

MENSA DIPLOMACY SIG NEWS

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An irregular newsletter of the Postal Diplomacy SIG of American Mensa, Ltd.

1. There will be no subscription fee for this newsletter. However, any member who would care to make a voluntary donation to offset the costs of production and mailing is welcome to do so. If you will send me \$1.00 (U.S. or Canadian), I'll be happy to put a gold star beside your name for the next 8 issues.
2. Mensa Game #4 is now underway in CLAW & FANG, with David Reynolds as Gamemaster. We will now start collecting names for both a Regular Diplomacy game, to be called Mensa #5; and a Variant Diplomacy game, United States Diplomacy, to be called Game V-1 (for Variant No. 1). The rules for United States Diplomacy will be printed in the June 1975 issue of my BUSHWACKER. Anyone interested in receiving a copy of these rules should contact me. I have already received three notices of interest, and these people will automatically receive copies!
3. Mick Bullock, Chairman of the British Mensa Diplomacy Club, offers to run an International Game of Regular Diplomacy for M's in the pages of his 'zine, 1901 AND ALL THAT. For further information, contact Mick at: 14 Nursery Ave., Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX3 5SZ, England.
4. It's not too early to mention that the post of Junior Committeeman comes up for election in September, for a two-year term beginning November 1, 1975. People wishing to nominate themselves or others for office should submit their names to the Chairman no later than August 1st. Anyone wishing to volunteer to serve as Election Commissioner should contact me by July 15th.
5. We urge all members of this SIG to join the International Diplomacy Assn. This is the only North American based Diplomacy hobby club which elects its officers in a democratic manner, and publishes its membership list. We reiterate that the Mensa Diplomacy SIG exists only to recruit Mensans into the Diplomacy hobby, and to provide all-Mensa games for them. Just as Mensa itself has no opinions on events in the real world, the Diplomacy SIG per se will not get involved in the operations of the Diplomacy hobby. But every serious player ought to belong to the group that does provide the necessary information and services, such as game opening announcements, hobby news, a player census and the annual Diplomacy convention. That group is the IDA. To join, send \$2.00 to: Walter Buchanan, R.R. 3, Lebanon, Ind. 46042. You will receive 6 issues of the club newsletter, DIPLOMACY REVIEW, for your annual membership. You may also have a \$1.00 discount on the cost of an annual subscription to DIPLOMACY WORLD, the hobby 'zine, published by Walt under the auspices of Games Research, Inc., manufacturers and distributors of the game, Diplomacy. (i.e., \$3.00/year instead of \$4.00).
6. It appears that very few of our SIG members will be attending the AG in San Antonio this June. Too bad. We were hoping to meet some of you in person. We will see if we can pick up any members from among those M's who do attend. A game room will be provided for Chess, Scrabble and Diplomacy players in the St. Anthony Hotel.
7. Perhaps we'll get to meet some of you at the annual DIPCON, to be held at the Midland Hotel in Chicago over the August 15th weekend. If any of you plan to attend DIPCON, please let me know. (DIPCON is a Diplomacy Tournament and social event, plus a business meeting of the International Diplomacy Assn., to be held
(over)

- in conjunction with CITEK, an International Game Show. \$10.00 will enroll you in the Diplomacy Tournament, and admit you to the show for all 3 days. You do not have to be an IDA member to participate. For more information, including details on hotel reservations and rates, contact: Viking Systems, P.O. Box 2788, Chicago, Ill. 60690.
8. Any Mensan who plays Postal Diplomacy obviously must be a masochist for letter-writing. Perhaps some of you may also be interested in the Mensa Friends program. This is a SIG which matches up Mensans (and/or their spouses) with high I.Q. convicts in participating institutions in California, Colorado, Maryland and elsewhere. Regardless of where you live, please contact SIG Chairman Nancy Berk if you're at all interested in having a "pen" pal. She will try to match you up with a suitable correspondent. Please include some background information, including your age, education, occupation, interests and hobbies. Nancy's address is: Mrs. Nancy Berk, 3823 Manchester St., Colorado Springs, Colo. 80907. Gamesmasters! This is a great way to get players for your games. I can truthfully say that these fellows rarely change addresses.
 9. Attached to this newsletter will be a copy of the latest Membership List in the Mensa Diplomacy SIG, showing membership as of May 1975. Note there are several additions and changes of address. Please keep this as a permanent record, as I don't intend to print it again for a long time. Membership is now up to 32.
 10. If any of you become Dippyazine publishers, please let us know. We'd be especially interested in knowing if any of you wanted to carry future Mensa Diplomacy games. Don Horton and I will be glad to furnish tips to anyone who wants to go into the publishing field. Some free advice: 1. Don't get in over your head. Start with a single game, or two at the most. 2. Try to have no more than one player from each State in any one game. (North & South California are usually considered separate States, and you could do the same with East and West Texas). 3. Be sure to send copies of your 'zine to all other Mensa Diplomacy publishers, and to the Hoosier Archives, which maintains records of every Dippyazine published in the world. (The Archives' address is Walt Buchanan's, as shown in item 5).
 11. As we said last time, we will publish this newsletter only when there is enough news to warrant so doing. Accordingly, we do not expect to print another issue until after August 1st. Have fun.

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