

Armadillo Literary Gazette

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Editor: *Rose M. Berkowitz*
Managing Editor: *Don Drumtra*
Publisher: *Board of Officers*

EDITOR'S CHOICE

Submitted By Rose Berkowitz

Well, it's that time again. Halloween kicks off the holiday season, and before you know it, Thanksgiving is here, then Christmas, and then it's a New Year. How fast the time goes by! I hope all your holidays this time around are joyful and memorable. Of course this can also be the toughest time of year for those who are missing loved ones. (I know how much I miss my late husband Howard, especially during Hanukkah.) Make the most of your time with friends and family.



On another note, here are a few things you could do to help Lone Star Mensa that shouldn't take too much time or effort:

- Help us find a permanent testing location. If you know of a place suitable for Mensa admissions testing that we could use on a regular basis (probably once a month), free of charge, that would accommodate perhaps a dozen people, please contact Austin Meyers, our Testing Coordinator.
- Similarly, help us find permanent locations for any of our other regular activities: Board meetings, member meetings, Seal & Label, parties, etc.
- If you have expertise in any area that you'd be willing to share with fellow members, please contact me. I'm attempting to put together a directory of such services for our group. (See this month's "Letters to the Editor" for an example.)

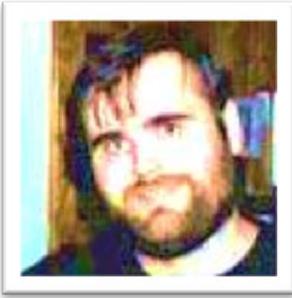
I'm always glad to hear from you. So please send in your comments, ideas, essays, or whatever else you'd like to contribute. No particular word limit, but emailed submissions are appreciated.

Note: Since "http://www." is common to the majority of internet URLs, I don't repeat this in the URLs used throughout this publication. If you click on a link in the emailed version, the address automatically resolves. For links in the printed version, simply add this to the front of the URL when typing it into the address bar.

My idea of an agreeable person is a person who agrees with me. - Benjamin Disraeli

WORD TO THE WISE

Submitted by John Neemidge, LocSec



It's election season again! No, I'm not referring to the governmental elections that are coming up, though those have been very interesting to follow, but rather to the upcoming Lone Star Mensa elections. We elect half of the Board each year

for two-year terms. For each election we need a Nominating Committee and an Election Committee. The Nominating Committee solicits candidates for each open position and assembles a slate of candidates. The Election Committee handles the mechanism of the election itself -- creating ballots, publishing them in the newsletter and possibly electronically, handling returned ballots, counting the votes, etc.

In general both committees have typically been composed of the same members, but it's certainly possible to take a position on just one of them. We're encouraging anyone who wishes to serve on the Board to identify themselves as candidates, and anyone who does not wish to serve on the Board to consider volunteering for one or both of these committees. Members of these committees may not be current members of the Board nor candidates for the Board. Please contact me if you're interested in helping out. These committees are not a large time commitment, and we'll help you along the way.

Coming up in December, we have the Lone Star Mensa Holiday Party. It'll be on Saturday, December 15 from 7 to 10pm. This year we're trying a new venue: Howson Hall at the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Austin. First UU is located about a mile from Central Market North, so it should be convenient to most of Austin. We'll have more space this year, which will hopefully encourage people to mix and mingle. We'll be serving beverages, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts; it should be enough food for a meal, but served as finger food, again to encourage mixing rather than sitting eating a meal.

We'll be having a white elephant gift exchange, Gifts for the gift exchange should be a gently used/re-gifted/unusual item, wrapped, and something that you'd reasonably guess at least a few Mensans would enjoy or be amused by. If you're buying something, we suggest it have a value of no more than \$10 or so. Everyone participating will draw numbers. Each person may either pick a wrapped gift or steal a gift from someone else; gifts can only be stolen 3 times. If your gift is stolen, you may steal a different gift, or open another wrapped gift. It's lots of fun and we encourage everyone to participate.

Tickets to the Holiday Party are \$5; kids 9-17 are \$2.50 and under 9 are free. Please RSVP to me (via email or phone), so that we can keep count of how many people will be attending. We encourage everyone to break out their holiday finery and come join us for an evening of Mensa companionship and merriment!

MEMBER MEETINGS

Submitted by Rose M. Berkowitz, Editor

November Meeting

[I hadn't heard from Angela Adams as to speaker details in time for this month's edition. I can only suggest you check the online LSM calendar or wait to see if Angela sends out a broadcast email with more information.—Editor]

Last Month's Meeting

Submitted by Linda Edelstein

There were nine persons attending. We had a pretty lively discussion which turned out to be mostly about computer faux pas, and then went on to military computers and then other military equipment, including some serious design flaws in military equipment. A friend of Amanda Lacy's came and thoroughly enjoyed himself—he said we were "definitely not MTV brains." Amanda wants him to test and join Mensa.

OCTOBER BOARD MINUTES

Submitted by Brian Bloch, Vice-President/Secretary

Regular Meeting

The October regular meeting of the Lone Star Mensa board of officers convened at 6:55 PM, October 4, 2012 at Carver Library, 1161 Angelina St, Austin TX. Attending were John Neemidge, Don Drumtra, and Brian Bloch.

The chairman called the meeting to order, announced that there was not a quorum, and recessed the meeting to wait for another member.

The Chairman reconvened the meeting at 7:25 PM, announced that there was still not a quorum, and with the consent of the members present, adjourned the meeting.

The agenda items scheduled for discussion at the October meeting will be addressed at the November board meeting, together with any other items that may be added to the agenda prior to that meeting.

The next regular monthly Board meetings are scheduled for Thursday November 1 and Thursday December 6, 2012, 7:30 – 8:30 pm, at the Carver Branch Library

FROM THE RVC—REPORT FROM THE AG

Submitted by Roger Durham, Region 6 RVC



I don't really have much to write about this month, other than to express my disappointment that, nationwide, only 80 of our 132 local groups elected to participate in Mind Challenge Month by pledging to increase their testing in October of this year.

Happily, we had a much better ratio of participation here in Region 6, but there were still 3 of our groups who overlooked this opportunity to bolster their membership. In some cases this may have been due to a shortage of proctors, as several of our groups have had trouble finding anyone willing to qualify as a proctor for their group. If you have a college degree and can spare at least two hours every 3 months, please consider volunteering as a Mensa proctor. Applications are available on the national website, or you can contact me for more information. (I know many members resent being disqualified by lack of a degree, but that is a requirement imposed by the test publishers, and I'm afraid there is nothing we can do about it.) In response to those groups where testing locations have been an obstacle, American Mensa now allocates \$25 to your local group for each month in which a test session is held, in addition to the regular \$15 per candidate testing

allocation, so if your group can't find a free test site, you should now be able to afford to rent one.

Other than that, I want to take this opportunity to encourage all of you to think about attending one of our upcoming Regional Gatherings. First up is North Texas Mensa's RG, the Feast of Pleasures and Delights XXXIII, taking place over Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 22-25. Registration is \$80, including Saturday dinner, and the easy way to sign up is on-line at northtexasmensa.org; for more information contact Deborah Lockhart at 214-361-4665, or by email at olibear@ix.netcom.com. Hotel rooms at the Wyndham Night Hotel North Dallas are \$70 per night. Call 972-243-3363 for a reservation, and ask for the Mensa rate.

The following weekend, Nov. 30-Dec. 2, you can party with the American Mensa Committee at New Orleans Mensa's NORGY 2012, at the Hilton New Orleans St. Charles Avenue (504-524-8890), in downtown New Orleans just 3 blocks from the French Quarter, with room rates starting at \$113. Registration is \$90, including Saturday dinner; you can sign up at www.neworleans.us.mensa.org/norgy2012.htm, or contact Bart Geraci at 504-312-2636, or by email at bigeraci@aol.com. This is NOM's first gathering since hosting the Annual Gathering in 2005, and they're really pulling out all the stops to welcome everyone back to the Big Easy.

As I have said before (and undoubtedly will again), it is my firm belief that RGs and AGs are what Mensa does best, and you are really short-changing yourself if you don't take advantage of these opportunities to meet and

socialize with scores of your fellow Mensans. I hope to see you at one or both of these wonderful Mensa events!

MEMBER CHALLENGE

By JimAnn Oliver, Life Member

Brush With Fame



As the first female member of the international Jim Smith Society, I was invited to appear on a TV show filmed in Hollywood in which a panel was to guess why this group of people were here together (similar to What's My Line?). Panel members were Lonnie Anderson, Martin Mull, Marsha Warfield, and Burt Reynolds. After the show we were able to spend some time visiting with the panel members, and Burt Reynolds kissed me on the cheek. My husband said I would never wash my face again!

That's my story. What's yours?

[This is a series of questions JimAnn will be posing, similar to those being carried in the Mensa Bulletin. She invites you to write in to the Gazette with your answers, to share with your fellow LSM members.—Editor]

*Be who you are and say what
you feel, because people who
mind don't matter, and people
who matter don't mind.
- Dr. Theodore Seuss Geisel*

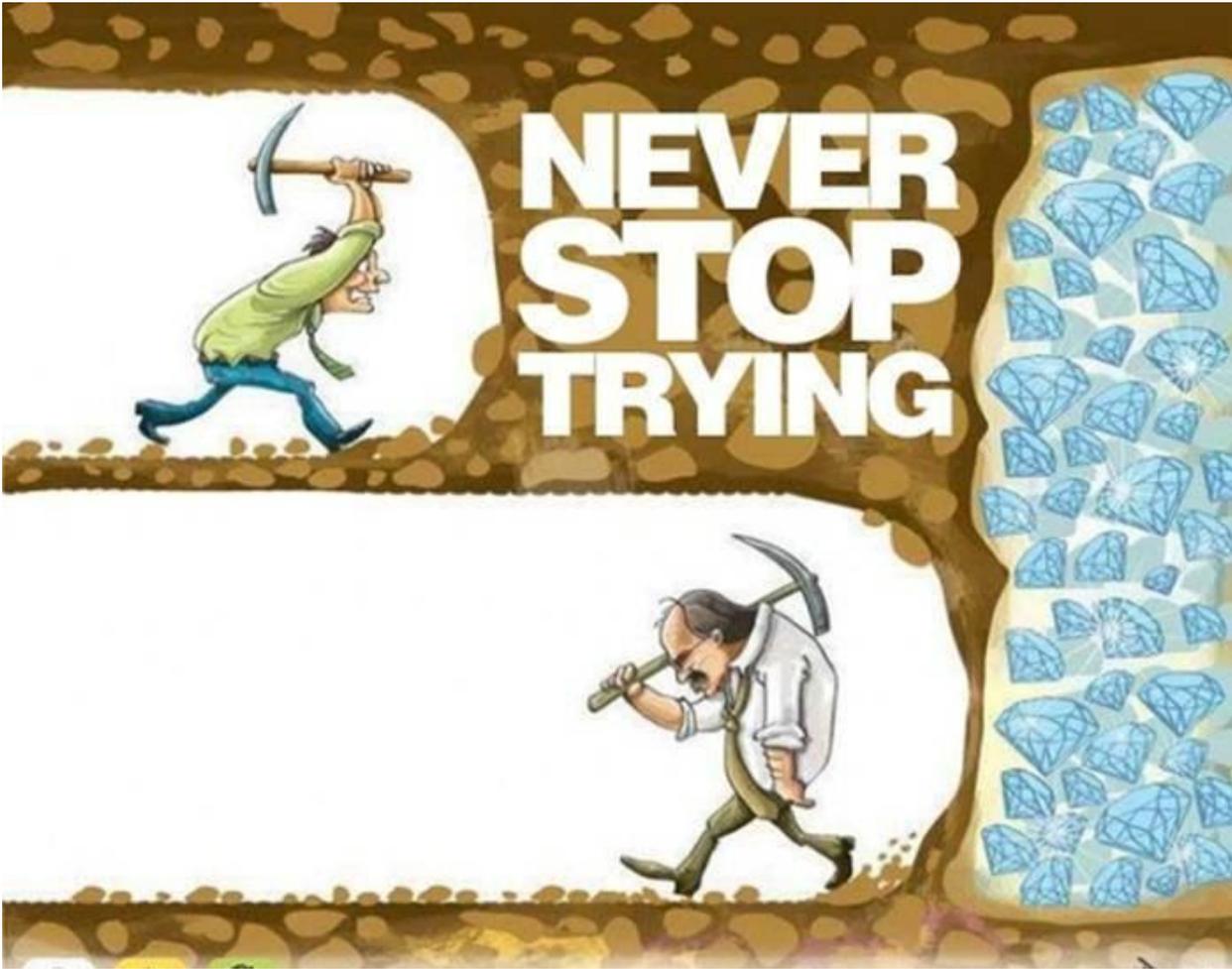
SAVE THE DATE—LSM HOLIDAY PARTY!

Submitted by John Neemidge



First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin
4700 Grover Ave., Austin, TX
Saturday, Dec 15, 7-10 pm

Join us for Lone Star Mensa's annual Holiday Party! Food, drinks, white elephant gift exchange, and merriment. See this month's LocSec column on page 2 for all the details.



YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE

Weekly Extremes, sudoku.org.uk

By Douglas Yee



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

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.

The day the child realizes that all adults are imperfect, he becomes an adolescent; the day he forgives them, he becomes an adult; the day he forgives himself, he becomes wise. - Alden Nowlan

WEB SITES YOU'D LIKE

FROM	DESCRIPTION
Don Drumtra	Here is a link to a newscast about Mensa in general and the AG in specific: watch.knpb.org/video/2281276710
Don Drumtra	We have many Mensa benefits that our members may not know about. Take a look at us.mensa.org/shop/benefits-and-services/
Rose Berkowitz	One could spend all day at this site. Video after video of stunning beauty. The wonders of creation unfold before you. It's enough to make the most ardent atheist exclaim "Oh my God!" Just the footage of the water splashing is mesmerizing. Click on the Screening Room tab at the top: movingart.tv
Don Drumtra	 <p>futurecity.org/getinvolved</p>

BOOK REVIEW

By Ken Fincher

In one of my Meet Up groups, someone mentioned a new, interesting book, **The Righteous Mind**, so I looked up a review to learn the basic ideas in the book. It does, indeed, seem very interesting, and is very pertinent to today's political discourse.

The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion

By Jonathan Haidt

So the social psychologist wrote an essay on why people vote Republican – and from that has evolved *The Righteous Mind*, which has been causing a stir in both Washington and Westminster.

Haidt looked at the usual ways psychologists explained away conservatism, such as strict parents or an overbearing fear of change. And he came to a radical

conclusion: conservatives, rather than being victims of bad childhoods or possessing ugly personality traits, were just as sincere as liberals in wanting the best for society.

This may not sound such a startling statement. But many on the left are endlessly baffled as to why working-class voters seem to go against their own interests by supporting conservative politicians, those hated promoters of big business and tax cuts for the rich. They presume such voters are either stupid or are being tricked.

But the left's real problem, according to Haidt, is that it does not understand the motivations of the right. Drawing on everything from advertising to anthropology, he argues that liberals are driven by a morality based on compassion, the desire to fight oppression and, to some degree,

fairness. Conservatives have a broader set of six "moral tastes", sharing such concerns but balanced by the binding foundations of loyalty, authority and sanctity.

It is, he says, as if the left has three taste buds but the right has six. While the right can "taste" issues such as compassion and fairness, the left struggles to embrace patriotism or religion, seeing traditional institutions and hierarchies as obstacles to their fight for liberty and equality. Haidt calls this "the conservative advantage".

Indeed, he goes further, saying that western progressives seeking a secular, rational society are out of step with the vast majority of people on the planet. He shows how our liberal values are "Weird" – supported only by those who are western, educated, industrialized,

rich and democratic. He draws on visual perception studies to show how Weird and non-Weird people think differently and see the world differently, with those in the west putting far greater emphasis on individualism.

At heart, however, *The Righteous Mind* is an old-fashioned liberal plea for tolerance. Haidt readily admits that he set out to use moral psychology to help political partisans understand and respect each other. It is a welcome attempt to combat polarization at a time when politics is descending into dysfunctional tribalism; a process speeded up by technology and changing residential patterns. It takes only one glance at the grocery store to determine a US town's politics: if you see a Whole Foods Market, for example, nine times out of 10 you are in a county voting Democrat.

What makes the book so compelling is the fluid combination of erudition and entertainment, and the author's obvious pleasure in challenging

conventional wisdom. One minute he draws on psychological experiments to defend Glaucon, the cynic in Plato's Republic who argued that people behaved well only because they were scared of being caught. (Here Haidt gives dishonorable mention to Britain's MPs, so happy to abuse expenses when they thought no one was looking at their moats and duck ponds.) The next he is enlisting the Scottish philosopher David Hume to challenge our "rationalist delusion". He asks a series of strange questions – is it wrong to eat your dog if you run it over by accident, or to perform sexual intercourse on a dead chicken? – To prove how people rely on intuition to find answers, then produce reasons to justify them. Transcripts show how people tie themselves in knots arguing against incest, however much their arguments are torn apart. Reason, he concludes, is like a government press secretary, there to defend your decisions to others. "Anyone who values truth should stop worshipping reason."

Although Haidt glosses over the uncomfortable conclusions of what he is saying on issues such as race and human rights, his core point is simple and well-made: our morality, much of it wired into brains from birth, at the same time binds us together and blinds us to different configurations of morality. Gut feelings drive strategic reasoning, which can make it difficult to connect with those across the gulf, especially for liberals.

At the same time we are both selfish and groupish – as he puts it, nine parts chimpanzee for every one part bee. But we are not fundamentally selfish creatures, despite what we have been told for the past half century. We just need to encourage the bee to take flight, working a little harder at establishing trust and commonality with each other. "We're all stuck here for a while," he concludes. "So let's try to work it out."

TYPICAL MINNESOTA HUMOR

Going around the internet

Ole is the Pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church and Pastor Sven is the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road. One day they are seen pounding a sign into the ground, which says:

**DA END ISS NEAR!
TURN YERSELF AROUND NOW
BAFOR IT ISS TOO LATE!**

As a car speeds past them, the driver leans out his window and yells "Leave people alone, you Skandihoovian religious nuts!"

A moment later, from around the curve they hear screeching tires and a big splash.

Shakin' his head, Rev. Ole says "Dat's DA terd one dis mornin'."

"Yaa," Pastor Sven agrees, then asks, "Do ya tink maybe Da sign should yust say, 'Bridge Out'?"

HARVARD LAUNCHES TWO FREE ONLINE COURSES, MORE THAN 100,000 SIGN UP WORLDWIDE

Reprinted from *The Kurzweil Report*, October 19, 2012.

http://www.kurzweilai.net/harvard-launches-two-online-courses-100000-sign-up-worldwide?utm_source=KurzweilAI+Weekly+Newsletter&utm_campaign=bf02ea9c5c-UA-946742-1&utm_medium=email#!prettyPhoto



Rather than just broadcasting full lectures on the Internet, the HarvardX classes incorporate short video-lesson segments, along with embedded quizzes, immediate feedback, student-ranked questions and answers, online laboratories, and student-paced learning (credit: Aubrey LaMedica/Harvard School of Public Health)

Harvard University's first two courses on the new edX digital education platform launched this week, as more than 100,000 learners worldwide began taking dynamic online versions of CS50, the College's popular introductory computer science class, and PH207, a Harvard School of Public Health course in epidemiology and biostatistics.

For Marcello Pagano, a professor of statistical computing who is co-teaching PH207x, the potential to teach so many students at once is amazing. "I figure I'd have to teach another 200 years to reach that many students in person," he said.

In May, Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) announced the launch of the not-for-profit educational enterprise edX, which features learning designed specifically for interactive study via the Web.

Since then, Harvard has established HarvardX, a University-based organization that supports Harvard faculty as they develop content for the edX platform.

Although online courses have been around for years, the

professors working with the platform say that HarvardX forces them to get creative about crafting more-active learning environments.

"I figure I'd have to teach another 200 years to reach that many students in person," said Harvard Professor Marcello Pagano (pictured), after learning that more than 100,000 people worldwide had signed up for the two Harvard courses being taught on the edX platform (credit: Aubrey LaMedica/Harvard School of Public Health)

Not streaming lectures

Rather than just broadcasting full lectures on the Internet, the HarvardX classes incorporate short video-lesson segments, along with embedded quizzes, immediate feedback, student-ranked questions and answers, online laboratories, and student-paced learning.

Certificates of mastery will be available for those motivated and able to demonstrate their knowledge of the course material.

"This is the future," Pagano said. "What you have in classrooms

today, I think of as a play. What we have now, with HarvardX, is the movie. You can swap out scenes, edit, perfect it. This is the way we communicate now.

"They can stop a lecture in the middle and ponder a concept," he said. "They can replay if they don't understand something, and they can speed up when they grasp something quickly. You can't do that in a lecture hall with 100 students. This is much more individualized."

For CS50x instructor David Malan, director of educational innovation and manager of pedagogical innovation, being able to produce short videos on key concepts means that students get a more consistent, polished experience than might work in a lecture hall. The library of lectures also liberates him to explore other concepts and go more in-depth in his on-campus class.

"I don't see the lecture or section going away," he said. "Rather, students can choose the learning process that works best for them, and have the option of exploring other topics even if we don't have the time to cover them in class."

Improving instructional methods

But students aren't the only ones who stand to learn through edX. The platform will provide a trove of data for Harvard and MIT researchers, who will study patterns of student achievement in the hope of making course material and methods more effective for students both on and off campus. Concrete data from large samples will be a lot easier to read than the puzzled expressions an instructor might see in a lecture hall.

"It's very exciting to have tools to give us insights into patterns of behavior," Malan said. "The data will allow us to make statistically significant inferences that aren't always possible with smaller samples."

Members of the HarvardX leadership team are enthusiastic about the edX partnership's potential to transform pedagogy in classrooms and living rooms in Massachusetts, across the nation, and around the globe.

"As well as expanding access to high-quality, online learning

content for new communities of learners, we believe that edX will strengthen the on-campus learning experience," said Dean Michael D. Smith of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) and a member of the edX board of directors. "For instance, if you sit in the back of a classroom today, you'll see that students are already using technology to learn. EdX gives faculty the tools to think in new ways about the role technology plays in their teaching and creates new opportunities for research that can form the basis of more effective teaching and learning methods."

Bracket Challenge (us.mensa.org/play/bracket-challenge/)



[Download the bracket!](#)

Pick your champion

How do you pick 64 toys when there are thousands to choose from? It wasn't easy — we excluded board games of all types — but we think we came up with a collection of worthy competitors that represent every facet of the plaything kingdom. There are four regions — Timeless, Pre-1950, 1950-1980, and 1981 to Present. Each region is made up of 16 toys, seeded 1 through 16, based on the strength of their resumes. In the first round, the top seed from a given category will face off against the 16th seed from the same region; the second seed will challenge the 15th seed, and so on.

After that, the challengers are in your hands. All winners are chosen by **YOU**, the readers and, for the first time, the general public. Why should we have all the fun, right? Examine the full bracket and a synopsis of each toy on the following pages.

Voting criteria: In short, there are no criteria. What makes the greatest toy? If you opened up the Millennium Falcon on Christmas morning when you were 6, that likely ranks very highly for you. Feel free to be objective, weighing longevity, cost and number of units sold. We also encourage you to vote for the Teddy Bear simply because you still have your childhood friend sitting on your bed right now, some 40 years later.

Voting Schedule: First round voting begins on October 15. At that time, you'll have the chance to vote in any and all first-round matchups. Second-round voting will begin on October 22. Round 3 will begin on October 29, and so on. You may vote for the winner of a match only once, so choose wisely. Voting for the Finals begins on November 19. The last toy standing will be announced in the January issue of the magazine and online.

Screw ups: Part of the fun is the discussion, so sound off to www.twitter.com/mensabulletin or [Bulletin Letters](#), and let us know what we left out, what toy was seeded too low (or high), etc. If you hosted a selection party, created bracket pools with your coworkers, or made voting a family event (all of which happened last year), we want to hear that, too. Send in your photos of completed brackets or selection parties. We'll post them to [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Share the fun: You can vote only once per matchup, but that doesn't mean you can't try to convince other people to vote your way. Track the fun on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Forward our posts and tweets to get your friends in on the action.

Ready? We are too! The 2012 Mensa Bracket Challenge has begun!



If you're not familiar with the work of Steven Wright, he's the famous erudite scientist who once said: "I woke up one morning, and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates." His mind sees things differently than most of us do; here are some of his gems:

1. I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
2. Borrow money from pessimists—they don't expect it back.
3. Half the people you know are below average.
4. 99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
5. 82.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.
6. A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
7. A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
8. If you want the rainbow, you got to put up with the rain.
9. All those who believe in psycho kinesisis, please raise my hand.
10. The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
11. I almost had a psychic girlfriend, but she left me before we met.
12. OK, so what's the speed of dark?
13. How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
14. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.
15. Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
16. When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
17. Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
18. Hard work pays off in the future; laziness pays off now.
19. I intend to live forever—so far, so good.
20. If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy her friends?
21. Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
22. What happens if you get scared half to death twice?
23. My mechanic told me, "I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder."
24. Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
25. If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried.
26. A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
27. Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.
28. The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread
29. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research.
30. The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.
31. The sooner you fall behind, the more time you'll have to catch up.
32. The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
33. Everyone has a photographic memory; some just don't have film.
34. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
35. If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS*

- 4 Jeffrey D Johannigman
- 6 Karen Marie Cupp
- 7 Col James W Critz
- 10 Joseph Kalapach
- 11 Kelly Williams
- 15 Garry Morgan Watkins
- 15 Michael C Wheeler
- 16 Jackson E Crosley
- 16 Brenda Johnson
- 17 Paul R Albers
- 17 Peter Anthony Crossley
- 18 Ronald E Edelstein
- 19 Mark Fortress
- 21 Ron Fortin
- 22 Brian Cruver
- 23 Louis E Carter
- 24 Nicholas K Seger
- 25 Kelli M Adam
- 25 Matthew D Belsole
- 27 John Fortkort
- 30 Curt L Warnock

NEW MEMBERS—WELCOME!

- Lucas Almendra
- Evan Bailey
- Heonjae Cheong
- Jake Glascock
- Jerry A Pease
- Douglas W Stidham

JUST MOVED IN—HI NEIGHBOR!

- Martin Clauder
- Jeffery Lee Humphrey
- Dr Janice Aline Hutsell
- John H Merkel
- Rebecca L Ouellette
- Brian Slone

WELCOME BACK--MISSED YOU!

- John Bell
- Kerry Lynn Fisher
- Thayer McCaffree

GOODBYE—WE WISH YOU WELL

- Jim-Ann Smith Oliver

- Timothy Raines
- Randolph Christopher Small
- Justin L York

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

MEMBER FOR 15 YEARS

- Charles Alexander

MEMBER FOR 10 YEARS

- Raymond Doo
- Hans T Weger

MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS

- John David White

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

IN MEMORIAM

Published in Austin American-Statesman on May 14, 2012. Mr. Hug was a member of LSM.



Henry R. Hug, M.D. Dr. Henry Hug, 77, of Austin, TX died on April 14, 2012. He was born in Rosario, Argentina, to Maria Isabel Lennox and Enrique Hug. After graduating from Litoral University, Rosario, Argentina with his medical degree, he applied for and was accepted for medical residency training in the United States. Being

curious about everything medical he served his internship at Cambridge City Hospital, Cambridge MA Residency training was completed in General Surgery at St. Francis Hospital, Peoria, IL, Pediatric Surgery and Cardiac Surgery at Children's Hospital, Buffalo, NY, and Thoracic Surgery at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI. Board Certifications include: American Board of Surgery, American Board of Thoracic Surgery and American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review. Henry settled in Saginaw MI where he opened his practice of Thoracic and Vascular Surgery. He was a lover of life and believed in living life to its fullest. He enjoyed worldwide travel, piloting his Mooney aircraft, scuba diving, membership

in Rotary, Lifetime Learning Conversational French classes and volunteering to serve The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin in all things financial. He looked forward to serving as "Master Fruit Cutter" for the monthly Men's Breakfast at his church, spending time with his family and time in the kitchen sampling Doris' cooking. His greatest joy in retirement was watching his seven grandchildren flourish and grow. Henry was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Mary and his parents. He is survived by his loving wife Doris, daughters, D'Anna Alexander, Heidi Hug, Shireen Hug-Ndiaye and her husband William, step-daughter Christine Heath and her husband Dan. His grandchildren are, Daniel and Michael Alexander, Amelia and Gavin Jones, Liana and Zehlia Ndiaye and Samantha Heath. They will miss their beloved Bón Papa and his great stories. Also surviving Henry are his brothers, George Hug M.D., Carlos Hug M.D., brother-in-law Lyle Mudge, nieces, nephews, cousins and the mother of his children, Lucrecia Hug. The family would like to thank the staff and physicians of St. David's Surgical ICU for their excellent and compassionate care of Henry. A Celebration of Henry's life will be held Saturday, May 19, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin, 4700 Grover Avenue, Austin, TX 78756. A reception will be held at the church following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations in Henry's memory designated for the First UU Austin Permanent Endowment Fund, Planned Parenthood or the charity of your choice.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

[Following is the first (and I hope not the last) response to the idea I proposed last month to compile a directory of services that LSM members would be willing to share with fellow members.—Editor]

Hello, Rose ☑

Dues paying member for years (except when I forgot like Watkins) not so attendance active because of a way-too-crowded life for way too many years; which has now changed, rather unexpectedly. So, I have the luxury of being able to choose to do “other” things. I’m penciling in a couple of LSM events as a way to transition from workaholic to sane participator, as a recovering agoraphobic. I figure Ms have always been accepting of peculiarities in our members, so I probably won’t stand out much if I became a little overly anxious. LOL

In the meantime, I think your idea of compiling this directory is great! There have been a number of occasions when I thought “I need someone who thinks

like an M outside the box.” So, here’s my contribution (putting money where mouth is) hoping others will do so as well so you can pull this together for us.

My areas of trained skills and expertise that I actually enjoy:

- Business Process Engineering (or re-engineering if you like)
- Negotiating disputes, might get certified to do it professionally
- Customer Relations – yup from whence the negotiation skills came
- Root Cause and Risk Management
- Consumer Rights
- Not an expert, but have experience in lobbying congress

Looking forward to my first live participation.

- Judy Mittag

POETRY CORNER

WINGED MIGRATION



They fly over all the man-made things,
Unconcerned and mostly uninterested.
Air, land, sea, and sky...
And they—the rulers of them all!

How do they know they can get off the ground?
How do they know if there’s safety ahead?
They must be willing to take that chance,
For the sheer adventure of it.

They use what has been freely given.
Cool water, morning mist, icy winds.
They rest in the snow,
They bury themselves in their own feathers.

Males fight for the females,
They wear them down.
Love will be everywhere on display,
And beautiful sound, like a monk’s chant.

Dive-bombing from on high,
It’s kill or be killed...
Knock it down! Weaken it!
Bring it to your babies’ tender mercies.

They swarm, and form new alliances.
They walk, clumsily, on two legs.
They feed, desperately.
They live and die at a whim.

It must be wonder inconceivable,
A joy beyond compare,
To live on the wind,
To be borne up...

But there always comes a day
When one must drop behind,
And choose a final resting place...
Oh Beauty!

- Rose M. Berkowitz, 08/16/04

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As of October 31, 2012

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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Board Meeting	2	3
4	5	6 ELECTION DAY	7	8 ALG Deadline Chess Night TGIT-North	9	10
11 New Member Meeting VETERAN'S DAY	12 Member Meeting	13	14	15 TGIT-South	16	17
18	19	20 TGIT-North Seal & Label	21	22 THANKSGIVING	23	24
25	26	27 Eclectic Eats	28	29	30	

See the online calendar (lsm.us.mensa.org/events/calendar.shtml) for the latest additions, cancellations, or changes. Online calendar inputs may be posted at any time. Calendar input for the printed calendar is due by the second Thursday of each month for the following month's calendar.

Board Meeting

1st Thursday
Nov. 1, 7:30 to 8:30 pm
 Carver Branch Library

ALG/Calendar Deadline

2nd Thursday
Nov. 8, Midnight
 Submissions due to Editor.

Chess Night (with the TGIT-N group)

2nd Thursday
Nov. 8, 6-8 PM
 Bring your chess sets if you have them.
 Hosted by Douglas Yee.

Thank Goodness It's Thursday (TGIT-North)

Nov. 8 & 20, 6:00-8:00 PM
 Meet us at the Café for conversation, food and fun. Prospective members welcome. Look for the Mensa table sign.

New Members Meeting

Sunday, November 11
From 2 pm to 5 pm
 Café Express
 3418 N. Lamar
 All LSM Members and their families are cordially invited to a New Members Meeting hosted by Patsy Graham, cell: 512-777-8762

Member Meeting

2nd Monday
Nov. 12, 6:45-8:15 PM
 Speaker TBD.

Thank Goodness It's Thursday (TGIT-South)

Nov. 15, 6:00-8:00 PM
 Enter at the east side of the store by the statue of fruits and vegetables. Join us for conversation, food, and fun. Prospective members welcome

Seal & Label

Nov. 20, 6:00-8:00 PM
 Join the TGIT Group to help seal and label the newsletter.

Eclectic Eats

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 7 pm
 Hao Hao's Restaurant
 1901 West William Cannon Drive
haohoaustin.com
 512/447-8121
 We will detour briefly from the turkey road. Hao Hao's offers exquisite Vietnamese and Chinese riffs on meat, seafood, and vegetarian dishes. Please RSVP to Aaron Rabushka at 512/280-2807 or arabushka@austin.rr.com by November 26 at mid-day.

UPCOMING IN DECEMBER

Dec. 6. Board Meeting
 Dec. 10, Member Meeting
 Dec. 13, Chess Night, ALG Deadline
 Dec. 13 & 18, TGIT-North
 Dec. 18, Seal & Label
 Dec. 20, TGIT-South

EVENT DIRECTIONS

Board and Member Meetings

Carver Public Library, Rooms 2-3
 1161 Angelina, Austin
 512-974-1010
 Between 11th and 12th Streets, east of I-35. This location allows direct access to the library from 183 and via FM 969 MLK and 12th Street.

TGIT-North, Chess Night, Seal & Label

Central Market Café North at Central Park
 4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin
 512-206-1020
 East of N. Lamar between 38th and 44th Streets; on the south side of the store.

TGIT-South

Central Market Café South at Westgate Mall:
 4477 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin
 512-899-4300
 On the south side of the S. Lamar access road (the south access road of I-290/SR71) between Westgate Blvd. and Frontier Trail.

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Advertising may be accepted subject to space limitations. Lone Star Mensa members may submit 2 non-commercial ads per year at no charge, limited to 4 column line maximum. Publication dates are subject to editor's discretion. Business-card-sized ads (2" x 3") are \$10 for one month, \$25 for three months, and \$40 for six months. Rates for other sized ads or other time periods are available upon request. Ads must be camera-ready, accurately sized, and should be submitted via email in Microsoft Word (preferred, DOC or DOCX), JPG, or PDF format. The deadline for ad submissions to the newsletter editor is 5 days before the general newsletter deadline. Publication may be delayed due to space limitations and may be edited to meet publication standards.

Newsletter submissions may be sent to
editor@lsm.us.mensa.org
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calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org

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Armadillo Literary Gazette

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