

Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of Lonestar Mensa

Volume XXXIV Number 1

January 2007



The Center for Southern Folklore, Memphis TN

La CARTE

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Position vacant; please contact Janet Kres for details if you would like to volunteer.

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Position vacant; please contact Janet Kres for details if you would like to volunteer.

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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, LSM President

Dear Fellow Mensans –

The ExComm and I thank you for electing us to another year. This will be my final year as Loc Sec -- the Chapter does have term limits specified in the by laws.

I hope it will be an enjoyable year for our members. We will be offering several activities, and hope that you will join us at them. If you should have an idea for an activity, such as a movie night, or a pub crawl please send the information to our newsletter editor, Rachael Stewart, for publication in the newsletter. It doesn't have to be a long term commitment -- you could try it once, and then, if it works out, do it again!

We had such fun at the Holiday party; thank you again, Ron and Linda (and their wonderful party kitty, who evidently has never met a stranger!)

See you at future events,

Janet

Welcome New Members

Robert E. Pirrs
Christopher C. Mersinger
Rachel L. Aitkens
Timm M. Wrase
Alberto J. Diez-Canseco
Alan Blanke

Welcome Back, Members

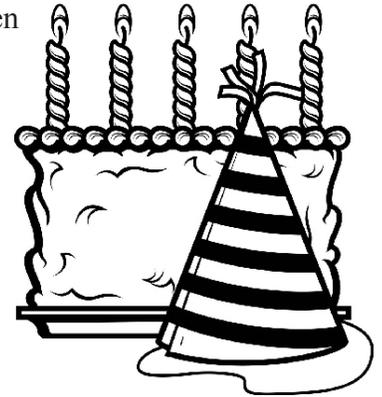
James L. McShan
Michael W. Martin
Ryan G. Reiffert
Stephen L. Manning

Welcome to Region 6, Lonestar Mensa

Gerri J. Duke
Michael E. Zygmunt
Robert Thomas Palko
Carla Young
Jon Olson
Cullen Kiker

January Birthdays

2	Robert W Frost
	Jonathan L Hochman
4	Jeffrey S Reeh
7	Meredith Shirrell
8	Betty Knight Davis
	Paul F Memrick
10	Ryan A Huber
	William C Neely
11	David Allan Young
12	Linda C Baker
14	Aaron Brauch
	Nicole M Moreau
15	Don Charnley
	Stephen L Manning
17	Melissa Petty
	Laura Richardson
23	Paula Renee Holt
	Erica L Poole
25	Harry D Keirns
	James George Zimmerman
26	Claude Harmon Garrett
	Joseph L Rotunda
27	Marc Burns
	Hans T Weger
28	Troy R Schneider
30	Mark Curtis Newman
31	James Colt Rodden



Member News

Lonestar Mensa regrets to report the death of member Jerome Casler, who passed away on October 3, 2006, at the age of 85. He was a Mensan for many years, and will be greatly missed.

Would You Like to Receive Future Newsletters by E-Mail?

-submitted by Helen Siders

How about receiving this newsletter, The Armadillo Literary Gazette, by E-MAIL instead of paper? It just happens that this option is being offered beginning early 2007.

If you are cool with all of this, go to the Profile Update page located at www.us.mensa.org/profileupdate. The phrasing on the profile page will be "electronic publications, if available" You can also make this choice at your next renewal. There is a one to two month lag before your paper newsletters stop being snail mailed and you start receiving e-newsletters.

Consider joining the Lonestar Mensans who have already taken the plunge!

Lonestar Mensa November 2006 Election Results

There were a total of 11 ballots received.

With that:

Presidential Nominees:

Janet Kres: 11 votes

Other: 0 votes

Vice Presidential Nominees:

John Neemidge: 11 votes

Other: 0 votes

Treasurer Nominees:

Don Drumta: 11 votes

Other: 0 votes

"Large Member" Nominees:

Vignesh Prakash: 11 votes

Michael Tolbert: 11 votes

Helen Siders: 11 votes

Other: 0 votes



Making Parrot Toys at November's Monthly Meeting

Gifted Children: Looking Ahead to 2007

-submitted by Michele Vaughan, Gifted Children's Coordinator



November was a busy month for Lonestar Mensa children's events. We enjoyed hearing from Cindy Carroccio, Director of the Austin Zoo, at our November meeting, building bird toys to donate to the Austin Zoo, and visiting the zoo later in the month.

There are already plans in the works for children's activities in February and March, so mark your calendars in advance. We'd love to see a better turnout to kids' events in 2007. Let's start off with an energetic first event of the year at 10 AM on Monday, February 26, at Ready Set Play, a new indoor inflatable play center in Round Rock. You can read more about it at www.readysetplaytx.com. Most of the school districts in our area have a student holiday on this date, so I hope that will allow many of you all to attend.

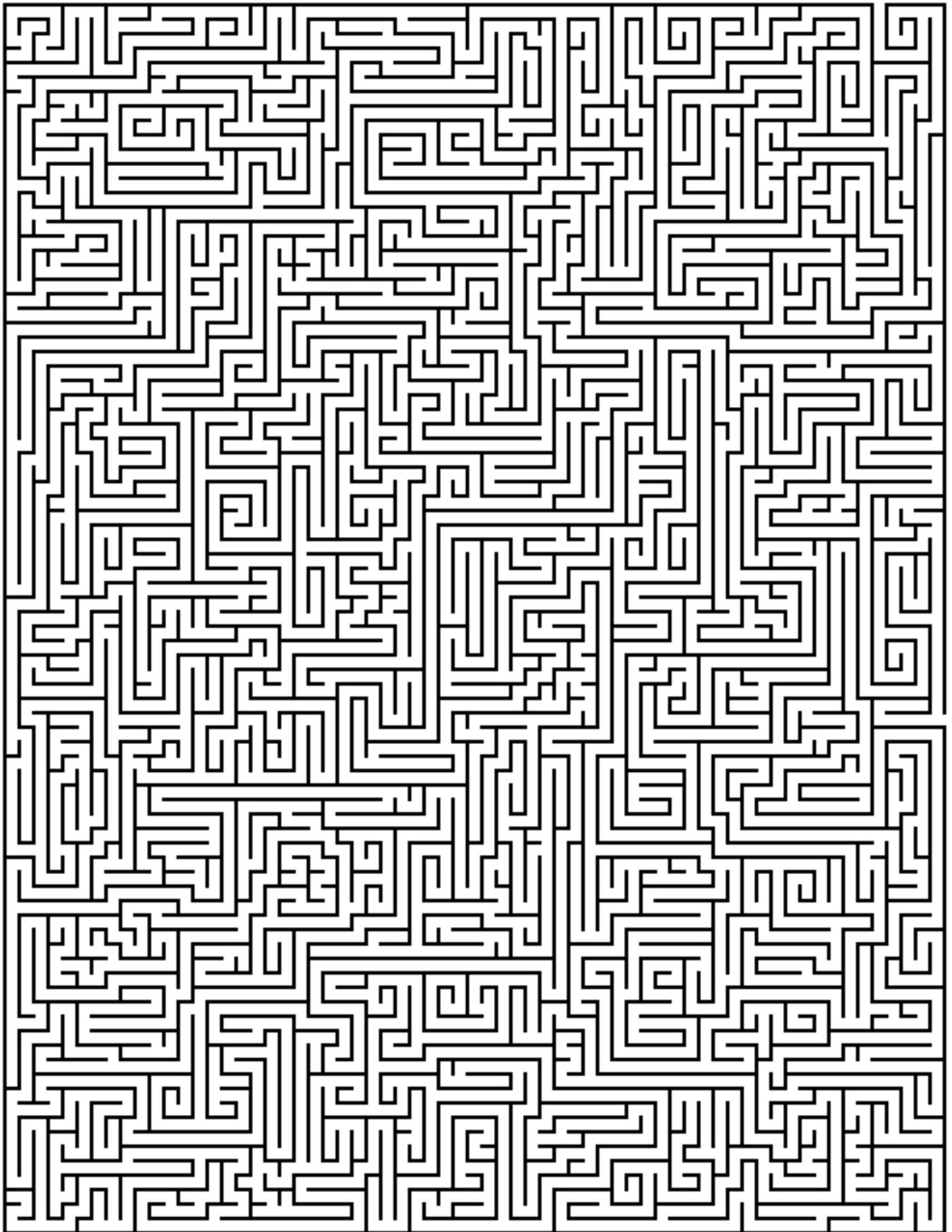
I thought March would be a nice time of year to visit the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. Let's schedule that tentatively during Spring Break on Tuesday, March 13. This is an event that even those without children might enjoy. Please consider joining us.

I have received some feedback that it's preferable to have children's events on school holidays rather than on weekends, which often tend to get otherwise booked up. What do you think? As always, I welcome your recommendations and suggestions for children's events: lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com. We also have a discussion group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lonestargiftedchildren/>. I hope to hear from you and see you at a 2007 event soon!

It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities. – Dumbledore, in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*



November's Speaker -- Cindy Carroccio, Director & Founder of the Austin Zoo



What's Happening in January?

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 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

Wednesday, January 3 6:00pm

Northwest Recreation Center, Arts & Crafts Room
2913 Northland Drive, Austin
Contact Janet Kres at (512) 836-5773 to get an item on the agenda. All members welcome.

Lonestar Mensa Sewing Circle

Saturday, January 6 1:00-4:00pm

Janet and Mark Kres' House
11708 Prairie Hen Lane, Austin (512) 836-5773
Bring your handiwork for an afternoon of sewing, sharing of ideas, and conversation. Light snacks will be served

Monthly Meeting

Monday, January 8 7:00pm

Austin Public Library, North Village Branch
2139 West Anderson Lane, Austin
See newsletter for details.

Scholarships Contest Judging Party

Saturday, January 27, 1:00 -4:00 pm

This year, we'll get together for a party and judge the essays! Everyone is welcome! You'll be reading a number of 500-word essays and filling out a form giving points for various categories, such as grammar, organization, and your reaction. We'll have refreshments, of course. Bring something to share, if you want to.

If you want to be a judge but can't be at the party, contact Claudia Harbert at mensascholarships@gmail.com

The party will be at the centrally located home of Janet and Mark Kres. (11708 Prairie Hen Lane, Austin (512) 836-5773)

Sunday Afternoon Bridge

Sunday, January 14 1:30-4:30pm

Janet and Mark Kres' House
11708 Prairie Hen Lane, Austin (512) 836-5773
Please RSVP so we will know how many bridge players we will have. Instruction will be provided. Beginners welcome. This is "party bridge", not duplicate bridge.

Fold & Sticker

Thursday, January 24 6:00pm

Central Market, Austin. See TGIT for directions.
Help us assemble the newsletter!

Scholarships Contest Judging Party

Saturday, January 27 1:00-4:00pm

Janet and Mark Kres' House
11708 Prairie Hen Lane, Austin (512) 836-5773
See announcement for details.



January Monthly Meeting

It's That Taxing Time Again!

Our speaker will be Ms. Michele M. Heyman, CPA, CVA, CFE.

The 2006 Income Tax information will include a summary of the changes in the tax laws enacted or effective in 2006 that primarily effect individual taxpayers. It has been an active year in the amount of tax legislation enacted and we may have additional changes before the end of the year. There will also be guidelines presented regarding the retention of financial records.

Ms. Heyman has over 15 years of experience in Tax Compliance and Planning and Business Consulting. She has worked in Public Accounting firms since graduating from Rochester Institute of Technology. She is a Manager at Lockart Atchley & Associates, LLP, one of the largest local firms in Austin. She is an active member in the Austin Chapter of the Texas Society of CPAs.

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January						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 ExComm	4  TGIT	5	6 Sewing Circle
7	8 Monthly Meeting	9	10	11  TGIT	12	13
14 Sunday Bridge	15 <i>'Dillo Deadline</i>	16	17	18  TGIT	19	20
21	22	23	24	25  <i>Fold & Sticker</i>	26	27 Scholarships Judging Party
28	29	30	31			

2007