

# *Armadillo Literary Gazette*

A Publication of Lonestar Mensa

Volume XXXVI Number 1

January 2009



**Iced Dragon -- January 2007**

--photo by Rachael Stewart

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# **Lonestar Mensa Officers - 2008**

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

**President:** Ron Edelstein  
512-491-9881 [aduana@mindspring.com](mailto:aduana@mindspring.com)

**Vice President:** Don Drumtra  
512-291-0315 [drumtra@aol.com](mailto:drumtra@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Patty Drumtra  
512-291-0315 [drumtrapa@aol.com](mailto:drumtrapa@aol.com)

**Members at Large:**  
John Neemidge  
512-310-7863 [neemidge@usa.net](mailto:neemidge@usa.net)  
Kathie Blair Lawler  
512-267-1843 [scubakathie@gmail.com](mailto:scubakathie@gmail.com)  
Paul Anderson  
512-259-7824 [wrdslngr@swbell.net](mailto:wrdslngr@swbell.net)

**Recruitment Chair:** Vacant

**Membership Officer:** Vacant

**Current Member Coordinator:** Vacant

**New Member Coordinator:** Carla Young  
512-586-7524 [carla.x.young@gmail.com](mailto:carla.x.young@gmail.com)

**Lapsed Member Coordinator:** Vacant

**Leadership Roster Coordinator:** Vacant

**Testing Coordinator:** Vacant

**Testing Facilities Coordinator:** Vacant

**Awards Coordinator:** Vacant

**Nominations Committee Chair:** Vacant

**Communications Chair:** Kathie Lawler (see M@L)

**Newsletter Editor:** Rachael Stewart  
PO Box 349 Brownfield TX 79316  
512-879-8024 [bookbird@yahoo.com](mailto:bookbird@yahoo.com)

**Newsletter Circulation Manager:** Vacant

**Newsletter Advertising Coordinator:** Vacant

**Webmaster:** Geri Neemidge  
512-310-7863 [gneemidge@usa.net](mailto:gneemidge@usa.net)

**Publicity Officer:** Paul Anderson  
512-259-7824 [wrdslngr@swbell.net](mailto:wrdslngr@swbell.net)

**Calendar Coordinator:** Vacant

**Elist Coordinator:** John Neemidge  
512-310-7863 [neemidge@usa.net](mailto:neemidge@usa.net)

**Record Manager:** Vacant

**Symposia Chair:** Vacant

**Programs Officer (Meeting Coord.):** Todd Shaw  
512-423-1252 [txpioneer@hotmail.com](mailto:txpioneer@hotmail.com)

**Symposia Coordinator:** Vacant

**Symposia Publicity Coord.:** Paul Anderson (see Publicity)

**Bryan-College Station Coordinator:** Robbie Fraser  
214-240-4439 [tampabuc47@yahoo.com](mailto:tampabuc47@yahoo.com)

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

**Waco Area Coordinator:** Vacant

**Education Chair:** Vacant

**Education Funding Coordinator:** Vacant

**Scholarship Chair:** Claudia Harbert  
512-238-0205 [mensascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:mensascholarships@gmail.com)

**Education Publicity Coordinator:** Vacant

**Gifted Children's Coordinator:** Michele Vaughan  
512-388-5970 [lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com](mailto:lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com)

**SIGHT Coordinator:** Steve Vaughan  
512-388-5970 [svaughan@austin.rr.com](mailto:svaughan@austin.rr.com)

**Arbiter:** Kathleen Holiman  
(512) 250-5488 [gholiman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gholiman@sbcglobal.net)

**Ombudsman:** Kathleen Holiman  
(512) 250-5488 [gholiman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gholiman@sbcglobal.net)

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

**LonestaRG Chair:** Carla Young (see New Member)

**RG Registrar:** Jane K. Thompson  
512-335-4196 [jane12125@austin.rr.com](mailto:jane12125@austin.rr.com)

**RG Hospitality Chair:** Vacant

**RG Programs Chair:** Vacant

**RG Facilities Chair:** Vacant

**RG Publicity Chair:** Vacant

**RG Treasurer:** Don Drumtra (see V.P.)

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

If you are interested in helping with LSM activities in any of the vacant positions listed above, please contact Ron Edelstein: [aduana@mindspring.com](mailto:aduana@mindspring.com) or 512-491-9881.

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

Ralph Rudolph  
[RVC6@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC6@us.mensa.org)

## **American Mensa, Ltd.**

(8 17) 607-0060  
[ArnericanMensa@us.mensa.org](mailto:ArnericanMensa@us.mensa.org)  
[www.us.mensa.org](http://www.us.mensa.org)  
1229 Corporate Drive West  
Arlington, TX 76006-6103

## President's Corner

*-submitted by Ron Edelstein, LSM President*

Well, the Christmas Party for Lonestar Mensa is past and those who attended had a great time, by all reports. By the time you see this, Christmas, Hanukkah and the New Year will also be past so we are off into a whole new year, and whatever adventures it may have in store for us. Since this constituted the general meeting for December, we had a little business amongst all the fun. If you check the list of officers you will see who are going forward with LSM for the coming year. Also note there are a number of vacancies that need filling. I have had a few people let me know they are interested in helping out, so some of those spots will be filled soon. Don't let the list in the ALG limit your imagination though. If you think of something that we SHOULD have and isn't listed, send me a note and tell me what you'd like to do and chances are we can set it up.

The one critical need is someone to take over the distribution of the ALG on a regular basis. It's a bit of bother to learn how at first, but once you've done it, it's not too bad. It's probably one of the more labor intensive jobs in LSM, along with editing the ALG.

There will be no general meeting in January since we have temporarily lost our meeting place, but we'll pick up with that again in February. We welcome any recommendations for speakers or presenters for the meetings. If you've heard someone speak on a subject that would be of general interest to the group and they are available for our weeknight meetings, let me know.



## Congratulations to

### Winners of the ExComm Election

*-submitted by Barbara Wilson, Elections Chair*

Please join us in congratulating the following Lonestar Mensa Members of the Executive Committee:

**President** – Ron Edelstein. Ron is continuing in this position for a second year. Many thanks to Ron (and his silent helper and better half, Linda) for the work done during the past year. Ron will be looking for ideas for activities for the coming year and will be pleased to get any suggestions you might have.

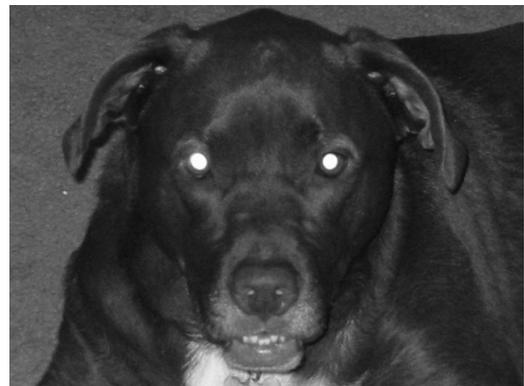
**Vice President** – Don Drumstra is also continuing in this position for another year after serving as Treasurer before holding this position last year. Don has always been there for both work and play and so has been a valuable member of the team.

**Treasurer** – Patty Drumtra is again taking care of the business of the group. Many thanks for the patience and attention to detail that you have brought to this position. Your welcoming smile has been appreciated by all.

**Member at Large** –John Neemidge is continuing as member at large after serving Mensa in many capacities. His experience and energy are always welcome—and the wonderful decorations and food at the Halloween party were a delight. Thanks for all of your work.

**New Member at Large** –Paul Anderson is newly elected to the Executive Committee and has been serving as the publicity officer this last year.

**Member at Large** –Kathie Blair Lawler is continuing as member at large. Kathy is always full of fun and provided an interesting variety of cheeses at the cheese tasting at the RG this year.



## **Region 6 Report**

*-by Ralph "Rudy" Rudolph, RVC Region 6*

There has been no change in my status as of this date. I remain off the AMC list but am informed by friendly AMCs that nothing is being discussed; folks are too busy with the holidays. As such, I'm being "collegial" and letting matters be.

My RVC funds expire in April, so if any of you have a worthwhile project that needs a few hundred dollars, please let me know why you need the funds. Please also let me know what the state of your treasury is because I'm not about to award funds to a group that already has too much money and is not spending the money to help improve their group!

Along these lines, national testing day was flat, with fewer testing sites but more people at those sites that did test. I'd have to guess that our economy has had an effect on this, so a "flat" result could actually be viewed as quite good. Thanks for the effort. The economy presents us with a real challenge in growing Mensa until this recession is over. And, of course, we could lose some members this renewal season if Mensa is seen as an unnecessary expense.

I'd like to suggest that each group sit down and have a brainstorming session about how they can improve their attractiveness to their members, whether in-person or on an on-line forum. How can we get younger members involved, what additional or better events can be staged, how communications can be improved, how recruiting can be improved. A little surge of enthusiasm can do wonders. And, I'd like to hear your ideas so I can share them with all of our groups.

Other than this, have a great holiday, hopefully sharing some good cheers with your Mensa friends!



## **Scholarships Judging Party**

*-submitted by Claudia Harbert, Scholarships Chair*

The Scholarships Judging Party on January 31st offers you a chance to put your critical Mensa mind to good use! You'll read all the scholarship contest entries and grade each on a scale of 1 to 10 in various categories such as "form," "content," and "impression." You can be critical but you'll also be impressed, amused, and moved! The judging party is an interesting way to spend an afternoon. It's serious work, but of course it's fun because it's a gathering of Mensans!

The party will be on Saturday, January 31st at 1:00 PM at the home of Claudia and Alan Harbert in east Round Rock.

We need to know in advance if you'd like to judge. Please email or phone Claudia Harbert:  
mensascholarships@gmail.com  
512-238-0205

\* \* \* \* \*

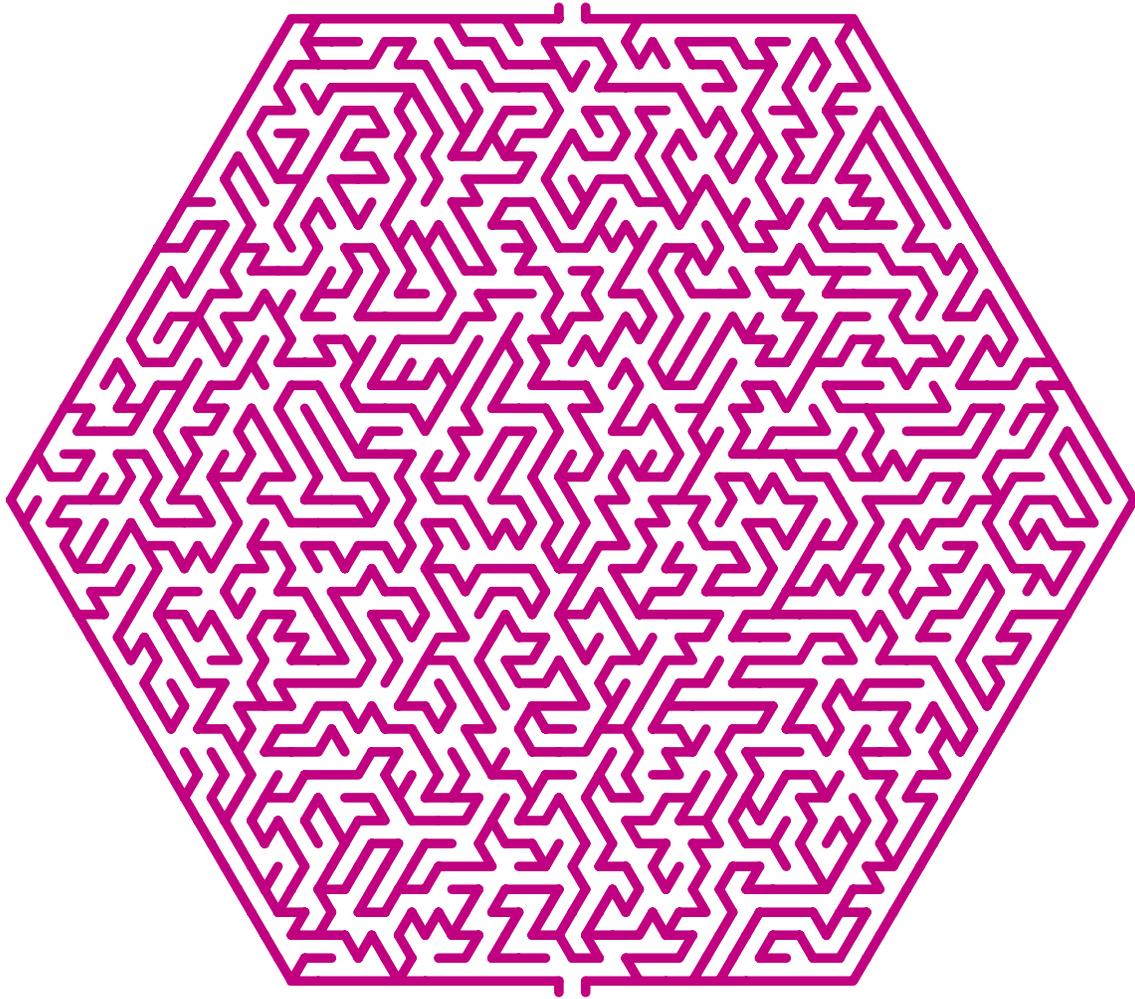
## **Volunteer Call**

Well, here it is at the start of a new year, and the Lonestar Mensa list of positions has a lot of vacancies. I urge anyone who has the time, or can MAKE the time and has a talent or would like to learn a new skill to look over the list of empty spots in the latest Armadillo Literary Gazette and see where you might like to get involved. Help make LSM more of what YOU would like it to be. Most of the jobs are not very demanding, they just need to be done. Other than the editing and distribution of the newsletter, the treasurer's work and the RG chair and assistance, most of it takes two or three hours a month at the most.

If you would like to know more about a position before committing yourself, feel free to email or call me and we can discuss it. Join in and make LSM the best!

Ron Edelstein  
LSM President/LocSec  
512-491-9881

\* \* \* \* \*



Generated with HexMaze v3.1

## Cryptograms: Poetry

*These cryptograms were generated with CryptOMEN-sa6, written by Edmund Jay Goodwin. Jay is the editor of Oregon Mensa's "OMEN".*

*The poets' names are on page 7.*

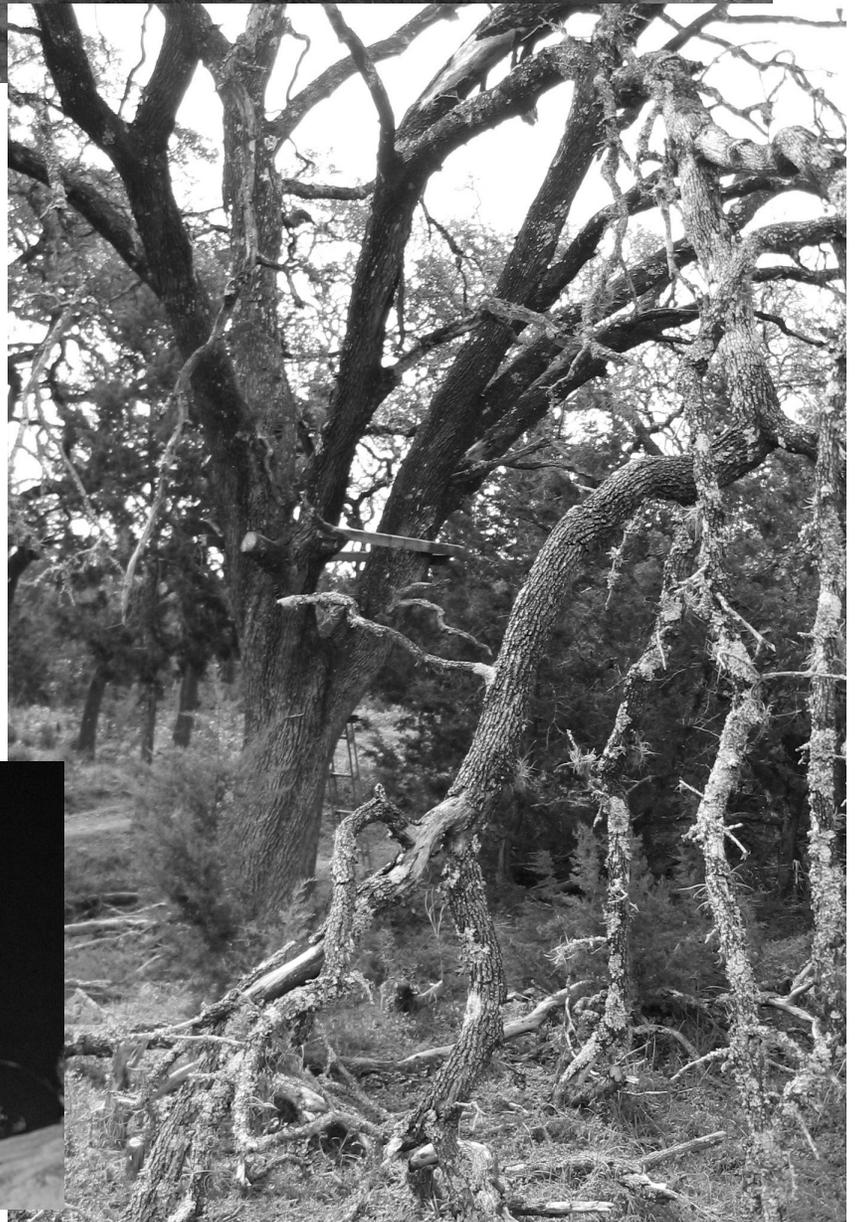
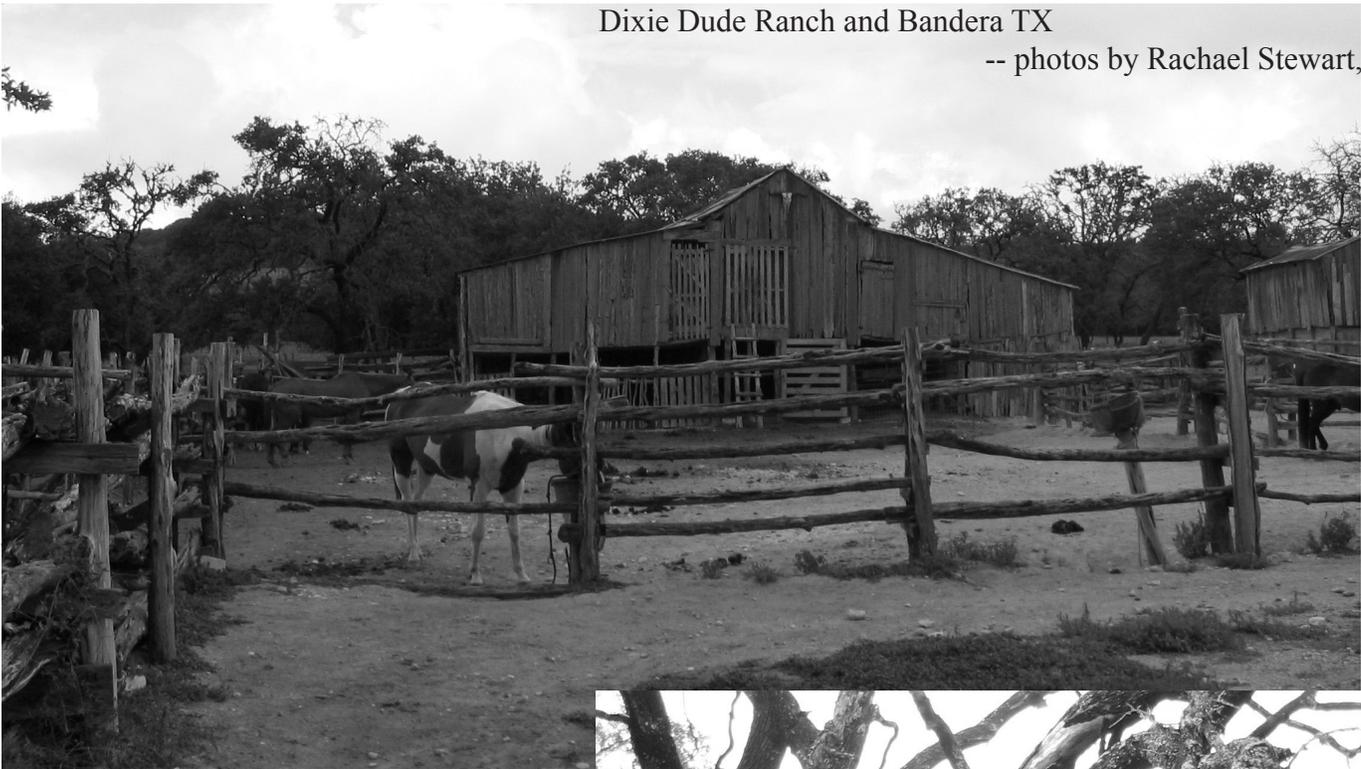
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-Ahxto Ojgr

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Lou ozok tuo uoq, lou ltpu pk suoqj  
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Cjq srk acin rj msn arks  
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Sn'k bfjisrjt msn erin,  
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Cjq sn pnmk gfm c egce  
Ra wgf gonj msn qgge.  
Cjq rm trxnk bn c kicen  
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Mscm Ogpcew Lnce  
Rj gfe Aerqtrmwqren.  
-Ksnp Krpxnekmnrj

Dixie Dude Ranch and Bandera TX

-- photos by Rachael Stewart, 2008



# What's Happening in January?

## **Bridge -- Date TBD**

If you are interested in playing party bridge (not duplicate bridge), please contact Janet Kres at 512-836-5773, or [JMKres@sbcglobal.net](mailto:JMKres@sbcglobal.net).

## **ExComm Meeting**

### **1st Wednesday**

**Wednesday, January 7 6:00-7:00pm**

Northwest Recreation Center, Arts & Crafts Room  
2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Contact the ExComm Secretary, Don Drumtra, at [drumtra@aol.com](mailto:drumtra@aol.com), 512-291-0315 to get an item on the agenda. Officers are encouraged to attend and all LSM members are welcome.

## **Thank Goodness It's Thursday (TGIT)**

### **2nd & Last Thursdays (Moved on Holidays)**

#### **Thursday, January 8**

**Thursday, January 29 6:00-8:00pm**

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

Meet us at the Café after work for fun, conversation, and 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 usually meet upstairs but if there is a party there, look for us downstairs.

## **Bylaws Committee Meeting**

### **2nd Thursday**

**Thursday, January 8 6:00-7:00pm**

Central Market Café  
4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 206-1020  
The Bylaws Committee meeting is open to all LSM members. See the Bylaws Committee Report for more information on our progress. See TGIT above for directions.

## **3rd Saturday Poker**

**Saturday, January 17 7:00pm**

Home of Laura Shankland & McCartney Taylor  
11300 Bunting Dr, Austin

Dealer's choice, nickel ante. BYOB. Please RSVP so we know how many people to expect. RSVP to [lolas@laurashankland.com](mailto:lolas@laurashankland.com) or call 297-8344.

## **Fold & Sticker**

**Thursday, January 29 6:00-8:00pm**

Central Market Cafe, Austin  
4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 206-1020  
Help fold and label the newsletter. Prospective members welcome. See TGIT for directions.

## **Hays County Lunch Bunch**

**Thursday, January 29th 12:30 pm**

Jason's Deli, San Marcos  
Hosts: Ron & Gloria Fortin  
[fortin\\_associates@hotmail.com](mailto:fortin_associates@hotmail.com)

The FIRST monthly meeting of the Lunch Bunch of Hays County will be on January 29th at Jason's Deli in San Marcos at 12:30 pm. For more information or directions, please contact Ron or Gloria Fortin at [fortin\\_associates@hotmail.com](mailto:fortin_associates@hotmail.com). Look for the guy in the Mensa sweatshirt or the fluffy Mensa Owl who will be sitting on the table reserving your place. We hope to encourage those living south of Austin to join us. We would like to see if there is an interest in further activities in this area - maybe a games event or dinner out? If you would be interested in joining us, but the day or time is inconvenient, please let us know. Since this is the first meeting, we can be very flexible with future Lunch Bunches.

## **Scholarships Judging Party**

**Saturday, January 31 1:00pm**

Home of Claudia and Alan Harbert, Round Rock  
Please email or phone for directions and so that we know how many copies of the scholarships entries we need.  
[mensascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:mensascholarships@gmail.com) 512-238-0205



Ogden Nash, Alexander Resnikoff, Shel Silverstein  
Cryptogram Poets:

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**PUBLICATION NOTICES**

The *Amadillo Literary Gazette* is the official publication of Lonestar Mensa.

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

Submission Information: Submissions of all types will be accepted. The deadline is the 15th of each month. Submissions may be by email (ASCII/text/.txt format preferred) 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 restricted 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.

Commercial: 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.

**January**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 ExComm	8  TGIT Bylaws Comm.	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 <i>Dillo Deadline</i>	16	17 Poker
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Hays Co. Lunch Bunch TGIT <i>Fold &amp; Sticker</i>	30	31 Scholarships Judging Party

**2009**