

2512 Glenarm Ave
Dayton, Ohio 45420-2733

Fall 2008

Party Smart

Fall 2008

Volume 20, Number 3

Skinner Sez,



Hi there. Here is a quick over view of what is going on for us. Right now we have 2565 members of HELL's M's with 254 of them paying dues to get the newsletter and to support the PARTY ANIMAL awards. For 89 of you this will be your last PARTY SMART. Look at

the mailing label on your PARTY SMART and if the date on it is 6-30-2008 you need to pay your dues to continuing getting PARTY SMART **"AND"** to continue your support of HELL's M's.

We had a great HELL's M's Hospitality Suite at the 2008 AG. A report follows later in the PARTY SMART.

We sold a lot of card decks and mugs. We still have some of each so if you want then just send in an order. Please add \$1.00 for postage. I am looking into another order of mugs. This time I am looking at some of the stainless steel mugs. If you are interested send me a message at skinner@hellsms.com.

I have been reviewing the cost of printing and mailing the HELL'S MENSANS shirts and I found the HELL's M's has been paying part of the cost. As a result there is a price increase of +/- \$2.00 for all shirts. The sweatshirts and the ladies tank tops and spaghetti strap shirts also have a price increase. Look at the order form for the new cost.

Skinner

Party Smart is the newsletter of the Hell's M's SIG of American Mensa, Ltd. It is published quarterly. Views expressed are solely those of the authors and may or may not reflect the opinion of anyone (including the author). Mensa does not hold any opinion, or have, or express, any political or religious views.

Submissions

Hell's M's is the Party SIG- tell us how you go about throwing a small party, a large party a theme party, a games party, a quiet party, or a wild party.

Party Animal votes are submitted to Skinner, please also submit a picture and a write-up to the Editor.

Deadline for the Spring issue February 15

Deadline for the Summer issue May 25

Deadline for the Fall issue August 15

Deadline for the Winter issue December 2

Advertising Rates

Advertising space is available at the following per issue rates, full page \$20, half-page \$10, quarter-page \$5, business card \$3. 50% discount for current Hell's M's SIG members. 25% discount for full year (buy 3 get 1 free). Contact the Editor.

Appreciation

Thanks to Beth, Kay John, and all who submitted articles and content. And, as always, thanks to David.

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To keep track of the AMC agenda and the Committee Reports, go to .
<https://secure.us.mesa.org/members/index.php>. You'll need your user-name and password. Follow the links to **Committee Reports**. The ASIes are under **Member Resources**.

The HELL's M's credo:

Any party, large or small, will be considered a HELL's M's party if everyone participating or effected by the party has good memories the day after the party is over.

**HELL'S M's
Membership Application**

Name: _____

Mensa #: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone (_____) _____

Dues \$8 per year (does not include shirt). Membership runs 6/30 to 6/30. If you join after 4/1 your membership runs through 6/30 the following year.

T-shirt: For a T-shirt, fill-out the order form below and add the t-shirt

Size	Chapter #	Quantity
S		
M		
L		
XL		
XXL		
XXXL		

Send to:
Skinner
2512 Glenarm Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45420
Skinner@hellsms.com

*Evenings (937) 258-3969
Days: (937) 258-0745*

For tank tops or sweatshirts put a "t" or an "s" next to the order. Contact Skinner for information on special sizes. Contact Skinner for postage costs for countries other than the US or Canada.

Note: Shirts are custom printed; it can be 1-3 months before you shirt arrives.

PARTY CHAPTERS

1	With no chapter name	42	MILLIWAYS CHAPTER
2	DAYTON CHAPTER	44	"MOSTLY HARMLESS"
3	CENTRAL NEW JERSEY	45	MERF SUPPORTERS
4	LOUISVILLE CHAPTER	46	BUFFALO CHIPS
5	MAUMEE VALLEY	47	GERMANY
6	CAPITOL COSSACKS	48	UNNATURAL DISASTER
7	TRAGICK KINGDOM	49	3 SIG
8	OWLTEREGOS		TIL DEATH DO US
9	WENDY RIDGE	50	PARTY
	CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT		THE QUEEN'S
10	ASILOMAR	51	CROQUET
11	MINNESOTA CHAPTER		CHAPTER 11
12	LA REPUBLIC DE TEJAS	52	MORALLY BANKRUPT
13	HARD LUCK CHAPTER	53	GEMUETLICHKEIT
14	AMC ALUMNI CHAPTER	54	LOST WAGES
15	NEW MEXICO	55	CHEEBLE
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16	67 ASNEM		CONNSENSUAL
17	M-RIDERS	58	WINE & MUSIC
18	EMERALD CITY	59	AURORA BOREALUS
19	TERMINUS	61	LocSex
20	303RD BOMBARDMENT	62	STORMHENG
	GROUP	63	HEARTBRTEAKERS
21	FLYING TIGERS	64	RAINFLOWERS
22	COSMIC FAMILY CAMPOUT	65	SCHLEPPER COLONY
23	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	66	HELL'S BELLES
24	UNBRIDLED BROWARD	67	BLACK CATS
25	HIGH COUNTRY HELLIONS	69	Lonestar Hellapeños
26	MARYLAND MANICAS	70	LXIX
27	EVIL M-PYRE		ESCHEW
28	SEMManiacs	71	OBFUSCATION
29	MANASOTA	72	HEARTLESS
30	TANSTAAFL	73	VLAANDEREN
31	SLAMMERS		THE PRIMORDIAL
32	SINSINNATI		OOHs
33	HOG BUTCHERS	74	...and AAHs
34	BEACHBUMS	75	BOINGY BOINGY
35	PITT DWELLERS		HOSPITALITY LEGION
36	ELECTRONIC Elite		SAFETY MATTERS
37	ALASKA	76	TUSCON MARGARITAS
38	QUESTION AUTHORITY	77	Gen X Rated
39	Joy Boy GayM Toy	78	IN KUDZU FACITE
40	HEAVY MENTAL		
	THUNDER		
41	HOUSTON HELLIONS		

Skinner Sez, Continued

Mary Jo Kellher is continuing to do updates to the website. Did you see her reworking of the home page for Pirate Day? We are going to start posting the current issue of PARTY SMART to the website. I will do a blast email announcement when we get that done.

Our HELL's M's Yahoo group is still active. You can join it by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HellsMs/join>

Right now Yvonne and I are planning to be at the RG's in Cincinnati and Dayton before next year's AG.

Raspberry Shortbread Bars

by Beth Weiss

I've made these cookies for several RGs and parties and they've always been a big hit. The recipe is actually my mother's. They're easy to make and are best straight out of the oven, but they do freeze well, also. I always make a 12" x 18" pan worth since they disappear so quickly. You can cut the recipe in half to make a 9" x 12" batch.

1 lb butter or margarine (or ½ and ½)

1 cup sugar

1 ½ teaspoons vanilla

4 cups all-purpose flour

18 ounces raspberry jam

Cream butter and sugar, add vanilla, slowly mix in flour. Press about ½ the dough into a greased 12" x 18" pan. Spread with raspberry jam. Either roll out remainder of the dough (it's sticky) and lay on top of jam or sprinkle remaining dough on top and kind of spread out. It's okay to have raspberry showing.

Bake at 350° for about 30 minutes or until lightly browned. Cut into squares while still warm. Makes 24 3"x3" squares or 96 1½" x 1½"

AG REPORT

At the AG I had a conversation with a Mensan from Denmark, Peter Ring, about starting a chapter of HELL's M's in Denmark. After discussing the cost and difficulties of newsletters, shirts, products, and dues collection I came up with a possible way HELL's M's could be active in Denmark.

HELL's M's would license a group of Mensans in Denmark (like one of our SIGs) to use the name HELL's M's and the logo. They would agree to follow a basic set of guidelines in running the organization. The guidelines would include:

1. All chapter names would be approved by Skinner
2. The group would follow the HELL's M's credo - Any party, large or small, will be considered a HELL's M's party if everyone participating or effected by the party has good memories the day after the party is over.
3. Once you join HELL's M's you are a member for life. Dues paying members would receive the printed newsletter
4. They would produce their own newsletter and share articles back and forth with us here in the US
5. PARTY ANIMAL and HELL ON WINGS would be awarded following the existing guidelines
6. The sale of the HELL's MENSANS shirts would have to be approved by their local Mensa community. If they do not approve the use of MENSANS on the shirt the logo would be changed to say HELL's M's.
7. Any local products would be approved by Skinner before they were produced or sold.
8. There would be no financial obligation created for HELL's M's in the USA by group licensed by HELL's M's.

It would be strongly suggested that they consider taking on

What Costs What

T-shirts are available without joining Hell's Ms SIG.

The Hell's Ms logo can be printed for \$3.50 plus postage on any black item you provide.

WHAT COSTS WHAT

Tee-shirts are available without joining the HELL's M's SIG.

TEE-SHIRTS	membership & shirt	additional shirts	additional postage for Canada
S to XL	\$20.00	\$12.00	\$3.10
XXL	\$22.00	\$14.00	\$3.30
XXXL	\$23.00	\$15.00	\$3.65
XXXXL	\$24.00	\$16.00	
TANK TOPS (male)	membership & shirt	additional shirts	additional postage for Canada
S to L	\$21.00	\$13.00	\$3.10
XL	\$22.00	\$14.00	\$3.30
XXL	\$23.00	\$15.00	\$3.65
LADIES TANK TOPS OR SPAGHETTI STRAP	membership & shirt	additional shirts	additional postage for Canada
S to XL	\$22.00	\$14.00	\$3.10
SWEAT SHIRTS	membership & shirt	additional shirts	additional postage for Canada
S to XL	\$25.00	\$17.00	\$4.45
XXL	\$27.00	\$19.00	\$5.30
XXXL	\$28.00	\$21.00	\$5.30
APRONS, one size	\$24.00	\$16.00	\$2.70

Print the logo and name on a shirt or fabric (cotton only) that you provide (includes mailing costs) \$10.00

* If you want a tank top (t), ladies tank (lt), spaghetti strap (ss), or sweat shirt (s) please put the letter next to your order.

NOTE: for shirts to other countries ask about additional postage cost.

NOTE: shirts are custom printed, so it may take 1 to 3 months before your shirt is mailed.

Starting a New Chapter

All new chapters must be approved by Skinner.

To start a new chapter the first order must be for a minimum of 18 shirts at the full price. If you cannot meet the minimum, send \$1.00 per shirt not ordered. **For example:** Order 10 shirts and send \$8.00 to cover the difference. This is to cover the cost for the new pattern.

The minimum is for the first order only. After the first order, shirts can be ordered individually.

Zarya's Space

As you probably noticed this is a full issue. Thank you to everyone who sent articles, pictures, recipes and ideas.



Please keep them coming !!!!!
Special thanks to Kay, Beth, John, Skinner, Dorine and David.

Booteak

In addition to the traditional shirts, the following Hell's M's items are also available. Order something new to go along with your renewal this year—don't you need a Hell's M's tie? Or perhaps a patch?

Our new option is to print a small logo (no chapter) on a golf-style shirt. You provide the shirt. The cost is \$3.50 plus postage.

Add \$1.00 for postage if you want them mailed to you in the USA.

Tank tops, sweatshirt and apron	See the order form
Stickers	10 for \$1.00, 60 for \$5.00, 100 for \$8.00, 200 for \$15.00
Temporary tattoos	\$.50
Patch (2x3) (EMBROIDERED)	\$5.00
Belt buckles, black and pewter	\$15.00
Embroidered logo	\$40.00 - you supply a black jacket or material \$12.00 - for chapter name \$4.00 - for your name
Print the logo on your shirt/jacket	\$3.50 - plus postage
Ties	\$15.00
Lapel Pins	\$2.00
Cards	\$5.00
Glasses	\$5.00 or 3/\$10.00

a volunteer activity in their national group like HELL's M's does at the AG's here in the States (staffing the first full day of the AG with volunteers for the AG Hospitality Suite).

Peter did indicate that in a small group a written newsletter might not be possible.

What are your thoughts? I hope to talk about this between now and HolloweeM and vote on it at that SIG meeting there.

Hell'sM's Annual Financial Report

This information is available in the print version.

THE HELL's M's CREDO

THE HELL's M's CREDO:

Any party, large or small, will be considered a HELL's M's party if everyone participating or effected by the party has good memories the day after the party is over.

HELL's M's HOSPITALITY REPORT

The 2008 AG Committee and Hospitality Chair worked with HELL's M's so that we could have a HELL's M's Hospitality Suite at the 2008 AG. They not only helped us get a room but also provided us with the same food they were having in the AG Hospitality Suite for our suite. With that food as our base, we were able to expand our offerings to fruit, vegetables, dips, cheese, meats, hot appetizers, a selection of wines, 3 kegs of beer, and a variety of deserts for our members and their guests. The suite we had included a conference table and a large seating area with a couch. The kitchenette (bar area with a sink and small refrigerator) was large enough for Yvonne to prep and set out our special food treats. It was even big enough for her to dip fresh fruits and cookies in chocolate.



A large number of people volunteered their time to set things up, keep the room cleaned up, set out food, and be the 'responsible party' in the evenings so Yvonne and I could get some sleep. There was a "hat" set out for donations that we had to empty several times and we collected about 25 to 30% of the expenses for the suite, food, and beverages.

We had a "Prequel" on Wednesday evening and our SIG

- with the number of votes they got.
13. The person chosen as PARTY ANIMAL will get a T-shirt and a membership in HELL's M's through the next renewal date
 14. Send in the name, address, phone #, shirt size of the new PARTY ANIMAL and name of the RG,

Editors Note: A picture and write up for the newsletter would be good too.

Hells M AG Hospitality Photos



PARTY ANIMAL RULES

There has been a small change in the wording of the rules for selecting PARTY ANIMALS. The change is to clarify when the voting is to take place.

How to elect a Party Animal: THE RULES

1. Only Hells Ms can vote. Everyone who is currently or has ever been a member of the HELL's M's can vote for PARTY ANIMAL. One vote each, no proxies.
2. NOTE - votes are to be taken privately, not as a group.
3. For the vote to be valid there must be at least 10 HELL's M's at the RG who vote.
4. Everyone present at the RG is eligible to be chosen as the PARTY ANIMAL (no, you cannot vote for the person who made it a great party by not showing up).
5. The person who is collecting the votes, any members of the PARTY ANIMAL HALL OF FAME, and Skinner cannot be chosen as the PARTY ANIMAL.
6. Anyone campaigning for PARTY ANIMAL is automatically eliminated from the running.
7. Whoever gets the most votes gets the award. (NOTE it is usually best if the person collecting the votes holds off on voting till the end, to act as a tiebreaker if necessary.)
8. Only a member of HELL's M's can collect the votes.
9. The votes must be collected on the last day of the RG. (Yes, you can start collecting them after midnight. Voting MUST remain open during the morning –after 8AM-of the last day of the RG for the vote to be valid.)
10. Only one PARTY ANIMAL can be chosen at an RG. There can be no ties.
11. The PARTY ANIMAL must be chosen at an RG, and not before or after the RG.
12. When sending in the information on the winner, you must also send in the names of everyone who got votes,

meeting on Friday. Both were well attended. Yvonne set out special food each evening, meat and cheese on Wednesday, Chocolate dipped fresh fruit and nut bark on Thursday, meat balls, taco layer dip, and con queso dip on Friday, and an array of fancy deserts on Saturday. Some folks donated food and wine, and it was all a great addition to the party.

While a lot of folks gave time and helped us tremendously, some folks really stood out and we'd like to thank those folks for assistance above and beyond the already high Hells Ms standards:

- Rob and Niki Foor - supplied the chauffeur services for all our food and beverage runs, the beer and wine selection expertise, kept the kegs flowing and the taps clean, and pitched in whenever necessary

- Katie Weihl and Susan Barnes took several turns each as responsible party - without someone trusted to keep things under control, the room closes when we leave.

- Stormie Kullman opened up the suite for me and kept it going while I was in the vendor marketplace

- Every time we returned from a food and beverage run, folks came out to help schlep and tote stuff up to the room - this group changed some, but all were greatly appreciated! Special thanks to Katie, Maeve, Ariel, Marcia, George, Jordan, and Francesca

- Jim Robertson and Kate Jakobsson took back the kegs and CO2 cylinder Monday (long after we were already back in Ohio)

For those folks who volunteered at a time when we were not really in need - thanks for your offers, and please catch us again next year at the AG in Pittsburgh!

Party Animal Hall of Fame

Remember that these people are now ineligible to be selected as Party Animal at future RGs. (I know this makes selecting the Party Animal a little difficult because there have been many times when I have had to ask people for a second name when I am collecting the votes because those Party Animals are still helping people have a good time).

Robert Andrus	Rochelle LeFarth
Red Bellamy	John Massura
Cher Burnham	Ray O'Connor
Janet Century	Loretta Olson
Greg Crawford	David Plottel
Niki Foor	Virginia Boatman Plottel
Rob Foor	Yvonne Porter
Teresa Gregory	Misty Richmond
Linda Hathaway	Mary Jane Tala
Nancy Heller	Beth Weiss
Mary Lee Kemper	Debra Williams
Stormie Kullman	

***NEW PARTY ANIMALS* recognized in 2008 are:**

Teresa Gregory	Indianapolis, IN
Don Jacobs	Dayton, OH
Stormie Kullman	Carolina
Taru Spiegle	Metro Washington and Maryland
Rachel Nelli	Columbus, OH

HELL ON WINGS

The HELL ON WINGS chapter was set up when several people wanted a way to acknowledge the people who made a difference at RG's who were not given the PARTY ANIMAL award. You can not join this chapter. Membership is a gift from someone else. It is given to say thanks for what someone has done, or how their action affected others. The awarding of a membership is not limited to saying thanks for a persons action at an RG. It can be given to acknowledge a person for the difference they make in others lives.

To enroll someone in the HELL ON WINGS chapter and to get them the shirt and certificate you need to send Skinner the following information.

NAME
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP
PHONE NUMBER
SHIRT SIZE
TO: (Name as you want it to appear on the certificate)
FROM: _____
FOR: _____
AT: _____

If you can get it their E-Mail address and Mensa membership number (if they are a member) that would help.

Party at Sea

Take a cruise with the Hells Ms. February 1-9, 2009.

For more information contact Beth Weiss
mbeth@bweiss.com

Jon the Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mensa-cruise>

Postcards from the Edge

where you can meet people who “get your jokes.” Both quotes imply inclusion within a larger group – it doesn’t mean you have to direct the group, but are presented with the opportunity to participate in what’s going on if you so choose. Some are not comfortable in large crowds and happy to sit on the periphery of the group, but they know they are welcome to do so and can join in at any time. I’d say most every Hell’s M knows the credo for the SIG (no, this isn’t a pop quiz, I promise!) and the requirements for Party Animal...do we take steps to fulfill that for others? I will admit that not all persons (or personalities) are compatible: people can agree to disagree and walk on. But do we try? Do we make the effort to say hello to someone new? Offer the empty seat to someone standing against the wall? Or not? Hmm...food for thought. Until next time,

I remain, as ever,
The Eternal Apprentice

RGs and the HELL’s M’s website:

If you would like your RG listed on the HELL’s M’s website send your information to Mary Joe Kelleher at webwench@hellsms.com. If you are doing anything specific for HELL’s M’s you can get that included in your listing – even if it is just announcing that there will be a HELL’s M’s meeting and PARTY ANIMAL vote.

Party Animals

The following received Party Animal:

At the Dayton RG Don Jacobs received his first Party Animal.

At the 2008 CarolinaH Law and (Dis)Order RG in Spartanburg, SC. Stormie Kullman got her 3rd PARTY ANIMAL and she is our newest member of the HALL OF FAME.

The attendees at the Columbus Area RG elected Rachel Nelli, the Hospitality Chair, as Party Animal.

Betsy Hetzler was named Party Animal at the Pittsburgh RG .

Hugs from the AG



American Mensa member Alan Baltis of Lakewood, Ohio, right, hugs fellow members Saturday in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most hugs given by one person in an hour at the super-smart group’s national convention at the Sheraton Denver hotel. The record as of May 22 was 765 hugs. At the end of the hour, members claimed a new record of 833 hugs. Hugs are central to Mensa as a form of greeting. The five-day convention ends today. *Kathryn Scott Osler, The Denver Post*

The above appeared in the Denver Post.

Postcards from the Edge

By Kay Harris, Casper

What is a Party?

Because of my tendency to be verbose, in person and on paper, I was approached about writing something for this newsletter. My typical scratchings are usually travelogues from my trips to various RGs across the country, printed in our local M group newsletter; however, those tend to be quite long and cover my entire trip from the time I get on the plane to the time I pick up my luggage when I get back. I didn't really think that would be appropriate for publication in a party newsletter, so I was rather stumped as to what to contribute. I write about my experiences, from A to Zed, and there really isn't a way to hit the highlights and still get the real flavor of the trip.

A relative newbie, I've been in Mensa for the last three years but only truly started participating in the Gatherings during the last year, due to educational obligations. I've enjoyed myself at the events for the most part and usually end up amusing my friends (Mensan and non-Mensan alike) with stories of my exploits when I return. Unfortunately, not every trip is a stellar one: I just returned from an event that left rather a bad taste in my mouth. I could easily sit and pontificate on the things I felt were wrong, but that would serve no purpose at this point and wouldn't change the outcome one iota. It did get me thinking, though, what makes a Gathering (or any event) a good time?

My first RG was before I joined Mensa. A "scholar"-ly friend convinced me to attend Indy's RG in 2005 and I finally agreed, wondering what the heck I would have to talk to all these "smart" people about. He kindly introduced me as a "potential Mensan" and the folks there made me feel welcome, inviting me to play Hearts and to read & judge some

Postcards from the Edge

of the scholarship essays. I discovered that this atmosphere felt like home and I started looking into joining. My next event was the Birmingham AG, where I really didn't know anyone or expect to see anyone I knew. I was wandering the hotel when someone I had never seen before came up to me and greeted me by name – I was stunned but pleased. Later, I saw him in Hell's M's Hospitality and he hit me up about working a shift in the Main Hospitality room. I had no clue as to what was needed, but I was willing to give it a go. By doing that, it gave me the opportunity to talk (albeit briefly) to other Mensans and see how things worked from the inside. I was able to be a participant rather than a spectator. I did (and do) spend a lot of time introducing myself, to the surprise of some of the folks I have talked to. It would be so easy to sit back, but I've realized that if I want to make this into something I enjoy for a long time, I'll have to be the one to make the first move. Not always easy..... I can count on one hand the number of Mensans who have spontaneously introduced themselves to me and that has left a major impression. No matter what, I will remember them with a smile. I've had similar experiences at 'weeM and Cincinnati last year: being invited to join an impromptu game of Hearts or chatting comfortably in Hospitality with familiar, yet sometimes nameless, people or even going on a minor shopping adventure to a party store to pick up wine.

So, what is it that makes getting together like this a good time? Based on what I've contemplated and written here, for me I would have to say the inclusion factor is what's important. I think most M's would agree that Mensa, in its truest sense, is a social organization: to (mis)quote John Bender from *The Breakfast Club*, "...demented and sad, but social." Mensa's website lists itself as a "high IQ society"