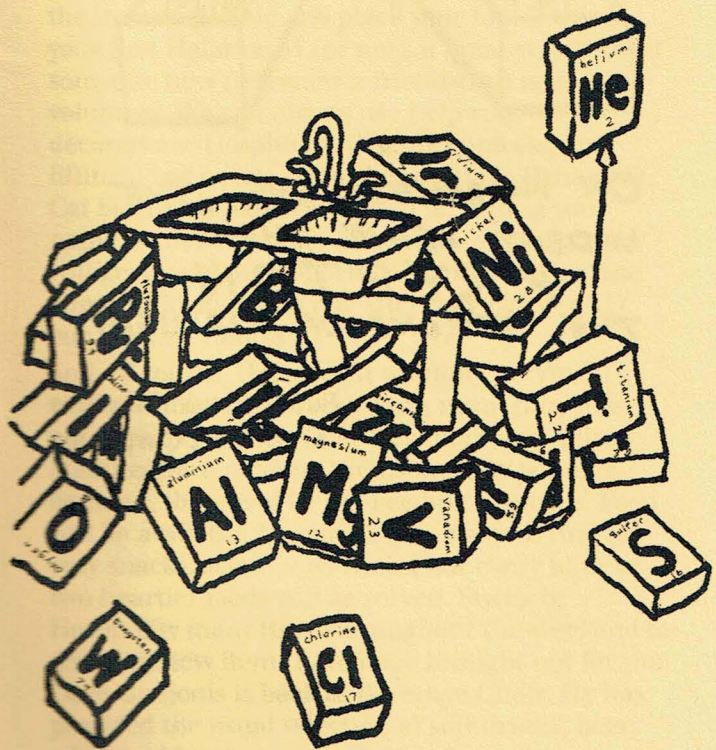
HalloweeM Chairs

Chair	John Massura
Co-Chair	Theodora Nebergall
Art	Rick Carpenter
Auction	Diane Spicer-Lincoln
Audiovisual	Martin Weber
Beverages	Dave Gudjonis
Book Sale	Millie Stevens and Louise Howe
Buttons	Vicki Snavely
Communications	Conrad Pomykala
Decorating	Carla Voigts
Fore-Play	Cat Sterrett
Fri-Play	Janet Century
Games	Mark Thompson
Hospitality	Cher Burnham and Allison Stallings
Hotel Liaison	Randy Stallings
Photographer	John Muellner
Program	Cynthia Clampitt
Program Book Layout	Kent Nebergall, Carol Mason
Proofreader	Darlene Brill
Registration	Bill and Lisa Slankard
Transportation	Jim Mason
Treasurer	Allison Stallings
Vendors	Ro Sila
Volunteers	Cat Sterrett

HalloweeM 25
The Ag RG

Program Book



Everything but the kitchen ZINC

Pun by Raul Mancillas
Art by Rick Carpenter

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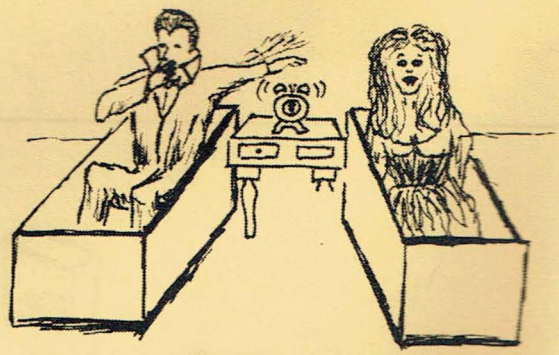
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ON HALLOWEEN EVE, THE UNDEAD LEAVE THEIR KRYPTON THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT

Pun by Raul Mancillas
Art by Rick Carpenter

A Welcome from the HalloweeM Chair

Welcome to HalloweeM 25, the Ag RG, our Silver Anniversary. We have worked hard outdoing ourselves and improving on past successes here in Chicago.

Cynthia Clampitt is back again as Program Chair and has managed to increase the number of programs from last year. We are running up to six programs at once and are sure you will find something of interest to attend.

All of us are looking forward to seeing the costumes you have been working on all year at our Friday Night Costume Parade/Dance. There have been some great costumes over the years and we suspect there will be some memorable ones this year, too.

Our Talent Show is back! If you sing, play an instrument, read poetry, or participate in any of the arts, please share your talent with us. We still have the old favorites: Joke-Off, Carnelli, Quiz Bowl, Sexyg Fishbowl, two dances, pool tables, and the book sale. We'll also have a silent auction this year to benefit our Scholarship Fund. Check out the items available and place your bid. If this is your first HalloweeM (or not), a great way to meet someone new (or renew a friendship) is to volunteer. We can always use help with decorations, Hospitality, judging contests, and lifting a box or two. Many hands make light work. Cat Sterrett is looking forward to putting your name on her volunteer list. For your efforts, you will get one of our collectible volunteer pins, the opportunity to attend our Afterglow Party—AND our undying thanks!

And, of course, HalloweeM wouldn't be WeeM without Hospitality. Fresh from numerous RGs—not to mention AGs—Cher Burnham and Allison Stallings have outdone themselves. By popular demand, there will be NO Feeding Frenzies. Food will be available 24 hours a day. You will find not only snacks, salads, and soups, but every hour or two heartier foods will be served. Swing by Hospitality many times throughout the weekend to see what new items have been brought out for you. Dave Gudjonis is back as Beverage Chair. He has provided the usual selection of soft drinks, beer, wine, and bottled waters.

If you find you are enjoying yourself, please thank our many committee chairs who have worked hard for the last year to make your HalloweeM memorable. If you have any problems, please see me. I'll do everything I can to make it right.

So, enough of my rambling; turn the page and find out what's in store for you this HalloweeM.

John G. Massura, HalloweeM 25 Chair

General Information

Welcome to HalloweeM, Chicago Area Mensa's Regional Gathering and the World's Longest Halloween Party.

We have a lot of great programs lined up for you, more than you can possibly fit into one weekend. So, as you look over the schedule, think about what you'd like to have us do again next year and let us know. We want you to have a great time this year and to keep coming back.

PLEASE NOTE: To facilitate movement from one program to the next (and to allow for "comfort stops" and coffee breaks), we have inserted 15-minute intervals between programs. This should make it easier to get to the various programs you want to attend. However, it means that very few programs begin on the hour, so check times carefully.

Also, because not everyone wants to dance—at least not all night—we have several programs offered in the evening. So don't think programming has stopped just because the music has started. Things are still buzzing after the sun sets.

☞ Before you get started with the festivities, please review the tips and reminders that follow. They'll help you and those around you get the most out of your HalloweeM experience.

About the Speakers: The speakers have donated their time and resources to be with us this weekend and are not paid for their efforts. Many of them are not Mensans, and this is their first (and maybe only) exposure to the organization. Mensa's reputation depends on the actions and attitudes of each of us. If you must enter or leave during a program, please do so quietly in deference to both the speaker and the other attendees. Please show consideration.

Adults Only: Some programs contain material that is adult in nature. Admission to these events will be restricted.

Alcohol and Youth: Illinois law, hotel rules, and Mensa of Illinois policy are strict when it comes to underage drinking. The legal drinking age in Illinois is 21. Please do not be insulted if you are asked for proof of age. Adherence to this rule has been stressed to all Hospitality gHosts. Parents: Even if you allow your children to have alcoholic beverages at home, you are NOT free to do the same at HalloweeM. It's the law.

Bulletin Board: A bulletin board will be available in the registration area for the posting of personal messages, program changes, and other announcements.

Decorations: Every year we make a sizable investment of time and money in creating the right ambiance at HalloweeM. Please leave the decorations for future generations to enjoy.

Food and Beverages: HalloweeM food and beverages must remain in the Hospitality suites.

GHosts: HalloweeM is a big event. It takes a LOT of volunteers to make things run smoothly. Our volunteer staff (also known as gHosts) is always happy to accept new recruits. We need only an hour or two of your time. In exchange, you get a HalloweeM volunteer collector's pin, an invitation to the Survivor's Party (volunteers only!), and a warm feeling deep inside.

Hugs: To hug or not to hug, that is the question. Pick up a button at the registration desk that signifies your hugging preference, and make a point of checking the pins that others wear. When in doubt, ask first.

Late Checkout: When you check in, please let the hotel desk staff know if you will need a late checkout time at the end of the weekend. Based on their expected vacancy level, they will do all they can to accommodate as many as they can.

Meal Tickets: Don't lose them! A ticket for each meal ordered will be in your registration packet. Tickets will be collected at each meal. Lost meal tickets cannot be replaced. The cocktail party before the Saturday banquet and the awards ceremony after the Sunday brunch are open to all.

Name Badges: Your name badge is your ticket to all the joy and wonder of HalloweeM. Please wear it at all times. With a group as large and diverse as ours, the tags are the only way we have of knowing who belongs to the RG. Anyone without a name badge should be referred to a committee member. Sorry, lost name badges cannot be replaced.

Smoking: Smoking is permitted in designated areas only. This includes the smoking Hospitality suite, as well as any areas (such as the restaurant and bar) where the hotel permits smoking. No smoking is permitted in the seminar sessions.

Thank you.

Cynthia Clampitt, Program Chair

All Weekend

Book Sale and Silent Auction

Boardroom B

Find out what your fellow Mensans have finished reading. Peruse the auction items and make a bid. Take home some treasures. Proceeds from both the book sale and the silent auction go to the Scholarship Fund.

Games Room and Tournament Room

CC1-6 and CC1-7

Rooms stocked with puzzles and games await you, one room (CC1-7) informal, one (CC1-6) with organized competitions. Open 24 hours a day.

Hospitality Suites

Rooms 1425, 1427, 1433, 1435 (nonsmoking), 1022 (smoking)

Hospitality opens Friday night with a picnic that includes chicken and pasta salad. It's not a frenzy, and you don't have to line up in the hall: just stop by when you get hungry. There will be sandwich fixin's, soup, and salad available most of the the time, and special treats on no set schedule, so check us out frequently. You might find something good to eat—and good friends with whom to share snacks and conversations.

Massage

CC1-4

Come and have your stress massaged away. Sign-up sheets are posted by the door. Part of the proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund.

Pool Tables

Rooms CC1-13 and CC1-14

. . . AKA, the Burton Spain Memorial Pool Hall—in memory of the legendary pool cue maker and Chicago M. Two pool tables will be available all weekend. See sign-up sheet outside the room for details and available play times. If you're new to the game, but interested in learning, come on in!

Singles' Mailboxes

Room CC1-11

If you're here and you're single, come check out the mailbox room. Post a bio, leave a message. If you've never done it before and you're not sure how it works, don't worry: there will be guidelines posted in the room. Read about what other singles are seeking, and let them know what you want. Check back often: the room is available 24 hours a day.

Vendors' Area

CC1-9

During the day, browse through the offerings in the Vendors' Area. On board as of this writing: Native Sounds (CDs and instruments from varied cultures worldwide).



DRESSED AS BABE
RUTHENIUM-FIRE
WOULD SWEAR HE WAS
THE REAL THING

Pun by Raul Mancillas
Art by Rick Carpenter

Friday

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see page 2.

3:30–4:30

Get Inline! Inline Skating for Beginners

Danita Fleck

Boardroom A

(Moves outdoors after initial instruction if weather permits.)

Inline skating is a safe, recreational activity for Mensans of every age. Feel more alive, lift your mood, manage your weight, or cross train for downhill skiing. We'll discuss skate and safety gear selection and fit, and review SLAP (smart, legal, alert, polite) skating. You'll learn the safe-T position, scissors, and the swizzle. In an hour you'll be striding, stopping, turning, stroking, and gliding. Each participant should bring inline skates (with heel brake), safety equipment (bicycle helmet, knee and elbow pads, wrist guards), and a beach towel. Equipment will NOT be provided, but feel free to watch.

MensaMate—Connecting with the Larger World of Mensa

Cynthia Clampitt

CC1-12

MensaMate is the International Mensa program designed to create "sister cities" among Mensa chapters worldwide in the hope that paired chapters will share experiences, information, newsletters—and possibly even visit one another. The options for MensaMating are limited only by your interests and imagination. Come to learn more about the program and to discuss your ideas about how you'd like to see it work and with whom you'd like your local group to connect.

4:45–5:45

For the Love of the Game

Brett Fata

Paramount Ballroom

A fair number of guys play on title-winning school teams, and Chicago certainly has no shortage of passionate fans, but not everyone gets to turn that into a career. Brett has, working today for the Schaumburg Flyers. He will share with us how he got into minor league baseball and how the Flyers got started, and will tell us something of the business side of baseball. Then he will examine the influence of baseball on American culture, and how the game links us to our past.

Everyone Acts Funny Sometime!

Carole Bell

CC1-12

Come share ideas about ways in which we all act funny. Once you hear about other people's little habits, you may feel better about your own. San Francisco author Carole Bell has presented this interactive workshop in cities across the U.S. She promises that you'll be amused and feel more connected to people as you explore "silly" behavior.

Estate, Financial, and Retirement Planning

Robert Berend

Boardroom A

Questions on your money? Interested in keeping your money away from Uncle Sam next April 15 or in case you die someday? Honest, understandable advice given on anything related to money, estate planning, retirement planning, long-term care insurance, investments, and taxes. All questions answered in plain English.

6:00–7:00

The Gastronomy of Patrick O'Brian

Anne Chotzinoff Grossman and Lisa Grossman Thomas

Paramount Ballroom

If you're among the legions of devoted O'Brian fans, you may already know who these ladies are. Their book, *Lobscouse and Spotted Dog: Which It's a Gastronomic Companion to the Aubrey/Maturin Novels,* has spent considerable time at the top of the *New York Times* best-sellers list, thanks primarily to O'Brian fans. Come listen to the authors' tales of why these books inspired them, of working with Patrick O'Brian, and of how they researched the culinary highs and lows of the late eighteenth century, both on board ship and off.

The Future Isn't What It Used to Be

Al Baker

CC1-12

Wide-ranging discussion in two parts: (1) Which technologies that were expected to have happened by the end of the 20th century but did not, and which technologies did happen that will have the greatest impact on the next century, and (2) which technologies do we believe will come to pass in the lifetimes of those in the audience. While the presenter has a great deal of information to impart, attendees are asked to bring their own knowledge, opinions, and insights.

Selecting Jewelry: Becoming an Educated Buyer

Joseph Haber

Boardroom A

This program will be exclusively about fine jewelry. It will provide an insight into the terminology and jargon used in the jewelry trade; dispel some of the popular myths and misconceptions about gems and jewelry; delve into past and current scams; provide tips and advice on purchasing gems and jewelry; prove that even people on a tight budget can buy "real" jewelry.

Singles' Mixer

Stacey Kirsch

CC1-5

Single Mensans of all ages are welcome. Come to have fun, mingling with and meeting other single Ms via icebreaker games and singles' mailboxes. Learn how the singles' mailboxes (in CC1-11) work, fill out your forms, and get your stickers. Stacey coordinates Chicago Area Mensa's Single Mensans Over Thirtysomething, but will be facilitating the mixer in conjunction with Mike Johns and Eric Johnson, coordinators of Chicago's Young Single Mensans.

7:15–8:15

Police Dogs

Dean Schulz, Alex Rathacker, and Grimm

Paramount Ballroom

Many of us grew up loving TV shows or comics where the faithful, brave dog always saved the day. Well, canine heroism really exists in the faithful, brave dogs who work for the police. Grimm is a member of the Buffalo Grove Police Department. Dean is Grimm's human partner, and Alex is Grimm's trainer. Alex will explain the types of dogs used in police work, how they are trained, and what their abilities are. Then he will narrate while Dean takes Grimm through demonstrations of obedience, narcotics, and aggression work.

Irish *Ceili* Dancing

Jody Carlson

Arlington C

Learn a few easy Irish *ceili* dances (similar to square dancing and contra dancing). Although these are group dances, no partner is required, and no experience is needed—just come prepared to have fun. (*Ceili,* pronounced "kay-lee," is Gaelic, and refers to an informal gathering with folk music and dancing, comparable to the Scottish *ceilidh.*)

Hell's Ms Meeting

Skinner

CC1-12

A meeting for current and potential Hell's Ms. Find out what is going on with the party SIG. Hell's Ms: Don't forget to vote for "Party Animal" on Sunday. Results will be announced at the Sunday brunch.

Friends of Bill W.

Boardroom A

For those actively participating in a twelve-step program. Not for observers or the curious, please.

8:15–9:00

Time to nosh, change into your costume, talk with speakers, shop for books.

9:00–10:00

Costume Parade and Judging

Paramount Ballroom

It's one of the things for which we are (justly) famous: COSTUMES. Mensan costumes range from weird to wonderful, elegant to outlandish, hilarious to enigmatic. Prizes will be awarded in several categories, including "Best Traditional," "Best (or worst) Pun," and "Best Children's." Please SPEAK LOUDLY AND CLEARLY when you get to the microphone, so everyone (including the judges) can hear and enjoy the description of your guise.

10:00–11:00

Malt Scotch Tasting

Bob Hafenbrack

Arlington C

Bob, an expert on high-end potables for Binny's Beverage Depot, will present a tasting of malt scotches from across Scotland.

For Men Only: How to Make a Woman Feel Beautiful

Carole Bell

CC1-12

Single men and married men alike are invited to join Carole in this seminar based on her new book, *For Men Only: How to Make a Woman Feel Beautiful.* Would you like to know how to make a woman smile? This interactive presentation may help answer some of the questions men traditionally have concerning women. The women in your life may thank you for attending this program.

10:00–1:00

Costumed Dance

Paramount Ballroom

Costumes are optional, but dancing is a must! A large dance floor, hot DJ with all the hits, and plenty of tables at which to relax and chat with your partner(s) all contribute to an excellent evening.

11:00–?

Movie

Bob Finnegan

Boardroom A

This evening, Bob will show "The Sixth Sense," followed by behind-the-scenes footage on the making of the movie.

Sing-Along

Clyde Forrester

CC1-12

Gather 'round for a sing-along. Folk, filk, rock, blues, punk, show tunes—whatever you really love to sing. Feel free to bring a NON-AMPLIFIED instrument or just your voice. Clyde will bring an acoustic bass guitar and an electronic keyboard. Sing till you run out of songs.

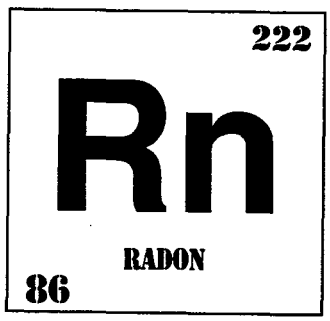
MIDNIGHT–1:00

Carnelli

Robert Berend

CC1-5

Come play the word/idea association game invented by D.C. Ms Jan Carnell and Jim Lange, now a fixture at RGs across the country. Never played? Come and learn how!



How about a Halloween paRADON State Street?

Raul Mancillas

Saturday

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see page 2.

8:45–9:45

All About Electricity—and Then Some

John Blinke

Paramount Ballroom

This year, John says that, "for a change, I'll talk about a subject I know something about—electricity." After touching on conventional electricity, he'll move into exotic weather phenomena, and then into outer space.

What NOT to Do in an Emergency

Mary Jo Havens

CC1-12

Mary Jo, an emergency professional with vast experience, will explain what you should NOT do if you are faced with any of a wide variety of emergencies.

The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Poorer—Why?

Martin Hattersley

Boardroom A

A quick look around the "competitive free enterprise system" that makes America the richest country in the world, yet leaves it with a quarter of its population living below the poverty line. Martin will also address why the situation is likely to get worse before it gets better.

10:00–11:00

The Fallacy of the Wasted Vote

Charles Sila

CC1-5

Charles, a member of the Libertarian party and its candidate for Lieutenant Governor for the State of Illinois in 1998, will talk about the value of dissenting, the importance of standing by what you believe, and why no vote is wasted, even if it is cast for parties that seem unlikely to win.

How to Grow a City

Al Larson

Paramount Ballroom

Al is the mayor of Schaumburg, a rapidly growing "village" of 74,000, a few miles west of Chicago. Al will relate how Schaumburg became Schaumburg, and then will discuss the role a mayor has in governance, land use planning, and building community. He welcomes your questions.

Candy College and the Slow Food Movement

Sharon Burdick

CC1-12

For the child in everyone. Become a candy connoisseur: learn how to educate your taste buds. Discover a way of using sugar and candy as an educational tool. A confection historian, Sharon will help you enjoy candy even more. She will also discuss the Slow Food Movement, and how it is encouraging people to slow down and smell the chocolate.

Classical Music Appreciation

Alexis DeFotis

Boardroom A

Enjoy listening to glorious music and learning about the composers from Back to "Rach" (Rachmaninoff, that is). An excellent introduction and overview of great music. (2 hours)

Stretching with Skinner and Yvonne

CC1-8

Skinner and Yvonne will lead a mid-morning exercise class to help you get stretched out and ready to party (and to help you recover from Friday's dance). The program is not strenuous, consisting of various non-aerobic stretching exercises designed to loosen you up, not wear you out.

Applied Spherical Kinematics: the Physics of Pool

Chris Edwards

CC1-13 and CC1-14

Adjourn to the Burton Spain Memorial Pool Hall if you would like to learn how physics applies to pool, and how understanding physics can make you a better player. Chris, who hosts Chicago Mensa's "Shootin' Pool" nights, says that this tutorial is geared for both new and intermediate-level players.

11:15–12:15

Computer Crime Investigation

James Murray

Paramount Ballroom

James will present an overview of computer crime investigations and the investigative and forensic capabilities of the Illinois State Police Computer Crimes Investigation Unit, of which he is a member.

Solving the Work/Life Dilemma

Kathy McDonald

CC1-12

Are you feeling as though your life has become one dimension: work? Learn how to reclaim your life from that all-consuming job. Kathy, author of *Creating Your Life Collage: Solving the Work/Life Dilemma,* will share proven strategies identified in her research into the work/life success stories of 1,000 women. Learn what has worked for others. Through discussion and exercises you will begin to envision the life you want and map out the steps to get there. You CAN have satisfying work and a fulfilling life!

Introduction to Home Orchid Growing

Barb Bennett

CC1-5

Barb, an award-winning grower of orchids and president of the Illinois Orchid Society, will show you how you can grow these glorious flowers at home.

Travels in Africa

Honor Cline

CC1-8

Experience a bit of West Africa—Cameroon in particular—in this interactive demonstration. See the sights in the photo display, handle African objects, hear the stories, taste kola nuts and palm wine, and listen to (and even try for yourself) the *djembe* drum.

(Classical Music continues)

12:30-1:30

Why Food History? Why History at All?

Bruce Kraig

Paramount Ballroom

Of all the biological elements of human life, food and sex bear the most "culture." What else has more rules, desires, and fears? Just as people are creatures of their culture, so are their foods and foodways. The study of food history is one of the best ways to understand culture. Why do few historians consider the subject? How is their lack of interest related to the general decline in the study of history in the U.S.?

Wellness, or How to Avoid High Health Costs As You Age

Lisa Slankard

CC1-12

Join Lisa for a look at what you can do to avoid the illnesses that can make your "golden years" costly in terms of medical expense as well as lost quality of life. Live healthier longer. Avoid the illnesses that are within your control.

12:30–2:00

Baltic Jewelry: History and Creativity Within a Tradition

Lilita Spuris

CC1-5

Lilita will show slides that share the vision of Baltic jewelry, its history, and traditions, as seen through the eyes of a craftsperson who seeks to continue traditional forms using traditional techniques. She will also bring some of the traditional jewelry she has learned to create.

Knowledge at Risk

Neal Roys

Boardroom A

Join Neal for a look at theistic and non-theistic viewpoints on the origin of life and the universe. In the process, two conflicting approaches to science will be compared.

Stitch and Bitch

Louise Howe

CC1-8

Louise hosts this opportunity to work on your needlework, to show it off, and to talk with others who enjoy stitching.

1:45–2:45

Amazon Natural History

Steve Swanson

Paramount Ballroom

A naturalist with a particular passion for snakes, Steve found much to love during his expeditions to the Amazon rainforest. He will give an overview of the flora and fauna of the Amazon River in the area of Iquitos, Peru, and will also discuss the culture along the river.

The Lure and Lore of Spices

Patricia and Thomas Erd

CC1-12

Patricia and Thomas offer a look into the fascinating history of spices. Spices played a very important role in the shaping of the world—the tales are not simply of trade routes, but of conquest, adventure, and drama. Also, learn how to distinguish quality in spices so as to make your cooking that much better. Take home a sample packet to spice up your life.

The Key to Locks

Conrad Pomykala

Boardroom A

How does a master key work? Why are mechanical safe locks obsolete? Is lockpicking as easy as it looks on TV? Why are some keys so odd looking? How do you rekey a lock? Conrad, a locksmith at the University of Illinois at Chicago, will answer these and many other questions in a friendly chat with a slightly technical bent. Some tangible tool/hardware examples provided.

(Baltic Jewelry continues)

Note: From 2 P.M. Saturday, Woodfield III on the lower level will be available as an overflow room for continued discussions with speakers. Available on a first-come, first-served basis.

2:00–3:30

Fiendish Armchair Treasure Hunt

Jay Smith

Woodfield II

A perennial favorite of the HalloweeM crowd, the Fiendish Armchair Treasure Hunt is a game where teams work with fiendishly-clever, rebus-style clues to reveal geographic locations, garnering points in the process. Some teams get organized in advance, others form on the spot. Everyone is welcome. Warning! This is an addictive game—it may change your life! The Sacred Judges for the Hunt include Jay Smith (the game's originator), Helen Kupper, Louise Howe, and Nadine McBeth.

Friends of Bill W.

CC1-15

For those actively participating in a twelve-step program. Not for observers or the curious, please.

2:00–4:00

Sexyg Fishbowl Forum

ADULTS ONLY

Cat Sterrett

Woodfield I

Curious about what others do and think about sex? Now's your opportunity to ask questions anonymously and learn a lot! We'll pick questions one by one out of a "fishbowl" and answer them candidly. Confidentiality and discretion a MUST. To minimize disruption, PLEASE BE ON TIME, and note that we'll lock the doors 15 minutes after we begin. Cat leads this popular program with respect and good humor.

2:30–4:00

A Modern Realist Looks at the Craft and History of Painting

Robert Wittig

CC1-5

With plenty of paintings and some examples of faux finishing to view, there will be a lot to see. Robert will present both his work and his opinions on painting, both as a craft and as a fine art, and will look at the past, present, and possible future of painting. There will be handouts, and time for questions and answers. NOTE: This program will be presented simultaneously in American Sign Language and English (interpreted).

3:00–4:00

Tex-Mex Feeding Frenzy

Hospitality

Put on by Chicago's MensaMate sister city, Houston, Texas. Enjoy!

Will the Real William Shakespeare Please Stand Up?

George Zaremba

CC1-10

An analysis of competing claims by scholars and enthusiasts as to who wrote Shakespeare's plays: Shakespeare of Stratford, Christopher Marlowe, DeVere Earl of Oxford, or Francis Bacon.

Health Insurance for Small Businesses and the Self-Employed

Jim Tudor

CC1-12

Jim, an insurance professional, will provide an overview of what to look for—and what to look out for—in the increasingly complex arena of trying to keep yourself covered. What do you really need? What should it cost? Do you want to have LTC or disability coverage? What about self-insuring and other cost-effective solutions? Feel free to bring your questions.

Make Your Surroundings Suit Your Style

Joan Suzio

Boardroom A

Joan, an award-winning interior designer, will discuss current interior decorating trends, and will offer advice on where to start in a new home or empty room, explain how to work in stages, and relate decorating tips for the small budget and other practical ideas. She will show slides of rooms, before and after, to give you ideas for your own projects. If you have a photo of a problem room, Joan will gladly offer advice on how to solve the problems.

3:30–4:30

When the Universe Was Young and Hot

Don Lincoln

Paramount Ballroom

The universe was created over 10 billion years ago in a cataclysmic explosion called the "Big Bang." Follow a physicist as he peels away the layers of the cosmic onion, from matter to molecules, to atoms and atomic nuclei, to strange things called quarks, and possibly beyond. This journey takes us back through the history of the universe to when we were all hot stuff.

Ho Chi Minh and the American Experience in Vietnam

Roger Mattingly

CC1-3

Roger is a photographer who covered the war in Vietnam, from the Delta to the DMZ. In this program, he will address such questions as, "Who are the Vietnamese?" "Why did we wind up fighting them?" and "What did we learn from the experience?" Slides will be shown.

(Sexyg Fishbowl and Art History ontinue)

4:15–5:15

Coloring Workshop
Carol F. Mason

Woodfield II

Artist Carol says, "Come play with me and my toys. I'll bring crayons, colored and drawing pencils, paper, oil pastels, and whatever else I can carry. You bring your inner child. Real children also warmly welcomed. (Children young enough to want to eat the supplies should be accompanied by a responsible adult, as some art supplies are toxic.) This is an extremely friendly workshop. And nobody cares if you stay inside the lines; as a matter of fact, there may not be any lines."

Inside Bond, James Bond
Bob Finnegan

Boardroom A

Bob returns to HalloweeM with more of his behind-the-scenes, how-they-did-it, and what-went-wrong footage, this time for James Bond films. Anyone who enjoys Bond will have a good time. In addition to the accidents, weird coincidences, and unusual trivia, it's fun seeing how some of the players look today.

Writing Short Poems
Arlene Gloria Hirsch

CC1-15

How much passion can you pack into 17 syllables? If a haiku is not about nature, what is it? Or consider interactive haiku. We can write five-line poems, either cinquain (a charming way to tell people you like them) or limerick. Another personalized short poem is the clerihew, four lines and a little outrageous. Or write Newku, a form invented by Arlene to fit the space on an animated cybercard. Bring a pen or pencil. Arlene will supply paper, verse patterns, and encouragement.

When Is the Best Time to Invest?
Pauline Cantin

CC1-12

An educational and informative look at the current investment environment, with helpful hints for long-term success and retirement planning. Door prize and handouts.

Sensuality, Sexuality, and Intimacy
Skinner

Woodfield I

A discussion group that explores the energy in our lives that is the basis for sexuality, sensuality, and intimacy, and how it works and doesn't work. How do these parts of us impact our interpersonal and creative lives? How can we tap into these energies to instill more joy in our lives and in the lives of those around us? What would you like to have been taught about these energies? What would you like to pass on to the next generation?

5:30–6:00

Cocktails

Paramount Ballroom

Ease into evening with something pleasant from the cash bar.

Renaissance Recorder Trio
Home Street Players

Paramount Ballroom

The Home Street Players, a recorder trio with a repertoire that spans centuries and continents, will perform during cocktails. Enjoy it as background music, or sit and listen more intently.

6:00–7:00

The Banquet

Paramount Ballroom

Enjoy HalloweeM's formal feast. The banquet requires a ticket, purchased in advance (when you registered, or if you were able to pick up a spare at Registration). Seating is limited. If we're sold out, you may want to check the bulletin board in hopes of scalping a ticket or two.

7:15–8:45

Talent Show

Paramount Ballroom

Come share your talent, whether it's singing, dancing, juggling, doing bird calls, playing the accordion, or reciting Hamlet's soliloquy. Join the fun, make people cheer and applaud, and help us raise money for the Mensa Scholarship Fund. Vote for your favorite acts with your contributions. Pay for encores. It all goes for a good cause.

9:00–11:00

Andean Panpipe Ensemble
Mike Becker

CC1-12

Learn to play traditional Andean bamboo panpipe ensemble music in this hands-on class. Experience the traditional communal method of music making (using simple, interlocking parts) practiced in Andean villages in Peru and Bolivia for the past 1,000 years. Instruments will be provided (and available for purchase, if you like). No previous musical training is required. Come join the band!

The Return of Pretentious Drinking
Alan Baltis and Gary Kryvko

1426

Liqueurs. The fancy stuff. Polished, cosmopolitan, perhaps even a bit snooty. The stuff you graduate to from beer and wine. You'd like to know more but, gosh, look at that price. And what if that French name that sounded so sophisticated actually translates into "Spam jelly and brandy," and isn't quite the palette-pleaser you expected? Rejoice! Tonight, for a reasonable cost ($1 a snort), you can sample to your heart's content. Alan and Gary will supply a wide range of weird and wonderful concoctions from around the world, and you can determine which you'd like to own, which should be left on the shelf, and which you should give to your archnemesis as a "thoughtful" gift. Obviously, you must be of legal drinking age to join us. Snobbish accents and extended pinkies optional.

9:00–MIDNIGHT

Quiz Bowl
Gary Smith

CC1-10

Is JEOPARDY! your idea of fun? Do you just love to get the answers before everyone else? If so, then Quiz Bowl, loosely based on the old Quiz Kids, GE College Bowl, and Dr. I.Q. shows, is for you. The rules sheet/entry form combination is in your registration packet. Get together a four-person team, then deposit the complete entry in the box in the Games Room. Team playing times will be posted outside the meeting room. Spectators and cheerleaders welcome to come and go at will. Teams must submit entries to Gary Smith by 6 P.M. Saturday.

9:00–1:00

Formal Dance
Paramount Ballroom

Don your glad rags for the second dance extravaganza of the weekend!

10:00–11:30

Calm Body/Clear Mind
Beasey Hendrix

CC1-3

An expert on mental skills and sports psychology, Beasey will teach you a few techniques that may help you even after the weekend is over. Take a moment to clear your mind and relax your body. Learn different approaches to relaxation and visualization taught by a coach who is also a clinical hypnotist. Learn how to build effective internal dialogue to help you reach your goals, as have the many Olympic gold medalists who are among Beasey's clients.

10:00–MIDNIGHT

Movie
Bob Finnegan

Boardroom A

"Dark City"

Telling Fortunes with Chocolate
Mary Madsen

CC1-5

Participants will learn the basics of psychic fortune-telling and character reading using chocolate candy, rather than cards or palms, as the focus medium. Then they will have a chance to practice their craft in a "Free Chocolate Psychic Fair" immediately following. No experience needed, no particular belief system required. Chocolate will be provided.

11:00–1:00

Joke-Off
Robert Berend

Woodfield I

An evening of infinite jest. Come share your latest witticisms and drolleries, as you vie for top honors in this year's joke-off.

Carnelli
Cher Burnham

Woodfield II

Come play the word/idea association game invented by D.C. Ms Jan Carnell and Jim Lange, now a fixture at RGs across the country. Never played? Come and learn how!

MIDNIGHT–2:00

Rocky Horror Picture Show

Boardroom A

Outrageous, campy romp has become a standard feature of HalloweeM at midnight. (gain an hour)

Sunday

For details on events and features that run all weekend long, see page 2.

9:00–10:00

(Not) Getting Away with Murder—Part 2

Catherine Woytowicz

CC1-3

Catherine, who does this stuff for a living, will treat us to new tales of how forensic chemistry helped solve several difficult and not-so-difficult puzzles and put criminals in jail.

Size Acceptance: Be Happy Regardless of Your Size

April Lashbrook

Boardroom A

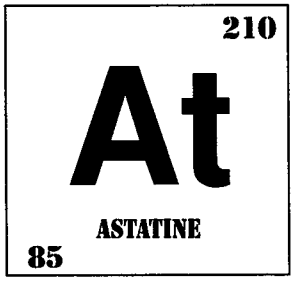
This will be a discussion of a nondieting, positive approach to life for persons of all sizes who feel they have struggled with their weight. It is NOT a new diet program nor is the emphasis on losing weight.

InQUIZition (2 hours)

Charlie Steinhice

Woodfield I

Lively quiz bowl competition described as "College Bowl meets vaudeville," with questions both entertaining and tricky. Charlie warns, "I have a buzzer system, and I'm not afraid to use it." The competition will be for teams of four players each. Be sure to sign up in advance if you want to participate. Late entrants will be allowed to join if space is available. You don't need to be a member of a team to attend or to enjoy the hilarity. The bigger the crowd, the better.



Never ASTATINEage werewolf for directions.

Raul Mancillas

10:15–11:15

Calendar Reckoning

Robert Stalzer

CC1-5

We'll compare the Gregorian, Jewish, and Islamic calendars and examine their respective astronomical underpinnings. What is an intercalary month? Why does Ramadan occur at a different time every year? How long IS the Metonic cycle? We'll also explain Moslem prayer schedules based on Solar Time and learn why the direction of Mecca isn't what you might expect. And don't miss the intricate explanation of the Christian and Eastern Orthodox Ecclesiastical calendars, whose baroque machinations are based on formulae from antiquity. Finally, this would be a great opportunity for you to ask Robert those nagging questions about the analemma, the Rules for Eclipses, behavior of satellite orbit, sundials, etc. Some math, but no quiz—just lots of fun!

Contemporary Worship

Vineyard Worship Band

CC1-10

Tap your foot, clap your hands, raise your spirits. Join us for a joyous, rocking time of contemporary nondenominational Christian worship. Great music, with a great beat, but with heart and soul, too. Sing along (words will be projected) or just watch and listen.

(InQUIZition continues)

11:30–12:30

Friends of Bill W.

CC1-15

For those actively participating in a twelve-step program. Not for observers or the curious, please.

11:30–1:30

Brunch and Awards

11:30–3:30

Walking with Dinosaurs
Bob Finnegan

Boardroom A

Bob shares with us the original BBC version of the documentary "Walking with Dinosaurs," which was shown in an altered version on the Discovery Channel. Here, it retains the original narration by Kenneth Branaugh (replaced in the U.S. version), and loses all the advertising. Bob will also include a "making of" feature for those interested in how the documentary was created. Feel free to come and go, as you check out of the hotel, catch planes, or simply eat lunch—or enjoy the full four hours.

1:45–2:45

Pendulum Power: Your Inner Voice Speaks Out
Beasey Hendrix

CC1-10

Beasey, the "psych" coach behind a lot of Olympic gold medals, will teach you how to talk with that little voice in your head, and watch as it talks back! Ideomotor response will be demonstrated and explained as you question your subconscious mind. You will leave with your own personal pendulum and an understanding of how and why it works.

Hot Stuff
Lisa Mueller

CC1-3

Chile peppers are one of the few foods that we eat that actually bite back. New varieties of chile peppers are being developed all the time, and are expanding the boundaries of what is considered to be "hot." Have you ever wondered how such new varieties are developed? Variety development, as well as a look at the chemical behind the heat—capsaicin—will be the focus of this discussion. Fire extinguishers are optional.

For Women Only: Make Someone Happy—Including YOU
Carole Bell

CC1-12

Join San Francisco Mensan and author Carole Bell in this interactive workshop on discovering happiness. Wouldn't you like to consider more ways to make yourself (and the people around you) happy? You may find yourself feeling a lot happier after attending.

1:45–3:45

Proctored Tests
CC1-15 and CC1-16

3:00–4:00

How to Produce a Brilliant Child
Adrian Hunter

CC1-10

Adrian, an educator and entrepreneur, says that he is convinced that any normal, healthy child can become a genius. So far, his experience and track record have borne out his assertion. There are just a few things you have to do to achieve this. Do them, and children will be academically stellar; fail to do them, and they won't.

(Proctored Tests continued)

3:00–?

Time to clean up.

(Feel free to pitch in and give us a hand—and remember, all volunteering is rewarded with an invitation to the Survivor's Party.)

Thanks for coming.

Hope to see you next year!

The HalloweeM Committee



STAY TILL THE LAST DESSERTS
ARGON

Pun by David Fixmer
Art by Rick Carpenter

Speakers' Biographies

Al Baker

The Future Isn't What It Used to Be (Fri.)

Al has been involved in the personal computer industry since the very beginning (1975) and with the World Wide Web since its beginning (1994). He is a successful game programmer and technology entrepreneur, and is widely read in all areas of science, engineering, and history. http://QBRT.com

Mike Becker

Andean Panpipe Ensemble (Sat.)

Mike Becker, M.M., is a musician, entrepreneur, and educator active in many facets of the Chicago area music scene. He is a founding member of the Home Street Players Recorder Ensemble, and also plays a variety of folk flutes from around the world. Mike created his own world music business, Native Sounds, specializing in traditional ethnic musical instruments, recordings, and books. He also teaches world music workshops and seminars at various local schools.

Carole Bell

Everyone Acts Funny Sometime! (Fri.)
Men: Make a Woman Feel Beautiful (Fri.)
Women: Make Someone Happy (Sun.)

Carole is the author of *For Men Only: How to Make a Woman Feel Beautiful!* She is an attorney who left private practice to become an author and public speaker. Carole presents interactive workshops and seminars around the U.S. and internationally. Her second book will be published next summer. Carole is a member of the International Mensa Licensing Committee.

Barbara Bennett

Introduction to Home Orchid Growing (Sat.)

Barbara is a registered nurse and medical writer with a master's degree in communications, and is the principal of BioMed Communications. She has been growing orchids for seven years. She started on a windowsill, and now has orchids growing in a 10' x 20' space in the basement. She has received two American Orchid Society grower's awards and two AOS plant quality awards.

Robert Berend

Estate, Financial, and Retirement Planning (Fri.)
Carnelli (Fri.)
Joke-Off (Sat.)

Robert has been a professional investment advisor and stockbroker since 1983. He is a California attorney with a background in estate planning and taxation. Robert has lectured on estate planning, retirement, investing, and related topics at about 40 AGs and RGs, and to about 400 groups worldwide. http://www.postmodern.com/~rberend/

John Blinke

All About Electricity (Sat.)

John is widely known in Mensa, both for the Bulletin's "SuppleMentally" column, which he has been writing for 10 years, and for the enthusiastic presentations he has made at RGs and AGs over the last five to six years. John is an electrician for Visteon Automotive Systems, but science is his lifelong passion. He has had every science-related hobby you can imagine, and keeps current on cutting-edge developments.

Sharon Burdick

Candy College and the Slow Food Movement (Sat.)

Sharon is a confectionary historian and founder of the Candy Library. She lectures extensively on topics related to confections, and most recently was invited to lecture at the Hotel Hershey at Hershey PA Chocolate USA. She is also a member of Slow Food, and enthusiastically promotes its message of slowing down and enjoying regional diversity. www.slowfood.com

Pauline Cantin

When Is the Best Time to Invest (Sat.)

Pauline has spent 10 years in financial services. She is a Chartered Mutual Fund Consultant, and vice president, divisional sales coordinator, for Prudential Investments.

Jody Carlson

Irish Ceili Dancing (Fri.)

Jody is a member of Metro Washington Mensa, and has delighted attendees at HalloweeM with her Irish step dancing skills. Jody has been taking Irish dance lessons as a hobby since 1979, and having a blast doing it. This year she will teach some of what she has learned, though her program will focus on folk dancing, rather than on the more rigorous step dancing.

Cynthia Clampitt

MensaMate (Fri.)

Because of her interest in world travel, Cynthia, a local M, was recently asked to be the U.S. Coordinator for the International MensaMate program. For more information on the program, you can check the American Mensa Web site. If your local group would like to connect with another Mensa group through MensaMate, send an e-mail to mensamate@us.mensa.org

Honor Cline

Travels in Africa (Sat.)

Honor, who is an editor for a major educational publisher, lived for three years in Cameroon. Since her time living abroad, she has returned to Africa, traveling extensively, though primarily in West Africa.

Alexis DeFotis

Classical Music Appreciation (Sat.)

Alexis is a lifelong musician. She was a music major at the University of Illinois and spent six years with the Chicago Symphony Chorus. Classical music continues to be her passion, and she listens to and studies it daily.

Patricia and Thomas Erd

The Lure and Lore of Spices (Sat.)

Patricia and Thomas are second-generation spice merchants who have made a living in their family business for 43 years. They operate three shops, one of which received the Evanston small business of the year award this year. Patricia was recently inducted into *les Dames d'Escoffier.* The Erds number many of the country's top chefs among their customers, including Julia Child. http://www.thespicehouse.com

Brett Fata

For the Love of the Game (Fri.)

Brett is a baseball enthusiast who has managed to turn his passion into a career. As the Group Sales Manager for the Schaumburg Flyers, he gets to stay close to the game, and relishes the opportunity to talk about the game itself and its influence on American culture. http://www.flyersbaseball.com

Bob Finnegan

Inside James Bond (Sat.)
Movies (Fri. and Sun.)
Walking with Dinosaurs (Sun.)

Bob is an avid movie and video buff, with an exceptionally large collection of documentaries and information on movies and moviemaking, behind-the-scenes footage, and movie star insights.

Danita Fleck

Get Inline! Inline Skating for Beginners (Fri.)

In September 1997, Danita successfully passed the International InLine Skating Association Level I Instructor Certification Program, and is fully certified and insured to teach Beginning Skating Techniques. She has been inline skating for nearly six years and has been racing with Team Rainbo for the past three years. In addition to racing, Danita also enjoys roller aerobics, inline hockey, and wind skating. She takes her skates everywhere and can recommend scenic places to skate and explore all over the world.

Clyde Forrester

Sing-Along (Fri.)

Clyde, who has been a Mensan for about 15 years, says he comes from a long line of tinkerers and ne'er-do-well musicians, which he believes is why it was natural for him to gravitate toward computers and music.

Anne Chotzinoff Grossman and Lisa Grossman Thomas

The Gastronomy of Patrick O'Brian (Fri.)

This mother-and-daughter writing team both succumbed early to O'Brian fever, and so were delighted to collaborate on the book, *Lobscouse and Spotted Dog: Which It's a Gastronomic Companion to the Aubrey/Maturin Novels.* Anne is a writer and musician, the translator of many operas, and former assistant producer of the NBC Television Opera. Lisa has been a director, stage manager, lighting designer, actress, and vocal coach, but now owns a computer consulting company. Both live on Long Island, New York.

Joseph Haber

Selecting Jewelry: Becoming an Educated Buyer (Fri.)

Joe has been intimately involved in the gem and jewelry trade for more than 30 years. His parents sold gemstones, jewelry, and mineral specimens, and he currently deals in gemstones and jewelry as a sideline. He has nearly completed his work on a Graduate Gemologist degree from the Gemological Institute of America. He is also an avid mineral collector.

Bob Hafenbrack

Malt Scotch Tasting (Fri.)

Bob, who works for the successful Binny's Beverage Depot chain, has extensive professional experience with beer, wine, and liquor. He has lectured widely on these topics in the U.S., and has lectured extensively on beer in Europe. (It's a rough job, but somebody has to do it.) http://www.binnys.com

Martin Hattersley

The Rich Get Richer and the Poor Get Poorer—Why? (Sat.)

Martin has degrees in economics and law from Cambridge University, England. He is the former Director of Research for the Social Credit Association of Canada, and is the honorary director and former president of the Economics Society of Northern Alberta. http://www.ecn.ab.ca/~martinh

Mary Jo Havens

What NOT to Do in an Emergency (Sat.)

Mary Jo's professional experience includes 25 years as an emergency medical technician, 12 years as an EMT instructor, 20 years as a CPR trainer, more than 25 years as an emergency rescue technician, 14 years as a rescue squad trainer, and 16 years as an LPN. In addition, she is a scuba dive master, medical massage therapist, and former firefighter.

Beasey Hendrix

Calm Body/Calm Mind (Sat.)
Pendulum Power: Your Inner Voice Speaks Out (Sun.)

Coach Hendrix is mental skills consultant to more than a dozen World and Olympic Teams. His clients have won World and Olympic gold medals, and he has been named Coach of the Year more than 25 times. The author of three books on mental skills/sports psychology topics, as well as of numerous articles, he has degrees in communication, psychology, and education—and a lot of experience.

Arlene Gloria Hirsch

Writing Short Poems (Sat.)

Arlene, recently named to the roster of Encore Chicago performers, has performed her own poetry at the Chicago Cultural Center, SEMMantics RG, and the Uptown Poetry Slam, as well as at coffeehouses in Chicago and Oregon. Her enterprise, PoetryBoat, offers poetry writing workshops and poetry socials and entertainments. Arlene has taught poetry writing to adults at Northwestern University Extension, U. of I. Extension, and for Urban Gateways, and to young people in Chicago and San Francisco. She belongs to Chicago Area Mensa's Poetry SIG.

Adrian Hunter

How to Produce a Brilliant Child (Sun.)

An educator and entrepreneur with an M.S. in social psychology from Yale, Adrian founded Ivy League Tutoring in 1983. With three locations (Oak Park, Evanston, South Shore), this service has a reputation for academic excellence. Utilizing his techniques for helping students attain their full potential, as well as a highly-degreed teaching staff that is required to test in the top one percent, Adrian has established an astonishing track record of helping students excel. His clientele is diverse, with students coming even from New Trier, but the majority are African American—and half of all African Americans in Chicago who win state or national academic prizes have gone through Ivy League Tutoring. (773-752-2222)

Home Street Players

Recorder Ensemble Performance (Sat.)

Mike Becker, Kathy Smart, and Mary Anne Wolff are the Home Street Players, a recorder ensemble that has performed widely in the Chicago area. Their wide repertoire includes pieces from more than seven centuries of recorder music, medieval to modern, European, English, and American.

Bruce Kraig

Why Food History? Why History at All? (Sat.)

With a Ph.D. in history and archeology, Bruce Kraig is Professor Emeritus in History and Humanities at Roosevelt University in Chicago. He has lectured on history, prehistory, world cultures, and documentary filmmaking across the U.S., Europe, Latin America, and Australia. He is a recognized authority on the cultural significance of food, and has appeared widely in the media as host, narrator, and expert in the field of food history. Among numerous projects on both TV and radio, he was host, writer, and historian for the PBS documentaries "Hidden China," "Hidden Mexico," and "Food for the Ancestors." His programs have won many awards, including several Emmys. His publishing credits include cookbooks and books on history and prehistory. He is the founder and president of the Culinary Historians of Chicago, is a member of the boards of directors of both the American Institute of Wine and Food and the Center for Ethnographic and Documentary Research, and is on the editorial board of the Culinary History Publications Series for the University of Illinois Press.
www.culinaryhistorians.org

Al Larson

How to Grow a City (Sat.)

Mensan Al is Mayor/President of the Village of Schaumburg. He moved to Schaumburg from Chicago in 1969, and has been involved in Schaumburg's politics/government since 1973, when he was appointed public relations director and named to the village's first Environmental Committee. In 1975 and 1979, he was elected as a trustee to the Village Board. In 1983, after failing to be nominated by the local political party, he became the first independent ever elected to the Village Board. In 1987, he ran for mayor, and won. He was reelected in 1991, 1995, and 1999. http://www.ci.schaumburg.il.us

Don Lincoln

When the Universe Was Young and Hot (Sat.)

While Don describes most of his education in terms of parties and drinking, he obviously did pretty well, since he ended up with a Ph.D. in

particle physics, and today has a job at Fermilab. Anyone who has heard him speak knows that, while he's very amusing, he is a real scientist with a real gift for making the tough stuff comprehensible.

Mary Madsen

Telling Fortunes with Chocolate (Sat.)

Mary began psychic reading of hands at age 10, and started doing it professionally in 1972. Her first involvement with Mensa was as a palmist at HalloweeM II. Since then, she has read Life Pebbles and palms for parties, special events, and private clients, and for five years ran the Psychic, Magick, and Pagan programming track at Duckcon, a west suburban sci-fi convention. It was for Duckcon that she developed the chocolate-reading program.

Carol F. Mason

Coloring Workshop (Sat.)

Carol's artwork has been featured in several group exhibitions, including shows at the DuPage Art League, College of DuPage, Woman Made Gallery, DiFalco Gallery, and Gallery 1633, and in one-person shows in Roselle, Schaumburg, and Woodridge, Illinois. She has studied art at the Art Institute of Chicago, DuPage Art League, and College of DuPage. In addition, she holds a master's in biochemistry from IIT and a bachelor's in biology from DePaul University. She says that the love of life and search for truth fuel both careers. http://members.ync.net/cfmason

Roger Mattingly

Ho Chi Minh and the American Experience in Vietnam (Sat.)

In 1970–71, Roger was in Vietnam working as an army photographer, covering stories from the Delta to the DMZ. His pictures, which initially appeared in army publications, have since been used by *Time/Life Books, Playboy*, and *Vanity Fair*, on the NBC Today show, and in *Requiem*, the 1997 Random House tribute to photographers killed in Indochina. Roger continues to study the war, and its causes and effects. He now operates a commercial photography business in the generally safer region of Chicago's northwest suburbs. http://www.digitalroger.com

Kathy McDonald

Solving the Work/Life Dilemma (Sat.)

Kathy is a speaker on redesigning work, work/life balance, workplace flexibility, and related topics. She is coauthor of *Creating Your Life Collage: Strategies for Solving the Work/Life Dilemma*, which offers inspiration and guidance for those who wish to reclaim their lives from all-consuming work. Kathy, who has an MBA from Northwestern, worked in corporate finance for Fortune 50 companies before launching and growing two businesses of her own. She chairs the Strategic Planning Committee for the National Association of Women Business Owners, encouraging breakthrough thinking to realize exponential results.

Lisa Mueller

Hot Stuff (Sun.)

Lisa graduated *magna cum laude* from Valparaiso University with a B.S. in chemistry and biology. She is a member of the Patent Bar as well as bars of the State of Illinois and the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Lisa's law practice focuses on patent applications filed here and abroad in all areas of biotechnology, including genetic engineering, pharmaceutical compositions, and plants.

James Murray

Computer Crime Investigation (Sat.)

James is a Master Sergeant with the Illinois State Police. He has been a police officer for 24 years. He is currently assigned as a supervisor with the Computer Crimes Investigation Unit, with responsibilities for computer crime investigations and computer forensics for Northern Illinois. He is currently the president of the International Executive Committee of the High Technology Crime Investigation Association. http://www.htcia.org

Conrad Pomykala

The Key to Locks (Sat.)

Conrad took his first locksmithing training back in 1976, just for a hobby. Since 1990, he has been employed full-time as a locksmith at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he is involved in all aspects of the trade on a campus with more than 35,000 occupants, 90+ buildings, and in excess of 70,000 locks. He is a member of the Greater Chicago Locksmith Association, and has taught several specialized seminars to trade members.

Yvonne Porter

Stretching Exercise (Sat.)

Yvonne works out regularly and, with husband Skinner, has been leading stretching classes for Mensa since 1990.

Alex Rathacker

Police Dogs (Fri.)

Alex is a trainer from TOPS Kennel in Grayslake, and is responsible for the training of dogs for many of the area's police departments.

Neal Roys

Knowledge at Risk (Sat.)

Neal currently teaches AP Calculus, Honors Pre-Calculus, and Honors Advanced Algebra, and is Math Team Coach at Adlai Stevenson High School in Lake County. He is coauthor of *Technology*. He has published articles on mathematics and teaching, and speaks regularly at math conferences.

Dean Schulz

Police Dogs (Fri.)

Corporal Schulz is a member of the Buffalo Grove Police Department. Grimm's human partner, he has been working in the dog unit for almost four years, and says it's the best job in the force.

Skinner

Hell's Ms Meeting (Fri.)
Stretching Exercise (Sat.)
Sensuality, Sexuality, and Intimacy (Sat.)

Skinner has been involved in Mensa since 1980, and has been SIG coordinator of Hell's Ms since it was founded by him in 1988. He and wife Yvonne have been leading stretching classes for Mensa since 1990. Skinner leads Fishbowls at many RGs and is incorporating his involvement in the Men's Movement into the program on sexuality.

Lisa Slankard

Wellness, or How to Avoid High Health Costs As You Age (Sat.)

Lisa has been a pharmacist for 24 years. She has experience in retail, hospital, and home care. She also has a certificate in herbal medicine from the University of Illinois. She notes that, as a baby boomer, she is now both witnessing and experiencing firsthand the problems of not making wellness a priority.

Gary Smith

Quiz Bowl (Sat.)

Gary, a Mensan since 1974, originated the Quiz Bowl at HalloweeM many years ago in order to offer Mensans something more challenging than run-of-the-mill trivia contests. Gary has presented Quiz Bowl at other RGs and at two AGs. He credits the many people with whom he has interacted in his Mensa "knowledge competition" experience—notably Jim Draper, Sandy Topping, Rick Magnes, and Michael Mason—with providing valuable insights and ideas that have improved Quiz Bowl.

Lilita Spuris

Baltic Jewelry: History and Creativity Within a Tradition (Sat.)

Lilita has a master's degree in art education from Case Western Reserve University/ Cleveland Institute of Art. She has done extensive research into the history and techniques of Baltic jewelry making. She has studied with skilled craftspeople "who know techniques not taught in institutions," and has done an enormous amount of experimentation in her studio. She has conducted workshops on traditional Baltic jewelry around the U.S., Canada, France, and Latvia, and has created reproductions for the Chicago Latvian Folkart Museum and for the History Museum in Riga, Latvia.

Robert Stalzer

Calendar Reckoning (Sun.)

Robert is past president of the Chicago Astronomical Society (America's oldest astronomical society), and a popular speaker at Chicago Area Mensa meetings and AGs. He consulted for a local Islamic prayer group, and contributed to *Through the Telescope: A Guide for the Amateur Astronome.* Robert has a bachelor's degree in mathematics and is currently pursuing a master's degree in software engineering at DePaul University.

Charlie Steinhice

InQUIZition (Sun.)

Charlie coaches the quiz bowl team at the University of Tennessee–Chattanooga. A veteran of academic and other trivia competitions, Charlie was on the UT team that won the 1991 ACF National Championship. When not playing Grand InQUIZitor, Charlie is a research librarian/analyst for BlueCross/BlueShield of Tennessee.

Cat Sterrett

Sexyg Fishbowl Forum (Sat.)

Cat has been a member of Chicago Area Mensa for 18 years. She was the Chicago Sexyg Coordinator for six years and has led Sexyg Fishbowl Forums at RGs and AGs around the country. She works as a fitness trainer, has a master's degree in exercise physiology, and served three years as AMC Membership Officer.

Joan Suzio

Make Your Surroundings Suite Your Style (Sat.)

Joan has spent the last 13 years in the field of interior decorating, with the 15 years before that in marketing and telecommunications management. Owner of Decorating Den Interiors in Libertyville, Joan finds this field

satisfying because it allows her to combine her creativity, love of people, and problem-solving skills. She enjoys working with beautiful fabrics, colors, and furnishings to produce room settings that reflect clients' personalities and increase their pleasure in their surroundings.

Steve Swanson

Amazon Natural History (Sat.)

Steve has worked in natural history throughout his life, specializing in herpetology. He has participated in zoological expeditions to the Soviet Union, Russian Commonwealth State, Costa Rica, and Peru, in the company of naturalists and curators from Moscow Zoo Park, Brookfield Zoo, Venom Institute of Costa Rica, Smithsonian Institution, and University of Texas. Steve has been the director of The Grove National Historic Landmark, Glenview Park District, since the summer of 1979. He has a bachelor's degree in zoology and a master's degree in park and recreation management.

Jim Tudor

Health Insurance for Small Businesses and the Self-Employed (Sat.)

Jim has four years' experience in the insurance industry as an agent and broker.
http://www.benefitmall.com

Vineyard Worship Band

Contemporary Worship (Sun.)

Vineyard music—excellent, contemporary music that stays true to its church roots—has grown so much that it is now listed as a separate music category. Music has always been a big part of Vineyard worship, and continues to grow. The talented musicians performing at HalloweeM this year are from the Vineyard of Evanston.
http://www.evanstonevineyard.org

Robert Wittig

A Modern Realist Looks at the Craft and History of Painting (Sat.)

Robert says that, when he was young, his grandfather told him that it wasn't the streets in America that were paved in gold, it was the alleys. Robert relates that he didn't understand this until he began to paint, at which time he states that he "found America in the trash, both material and human, that society prefers not to see." A self-taught artist, he has been painting every day for the last four years, working in dry media, watercolor, oil, acrylic, and egg tempera. In addition, he is a student of art history, criticism, and theory.
http://www.robertwittig.com

Catherine Woytowicz

(Not) Getting Away with Murder (Sun.)

Catherine is a Ph.D. chemist and Congressional Science and Technology Policy Advisor, and is a court-qualified expert in narcotics identification and quantification.

George Zaremba

Will the Real William Shakespeare Please Stand Up? (Sat.)

George lives in the Chicago area and has been in Mensa on and off since 1978. He loves Shakespeare's plays, and has done considerable study on the topic of who did, and did not, write the plays.