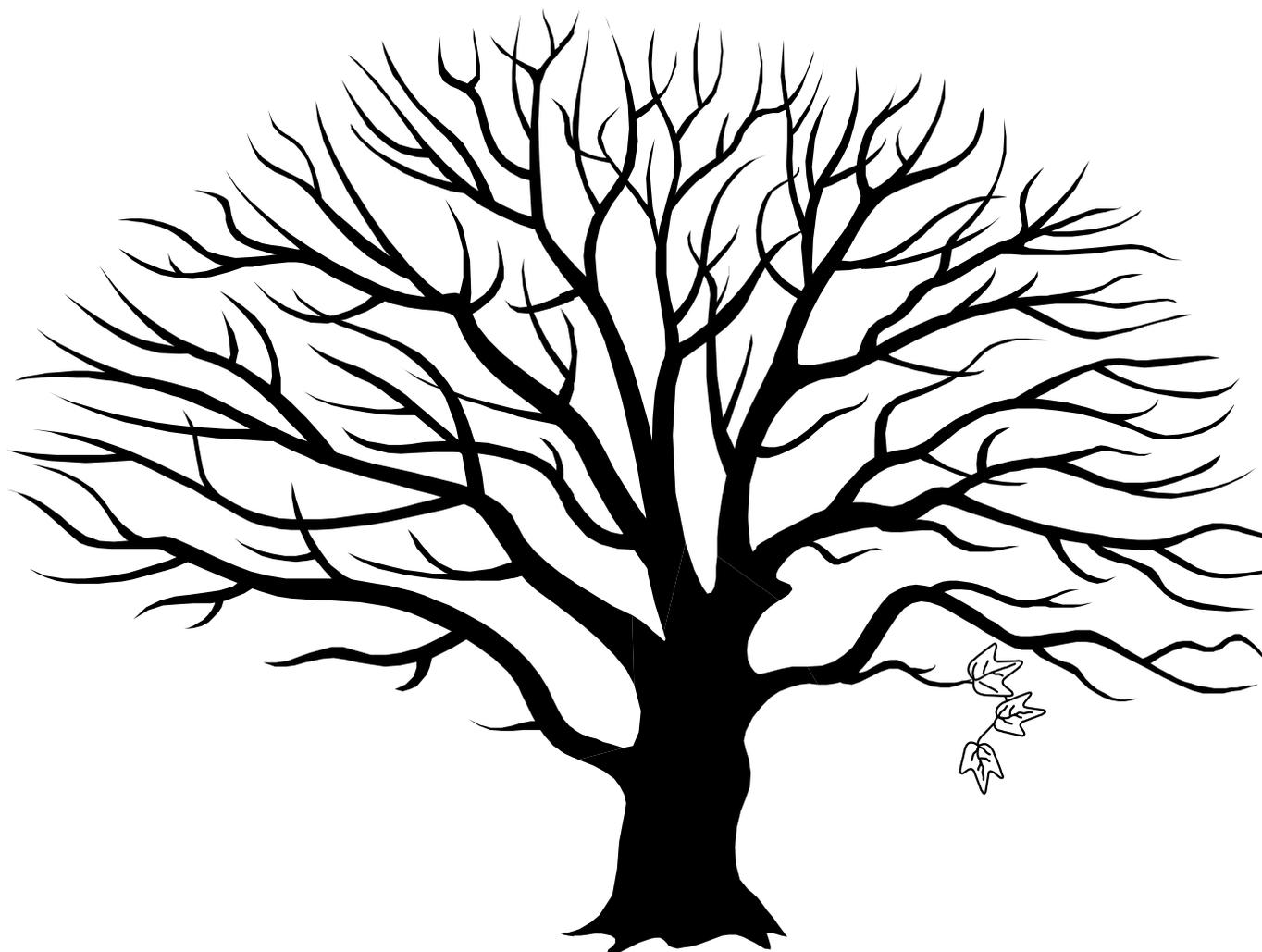


# Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of Lonestar Mensa

Volume XXXII Number 11  
November 2005



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Position vacant. Please contact Janet Kres (President) with questions or to volunteer.

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\* -- Appointed position (non-voting)

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1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103

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## Publication Information

**POSTMASTER:** Please send change of address to:

### ARMADILLO LITERARY GAZETTE

c/o American Mensa, Ltd., 1229 Corporate Dr West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103

The *ARMADILLO LITERARY GAZETTE* (USPS 554-650), the official publication of Lonestar Mensa, Group 786 of American Mensa, Ltd., is published monthly at 506 Canion St, Austin, TX 78752. Periodical Postage Paid at Austin, TX.

Mensans who are not members of Lonestar Mensa may subscribe for \$10.00 per year. Send subscription requests to the publication address.

**Submission Information:** Submissions of all types will be accepted. The deadline is the 15th of each month. Submissions may be by email (ASCII/text format only) to the newsletter editor or by snail mail in typed format. Anonymous submissions are not accepted, although the author's identity may be withheld upon request. The editor reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Items in this newsletter may be reprinted in other Mensa publications, with credit given, except for those works copyrighted by the author.

## Advertising Rates and Policies

**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.

## From the President

*-by Janet Kres, President*

Dear Lonestar Mensa members,

First let me report that the reason we have not had the Birthdays for the month listed is my bad -- because I am learning about ASCII files. Obviously, I'm not learning quickly about ASCII files -- and have requested lots of help! We will get the Birthdays list published again -- happy belated birthday to our September and October birthday members!

November's speaker will be Mr. Ed Scharlau, who will speak on the Capital Area Food Bank. The Capital Area Food Bank is a non-profit organization whose goal is to end hunger in central Texas.

We are planning a holiday party in December -- if you are new to Lonestar Mensa, we hope to see you at the party! Details of place and time will be in the December newsletter.

At the October ExComm meeting the following officers were appointed through the end of this current term (December 31, 2005):

Vice President -- Margaret Wofford  
Member at Large -- Helen Siders

Thank you for volunteering for Lonestar Mensa. Members -- everyone is welcome at the ExComm meetings -- and we welcome your suggestions for Lonestar Mensa.

Charity Smith has resigned as Gifted Children's Coordinator -- Charity, thank you for your service as a volunteer to Lonestar Mensa. Several of us had a great time at the bowling excursion (although I don't think I even made it to double digits on the score).

Please vote -- a ballot is enclosed.

I am running for President. My platform is: I would like the members to have a good time and enjoy the activities, and I would like to offer testing sessions about every month or six weeks, so we can have more members enjoying the activities.

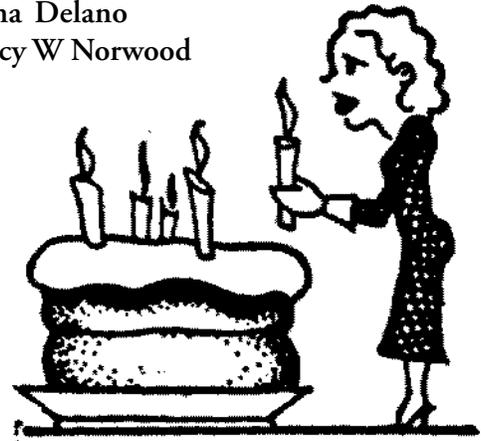
See you at future activities!

Janet Kres



## November Happy Birthday!

- |    |                                 |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 1  | Michael Makuch                  |
| 2  | William Baker                   |
|    | Michael Rose                    |
|    | Gerald Schappe                  |
| 4  | Jeff Johannigman                |
| 5  | Dr Paul Arthur Jones III        |
| 7  | Col James W Critz               |
| 8  | Susan Shaffer                   |
| 10 | Joseph Kalapach                 |
| 11 | Kelly Williams                  |
| 14 | Timothy Carpenter               |
|    | Sharon Gordon                   |
| 15 | Dr Jay Jamieson                 |
|    | Janice L Service                |
|    | Dr Douglas Perret Starr PHD APR |
| 16 | Scot R Courtney                 |
|    | Jackson E Crosley               |
| 17 | Paul R Albers                   |
|    | Peter Crossley                  |
|    | Richard Higgins                 |
| 19 | Mark Fortress                   |
| 23 | Chris Ericson                   |
|    | Susan R Sides                   |
| 25 | Kelli M Adam                    |
| 27 | Leona Delano                    |
| 28 | Nancy W Norwood                 |



# Lonestar Mensa Ballot for Elective Office During 2006

## Instructions:

1. Put your Mensa ID on the outside of the envelope. Do not put any identifying information on the ballot itself. Envelopes without a Mensa ID and ballots with identifying information will be disqualified.

2. Send all ballots to Paul Anderson, Chair of the Nominating Committee at:

LSM 2006 Election Ballot  
c/o Paul Anderson  
P.O. Box 1101  
Leander, TX 78646-1101

<u>Office</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Vote</u>
President	Janet Kres	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	John Neemidge	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Don Drumtra	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member At Large	Margaret Wofford	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member At Large	Michael Tolbert	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member At Large	Helen Siders	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>



# News from the N.O.

## Book Donations for Hurricane-hit Libraries -- Update

The October monthly package from the National Office includes a Project Inkslinger request and guidelines for book donations to replace books lost due to the recent hurricanes. Two places were listed. One is the Texas Library Association, [www.txla.org](http://www.txla.org), in Austin TX. We have been asked to suspend shipment of books to the TXLA for the time being. They have already received over 60,000 lbs of books, and have no room left for others. In the coming months they will sort and distribute what they have, and will then inform us of libraries still in need in the TX, LA, MS, area. I will let you know of shipping addresses when they are available. They would still enjoy financial donation to help with their costs.

The other place listed is Reader to Reader Inc., [www.readertoreader.org](http://www.readertoreader.org), in Amherst MA. I called there a few minutes ago. They have not been affected by the flooding in the Northeast, and will be happy to receive books from us. Please note their specific request for science/educational/history/poetry and similar books.

Please let your Local Group members know of the temporary halt to TXLA, and the continuance of book and/or financial donation to Reader to Reader.

Respectfully,  
Michael Paul Beetham  
Project Inkslinger Coordinator

## Daffynitions

*-sprung from the diseased breain of Rachael Stewart*

- John Doh!** An unidentified master of the obvious.  
**Ally Cat** WWII British Shorthair diva cum fighter pilot.  
**Heirplane** Jr's jet.  
**Aardtvark** Creative insectivore. Paintings for sale on E-Bay.  
**Blastercyst** C4 tucked in the keyhole.  
**Barney Rubble** What you get when you combine liquid nitrogen, a hammer, and a purple dinosaur.  
**Moonitions dump** Lunar crater.

## **Dear Post Office:**

### Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1. Armadillo Literary Gazette
2. 0554-650
3. 10/24/05
4. Monthly
5. 12
6. \$5.00/\$10.00
7. 506 Canyon St., Austin TX 78752. Rachael Stewart. (512) 407-9753.
8. SAME
9. SAME. SAME. NONE
10. American Mensa Ltd. 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103
11. NONE
12. Has not changed
13. Armadillo Literary Gazette
14. October 2005.
- 15a. 572 / 500
- 15b1. 255/227 1
- 15b2. 299/262
- 15b3. 0/0
- 15b4. 2/3
- 15c. 556/492
- 15d1. 0/0
- 15d2. 1/1
- 15d3. 0/0
- 15e. 5/3
- 15f. 6/4
- 15g. 562/496
- 15h. 10/4
- 15i. 572/500
- 15j. 98.99%/99.19%
16. November 2005
17. John L. Neemidge 10/24/05



## Lonestar Mensa ExComm Meeting

### Minutes

October 5, 2005

Attending: Janet Kres, President; Midge Kocen, Treasurer; Margaret Wofford, Member at Large; Don Drumtra, Member at Large; and John Neemidge and Helen Siders, Members.

Janet convened the meeting at 6:10pm.

As the new President, Janet shared her goals for LSM. She would like to focus on regular testing to build membership and she wants the group to be socially active with fun activities. She also thanked the members of the ExComm for their contributions to the group.

When Janet became President upon Karen Werner's resignation, the Vice President spot became vacant. As Treasurer, Midge automatically became Vice President, but she immediately resigned. Janet reappointed Midge as Treasurer and appointed Margaret to fill the vacant Vice President position. Janet then appointed Helen to fill Margaret's vacant Member at Large position.

Attendees discussed the difficulty that Paul Anderson, chair of the nominating committee, is having filling the ballot for 2006 ExComm positions.

Attendees discussed possible locations for the holiday party.

Janet proposed to buy inexpensive Mensa items to give to any new or transferred in 2005 member attending the holiday party. Moved, Margaret, seconded, Midge, to allot \$200 from general funds for Janet to buy the gift items. Motion passed unanimously.

Janet also proposed to buy inexpensive Mensa items to give to test proctors and volunteers. Moved, Don, seconded, Helen, to add these items to the Action Still in Effect (ASIE) regarding purchases of officer recognition pins and officer name tags. Motion passed unanimously.

Janet reported that she has been contacted by two women in College Station regarding the possibility of administering a Mensa test there. Moved, Don, seconded, Midge, to reimburse proctors for travel to distant locations to test a minimum of three people. Reimbursement for mileage will be at the Texas state government rate and \$10 will be allowed for lunch. The proctor must request approval for reimbursement from the LSM President before the travel occurs. Motion passed unanimously.

Attendees discussed the ASIE regarding RGs at length and proposed several changes. The issue was tabled to allow Janet

time to incorporate the changes into her draft copy.

Janet reported that she has reserved the North Village Library for the second Wednesday of the month for monthly meetings through July 2006.

Midge presented the Treasurer's Report for August and attendees briefly discussed Margaret's draft of the 2005 RG financial statement.

Janet adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.

Margaret Wofford  
Vice President



### RVC Report

*-by Ray O'Connor, RVC6*

November 2005

There were 675 folks who took advantage of the free prior evidence evaluation in August. We are still waiting for the results of the evaluations. I expect we have another free prior evidence review event, as this seems to have been very successful.

At the September AMC meeting a motion concerning carpooling and roommate matching was passed. Local groups are strongly encouraged to create a web site for roommate matching and carpooling. Any who request roommates or carpooling are to be directed to that web site.

My wife and I just learned of the death of a friend. She is the sixth friend we have lost in recent years. It is deeply moving to realize just how short our time on earth will be. I wrote this for Christine, a dear Mensa friend who was taken from us much too soon. Giving my thoughts a form helped me to come to terms with my feelings. I never expected that I would need it again so soon.

"When I heard of her death, I didn't believe it. It must be some kind of mistake. She is so young. Women are not supposed to die so young.

And yet, it could not be denied. She was taken from me. She had shared with me that she had cancer. She didn't go into details and I didn't want to impose by asking. I never realized that it would take her away from me. Why? Why would someone so young be taken? I miss her. I miss her smile, her humor, and her enthusiasm. I felt I had been

robbed. Why did this happen? What kind of God allows this to happen?

I switched back and forth between anger and gloom. It is not fair that such good people are taken from us. If there were a higher deity, he would not allow such things. Why did she have to have cancer?

A few weeks after her death, her family had a memorial for her. I was among her friends and coworkers who were invited. Her family came to Dallas not only to share with us our grief, but to share a joy in whom she was. That's when we learned how brave she was. She had a very virulent form of cancer. She hid her pain from us. Her death was a release from that pain. I felt ashamed for how selfish I had been. My thoughts were focused on what I lost. I didn't think of her suffering and that for her death was a welcome relief. I had finally reached acceptance."

One of the biggest benefits we receive from membership in American Mensa is our Mensa friends. We don't treasure enough what we have until we realize how easily we can lose it.

**Gatherings Calendar:** Feast of Pleasures and Delights XXVI Dallas, TX Thanksgiving Nov. 24 to Nov. 27, 2005

Come join your Mensa friends/family at the beautiful Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria. These special rates are guaranteed through Nov. 11: \$69 SR/DR/TR/QR, +tax. Call (800) 811-8664 or (972) 661-2800.

Registration: Registration is \$55. Children 0-12 years of age are free. Young people (13-17 at time of RG) are \$25 till Nov 15th, and \$28 thereafter. Check, money order, or credit cards are accepted. To register, [northtexasmensa.org](http://northtexasmensa.org) or [CWedgwood@aol.com](mailto:CWedgwood@aol.com)



## **November Monthly Meeting**

The speaker for the November 8, 2005 Lonestar Mensa meeting will be Mr. Ed Scharlau. His topic will be "the Capital Area Food Bank".

The Capital Area Food Bank is a non-profit organization dedicated to the elimination of hunger in central Texas. CAFB serves 21 counties in the central Texas area.

Ed Scharlau, as a Past President of the Board of Directors of CAFB, will provide insights into board activities as well as those of a volunteer worker particularly as that of the driver for the 18 wheeler. Ed is a retiree of 3M and is and has been involved in a number of Austin charitable organizations.

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER?**

### **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 Park shopping center on the east side of Lamar Blvd between 38<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> Streets. Central Market is the anchor store. Central Market Café is adjacent to Central Market on the south side. We meet upstairs.

### **ExComm Meeting**

Wednesday, November 2

**6:00pm**

#### **Northwest Recreation Center**

2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Contact Janet Kres at (512) 836-5773 to get an item on the agenda. All members welcome.

### **GenX Pub Crawl**

Saturday, November 5

Host: Danny South

(512) 371-3894

[dsouth@stewart.com](mailto:dsouth@stewart.com)

7:00-7:45 Molotov Lounge 719 W 6th

8:00-8:45 Little Woodrow's 520 W 6th

9:00-9:45 Ginger Man 304 W 4th

10:00-10:45 Bitter End 311 Colorado

11:00-? Lovejoy's 604 Neches

### **Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, November 8

**7:00pm**

#### **Austin Public Library, North Village Branch**

2139 W. Anderson Lane, Austin

Please see page left-hand column, this page, for details.

### **Games Night**

Saturday, November 12

**7:00pm**

#### **Janet and Mark Kres' House**

11708 Prairie Hen Lane, Austin

(512) 836-5773

Bring munchies and/or your favorite games. BYOB.

### **Fold & Sticker**

Monday, November 24

**6:00pm**

Central Market, Austin. See TGIT for directions.

Help us assemble the newsletter!

### **Poker Night**

Saturday, November 26

**7:00pm**

#### **Bob and Nancy Dietrich's House**

9701 Westminster Glen, [Austindietrich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Austindietrich@sbcglobal.net)

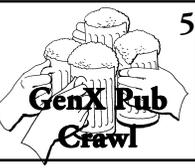
Penny ante poker; fun times guaranteed. Please RSVP to

Bob at [dietrich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dietrich@sbcglobal.net) by Friday evening. Bring

munchies; BYOB.

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<b>November</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3  TGIT	4	5  GenX Pub Crawl
6	7	8  Monthly Meeting	9	10  TGIT	11	12  Games Night
13	14	15 <i>'Dillo Deadline</i>	16	17  TGIT	18	19
20	21 <i>Fold &amp; Sticker</i>	22	23	24  THANKSGIVING	25	26  Poker Party
27	28	29	30			

**2005**