Mensa activity. Gun ownership not required, nor is NRA membership. Noobies should arrive at noon for their safety orientation, and can expect training on a variety of rifles and pistols. The range staff knows us well, so tell them you're with Mensa when checking in. Wheelchair accessible. Free garage parking. Metro pickup available (Vienna Station). RSVP helpful. Lunch afterward to shoot the manure. Contact Adam Beslove. NRA HQ 11250 Waples Mill Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030.

**1 PM Cheap Shows**

Meet Ken Kaufman and JJ Armour for a movie at a Metro-accessible theater followed by a late lunch. Call on Friday night or Saturday morning for the show and location.

**2 PM Parapsychology SIG**

Phone Stanley Korn or use your ESP to reserve by preceding Thursday.

**2 PM Frederick Games (MM)**

Every second and third Saturday starting at 2pm and ending whenever folks want to leave, we play board, card, and strategy games, including but not limited to *Boggle*, *Jokers & Pegs*, *Scrabble*, *Spades*, and *Upwords*. A core group of six people attends most sessions. We are actively looking for new players, and you need not attend all or even most sessions to join us. You're invited to bring a game to teach the rest of the group if you wish (though the hostess tends to dislike war and fantasy role-playing games and points out that there are plenty of other venues for those). Free non-alcoholic drinks are served, and you're welcome to bring munchies to share if you care to. For more information, including directions if you decide you're interested in attending, please contact Cynthia.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2008**

**2 – 4 PM Fantastic Scenery**

Let Rebecca Prather take you on a Whirlwind pictorial tour of Colorado Parks including Great Sand Dunes, Mesa Verde, & Gunnison by bus and the legendary Durango-Silverton Train. Then see images of the breathtaking scenery of fantastic formations in Zion, Bryce Canyon National Parks, Grand Canyon and Lake Powell with Joe Wachter at the Fairfax County Elderhostel Alumni

Meeting at George Mason Public Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA, Reservations required – Light Refreshments - Free. Call Rebecca Prather.

**6 PM Bridge SIG**

Come to the home of Ron Segal and Beverly Dickerson in Oakton for friendly party bridge. \$5 standard contribution includes delicious dinner refreshments (i.e., real food), and all bridge tolls (pun intended) from MD or DC will be cheerfully refunded! We welcome all players and will try to find you a partner if needed. N/S. Contact your hosts. For other questions about this group, contact BridgeSig coordinator Sheldon Hofferan.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008**

**DEADLINE Register for Scuba Diving**

Today is the deadline to register for scuba diving lessons for novices on September 28<sup>th</sup>. See full entry for details. Email Burt Wagner for details and the necessary paperwork, including a release form and medical questionnaire, no later than Sept. 15.

**7:30 PM Investment & Speculation SIG**

If you're so smart, how come you aren't rich? Bring a \$1 contribution to Ben Perchik's house in Reston, VA to learn how. Call Ben for directions. Please call to confirm this event is taking place.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2008**

**6:30 PM Annapolis Gourmets (MM)**

Join Mensa's Annapolis Convolution at Deep Creek Restaurant and Marina, 1050 Deep Creek Avenue in Arnold, MD, on (yep) Deep Creek just off the southern shore of the Magothy River (410-974-1408; [www.deepcreekrestaurantandmarina.com](http://www.deepcreekrestaurantandmarina.com)). If you've never been there, you're in for a serious treat: Deep Creek Restaurant has a varied and interesting menu, a first-rate kitchen, and attentive service. All in all, it's sure to exceed your

expectations—unless, that is, you've been there before. Please plan to join us, and then make your reservations with Emily Joyce by Saturday the 13th.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

#### **6:30 PM Science SIG**

Meet Michael Hendrickson in the Food Court in the Ballston Common Mall in Arlington, VA for dinner and to discuss the latest science news and issues. Look for a Mensa sign and a Cap-M on the table.

#### **6:30–10 PM Games Night**

See First Wednesday entry for details.

#### **8:30 PM Writers' Group**

See Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> for details.

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

#### **Noon Silver Spring Lunch Bunch**

This lunch bunch, in the heart of the new downtown in Silver Spring, MD, is hosted by Scott Shaffer (alumnus of Asilomar). Lunch will be at the Lebanese Taverna, 933 Ellsworth Dr., Silver Spring, MD. Call 301-588-1192 or check their website [http://www.lebanesetaverna.com/cafes/silver\\_spring](http://www.lebanesetaverna.com/cafes/silver_spring) for information and directions. Call Scott for reservations. There is no parking on Ellsworth, but the Wayne Ave. garage is open and next to the new downtown area.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008

#### **7 PM Friday Night Salon**

See First Friday entry for details.

#### **7 PM Meeting of the Minds Goes on the Road**

See First Friday entry for details.

#### **7 PM Dinner and Conversation (MWM-W)**

An event for Mensans (and friends) outside the Beltway (though all Ms are welcome, of course). We'll meet at the Austin Grill in Centreville, VA. Please email Anne by Thursday, Sept. 18th, as we need a count for the restaurant.

#### **7:30 PM DC Happy Hour**

See First Friday entry for details.

#### **7:30 PM Maryland Mensa Monthly Meeting (MM)**

Our northern neighbors meet each month on the near side of Baltimore. You're invited to join them at the Stillmeadow Church near Catonsville, 1.2 miles inside the Baltimore beltway at 5110 Frederick Road (MD 144; exit 13 east off I-695, toward Irvington—the church is on the left-hand side). September's speaker hasn't yet been identified, but his or her name and topic will be posted in the calendar on MM's website ([www.maryland.us.mensa.org](http://www.maryland.us.mensa.org)) as soon as they're known. To learn more about Maryland Mensa's monthly meetings in general, contact MM Programs Officer Jean O'Donnell.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2008

#### **1- Late PM Northern Virginia Board Games**

A monthly gaming group which meets in Northern VA and alternates between two homes. Always the third Sat. of each month from 1:00 till late evening. This game night is not limited only to members of Mensa. We mostly play board games such as Princes of Florence, Lowenherz, Settlers of Catan, Carcassonne, Puerto Rico, lots of other Euro-type games, RoboRally, a couple of "train games" of various lengths; and also occasionally word games, family games, or party games. We generally have between 8 and 15 people. It's a lot of affable quiet guys, a few women, and sometimes a couple of older kids who like games too. We split into groups as the number grows, according to what people want to play. People in this group are not fiercely competitive, will teach you games, and will even help you out during play if you want. We often discuss strategy during play and sometimes people will even point out a better play to someone and let them start over if they want. There is of course no charge for this group, and it's come and go as you please. You don't have to bring any snacks unless you want to; we usually order pizza around 6:00. If you think you might be interested, please e-mail me at my work e-mail, as I don't check my personal e-mail every day. Contact: Karen Williams.

#### **1 PM Mature Mensans (MM)**

Mature Mensans of any age, but particularly those already enjoying or eligible for retirement, are invited to join host Eric McKeever in comparing notes over lunch at Pebbles Pub, 7165 Security Boulevard in Woodlawn, MD (at the intersection of Security and Rolling Road; 410-265-7878). The pub menu offers a broad selection of entrées, ranging from deli

sandwiches through subs, pizza, chicken, beef, crab cakes, and broiled salmon. Please contact Eric Mckeever for more information, or just to tell him you plan to come (so he'll know how many places to hold at the table).

**2 PM Frederick Games (MM)**

We play board, card, and strategy games, including but not limited to *Boggle*, *Jokers & Pegs*, *Scrabble*, *Spades*, and *Upwords*. A core group of six people attends most sessions. We are actively looking for new players, and you need not attend all or even most sessions to join us. You're invited to bring a game to teach the rest of the group if you wish (though the hostess tends to dislike war and fantasy role-playing games and points out that there are plenty of other venues for those). Free non-alcoholic drinks are served, and you're welcome to bring munchies to share if you care to. For more information, including directions if you decide you're interested in attending, please contact Cynthia.

**6 PM Urban Dining SIG goes to Arlington**

Join us for Spanish tapas or entrees in an authentic Spanish environment at La Tasca's Arlington location, 2900 Wilson Blvd, at Clarendon Market Place Commons, near the Clarendon Metro station. Tapas are delectable single-course dishes, ideal for sharing. See [www.latascausa.com](http://www.latascausa.com) for complete details and directions. To reserve a seat at our table and to verify our meeting time, contact Leslie Horne.

**7 PM A Little Drinkin' and Thinkin'**

Ever wonder where all the 20-something Mensans in DC are? If so, come and meet other Mensans our age (Generation Y, if you must) Saturday, September 20th at 7 PM for some drinks at the Brickskeller, 1523 22nd St. NW, off the Red Line in Dupont Circle. Grab something to eat or drink (the bar boasts the "World's Largest Beer List") and join us for the evening or just stop by. Guests are welcome! For more information or directions, please contact Allison Rice. Hope to see you there!

**7 PM Saturday/Sunday  
Indoor Games SIG) (MM)**

Two, four, six, eight, what do we appreciate? SIGSIG, SIGSIG, Yea! College football may be interesting to watch, but it has nothing on SIGSIG—especially when Dottie Kuhlman is hosting! Join us at 9267 Brush Run in Columbia, where you can experience the suspense, the drama, and the humor that is uniquely SIGSIG. Don't miss out! Call Dottie to reserve your seat. And remember, unlike many of those football games, we encourage you to bring food! Bring your favorite games, too, and we'll have tons of fun!

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2008**

**6:30–10 PM Games Night**

See First Wednesday entry for details.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2008**

**7 PM Eastern Shore Get-together (MM)**

Curious about life in the land of pleasant living between the Chesapeake and Ocean City? Learn more about it with resident Mensans at Vinnie's LaRoma Ristorante, 934 South Salisbury Boulevard in Salisbury, MD (one block north of Salisbury University on Route 13). No reservation required. Please contact Steve McCoy for directions or other information.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2008**

**6:30 PM Early Zorbas**

Catch an on-street parking spot as such open up at 6:30PM and get quickly taken. Then come to Zorba's (see below) for an early dinner or whatever. See menu <http://www.zorbascafe.com/>. Say 'Hi!' to the regular "DC Happy Hour" MWM crowd and then at 7:55PM our growing entourage as we walk about 1½ blocks to the Cosmos Club, 2170 Florida Avenue NW for the free 8:15PM meeting of the Washington Philosophical Soc. with light refreshments afterwards. Tonight we'll hear 'Too Sweet Sisyphean Efforts to Understand and Treat Type 1 Diabetes' by David M. Harlan, a Branch Chief at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at NIH. Talk abstract and speaker credentials are available on <http://www.philsoc.org/>. For further info. please call Rebecca Prather.

**7 PM Friday Night Salon**

See First Friday entry for details.

**7:30 PM DC Happy Hour**

See First Friday entry for details.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2008**

## **Noon Brunswick Lunch**

This event has mutated from a Sunday brunch to a Last Saturday Lunch because of the unfortunate noise level experienced in the presence of a jazz quartet. Will be held the last Saturday of every month. Hosted by Katherine DeWitt. Lunch is at Beans in the Belfry, a trendy (believe it or not) café in the historic and photogenic town of Brunswick, Maryland. Enjoy a nice menu of salads, sandwiches, or soups. Child-friendly with children's menu, dress-up trunk, dollhouse, kids' books and more on premises. For sample menus and directions, go to [www.beansinthebelfry.com](http://www.beansinthebelfry.com) and click on menu tab. Please e-mail me BY 5:00 PM the day before the event so I can give the café an approximate head count.

MAKE IT A FULL DAY and go on to the gift shops and antique shops in town or in Frederick, visit the Railroad Museum ([www.brrm.net](http://www.brrm.net)), the rail yards and the exterior of the historic train station – or go on the Harpers Ferry 15 minutes away, or Antietam battlefield a little farther, or Monocacy Battlefield in the other direction. For more, see the web site [www.hallowedground.org](http://www.hallowedground.org). There are several wineries in Virginia and Frederick County, and a number of other great spots! There are even rafting and innertubing on the Potomac ([www.rivertrail.com](http://www.rivertrail.com)), and great fishing.

## **4 PM Miniature Golf (MWM-W)**

Another event for Mensans (and friends) outside the Beltway (though all Ms are welcome, of course). We'll meet at the Dulles Golf Center & Sports Park, 21593 Jesse Court, Dulles, VA 20166. It's at Route 28 & Severn Rd; Jesse Ct. is off Severn Rd. Their web site is [www.DullesGolf.com](http://www.DullesGolf.com). The cost is \$7.50 for adults, & \$6.00 for children age 4-12; under 3 with an adult is free. Anyone who wants to go to dinner afterward, we'll decide there and then. There are lots of choices on the grounds of Dulles Towncenter.

## **7 PM Listeners of Classical Music**

Join the Listeners of Classical Music for quiet conversation, a friendly atmosphere, snacks & pizza to share, and classical music. This month's theme is: "Heavy and Dramatic Music" Bring records or CDs to share. BYOB. No donations, but you should bring a few dollars for optional pizza. LCM is located in Falls Church near Hwy 50 and the Beltway in Virginia. Call Ken Zabielski for directions and information.

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2008**

## **8:45 AM Scuba diving lessons for novices (register by September 15)**

Scuba diving in a pool is how NASA astronauts are trained to work in weightlessness, and you'll get to experience what that feels like! Meet at George Washington Recreation Center, 8426 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria; lessons start at 9 a.m., so please plan to arrive by 8:45 a.m. to finish registration onsite. The location is across the street from Mt. Vernon High School and about 3 minutes' drive west of Mount Vernon. ADVANCED REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED; email Burt Wagner for details and the necessary paperwork, including a release form and medical questionnaire, no later than Sept. 15. This is an experience intended for people who have never been diving before, where you'll get to try scuba equipment in an indoor swimming pool under the supervision of an instructor. There's a \$30 charge, discounted from the usual \$45 fee, which can be credited toward the certification class. You'll need to bring a bathing suit, towel, and \$0.25 for locker rental. This event is open to all Mensans aged 10 or older.

## **2 - 5 PM New Members Open House**

**FREE!** NEW MEMBERS BEGIN READING HERE: Are you a new member of Metropolitan Washington Mensa? If so, those of us who've been here for a while want to meet you and welcome you to the organization. A lot of new members are mystified when they look at all the activities in the monthly calendar. They don't know which activity to attend first. We're suggesting that the New Members Open House (NMOH) is a good place to begin. The NMOH is a long-running tradition in MWM and it's the closest thing we have to a monthly general meeting so you'll see many long-time members as well as a small group of new ones. The NMOH is a casual activity, featuring light food, soft drinks, beer, and wine. There's no program per se; you just come, chat, and socialize with other Mensans. The NMOH is easy, casual, fun, and FREE!

LONG-TIME MEMBERS BEGIN READING HERE: This month's NMOH will be held at the home of Judith Oarr in College Park, MD. We will have a cook out and will provide hamburgers and hot dogs with the fixings. There will also be cake, m&ms, beer, wine, and snacks and we will be in and out of doors both. No animals and no smoking in the house but all ages of humans are welcome.

## **NEXT MONTH PREVIEW SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2008**

## **7:30 PM Choral Concert, MWM-W**

MWM's own long-time member Col. Hork Dimon invites us to a choral concert of lite popular musical favorites, at which he will be singing (possibly even a solo). The Manassas Community Chorale, founded in 1994, has 75 members, presents four major concerts each year, one per season, in addition to many other local performances, and one each

December in Colonial Williamsburg. Musical styles vary from sacred to secular, from traditional Americana to more culturally and ethnically diverse pieces, from classical masterworks to Broadway show tunes. This concert will be held at the Manassas Baptist Church, 8800 Sudley Road opposite the Manassas Post Office. \$15 admission. The Chorale has received an invitation to sing at New York's Carnegie Hall next June, and is trying to raise money for the trip. Within the next two years the Chorale will be moving to the new \$60-million Hylton Performing Arts Center at the George Mason University Manassas campus. Since 2007, the Chorale has partnered with several local charitable organizations for "Concerts with a Cause," in which singers and audience members are asked to support such efforts as Youth for Tomorrow, Matthew's Center for Visual Learning, and SERVE.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2008**

**7:30 PM MWM Annual Party**

**FREE!** Come one come all to the BIGGEST PARTY OF THE YEAR! Each year we have a great turnout for the annual party, and if the Saturday Night Parties this year are any predictor, we expect a record number of Mensans to arrive at the Friendship Heights Community Center ready to eat, drink, and be merry! So mark your calendars now, and come out to party with us on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2008**

**Noon Picnic and Wine Tasting  
at Gadino Cellars (MWM-W)**

Last year we hosted a very successful Wine Tasting/Picnic at the beautiful Gadino Cellars in Washington, Virginia. We're doing it again this year. October 25, 2008, at 12:00 noon, Bill Gadino will present a wine tasting which will include three of his newest wines; 2007 Pinot Grigio, 2007 Dolce Sofia (dessert wine) and 2006 Delfino Rosso (Ameritage blend with 44% Petite

Verdot). If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Sunday, October 19th. The cost is only \$6 per person to participate in the wine tasting, but RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. We must advise Gadino Cellars how many will attend. The \$6 will not allow participants to keep the Logo Wine Glass but they are welcomed to use the glass throughout the picnic. A Logo Wine Glass may be purchased for \$3.

This event will be on a first come-first served basis as we must limit the number of participants to thirty. If more members wish to come, we will create a Standby List in case of any cancellations. Should you need to cancel, PLEASE let us know promptly so we may allow someone to attend from the Standby List. PLEASE don't be a "no show". We also request that you bring a food item to share at the picnic. It would be appreciated if you would let Chris or George know what you are bringing so there will be a variety. Also, for your comfort, bring an outdoor chair. Gadino Cellars is located at 92 Schoolhouse Road, Washington, Virginia 22747, (540) 987-9292. To find directions please visit their website at [www.gadinocellars.com](http://www.gadinocellars.com) or ask Chris or George Cooper.