

# *Armadillo Literary Gazette*

A Publication of Lonestar Mensa

Volume XXXII Number 8

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Public Domain photo of Caesar Augustus as a magistrate. Original statue stands in the Louvre, Paris.

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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.

## Listen Up!

*-by Karen Werner, President*

If you haven't already registered for Lonestar Mensa's Regional Gathering over Labor Day Weekend, do so now. You may register by using the form published in this newsletter or by registering online at [lsm.us.mensa.org](http://lsm.us.mensa.org). If you haven't been to one of our RGs before, this is a great chance to see what you've been missing. As always, there will be a 24 hour hospitality suite and games room.

Thanks to all the members who have been showing up at locally scheduled events. We have seen new faces playing poker, eating pizza, joining the pub crawl and bowling. On August 6, there will be another family friendly event, skating hosted by Charity Smith. I've been very gratified at the number of poker players and game players who have volunteered to play host in their homes. This month's poker will be at the home of Robert Dietrich. Next month's games night will be at the home of Claudia Harbert. Please contact Karen Werner if you would like to host an event.

The membership directory will be published in the newsletter in the next few months. If you have questions about, or changes in your contact information, please contact Karen Werner.

We had a standing room only crowd at last month's Monthly Meeting. I hope to see even more new faces out and about at scheduled events. Look on the calendar, and find an event you'd like to attend. See you there.



## Waco Meetings

The Waco Area Mensa monthly get togethers need a new coordinator. If you are interested in volunteering to host a meet and greet in the next few months, or if you would be interested in attending such an activity, please contact Lonestar Mensa President, Karen Werner, at [karen\\_lsmmensa@yahoo.com](mailto:karen_lsmmensa@yahoo.com) or at (512) 291-4677. There are quite a few new and renewing members in your area, and we'd like to introduce all of you to one another and get some regular activities planned close to home.

## ByLaws Amemdment Ballot

The members of Lonestar Mensa are being asked to vote on approval on proposed amendments to the bylaws. The full text of the current bylaws, with proposed changes, was published in last month's Armadillo Literary Gazette. To view these changes, please see last month's Gazette, which can be accessed on the Lonestar Mensa web site, [lsm.us.mensa.org](http://lsm.us.mensa.org). You may also obtain a copy by contacting Janet Kres, Lonestar Mensa Vice President, at [j\\_kres@msn.com](mailto:j_kres@msn.com) or (512) 836-5773.

## August Birthdays

- 1 Marion Alpern  
William J Worthington IV
- 2 Selen Ustun
- 3 Mr Eugene LaMar Guyon Jr  
Betty L Wolverton
- 5 Ms Audrey Diane Aucott-Meyers
- 7 Jonathan P Grabert
- 8 Judge Rudy S Apodaca  
Mr Martyn John Hitchcock
- 9 Allen E Boyles  
Jerry Dike
- 11 Will W Lane
- 13 Leslie Bacon  
Mr James T Nicholopoulos Jr  
Mr James H Schorr
- 14 Keith R Babola
- 17 Charity Ruth Smith
- 19 William D McCarty
- 20 Mr James B Robinson
- 21 Laura Helen Christie  
Rajiv Garg
- 22 Mr Michael Allen Farrar
- 23 Matthew C Lawrence
- 24 Perry Q Minton
- 25 Scott Hauptmann  
Wayne Johnnie  
Keith Wilson Loring
- 27 Mr John R Strohm
- 28 Ms Lucille S Russell  
Patrick Stallings
- 28 W Randall Strahan Jr  
Donna Woodwell  
Steve Young
- 30 Helen Ruth Siders



## **The AG and the Big Easy** **MensAGumbo July 06 – 10, 2005** **in New Orleans, La**

*-Reported by Helen Siders*

MensAGumbo. A delightful mixture of events, good times, sounds and smells. "Exploring your senses" seems to be the unspoken theme of MensaGumbo 2005.

Oh, the streetcars! The Canal Boulevard streetcar line that passed directly in front of our hotel even had AC! The streetcar

starts at the Mississippi River, going northwards passing by a lot of huge hotels, the French Quarter, St. Louis Cemetery #1 and then continuing towards Lake Ponchartrain. At the world famous old Cemetery, I honored voodoo queen Marie Laveau by drawing three xxx's on her final resting place. Thousands of xxx's were scrawled on that small building.

The three New Orleans streetcar lines went almost everywhere and ran 24/7. The food in the AG Hospitality room was available nearly 24/7. Hot meals were served in the Hospitality room at least 3 times daily. Ray O'Connor was greatly involved in the food. Ray will also be Hospitality chair at our own Lone Star Mensa RG to be held in Austin during the Labor Day weekend. On Friday, the best jambalaya I have ever eaten was served. There was pork jambalaya and there was shrimp jambalaya. It was a "five pound" Mensa gathering!

Lone Star Mensans I saw were John, Geri, Paige and David Neemidge; Sam, Lise, Taz and Martha Waring; Danny South; Joe and Barbara Bartlett; Don Jarvis and myself, Helen Siders. John Neemidge is now officially the Asst RVC for Region 06, at the national level. Taz Waring, having been The Teen Sig Coordinator for 2 1/2 years, managed the Teen Room at this AG.

My favorite AG activity was the presentation "Historic Origins of Above-Ground Burials", a delightful and intelligent discussion of burying people in New Orleans. Actually, the remains are stored above ground, which means they don't get buried at all. Other great topics I attended were "Ask the Sexologists", "Segway Human Transporter", "The Canal Street Madam", "The Borderline-Narcissistic-Histrionic Triad", and "The Mardi Gras Indians", who danced and pow-wowed in huge three dimensional costumes. Featured was Big Chief Brian Nelson who kept shouting "I am a beeg, beeg, beeg Chief". Somehow it all worked.

At AG, one can become close friends in a very short time

with a like minded Mensan. I sense that maybe the phone numbers and emails addresses so happily exchanged might not get used. No matter, these connections will be renewed at the next AG.

Then I found the St. Charles Avenue streetcar, which goes through neighborhoods with hundreds of very beautiful old mansions. One sees a low slung, greenish grey streetcar creeping along the tracks, a throwback to the 30's and 40's. It stops for you and you realize there is no AC and every window is open. Streetcar riders are shouting to friends and relatives walking on the sidewalks. Sometimes insults are traded. When the car stops, it must be over 100 degrees inside. When the car starts up again the fresh air swishing through is heavenly. The St. Charles Avenue streetcar is my ultimate New Orleans experience.

## **LonestaRG -- It's A Sin To Miss Out!**

*-by John Neemidge, LonestaRG VII Co-Chair*

LonestaRG VII is coming! Many of you may be wondering whether you should attend. The answer is simple: you should! So, why should you spend \$50-\$60 a person to spend your holiday weekend with us? The reasons are many; I'm going to concentrate on the most popular reasons: Fun, People, Events, and Food.

Fun is, obviously, the biggest reason anyone would go to a Gathering, and you can view the other categories as ways to have More Fun. But it's worth exploring all by itself. Gatherings are fun. They're fun whether you're a people person or prefer to just listen to speakers. They're fun if you like beer or wine; they're fun if you're a tea-totaler. They're fun if you like the food in hospitality; they're fun if you're on a strict diet and can't indulge. Why are Gatherings fun? Because they combine things that Mensans like -- intellectual stimulation on a variety of topics, games, conversation, food, dancing, prizes, a chance to help out the community a bit -- in a package that's uniquely Mensan. People have a good time at Gatherings -- that's why they keep coming back, and why we keep holding them. We try especially hard to welcome newcomers to the fun -- just put a "My First Time" sticker on when you check in at the registration desk, and you'll find people are eager to welcome you.

Next, People. Gatherings wouldn't be much fun without other Mensans. Like I said before, this is true whether you're a people person or not. Gatherings offer the possibility of talking one-on-one with others, participating in group activities, playing games, hanging out and eavesdropping

*... continued on page 10*

## LONESTAR MENSA BYLAWS AMENDMENT BALLOT

Lonestar Mensa members are being asked to vote on approval of proposed amended Bylaws. The proposed amended bylaws are reprinted below.

**Please write your Mensa ID number on the ENVELOPE.** (If you write your name or ID on the ballot proper, the ballot will not be counted.)

**Due Date: Must be received on or before October 15, 2005.**

Hand deliver ballots to Janet Kres on or before October 15, 2005, or mail ballots to:

Janet Kres

LSM Bylaws Ballot

11708 Prairie Hen Ln.

Austin, Texas 78758-3508

**Ballot Measure:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I vote to APPROVE amendment of the bylaws of Lonestar Mensa as shown below.

\_\_\_\_\_ I vote to DISAPPROVE amendment of the bylaws of Lonestar Mensa as shown below.

### ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this group shall be Lonestar Mensa.

Section 2. Lonestar Mensa (LSM) is a local group of American Mensa, Ltd., and is subject to the Constitution of Mensa, the Bylaws of American Mensa, Ltd., and the resolutions adopted by the American Mensa Committee.

### ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in LSM shall be open to all members of AML (American Mensa, Ltd.) in good standing in the geographic area assigned to LSM by the AMC (American Mensa Committee), or as otherwise assigned by AML.

Section 2. AML members in good standing who are not also members of Lonestar Mensa are welcome to participate in the social activities of LSM; they may not participate in its business activities unless the individual in question is the National Ombudsman or his/her surrogate, a member of the AMC in the discharge of his/her responsibilities, or at the invitation of the executive committee.

Section 3. Lonestar Mensa shall observe the preferences of members for data suppression and publication, as filed with AML, when publishing a local group roster or membership directory/register.

### ARTICLE III - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. The elected officers of Lonestar Mensa shall be the president (sometimes referred to by AML as the LocSec, Local Secretary, or similar titles), vice president, and treasurer. In addition to the officers, the LSM membership shall elect one member-at-large, and two additional members-at-large for each two hundred or portion of two hundred members by which the group exceeds four hundred members, as determined by the August membership roster from AML which precedes the election. Elected officers must be members in good standing of Lonestar Mensa and AML and may serve no

more than two full consecutive terms in any given office.

Section 2. At a minimum, the appointed officers of Lonestar Mensa shall be: a newsletter editor, newsletter circulation manager, membership officer, publicity officer, scholarship chair, program officer, webmaster, testing coordinator, ombudsman, and arbitrator.

Section 3. The president, vice president, treasurer, and member(s)-at-large shall comprise the voting members of the LSM Executive Committee (ExComm), the governing body of Lonestar Mensa. No single member may hold more than one voting office. Any LSM members who wish to do so may attend ExComm meetings as non-voting members.

Section 4. The president shall be the chief executive officer of Lonestar Mensa. The president shall:

- (a) Call and conduct ExComm and LSM general membership meetings.
- (b) Be final authority for implementing the decisions of the ExComm.
- (c) Preside over local functions or, if unable to attend and in the absence of the other officers, appoint another member to act in the president's place.
- (d) Appoint the officers named in Section 2 above, along with such others as he/she deems necessary.
- (e) Be charged with being the chief point of contact between Lonestar Mensa and AML, AMC, and any local media or other organization. By agreeing to be president, the president agrees to pass along information to and from the group in a timely fashion.
- (f) Be charged with notifying AML (through the national office) and the Regional Vice Chairman for the local group within two weeks of the results of elections, and of changes in the officers of the local group.

Section 5. The vice president shall assist the president in administering the business of the organization, shall preside in the absence of the president, and shall succeed to the office of president if the president is unable to serve out his/her term. The vice president will:

- (a) Attend ExComm meetings and LSM general membership meetings.
- (b) Keep the minutes of the ExComm meetings and supply them to the newsletter editor.
- (c) Conduct procedures to amend these bylaws, as described in Article VI below.
- (d) Fulfill any other duties assigned by the president.

Section 6. The treasurer shall maintain the financial records of Lonestar Mensa and assist the president and vice president in administering the business of the organization. The treasurer shall act as the vice president in the absence of that officer, and shall preside in the absence of both the president and vice president. The treasurer shall succeed to the office of vice president if that officer is unable to serve out his/her term, and to president if both officers are unable to serve out their terms. The treasurer will:

- (a) Attend ExComm and LSM general membership meetings.
- (b) Submit a financial report to the ExComm not less than twice each year (at approximately six month intervals). The report shall contain totals of income and expense categories, and balances for all accounts under the control of LSM, including RG, scholarship, and other special funds.
- (c) Facilitate the annual financial review in the month officers take office.
- (d) Provide the president (or designee) original statements from banks and other financial institutions at least quarterly.
- (e) Maintain a list of equipment owned by the local group.

Section 7. Each member-at-large will be a voting member of the ExComm, and will represent the LSM general membership at the ExComm meetings. The member(s)-at-large may not be the newsletter editor.

Section 8. The newsletter editor shall edit LSM's newsletter, which will include: notices of meetings and programs, required ballots, results of business meetings and elections, amendments to bylaws and related discussions and ballots, and the semiannual financial reports. Together with the newsletter circulation manager, the editor shall prepare and publish U.S. Postal Service forms and arrange for printing/duplication of the newsletter.

Section 9. The newsletter circulation manager, in addition to the duties specified in Section 8 above, shall be responsible for distributing the local group newsletter.

Section 10. The membership officer shall be in charge of membership development, including but not limited to, contacting all members new to the group and contacting recently lapsed members.

Section 11. The publicity officer shall be responsible for promoting the group and its activities through the local media.

Section 12. The scholarship committee, under the direction of the scholarship chair, shall be in charge of the LSM scholarship program, to include solicitation of entries for scholarship competitions, making recommendations to the executive committee as to scholarship award winners, and raising funds for scholarships.

Section 13. The program officer shall be responsible for scheduling speakers or other activities for the monthly LSM general membership meetings and shall coordinate with and advise the officers and the newsletter editor of these activities.

Section 14. The webmaster shall be responsible for maintaining the web site and updating it at least six times a year.

Section 15. The testing coordinator shall be responsible for arranging testing sessions at least three times a year.

Section 16. The ombudsman shall pursue local resolution of disputes by mediation or other means. The ombudsman shall have authority to make binding decisions only in case of prior agreement by the disputants.

Section 17. The arbitrator shall pursue resolution of disputes within other groups as required by the Regional Vice Chair and/or AML.

Section 18. The term of office of the elected officers shall be one year commencing on January 1 or until installation of a properly qualified successor, except in the case of resignation, death, or removal from office as provided in Article III, Section 22 below. The appointive officers shall serve until the newly elected president announces his/her new appointees, which should occur within 15 days of the announcement of the results of the election.

Section 19. Within 15 days of leaving office for any reason whatever, all outgoing officers and appointees shall turn over to their successors all records, files, office equipment, and any other materials pertaining to their office. If for any reason this is impractical, the items should be placed in the care of another member of the ExComm using the same time criterion.

Section 20. Elected and appointed officeholders must remain members in good standing of AML and LSM. Failure to maintain good standing shall be construed as immediate resignation from office.

Section 21. All appointed officers serve at the discretion of the ExComm, and may be removed or replaced by a simple majority vote of the ExComm at any time.

Section 22. Elected members of the ExComm may be removed by majority vote of the other members for missing four consecutive meetings (General Meetings and ExComm meetings), by unanimous vote of all other voting members of the ExComm, or by recall election. Such recall election may be called by a petition citing the reason for such action and signed by 10% of the LSM membership as listed on the most recent membership roster provided by AML. The balloting provisions of a regular election shall apply except that a recall election must be held within sixty days of presentation of a properly qualified petition at either a regular or special meeting of the local group and the date set forth in Article VI shall be adjusted appropriately.

#### **ARTICLE IV – PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

Section 1. The financial report described in Article III, Section 6(b), shall be published in the newsletter, along with a notation stating that the report was/was not approved by the ExComm. If the report is not approved, the ExComm will provide for the publication of a summary of the reasons for non-approval.

Section 2. The financial review described in Article III, Section 6(c), shall be conducted by someone who was not involved in the collection or disbursement of money during the period being reviewed, and shall include viewing actual statements from banks and any other institutions where the group's money is deposited.

#### **ARTICLE V – MEETINGS**

Section 1. LSM general membership meetings, which should include business meetings when necessary, shall be held monthly except for December. Notice of meetings and other activities shall be published in the newsletter.

Section 2. Special business meetings may be called at any time by the president, by a majority vote of the ExComm, or by any ExComm member upon receipt of a petition stating the purpose of the special meeting and signed by ten percent of the LSM membership. For this purpose, the most recent LSM membership roster from AML shall be used as a measure of membership count. The date, time, place, and purpose of the special meeting shall be announced in the local group newsletter or by direct mail. No business other than that indicated in the notice may be acted upon.

Section 3. Executive Committee meetings shall be held whenever required, but at a minimum once per calendar quarter, including a meeting in December. The first quarter meeting should include establishment of goals for the chapter and the second quarter meeting should include budget approval. The December meeting should be attended by incumbent as well as newly elected ExComm members, and new officer appointments should be announced. The results of each of the above special topics should be published in the next issue of the local newsletter. The duties and responsibilities of the ExComm, in addition to those specified elsewhere in these bylaws, include all financial, policy, and planning matters affecting LSM not reserved specifically for resolution by the membership. When a majority of the ExComm finds it appropriate or expedient, it may ask the general membership to resolve, by any stated means, any issue otherwise under its own authority.

## **ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS**

Section 1. No later than the September LSM general membership meeting of each year, the ExComm shall appoint a Nominating Committee from the LSM membership consisting of two members and a chair. The Nominating Committee shall, no later than the October LSM general membership meeting, nominate one or more candidates for each elective office. Additional nominations will be allowed from the floor at the October meeting. The Nominating Committee Chair shall certify that nominees are members of AML and LSM in good standing and notify the general membership of the nominations in the November newsletter, or by direct mail posted no later than November 1.

Section 2. No later than the October LSM general membership meeting of each year, the ExComm shall appoint an Election Committee of two members and a chair, who shall be responsible for conducting the election, receiving and counting the ballots, and certifying the results. Certification must be within five days of the election, and delivered to the previously incumbent president. The Election Committee shall determine, and cause to be published, those election rules and regulations not covered by these bylaws.

Section 3. No member of the Nominating Committee or the Election Committee may be a voting member of the ExComm or a candidate in the upcoming election.

Section 4. Ballots shall be printed in the November newsletter. Mail ballots must be returned to the Chair of the Election Committee and received not later than November 15, or the date of the November LSM general membership meeting, whichever is later. Ballots received after that date shall be void. Mail ballots must be sealed in a blank envelope, placed inside a second mailing envelope on the outside of which the member's name, address, and Mensa membership number must be clearly legible. Ballots may be presented in person to the Chair of the Election Committee by the beginning of the November meeting.

Section 5. A plurality of votes cast for each office shall constitute election. Votes which are tied shall be determined by the Chair of the Election Committee by a flip of a coin.

Section 6. If an elected officer's position should become vacant due to resignation, accession, or other reasons, the vacancy will be filled by succession as defined in Article III or by the President with the approval of the ExComm in the case where there is no defined successor.

## **ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. Amendments to and revisions of these bylaws may be proposed either by the ExComm or by a petition signed by twenty or more LSM members, presented to any voting member of the ExComm. The ExComm must then submit such proposed amendment(s) to the American Mensa Committee for its approval, following which the proposed amendment(s) or revision(s) shall appear in the next issue of the LSM newsletter.

Section 2. A mail ballot shall appear in the issue of the LSM newsletter that follows publication of the proposal. The

mail ballots must be returned by mail or in person to the LSM Vice President, who shall be responsible for their tabulation. The balloting deadline shall be noted on the ballot, and will be not less than 90 days following the first publication of the proposed amendment(s) or revision(s).

Section 3. To become effective, amendments shall require an affirmative vote of a simple majority, of those casting valid ballots, following the above required approval of the American Mensa Committee.

Section 4. After passage by the local group membership, the revised bylaws must be given final approval by the American Mensa Committee after filing of the revised bylaws with the Bylaws Committee. The Bylaws Committee will notify Lonestar Mensa of the effective date of the bylaws as amended.

#### ARTICLE VIII - MENSA LOGO AND NAME

Section 1. American Mensa, Ltd. (AML) has granted a royalty-free, non-exclusive license to Lonestar Mensa for the use of the mark "M" and a logo, consisting of a globe over a stylized "M" within a border, in connection with the non-commercial uses of Lonestar Mensa. AML retains full ownership of the mark and logo and all statutory and common law rights in the mark and logo.

#### ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AND RULES OF ORDER

Section 1. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, latest edition, shall govern those portions of Lonestar Mensa regular and special business meetings to which those rules of order are applicable and not inconsistent with these bylaws.

Section 2. Rules of order for the ExComm and for those matters concerning Lonestar Mensa which are not specified in these bylaws may be adopted by the ExComm.

## It'd Be A Sin To Miss Out!

- Speakers on the Seven Deadly Sins in their many forms
- Find Lust at the Fire & Brimstone Ball
- Take Pride in the Games & Contests
- Enjoy some Sloth at the late-night pool & hot tub
- Satisfy your Gluttony in Hospitality, with meals, fresh-baked bread, veggies, snacks, soda, beer, wine, and even a sinful chocolate fountain
- Indulge your Greed with our prizes
- And much more!

Be the Envy of your friends!

It's a weekend of sinful fun over Labor Day!

Bring the whole family - you won't leave Angry!

Registration is only \$55 until August 13th (children 7-14 half price, 6 and under are free). Register online at our web page (<http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org/lonestarg.htm>) with payment via PayPal, print a registration form from the web site, or send registrations to Mark & Janet Kres, P.O. Box 80635, Austin, TX 78708-0635; make checks payable to "Lonestar Mensa RG".

The RG will be held at the Holiday Inn Northwest in Austin. Our room rate is \$72/night (S/D/T/Q). For more information see the web page or contact John Neemidge at [neemidge@usa.net](mailto:neemidge@usa.net).



**LonestarRG**  
4 days of fun, food, discussion, and sin

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on conversations in Hospitality, and maybe meeting someone special (my wife Geri and I met at a Gathering). In addition, we invite interesting people -- our speakers -- to come talk to us about all kinds of topics. Mensans being who we are, most of us seem to like learning something about nearly anything, and our speakers tend to be very interesting and knowledgeable about their subjects. So even if you don't want to talk to others all that much, there'll still be interesting people to listen to. And speaking of people -- yes, your family and your friends are welcome to come too. The more, the merrier!

Speakers lead us to Events. We'll have about a dozen speakers to listen to. At pretty much any time there's a speaker speaking, there'll also be some sort of interactive event -- a game; a drawing event; a workshop on knitting, or writing your own obituary; or something of that kind. If neither the speaker nor the other event suit your interests, we have a Discussion Room for structured discussion on a variety of serious topics. If that's not your interest, here's the Hospitality rooms, where you can meet people or just munch. Adjacent to Hospitality we have a Game Room stocked with a variety of games. With all that going on, it's hard to be bored; the usual complaint is that there's too much to choose from.

And last, but certainly not least, we get to Food. Our Hospitality chair, Ray O'Connor, is legendary around Texas and across the country for his version of Gathering Hospitality. Ray bakes bread all weekend. He serves a variety of tasty dishes for meals, arranges a treat or two for dessert, and makes sure there's something good for breakfast. We have a number of other Hospitality volunteers, who make sure that we have salad, veggies, and other choices as well. And of course we stock a wide variety of soda, a number of kinds of beer, and several types of wine. All of this means that you don't have to leave the Gathering to eat -- you can, of course, but you don't have to.

Put it all together and it comes right back to Fun. LonestaRG VII will be a lot of fun. It'll be even more fun if YOU are there, because everyone who goes adds to the event. Where else can you listen to a dozen great speakers, play games, go to a dance, and eat and drink all weekend for only about \$50? Join us this Labor Day Weekend! If I haven't convinced you, please take a look at our website (<http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org/lonestarg.htm>) where you can see all the fun people had last year, or give me a call (512-310-7863) or drop me an email ([neemidge@usa.net](mailto:neemidge@usa.net)) and I'll be happy to answer your questions.



### **Ice Skating at Northcross Mall**

Saturday, August 6th

On Saturday, August 6th, at 1 p.m., we'll meet at Northcross Mall to ice skate. Admission is \$6 per person, and \$3 for skates. The rink is in the middle of the mall. Look for Charity (blonde in 30s) and her 1-year-old son. Northcross Mall is located at 2525 W. Anderson Ln. Austin, TX 78757. From MoPac, you will go east on West Anderson/Spicewood Springs Rd. The rink number is (512) 252-8500, and Charity's cell is (512) 589-3159. Bring the whole family!

### **August Monthly Meeting**

The August Monthly Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 9, 2005, at the North Village Library, 2139 W. Anderson Lane, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

This month's speaker will be Daniel Sternthal, an attorney with the firm of Davis & Wilkerson. Mr. Sternthal attended Hebrew University of Jerusalem from 1995 through 1998, where he received his Master of Arts degree. Mr. Sternthal will talk about the three years he spent in Israel and his experiences in living there during dangerous, turbulent times. He will talk about what it was like to live through a time of bus bombings and other terror incidents. He will also talk about the overall experience of living in this ancient land with its numerous Jewish, Christian and Muslim holy sites and diverse population. Find out more about what life is like in modern Israel from the viewpoint of an American student. Mr. Sternthal's talk is sure to be fascinating and informative. Don't miss it.

Prior to living in Israel, Mr. Sternthal attended McGill University, where he received his B.A. with honors. After returning to the United States, he attended the University of Texas, where he received his law degree. He met his future wife, Merav, while in Israel. They became the proud parents of daughter Maya last October.

# What's Happening in August?

## 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, August 3

6:00pm

Northwest Recreation Center

2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Contact Karen Werner at (512) 291-4677 to get an item on the agenda. All members welcome.

## Ice Skating

Saturday, 6 August

1:00pm

Northcross Mall Rink

2525 W. Anderson Ln. Austin

Host: Charity Smith

(512) 589-3159

Please see the announcement on page 10 for more details.

## Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, August 9

7:00pm

Austin Public Library, North Village Branch

2139 W. Anderson Lane, Austin

Please see page 10 for details.

## GenX Pub Crawl

Saturday, August 13

Host: Danny South

(512) 371-3894

dsouth@stewart.com

Sites TBA. Interested members can contact Danny by phone at any time or via email before 5:00pm on August 12.

## Poker Night

Saturday, August 20

7:00pm

Bob and Nancy Dietrich's House

9701 Westminster Glen, Austin

dietrich@sbcglobal.net

Penny ante poker; fun times guaranteed. Please RSVP to Bob at dietrich@sbcglobal.net by Friday evening. Bring munchies; BYOB.

Directions:

If heading north on 360: Take the 2222 (Bull Creek) exit and turn left. Travel about 3/4 mile to next light (City Park) and > turn left. Travel 3 miles to Westminster Glen and turn right. Travel 1 mile to High Gate. We are the house immediately on the left past High Gate.

If heading west on 620: Turn left at 2222 (Bull Creek). Travel 3/4 mile to next light (River Place) and turn right. Travel 3 miles past the club house to a T (Big View) and turn left. Travel to next street (Narrow Ridge) and turn right. Travel to next street (Westminster Glen) and turn left. Travel past Noble Hill. We are the second house on the right before reaching High Gate.

## Games Night

Saturday, August 27

7:00pm

Ron Theriault's Home

9617 Great Hills Trail, #1235

ron-t@austin.rr.com

Bring munchies and your favorite games, if you like. BYOB.

Directions: Exit 183 at Great Hills Trail, go west. After 2nd traffic light (at Saks) look for center divider in street. Turn left at 1st break in center divider, into Arboretum Oaks Apts. Go straight in until you are forced to turn: turn right. After turning you will be facing my bldg: #12. Park anywhere except under the covered spaces. Apt. is #1235, (3rd floor).

## Fold & Sticker

Thursday, August 25

(at TGIT)

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

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## About August

*-compiled by Rachael Stewart, Editor*

Birthstone: Peridot, symbolizes luck and peace, said to be a favorite of Cleopatra.

Flower: Gladiolus, from 'gladius' (sword) for the shape of its leaves. Signifies remembrance and infatuation.

Named for: Emperor Augustus Caesar, in honor of his conquest of Egypt and the ending of civil war in that month, once known as Sextilus. Sextilus originally had 30 days. The extra day was taken from February.

National Immunization Awareness Month, National Catfish Month, National Peach Month (Bit late in the season, don't you think?), National Golf Month, Romance Awareness Month ("Have I told you lately that I love you?")

My favorite days:

August 3 - National Watermelon Day (Will the ExComm report a seed-spitting contest?)

August 5 - National Mustard Day ("Have you any *Grey Poupon*?")

August 12 - Middle Child's Day (No evidence of an Eldest or Youngest Child's Day - yes you *are* special.)

August 13 - Left Hander's Day (*I'm* in my right mind, are you?)

August 20 - National Radio Day (Let's hear it for the airwaves!)

August 22 - Be an Angel Day (Freshen up those innocent looks, kiddos!)

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<b>August</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 <b>ExComm Meeting</b>	4 <b>TGIT</b>	5	6 <b>Ice Skating</b>
7	8	9 <b>Monthly Meeting</b>	10	11 <b>TGIT</b>	12	13 <b>GenX Pub Crawl</b>
14	15 <i>'Dillo Deadline</i>	16	17	18 <b>TGIT</b>	19	20 <b>Poker Night</b>
21	22	23	24	25 <b>TGIT</b> <i>Fold &amp; Sticker</i>	26	27 <b>Games Night</b>
28	29	30	31			

**2005**