

THE CIRCLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE 606 SOCIETY

(Issue #10, January 1982)

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ADMINISTRATOR: Ferris E. Alger, Old York Road, New Hope, Pennsylvania 18938, USA

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER: Laura van Arragon, Box 817, Atikokan, Ontario P0T 1C0, Canada

EDITOR: Ronald K. Hoeflin, 439 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10019, USA

INTRODUCTORY NOTE: Chris Harding has asked me to serve as editor of The Circle. I am willing to undertake this task, but since I already have a number of other projects under way, including the creation of two new high-IQ societies, I would be quite willing to hand this job over to another member, subject to Chris's approval. If you would like to volunteer, please let Chris or me hear from you. Meanwhile, I will endeavor to publish this newsletter monthly. If you have some thoughts you would like to share with the other members, feel free to submit them for inclusion here. It would be helpful if all submissions were typewritten and single-spaced, with double-spacings between paragraphs, as you see in this issue. However, I do not want to deter anyone from contributing, so handwritten material would be welcome, too. I realize that you are all very busy people, so when necessary I will flesh out each issue with miscellaneous material from other sources or of my own devising, my aim being to make this newsletter a mutually rewarding experience for editor and other members alike.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: One way each of you could contribute to this newsletter would be by submitting an autobiographical sketch. The following sketch of your new editor might serve as a model for you to follow, although I would suggest you take up to a full page rather than a single, short paragraph like this one. I am 37 years old, born on February 23rd, 1944. It amazes me to think that Adolf Hitler was still alive at the time, which makes the occasion seem ancient and momentous, like being born when Attila the Hun or Genghis Khan were alive. I spent most of my first fifteen years within half a mile of my birthplace, which was just outside St. Louis, Missouri. My father was an electrical engineer and my mother was an opera singer. My father's father and mother came from Germany and Switzerland, respectively, in the 1890's. Some of my mother's ancestors arrived in America before the Revolutionary War and were primarily of English and Scottish origin. I have an older brother, who is a computer programmer, and an older sister, who is a ballet instructor. As for myself, I have attended seven colleges and universities and have earned two bachelors and two masters degrees. I am currently employed as a librarian and am a doctoral candidate in philosophy. I joined Mensa in 1969 and have subsequently been a member of seven of the eight existing high-IQ societies, currently holding memberships in Mensa, Intertel, Triple Nine, Four Sigma, and the 606 Society. From September 1979 through October 1981 I served as editor of Vidya, the monthly journal of the Triple Nine Society. My plan to establish a one-in-a-million high-IQ society is described on page three of this issue.

LISTING IN GUINNESS: The 606 Society is mentioned on page 37 of the 1982 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records, along with three of our members (Chris Harding, Leta Speyer, and Bruce Whiting), each of whom scored 196 on the Stanford-Binet.

The following is the relevant passage from the 1982 Guinness. Chris has informed me that he intends to invite the other two persons listed here as having scored 196 on the Stanford-Binet (Robert Bryzman and Kevin Langdon) to join the 606 Society. He also intends to invite Dave Garvey, who has yet another 196 Stanford-Binet score, to join. If each accepts, our group's membership would rise to 15.

Highest I.Q.

On the Stanford-Binet or Terman index for Intelligence Quotients (ceiling 200) 150 represents genius level. Comparison close to the ceilings are impracticable as are comparabilities between one scale and another.

Those closest to the ceiling are Dr Bruce R. Whiting PhD (Boston) (b 1947) of the International Society for Philosophical Enquiry; Kevin Langdon of Berkeley, California; Chris Harding (606 Society) of Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia; Robert Bryzman of Baltimore, Md and Ms Leta Speyer of NYC, all reported to have returned 196 on the Stanford-Binet scale.

Only 100 persons in a million have I.Q.'s above 160.

The highest I.Q. published for a national population is 106.6 for the Japanese.

Your new editor's role in bringing the 606 Society and other high-IQ societies to the attention of the editor of the Guinness Book of World Records received acknowledgement in the following letter, which was published in Vidya earlier this year, from which the following copy is reproduced:

2 Cecil Court, London Road
Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6DJ
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PUBLISHERS

25th March, 1981

Mr. R. K. Hoeflin,
439 W. 50th Street,
New York,
N.Y. 10019,
USA.

Dear Mr. Hoeflin,

Thank you very much for your letter dated 12th February which reached me on 18th March from New York.

I am most grateful to you for the suggestion which you have made and bringing to our attention other high IQ societies which we had no knowledge of.

I have written the necessary follow up letters and hope that as a result of being alerted by you, we shall improve our entry.

Yours sincerely,

Norris McWhirter
Editor
Guinness Book of Records

THE XENOPHON AND MEGA SOCIETIES: The following announcement is from my final issue of Vidya, in which I announced my project of establishing two new high-IQ societies:

Two New Societies

Ronald K. Hoeflin

I am planning to establish two new high-IQ societies, which are to be known as the Xenophon Society and the Mega Society. The Xenophon Society will have a 99.99 percentile requirement (the top 1% of the top 1%), and the Mega Society will be the world's first one-in-a-million high-IQ society. Assuming a 16-point standard deviation, these admission levels correspond to IQ's of 160 and 176, respectively.

Since there are already at least eight high-IQ societies in existence, it might seem like an exercise in redundancy to set up yet two more. I certainly have no interest in duplicating the efforts of the current societies, most of which are doing a fine job. My basic purpose is to do further work in the norming of the Hoeflin Intelligence Tests, any form of which will serve for admission to the Xenophon Society. For each 100 members of the Xenophon Society, a member of the Mega Society will be chosen by competitive examination. The first Mega Test will probably consist of the best problems from all of my own tests. Afterwards, tests may be constructed using problems submitted by members. Ultimately, a book similar to Leta Stetter Hollingworth's Children Above 180 IQ Stanford-Binet might be produced, only in this case it would be a study of adults, namely those who have gained admission to the Mega Society. The Xenophon Society would serve as a statistical control group.

The Xenophon Society would probably have a quarterly newsletter, devoted mainly to (1) progress reports on membership growth, (2) tests and questionnaires, and (3) discussion of intelligence and intelligence testing. Other topics would be discouraged. The Mega Society, due to its small size, would have no newsletter for the foreseeable future and would therefore be largely honorary in nature. Recruitment of members to the Xenophon Society would be based principally on distribution of the Hoeflin Intelligence tests to likely candidates. Of the 59 who have taken Form H, about 6 will be offered Xenophon membership. Those who fell below the requirement on that test are welcome to try other forms.

LIST OF 606 MEMBERS: The following is our current complete list of members, arranged in alphabetical order:

Dr. Ferris E. Alger, Old York Road, New Hope, PA 18938, USA
Christopher P. Harding, P. O. Box 271, North Rockhampton, Queensland 4701, Australia
Ronald K. Hoeflin, 439 West 50th Street, New York, NY 10019, USA
John M. McAdon, 302 Brookcrest Drive, Endwell, NY 13760, USA
Dr. Robert D. Miller, 1105 Elizabeth Avenue, Naperville, IL 60540, USA
Dr. Leta L. Speyer, 3091 Brighton 5th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11235, USA
Dale Swain, 613 Collins Avenue, Lot 10, Centerville, GA 31028, USA
Dr. Laura van Arragon, Box 817, Atikokan, Ontario P0T 1C0, Canada
Professor Johannes D. Veldhuis, 103 Vincennes Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901, USA
Barry R. Weiss, Leslie Road, M.D., #37, Newburgh, NY 12550, USA
Dr. Bruce R. Whiting, 2529-2 Seaford Circle, Lutz, FL 33549, USA
Willis O. Woodward, 6023 NW 10th Street, Apt. 65, Oklahoma City, OK 73127, USA

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS: The following three persons, as mentioned before, all scored 196 on the Stanford-Binet and are eligible for membership in the 606 Society:

Robert Bryzman, Baltimore, Maryland, USA (full address unknown; not listed in the 1980 Baltimore telephone directory)
David Garvey, P. O. Box 1055, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49005, USA (this address is based on the membership roster of the Triple Nine Society as of May 1981)
Kevin Langdon, P. O. Box 795, Berkeley, California 94701, USA