

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of Lonestar Mensa

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# **Lonestar Mensa Officers**

**Web Site: <http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org>**

## **Executive Committee Members**

**President:** Ron Edelstein

512-491-9881 aduana@mindspring.com

**Vice President:** Don Drumtra

512-291-0315 drumtra@aol.com

**Treasurer:** Patty Drumtra

512-291-0315 drumtrapa@aol.com

## **Members at Large:**

John Neemidge

512-310-7863 neemidge@usa.net

Janet Kres

512-836-5773 jmkres@sbcglobal.net

Kathie Blair Lawler

512-267-1843 Kathie.Lawler@dshs.state.tx.us

**Recruitment Chair:** Mark Kres (see Membership)

**Membership Officer:** Mark Kres

512-836-5773 jmkres@sbcglobal.net

**Current Member Coordinator:** Vacant

**New Member Coordinator:** Carla Young

512-586-7524 carla.x.young@gmail.com

**Lapsed Member Coordinator:** Vacant

**Leadership Roster Coordinator:** Vacant

**Testing Coordinator:** Mark Kres

512-836-5773 jmkres@sbcglobal.net

**Testing Facilities Coordinator:** Vacant

**Awards Coordinator:** Vacant

**Nominations Committee Chair:** Vacant

**Communications Chair:** Vacant

**Newsletter Editor:** Rachael Stewart

506 Canion St, Austin TX 78752

512-407-9753 bookbird@yahoo.com

**Newsletter Circulation Manager:** Helen Siders

512-799-6985 xlartemis@gmail.com

**Newsletter Advertising Coordinator:** Vacant

**Webmaster:** Geri Neemidge

512-310-7863 gneemidge@usa.net

**Publicity Officer:** Paul Anderson

512-259-7824 wrdslngr@swbell.net,

**Elist Coordinator:** John Neemidge

512-310-7863 neemidge@usa.net

**Record Manager:** Vacant

**Symposia Chair:** Paul Anderson (see Publicity)

**Programs Officer (Meeting Coord.):** Todd Shaw

512-423-1252 txpioneer@hotmail.com

**Symposia Coordinator:** Vacant

**Symposia Publicity Coordinator:** Vacant

**Education Chair:** Vacant

**Education Funding Coordinator:** Vacant

**Scholarship Chair:** Claudia Harbert

512-238-0205 mensascholarships@gmail.com

**Education Publicity Coordinator:** Vacant

**Gifted Children's Coordinator:** Michele Vaughan

512-388-5970 lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com

**Subgroups Program Chair:** Vacant

**Bylaws Comm. Chair:** Don Drumtra (see V.P.)

**Bryan-College Station Coordinator:** Robbie Fraser

214-240-4439 tampabuc47@yahoo.com

**Univ. of Texas Area Coord.:** Vacant

**Waco Area Coordinator:** Vacant

**SIGHT Coordinator:** Steve Vaughan

512-388-5970 svaughan@austin.rr.com

**LonestaRG Chair:** Ellen Lukasik

elukasik@sbcglobal.net

**RG Registrar:** Jane K. Thompson

512-335-4196 jane12125@austin.rr.com

**RG Hospitality Chair:** Anne So

**RG Programs Chair:** Ellen Lukasik (see RG Chair)

**RG Facilities Chair:** Ellen Lukasik (see RG Chair)

**RG Publicity Chair:** John Neemidge (see V.P.)

**RG Drawings, Prizes, and Awards Chair:** Vacant

**RG Treasurer:** Don Drumtra

512-291-0315 drumtra@aol.com

**RG Drawings, Prizes, & Awards:** Helen Siders (see Newsletter Coord.)

**Arbiter:** Kathleen Holiman

(512) 250-5488 gkholirnan@sbcglobal.net

**Ombudsman:** Kathleen Holiman

(512) 250-5488 gkholirnan@sbcglobal.net

If you are interested in helping with LSM activities in any of the vacant positions listed above, please contact Janet Kres, via email [jmkres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jmkres@sbcglobal.net), or phone 512-836-5773.

## **Regional Vice Chairman (RVC)**

Ralph Rudolph

RVC6@us.mensa.org

## **American Mensa, Ltd.**

(817) 607-0060

AmericanMensa@us.mensa.org

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1229 Corporate Drive West

Arlington, TX 76006-6103

## From the President

The first monthly meeting for 2008 started was a “soap-box” forum, where members, or even non-members--could get up and have ten minutes to discuss or dissertate on a subject of their choice. We had a good turn out and enough speakers to fill the available time. The topics covered a broad spectrum of interests from dog parks to diving in tropical waters, bridge (the card game) and some philosophical subjects. We have an appropriate and interesting topic for the February meeting (see announcement elsewhere in the bulletin). The ExCom and our program chair would welcome ideas or suggestions for other topics of interest. Make the meetings YOURS by telling us what you’d like to see or hear.

The TGIT activity has lagged due to lack of participation. We have had the suggestion--and a volunteer to host--if we have it on the south side of the city. I see no objection to have it in two locations, north and south. That could reduce the travel and fuel burn for those who live on each side of town and maybe make a Mensa activity more accessible to more people. So let’s do it. Support--by going to--the activity(s) of your choice. And give us feedback on how you think the activities you attend went. Did you like them, not like them, liked them but they could be better if...?

At the ExComm meeting on January 9, I announced the reappointed of the officers who served in 2007 to same positions in 2008 as shown on page 2. Since then I have made three additional appointments which I will formally announce at the February ExComm. .

- Paul Anderson - Symposia Publicity Coordinator, in addition to his Publicity Officer duties.

- Ellen Lukasik - RG Programs Chair, in addition to her other RG duties

- Helen Siders - RG Drawings, Prizes, and Awards Chair, in addition to her Circulation Manager duties.

On behalf of the 560 plus members of Lonestar Mensa we would like to thank all officers and committee members who have willingly volunteered their time and effort in furthering the work of Mensa in general and Lonestar Mensa in particular. Without volunteers, the organization would not be able to function. We are grateful for your service. Thank you.”

*Ron Edelstein, LSM President*



## 2008 January 9 ExComm Monthly Meeting

1. Location: Northwest Community Center, 2913 Northland Dr., Austin, TX

2. Attending: President: Ron Edelman; Vice-President: Don Drumtra; Treasurer: Patty Drumtra; Members at Large: Janet Kres, Kathie Blair Lawler, and John Neemidge; Circulation Manager: Helen Siders.

3. Ron called to order at 6:10 PM.

4. Officers Reports:

5. Committee Reports:

a. President: Ron announced his appointment of the officers for 2008 listed on page 2. He expressed disappointment that his announcement messages for the ExComm meeting did not get to the membership before this meeting. Janet moved the president be given authority to send messages directly to the LSM announcement email list without moderation. Kathie seconded and the motion passed unanimously with Ron not voting. John agreed to change the list accordingly. Ron reviewed the LSM December bank statement, selected two checks at random, and compared them with supporting documentation. No discrepancies were found.

b. V-P: Don moved to confirm the email motion unanimously passed by the ExComm by email on 2007 November 20 to, “Establish an ad-hoc Bylaws Committee charged to draft revisions to the Lonestar Mensa bylaws for approval of the American Mensa Committee and the LSM membership, considering ideas from the membership, the latest American Mensa Bylaws, and Robert’s Rules of Order and appoint Don Drumtra Chair. The committee will report their progress to the ExComm monthly and to the Membership through the Armadillo Literary Gazette as appropriate.” John seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Ron not voting.

c. Outgoing Treasurer: Don presented the Outgoing 2007 Treasurer’s Report, on page \_\_\_\_\_. Don moved to approve the report, Janet seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Ron not voting.

d. Incoming Treasurer: Patty presented the Incoming Treasurer’s Report proposing the 2008 budget for LSM, page \_\_\_\_\_. Patty moved to approve the 2008 budget as proposed. Don seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Ron not voting.

e. Circulation Manager. Helen reported difficulty with newsletter mailing due to the Post Office implementation of their new Presort Accuracy, Validation, and Evaluation (PAVE) requirements. The AML office staff suggested that it would take a long while before they would be able to provide local groups certified paperwork. Helen reported that she had developed techniques to get our mail accepted in the near term. The sense of the ExComm was that she should continue with her current approach.

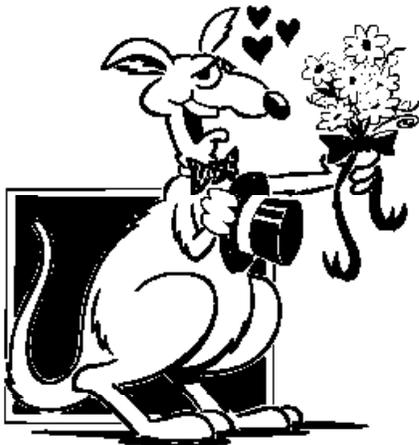
6. Committee Reports:

a. 2007 LonestaRG Committee: Don presented the 2007 LonestaRG Treasurer's Report, page \_\_\_\_\_. Don moved to approve the report and Kathie seconded. The motion passed unanimously with Ron not voting.

b. Monthly Bylaws Committee Report. Don reported that the committee has been established and John Neemidge, Lu Russell, Helen Sidors, and Steve Skelton have volunteered to participate. If Ron agrees we will consider the committee appointed. Information has been distributed to committee members A Website has been established reporting progress to the members and an article on our status was included in the January 2008, ALG. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 10, 7:15-8:15 PM at Central Market and is open to all members. Future meetings were tentatively scheduled for the first Thursday, of each month same time, same place but were subject to change at the meeting Ron agreed with the appointments.

7. Other Business: TGIT. Due to first time attendee complaints of no one at TGIT, the sense of the ExComm was that TGIT should not be listed on the ALG Calendar unless there was someone to host the gathering on behalf of LSM.

8. Ron adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.



**Outgoing 2007 Treasurer's Report**

- by Don Drumtra, Treasurer, 2007

Financially, we had a good year in 2007. As may be seen from the program and balance sheets, overall revenue for all programs except the RG exceeded estimates by 111 percent. This was the result of the dues allocation increase from AML and the great leadership in our recruitment program testing activities. Overall expenses were 80 percent of budget. This is good for the treasury but not as good as an indicator of our programs. We should have done more and spent more. The Lonestar RG also did well as shown in the separate Final RG Financial Report on page \_\_\_\_\_. The overall result of our activities in 2008 was a little over \$2,200, providing us a strong position going into 2008. The positive results this year have enabled us to endow future annual scholarships at a base level of \$300 and provide stable resources for the other elements of our Education Program. It will also enable us to provide reasonable support to all programs in 2008. Details of our 2007 finances are provided in the program activity and balance sheet tables.

Thank you for all the support you have given me the past two years. It has been a pleasure serving as our Treasurer and working with the great 2007 ExComm. I look forward to serving as Vice-President and working to make 2008 another great year for us.

**Incoming Treasurer's Report**

- by Patty Drumtra, Treasurer

Budget for 2008. On the advice of our incoming and outgoing treasurers, the ExComm approved a 2008 budget of \$10,330. Expected 2008 revenue is about \$11,280 providing us a \$950 cushion for unforeseen expenses. The budgets for the individual programs are:

	Annually	Monthly
Recruitment	\$ 900	\$ 75
Communications	3,600	300
Symposia	900	75
Education	480	40
Subgroups	300	25
Common activities	150	12.50
LonestaRG	4,000	

**Lonestar Mensa  
Balance Sheet**  
2007 December 31

**LonestaRG Treasurer's Report  
for 2007**

- by Don Drumtra, LonestaRG Treasurer,  
2007

<b>Assets</b>	
Current Assets	
Cash	\$ -
Checking Account	1,465.90
Certificates of Deposit	16,930.49
Less	(15,000.00)
Accounts Receivable	94.12
Interest Receivable (Unallocated)	-
Prepaid Expenses	<u>242.83</u>
Total Current Assets	\$ 3,733.34
Long Term Assets	
Funds	15,000.00
Equipment	350.49
Other Long Term Assets	-
Long Term Assets	<u>15,350.49</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 19,083.83</b>
<b>Liabilities, Appropriations, and Net Worth</b>	
Liabilities and Appropriations	
Accounts Payable	\$ 495.86
Escrow Accounts	907.42
RG Reserve	365.17
Eqpmt Replacement Appropriation	70.50
Other Liabilities and Appropriations	-
Total Liabilities and Appropriations	\$ 1,838.95
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b><u>17,244.88</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Appropriations, and Net Worth</b>	<b>\$ 19,083.83</b>

In addition to being a lot of fun, the 2007 RG was a success financially. Our main goals were to have a good time; contribute a little to scholarships, the 2008 RG, and the cost of the projector we use at the RG; and at least break even. Well, according to the survey results, we had a great time. And according to the final results (see table) after contributing \$67 to scholarships, \$303 to next year's RG, \$100 to help pay for the projector, we had \$203 for other chapter activities. The chapter contribution was double our target of \$100. In addition to the above, raffle proceeds provided a \$165 direct contribution to scholarships.

On behalf of the RG committee, I would like to thank all who participated and particularly those who helped with hospitality, speakers, and other parts of the RG. We hope to have an even better RG next year.

**2007 Lonestar Mensa Regional Gathering  
Final Financial Report**  
2007 December 31

	2007 Budget	Actual Revenue & Expenses	Percent of Budget
<b>LonestaRG</b>			
RG Revenue			
RG Fund Raising		\$ 33.50	
RG Registrations		3,437.50	
RG Other Revenue		-	
Total Revenue	\$ 4,400.00	\$3,471.00	79%
RG Expenses			
RG Copies and Registration		197.32	
RG Facilities		742.00	
RG Hospitality		899.93	
RG Supplies and rentals		912.79	
RG Other Expenses		<u>44.74</u>	
Total Expenses	4,300.00	2,796.78	65%
RG Revenue Less Expenses		\$ 674.22	
RG Disbursements			
RG Scholarship Disbursement		67.42	
RG Reserve Disbursement		303.40	
RG Other Disbursements (projector)		<u>100.00</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>470.82</u>	
Total RG Contribution	\$ 100.00	\$ 203.40	203%

Notes:

RG fund raising included proceeds from selling T-shirts and tattoo decals  
 Registration receipts were based on 84 registrations  
 RG copies included supplies to print signs and name badges  
 Hospitality included all food and beverages except margarita and chocolate tasting supplies.  
 Supplies and rentals included:  
 Margarita machine rental and supplies, \$401.08  
 Prizes for brown bag raffle, \$195.49  
 Event supplies, tie dying, chocolate tasting, dance, etc. \$316.22  
 Other expenses included PayPal fees.  
 The raffles provided \$165 directly to the Scholarship fund in addition to the \$67.92 disbursement



## Bylaws Committee Report

- by Don Drumtra, Chair

The Bylaws Committee held its first meeting in conjunction with TGIT on January 10. The committee approved its procedures and five sections of our new LSM Bylaws. Details are available at the committee Website <http://www.ischool.utexas.edu/~drumtra/web-site/LSMBylaws>

You may follow the deliberations of the committee through the Website and participate either by emailing your suggestions to a committee member or attending the meeting yourself. The committee meets the second Tuesday of each month for one hour. The next meeting is listed on the calendar.



### **Lonestar Mensa Cumulative Program Activity 2007 January 1 - December 31**

	<u>2007 Budget</u>	<u>Actual to Date</u>	<u>100%</u>
<b>Recruitment Program</b>			
Total Revenue	\$ 800.00	\$ 902.32	113%
Total Expenses	800.00	543.00	68%
<b>Communications Program</b>			
Total Revenue	3,600.00	3,888.73	108%
Total Expenses	3,600.00	3,277.45	91%
<b>Symposia Program</b>			
Total Revenue	800.00	1,028.58	129%
Total Expenses	800.00	748.21	94%
<b>Education Program</b>			
Total Revenue	650.00	652.75	100%
Total Expenses	780.00	370.93	48%
<b>Subgroup Program</b>			
Total Revenue	-	-	
Total Expenses	200.00	-	0%
<b>LonestarRG</b>			
Total Revenue	4,400.00	3,471.00	79%
Total Expenses	4,300.00	2,798.78	65%
Total Disbursements	-	470.82	0%
<b>Other Activities</b>			
Total Revenue	481.00	540.58	112%
Total Expenses	120.00	67.34	56%
<b>Total Revenue (less RG)</b>	<b>6,331.00</b>	<b>7,013.98</b>	<b>111%</b>
<b>Total Expenses (less RG)</b>	<b>6,280.00</b>	<b>5,007.93</b>	<b>80%</b>
<b>Total Program Activities (less RG)</b>	<b>51.00</b>	<b>2,006.03</b>	
<b>Total Program Activities (including RG)</b>	<b>\$ 151.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,209.43</b>	

## Receive your newsletter by E-MAIL!

-by Helen Siders

Are you a Mensan who reads the Armadillo Literary Gazette immediately upon arrival, then places it in a paper stack on the desk never to be read again?

You are a prime candidate to switch to the e-mail version of this monthly newsletter.

To give it a try, log on [www.us.mensa.org/profileupdate](http://www.us.mensa.org/profileupdate). You can enter UserID (member nbr or your email address) and Psw. First, if your email address is not current, update it! Then look for the phrase 'electronic publications, if available.' Then set the switch to enable the electronic distribution of your newsletter and other publications. There will be a one to two month lag before the arrival of your first electronic newsletter.

Add [xlartemis@gmail.com](mailto:xlartemis@gmail.com) to your online address book to keep your mail handler from bouncing or flagging the electronic newsletter as spam. The address name can be LoneStar Mensa Newsletter Distribution. Finally, can you go ahead and send an email to that address? That would verify your current address beyond a shadow of a doubt. Thanks.

# What's Happening in February?

## **1st Saturday Bridge Night**

**Saturday, February 2 7:00-10:00pm**

Karen McMackin's house  
7211 Lakewood Dr #123, Austin (512) 497-7211  
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.

## **Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 5 7:00pm**

Austin Public Library -- North Village Branch  
2139 W. Anderson Ln, Austin (512) 491-9881

**Topic:** Another Resolution! What was I thinking?

**Presenter:** Tracy Shaw, M. Ed., Director of Training  
-- HHSC DARS

It's a new year and time for resolutions that will change your life, again, right?

If that sentence makes you cringe, then this meeting is for you! Come hear a new way of thinking about those resolutions, about setting and achieving goals, and about making lasting change in your life. This interactive presentation will motivate and refresh and help you create a new vision for the coming year.

## **ExComm Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 6 6:00pm**

Northwest Recreation Center, Arts & Crafts Room  
2913 Northland Drive, Austin  
Contact Ron Edelstein at (512) 491-9881 to get an item on the agenda. All members welcome.

## **3rd Saturday Poker Night**

-- Moved to 2nd Saturday for February --

**Saturday, February 9 7:00pm-???**

Laura Shankland's house  
11300 Bunting Dr., Austin (512) 297-8344  
lolas@laurashankland.com

Third Saturday poker will be on the second Saturday, February 9, because of the three-day weekend that falls on our usual third Saturday. Please RSVP so we know how many to expect. Nickle ante; dealer's choice; BYOB.

## **TGIT & Bylaws Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, February 14**

**TGIT 6:00-8:00pm**

**Bylaws Comm. 7:15-8:15pm**

Central Market Café  
4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 206-1020  
Meet us at 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's is adjacent to Central Market on the south side. We meet upstairs.

## **Ethnic Eats**

**Monday, February 18 6:30pm**

Host: Ron & Linda Edelstein  
Baby A's, 13609 N IH35, Austin (512) 491-9881  
We're going to try visiting a different ethnic restaurant each month. Suggestions of your favorite place for Japanese, Thai, French, or any other cuisine are welcome. Ron and I will be there, whether anyone joins us or not, but so that we can ask the restaurant to set up table space for a group, I'd like a phone call by Saturday of the weekend before telling me if you plan to join us. I thought we'd try Monday evenings, at 6:30, since Mondays aren't usually crowded. We'll start out easy, with Mexican food at one of our favorites - Baby A's, located on the I-35 access road north of Parmer close to Howard, on Monday, February 18. Please phone Linda or Ron at 491-9881 by Feb. 16 if you plan to come.

## **Games Night**

**Saturday, February 23 7:00-10:00pm**

Linda & Ron Edelstein's House  
1439 Dapplegrey, Austin (512) 491-9881  
We've got Scrabble and several other word games, plus board games or bring your favorite. Light refreshments.

## **TGIT Fold & Sticker**

**Thursday, February 28 6:00pm**

Central Market Café, Austin  
4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 206-1020  
Meet us at the Café after work to help assemble the newsletter. 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's is adjacent to Central Market on the south side. We meet upstairs.



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**February**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 1st Saturday Bridge
3	4	5 Monthly Meeting	6 ExComm	7	8	9 3rd Saturday Poker
10	11	12	13	14  TGIT Bylaws Comm.	15 <i>'Dillo Deadline</i>	16
17	18 Ethnic Eats	19	20	21	22	23 Games Night
24	25	26	27	28  Fold & Sticker	29	

**2008**