

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of *Lone Star Mensa*  
Volume XXXIX  
Number 5, May 2012



Acting Editor: *Ron Edelstein*  
Managing Editor: *Don Drumtra*  
Publisher: *Board of Officers*

## EDITORIAL

By *Ron Edelstein*

If you notice a difference in the fit and finish of the newsletter this month, it is because Rose, our regular Editor, is temporarily out on sick leave. She has had surgery for her eyes, and hopefully it will restore her vision to the vision level she has experienced in the past. But obviously, with her eyes bandaged up, putting out a newsletter is simply out of the question. I volunteered to fill in until such time—hopefully not too long! --when she can return to full duty. In the meantime, please keep her in your prayers, positive thoughts or however you choose to think of such things for a speedy and comfortable recovery. Please bear with me since trying to transfer a polished format newsletter to another editor is more complex than just writing up a new editorial. Some automated processes—aren't!

As always, please send your comments, ideas, essays, or whatever else you'd like to contribute to [editor@lsm.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org). No particular word limit, but emailed submissions are appreciated.

## MAY MONTHLY MEETING

by *Ron Edelstein*

**Please note that the day and place for the monthly Member Meetings have been changed for 2012.**

**DATE/TIME** Second Monday, May 14, 6:45-8:15 PM  
**LOCATION**

The Carver Library is located between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets east of Highway I-35. This location allows direct access to the library from Highway 183 and via FM 969 MLK and 12<sup>th</sup> Street. It is 4 miles from Highway 183 and 8 1/2 miles from the Highway 130 toll. So depending on how far away you live, you can bypass most of the rush hour traffic by jumping on Highway 183 or Highway 130. Check it out on Google maps.

On May 14 we'll be having another meeting of our SIG Discussion Group. Contact Rose with your suggestions for a topic and/or to volunteer to moderate the discussion. As mentioned above, the March discussion was a success and we need your participation to keep it going.

*It is easier to do one's duty to others than to one's self.  
If you do your duty to others, you are considered reliable.  
If you do your duty to yourself, you are considered selfish.*

*Thomas (Stephen) Szasz*



## LocSec Column



Hello again, everyone! I'm your new Lone Star Mensa President/ LocSec/head honcho for 2012-13. This will be my third time holding the office of President. A lot has changed since the last time I was President, including the group's name and bylaws.

Many members have come and gone. We've had a number of successful RGs, changed RG hotels twice, and are at work on this year's RG, a long-term hotel contact, and bidding (again) for Mind Games, hoping to be chosen to host in 2014.

On a personal level, my kids have gone from diapers to tween-agers, and I've changed jobs for the first time since moving to Austin in 1996. The group, and American Mensa in general, keeps on growing.

However, active membership isn't growing. Due to a number of things (moves, illnesses, etc), we've got a number of vacancies on the Board that we'll need to fill with a special election in the near future. That means we'll need two things: an election committee, and candidates. The two can't overlap, so if you don't want to be on the Board, please consider

helping with the election. Being on the Board obligates you to attend Board meetings (about 2-3 hours a month, counting commuting and reading Board-related emails). It doesn't necessarily mean an enormous commitment of your time. On the other hand, if you have time to spare, we have plenty of things that we could use your help with. Please consider volunteering and helping out your local Mensa group.

If you have thoughts about the group, whether about how things are now, how things ought to be, ideas for new or different events, changes you'd like to see, please drop me a note at [john@neemidge.net](mailto:john@neemidge.net). Help us make the group into what you want it to be. If we work together we can make this a group that better serves the hundreds of members Lone Star Mensa has, and not the few dozen who attend events. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

***There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies and statistics.***

***--Benjamin Disraeli***



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## APRIL BOARD MINUTES

by Patty Drumtra, VP and Secretary

The April regular meeting of the Lone Star Mensa board of officers convened at 7:35 PM, Thursday, April 5, 2012 at Carver Public Library, Rooms 2-3, 1161 Angelina, Austin, TX. Attending were **Brian Bloch, Don Drumtra, Patty Drumtra, Crockett Grabbe, John Neemidge, and Douglas Yee.**

The board adopted the agenda and the minutes of the March regular board meeting as printed on page 7 of the April *Armadillo Literary Gazette*. The minutes, agenda, referenced written reports, and other documents related to the meeting are available on the LSM Website. Paper copies are available on request.

The board received the following officer reports and took the following actions:

- Treasurer: The board unanimously approved the 2011-2012 annual treasurer's report subject to any minor corrections by the treasurer.
- ComComm: Don reported that the paper newsletter had gone out on time and that he had raised the issue of intelligent barcodes with the AMC Communications Officer and Staff Operations Officer.
- EdComm: Don reported everyone attending Michele's kid's day at the farm appeared to have a good time, even the pigs! LSM paid for admission.
- MemComm: Patsy Graham is planning a New Members Reception event on Sunday, May 6, 2 PM to 5 PM at her house.
- SymComm: The March 12 Monthly Meeting included Pizza and Soft drinks. We continue to look for good speakers for our monthly meetings.
- LonestaRG 2012 Committee: Patsy reported no new registrations for RG 2012. John and Geri Neemidge are considering chairing it.
- Website Working Group: Patsy is hosting a meeting Saturday, April 7, 3-5 PM
- Action Plans: Rose has been conducting a survey on membership thoughts about the changes she implemented in the newsletter.

New Business:

- The board accepted the resignation of Patty Drumtra from Vice President and Secretary of the board, effective at the end of the April 5 board meeting.
- The board accepted the resignation of Linda Edelstein from Treasurer of the board effective at the end of the May 3 board meeting.
- The board expressed appreciation to the outgoing officers for their support of LSM.
- The board established the four standing committees listed above.
- The board ratified the Don's appointment of Fred Goertz as Membership Chairman.
- Don announced the appointments of all the standing committee officers from the previous term.
- Approved ex officio appointments of Website content providers and newsletter proofreaders.
- Adopted the annual goal for the 2012-2013 term: To complete all member concern action plans.
- Amended the Calendar of Events to show dates and location of future board meetings
- Approved the extension of the current year budget until we can adopt a 2012-2013 budget.
- Approved the completion of the member concerns action plans provided in the report to the board and available on line.

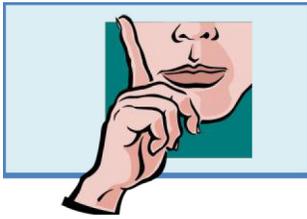
Announcements:

- The next monthly board meeting 7:30-8:30 PM, Thursday, May 3, 2012 at the Carver Branch Library.
- The next regular monthly meetings are scheduled for Monday, April 9, and May 14, 6:45-8:15 PM at the Carver Branch Library. Potential topics looking for presenters are available on the Website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

## YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE

Weekly Extremes [sudoku.org.uk](http://sudoku.org.uk)  
By Douglas Yee



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

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.

## FROM THE RVC

by Roger Durham, Region 6 RVC



At the recent meeting of the American Mensa Committee, the AMC discussed several possible scenarios for adjusting annual dues. One of the proposals heard was to set up a predetermined schedule for increasing dues by either a set amount or a set percentage every two years, the thought being that this would make it easier for members to plan ahead, rather than being surprised by unexpected dues increases from time to time. Several AMC members, myself included, thought that this idea would be extremely unpopular, not to say irresponsible, and were challenged to come up with alternative proposals.

I have some thoughts on this subject, which I will refine over the coming weeks and bring before the Finance and Audit Committee before we take up this discussion again at the Annual Gathering, but in the meantime, I would like to enlist the help of some of you.

The budget we just adopted for the 2012-13 year forecasts a small excess of operating costs over revenues, which is not a problem but does require some kind of action to bring the budget back into balance for the following year. Obviously, there are two ways to do this: either spend less or charge more. Anyone who has been following the national political debate over the last year or so is aware that less spending is a popular mantra these days, but the devil is in the details.

My challenge to you, therefore, is this: if you would prefer to leave the dues rate where it is (or maybe even lower it) and balance Mensa's budget by spending less, tell me exactly what areas you would like to see cut. Would you want your local group to receive less money each month if that would allow us to cut dues? Would you like to see the Mensa Bulletin cut back to a quarterly publication, or converted to electronic distribution? The new budget is still receiving some last-minute tweaks, so it is not yet published, but last year's budget is posted on the national website for your easy reference. If, on the other hand, it turns out to be necessary to increase dues, what would be the best way to do that? Should we apply an increase for inflation each year? Raise dues to match expenses every two years? Hold the line for as long as we can and then catch up all at once every five years or so? What's your preference?

Put those high IQs to work and come up with some creative solutions to this dilemma, then send them to me at [RVC6@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC6@us.mensa.org), or by snail mail at 9920 Ridgehaven Drive, Dallas, TX 75238. I welcome your input.

Don't forget our upcoming Gatherings: the Houston RG over Memorial Day weekend, the AG in Reno, NV from July 4 - 8, the Austin RG over Labor Day weekend, and the Dallas RG over Thanksgiving weekend. I hope to see you there!

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Our RVC, Roger Durham, writes in his April column about filling vacancies when RVCs do not or cannot complete their term. However, he misleads when he says “we’ve tried twice to get you, the members, to approve a new way of solving this problem and both of our proposals have been rejected.” We, in this case, would be the AMC, but half the truth has been left out. The facts are that the AMC first proposed the ‘LocSec Option’, whereby only the LocSecs in a region would appoint a successor to fill a vacancy. This, in a nationwide Mensa vote, received a small majority but not nearly the required two-thirds needed to pass.

Then the AMC tried a second time, with a concerted effort crafted by Past Chairman Dave Remine and AMC Executive Member Dan Burg, in favor of the ‘LocSec Option’. This motion was opposed by a ‘Member Option’ -- where all the members in the region vote for a successor -- proposal written by Jared Levine, a non-AMC member. The two options were put before all U.S. Mensa members, and the Member Option got **more** votes, just 38 shy of the required two-thirds.

So, “rejected” is indeed what the AMC’s LocSec Option was, but the democratic preference was and still is being ignored. Roger also says that “there seems to be a strong preference on the current AMC in favor of the status quo”. (If an RVC doesn’t complete his/her term, the remaining AMC members will elect a non-voting representative for that region.” Roger’s perception is contrary to the facts.

Everybody who receives InterLink will have seen a piece written in January by Robin Crawford, another former AMC member, strongly touting the twice unsuccessful (rejected!) LocSec option. In support, she writes “Formal regional elections could take up to five months and cost up to \$11,000.” However, when the LocSec option was first proposed, the AMC argument was that member voting in a regional election (the Member Option) could cost \$5,000, because of print and mail costs.

That number is now supposed to have more than doubled, even though American Mensa has adopted Electronic Voting. Challenged to substantiate \$11,000, Ms Crawford hasn’t responded. Draw your own conclusions. As for “up to five months,” that’s probably as accurate as the \$11,000 figure.

It seems that that the AMC just won’t give up and won’t get behind the motion preferred by the members. Is this because the egos of AMC members are too large to permit a non-AMC motion to be preferred over an AMC-sponsored one? Will the thinking change when all the members of the AMC involved in the failed LocSec Option finally give up their positions of power? Who knows? What is clear is that we in Region 6 must press our RVC to do the right thing, to promote the Member Option as the solution to RVC vacancies.

Brian Bloch  
Lone Star Mensa

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Rose,

I should like to congratulate you on the increasingly interesting gazette. You have made a huge difference.

I well understand the effort that goes into the magazine for I write a weekly newsletter for my Rotary group in Sun City.

The only thing I would like to see is a recap of the talks given by the speakers. Not being able to go down to Austin, I would be interested to read more about what goes on at the meetings. ( I have found that assigning a different member each monthly to do the recap encourages members’ participation!)

Keep up the good work!

Susan F. Ward

By Don Drumtra, based on JimAnn Oliver's handout.  
[See page 8 pf the January ALG for JimAnn's bio.]

The April General Meeting included two programs in one. Our presenter, JimAnn Oliver, has an extensive background in education from special education teacher to researcher for the U. S. Department of Education. Some may remember her wonderful presentation last fall where she provided an overview of education and a summary of recent research findings that showed that the No Child Left Behind Program was doomed to failure from the very beginning. At the meeting several questions from the audience suggested that we all might not have a common understanding of intelligence and IQ tests. And after the meeting, several members asked for more detail on those results of her research. So JimAnn agreed to a return presentation to cover those two subjects in more detail. She returned for our April General Meeting.

### IQ and Intelligence

—What is IQ? As one might expect everyone had different opinions on what IQ was. Using an easily accessible source--Wikipedia--JimAnn explained that we, like the general population, equate IQ with intelligence. In fact IQ is just a score, from a standard test that may represent a very specific type of intelligence. Test result from specific age groups are statistically constructed so that the mean score is 100 and the standard deviation is 15. That produces a bell shaped curve that most of us have seen where 95 percent of the test taker scores in each age group are between 70 and 130. Two and a half percent are below 70 and two and a half percent are above 130 (including Mensa's). So to summarize, JimAnn quoted one of the original IQ designers, Alfred Binét, who noted in 1905 that "The scale, properly speaking, does not permit the measure of intelligence, because intellectual qualities are not superimposable. And therefore cannot be measured as lineal surfaces are measured."

After explaining that the scores are not very useful, JimAnn went on to explain that even though there are no strong correlations, there are weak correlations between scores and societal factors that are important. The U. S. military for example ran some experiments to determine if IQ scores could be used to screen recruits. It found that recruits with an IQ score around 80 could not master soldiering well enough to justify the cost of training them. They also found that a score of 85 was a good cutoff to use.

In the mid-1990s the American Psychological Association assembled a task force to study the correlation of IQ scores with various societal

factors. Its report stated that one-fourth of social status variance and one-sixth of income variance correlated with IQ scores. It concluded that psychometric intelligence appeared as only one of a great many factors that influence social outcomes and that IQ "research findings are often assessed not so much on their merits of their scientific standing as on their supposed political implications." Nevertheless, the task force concluded that IQ scores do have high predictive validity for individual differences in school achievement and for adult occupational status, and that individual differences in intelligence are substantially influenced by both genetics and environment.

Finally, acknowledging briefly the theoretical aspect of testing, JimAnn introduced the Cattell- Horn-Carroll theory of intelligence currently popular with test designers, that calls the most basic intelligence "g" and proposes that there are nine skills involved:

1. Fluid. The broad ability to reason, form concepts, and solve problems using unfamiliar information or novel procedures.
2. Crystallized. The breadth and depth of a person's acquired knowledge, the ability to communicate one's knowledge, and the ability to reason using previously learned experiences or procedures.
3. Quantitative Reasoning. The ability to comprehend quantitative concepts and relationships and to manipulate numerical symbols.
4. Reading and Writing. Basic reading and writing skills. (Verbal understanding and usage.)
5. Short-Term Memory.
6. Long-Term Memory.
7. Visual Processing.
8. Auditory Processing.
9. Processing Speed.

"Of course," JimAnn noted, "we all know that this is far from definitive of intelligence; but it does seem to work fairly well for test designing of the present kind. Each test-making company decides which of these to include in its test(s) and to what extent, so of course there is variation in how a certain individual will score from one company's test to another."

JimAnn concluded the presentation with, "Let me emphasize that variations of a few points are par for the course from one test-taking to the next and from one person to another at one time or another, so there is no significance in having a "score" five points higher than someone else's, or higher or lower than you had last year ..... unless you're trying to get into Mensa!"



©Allan Harbert

*Hear ye! Hear ye! Here be da Judges!*  
(Well, some of them, anyway.)

### *Mensa Scholarship Judging*

#### **Volunteer to Judge Scholarships - Get Invited Downtown During SXSW**

This year our volunteer scholarships judges received the contestants' essays by email in pdf format and scoring sheets in Excel. They scored the essays and emailed them back. The judges all were wonderful about scoring the essays quickly and sending accurate attachments of the scoring sheets. Many thanks to our 2011-2012 contest judges: Ron Edelstein, Frederick Goertz, Gloria Fortin, Modelle, Gibson, Nancy Norwood, Sonya Palmer, Johnnie Vaughn, and Barbara Wilson!

Since our essay load has increased over the years to too many for the judges to handle in one in-person afternoon together, we have been trying to find a good way to get the judges together for a celebration in their honor. After the judging this year, I, as Scholarships Coordinator, scheduled dinner at the central Kerbey Lane Restaurant. After inviting all the judges, I realized it was on SXSW Sunday. I called the restaurant, and they assured me that early in the evening, there would not be traffic or waiting. A group of us met and had a pleasant dinner. We did have one loss due to SXSW: Sonya, who had given me the idea of going to a restaurant, needed a taxi and was unable to get one.

The Mensa Foundation's Scholarships Contest is an important community service! Lone Star Mensa participates each year and gives money to at least one and often more students (entrants do not have to be Mensa members) because of the efforts of our volunteer judges. Our judges volunteer several hours in January for this and seem to enjoy it!

Email the Scholarships Coordinator any time to volunteer! [mensascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:mensascholarships@gmail.com)

**I'M JUST DRAGGIN' WHEN  
I DON'T GET MY MORNING  
COFFEE!**



**MEMBER NEWS (as of 4/16/2012)**

**HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS**

**NEW MEMBERS—WELCOME!**

**GOODBYE—WE WISH YOU WELL**

- 2 Keith A Johnson
- 2 Albert E Shults
- 4 Gordon R Jones
- 5 Kimberly A Mills
- 6 Todd Stahlnecker
- 7 Samuel Blasco
- 8 Oliver A Bainbridge
- 8 David H Messer
- 9 Peggy Bills
- 10 John Greytok
- 12 Scott Nicholson Kurland
- 14 Cynthia Bourland
- 14 Phil J McAtee
- 15 Mukund Srinivasan
- 15 Dr Leon Morris Waynberg
- 16 William Eric Hungate
- 18 Lori L Barr MD
- 18 Jose H Zambrano
- 19 David Wayne Madden
- 20 Raymond Doo
- 21 Scott Danniel Burgess
- 21 Ryan Rozich
- 22 Russell Eugene Nelson
- 23 Thomas Lewis
- 23 Josephine West McNamee
- 23 Rembrandt W Murphy
- 24 Kevin Michael Smith
- 24 Ronald Joseph Theriault
- 25 Stephen Ladd
- 27 Mamta Jayavardhan
- 27 Lisa Oliver
- 28 Claudia Ellis Harbert
- 29 Cathryn Leigh Cox
- 29 Lesley Carol Morehead
- 29 Christopher T Vedner

- Michael Heyne
- James Crayton
- John Greytok
- Megan Kehoe
- Maxwell Morris

- Steven C Adamo
- Joshua T LeRoy
- Anita V Mantri
- Angela Jo Hardin Yochem

**Welcome Mensa Members  
Who Joined Lone Star Mensa  
in April**

- Gwendolyn Collins
- Samantha Collins
- Steven P Collins
- Jonathan D Finley

**WELCOME BACK--MISSED YOU!**

- Alan Blake
- Dr L Kent Gilbreath
- Denise Hicks
- Ronald Wayne Holder Jr
- Alison Keith
- Matthew L Rife
- Ryan Rozich
- Sue E Thompson
- Deas H Warley III



**MAY  
ANNIVERSARIES**

**MEMBER FOR 45 YEARS**

- Lawrence Weinman
- Rudolph Saenz

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

## Paraprosdokian

A *paraprosdokian* is a phrase or sentence that leads us down the garden path to an unexpected ending.

"Where there's a will, I want to be in it," is a *paraprosdokian*. Winston Churchill loved them.

Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience

The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.

War does not determine who is right - only who is left.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.

You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

There's a fine line between cuddling and holding someone down so they can't get away.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.

To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening,' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

Stealing ideas from one person is plagiarism. Stealing from many is research.

A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

I thought I wanted a career. Turns out I just wanted paychecks.

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says, 'In case of emergency, notify:' I put 'DOCTOR.'

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut and still think they are sexy.

Behind every successful man is his woman. Behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.

Where there's a will, there are relatives.

There are no mistakes. The events we bring upon ourselves, no matter how unpleasant, are necessary in order to learn what we need to learn; whatever steps we take, they're necessary to reach the places we've chosen to go.

- Richard Bach

## *MENSA BY DAYLIGHT*

*By Ron Edelstein*

A suggestion has been made by one of our senior members that some of us prefer not to have to drive or otherwise get around at night for various reasons. Others who have free time during the daytime hours may also appreciate the opportunity to have activities in daylight hours. So we are open to suggestions for daytime activities, anything from a lunch or afternoon coffee (tea? Beer? Whatever?) get together, preferably at some central location for our group. Or it could be a traveling event, similar to the Eclectic Eats, meeting at a different place each time. This could be on a monthly or quarterly or some other time schedule basis, whatever those involved wish to do.

If there is interest in this idea, we need someone to volunteer to be the coordinator and set up at least a trial event. Ideas could include a restaurant, coffee house, pizza house or any other place easily accessible from freeways and other major roads, preferably not too expensive and congenial to just sitting and carrying on conversation.

Whilst the idea was proposed by a senior member, there is no reason for only seniors to be interested. Heck, some of the younger crowd might find us OF's are interesting to talk with! And vice versa.

## *ECLECTIC EATS HOST WANTED*

Since Aaron Rabushka has moved to another group, we're looking for a new host for our monthly "Eclectic Eats" get together. If you would enjoy meeting your fellow Mensans for an affordable, enjoyable dinner and lively conversation, if-you appreciate introducing friends to a variety of food styles, this is the job for you! Contact Rose Berkowitz for more information, and let's get the ball rolling. Bon appetit!

## *JUNE MEETING*

Our June monthly meeting will be something special. Zach Baumer, Climate Program Manager from the Office of Sustainability for the City of Austin will be giving us a very interesting presentation. More details next month. **Mark your calendars for June 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:45-8:15 pm at the Carver Library.** And bring your friends!

*Anyone who conducts an argument by appealing to authority is not using his intelligence; he is just using his memory.*

*Leonardo da Vinci*

# Hi, Neighbor! Gulf Coast Mensa RG Announcement



## SynRG 2012: Visions

Houston, Texas is the place to be for **Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-28!** Come join the fun at **SynRG 2012: Visions!** Let's look towards the future, since the world isn't really going to end this year.

Team RG's feverish preparations are nearly complete, with speakers and events being finalized. Anne So is back this year with her amazing hospitality suite, and the games room will be open all weekend.

### **Among our tantalizing event offerings:**

Pre-RG Events on Thursday and Friday include: *A Taste of Houston Blues at The Big Easy*, *The Future of Transportation Today* - a free tour of the new, highly automated Hybrid Electric Vehicle Motor Plant at Toshiba International Corporation, and the Schilling Robotics Tour, where you can see (and drive!) their cutting-edge undersea robots. Space for the tours is limited, so please contact us at [rgchair@gcmensa.org](mailto:rgchair@gcmensa.org) to reserve your spot!

We have already scheduled many speakers and events, with more to come! Here's a small sample of the topics we have lined up: *Climate of the Future*, *Living With Your Emotions*, *Scientists and Engineers of the Future*, *The Future of Heart Surgery*, *The Houston Dining Scene*, *Robonaut 2 – the Future of Space Exploration*, *Future Astronomy*, *Gulf Coast Food Culture*, a panel discussion of the future trends in transportation and city planning; and our **Saturday evening Keynote Speaker Scott Grischow** will describe his quest to climb the Seven Summits, the highest mountain peaks on each of the seven continents.

Additional activities include our *Saturday evening Jam Session* and *Karaoke, Name That Movie!*, *Carnelli*, the *Sunday evening Carnival*, chess tournament, tastings, games, and special presentations by Jason and Brigitte, celebrated Gamemeisters for the North Texas Mensa RG and 2013 Fort Worth Annual Gathering! They have created a *Puzzle Quest* for Saturday night, will bring their Spaghetti Construction event to the Sunday night Carnival, and are hosting a trivia event on Sunday afternoon.

Full weekend registration includes all of the speakers, games, activities, and our fully loaded Hospitality suite. Visit our website [www.gcmensa-events.org](http://www.gcmensa-events.org) to register online!

**Reserve your room at the Crowne Plaza Houston Northwest - Brookhollow, conveniently located on Highway 290 at Pinemont. Call 713-462-9977 and remember to ask for the fabulous Mensa rate of \$75.50 s/d/t/q!**

**Lone Star Mensa  
2011-2012 Financial Report and Tables**

April 1 - March 31

For this fiscal year we budgeted expected revenue of \$6,500 from National Office. We actually received \$6,334.43, a difference of \$165.57. The biggest difference is in Communications, and that is driven by our decrease in membership. Where we had 658 members at Mar 31, 2011, we have 629 this year, and we've been lagging in renewals all year. The other revenue shown in the Symposia program was the cash paid by the December holiday party attendees. Since we never seem to spend everything we budget (in the past year we spent \$2035 less than was budgeted) we end the fiscal year with \$5,986.10 in the checking account, after payment of the a/p to QuikPrint. There is more than enough in our two CD's to cover our restricted funds, liabilities, and appropriations.

**Lone Star Mensa  
Table 1. 2011-2012 Program Activity Analysis Summary**  
April 1 - March 31

Programs	----- Summary Year to Date -----				----- Summary by Quarter -----			
	2011 Budget 12 Months	12 months	12 months Total	%	3 months Apr-Jun	3 months Jul-Sep	3 months Oct-Dec	3 months Jan-Mar
<b>Membership Program</b>								
Total Revenue	\$720.00	\$720.00	\$544.00	76%	\$283.00	\$60.00	\$127.00	\$74.00
Total Expenses	720.00	720.00	174.82	24%	174.82	-	-	-
<b>Communication Program</b>								
Total Revenue	4,400.00	4,400.00	3,907.15	89%	976.30	976.95	976.95	976.95
Total Expenses	4,400.00	4,400.00	2,821.84	64%	813.39	743.94	605.28	659.23
<b>Symposia Program</b>								
Total Revenue	700.00	700.00	1,385.00	198%	300.00	300.00	485.00	300.00
Total Expenses	700.00	700.00	1,031.71	147%	30.00	30.00	885.00	86.07
<b>Education Program</b>								
Total Revenue	480.00	480.00	480.00	100%	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00
Total Expenses	480.00	480.00	253.81	53%	-	29.32	73.28	151.21
<b>Common Activities</b>								
Total Revenue	200.00	200.00	150.00	75%	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50
Total Expenses	200.00	200.00	148.68	74%	15.40	35.00	-	98.28
<b>All Programs</b>								
Total Revenue	\$6,500.00	6,500.00	646.00	10%	1,716.80	1,494.45	1,746.45	1,508.45
Total Expenses	6,500.00	6,500.00	4,430.86	68%	1,033.61	838.26	1,563.56	994.79
<b>Total Programs</b>	\$-	\$-	\$(3,784.86)		\$683.19	\$656.19	\$182.89	\$513.66
<b>LonestaRG</b>								
Total Revenue	\$4,700.00		5,271.76	0%	-	-	5,132.50	139.26
Total Expenses	4,500.00		5,378.21	0%	-	-	5,378.21	-
Total Disbursements	\$200.00		(106.45)	0%	-	-	(245.71)	139.26
<b>Undistributed Rev and Exp</b>								
Total Revenue	\$694.00	694.00	(54.72)	-8%	111.84	92.16	\$159.40	(418.12)
Total Expenses	755.88	755.88	-	0%	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Undistributed</b>	\$(61.88)	\$(61.88)	\$(54.72)		\$111.84	\$92.16	\$159.40	\$(418.12)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	\$(61.88)	\$(61.88)	\$(3,839.58)		\$795.03	\$748.35	\$342.29	\$95.54

LSM	Date Bought	Item	Cost	Serial No.	Custody
	2006 Sep 8	ALG Software	\$481.32		Rachael Stewart
Equipment	2007 Jun 9	Projector	\$499.99	EMP 54 - J3VF71731TL	Don Drumtra
	2005-2006	Testing material	\$37.50	5 take home tests	Don Drumtra

**Lone Star Mensa  
Table 2. - Balances Analysis Summary**  
March 31

	Apr 1	Jun 30	Sep 30	Dec 31	Mar 31
<b>Members (Apr 30)</b>	515	562	591	612	629
<b>Bank (Mar 31)</b>	Err:502	29	28	28	29
<b>RG Registrants 2010/2011/2012</b>		34,510	78,8720	78,8720	78,8720
<b>Assets</b>					
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Cash	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$185.00	\$-
Checking Account	4,155.64	4,873.03	4,803.54	5,391.86	6,133.37
Certificates of Deposit	23,679.50	23,722.51	23,773.55	23,802.32	23,830.32
Less Err:502	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)	(18,000.00)
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Receivable (Allocated)	-	151.99	295.95	462.18	0.00
Prepaid Postage	314.30	189.92	580.76	504.26	427.33
Prepaid RG 2012	281.75	291.75	5,293.64	0.00	0.00
Prepaid Take Home Tests	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50	37.50
Other Prepaid Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Total Current Assets	\$10,468.69	\$11,266.70	\$16,784.94	\$12,383.12	\$12,567.78
<b>Long Term Assets</b>					
Scholarship Endowment	7,000.00	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	8,000.00
RG Fund	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Equipment Acquired Value	981.31	981.31	981.31	981.31	981.31
Less Err:502	(962.57)	(977.32)	(1,002.07)	(1,026.62)	(1,051.57)
Other Long Term Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Total Long Term Assets	\$18,028.74	\$18,003.99	\$17,979.24	\$17,954.49	\$17,929.74
<b>Total Assets</b>					
	\$28,497.43	\$29,270.69	\$34,764.18	\$30,337.61	\$30,497.52
<b>Liabilities and Appropriations</b>					
Accounts Payable	\$434.76	\$195.24	\$143.70	\$333.23	\$148.09
Scholarships Escrow	840.36	415.36	490.36	1,096.36	1,171.36
RG Escrow 2012	-	-	620.00	845.00	845.00
RG Escrow 2011	965.00	1,502.50	5,578.93	0.00	0.00
RG Reserve	1,192.92	1,192.92	1,192.92	947.21	1,085.47
Eqpmt Replacement Appropriation	498.75	534.00	569.25	604.50	639.75
Other Liabilities and Appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Total Liabilities and Appropriations	\$3,931.79	\$3,840.02	\$8,595.16	\$3,826.30	\$3,890.67
<b>Net Assets</b>					
Net A:###	\$24,565.64	\$25,430.67	\$26,169.02	\$26,511.31	\$26,606.85
Total Net Assets	\$24,565.64	\$25,430.67	\$26,169.02	\$26,511.31	\$26,606.85
<b>Total Liabilities, Approp., and Net Assets</b>	\$28,497.43	\$29,270.69	\$34,764.18	\$30,337.61	\$30,497.52

Accounts Payable	Uncleared Checks
Quik Print \$ 148.09	
John Neemidge -	
Helen Siders -	
Don Drumtra -	
Other -	
Total \$ 148.09	Total \$-

**2011-2012 Cumulative Program Activity Statement**

(Income Statement)

April 1 - March 31

	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>Actual to Date</u>	<u>Err:502</u>
<b>Membership Program</b>			
Total Revenue	\$720.00	\$544.00	76%
Total Expenses	720.00	174.82	24%
<b>Communications Program</b>			
Total Revenue	3,900.00	3,907.15	100%
Total Expenses	3,900.00	2,821.84	72%
<b>Symposia Program</b>			
Total Revenue	1,200.00	1,385.00	115%
Total Expenses	1,200.00	1,031.07	86%
<b>Education Program</b>			
Total Revenue	480.00	480.00	100%
Total Expenses	480.00	224.53	47%
<b>Common Activities</b>			
Total Revenue	200.00	150.00	75%
Total Expenses	200.00	148.68	0%
<b>All Programs</b>			
Total Revenue	6,500.00	6,466.15	99%
Total Expenses	<u>6,500.00</u>	<u>4,400.94</u>	0%
<b>Total Programs</b>	-	2,065.21	
<b>LonestaRG</b>			
Total Revenue	4,700.00	5,271.76	112%
Total Expenses	4,500.00	5,378.21	120%
Total Disbursements	200.00	(106.45)	0%
<b>Undistributed Rev and Exp</b>			
Total Revenue	694.00	(54.72)	-8%
Total Expenses	<u>694.00</u>	<u>-</u>	0%
<b>Net Revenue</b>		<u>\$-   \$2,010.49</u>	

2011-2012 Balance Sheet

March 31

<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash		\$-
Checking Account		6,133.37
Certificates of Deposit		23,830.32
Less ###		(18,000.00)
Accounts Receivable		-
Interest Receivable (Allocated)		0.00
Prepaid Expenses		<u>604.09</u>
Total Current Assets		\$12,567.78
Long Term Assets		
Funds		18,000.00
Equipment		(70.26)
Other Long Term Assets		-
Long Term Assets		<u>17,929.74</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>\$30,497.52</b></u>
<b>Liabilities, Approp., and Net Assets</b>		
Liabilities and Appropriations		
Accounts Payable		\$148.09
Escrow Accounts		1,941.36
RG Reserve		1,086.47
Eqpmt Replacement Appropriation		639.75
Other Liabilities and Appropriations		-
Total Liabilities and Appropriations		\$3,815.67
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u><b>26,681.85</b></u>
<b>Total Liabilities, Approp., and Net Assets</b>		<u><b>\$30,497.52</b></u>
Certificate of Deposit 1	CD 1, .498% 12 mo 11/29/2012	
Certificate of Deposit 2	CD 2, .448%, 10 mo, 6/10/2012	

## LONE STAR MENSA CONTACTS BY FUNCTION

**As of January 10, 2012**

### **Newsletter**

Editor	editor@lsm.us.mensa.org	Rose Berkowitz	467-4871
Emailing	epostmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org	Linda Edelstein	491-9881
Snail mailing	postmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Online	records@lsm.us.mensa.org	Don Drumtra	291-0315
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Publicity	publicity@lsm.us.mensa.org	Paul Anderson	259-7824
Advertising		--Vacant--	
Photographer		--Vacant--	
Managing Editor	editor@lsm.us.mensa.org	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Publisher	recsecretary@lsm.us.mensa.org	Board of Officers	291-0361

### **On Line**

Website Design	mensapats@att.net	Patsy Graham	380-0141
Website Maintenance	webmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org	Douglas Yee	288-9172
LSM Officers, contacts	records@lsm.us.mensa.org	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Board Meetings	recsecretary@lsm.us.mensa.org	--Vacant--	
Operating standards	records@lsm.us.mensa.org	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Email Lists	emaillists@lsm.us.mensa.org	John Neemidge	310-7863
Facebook	facebook@lsm.us.mensa.org	Geri Neemidge	310-7863

### **Membership**

membership@lsm.us.mensa.org		Fred Goertz	569-1758
New Members	mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org	Patsy Graham	380-0141
Renewals	membership@lsm.us.mensa.org	--Vacant--	
Testing	testing@lsm.us.mensa.org	Austin G. Meyer	971-3123
Awards	membership@lsm.us.mensa.org	--Vacant--	
Officers	records@lsm.us.mensa.org	Don Drumtra	291-0315

### **Education**

		--Vacant--	
Gifted Children Programs	giftedchildren@lsm.us.mensa.org	Michele Vaughan	388-5970
Scholarships	scholarship@lsm.us.mensa.org	Claudia Harbert	238-0205
Financial Outreach		--Vacant--	

### **Gatherings and Events**

		--Vacant--	
Monthly Programs		--Vacant--	
Regional Gathering	registrar@lsm.us.mensa.org	John and Geri Neemidge	310-7863
TGITs		--Vacant--	
Games Night		--Vacant--	
Chess Night	cmvc95@yahoo.com	Douglas Yee	288-9172
Eclectic Eats		--Vacant--	
Picnics and Parties		--Vacant--	
Southern area events	southernarea@lsm.us.mensa.org	Brian Bloch	878-8800

### **Disputes**

### **Reimbursements**

### **S.I.G.H.T**

### **Everything else**

ombudsman@lsm.us.mensa.org		Ron Edelstein	491-9881
treasurer@lsm.us.mensa.org		Linda Edelstein	491-9881
		--Vacant--	
locsec@lsm.us.mensa.org		Don Drumtra	291-0315

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

## MAY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 ALG deadline Chess Night TGIT-North	11	12
13	12 Member Meeting	15	16	17 TGIT-South	18	19 
20	21	22	23	24 TGIT-North Seal & Label	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

See the online calendar ([www.lsm.us.mensa.org/events/calendar.html](http://www.lsm.us.mensa.org/events/calendar.html)) 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

### Mensa Admissions Testing

For time, location, and details contact Austin Meyer at 512-971-3123 or [austin.g.meyer@gmail.com](mailto:austin.g.meyer@gmail.com).

### ALG/Calendar Deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

**May 10, Midnight**  
Submissions due.

### Chess Night (with the TGIT group)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
May 10, 6-8 PM**

Central Market Café North, hosted by David Yee. Bring your chess sets if you have them.

### Thank Goodness It's Thursday (North)

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4th Thursdays**

**May 10 & 24, 6:00-8:00 PM**

Central Market Café North at 4001 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin and 44<sup>th</sup> Streets; on the south side of the store. Meet us at the Café for conversation, food and fun.

*Prospective members welcome.  
Look for the Mensa table sign.*

### Member Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

**May 14, 6:15-8:45 PM**

Carver Public Library, Rooms 2-3 1161 Angelina, Austin, between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets, east of I-35. 512-974-1010  
Location allows direct access to the library from Hwy 183 and via FM 969 MLK and 12<sup>th</sup> Street

### Thank Goodness It's Thursday (South)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
May 24, 6:00-8:00 PM**

Central Market Café South at Westgate Mall 4477 S. Lamar Blvd., Austin. 512-899-4300 On the south side of the S Frontier Trail access road (the access road -290/SR71) Enter on the east side of the store by the statues of fruits and vegetables Come join the South Austin group for conversation, food and fun. Prospective members welcome.

### Seal & Label the Newsletter 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday

**May 24, 6:00-8:00 PM**

Central Market Café North  
4001 N. Lamar blvd, Austin  
512-206-1020

Join the TGIT Group to help seal and label the newsletter.

See the TGIT-North entry for directions

### Board Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday

Carver Public Library, Rooms 2-3 1161 Angelina, Austin, between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets, east of I-35. 512-974-1010  
Location allows direct access to the library from Hwy 183 and via FM 969 MLK and 12<sup>th</sup> Street

### UPCOMING IN June

June 7 Board Meeting

June 11, Member Meeting

June 14, Chess Night, ALG Deadline

June 21, TGIT-South

June 14 & 28, TGIT-North

*If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.  
--Benjamin Franklin*

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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](mailto:calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org) by the second Thursday of each month for the next month's calendar.



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