

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

*A Publication of Lonestar Mensa*

**Ricardo Guerro of Stwittergy talks about Twitter at the October Monthly Meeting** -photo by Paul Anderson

*Volume XXXVI  
Number 11  
November 2009*



## November Monthly Meeting

Ron Edelstein, LSM LocSec.

Ron has over 40 years of experience in international trade, starting as U.S. Customs officer at the Mexican border. He will give a presentation on vintage Customs border enforcement and some updates to the current border situation, including the "Border Wall".

The Programs calendar is subject to change. Check the LSM web site <http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org> for last minute changes, or contact me directly. -- Mike Makuch, [mike8@makuch.org](mailto:mike8@makuch.org)



## Member News

Erich Adolph  
RIP

Born 12-3-1942 Died 10-2-2009

He asked that whatever parts of his body could be transplanted be used and what was left be donated to MD Anderson for cancer study. There will a memorial service in 4-5 weeks, after his remains are cremated.

## Lonestar Mensa Officers - 2009

<http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org>

<b>President:</b>	Ron Edelstein	512-491-9881	aduana@mindspring.com
<b>Vice President:</b>	Don Drumtra	512-291-0315	drumtra@aol.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Patty Drumtra	512-291-0315	drumtrapa@aol.com
<b>Members at Large:</b>	John Neemidge	512-310-7863	neemidge@usa.net
	Kathie Blair Lawler	512-267-1843	scubakathie@gmail.com
	Paul Anderson	512-259-7824	wrdslngr@swbell.net
<b>Communications Chair:</b>	Kathie Lawler	512-267-1843	scubakathie@gmail.com
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Rachael Stewart	512-496-8725	bookbird@yahoo.com
<b>Newsletter Circulation Manager:</b>	Vacant (Don Drumtra, Acting)		
<b>Advertising Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Charles Wilson	512-220-6175	lonestar.mensa.webmaster@gmail.com
<b>Publicity Officer:</b>	Paul Anderson	512-259-7824	wrdslngr@swbell.net
<b>Calendar Coordinator:</b>	Vacant (Kathie Lawler, Acting)		
<b>Elist Coordinator:</b>	John Neemidge	512-310-7863	neemidge@usa.net
<b>Historian:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Web Contact:</b>	John Neemidge	512-310-7863	neemidge@usa.net
<b>Education Chair:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Education Funding Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Scholarship Chair:</b>	Claudia Harbert	512-238-0205	mensascholarships@gmail.com
<b>Education Publicity Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Gifted Children's Coordinator:</b>	Michele Vaughan	512-388-5970	lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Frederick Goertz	512-569-1758	fgoertz@gmail.com
<b>Current Member Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>New Member Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Officer Coordinator:</b>	Vacant (Don Drumtra, Acting)		
<b>Testing Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Testing Proctor:</b>	Mike Tolbert		
<b>Facilities Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Awards Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Symposia Chair:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Programs Officer (Meeting Coord.):</b>	Mike Makuch		mike8@makuch.org
<b>Symposia Coordinator:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Symposia Publicity Coord.:</b>	Paul Anderson	512-259-7824	wrdslngr@swbell.net
<b>BCS Coordinator:</b>	Robbie Fraser	214-240-4439	tampabuc47@yahoo.com
<b>San Marcos Coordinator:</b>	Gloria Fortin	512-754-8956	fortin_associates@hotmail.com
<b>U.T. Mensa President:</b>	Skyler Kanegi	512-539-0427	skyler.kanegi@gmail.com
<b>Waco Coordinator:</b>	Don Chase	254-694-9327	lowspeedchase@windstream.net
<b>SIGHT Coordinator:</b>	Steve Vaughan	512-388-5970	svaughan@austin.rr.com
<b>Arbiter:</b>	Ron Edelstein	512-491-9881	aduana@mindspring.com
<b>Ombudsman:</b>	Ron Edelstein	512-491-9881	aduana@mindspring.com
<b>Records Manager &amp; Archivist:</b>	Vacant		
<b>Bylaws Election Committee:</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Barbara Wilson	<b>Members:</b> Linda Edelstein, vacant	
<b>Nomination Committee:</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Barbara Wilson	<b>Members:</b> Michael Tolbert, vacant	
<b>Election Committee:</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Barbara Wilson	<b>Members:</b> Michael Tolbert, vacant	

### LonestaRG 2010 Committee

**Chair:** Vacant

**Interim Members:** *Facilities* John Neemidge, *Hospitality* Andrew & Kem Edelstein, *Hotel* Vacant, *Payments* Vacant, *Photographer* Vacant, *Programs* Vacant, *Publicity* Vacant, *Registration* Vacant, *Security* Vacant, *Tastings* Vacant, *Testing* Ellen Lukasik, *Treasurer* Don Drumtra

Lots of help is needed at the RG. Please let John know if you can spare some time to volunteer.

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

**Regional Vice Chairman (RVC)**

Roger Durham

RVC6@us.mensa.org

## Edelstein's Gems

-by Ron Edelstein, LSM LocSec

Have you ever wondered who and where your fellow Mensans are? As an experiment, we extracted some interesting statistics from the October membership list from the National Office . The age demographic sorts out as follows:

Age	Number
<10	2
10-19	2
19-29	43
30-39	85
40-49	73
50-59	76
60-69	75
70-79	33
80+	7

Our youngest and oldest members are ages 8 and 85, respectively.

It appears we must have a fairly high turnover in membership, with perhaps 1/2 to 1/3 of those who join dropping out after a while. 41 of us have been members since before 1980, 58 joined in the 80's, 63 in the 90's, 139 between 2000 and 2005, 157 between 2006 and 2008 and 98 are new members this year. With 98 new members, we should be seeing more faces, as people try out at least one local event, but most new members never attend anything at all. 65 of us are Life members.

In our group are 15 households with more than one member, accounting for 32 of our 567 members, and the active participation in Mensa events is proportionately higher in the households with more than one member than it is among the rest of our group.

Our group is the 30th largest out of 135 groups in the country. Gulf Coast (Houston area), with 1,067 members is number 11, and North Texas (Dallas area) at 1,044 is 12th. South Texas is 34th.

Most of us, 300, live in the city of Austin, with another 24 in Cedar Park and 33 in Round Rock, 8 in Pflugerville. Outside of Austin there are 30 in Georgetown, 21 in College Station, 10 each in Bryan, Temple, and Waco. The other 121 members are living in 63 different central Texas towns, some of them quite close to Austin and some not located near any of our larger population groups. 40 of our members have no other members living in their home town. This gives an interesting perspective to the makeup of Lonestar Mensa.

We cover a large geographic area and are certainly a diverse group.

One of the things the age demographic points out to me is that we need to be more aggressive in recruiting younger members. The 19-29 number is of special interest—if we can just get them involved with LSM activities. And if they don't show up and don't voice their concerns, we can't respond and try to meet their needs/desires. The 30-39 group is also a source of special opportunity for involvement. But don't let this scare off the others—we need everyone to be involved.

Speaking of which...IT'S ELECTION TIME! Get involved! Those of you who have submitted your names for an elected position, we thank you. Those who didn't, VOTE! Those who vote basically run the organization. If you don't vote, don't complain about how things are run. There are or soon will be, two ballots for you to consider. The first, which went out with the October newsletter, is for the new bylaws. PLEASE VOTE! The second is for the persons running for elected positions on the Executive Committee (ExComm), the governing body for LSM. PLEASE VOTE!

## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1	Michael Makuch	17	Peter Crossley
2	William Baker	17	Joel Phillips Jr
2	Ross Toungate	18	Ronald Edelstein
3	Keith Joji	18	Charles Smith
3	'Zak' Kozak	19	Mark Fortress
4	Jeffrey Johannigman	19	Jack Speyer
5	Alvin Bennett	21	Ron Fortin
8	Susan Shaffer	21	Thomas Incorvia
9	Paul Roeber	21	Tristan Waitt
10	Joseph Kalapach	21	Weyland Wilder
11	Kelly Williams	22	Brian Cruver
14	Timothy Carpenter	23	Susan Sides
15	Quintin Anderson	25	Kelli Adam
15	Tiana Endicott	27	John Fortkort
15	Jay Jamieson	27	Catherine Garza
15	Douglas Starr	27	Nicki George
15	Michael Wheeler	28	Nancy Norwood
16	Scot Courtney	29	John Pfeiffer
16	Jackson Crosley		
17	Paul Albers		



## Bylaws Amendment Election

After the ballot was published in the October issue, Vice President Don Drumtra raised concerns about the election process. To correct those concerns the following instructions shall apply to the submission of those ballots related to the Bylaws Amendment Election:

1. The ballot that was published in October must be used and will not be published this month to comply with the current Bylaws which say “A mail ballot must be published in the issue of the LSM newsletter that follows publication of the proposal.” The proposal was published in September, the ballot in October. This ballot may be printed if it was received electronically. It may be photocopied if received in hard copy if, as Don, you want to keep a copy of the newsletter intact for posterity.

2. Because Don did not want to require use of the actual printed ballot to verify that each person who votes is eligible to vote and votes only once, the instruction for election of officers shall apply.

If you have already mailed your Bylaws ballot, please re-send following these instructions. After all, you have until November 27 for the Bylaws and only November 15 for the officers. So it should not cause a timing problem to re-mail the ballot. The current Bylaws do not address when the polling procedures must be published so this amendment complies with them. My sincerest apologies if this is inconvenient for you. I am truly sorry for the communications errors that caused the need for this clarification.

### POLLING REQUIREMENTS-SUBMISSION OF BYLAWS BALLOT

3. Place your bylaws election ballot in a blank envelope and seal it. Put this envelope in a second envelope and write or type your name, address and Mensa membership number so that they are “clearly legible” on the outside of the second envelope. (Envelopes without your name, address and Mensa membership number will NOT be counted.)

4. Do not put any identifying information on the ballot itself. (Ballots with identifying information will NOT be counted.)

5. As stated on the ballot “All ballots must be received by November 27, 2009—the day after Thanksgiving.”

6. As stated on the ballot “Ballots must be received by the deadline at:

Don Drumtra, Vice President, LSM  
3206 Twilight Trail Austin, TX 78748”

## Proposed Bylaws--One Member's Thoughts

*-by Barbara Wilson*

First I read the current 2005 Bylaws, then I read the Proposed Bylaws. What a difference!!! The 2005 Bylaws are so clear, easy to read, unambiguous and not contradictory.

The Proposed Bylaws appear to be either modeled after a maze or the Gordian knot. A real puzzle! It is hard to know where to start—if it isn't broke, why break it?

I think the most ill-advised change in the Proposed Bylaws is delegating the authority to manage the financial assets of LSM to the Treasurer. Managing, or deciding how to use, the money is a function that should always be separated from receipt of money, possession of it and disbursement of it which are the other functions for which the Treasurer is responsible. Separating management of money from possession makes it more difficult to walk away with money because it takes at least two people working together to do it. To combine these functions in a single person/office is leaving the door wide open to embezzlement—or are all Mensans too honest for that? Even if they are, the auditor would look askance at it.

The next issue is that words in the Bylaws are used to mean so many different things in different places that it is a real challenge to determine what the By-Laws are talking about—should this be a test? Two examples:

- the word “Secretary” There are lots of things that the Secretary must do but there is not an officer who is just called the Secretary—there is a Local Secretary and there is a Vice President Secretary. Which one is responsible if the By-Laws just say Secretary?
- the word “officer” is used to refer to elected, appointed, part of the Board, not part of the Board, some persons given titles, some who have no title that I can find, and each of these has different terms of “office,” qualifications, etc.

Why make Mensa members responsible for participating in the local group in the Bylaws? When I joined, I was told that one of the neat things about Mensa was that members could do as much or as little as they wanted to do? Are you now dumping guilt for not participating? Besides, is legislating participation likely to work?

What does “appoint succeeding officers to vacant or potentially vacant positions to serve the remainder of succeeded officers' terms” mean? Sounds like you are going to appoint my successor to fill the remainder of

my successor's term. Shouldn't that be the remainder of my term if he is my successor? Aren't I the "predecessor"? Or is this another test to see if "obtuse" constructions work? And how do you know when to fill my position—after all it is always potentially vacant—I mean, I might get hit by a bus on my way home and then it would be vacant—so isn't it potentially vacant all of the time?

Transition from Current to Proposed Bylaws?

The Bylaws say that the elected officers serve staggered two year terms from April 1 of the year elected until March one or two years after the year of election. Each year how do you know how many elected officers serve for two year terms that end the first March 30th after the election. And which electeds get the two year terms that end one year later? Seems like the term should be either one year or two for every one elected each year but I guess they could draw straws.

Each year the number of officers elected is determined by the official membership number at the end of March of the preceding year. There is no provision for electing more than 5 officers in a single year—not even the year in which the by-laws are adopted. Seems to me that someone thought that they had said that there would be twice as many officers elected in the year of adoption and the split between one and two year terms was probably only meant to apply to the year that the Proposed Bylaws are adopted. BUT unfortunately, the Proposed Bylaws do not say that.

I have barely scratched the surface of the confusion I found in the Proposed Bylaws but I have already taken up too much space.



**The Petrified Forest**

AZ

-photo by Rachael Stewart

## From the RVC

-by Roger Durham, Region 6 RVC

OK, the responses are trickling in for the "MensaTrain" to the AG next summer, and it looks like we might make it work. A number of people have also inquired about traveling first-class (by sleeping car) and that is also a possibility. The round-trip first-class fare is the coach fare (about \$300 per person) plus the sleeper accommodation charge (about \$600 for a roomette), or a total of about \$600 each for 2 people sharing a roomette, which includes all meals on the train. If you think you might be interested, and haven't responded yet, please e-mail me at [AGTrain@region6.us.mensa.org](mailto:AGTrain@region6.us.mensa.org) and let me know where you would be boarding and whether you would prefer coach or sleeper (see my September column for route and schedule information, or go to [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com) and look up the Texas Eagle route).

Anyway, while we're waiting for the AG to roll around, how about a Mensa cruise out of Galveston? The good folks of North Texas Mensa are putting together a Mensa group for a one-week cruise to Cozumel, the Costa Maya, and Roatan, Honduras, leaving Galveston on March 7th aboard the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line's 150,000-ton luxury liner, Voyager of the Seas, and they have kindly allowed me to invite the rest of Region 6 to join us. The cost, depending on accommodation, will be a mere \$580 to \$730 per person, double occupancy, including all fees and taxes. A deposit of \$500 per cabin is due by November 21. If you're interested, contact Dennis Nienkerk at: Strong Travel Services, 8214 Westchester Dr #670, Dallas 75225. His office phone is 214-361-0027; Cell: 214-680-7607.

Meanwhile, don't forget the Feast of Pleasures and Delights, North Texas Mensa's 30th annual RG, taking place over Thanksgiving weekend at the Radisson Dallas East, LBJ Freeway at Jupiter in Dallas. I hope to see many of you there.

Errata: Ron Edelstein, LocSec of Lone Star Mensa, reminded me after last month's column that I had inadvertently given credit to the wrong person for Hospitality at the Austin RG. While all was done under the expert tutelage of Ray O'Connor, the actual Hospitality Chairs were Ron's son Andrew and his fiancée.

Also, in September I said the MensaTrain group would leave Dearborn, MI on Monday, July 5, but since then I have learned that the AG is being extended one day due to the Monday holiday, so we will most likely actually leave Dearborn the morning of Tuesday, July 6.

## October ExComm Minutes

*-submitted by Don Drumtra, ExComm Secretary*

The regular monthly meeting of the Lonestar Mensa Executive Committee (ExComm) convened at 6:05 PM, October 7, 2009, at the Northwest Community Center, 2913 Northland Dr., Austin, TX. Attending were: President Ron Edelstein Chairman; Vice-President Don Drumtra Secretary; Treasurer Patty Drumtra; and Members-at-Large Paul Anderson, Kathie Lawler, and John Neemidge. The ExComm approved without debate the agenda and the September 9 ExComm minutes published in the September Armadillo Literary Gazette (ALG) page 6.

Ron announced his acceptance of the resignations of Ellen Lukasik as Testing Coordinator effective October 17 and Helen Siders as Circulation Manager effective October 9. Both positions will be vacant and he is looking for volunteers. He also announced his appointments of Michael Tolbert as a Proctor and Don Drumtra as acting Circulation Manager, assisted by Kathie, Ron, and Linda Edelstein.

Patty reported that at the end of the third quarter LSM is in good financial health. The ExComm adopted the report without debate. Financial reports are available to members on the LSM Website and by request; quarterly are also published in the ALG.

Kathie, Communications Chair, reported that she is considering revising the process for managing the news cycle, newsletter content, and calendar content. Ron reported on his recent conversations with the post office on improving our newsletter mailing process. The ExComm approved an expenditure of \$105 for USPS compliant mailing seal tabs for the news letters. Ron distributed the latest alias list from the National Office and asked all to review it. Don, Officer Coordinator, agreed to consolidate the inputs, compare them with the Officer and distribution lists and forward the recommended changes through Ron to the NO.

The Education and Membership Committees had no Report.

Ron reported for the Symposia Committee that the annual Christmas Party has been scheduled for December 12 at Coffee a Deli, 111800 N. Lamar. Attendance will be \$10 payable at the door with the SymCom picking up any remaining cost. Soft drinks, beer and wine will be available.

John, LonestarRG 2009 Chair, reported that RG feedback forms were positive with only a few negative comments. The final financial result was \$275.25. He expects to present his final report at the November ExComm meeting. The ExComm adopted a separate report on RG Scholarship results that Don, RG Treasurer, presented showing that generous RG participants donated \$177 to LSM scholarships through the raffle and other activities. The report is available on line and in this ALG.

John also reported that LonestarRG 2010 participation is continuing to grow. We now have 22 registrations and \$800. We are still looking for an RG chair.

Don announced the next regular monthly ExComm meetings were scheduled for 6-7 PM, November 4 and December 2 (the first Wednesdays), at the Northwest Recreation Center multipurpose room. ExComm meetings are open and all Mensa members may attend. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

### Statement of Ownership, Management, & Circulation

#### USPS Form 3526

1. Armadillo Literary Gazette
2. 0554-650
3. 10/08/09
4. Monthly
5. 12,
6. \$5.00/\$10.00
7. 506 Canon St., Austin TX, 78752-4112, Rachael Stewart, 512.407.9753, Travis County
8. SAME
9. SAME, SAME, NONE
10. American Mensa Ltd. 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103
11. NONE
12. Has not changed during preceding 12 Months
13. Armadillo Literary Gazette
14. October 2009, 15a. 501/460
- 15b. 1. 221/205 2. 243/224 3. 0/0 4. 0/0
- 15c. 464/429
- 15d. 1. 0/0 2. 0/0 3. 3/1 4. 29/30
- 15e. 32/31
- 15f. 496/460
- 15g. 5/10
- 15h. 501/460
- 15i. 93%/ 93%
16. Nov 2009
17. Helen Siders Bus Mgr, 512.799.6985 Oct 08, 2009

NOTE: Above is a condensed version of the annual report. To view complete layout and field descriptions, go to [www.usps.com/forms/\\_pdf/ps3526.pdf](http://www.usps.com/forms/_pdf/ps3526.pdf)

## LSM Program Activity Statement -- September 2009

Programs	- - - - Summary Year to Date - - - -				- Summary by Quarter -		2009
	2009 Budget		9 months	%	3 months	3 months	3 months
	12 Months	9 months	Total		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
<b>Membership Program</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 900.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 613.00	91%	\$ 31.00	\$ 310.00	\$ 272.00
Total Expenses	900.00	675.00	172.15	26%	30.00	-	142.15
<b>Communications Program</b>							
Total Revenue	3,900.00	2,925.00	2,958.15	101%	988.65	988.65	980.85
Total Expenses	3,900.00	2,925.00	2,521.40	86%	736.47	758.15	1,026.78
<b>Symposia Program</b>							
Total Revenue	1,200.00	900.00	997.80	111%	300.00	300.00	397.80
Total Expenses	1,200.00	900.00	149.29	17%	30.00	64.10	55.19
<b>Education Program</b>							
Total Revenue	480.00	360.00	361.00	100%	121.00	120.00	120.00
Total Expenses	480.00	360.00	86.54	24%	62.54	-	24.00
<b>Common Activities</b>							
Total Revenue	150.00	112.50	112.50	100%	37.50	37.50	37.50
Total Expenses	150.00	112.50	95.04	84%	38.17	21.60	35.27
<b>All Programs</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 6,630.00	4,972.50	\$ 5,042.45	101%	\$ 1,478.15	\$ 1,756.15	\$ 1,808.15
Total Expenses	6,630.00	4,972.50	3,024.42	61%	897.18	843.85	1,283.39
<b>Total Programs</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,018.03		\$ 580.97	\$ 912.30	\$ 524.76
<b>LonestaRG</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 4,200.00		\$ 4,316.91	103%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,316.91
Total Expenses	4,000.00		4,041.66	101%	-	-	4,041.66
Total Disbursements	\$ 200.00		\$ 275.25	138%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 275.25
<b>Undistributed Rev and Exp</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 760.40	570.30	\$ 316.70	56%	\$ 131.52	\$ 27.38	\$ 157.80
Total Expenses	-	-	59.85	0%	59.85	-	-
<b>Total Undistributed</b>	\$ 760.40	\$ 570.30	\$ 256.85	45%	\$ 71.67	\$ 27.38	\$ 157.80
<b>Total Contributions</b>	\$ 760.40	\$ 570.30	\$ 2,274.88		\$ 652.64	\$ 939.68	\$ 682.56

### Third Quarter 2009 Financial Report

#### January 1 through September 30

*-submitted by Patty Drumtra, Treasurer*

Looking at the Year to Date 9 months columns in Table 1, Program Activity Summary, we can see that the program revenue is close to expectations except for undistributed revenue. Our reduced membership and low interest rate continues to impact the undistributed account. The best rate we could get for CD2 at our current bank was 1.6% compared to the current rate of 4.2% for CD1 last year. Hopefully the situation will improve as we get more members and the economy improves. Nevertheless, expenses remain low so we can continue to spend money for our programs. The expenditure rates resulted in the large contribution to assets shown at the bottom of the table. Our 2009 RG was successful with overall gain of \$275 distributed from the RG. Table 2,

Balance Sheet, shows our assets continue to grow as do our liabilities. The scholarship raffle and other activities resulted in \$177 increase in our Scholarship escrow. Our other liability will increase through the year as we continue to replenish the scholarship escrow and as the 2010 RG registrations add to the RG escrow. Our net worth continues to grow. The ExComm adopted this report on October 7.

## LSM Balance Sheet -- September 2009

	<u>Jan 1</u>	<u>Mar 31</u>	<u>Jun 30</u>	<u>Sep 30</u>
<b>Members</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>572</b>
<b>Rank</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>RG Registrants 2008/2009</b>	<b>22/22</b>	<b>22/22</b>	<b>46/39</b>	<b>91/83</b>
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash	\$ 55.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Checking Account	1,919.54	1,916.53	2,331.78	8,054.19
Certificates of Deposit	19,284.82	20,236.38	20,392.71	15,305.88
Less Funds and Obligations	(15,000.00)	(17,000.00)	(17,000.00)	(17,000.00)
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	155.06
Interest Receivable (Allocated)	-	37.71	76.38	257.01
Prepaid Postage	561.42	340.95	506.16	295.46
Prepaid RG 2010	-	-	-	136.83
Prepaid RG 2009	8.17	8.17	8.17	(0.00)
Prepaid Take Home Tests	97.50	97.50	97.50	97.50
Other Prepaid Expenses	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 6,926.45</b>	<b>\$ 5,637.24</b>	<b>\$ 6,412.70</b>	<b>\$ 7,301.93</b>
<b>Long Term Assets</b>				
Scholarship Endowment	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Education Fund	6,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00
RG Fund	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Equipment Acquired Value	981.31	981.31	981.31	981.31
Less Equipment Expensed Value	(729.82)	(754.57)	(779.32)	(804.07)
Other Long Term Assets	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Long Term Assets</b>	<b>\$ 15,251.49</b>	<b>\$ 17,226.74</b>	<b>\$ 17,201.99</b>	<b>\$ 17,177.24</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 22,177.94</b>	<b>\$ 22,863.98</b>	<b>\$ 23,614.69</b>	<b>\$ 24,479.17</b>
<b>Liabilities and Appropriation</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 282.47	\$ 145.62	\$ 246.40	\$ 302.68
Scholarships Escrow	435.66	510.66	185.66	437.19
RG Escrow 2009	1,025.00	1,085.00	1,085.00	-
RG Escrow 2010	-	-	-	800.00
RG Reserve	771.27	771.27	771.27	895.13
Eqpmt Replacement Appropriation	211.50	246.75	282.00	317.25
Other Liabilities and Appropriations	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Liabilities and Appropriations</b>	<b>\$ 2,725.90</b>	<b>\$ 2,759.30</b>	<b>\$ 2,570.33</b>	<b>\$ 2,752.25</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>				
Lonestar Mensa Net Assets	19,452.04	20,104.68	21,044.36	21,726.92
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 19,452.04</b>	<b>\$ 20,104.68</b>	<b>\$ 21,044.36</b>	<b>\$ 21,726.92</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Approp., and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 22,177.94</b>	<b>\$ 22,863.98</b>	<b>\$ 23,614.69</b>	<b>\$ 24,479.17</b>

## Touring the Old Bergstrom Homestead at Green Gate Farms

Are you interested in learning more about our food supply by visiting a local urban farm? Please join us for a tour of Green Gate Farms, just 8 miles east of downtown Austin. The tour will begin at 12 noon on Saturday, November 7, so please plan to arrive a few minutes early. Green Gate Farms grows 75 kinds of vegetables, raises about 90 animals, and uses sustainable and organic farming practices. A farmer will guide us through the historic 1902 mulebarn built by the Bergstrom family, walk the fields, and discuss livestock. There is a requested donation of \$5 per person for the tour. Please wear closed-toed shoes and consider wearing a hat and sunscreen.

As this article goes to print, the farm is unsure if their on-site farm stand will be open this fall. Farming is a tough business, and this season they had to contend with the severe drought and then too much rain during planting season. In November they hope to have cabbage, broccoli, kales, turnips, tomatoes, basil (lemon, lime and Genovese), green beans, and squash available. They always have pork and eggs available for purchase as well.

This outing is family friendly, but we welcome everyone to attend. Please feel free to bring friends along! If you are planning to attend, please confirm with Michele Vaughan via email at [lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com](mailto:lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com) so that the farm can anticipate how many of us will be there and also so that I may send you any updates due to inclement weather, etc. However, if you decide to come last minute without confirmation, please do!

You may find more farm information at [www.greengate-farms.net](http://www.greengate-farms.net). They are located at 8310 Canoga Avenue, just a 1/4 mile north of the FM 969/Decker Lane intersection in Austin. From Decker Lane, you can see their yellow farmhouse, originally built by the Bergstrom family, on the west side of the road. Hope to see you there!

## Lonestar Mensa Fall Picnic Honoring our New Members!

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park,  
7000 Ardath St., Austin, TX

4pm, Saturday, Nov 7, 2009

Come join us at the Lonestar Mensa fall picnic. The picnic will be held at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park in north central Austin, home of many previous LSM picnics. Please bring a dish to share for

our potluck meal (side dish, dessert, salad, etc), your own main dish, and your beverage. There'll be a grill if you wish to cook. We'll have plates, napkins, utensils, and charcoal. Bring your friends, family, and leashed pets.

We'll be at one of the long concrete picnic tables, but you may want to bring a lawn chair. The park is quite shady, but sunscreen is always a good idea. There's a good playscape for the kids immediately adjacent to the picnic area. If you have ideas or want to help, contact Helen Siders ([xlartemis@gmail.com](mailto:xlartemis@gmail.com) or 512-799-6985).

New Members since January 1, 2009 do not need to bring food.

If the weather is inclement, check your Mensa e-mail or call 491-9881 or (214) 457-5384 (Linda Edelstein) for alternate location.

## Party Time!

The annual Lonestar Mensa Christmas/Holiday Party will be on Saturday, 12 December 2009. We will party at the same location as last year:

Coffee-a-Deli  
11800 North Lamar Blvd  
Austin, TX

There is plenty of parking space.

The party will start at about 6:30 PM and run until 9:00 PM. As last year, we will have the place exclusively for Mensa. There will be the obligatory Texas brisket, tossed salad, fruit plate, rich, savory soups, both meaty and vegetarian, and coffee, tea, soda, wine and beer. Cost is \$10 per person, pay at the door. Youngsters 11-18, half price. Children 10 and under are free.

Each person should bring something to exchange. We will have a drawing (you will get a ticket when you pay). Be creative with the wrapping so as not to give away the contents. Price not to exceed \$20.00 per item. Good used is acceptable if you have something that you'd like to pass on, but don't think of it as a "white elephant" disposal--be nice!

Please RSVP your intentions to attend and how many by not later than Friday, 4 December, so we will know how much food and drinks to plan. Dress is business casual--or you can dress up if you like.

# What's Happening in November?

## **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).

## **Monthly Meeting**

### **1st Tuesday**

**Tuesday, November 3 7:00-8:45pm**

Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library  
7051 Village Center Drive, Austin  
Southeast of the intersection with Far West Blvd.  
Speaker: Ricardo Guerrero  
Topic: Twitter

## **ExComm Meeting**

### **(usually) 1st Wednesday**

**Wednesday, November 4 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.

## **Eclectic Eats**

**Wednesday, November 11 6:30pm**

Join Ron and Linda Edelstein at Ka-Prow, an excellent Thai restaurant that also has good sushi at reasonable prices, especially during Happy Hour before 7 p.m.  
1200 W. Howard Lane, off of I-35 access road. Call 491-9881 or e-mail [ledelstein@mindspring.com](mailto:ledelstein@mindspring.com) by Monday, Nov. 9, so we can give the restaurant a count.

## **Green Gate Farms Tour**

**Saturday, November 7 11:45am**

8310 Canoga Ave, 1/4 mile north of FM 969 & Decker Ln  
Contact: Michele Vaughan: [lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com](mailto:lonestar.gifted.children@gmail.com)  
Cell phone on day of event: (512) 699-0689  
Farm phone: 949-9830 [www.greengatefarms.net](http://www.greengatefarms.net) \$5 donation for the tour of this historic, all-natural farm. Please wear close-toed shoes. Details on page 10.

## **LSM Fall Picnic**

**Saturday November 7 4:00pm**

Beverly S. Sheffield NW District Park, Austin  
See page 10 for details. If you have ideas or want to help, contact Helen Siders ([xlartemis@gmail.com](mailto:xlartemis@gmail.com) or 512-799-6985).

## **'Dillo Deadline**

### **2nd Thursdays**

**Thursday November 12 Midnight**

By email: [scubakathie@gmail.com](mailto:scubakathie@gmail.com) & [bookbird@yahoo.com](mailto:bookbird@yahoo.com)

Articles submissions are due to the ALG Editor and calendar inputs are due to the Calendar Coordinator by Midnight on the Dillo Date.

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

### **2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursdays (Moved on Holidays)**

**Thursday, November 12 at Central Mkt North**

**Thursday, November 19 at Central Mkt South**

**Thursday, November 26 at Central Mkt North**

**Central Market Café 6:00-8:00pm**

Central Market North at Central Park  
4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 206-1020

Central Market South at Westgate  
4477 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin (512) 899-4300

Meet us at the Café after work for fun, conversation, and food. Prospective members welcome.

Central Market (North) Café is located on the south side of the Central Market grocery store in the Central Park shopping center east of N. Lamar between 38th and 41st Streets. We usually meet upstairs but if there is party, look for us downstairs or outside.

Central Market (South) Café is located on the east side of the Central Market grocery store in the Westgate Mall on the south side of S. Lamar access road (the south access road of I-290/SR71) between Westgate Blvd. and Frontier Trl. Look for the Mensa sign. or folks with Mensa shirts.

## **Games Night**

### **2nd Saturday**

**Saturday, November 14 7:00-11:00pm**

Hosted by Patsy Graham  
5804 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78757  
Bring your favorite beverage; I'll have some small snacks. I have several games but if you have a favorite bring it along. Please RSVP to [mensapats@att.net](mailto:mensapats@att.net) so I'll have an idea of how many to expect.

## **Fold & Sticker --- 2nd Thurs, due to ThxGvng**

**Thursday, November 19 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.

# Coming in December

**December 2: ExComm Meeting**

**December 10: TGIT ('Dillo Deadline)**

**December 12: Holiday Party**

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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.



Please send print & Web calendar input/changes to the Calendar Coordinator, Kathie Lawler; 512-267-1843, scubakathie@gmail.com. Monthly calendar inputs are due to Kathie by the Dillo Deadline normally the 2nd Thursday of each month.

2009 Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 1	2	3	4 ExComm Meeting	5	6	7 Farm Tour Fall Picnic
8	9	10 Monthly Meeting	11 Eclectic Eats	12 TGIT North 'Dillo Deadline	13	14 Games Night
15	16	17	18	19 TGIT South Fold & Sticker	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 TGIT North	27	28
29	30	December 1	2 ExComm Meeting	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 TGIT North 'Dillo Deadline	11	12 Holiday Party