

July 08, 2017

Saturday

7:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Breakfast

Session Description: Whole fresh fruit, assorted freshly baked fruit muffins and mini Danish, oatmeal (served with brown sugar, raisins and walnuts), bulk cereal (Cheerios, Raisin Bran and Corn Flakes), white and whole wheat toast, milk (whole, 1%, soy), coffee, orange and tomato juice.

Location: Great Hall 3 & 4

Speaker:

Tracks: Meal

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

Yoga "all levels" Vinyasa class with a spiritual intention. Bring a mat/towel. Fitness attire.

Session Description: Ken Heptig, author of "Yoga Secrets", will lead you through a series of yoga poses. He will give modifications for less or more to keep everyone challenged. Bring a mat or large towel and your sense of humor. Fitness attire recommended. This is not an introduction to yoga class. Ken believes the spiritual intentions are the most valuable part of yoga and can help you find a better life. Yoga studios throughout the United States use his book Yoga Secrets: 52 Life-Changing Secrets. Ken refined the intentions in his book while teaching thousands of yoga classes. He improved the intentions for simplicity and clarity until his students could absorb the intentions while practicing different levels of yoga. The book is suitable for anyone with or without a physical practice of yoga. Use the intentions on your own or add them to a group activity like sporting events, classrooms, and yoga classes. <http://goalyoga.com>

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 4

Speaker: Ken Heptig

Tracks: Fitness

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

New To Miles And Points? Get Ready to Design Your Dream Vacation!

Session Description: It is possible to take a once-in-a-lifetime trip (or many!) using airline miles and hotel points to significantly cut down on costs or travel for free. But if you are a newbie to miles and points, where do you start? Discover the questions to ask yourself before earning a single mile toward your dream vacation. It all starts with the design!

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Pamela Krupa-Jeschonek

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Banking on Brainpower in the 21st Century

Session Description: The human brain is the last biological frontier. We have learned much about the human brain in the last 20 years, but the answers can't come fast enough. Brain diseases affect an estimated 50 million Americans. Starting at age 65, the risk of dementia doubles every five years. By age 85, between 25 and 50 percent of people show signs of Alzheimer's disease. The CDC estimates that one in 44 boys are born today with a diagnosis of autism.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Deborah C. Mash PhD, Professor of Neurology and Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology

Tracks: Speaker

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Saturday

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Debate Room: "Malthus at the Barricades"

Session Description: "Immigration" is such a 20th century word. What's happening now is "population flow" driven by depleted soils, pumped-dry aquifers, coastal cities pummeled by storms and rising seas, and ever more people struggle over ever scarcer resources. Assimilation systems designed to accommodate hundreds or thousands of newcomers are now faced with millions. Have national boundaries become irrelevant save as taxing districts? Has "globalization" prevailed in a way we never expected? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 5

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Essential Oils and Herbs for Health and Happiness

Session Description: Join master and apprentice to learn about the origin of "spices" and magical or medicinal uses of common herbs. Samples available.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Master Elrick the Apothecary Elrick

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Meet the National Ombudsman

Session Description: Join Bud Klueck, American Mensa's National Ombudsman, and several regional and local group ombudsmen for a free-ranging discussion of the role of ombudsmen and how Mensa's conflicts and complaints can be resolved informally without disciplinary action.

Location: Room 217

Speaker: Garrison "Bud" Klueck

Tracks: M&G

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Nursing Home Horrors: A Reversible Epidemic – Shocking Stories and Powerful Solutions

Session Description: Nursing home abuse is a massive problem nationally, and it's getting worse as baby boomers are entering a seriously flawed long-term care infrastructure. CNN chronicled the national epidemic of sexual assault, a congressional study revealed 1 in 3 nursing homes were cited for abuse, and advocate/attorney Donald J. Fann tells us the vast majority of reports are ignored by officials as the imaginings of dementia patients. Donald shares his formula and actions for aggressive repair, plus the legal (and DIY) tools for stopping the horrors, using illustrative stories from today's headlines. Learn about heroic whistleblowers, hidden cameras, elders fighting back and how victims' families and advocates shine a spotlight on reprehensible conduct to stop the uncaring, the malicious and the head-in-the-sand company leaders that employ them while ignoring their conduct in profit's name. Shocking and useful for anyone who is coming of nursing home age or knows an elder in a long-term care facility.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Donald Fann

Tracks: Speaker

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9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Taking Care of Your Volunteers

Session Description: Mensa is a volunteer organization, and we're all volunteers. But every volunteer had to start somewhere. Volunteers go through periods of learning, periods of good and bad performance, and unfortunately, burnout. Bill will cover ways to bring new volunteers on board more efficiently, how to work with volunteers being challenged, and how to deal with re-enthusing - or dismissing gracefully - volunteers who have burned out or lost interest, to hopefully get them excited again.

Location: Room 212 & 213

Speaker: Bill Zigo

Tracks: LDW

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

The Politics of Pathos: Explaining the Refugee Crisis, Globalization and Trump through Aristotle's Lens

Session Description: Are you still reeling after the 2016 election? That's only because you don't understand the politics of pathos. This lively hour attempts the impossible: explaining the refugee crisis, globalization, climate change, human rights, 21st century populism and — yes it's true — Donald Trump. All this through the timeless lens of Aristotle. Bring an open mind. Provocative ideas from best-selling author and syndicated blogger Norm Pattis.

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Norm Pattis

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

The State-of-the-Art in Privately Owned Submersibles

Session Description: Today, it's becoming almost commonplace to find small, privately owned submersibles being operated from mega-yachts. The era of the personal mini-sub is upon us. While many would characterize this phenomenon as nascent, it was in fact predicted in the magazine Popular Science more than 50 years ago. This presentation will look back at those early predictions and discuss which came true, which didn't and why. The state-of-the-art in small manned submersible design, construction, operation and ownership will be discussed

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: Jarl Stromer

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

The Treasure Map of Local Group Resources

Session Description: What does the National Office do to support you in your Local Group leadership role? What resources do they offer to make your job easier? And how can you utilize them? Find out as Stacey Kirsch, leader extraordinaire from Chicago, and Becky Folger, Local Group Services Manager, provide a treasure map to local group resources.

Location: Room 214

Speaker:

Tracks: LDW

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Registration for the American Mensa Admission Test

Session Description: Proctors will register candidates for the American Mensa Admissions Test. The special AG test fee is \$30. Test candidates must be at least 14

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years of age, provide a photo ID and be a permanent U.S. resident. We will be using our new admission test for this session.

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker:

Tracks: Mensa

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

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Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker:

Tracks: Mensa

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Debate Room: "Globalization: Threat or Opportunity to the U.S.?"

Session Description: Globalization means U.S. products can be sold anywhere assuming we produce competitively, but also that your U.S. job could migrate to India in a second. In some quarters the 2016 election was cast as a struggle between the internationalist vision and American exceptionalism. Which strategy will improve the lives of Americans across the country? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 5

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Escaping the Infinite Loop in Your Relationship

Session Description: Due to life experiences, you may have developed patterns of relating to others that make relationships difficult and elicit the very responses you fear. In your relationship, when each person's response to disconnection inadvertently alarms the other and increases the distance between you, a painful vicious circle ensues. This emotional disconnection can also contribute to recurring arguments about seemingly minor, unrelated issues. Underlying these disagreements are vulnerable hidden questions: Do I matter to you? Can you reach you? Can you count on you if I need you? Using concepts from emotionally focused therapy, you can step out of the negative cycle in which you are stuck, make sense of the expectations, emotions and unmet needs that are driving it and then express your needs and emotions in a way that feels safe to the other person. Once you both feel safely connected, it is easier to resolve your other issues.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Betsy Walli

Tracks: Speaker

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Gen Y Leadership Session

Session Description: The Gen Y Session is for Mensa members born on or between the years of 1981 - 1996. Are you the Gen Y Coordinator for your Local Group? Do you want to be?

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Our goal is to have more Gen representation in local groups around the country and the world. Come to the planning session and learn about volunteer opportunities. Share your ideas for making Gen S G an active force for good and fun in Mensa.

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 4

Speaker: enri Buccine-Schraeder

Tracks: S G

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Harnessing Ocean Current Power with the Deep Ocean Current Generator

Session Description: The technology associated with ocean current power generation is presently much less developed than either tidal or wave energy. Because the most concentrated sources of ocean current energy are typically found 100 meters below the ocean surface and in waters with bottom depths of 1,000 meters or more, the technology required to convert ocean currents' hydrokinetic energy into electricity is inherently more complex and requires innovative and sophisticated solutions. Patrick Lahey is co-founder and President of Triton Energy Systems, LLC. Triton, founded in 2012 to design, engineer, fabricate, promote and advance the Deep Ocean Current Generator, the key component of a system developed to generate electric power from deep ocean currents. Lahey will discuss the development of the DOCG and its planned application to delivering energy to on-shore consumers.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Jarl Stromer

Tracks: Speaker

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

How Can We "Give Back" as Mensans?

Session Description: How can we give back? As Mensans, it is understandable that most of us look at the world, and the problems it presents, through a somewhat different set of lenses. It is recognized that, with our high IQ, we have been blessed with acute reasoning and problem-solving abilities. In this ever-changing world in which we live, where there are both for- and not-for profits that have hit a brick wall and need someone to turn to, could we offer discretionary help? Like the knowledge and expertise to encourage prosperity and stewardship of existing resources within organizations that have the greatest need and whose mission is to provide a positive impact to the well being of society? And, in doing so, could we also become a catalyst for open discussion and encouragement, a light on a hilltop that, through our actions, sends ripples to inspire other organizations to initiate conversations on how they can give back?

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Guy Breeding

Tracks: Speaker

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Learning Language: An Overview of Infant Language Acquisition, Measurement and Implications

Session Description: One of the most thrilling moments for parents is to hear their child say their first word. Language acquisition is an intricate process and one which developmental psychologists are working to unravel. Follow the developmental pathway from prenatal sound experience to the word explosion in toddlerhood, the important multisensory features of language, as well as the non-obvious factors that underlie language development. The speaker will also describe the methodologies psychologists use to understand and measure infant language development. This research is helping scientists and parents improve their child's linguistic environment, understand bilingualism and detect developmental delays such as autism.

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Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Amy Tift

Tracks: Speaker

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Local Group Funds/Treasuries

Session Description: This will be an interactive session where we discuss:

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Meet the Communications Officer

Session Description: Come and meet the incoming communications officer Tommy Ryan is excited to take on this new role, but he is definitely looking to meet some folks interested in sharing their ideas about communications. Are you a local communications officer? Part of the CommComm or an admin of a local or national Facebook group? Would you like to learn more about what it means? We would be honored if you would join us.

Location: Room 21

Speaker: Tommy Ryan

Tracks: M&G

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Staff Town Hall

Session Description: Do you have questions about how the National Office operates? Would you like to put a name with a face? Do you not know all of the people in the office? There's a great opportunity to join Executive Director Pam Donahoo, Sr. Director of Membership and Strategy Trevor Mitchell, Director of Finance David Peery, Foundation Director Jill Beckham, Communications Director Charles Brown, Director of Strategic Brand Partnerships John McGill and T Director Matthew Needham for a town hall meeting. This is not a formal presentation. The content will be determined by the audience and what they want to know.

Location: Room 212 & 213

Speaker: Jason Seiler

Tracks: LDW

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

The Step: Behind the Scenes of the Brilliant Apollo Launch Team That Made Landing a Man on the Moon Possible

Session Description: Fasten your seat belts and journey back to the 1960s for a front-row seat as Lemasters recollects in amazing detail the brilliant engineers, analysts, technicians and administrative staff that made up the BM launch support team at Cape Kennedy. The Apollo team faced challenges and temptations like anyone else in the 60s: divorce, affairs, deaths, three shifts of work — but they knew how to have fun along the way. A chorus was formed humorous skits brought laughs to facility dinners and tennis bets of a lifetime played out on the Apollo stage. The story captures the human side of the team amid their dedication and focus. If you are a space pioneer, a space fan, or a woman who wants to move through the professional net, this presentation will mesmerize you. What was it like to be a part of these history-making events of launching our astronauts to the moon? Hear it from someone who experienced it all.

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Martha Lemasters

Tracks: Speaker

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10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Why Rising Sea Level Is Now Unstoppable

Session Description: Rising sea level is commonly confused with unpredictable flooding from storms like Sandy or the completely predictable king tides. Sea level rise intensifies both of those events but is totally different. It is critical to understand why sea level rise cannot soon be stopped by any of the climate change or CO2 emission plans. Find out why just Greenland and Antarctica will determine the future of coastlines globally. Most importantly, what should we be doing? How high could it rise in the next 30 years and beyond? Why is it different in different places? John Englander wrote the book on the subject — *High Tide On Main Street* — and goes beyond the headlines and confusion. Now he briefs national security experts, corporate leaders, cities, developers, engineers, architects, attorneys and more. Listen, learn and get your questions answered.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: John Englander

Tracks: Speaker

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Wizard Tournament

Session Description: A Wizard deck has 60 cards — the 52 we all know and love plus eight blue cards — four Jesters and four Wizards. The trick is to bid your hand and then take exactly as many tricks as you've bid. There are no points for close. There will be a first round of the tournament where everyone plays, and then a second round of the table winners. Please learn the game before the tournament — people will be playing in the Games Room throughout the AG

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Beth Weiss

Tracks: Tournament

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Lunch

Session Description: Tomato bisque soup, tossed garden salad, marinated tomato and onion salad, vegetable and meat lasagnas, garlic rolls, chocolate mousse.

Location: Great Hall 3 & 4

Speaker:

Tracks: Meal

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Aguadilla, Puerto Rico 2013: An Unknown Flying Object Detected by Homeland Security

Session Description: On April 25, 2013, at about 1:20 p.m. local time, an unknown object at low altitude flew directly across the Rafael Hernandez airport runway at Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, causing a delayed departure of a commercial aircraft. There was no squawking transponder signal to alert the aircraft tower, nor was there any communication with the tower to prevent a dangerous situation with departing and arriving aircraft. Fortunately an airborne U.S. Customs and Border Protection aircraft captured the object on infrared video. This presentation is a summary of an analytical evaluation of that video as well as witness statements and radar data of the incident. For more information see explorescu.org or contact Robert at robertmaxpowell@gmail.com.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Robert Powell, M.FON Director of Research

Tracks: Speaker

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Saturday

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Debate Room: "Immigration and the U.S. Economy"

Session Description: Silicon Valley and agribusiness claim we need even more immigrants. The Administration wants fewer. What are the practical limits and risks to opening borders or closing them? Must we choose between uniting families and importing brains and entrepreneurs? Why should the United States overload its capacity to offset global instability, or are we not even close to capacity? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 5

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

How I Came to Write "Shall Not Perish From the Earth"

Session Description: Alternate history is a genre of fiction in which one or more historical events occur differently, causing the world as we knew it to evolve differently. It can be a rigorous exploration of how the world came to be. Ian Randal Strock wrote the short story "Shall Not Perish From the Earth" for the alternate history anthology "Altered States of the Union." For the story, he made a seemingly minor change to the Constitution at the founding of the United States of America and then explored what would happen during Abraham Lincoln's administration, three-quarters of a century later. In this talk, he'll delve further into the facts and changes of the story, as well as place it within the wider realm of alternate history.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Ian Randal Strock

Tracks: Speaker

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Puzzle Speed Tournament

Session Description: Some of us like to do jigsaw puzzles to relax; some of us like to bring the adrenaline rush of competition into everything we do. Join with your friends (or attendees you've just met!) and compete to see which team can assemble a 300-piece jigsaw puzzle the quickest. Up to eight teams can compete. After the puzzle is unveiled, teams will have three minutes to strategize before the speed-puzzling begins. The winning team is, of course, the first to shout out that they're done — and then present a completed puzzle.

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Debbie Freeland

Tracks: Tournament

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Region 10 Meet-and-Greet

Session Description: Join RVC 10 Thomas Thomas and other Region 10 members to talk about what is going on in Mensa as a whole and Region 10 in particular.

Location: Room 216

Speaker: Thomas Thomas

Tracks: M&G

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Saturday

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Region 4 Meet-and-Greet

Session Description: Join newly elected RVC Jon Gruebele and other Region members to talk about what is going on in Mensa as a whole and Region in particular.

Location: Room 21

Speaker: Jon Gruebele

Tracks: M&G

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Spirituality Explained by a Materialistic Three Agent Model of Consciousness

Session Description: A new "three-agent model" of consciousness is used to explain spirituality and spiritually enlightened states. The three separate-but-interconnected proposed agents are the "Thinker," "Doer" and "Experiencer." The Thinker is the conscious agent in the normal modern human. In non-human animals, the Doer is the conscious agent. Spirituality arose during the transition from being a conscious Doer to being a conscious Thinker. The very useful Thinker allowed humans to dominate the world by developing science, technology and modern civilization. However, the Thinker also causes suffering for individual modern humans since it amplifies and prolongs negative emotions such as resentments and fears. Spirituality and spiritual practices, such as meditation and prayer can decrease identification with the Thinker and alleviate some of that suffering. Finally, spiritually enlightened states occur when there is no identification with the Thinker and, instead, life is lived as an Experiencer only.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Frank Heile Ph.D.

Tracks: Speaker

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

The Evitable Connection Between Intelligence and Expertise

Session Description: Insight comes from repeated application of experience in similar circumstances. The opportunity to accomplish that comes from focus, all of which yields pattern matching, which is the essence of intelligence. But turning that insight and intelligence into an entrepreneurial venture requires something very different, and there is no inevitable connection between insight and making money from it. Let's talk about how that happens. David has written five best-selling books and speaks widely around the world. This is based in part on my fifth book, arriving in late April, called *The Business of Expertise: How Entrepreneurial Experts Convert Insight to Impact*. Profit, RockBench Publishing Corp, Nashville. Foreword by Dan Pink.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: David Baker

Tracks: Speaker

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Whistleblowers — Big Cash Rewards for Low Profile People Exposing Corporate Misconduct and Health Care Cheats

Session Description: Corporate misconduct is rampant — banks cheat customers, defense contractors double or triple bill the U.S., major pharma companies knowingly sell subpar or defective drugs, and health care providers from hospitals to ambulance companies cheat Medicare while patients suffer the consequences and U.S. taxpayers foot the bill for fraud. Author Brian Mahany is an expert at helping people expose these cheats, stop the fraud and earn large cash rewards provided for in several little-known U.S. laws. Learn how whistleblower heroes, often employees, stand up to mega banks, big pharma, evil defense contractors, and health care providers gone rogue. Shocking stories from the headlines: Brian's \$16 billion win vs. Bank of America for their role in the mortgage crisis, drugs we all buy at the pharmacy adulterated at overseas factories yet

sold anyway in the name of profit, a doc telling healthy patients they have cancer to sell chemo, etc. Intriguing insights from U.S. whistleblower expert Mahany.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Brian Mahany

Tracks: Speaker

1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Trash Bowl

Session Description: Trash Bowl is a quizbowl-style, buzz-in team competition of esoteric knowledge, with the focus on pop culture — movies, music, sports, TV, games, junk food, comics, you name it. Hosted by your genial quizmaster, Charlie Steinhice, a.k.a. the Ghost of Quizbowl Past. Fun for spectators, unless they blurt out answers and earn the Withering Glance of Death. Field limited to 6 players, with advance sign-up recommended. Sign up individually or in pairs; you'll be grouped into teams of four players.

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Charlie Steinhice

Tracks: Tournament

1:30 PM - 4:15 PM

Bridge Tournament

Session Description: This is the continuation of Ed Becker's "friendly bridge tournament." Players must know how to play bridge, but may be new to duplicate bridge. Players may arrange their own partnerships or may sign up individually and be paired up on the spot. A maximum of 10 participants is allowed due to logistical constraints, but alternates may sign up in case someone does not show up.

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Stephen Burnham

Tracks: Tournament

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Atheist Meet-and-Greet

Session Description: This atheist, agnostic, humanist, etc. meet and greet can be "hosted" by anyone that is motivated to lead the discussions, with Ed Bou as the default host. This forum is for you, whether you want to discuss atheist reading lists, other atheist groups, the politics of atheism, how religious oppression impedes you from coming out of the atheist closet, or if you simply want to meet others that share atheist agnostic values.

Location: Room 21

Speaker: Ed Bou

Tracks: M&G

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Awards Presentation and 2018 AG Kickoff

Session Description: Celebrate the accomplishments of Mensa members and Local Groups at our awards presentation. Share the highlights of the year and see which groups win big! All members are welcome to attend. Afterwards, get the grand preview of the 201 Annual Gathering, "Monumentally Mindbending!" in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker:

Tracks: Mensa

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Debate Room: "No Longer the Home of the Brave?"

Session Description: Terrorism is the intentional generation of fear for political purposes. American politicians have been practicing terrorism since before the Goldwater campaign. Trouble is, they've gotten good at it, and the American electorate has encouraged them. Have we become permanent cravens? If not, how do we make that strategy not work any more? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 5

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Game Theory Experiments

Session Description: In this presentation we will run some experiments (a.k.a. play some games) that illustrate the motivation for Game Theory. After each round we will look at what the "best strategy" (or lack thereof) is for them. We will also analyze the theoretical equilibrium and maximum potential gains. Come prepared to help your team make some strategic decisions and have fun! Note: Previous knowledge experience with game theory may or may not help your team win this time. Prizes will be adjusted by inflation.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Marcelo Guerra Hahn

Tracks: Speaker

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

GenX SIG Meet-and-Greet #2

Session Description: For Gen Xers who watched as video killed the radio star, and all we could do is stand by and mutter "I want my MTV!" In hopes of finding that we have more in common than just our 2 percent, we welcome all Mensans born from January 1 '61 through December 31 '71. This is a group of Gen Xers, by Gen Xers, and for Gen Xers.

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker: Tracey Guice

Tracks: SIG

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Local Group Reports

Session Description: Just what reports are available to help you manage your Local Group? And how do you use them? At this LDW, Stacey Irsch and Matthew Needham will go in detail about how to find your Local Groups reports, how they work, and, most importantly, how to use them to be more effective at managing your local group. Come, bring your questions, and be ready to go over all that is Local Group reports.

Location: Room 21

Speaker: Matthew Needham

Tracks: LDW

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1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Native American-style Drum Circle

Session Description: Cultures are informed largely by the subtleties embedded in language in everything from mundane assumptions to world views and beyond. The nonreligious spiritual and life-wisdom, the connection to Unci Maka (Grandmother Earth) and to "all our relations" of North American Indigenes is further supported and brought to life through powerful ceremonial songs. Join in this drum circle where songs will be sung in the Lakota language, then explained in English. We'll have fun, too! (No photos please.)

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker: Rick McBride, aka Cante Lute

Tracks: Speaker

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Prospects, From Start to Finish

Session Description: Have you ever wondered how prospects are identified? Are you interested in learning about what tools and best practices are available to help local groups communicate with prospects? This presentation will show you the processes and tools that help turn a curious person on one of our websites into a candidate and, hopefully, into a fellow Mensan.

Location: Room 212 & 213

Speaker: Jennifer Jewell, Timothy Brooks

Tracks: LDW

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Seeing the Marine Environment through Microbial and Genomics Lenses

Session Description: DNA comprises the genetic code and common thread of all life on the planet. Our NSU molecular genomics laboratory focuses on the genomic sequences from marine organisms and essential microbes in diverse projects. For example, we are trying to better understand food webs and microbial distributions in the deep ocean through the DEEPEND project after the Deewater Horizon oil spill (see deependconsortium.org) to "symbiotic" interactions between host and beneficial microbes living together. For example, see bioluminescent symbionts of anglerfish at ocean.si.edu/ocean-news/meet-tiny-bacteria-give-anglerfishes-their-spooky-glow, to supporting the Global Invertebrate Genomics Alliance or GIGA (see GIGA-cos.org), which helps study the genomes and evolutionary origins of diverse marine animals (such as invertebrate sponges and corals) that help make up the tree of life.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Dr. Jose V. Lopez, Ph.D

Tracks: Speaker

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Vera Rubin's Presentation to the Mensa Colloquium: "Revolution in Cosmology"

Session Description: Astronomer Vera Rubin passed away in 2016. A decade prior, 300 of us had the pleasure of meeting her and hearing her "The Universe of Galaxies" presentation at our Colloquium in Albany, N.Y. That presentation was videotaped and will be shown at this presentation. Here is her abstract from that presentation: "Every civilization, from the time of the earliest humans to the present day, tells stories about the universe. What is known in each epoch reflects mostly the available technology. Today astronomers know that bright galaxies and clusters of galaxies populate the universe, but make up less than 10% of its matter. The remaining matter is dark, and is inferred by its gravitational effect on the bright matter that we study. Following a brief discussion of the early history, I will tell the story of the bright universe that we know, and the dark universe that is obscure."

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: Judy Keating

Tracks: Speaker

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

You Be the Investigator

Session Description: Criminal fraud investigators (the real ones, not ones on TV) seldom win in an hour or even what constitutes a television season. Sure, smoking guns and a dozen eye witnesses can happen, but it's a rarity. In this session, Cookie intends to take full advantage of the tens of thousands of IQ points in the audience as she presents one of her real death case investigations — as of this writing unsolved "beyond a reasonable doubt" — and then opens the mic to Q&As and full audience participation/suggestions. Please, no young children. Mature teens accompanied by a parent allowed, but be advised that discussion content can be graphic/disturbing. Caveat: Names and locations will be changed to protect the victims and the suspects.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Cookie Bakke

Tracks: Speaker

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Dancing Like They Did on the Silver Screen

Session Description: Learn how to glide across the floor with grace and style. Find out how to do those romantic turns, and feel comfortable and look great when you do it. That's right. Learn the secrets of dancers like Fred Astaire, Debbie Reynolds, Gene Kelly and Rosemary Clooney, to name a few. No, you won't look quite like them at the end of the class, but you'll understand and be able to do the basic techniques that made them look wonderful and will help you look great at the dance. Gain the confidence. Lose the fear. No partners required, just a desire to have fun and meet other Mensans.

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker: Don Jacobs

Tracks: Speaker

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Building Your Scholarship Program

Session Description: Your local group misses out on granting a \$600 scholarship to an applicant in your area when you don't participate in the Mensa Foundation's annual scholarship program. Learn what you can do to develop a scholarship program for your group and how rewarding it can be.

Location: Room 214

Speaker: Mark Glancey

Tracks: LDW

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Debate Room: "Unsupervised Play"

Session Description: Time was when the kids roamed vacant lots or played in the street after school. Now they have structured activities or sit in front of a screen or get a play date if one can be arranged. Parents who try the old way run the risk of being accused of child abuse. What's a modern parent to do? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Discovery and Protection of Deep-water Coral Reefs: Vulnerable Deep and Mesophotic Coral/Sponge Ecosystems.

Session Description: This presentation covers the discovery and protection of deep-sea and mesophotic coral reefs in the northwest Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. It covers the processes for their discovery, including a summary of the deep-water platforms, the type of data collected and the remarkable coral and sponge species that make up these vulnerable habitats, including some that have been shown to fight cancers. Also covered: how we use the extensive research to protect the deep-coral habitats by creating and expanding Marine Protected Areas (MPA) like the Culina Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC), the first deep-sea coral reef MPA in the world and the Deep-Coral HAPC, the largest deep-water coral reef MPA covering about 24,000 miles just off the coast of Florida. Also possibly covered: our month-long cruise to survey with an R/V the deepwater reefs of Cuba, scheduled for May 2017.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Stephanie Farrington, MSc.

Tracks: Speaker

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Five and a Half Years in the Hanoi Hilton: Triumph of the Human Spirit!

Session Description: Retired Navy pilot Dave Carey tells the story of how he and his fellow prisoners of war survived more than five years in the prisons of North Vietnam. He analyzes the strengths and strategies that made their survival possible and shows how these forms of faith — in self, others, country and God — can carry everyone through personal and business crises. Capt. Carey brings a positive and up-beat message about being your best — doing your best, using the power we each have. He relates in a down-to-earth yet profound way. Here are keystones to a meaningful life. Stressing that each of us has the opportunity and the power to make every day a little better, in spite of — not because of — the events in our lives. Success not as a result of overcoming adversity, but rather using it creatively. Together, we'll find humor in emotional chaos, the power of humor in our lives and keeping the faith in yourself, others, your country and in God.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Dave Carey

Tracks: Speaker

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Friends of Bill W

Session Description: For Mensans and guests who are actively practicing any 12-step program. This is a non-hosted, informal program, not for observers or the curious, please.

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Getting Young Adult Mensans Involved

Session Description: Interested in getting younger members involved in your local group? Are you a younger member interested in getting more involved locally? This is the presentation for you! Young people are the way of the future and that's the direction that we all need to look to. We will discuss ways to get younger members involved, volunteering and participating in areas of leadership within your local group.

Location: Room 212 & 213

Speaker: Henri Buccine-Schraeder, Timothy Brooks

Tracks: LDW

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Local Treasurer's/Budget Makers Meet-and-Greet

Session Description: Come meet Local Group Treasurers and group/event budget-makers, as well as the national Treasurer. This will be a Meet-and-Greet event with some suggested topics of discussion, including getting the biggest bang for your buck, keeping the right amount of money in the bank and sharing best practices year-round.

Location: Room 216

Speaker: Deb Stone

Tracks: M&G

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Marc Lederman Festivus Airing of Grievances

Session Description: Long-time Mensa leader Marc Lederman (chair of this AG) died last December. This event is for Marc's friends and fans to gather to remember him. Bring tissues and your sense of humor. You will need both as we remember one of Mensa's most interesting members.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Brian B. Reeves

Tracks: Speaker

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Penguins, Not Polar Bears: Travel to the End of the World

Session Description: Join Marcia and Steve on their expedition to Antarctica, South Georgia and the Falkland Islands. There are, of course, no polar bears in the Antarctic. But there are hundreds of thousands of penguins and albatrosses, as well as petrels and other birds, seals, whales, ice-covered mountains and sculpted icebergs. Marcia will take you on visits to rookeries and an old whaling station, snow covered trails and the notorious Drake Passage. You'll learn what to expect on a trip to the frozen continent, what to pack and the difference between an expedition and a cruise. Best of all, Marcia will share stunning photos of all of these experiences.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: Marcia Brandes

Tracks: Speaker

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

Who is Al Capone?

Session Description: I am a Capone. So begins Deirdre Marie Capone's recently published account of her life, family and relationship with one of America's most notorious gangsters. In the past, this admission of identity did not come easy to Deirdre, who was discriminated against simply because of her last name. Now, she shares little-known stories about the family who raised her and kept Chicago stocked with liquor during the Prohibition. Although Uncle Al passed away in 1947, his legacy — both good and bad — remains with Deirdre. The course of her own life has been affected by the Capone family name, including losing her father to suicide at the age of 10. Over time, the Capone name has become ensconced by myth and legend, but Deirdre alone knows truly intimate details. As the only surviving Capone member who has first hand accounts of interactions with her notorious family members, she seeks to clear up rumors and allegations that have accumulated over the past 70 years.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Deirdre Marie Capone

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM

An Ecotourist's Guide to the Everglades and the Florida Keys: See and Experience Southern Florida Like Few Do

Session Description: Visits to isolated islands, austere domes of cypress, the world's third-largest coral reef tract, pine forests and the world's most famous wetland are just some of the options that outdoor-minded tourists have when they visit southern Florida. In this presentation, longtime South Florida journalist and adventurer Robert Silk will provide a primer to his book, An ecotourist's Guide to the Everglades and the Florida Keys. Learn about the best places to view wildlife, hike, paddle, snorkel and much more in the nearly million acres of public land and water of southern Florida. Silk will also discuss the omnipresent tension between development and conservation that has led to the designation of three national parks, five national wildlife refuges, a national preserve, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and 12 state parks in the region.

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Robert Silk

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM

Artificial Intelligence — From Yan Shi to Skynet

Session Description: From the dawn of the written word, mankind has imagined artificial beings capable of human thought and action. In this session, we will stroll through AI history from the automatons of Alexandria, to the Turing test, through the artificial intelligence winters of the late 20th century. Our journey ends with a mind-boggling (and slightly scary) glimpse into the future of AI. Society is on the precipice of a paradigm shift not seen since the borg first began their assimilation of the universe. We'll wrap things up with the important question, "Should we fear Skynet?" The answer may surprise you!

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: Timmy King

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM

Buck Up, Suck Up and Grow Your Membership — Get 'er Done!

Session Description: Gentry is an elected member of the Napa City Council, and her motto is, Suck up, buck up and get 'er done! She embodies marketing, promotions and public relations. How does one get elected? The same way you sell lipstick to elephants. It is all about the right product and the right market with the right message. Is your club hemorrhaging members? Want to grow your club and have more fun with your events? We will do some hands-on activities, apply some tricks and learn new ways to kick your club from ordinary to extraordinary.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Doris Gentry

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**Debate Room: "Food Fight — Gluten, GMOs, Paleo and C4 Corn"**

Session Description: Doing a dinner party has gotten so difficult now that everyone has their own personal dietary issues. Paleo, Vegan, Adkins, organic, gluten, GM , allergies/sensitivity, locally-sourced, corn-based (or not), fair-trade, even euphony ("If I can't pronounce it, I won't eat it!") — we have developed an extensive vocabulary of meal-time hot buttons. What's yours and why, or do you just eat what's on the plate? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**Deep-sea Corals and Methane Seep Communities of Atlantic Submarine Canyons**

Session Description: Submarine canyons are massive geological features that funnel currents and nutrients between the continental shelf and abyssal plane. Deep-sea canyons are dark, turbid and cold, with strong currents that scour sediments to expose the underlying rocks, which are colonized by extensive communities of deep sea corals and their associates. Atlantic Deepwater Canyons project was a multidisciplinary study of two canyons in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region. This presentation will show the results of exploration and research in these massive and remarkable features, including the first descriptions of methane seep communities in the region. Human impacts on these vulnerable natural resources will also be discussed, together with options for their management.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Sandra Brooke

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**High Conflict Members and How to Deal With Them**

Session Description: High-conflict people present challenges throughout their lives and throughout society. High-conflict people often create problems in their workplace, in their families, and, if they become members of Mensa, to local group leaders and to their fellow Mensans. This session will examine how to distinguish a high-conflict person, how widespread the phenomenon is in American society, and most importantly, what to do about it when there is such an individual in your local group. Techniques to diffuse high-conflict situations will be discussed. Options available to local group leaders will be outlined. Tools, from outside the local group and available to aid the local group leader, will be described.

Location: Room 212 & 213

Speaker: Garrison "Bud" Klueck

Tracks: LDW

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**Non-dualism: Fact or Fiction**

Session Description: There seems to be one common core that lies at the heart of most of the world's great religions and spiritual philosophies. Often called the "perennial truth," this ancient cross-cultural belief holds that all perceived separation is illusory and that, instead, everything that you're experiencing (including the belief in a separated "you"), is, quintessentially, really the same one, unbroken, seamless and all-pervasive Consciousness. Obviously, the implications of what non-dualism is pointing at are far beyond staggering. After all, how can you live in a dream world where you're always questioning the very nature of reality, itself? Who really are you, anyway? So, if you're

ready to venture down this cosmic rabbit hole, then come and discover what astounding Truth lies within your own heart-of-hearts.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Chuck Hillig

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**Pente Tournament**

Session Description: Pente was a very popular game of the 1980s. A game of skill, simple to learn and play, Pente can have the tactical depth of chess. Some Mensans play it, others have watch us play at RGs and are eager to learn. Played on a grid with colored stones, two players compete to achieve a straight line of five stones of their own color, or flank and capture five pairs of their opponent's stones. You can find the basic strategy here: hasbro.com/common/instruct/Pente.PDF or come to the learning session in the Games Room on Thursday at 11 a.m.

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Alice Silver

Tracks: Tournament

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**Poke-M Go (Pokemon) Meetup**

Session Description: Hey Poke-M Goers! We will gather at the AG to meet fellow trainers on our quest for Corsola and Heracross. Maybe we can take down a gym or two together! We will finally put trainer faces to trainer names! I'll bring Wobbuffet. See you there!

Location: Room 216

Speaker: Kelly Galanis, Tom Galanis

Tracks: M&G

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**Public Awareness for Your Local Group**

Session Description: Good public relations is important for your Local Group to disseminate information to the public while maintaining a positive image of Mensa. Increasing visibility in your community will not only increase awareness of Mensa in general, but will also help with recruiting new members who may have not previously known that Mensa existed or what it is about. This presentation will talk about some ways to help increase public relations within your Local Group, including suggestions for setting up a successful recruitment table.

Location: Room 214

Speaker: Ruth Green-Waite

Tracks: LDW

4:30 PM - 5:45 PM**The Big Bang Theory: There's Something Funny About Scientists**

Session Description: Something astonishing keeps cropping up on TV's The Big Bang Theory — namely, actual science. The hugely popular sitcom, an extended riff on the "gifted and geeky" stereotype, is peppered with real-life scientific references. Characters chat about cutting-edge and classical experiments; historic formulae adorn background whiteboards; and famous science educators guest-star as themselves. So when did CBS become PBS? Science humorist Dave Zobel argues that The Big Bang Theory plays a vital, if non-traditional, role in science education. Its ongoing celebration of scientific

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Saturday

inquiry lays the groundwork for viewer conversations about science, technology, math — even philosophy. And that's a gift to every science geek... or science denier.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Dave Zobel

Tracks: Speaker

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Supervised Practice for Dancing Like They Did on the Silver Screen

Session Description: Practice makes perfect. If you want to review what you learned today or have questions, you can get one-on-one answers, even if you weren't at the class or it's a question about any other dances.

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker: Don Jacobs

Tracks: Speaker

6:00 PM - 8:45 PM

The Science of Racial Inequality and a Dream for Racial Equality

Session Description: The young Mensan makes the case for why liberals, not just racists, should accept the taboo science of genetically-rooted psychological racial differences, including intelligence. He wants to bust the white nationalist monopoly on a field of biology that is accurate, even if it should be false, as the science can be used for both liberal ends and anti-liberal ends, but denouncing it or ignoring it can only be anti-liberal. It is only by accepting the science that racial equality can ever be achieved. The first hour will be a presentation of the scientific evidence, and the second hour will be a discussion of the related politics. He wishes to provoke thought, not umbrage, so please leave your tomatoes in Hospitality.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 2

Speaker: Abel Dean

Tracks: Speaker

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

Debate Room: "Did 'Tobacco Science' Lead to 'Climate Science'?"

Session Description: The idea of scientific integrity took a big hit when we learned that tobacco isn't safe despite what some scientists said. Is the public justified in doubting the evidence for global warming because science seems to be for sale? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

Evangelical Christianity Meet & Greet

Session Description: This is a time for current members of the SIG to meet and greet and get acquainted, and for prospective members to see what we are about. Everyone is welcome.

Location: Room 216

Speaker: Larry Paarmann

Tracks: M&G

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

House of Slaves and 'Door of No Return'

Session Description: The slave dungeons and forts/castles along the coast of Ghana constitute the fulcrum around which the Atlantic slave trade was organized. It was also an important part of the Middle Passage, but scholars of the slave trade have done very little work on these structures. How do continental Africans and diaspora Africans view these structures?

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Edmund Abaka Ph.D

Tracks: Speaker

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

How to Tap the Hemingway Within You

Session Description: Accomplished author and editor Prudy Taylor Board will share tips from the brand-new second edition of 101 Tips on How to Write and Sell a First Novel to an agent or publisher. Co-Author Ruth Hartman Berge will share tips from the same book on how to create a market plan that will help the new author successfully sell that book to readers.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Prudy Taylor Board, Ruth Berge

Tracks: Speaker

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

Possession: The Pros and Cons of Hitchhiking

Session Description: America's leading parapsychologist returns to the AG after a seven-year hiatus to report his latest findings on spirit and possession. Silver's appearance on the Travel Channel's Ghost Adventures: Moon River Brewery in 2009 is one of the top three episodes in the show's nine-year history. His recent appearance on Ghost Adventures Aftershocks elevated the medium to a new level. Silver's long-awaited thesis on spirit was pulled from publication rather than encourage the perilous hobby of "ghost hunting." Thus, this program will be the only opportunity for an audience to hear his groundbreaking revelations guaranteed to put the fear of God in people who do not believe in God.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: Murray Silver

Tracks: Speaker

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

Risk Terrain Modeling Q&A

Session Description: Risk terrain modeling (RTM) is an approach to spatial risk analysis that is used to identify risks that come from features of a landscape and model how they co-locate to create unique behavior settings for crime and other risky behaviors. Come hear about the basics of this innovative method used in police departments all over the world by one of the experts in this methodology. This will be followed by an interactive discussion about the adaptability of the method, previous policing interventions and the appeal of RTM across a variety of disciplines.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Henri Buccine-Schraeder

Tracks: Speaker

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM

When Cops Become Robbers: The Rise of Civil Forfeiture

Session Description: Many Americans are surprised to learn that laws exist that allow the police to take your money and property and keep it for themselves, even without arresting anyone or accusing anyone of committing any crime. This process is called civil forfeiture, and it has become the most glaring abuse of property rights in America today. Unlike criminal forfeiture, civil forfeiture incentivizes law enforcement to ignore criminal activity in favor of chasing money and property instead. The result is rampant abuse, countless innocent victims and less actual crime fighting. This presentation will explore the history of civil forfeiture in the United States, the reasons why the Supreme Court allows it to persist and the reform efforts that are currently underway.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Justin Pearson

Tracks: Speaker

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Under-21 Dance

Session Description: Just for our attendees under the age of 21. Enjoy DJ Rockin' Roy as he plays a wide range of classic dance favorites.

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker: Rockin' Roy

Tracks: Entertainment

7:30 PM - 8:45 PM

Boggle Tournament

Session Description: Boggle is a three-minute word-search game. We will be playing on a five-by-five grid with a minimum word length of four letters, using the normal scoring rules. Boards are printed and distributed for each round, so that each person is working on the same board. Please arrive at least five minutes early for table assignments.

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Charles Godfrey

Tracks: Tournament

7:30 PM - 8:45 PM

Cyber Threats and Homeland Security

Session Description: Leo Doyle is head of the Cyber Defense Force for the city of Indianapolis, part of the Homeland Security Bureau. Cyber terrorism is a threat to all of us, whether we know it or not. It can happen almost anywhere, any time. Doyle will present some recently declassified events and talk about the dark underbelly of the Internet where there are no rules, no laws and organized crime and gangs meet to do their business. People don't ordinarily see and can't find this "Deep Web" without special software. He will talk about some of the specialized training that he and his team have been through.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Leo Doyle

Tracks: Speaker

7:30 PM - 8:45 PM**Debate Room: "Has the Regulatory State Gone Too Far?"**

Session Description: Do you believe that federal regulations are an affront to personal freedom? Will the free market's Invisible Hand be an adequate defense against corporate overreach? If not, what then? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

7:30 PM - 8:45 PM**Equity Crowdfunding — Exciting New Funding Programs Recently Legalized**

Session Description: After the 1929 stock market crash, the Congress passed the Securities and Exchange Act of 1933 and made it all but impossible for small companies to raise money by public offering of securities. In 2016 that changed, and new law allows limited sale of securities to the public up to \$1 million per year, domestically. Also, most states have new legislation which allows public offerings which do not cross state lines. Companies can raise up to \$1 Million per year in an SEC-licensed Reg-CF public offering of securities only via licensed crowdfunding portals. This is not Kickstarter. You can keep 100% control by selling non-voting stock or bonds. By contrast, angel investors and VCs typically demand a large equity stake and even controlling interest in the company. The SEC rules allow for any type of security to be sold, like bonds, debt instruments, stocks, warrants, debentures or anything else. One can even invent new securities, like revenue sharing notes.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Charles Radley M.Sc., AFAIAA

Tracks: Speaker

7:30 PM - 8:45 PM**Israel: The Historical Holyland**

Session Description: Israel, the historical holy land, lies at the intersection of three continents and the histories of their civilizations. The earliest fossils of modern human teeth have been found in Israel, at the caves of Quesem. The land defines its history — a landscape that determined the course of human habitation there, not to mention the outcomes of battles fought on land and sea throughout recorded history. This pictorial presentation will describe the ancient to modern development of the land and its inhabitants, its archeology and artifacts, respecting the cultural and religious differences throughout the millennia. Through understanding the land and its history, we learn how this tiny slice of earth magnifies its impact on the world stage. A basic travelogue with illuminating pictorials, yet of a special place that cannot escape its historical destiny. Discover the holy land with your own eyes. Questions welcomed at the end and answered from personal experiences.

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Yair Abet

Tracks: Speaker

7:30 PM - 8:45 PM**LGBTQ Health Policy and Sexuality: Surviving in the Age of Trump (Adults Only)**

Session Description: Since the HIV epidemic of the '80s, public health policy has had to consciously consider the lives and sexuality of the LGBTQ communities. The last 30 years has been both reflective of and influential to LGBTQ sexual expression and the evolution of social understanding of gender identity. Historically, public health policy has, to some degree or another, include the unique needs of these marginalized communities

and substantially shape the cultural expression of gender and sexuality. We'll discuss what's happened for the LGBTQ community in terms of culture, health and sexual expression since the 2016 election.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Jen Laws, Kelly Shibari, Steven Patton

Tracks: Speaker

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Battle of the SIGs Challenge

Session Description: Come one, come all to see who will take home the bragging rights for 2017-2018! Prepare to be amazed – and cheer on your favorite SIGs (Special Interest Groups) – as they compete in the inaugural Battle of the SIGs contest. Participating SIGs will be putting on a performance package for your enjoyment, while they are also competing to win the Battle of the SIGs traveling trophy, their choice of one of two prizes and, of course, those most important bragging rights.

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker: Nancy Farrar

Tracks:

9:00 PM - 11:59 PM

Everybody Dance

Session Description: DJ Rockin' Roy is an award winning multi-talented DJ that will get you on your feet and moving for the last party night of the Annual Gathering.

Location: Great Hall 1 & 2

Speaker: Rockin' Roy

Tracks: Entertainment

9:00 PM - 11:45 PM

Werewolves of Ziggy Hollow

Session Description: Werewolves have moved into the peaceful village of Ziggy Hollow, and it is up to the townspeople to kill them before they get killed. Ziggy's rules and special characters will be introduced before the start of each game. Adults only please.

Location: Diplomat Ballroom 4

Speaker: Bill Zigo

Tracks: Game

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

BDSM: Sexual Power Dynamics and Play in Relationships (Adults Only)

Session Description: Discussing fantasies, sexual needs, wants and desires can be difficult and tongue-tying. Broaching topics and maintaining relationships involving dominance and submission, sadomasochistic play and fetishes can be even more challenging. Yet, doing so provides an opportunity for deeper communication and more intimacy. BDSM and fetish play offer many layers and possibilities of engagement from one-off to long-term, sexual and non-sexual, casual and intimate, playful and spiritual. What options are available? How do you manage kink-based relationships over the long term? What are the benefits to hiring a professional? This discussion will cover relationship structures, pacing relationship development, communication styles, recognizing natural power dynamics and their impact on communication, playing against type and "switching" in one or multiple relationships, developing new relationship skills with broad application outside of play space, and the personal politics of change.

Location: Regency Ballroom 3

Speaker: Elizabeth 'Kitty' Davis, BA, Kelly Shibari

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

Carnelli Tournament

Session Description: Play this title-association game, invented by Mensans Jan Carnell and Jim Lange. See why this game has been popular at Mensa gatherings for decades. No experience necessary rules will be taught. Visit the website is.gd/carnelli for more information, or just show up.

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Dan Tobias

Tracks: Tournament

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

Debate Room: "Welcome to the Police State — Feeling Safer Now?"

Session Description: The police can use a license-plate reader to find your stolen car, and they can know where you drove last night. Security officials can tap the communications of terrorists, and of opposition politicians. Ben Franklin said we can have freedom or safety but not both. Where would you draw the line? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

He Does Whatever a Spider Can: A History of the Amazing Spider-Man

Session Description: Introduced in the last issue of *Amazing Fantasy* #1, Spider-Man was an overnight sensation and eventually Marvel's #1 character. In addition to multiple comics, he's appeared in a daily newspaper strip, movies, novels, cartoons and a prime-time TV series. This program will look at his history now spanning more than five decades, including backstage feuds, changes to the strip, and the key to his tremendous popularity, as well as his appearances in other media.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 1

Speaker: Fraser Sherman

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

Music Listening in the 21st Century: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Session Description: It's 2017 and you want to rock out to "Dark Side of the Moon" or mellow out to "Kind of Blue." What are your options? You've got your CDs, your MP3s, 44 and 6, 12 and 320, SACD, FLAC, WA, AAC, P, N and millennials are listening to these things called LPs again. MG! We'll navigate the stormy sea of battling streams, volume wars and killed-off technologies to give you some practical information about getting the most out of your modern audio experience.

Location: Atlantic Ballroom 3

Speaker: Scott Inick

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

The Mystic Experience – Intrinsic Meaning and Indications as to the Nature of Human Consciousness

Session Description: While in San Diego to speak at the AG in 2016, I presented to the local group of the Institute of Noetic Sciences a tribute to Edgar Mitchell – the sixth astronaut to walk on the moon and founder of I NS. I looked at the Mystic Experience as Mitchell had had while in space returning from the moon and as I experienced as a young man hitch-hiking around Europe. That same perspective should be of great interest to Ms. I'll first show the 20-minute video I produced on the topic (youtube.com watch?v=ZA_QY_tomn0), and then continue to delve into implications of the Mystic Experience as indications of the nature of human consciousness. This involves recognizing how beliefs and accepted definitions distort perception. And it will illustrate the functional oneness of self with experienced reality, an awareness of which is masked by common notions – religious, scientific and traditional (luck, fate, etc.) – as to causality.

Location: Regency Ballroom 1

Speaker: Thomas Nehrer

Tracks: Speaker

9:00 PM - 10:15 PM

The Role of Pardons and Clemency, Sentence Commutation in Today's Criminal Justice System

Session Description: More than 6 million Americans have a criminal record and thousands are incarcerated each year with sentences disproportionate to the criminal behavior. For individuals with criminal records problems bleed from criminal into civil and have economic and social ripple effects that last beyond any sentence. A criminal record affects employment, housing, licensing and immigration – areas that impact not only the person convicted of the crime but also their families. Even short periods of incarceration can have a lifelong impact on individuals and their families. They are saddled with an economic death sentence long after the sentence is completed. Pardons and commutation of sentences play an important role in the criminal justice system by enabling many individuals to remove this economic death sentence and go on to live productive, crime free lives. Presentation will focus on how and why these programs are granted.

Location: Regency Ballroom 2

Speaker: Micki Hutchinson

Tracks: Speaker

10:30 PM - 11:59 PM

Double Deck Cancellation Hearts Tournament — Final Round

Session Description: Table winners from Wednesday's First Round will compete in this final round.

Location: Great Hall 6

Speaker: Stan Ward

Tracks: Tournament

10:30 PM - 11:45 PM

Debate Room: "'Public Land' or 'Government Land?'"

Session Description: Are the U.S. National Parks the public's land or the government's land? By what right does the government assert control over park and monument acreage, and by what right do citizens demand access to that same land for private purposes? Who is overreaching? Debate Room is not a heated debate, but a fast-paced moderated discussion where everyone gets to be heard, and the most interesting speaker

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Saturday

gets a prize!

Location: Diplomat Ballroom

Speaker:

Tracks: Debate