

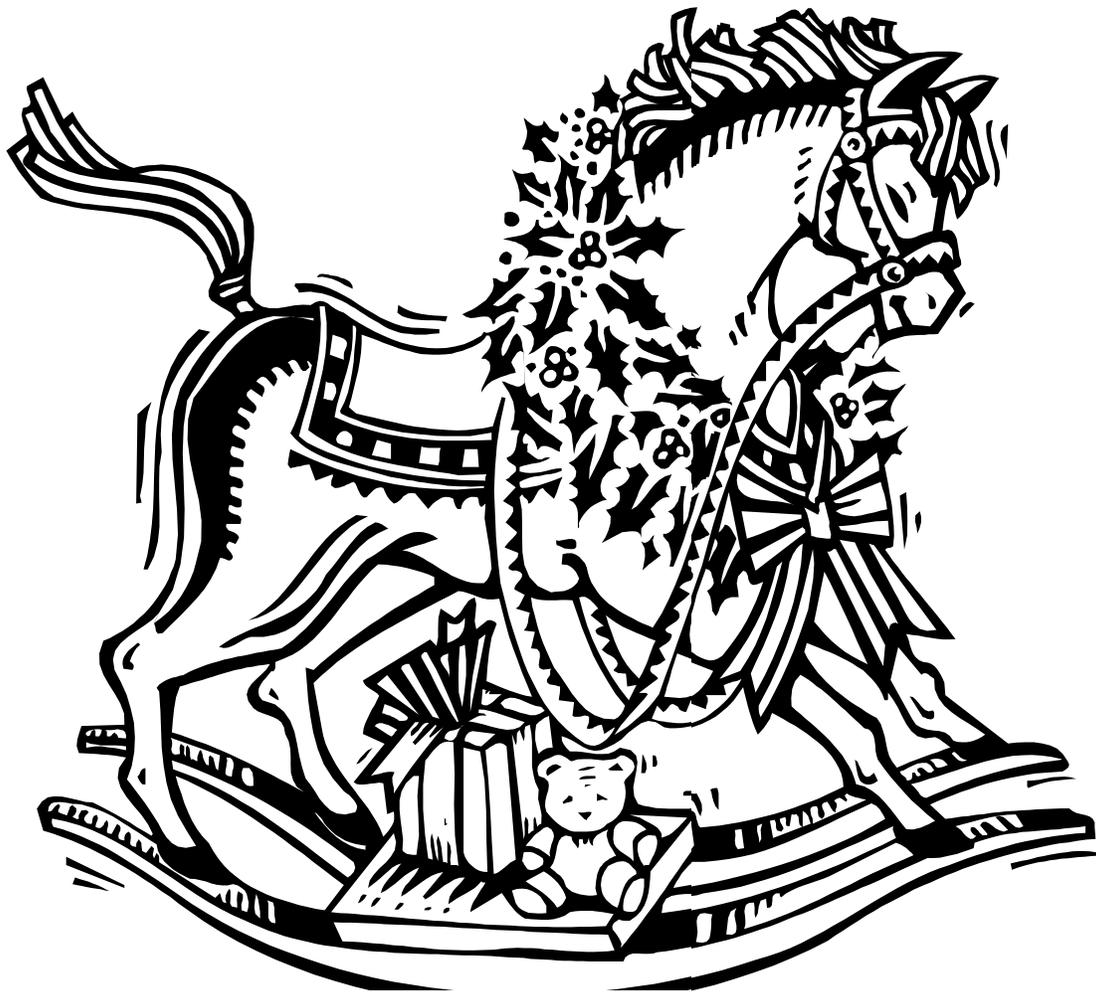
Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of Lonestar Mensa

Volume XXXI Number 12

December 2004

Have a Happy Holiday Season...



... see you next year!

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Non-commercial: Lonestar Mensa members may submit 2 per year at no charge. 4 line maximum, subject to editor's discretion as to date of publication.

Commerical: Business card sized (2" x 3") ads are \$10 for one month, \$25 for three months, and \$40 for six months. Publication may be delayed due to space considerations. Ads must be camera-ready, and should be submitted electronically if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit for content if necessary. Rates for other sized ads or other time periods are available upon request. The deadline for ad submission is 5 days before the general newsletter deadline.

Please submit ads to the newsletter editor.

A Word to the Wise

-by Karen Werner, President

A year ago, I said the holidays would be here again before you know it, and here they are. Please have a safe and peaceful holiday season.

I'd like to welcome the new members who have joined us over the past year. I look forward to meeting all of you if we haven't yet met, perhaps at the Holiday Party on December 11.

We had our first Saturday Poker Night at my house last night, and it was a big success. No one lost much money (I lost about \$1), the poker continued past midnight, food and beverages abounded, and new friends were made. We declared it a success and it will become a regular monthly event, with perhaps the location rotating. By midnight, we were all trading good-natured insults and barbs as if we'd been friends forever. If there's a poker night in December, it will be announced to the e-mail announce list, to those who have already indicated interest in being kept in the loop, and at the Holiday Party. It will show up on the calendar as a regular event starting in January.

Next year's elected officers and appointed positions will be announced in the January Armadillo Gazette. If you have any interest in one of the appointed positions named in the inside cover of the Gazette (especially the ones still

remaining vacant), please contact me ASAP. The incoming president will be making appointments in early December.

I hope to see you at the Holiday Party.



Holiday Party Gift Exchange

We are having an optional gift exchange at the Holiday Party this year. There is a maximum \$10 spending limit. Anyone wishing to participate should bring a wrapped gift. Each person participating in the exchange will draw a number, and will pick in that order. As you are called to pick, you may either take a wrapped gift and open it, or steal someone else's gift. If your gift is stolen, you may pick a new wrapped gift, or you may steal from someone else (however, you may not steal back the item just stolen from you). Each gift may be stolen twice; after that it can't be stolen again. We hope everyone will participate! The more, the merrier!

LEMON 13

BY LARRY SCARBOROUGH



November Ex-Comm Meeting Minutes

-submitted by Karen Werner, President

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. at the Souper Salads, Anderson Lane, by President Karen Werner. Attendees were Janet Kres, Mark Kres, John Neemidge, Kathie Blair, Helen Siders, and Brian Corcoran.

John Neemidge reported that Danny South is in charge of RG registration.

The Ex-Comm reviewed the financial statements. The group discussed changing the location of the CD, but this will require research to determine if a better interest rate at an FDIC insured bank is available.

The January and February, 2005 meetings will be held at the Old Quarry library, 7051 Village Center Drive, on Monday nights. There will be a Christmas party at Karen Werner's home, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, December 11, 2004. The address is 9110 Curlew Drive, Austin. The group discussed that gifts of \$10 or less may be brought and exchanged. There may also be a "book swap".

Lonestar Mensa can obtain one free subscription to the Mensa Research Journal upon request, sent to the President. This is a correction to last month's minutes.

There was discussion of the current Mensa phone number. Janet Kres moved to discontinue the Mensa phone number at the Neemidge home, effective 12/31/04. Seconded by Kathie Blair. Motion approved. Karen Werner will inform National Headquarters of the phone number change. The newsletter masthead will be revised. John said there were about 20 calls a month to the phone number, 3-4 relating to Mensa, the rest telemarketers. This issue will be reviewed in December, 2005, to determine if the separate phone line should be reinstated.

The time and place of December's Ex-Comm meeting will be determined after the elections. Ballots must be received by November 15, 2004. Ballots may be mailed or presented to one of the committee members.

Karen adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.



LSM Holiday Party

This year's Holiday Party will be at Karen Werner's house, 9110 Curlew Drive in Austin. The party will start at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 11. This year, the party will be a potluck dinner. Turkey and ham will be provided, as will punch and soft drinks. Other assorted goodies will also be provided. If possible, bring a dish to share. The tree will be trimmed and holiday music will be playing. There will also be an optional gift exchange (see separate column for details). The Holiday Party is always a fun time, so please join us. BYOB

Here are directions:

From I-35, go south and exit on Slaughter Lane, Exit 227. Go west (right) on Slaughter for 3.0 miles to the first stoplight past McDonald's. This is Curlew Drive. There is a park on the right, but no street sign to tell you the street name. Turn right at the stoplight and go approximately 0.5 miles, just past Wilcrest. 9110 Curlew Drive is a stone façade house with pink trim, third house on the left.

From MoPac, go south to Slaughter Lane and turn left (east) at the stop light. The fourth stoplight (the first light past Brodie Lane and just past the signs for Tanglewood Forest) is Curlew Drive (unmarked)). Turn left on Curlew Drive and travel 0.5 miles, just past Wilcrest. 9110 Curlew Drive is a stone façade house with pink trim, third house on the left.

12 Ideas for Making the Holiday Season Unique

-from the keyboard of Rachael Stewart, Editor

1. Make a wreath. I like flowers, cotton tufts, and berries.
2. Take a family photo. Set the camera on a timer, and run for the pose. Keep the 'mistakes' to show your family.
3. Make hot chocolate from scratch. Cinnamon sticks lend a nice (and tasty) accent.
4. Watch a favorite holiday movie. This is a good opportunity to enjoy the hot chocolate.
5. Teach your pet(s) to sing carols.
6. Make a new ornament for your tree. After a few (dozen) years, the tree will be a treasure trove of memories.
7. Visit relatives. Chat, eat, and encourage their cat to climb the tree.
8. Hang a sprig of mistletoe above your honey's chair.
9. Go caroling. If you know someone in the hospital or a care facility, go entertain their whole floor. Bring your pet.
10. Take your honey out into the backyard and count stars.
11. Shop at small, local stores.
12. Smile often. Tell your family how much you love them.

National Nominating Committee Report

-submitted by Howard Prince

The Nominating Committee has completed its task, and the following results have been announced. Stormie Kullman is in the process of notifying the candidates and has authorized me to release the nominee list on AMLNewFlash.

If you have any questions, you can contact Stormie at nomcomm@us.mensa.org.

Best Regards,
Howard Prince
Information Systems Director

Final Nominations:

Chair	Treasurer	Region 5	Region 10
Russ Bakke Sander Rubin	Charlie Bruce	Mike Seigler Lewis Gosnell	Maggie Truelove
1st Vice Chair	Region 1	Region 6	
Dan Burg Jim Werdell	Walter Wakefield John McGondel Marghretta McBean	Stan Alluisi Ray O'Connor	
2nd Vice Chair	Region 2	Region 7	
Tony Jackowski Scott Rainey Elissa Rudolph	Marc Lederman	Kevin Myles	
Secretary	Region 3	Region 8	
Judy Vasiliauskas	Alan Baltis Rick Magnus	John Recht	
	Region 4	Region 9	
	Cyndi Kuyper	Joanna Soper Karen Bauernschmidt	



SynRG 2005

Memorial Day Weekend

Imagine - The 1960's



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1960'S THEME COSTUME PARTY

Casino Night with Floorshow Extravaganza



Sumptuous Hospitality

Deluxe Hotel

Great Room Rates!

Celebrated Speakers

Energizing Events



Register before December 31st for special rate

www.gcmensa.org : 713-339-2445 : catsterr@aol.com

Hello Region 6!

-by Dan Wilterding, RVC Region 6

Largely administrivia this month, but of potential benefit anyway. Read on!

Have you renewed your membership? Do it before December 31 and put off paying the \$3 increase until next year. If you're feeling particularly thrifty go for a three or five year membership, or perhaps instead it's time to think about a Life Membership. Information about each of these options is available in your Mensa Bulletin or online at <http://www.us.mensa.org/> (click on "Renew Now!").

Keeping track of things Mensa fashion... Did you ever change your name or move and not get your newsletter or Bulletin for *way* too long? Have you ever changed your phone number or email address and wondered why you quit getting calls from the local group? If so, could it be that you forgot to update your Personal Data Questionnaire (PDQ)? The PDQ goes out with renewals every year and provide an easy way to keep your information and preferences up to date; it's also available online at <http://www.us.mensa.org>. PLEASE take the time (just a few moments) to make sure that your contact info is current.

Encourage participation in the Foundation (MERF) Scholarship program. Information may be obtained online at <http://merf.us.mensa.org/scholarships/index.php> or by calling Jill Beckham at 817-607-0060 ext. 136. Essay submission deadline is January 15; please encourage qualifying students in your area to apply, generally about \$60,000 is awarded -- some of it may as well be in your area!

Comments, anyone?

Dan Wilterding - RVC6
rvc6@us.mensa.org
dtwtech@swbell.net
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504 West Atchley Drive
Granbury, Texas 76048

Plan ahead for this!!

In New Orleans:

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Fun for Both Sides of Your Brain!

July 6-10, 2005

Join us at one of the most spectacular locations on earth for an Annual Gathering designed to satisfy your every want, need, and expectation. Expect speakers beyond belief, astounding entertainment, and more! Adult pre-registration rates are \$70 by 12/31; \$75 by 4/8; \$80 by 7/1; and \$90

after 7/1. Adult daily rates are \$20 per calendar day by 7/1 and \$25 per calendar day when purchased onsite. Young Mensan registration rates are free for ages 4 and under; \$30 for ages 4 - 12; and \$50 ages 13 - 20. Young Mensan daily rates are \$10 per calendar day by 7/1 and \$17 per calendar day when purchased onsite.

Contact: AG2005, American Mensa, Ltd.

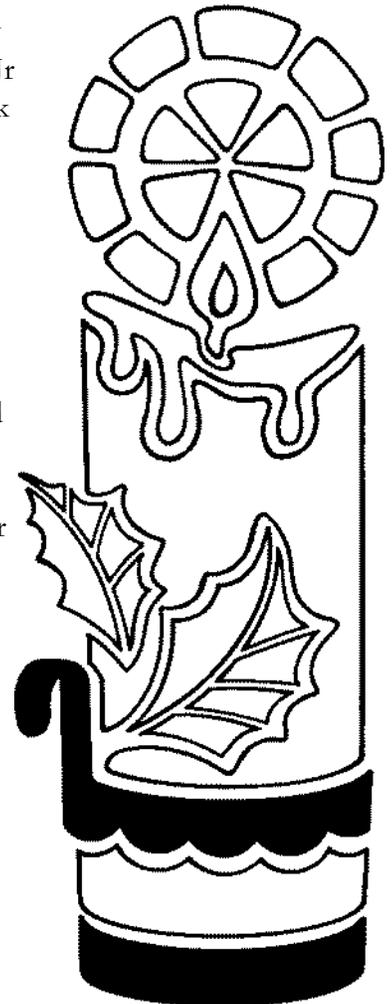
1229 Corporate Dr. West

Arlington TX 76006-6103

Online registration at http://ag.us.mensa.org/registration/ag_reg1.php

Happy Birthday

- 1 Dr John Fike
- Gregory Graves
- 3 Richard Armstrong
- Scott Crump
- 5 Wayne Banks
- Aarne Hartikka
- Jeffery Humphrey
- 6 Walter Barksdale Jr
- 7 Michael Scheschuk
- 10 Mary Lockhart
- Eric Seibel
- 11 Jane Kominek
- 12 Paul Heidenthal
- 13 Heather Hall
- Jimmy Martin
- 14 John Paliwoda
- Margaret Wofford
- 17 Dr Caryl Neman
- 18 Mary Snyder
- Gwendolyn Taylor
- 19 Sue Caldwell
- Robert Cole Jr
- 23 Fred Deats III
- 24 Fred Campillo
- 25 Laura Amos
- 26 Michael Moyer
- 27 Lanna Hunt
- Cynthia Nelson
- 28 Sonya Palmer
- 29 Jack Musgrove
- 30 Merlin Darling
- Mary Hoane



What's Happening in December?

Thank Goodness It's Thursday

Central Market Café

Every Thursday 6:00-8:00pm

4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 206-1020

Meet us in the Café after work for fun, conversation & food. Prospective members welcome. Central Market Café is located in the Central Market shopping center on the east side of Lamar Blvd between 38th and 41st Streets. Central Market is the anchor store. Central Market Café is adjacent to Central Market on the south side. We meet upstairs.

ExComm Meeting

Date and time TBA. A notice will appear on the LSM-Announce mailing list.

Poker Night

Date and time TBA. A notice will appear on the LSM-Announce mailing list.

Karen Werner's Home

9110 Curlew Drive (512) 291-4677

Penny ante poker, BYOB. Bring snacks if you feel like it and have time. RSVP, if possible, so I'll know how many people to expect and how many to make appetizers for.

Holiday Party and Gift Exchange

Saturday, December 11 2:00pm

Karen Werner's Home

9110 Curlew Drive (512) 291-4677

Drinks, ham, and turkey provided. Please bring a dish to share. Gift Exchange is optional. Gifts should be worth \$10 or less. Directions: From I-35, go south and exit on Slaughter Lane, Exit 227. Go west (right) on Slaughter for 3.0 miles to the first stoplight past McDonald's. This is Curlew Drive. There is a park on the right, but no street sign to tell you the street name. Turn right at the stoplight and go approximately 0.5 miles, just past Wilcrest. 9110 Curlew Drive is a stone façade house with pink trim, third house on the left. From MoPac, go south to Slaughter Lane and turn left (east) at the stop light. The fourth stoplight (the first light past Brodie Lane and just past the signs for Tanglewood Forest) is Curlew Drive (unmarked)). Turn left on Curlew Drive and travel 0.5 miles, just past Wilcrest. 9110 Curlew Drive is a stone façade house with pink trim, third house on the left.

Hump Day Happy Hour

Wednesday, December 15 6:00pm

Opal Divine's, 700 W. 6th and Rio Grande.

The hostess can tell you where we are. Let's hang out, kick back and observe Austin. Host: Karen Werner, (512) 291-4677.

Waco Area Mensa Get-Together

Wednesday, December 15 7:00pm

Barnes & Noble Café

4909 W. Waco Dr., Waco

Prospective members welcome. RSVP to Jerry Lenamon, (254) 399-9450.

Potluck SIG & Games Night

Saturday, December 18 6:00pm

Kelly Wagner & Steve Harsch's Home

1001 E. Riverside, Austin (512) 443-9650

Theme: Food to eat while playing games -- finger foods & bite-size servings. Please make the dishes low-sodium if possible. Salt shakers will be available. Please call and let us know what you're bringing! Thanks.

Directions from Riverside Dr between IH35 & Congress Ave: the house is on the SE corner of the intersection of Travis Heights Blvd & Riverside Dr. There is a traffic light at the intersection. Park on Travis Heights & enter the house at the back door.

Do not attempt to park on Riverside Dr.

Fold & Sticker

Thursday, December 23 (at TGIT)

Help us assemble the newsletter! See Thank Goodness It's Thursday for directions.

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December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 TGIT	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 TGIT	10	11 Holiday Party Gift Xchange
12	13	14	15 Waco Mensa Happy Hour	16 TGIT	17	18 Potluck and Games Night
19	20	21	22	23 TGIT <i>Fold & Sticker</i>	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30 TGIT	31	

2004