

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of Lone Star Mensa  
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Editor, Rose M. Berkowitz  
Managing Editor, Charles Wilson  
Publisher, Board of Officers

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

By Rose Berkowitz

Everyone loves a good story, and I just know there are many of you out there with interesting, even fascinating stories to tell. How about sharing something about yourself with your fellow LSM members?

If you submit a short bio of your life (and a photo, if possible), I promise to publish it in an upcoming ALG. Who knows—you may surprise, inspire, or even impress us. Wouldn't that be fun?

Of course, general articles or essays are welcome, too. Tell us about something you know that we may not. Write a review of a movie, play, restaurant, music piece—whatever strikes your fancy.

Send a "Letter to the Editor" giving your opinion (respectfully) on how the Board is running things, or thanking someone in LSM for their hard work.

We want to hear from you! Submissions should be sent to [editor@lsm.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org).

## DID YOU KNOW?

Reprinted from Mensa renewal letter

Since American Mensa is a vibrant organization of continual change, here are some benefits you may not have tried or even realize you have:

### Your national benefits and services

[www.us.mensa.org/benefits](http://www.us.mensa.org/benefits): You've got travel benefits; deals on insurance, financial and security services; retail discounts and even special rates on books and magazines. If you're in the market for Mensa gear, [Fox Imaging](#) is the official store of American Mensa products; they also offer books, games and other fun items.

### American Mensa's CareerLink

[www.careerlink.us.mensa.org](http://www.careerlink.us.mensa.org): Looking for a new job opportunity, or new folks to help you with your career? This site was created just for Mensans!

### The online Community

[www.community.us.mensa.org](http://www.community.us.mensa.org): Discussion forums, chat rooms, member essays, organizational news, materials for Local Group officers, all residing in one handy Web address—and all members-only!

And you have more ways to **connect with your fellow Mensans**: You can find them in our online [member directory](#), join any of the national special interest groups, or take advantage of the [Meet-A-Member](#) program to be introduced to other members with your interests. Visit [Mensa On the Web](#) to access an ever-growing list of other online groups, communities and blogs run by and for Mensans.

### The Mensa Foundation

[www.mensafoundation.org](http://www.mensafoundation.org): As the educational arm of Mensa International and American Mensa, the Foundation runs several annual scholarship programs, presents awards (several to Mensans only!), publishes the Mensa Research Journal and sponsors gifted-youth projects like TeenSIG and youth programming at the Annual Gathering.

Speaking of which, **the Mensa for Kids web site** ([www.MensaForKids.org](http://www.MensaForKids.org)) is designed for the gifted children in your life. Play new games daily, read new feature stories monthly, follow Max the Fox's adventures on his blog, and learn from our gifted-youth resources and lesson plans.



If you have questions about any of these or any other aspect of your membership, please email [Membership@americanmensa.org](mailto:Membership@americanmensa.org) or call 888/294-8035 ext. 199.

Paige L. Faulkner  
Membership Director  
[PaigeF@americanmensa.org](mailto:PaigeF@americanmensa.org)

# MARCH BOARD MINUTES

Submitted by Patty Drumtra, VP and Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Lone Star Mensa Board of Officers convened at 6:05 PM, March 1, 2011, at Ron Edelstein's home, 1439 Dapplegrey Lane, Austin, TX 78727. Attending were: Don Drumtra, Patty Drumtra, Linda Edelstein, Ron Edelstein, Helen Siders, John Neemidge, and Rose Berkowitz. Referenced reports and ASIEs are available on the LSM Website. Paper copies are available on request. The Board adopted without debate the 90-minute agenda and the February minutes printed in the March 2011 Armadillo Literary Gazette (ALG), page 2.

Linda presented the cumulative Financial Report, April 1-February 28, 2011 and Income and Balance Sheet for February 28, 2011. The proposed budget for 2011-2012 will be submitted by email. The Board adopted the Financial Report without debate.

Linda thanked Rose for a great job as the new editor of the ALG newsletter and for being part of the Communications Committee. We all echoed her gratitude.

Patty reported for Fred, Membership Committee Chair, that one person was tested in February and eleven potential Mensa members have registered for tests over the next two months. New member handouts were discussed.

The amount of scholarship the Education Committee awards was discussed.

Don reported for the Symposium Committee that the next scheduled speaker for the March 9 Member Meeting will talk about transportation in counties surrounding Austin. The meeting will be at the Northwest Village Branch Library.

John, LonestaRG, Co-Chair, announced the next Regional Gathering (RG) committee meeting will take place Saturday, April 23, 2011.

Rose suggested selecting a Mensa Sister City through Mensa WorldConnect. The board members had no objections.

Patty invited everyone to meet the new Mensa members 2-4 PM Saturday, March 12.

Helen announced the picnic scheduled April 2.

The regular Board meeting was recessed at 6:50 for a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to discuss concerns in the Berkowitz report and possible actions that officers could take to resolve them. . Acting as a Committee of the Whole, current and elected board members submitted to the board their

recommended Actions Plans and Actors to resolve the members concerns identified in the Berkowitz report of LSM Member Concerns, Suggestions and Action Plans. The board accepted the original report and adopted the recommended Board Action Plans and Actors without debate, ASIEs 2011-3, 2011-4.

Don moved: that a Website Working Group be established as Special Committee to implement the Board Action Plans in the LSM Website section of the Berkowitz Report; that the committee consist of Rose Berkowitz and Patsy Graham (subject to Patsy's acceptance) as Co-Chairs, and the members specified in the Plan; and that the Board Action Plans be amended to show the special committee, ASIEs 2011-5 and 2011-6.

Don announced that he will be posting a frequently updated progress report on the LSM web site to track resolution of the member concerns, ASIE 2011-7.

The next monthly board meeting is scheduled for 6-7 PM, Tuesday, April 5 at Central Market North. Note: This is a change from our usual meeting place.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

[Turns out AML has cancelled the WorldConnect program...Editor]

## MONTHLY MEETING NOTICE

By Don Drumtra, Program Coordinator

Do you know what the long-range plans are for bicycling in the Metropolitan Austin Area? Well, neither do we. That's why Alex Kone from the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) is returning on April 13<sup>th</sup> to lead a detailed follow-up discussion on future regional transportation plans.

The attendees at the March Monthly meeting learned a lot about the planning process. Afterwards Alex offered us the opportunity to select specific topics for the April meeting. Attendees especially wanted to know about plans for interconnections with other modes of transportation, and for providing safe bicycle routes for commuting and sporting.

Join us at the April meeting. Admission is free and open to the public. See the calendar for time and directions. For latest information, visit the Lone Star Mensa web site, [www.lsm.us.mensa.org](http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org).



## DON'S DIALECTICS

By Don Drumtra, LocSec

**D**id they do it? Yes they did!

The Member Concerns Committee developed 45 action plans in less than a month to address the member concerns Rose presented in her report at the February board meeting. What happened?

Rose Berkowitz had compiled the concerns and first presented them at the membership business meeting last January. Members sent her additional concerns and some suggestions on what should be done about them. Rose analyzed and summarized all the input and presented it to the board.

Then the Board appointed a Committee consisting of the current and elected board members, Rose, and guest members for special topics. This committee met face to face in early February and then exchanged emails for the rest of the month, building action plans to address each concern.

What were the plans? Everything from redesigning the Website to allowing members to schedule speakers at the monthly general meetings. The plans specify what is to be done and who is to do it. A complete list of member concerns and related action items is available on the Board of Officers Web page on the LSM Website, <http://lsm.us.mensa.org/bylaws/board/>

So will it sit on the shelf? Not this time. The board will ensure that the action plans are implemented. The LocSec will track how we are doing in completing the action plans, and provide a formal report to the board each month that will be available on the Website. You can follow along on the Cataloged Documents Webpage <http://lsm.us.mensa.org/bylaws/ASIEs/#GI>

So what can you do? Volunteer. Look at the Officers webpage—there are always vacancies. Most officers' terms expired at the end of March. New officers will be added to the page as they are appointed. If you see a vacant position, step up and volunteer. If you do not want a continuing commitment, volunteer for a specific task. Get a speaker that you like for the general meeting. Set up a picnic. Reserve a space in a restaurant and invite Mensans to join you. Set up a discussion group for a topic you are interested in. The possibilities are only limited by your own good taste and imagination. We will all love you for helping.

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## STATUS REPORT

### Member Concerns Action Plans

Submitted by Don Drumtra, LocSec

**A**s of March 9, LSM members are actively working on four action plans and had just begun work on two more. Highlights of active plans include the following in the newsletter, Action plan status, member anniversaries, points of contact to help with working with the national office, and advertisements in the newsletter for a designer and Webmaster in the newsletter. Highlights of beginning include the board establishing a special committee to address Website problems. The committee has not yet met, but web pages are slowly being updated. The latest status report is available on the Cataloged documents Webpage at <http://lsm.us.mensa.org/bylaws/ASIEs/#GI>



## FROM THE RVC

Submitted by Roger Durham

As I mentioned last month, the national Mensa elections are just around the corner, and in the next few weeks you may encounter all kinds of solicitations urging you to vote for one candidate or another. Now, obviously I hope you'll choose to re-elect me as your Regional Vice Chairman, but that's not really what I want to talk about this month. No, what concerns me is that in Mensa, unlike many other organizations, anyone can put themselves forward as a candidate for any office, whether they have the slightest hint of qualification for that office or not. Mensa, after all, is a three-million-dollar-a-year business, and it just might be important that the running of that business be in the hands of people who know what they are doing.

Too often, though, Mensa political campaigns are just about politics. Candidates tell you what offices they have held in Mensa, what details of Mensa activities they feel are important, and what they feel their opponents have done wrong in regard to those details; all of which are fine (and probably sufficient in a campaign for local group office), but rarely do we see any discussion in national campaigns of what experience the candidate has in running a multi-million dollar corporation. Make no mistake—American Mensa is a business, not a social club. We have employees, whose financial security

depends on the decisions made by the national officers; we have millions of dollars in investments, which must be carefully safeguarded for the benefit of future members, and we make decisions about significant events and purchases that can be highly important to vendors and contractors. Yet the comments made by some of the candidates for national office make it obvious that they can't even read a financial statement.

I'm certainly not saying that it takes a CPA or an MBA to serve on the American Mensa Committee. Many good people have held national office and done outstanding jobs without even a college degree. But all other things being equal, some kind of business background will give a national officer a significant advantage over someone who has spent their career as, say, a poet, no matter how sincere and well-intentioned the poet might be. So if you see a letter or email from someone you've never heard of, wanting your vote for a national Mensa office, I hope you'll give some thought to what kind of corporate director that candidate would make, not just to what tax he or she has to grind.

By the way, for the benefit of all those who aren't multi-year or life members, this might be a good time to mention that if you haven't paid your Mensa dues for 2011 yet, your membership expires on March 31. If you want to vote, and I hope that you do, please renew right away!

Now, let's forget about politics and get back to the fun stuff. Don't forget Memorial Day weekend in Houston, where Gulf Coast Mensa will be pulling out all the stops to provide us with another terrific Regional Gathering. Hope to see you there!

## DAN BURG FOR FIRST VICE-CHAIR

*Submitted by Dan Burg, AMC*

The job of First Vice-Chair is free-form. It is what the occupant makes of it. Various First Vice-Chairs have interpreted the same words differently over the years. "[A]ct as substitute during the Chairman's absence or inability to serve" – that's easy to discern. "In the case of vacancy in the office of Chairman . . . the [First Vice-Chair] shall move up" – that's easy to discern too. But what does "assist in the discharge of the Chairman's duties" mean? To me, it means that the Chairman and the First Vice-Chair should act as a team. I provide informal advice and historical perspective and act as a resource to the Chairman and to other individuals and to the AMC as a whole. I'm also currently on eight national committees, including two as chair, and gather member input on issues important to them. I help people write motions whether I agree with the content or not; I do this because think it is

important that ideas get discussed without technical issues standing in the way.

Representing American Mensa internationally is another important part of the First Vice-Chair's job. The First Vice-Chair traditionally serves as one of American Mensa's national representatives to Mensa International. The international board meeting last fall was my ninth, the most of anyone currently in the American delegation. This experience has let me find solutions that are beneficial to both American Mensa and international Mensa.

I've chaired the national Bylaws Committee since 2005. During that time I've helped dozens of local groups update their bylaws. I've also informally reviewed bylaws and proposed amendments on request from several local groups, to help them get through the process faster. We've updated the Minimum Standard Bylaws to allow electronic distribution of ballots; now, local groups don't have to send printed copies of the newsletter to electronic-only subscribers just to get a ballot to them. The Minimum Standard Bylaws and the Model Bylaws contain a lot more explanatory material than they used to, and each is cross-indexed. Each of those improvements was done under my leadership.

The First Vice-Chair has to be ready to step into the chairmanship at a moment's notice should the need arise. Well-rounded experience – local, regional, national, international – is important. I have that experience.

I would be honored to receive your vote to continue as First Vice-Chair. Thank you for your support.

*The vices of the rich and great are mistaken for error; and those of the poor and lowly, for crimes. -  
Lady Marguerite Blessington*

## SHOW ME THE \$\$\$

*Submitted by Don Drumtra*

If you want to do something in LSM but don't have the money, you can always ask for it. Each year the outgoing board is required to develop a budget recommendation for the incoming board for approval at the March and April board meetings. If you have particular things you need or events you want to sponsor during the year, please send an email to our Treasurer, Linda Edelstein, letting her know what it is and how much it will cost, so it can be added to the budget if approved.

**“Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'” -- Martin Luther King, Jr.**

## MONTHLY PRESENTERS NEEDED

Submitted by Don Drumtra

What would you like to learn about at the Monthly Meetings? Do you know of a speaker that you would like to share with your Mensa friends? We have speakers scheduled through May, but none after that. This is your opportunity to help make our programs more interesting to you. Send me an email at [Drumtra@aol.com](mailto:Drumtra@aol.com) or call me at 291-0315 with your ideas.



**Alex Kone from the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) presenting at the March Monthly Meeting**

## WANTED: INTROVERTS

Reprinted from the January 2010 InterLoc  
By Peggy Pannke-Smith, Region 7 RVC

Are you one of Mensa's many introverts? Do you avoid your Local Group's dinner meetings and parties because they're too boisterous? Do you feel that your contributions would be overshadowed by input from more outgoing members?

Well, here's some good news. Your Local Group definitely needs you! There are many volunteer positions in your Local Group suitable for members who may be shy, introverted or quiet, but who would still like to lend a hand. And some of these behind-the-scenes positions can be filled from home.

"Such as?" you say. Well, many groups have no Archivist/Historians. The group may have been in existence since the time of Nixon, but no one has bothered to compile a copy of all the newsletters. Seek and compile!

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Or how about Webmaster? Computer-savvy members can compile a web presence for the Local Group. Activities, meetings, dinners and more can be e-mailed to the webmaster on a regular basis. And the webmaster never has to show up at anything (but is always welcome!)

Do you own a digital camera? Then you could become your Local Group's Official Photographer. You get an excuse to attend events behind the lens, so you don't have to interact—just click away and send the photos to the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. Voila—a terrific contribution!

Please contact your LocSec if you can help with positions like: Book Drive Coordinator, Business Manager, Online Typist, Advertising Manager, Copy Editor, Newsletter Artist, Official Photographer, Game Warden, Meeting Set-up Coordinator, Newsletter columnist, Archivist/Historian, Member-at-Large, SIG Coordinator (Book Lovers, Bridge, Cinema, Fine Dining/Gourmet, Games Trivia, etc.)

Your Local Group will be better because of your contributions. Thank you

## YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE

WebSudoku, [www.websudoku.com/](http://www.websudoku.com/)

Each Sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing. Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, and every 3x3 square.

					8	3	9	
	8		2				4	5
					7			
				8				7
9		5	6		3	4		2
1				5				
			4					
5	1				9		2	
	2	6	8					

## CALLING ALL AUTHORS!

Lessa Scherrer, Freditor-in-Chief

**FRED:** The Magazine for Young Mensans is calling for authors for its July/AG 2011 issue! The theme of this issue is "What's in a Name?" We're looking for stories on theater (any young actors out there who want to give us a first-hand look behind the scenes?), TV and radio (including reviews of favorite shows), puns, Shakespeare, etymology, linguistics or any other kind of word play. You could even write a whole story in pig-Latin!

Can't think of a subject on your own? I can arrange an email interview with Catherine Stegemann, the 10 year old star of Heddatron, currently playing at the Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago. Or how about a book review of "Anonymonous" a book about words that come from their inventors' names? First come, first served on these topics.

Potential authors should contact me at [yvmagazine@us.mensa.org](mailto:yvmagazine@us.mensa.org) . Stories should be between 250-500 words, with pictures if you have some. Deadline is April 25.

Thanks and Happy Writing!

## COLUMBIA: SHADOW OF CHALLENGER

By Crockett Grabbe, Ph.D. © 2011 (Part Two)

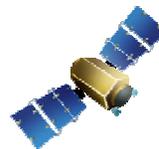
**C**hALLENGER astronaut Ellison Onizuka answered the press question about what he hoped to accomplish by describing how he was looking forward to an opportunity to take a space walk during the shuttle flight. He had trained for such a contingency. He of course never got that chance.

The press conference was held two days before that ship exploded. Having the equipment on board to make an emergency space walk when the O-ring problem occurred was a precaution tragically ignored. But how well did NASA learn their lesson?

When foam struck the wing on Columbia's takeoff on January 16, 2003, there was no space walk equipment on board to go inspect the damage. Furthermore, the follow-up Report of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board indicates that most of the NASA officials on the ground argued the incident could not possibly have done any significant damage, even though their engineers had no data to support that assumption.

The Report indicates that the NASA engineers requested the use of spy satellite images of the shuttle to gather needed data for that assessment.

Furthermore, the Report states that if those images had been used, they would probably have revealed how severe the damage from the foam impact was. However, the top flight managers made another critical error by failing to act on that request. This resulted in 7 astronauts losing their lives on reentry—very analogous to the previous flight managers' errors in judgment causing 7 astronauts to lose their lives 17 years before.



A day after the Columbia disaster I was interviewed by both a satellite radio station and a reporter from the Kyodo press (Japan). I stated that, as in the Challenger accident, the Columbia astronauts may have survived until they hit the ground, and described how an emergency space-walk could have gathered essential data on the extent of the damage from that foam collision, and even allowed them to repair it. I explained how they held the first discussion of providing the astronauts with safety capsules and parachutes after the Challenger accident, and speculated that if such equipment had been available on the Columbia, the astronauts might have survived.

The fact that preparation for emergencies and concern for safety were a low priority for the Columbia mission indicates that very little was learned from the Challenger disaster. A number of reports from engineers at NASA in the last few years have indicated that this has been afforded an inadequate priority for years. The Columbia failure was a disaster waiting to happen.

The manned space program is the most expensive item on the NASA budget, far exceeding the costs of unmanned missions, and safety should be the top priority for those expenditures. However 14 deaths in 25 years demonstrate that it has not been. That is the legacy of the shuttle program, which is close to the end of its days. NASA is now putting emphasis on the expensive space station program, which is not the most productive option. Several unmanned programs are doing much better--and not risking a single human life.

I first said in a 1989 newspaper editorial that NASA should devote at least as much money to the unmanned programs as to the manned program, since missions putting men and women into space are an order of magnitude more expensive because of the tremendous cost of supporting people there. There is pressure to cut corners on their safety because of these costs. I would now even suggest cancelling the manned program and dedicating the money to the other missions. Let the unmanned programs bloom.

*I felt like my body had gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor's permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour...*

*But by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over!*

## ATTENTION: NEW MEMBERS

By Patsy Graham

If you never received a welcome letter or email when you joined LSM, we invite you to notify Fred Goertz at [fgoertz@gmail.com](mailto:fgoertz@gmail.com).

We have discovered that some new members may have inadvertently not been properly welcomed. We want you to know that we value your membership. Please forgive our oversight.

We'd also like to let you know a little bit about how LSM operates, and find out if there's anything we can do to make your membership more meaningful. Also, please consider attending a New Members Reception—we'll be scheduling another one soon.



"Didn't you get my e-mail?"

## IDEAS FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

By Lisa Van Gemert

Gifted Youth Specialist, Mensa Foundation

Here are some good science resources for parents:

### The Jason Project:

<http://www.jason.org/public/whatis/start.aspx>

The Jason Project is a subsidiary of the National Geographic Society. Its purpose is to motivate kids to learn science; they have their student curricula free for download on their Web site. What separates The Jason Project from other sites is the cool "Operation" format of the curricula. It makes kids feel like real scientists. The materials are geared to typical learners in 5th–8th grades. With topics such as geology, energy and ecology, these units (designed to last for weeks) have something for everyone. Register for free for more stuff

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### The Brain Bee:

<http://www.internationalbrainbee.com/>

If you have a budding neuroscientist, this is a cool deal. The Society for Neuroscience sponsors this competition in which students in grades 9-12 compete in local/national/international "Brain Bee" competitions. The materials to study are available free for download, so this can be done even as an ad hoc informal activity for a group or home school organization on an unofficial basis. If you have a local brain bee, obviously that's perfect, but you can get them started without too much fuss. There is lots of information on the site, so look around and see if you can find a bee near you.

### Neuroscience for Kids:

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/introb.html>

This Web site is the brain child (forgive me – I couldn't resist) of Dr. Eric Chudler at the University of Washington. There is an amazing amount of information on the site that is easy to read and interesting. There is a section on the Brain Awareness Week that has activities and ideas that could easily be adapted for home use. This really is a cool place. For instance, several studies on taste are summarized. The studies are easily replicated by kids and would make a terrific science fair project.

I look forward to any feedback you have on anything else I can do to help. Contact me at: [giftedchildren@mensafoundation.org](mailto:giftedchildren@mensafoundation.org)  
[www.mensafoundation.org](http://www.mensafoundation.org)

**NOTE:** It is spring, and an odd-numbered year. Therefore it is election season for Mensa. Gifted Children's Coordinators are all hearing the same question from Young Mensans: "Can I vote?" The answer is "YES!" Any member can vote in Mensa's elections, no matter what their age. Membership, not age, is the qualification for voting. (Lessa Scherrer, Gifted Youth Committee Chair)

## CHESS NIGHT!



Jon Kurlyowicz challenges Douglas Yee

**Lone Star Mensa**  
**2010-2011 Financial Report and Tables**  
 April 1 - December 31

Revenue is as expected. Expenses for Symposia exceeded budget, due to the Christmas party and the coffee cups for speakers that were earlier charged to the Symposia budget.

This report does not contain the quarterly interest earned by the CDs, as the Website will not give that information on CDs that renew during the quarter. Otherwise it is complete.

**Lone Star Mensa**  
**Table 1. 2010-2011 Program Activity Analysis Summary**  
 April 1 - December 31

Programs	---- Summary Year to Date ----				---- Summary by Quarter ----		
	2010 Budget		9 months	%	3 months	3 months	3 months
	12 Months	9 months	Total		Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
<b>Membership Program</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 900.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 609.00	90%	\$ 112.00	\$ 211.00	\$ 286.00
Total Expenses	900.00	675.00	25.01	4%	0.72	24.29	-
<b>Communications Program</b>							
Total Revenue	3,900.00	2,925.00	\$ 2,930.85	100%	976.95	976.95	976.95
Total Expenses	3,900.00	2,925.00	\$ 2,013.59	69%	652.40	700.26	660.93
<b>Symposia Program</b>							
Total Revenue	1,200.00	900.00	\$ 1,093.00	121%	300.00	300.00	493.00
Total Expenses	1,200.00	900.00	\$ 1,277.12	142%	30.00	245.75	1,001.37
<b>Education Program</b>							
Total Revenue	480.00	360.00	\$ 360.00	100%	120.00	120.00	120.00
Total Expenses	480.00	360.00	\$ 122.89	34%	400.00	(362.56)	85.45
<b>Common Activities</b>							
Total Revenue	150.00	112.50	\$ 75.00	67%	-	37.50	37.50
Total Expenses	150.00	112.50	\$ 8.76	8%	5.44	3.32	-
<b>All Programs</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 6,630.00	4,972.50	\$ 5,067.85	102%	\$ 1,508.95	\$ 1,645.45	\$ 1,913.45
Total Expenses	6,630.00	4,972.50	3,447.37	69%	1,088.56	611.06	1,747.75
<b>Total Programs</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,620.48		\$ 420.39	\$ 1,034.39	\$ 165.70
<b>LonestaRG</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 4,200.00			0%	-	4,627.79	-
Total Expenses	4,000.00			0%	-	3,966.04	-
Total Disbursements	\$ 200.00			0%	-	661.75	-
<b>Undistributed Rev and Exp</b>							
Total Revenue	\$ 760.40	570.30	\$ 627.19	110%	102.44	358.79	165.96
Total Expenses	-	-	\$ 0%		-	-	-
<b>Total Undistributed</b>	\$ 760.40	\$ 570.30	\$ 627.19	110%	\$ 102.44	\$ 358.79	\$ 165.96
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$ 760.40	\$ 570.30	\$ 2,247.67		\$ 522.83	\$ 1,393.18	\$ 331.66

**Lone Star Mensa**  
**Table 2. 2010-2011 Balances Analysis Summary**  
 December 31

	Apr 1	Jun 30	Sep 30	Dec 31
<b>Members</b>	657	544	544	615
<b>Rank</b>	29	29	29	29
<b>RG Registrants 2009/2010/2011</b>	22/31/0	39/34/0	83/78/23	83/78/
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Checking Account	9,120.00	10,034.98	11,923.31	3,251.05
Certificates of Deposit	15,541.53	15,541.53	15,622.01	23,622.01
Less Funds and Obligations	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-
Interest Receivable (Allocated)	-	195.00	309.52	504.52
Prepaid Postage	342.02	210.91	83.73	452.36
Prepaid RG 2010	136.83	139.95	0.00	0.00
Prepaid RG 2011	-	-	179.26	276.43
Prepaid Take Home Tests	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50
Other Prepaid Expenses	-	-	-	60.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	\$ 7,177.88	\$ 8,159.87	\$ 10,155.33	\$ 10,203.87
<b>Long Term Assets</b>				
Scholarship Endowment	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Education Fund	8,000.00	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	(853.57)	(878.32)	(903.07)	(927.82)
Other Long Term Assets	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Long Term Assets</b>	\$ 18,127.74	\$ 18,102.99	\$ 18,078.24	\$ 18,053.49
<b>Total Assets</b>	\$ 25,305.62	\$ 26,262.86	\$ 28,233.57	\$ 28,257.36
<b>Liabilities and Appropriation</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 194.08	\$ 176.84	\$ 623.16	\$ 205.04
Scholarships Escrow	587.19	662.19	690.36	765.36
RG Escrow 2010 Subsidiary	840.00	1,155.00	(0.00)	(0.00)
RG Escrow 2011	-	-	925.00	925.00
RG Reserve	895.13	895.13	1,192.92	1,192.92
Eqpmt Replacement Appropriation	357.75	393.00	428.25	463.50
Other Liabilities and Appropriations	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Liabilities and Appropriations</b>	\$ 2,874.15	\$ 3,282.16	\$ 3,859.69	\$ 3,551.82
<b>Net Assets</b>				
LonestaRG Net Assets	22,431.47	22,980.70	24,373.88	24,705.54
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	\$ 22,431.47	\$ 22,980.70	\$ 24,373.88	\$ 24,705.54
<b>Total Liabilities, Approp., and Net Assets</b>	\$ 25,305.62	\$ 26,262.86	\$ 28,233.57	\$ 28,257.36



**APRIL  
MEMBER NEWS**  
(as of 02/28/11)

**Happy Birthday\*\***

- 2 Rick Fonte
- 2 Bruce Wayne Jean
- 3 Mark Summers
- 5 Sean T Taylor
- 6 James Collins
- 6 John Morey
- 8 Charles W Jones
- 9 Sarah Graham
- 9 Timothy S Rupert
- 13 Edwin J Rogers
- 14 Michael Lewis Drapkin
- 14 Jonathan Jones
- 14 Johnnie Ray Vaughn
- 15 Janet Stineman Kres
- 15 Tomas Medina
- 16 Christopher M Jackson
- 16 Brian Slone
- 17 Brian Bloch
- 17 David T Silvey
- 18 Peter Bradford
- 18 David J Burgett
- 18 Patricia Carolyn Dicuffa
- 18 Bill Taylor
- 21 Rita Barker Christie
- 21 Susan Modelle Gibson

- 22 John Leslie Neemidge
- 23 Robin D Green
- 23 Nancy Hester
- 23 Andrew M Rooke
- 23 Stephanie Stoebe
- 24 Carolyn A Cox
- 24 Patricia B McCormick
- 25 Jonathan A Blair
- 26 Wes Davenport
- 26 Robert Thomas Palko
- 27 Dr Dan B Dydek
- 28 David James White
- 29 Ted Alexander

**Welcome**

- Anita V Mantri
- Lauretta Payne
- Telma Pombrol
- Christopher Sullivan
- Rachel Wenger-Keller

**Welcome Back**

- David R Irvin
- Daniel J Kebort
- Stephen Ladd
- Cristina E LaFuente
- Tomas Medina
- Melissa Petty
- Warren Evan Spector
- Sean T Taylor

**We'll Miss You**

- Rev Clements Okey Richards
- Curtis Williamson

**Member for 45 Years**

John R Pfeiffer\*

**Member for 15 years**

Rory A Boatright  
Gilbert Wildin

**Member for 5 Years**

Peggy Bills  
William Richard Jones  
Lawrence Patrick Marlin  
Michael E Zygmunt



\*John joined Mensa in 1966. He lives in Denver, Co.

He's been our Testing Coordinator for several years, but this is his last term. Thank you, John, for everything, and best wishes!

\*\* We can't acknowledge your birthday if you've restricted that information in your member profile. To check, log in to the AML web site:

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

*By Don Drumtra, LocSec*

Some positions currently available are:

- Someone with experience to help the Website Committee redesign the Website.
- A testing coordinator and proctors.
- A Programs Coordinator for monthly meetings.
- Communications, Education, and Symposia Committee Chairs.

Our web site has the full list of vacant positions.

If interested, contact me or any board member, or Rose our editor (who's very easy to talk to), and tell us what you'd like to do.

**EVENTS COMING UP IN MAY**

- May 3rd, Board Meeting
- May 11th, Member Meeting
- May 12th, 19th, and 25th, TGIT
- May 19th, Chess Night, ALG Deadline
- May 25h, Seal & Label

**WORK YOUR BODY AND BRAIN!**

*(Paul Anderson recommends)*

**Fifty Plus Dance Club** (Singles and Couples)  
Every Wednesday Night, 7:30 To 9 PM  
Live Big Bands - Hardwood Floor  
Cost: \$6 - First Time Free – Free Parking  
North Austin Activity Center  
2874 Shoal Crest Ave, Austin, TX  
Contact: Belle (512) 280-1878

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN APRIL?

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Mensa Test, Picnic
3	4	5 Board Meeting	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Member Meeting	14 ALG Deadline, TGIT-N, Chess Night	15	16
17	18	19 	20	21 TGIT-S	22	23 LoneStarRG Committee Meeting
24 	25	26	27	28 Seal & Label, TGIT-N	29	30

See the online calendar for the latest additions, cancellations, or changes to calendar items. Online calendar inputs may be submitted at any time. Calendar input for the printed calendar is due by the second Thursday of each month for the following month's calendar.

## Mensa Test

**Saturday, April 2, 2011**

Starting at 1:00 PM

West Lake Hills Library, 512.327.3045

1309 Westbank Drive, Austin, TX

Contact John Pfeiffer at [johnrpfieffer@hotmail.com](mailto:johnrpfieffer@hotmail.com)

## Mensa Picnic

**Saturday, April 2, 2011**

Northwest Park

7000 Ardath St. Austin, TX

Contact Helen Siders at [xlartemis@gmail.com](mailto:xlartemis@gmail.com) or call Linda

Edelstein at 512.491.9881.

## Board of Officers Meeting

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday (except July)**

**April 5, 6:00-7:00pm**

Home of Ron and Linda Edelstein

1439 Dapplegrey Lane, Austin, TX

Contact the Board Secretary, Patty Drumtra, to get an item on the agenda. Officers are encouraged to attend and all members are welcome.

## Monthly Membership Meeting

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday**

**April 13, 7:00 - 8:30 PM**

Northwest Village Branch Library, 512-974-9960

2505 Steck Avenue, Austin, TX

Near the corner of Steck and Burnett

8200 N x 2505 W on the Austin city grid

## ALG Submissions Deadline

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**

**April 14, Midnight**

Article and calendar submissions are due by midnight on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month.

## Chess Night (with the TGIT group)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday (canceled or moved on holidays)**

**April 14, 6-8 PM**

Central Market Café North at Central Park

Armadillo Literary Gazette

Have a go at beating the previous winner, or just watch and learn. Hosted by Douglas Yee. See the TGIT entry for directions.

## Thank Goodness it's Thursday (TGIT)

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays (moved on holidays)**

**April 14 (North Lamar)**

**April 21 (South Lamar)**

**April 28 (North Lamar)**

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

Central Market Café North at Central Park:

4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX, 512-206-1020

East of N. Lamar between 38<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets; on the south side of the store.

Central Market Café South at Westgate:

4477 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX, 512-899-4300

on the south side of the S. Lamar access road (the south access road of I-290/SR7) between Westgate Blvd. and Frontier Trail; on the east side of the store.

Meet us at the Café for conversation, food and fun. Prospective members welcome. We usually meet upstairs but if there's a party, we'll be downstairs or outside. Look for a Mensa sign or folks with Mensa shirts who appear smart. ☺

## LoneStarRG XIII Committee Meeting

**Saturday, April 23, 2-4 pm**

Home of Patsy Graham, Ph: 512-380-0141

5804 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX,

All members welcome. This RG is LSM's biggest event of the year. Please bring your ideas, get to know the team, and take your pick from many different kinds of job. Contact John or Geri Neemidge at 512-310-7863 or [lsrg13@neemidge.net](mailto:lsrg13@neemidge.net).

## Seal & Label

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday (moved on holidays)**

**April 28, 6:00-8:00pm**

Central Market Café North

4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX, 512-206-1020

Join the TGIT Group to help seal and label the newsletter. Prospective members welcome. See TGIT notice above for directions.

Article Submissions: [editor@lsm.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org)  
 Calendar Submissions: [calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org](mailto:calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org)  
 Web Site Submissions: [lonestar.mensa.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:lonestar.mensa.webmaster@gmail.com)  
 LSM Web Site: [www.lsm.us.mensa.org](http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org)

## LONE STAR MENSA DIRECTORY

FUNCTION	CONTACT	PHONE	E-MAIL
Local Secretary (LocSec), Print Circulation Coordinator, etc.	Don Drumtra*	512-291-0315	<a href="mailto:drumtra@aol.com">drumtra@aol.com</a>
Vice President, Secretary	Patty Drumtra	512-291-0361	<a href="mailto:drumtrapa@aol.com">drumtrapa@aol.com</a>
Treasurer, Email Circulation Coordinator	Linda Edelstein	512-491-9881	<a href="mailto:ledelstein@mindspring.com">ledelstein@mindspring.com</a>
Past LocSec, Arbiter, Ombudsman	Ron Edelstein*	512-491-9881	<a href="mailto:aduanam@mindspring.com">aduanam@mindspring.com</a>
Communications Chair	Charles Wilson	512-220-6175	<a href="mailto:lonestar.mensa.webmaster@gmail.com">lonestar.mensa.webmaster@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Rose Berkowitz	512-467-4871	<a href="mailto:rberkowitz@austin.rr.com">rberkowitz@austin.rr.com</a>
Media Coordinator, Symposia Publicity Coordinator	Paul Anderson	512-259-7824	<a href="mailto:wrdslngr@swbell.net">wrdslngr@swbell.net</a>
Membership Chair	Frederick Goertz	512-569-1758	<a href="mailto:fgoertz@gmail.com">fgoertz@gmail.com</a>
New Member Coordinator	Mike Poole	512-326-1459	<a href="mailto:mike_poole@sbcglobal.net">mike_poole@sbcglobal.net</a>
Testing Coordinator, Proctor <sup>1</sup>	John Pfeiffer	512-525-3507	<a href="mailto:johnrpfeiffer@hotmail.com">johnrpfeiffer@hotmail.com</a>
Scholarship Coordinator	Claudia Harbert	512-238-0205	<a href="mailto:mensascholarships@gmail.com">mensascholarships@gmail.com</a>
Gifted Children Coordinator	Michele Vaughan	512-388-5970	Lone <a href="mailto:Star.gifted.children@gmail.com">Star.gifted.children@gmail.com</a>
San Marcos Coordinator	Gloria Fortin	512-754-8956	<a href="mailto:fortin_associates@hotmail.com">fortin_associates@hotmail.com</a>
LonestaRG 2011 Committee Co-Chairs <sup>2</sup>	John & Geri Neemidge	512-310-7863	<a href="mailto:lsrc13@neemidge.net">lsrc13@neemidge.net</a>
Regional Vice Chair (RVC)	Roger Durham*		<a href="mailto:RVC6@us.mensa.org">RVC6@us.mensa.org</a>

\* Experienced members who have worked with the National Office (NO) and the American Mensa Committee (AMC), and can help members navigate both.

<sup>1</sup> **Testing Proctors:** Mike Tolbert, Charles Wilson, Mike McCormick, VeraLouise Kleinfeld Pfeiffer

<sup>2</sup> **LonestaRG 2011 Committee Members:** Facilities Vacant, Hospitality Vacant, Hotel Vacant, Payments Vacant, Photographer Vacant, Programs Geri Neemidge, Publicity Vacant, Registrar Patsy Graham, Security Vacant, Tastings Vacant, Testing Vacant, Treasurer Andrew York, Raffle & Donations Coordinator Vacant

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**Submission Information:** Submissions of all types are encouraged. The deadline is the 2nd Thursday of each month. Submissions may be by email 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.

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**Calendar:** See the online calendar for the latest additions, cancellations, or changes to calendar items. Online calendar inputs may be submitted at any time. Inputs for the printed calendar are due to calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org by the second Thursday of each month for the next month's calendar.



*Armadillo Literary Gazette*

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