

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of *Lone Star Mensa*  
Volume XL  
Number 8, August 2013



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

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

*Submitted By Rose Berkowitz*

I'm always glad to hear from you. So please send in not only those recipes, but also your comments, ideas, poetry, essays, or whatever else you'd like to contribute. No particular word limit, but emailed submissions are appreciated. Send them to [editor@lsm.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org).

## A WORD TO THE WISE

*Submitted by John Neemidge, LocSec*



I'm just getting back from American Mensa's Annual Gathering, held last week in Fort Worth. We had the usual AG activities -- speakers, a dance, meeting lots of friends, hospitality, games, and so forth. Quite a number of Lone Star Mensans were there, as well as many Texans and of

course people from around the country.

I spent the first day of the AG in a LocSec workshop. This is the second year of this event, and it was even better this year. I'm hoping to put into practice a number of things discussed at that workshop; you'll be hearing more about them in the coming months. Among them are some new and improved contact and outreach mechanisms, trying to energize members in outlying towns, better recognition of volunteers, and new ways to get more people active.

One thing that jumped out at me, though, was a discussion of Mensan personality types. On a broad basis, one estimate has it that Mensa is 80% composed of people who are, to one extent or another, introverts. There are many ways to measure this, of course, and no one has been able to do a systematic study of the membership, but if that number is even close to correct, it points out a problem in much of our internal messaging (and my own internal messaging)—many people who are introverts see a phrase like "come meet a bunch of

your fellow Mensans" and it doesn't sound like fun, it sounds like a potentially uncomfortable social situation.

I hope you'll believe me when I say that Mensa really is welcoming, regardless of whether you're an introvert or an extrovert. In fact, many of us (myself included) can range from quite introverted to highly extroverted, depending on the situation. At the first four or five Mensa events I attended, I was a wallflower—I barely knew anyone, was younger than many people, and just wanted to see the speakers and hang out. I had a great time. Now, at Mensa events, I'm generally an extrovert, which comes from having attended many, many events.

I tend to write event descriptions that aim towards extroverts, because that's more what I am these days. But I hope you'll hear that we welcome members of all types, and we really believe you can have a great time whether you love the company of others or just want to hear the speakers in peace. Either way, please do give us a try. We would especially love to see you come out to Lone Star RG XV, held over Labor Day weekend -- it's our biggest event and there are plenty of things to do for everyone, whether you want to meet lots of people or whether that's not your thing at all.

If this reached you (either way); if you hear some of yourself in what I'm saying, or just want to let me know what your thoughts are, please do drop me a note at [john@neemidge.net](mailto:john@neemidge.net). I'd love to hear from you!

## JULY BOARD MINUTES

Submitted by John Neemidge, acting Scribe

The board meeting was cancelled due to the AG.



## FROM THE RVC

Submitted by Roger Durham, Region 6 RVC

Well, another Annual Gathering has come and gone, with the usual good time reportedly having been enjoyed by virtually all. The AG in Fort Worth was fairly well attended, with about 1,700 members and guests registered. Carol Hilson, chairing her third AG (retest!), co-chaired the event with Karen Brack (both of North Texas Mensa), and a marvelous job was done by both.

At the meeting of the American Mensa Committee of your national Board of Directors, I was appointed to chair a task force to work on revision of our formula for funding local groups. Our aim is not to reduce local group funding but rather to make it more effective by linking certain funding amounts to achievement of certain minimum standards where many local groups currently leave something to be desired, like a regular testing program, elections, and communication with members. In many cases we expect that compliance will require additional assistance from American Mensa, and that will also be part of the task force's report. I will also serve on the Risk Management, Leadership Development, and Site Selection Committees this term.

A number of other appointments were made at the Board meeting. Dr. John Sheehan is our new Development Officer, replacing Bob Bevard of South Texas Mensa, who will take over for Jeff Dommonge as Assistant RVC for our region, Jeff having asked to be replaced. Joanne Soper is our new Director of Science and Education, and Marc Lederman, formerly Region 4 Vice Chair, is our new Communications Officer. Beth Anne Demeter was reappointed as Membership Officer.



The Board also approved creation of a new Local Group award to replace the Group of the Year (GOTYA) Award. The new award, like the old one, will be based on each group's achievements in numerous objective categories, which will be tracked automatically by the national office. Instead of one award in each group size category, however, awards of increasing stature will now be given to the top four groups in each class. This will allow us to recognize outstanding effort by groups that may not have quite reached the highest plateau. A rework of the Publications Recognition Program (PRP) is also in the works, but could not be completed in time for this meeting.

As many of you are already aware, the AG will be in Boston next year, Louisville in 2015, and San Diego in 2016.

That's all for now. Don't forget Lone Star Mensa's upcoming RG in Round Rock, just north of Austin, over the Labor Day weekend. For more information contact Ron Edelstein, [aduanam@mindspring.com](mailto:aduanam@mindspring.com) or (512) 491-9881

Finally, as always, please remember that if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, you can reach me at [rvc6@us.mensa.org](mailto:rvc6@us.mensa.org) or by snail mail at 9920 Ridgehaven Drive, Dallas, TX 75238.

## FEATURED RECIPE

By J. D. Jamieson

### %@##!!\*&%#\$ ON A SHINGLE

Normally, I can make a big, steaming mess out of any recipe. Just ask any of my ex-wives. I have never butchered this one badly, though, so I guess it is a safe one to share. In polite company, it carries the uninspiring name of "bark." In my accustomed irreverent company, it goes by several names, most of which include the word "shingle." It is really quite good though, and reminds me of the Heath bars that were a minor feature of my misspent youth. It freezes well, and is actually really good right out of the freezer.



#### Ingredients:

Saltine crackers  
Butter – two sticks  
Brown sugar – 1 cup  
Chocolate chips – 12 oz. bag (I like the dark chocolate, but milk chocolate works well too.)

1. Get a 10"X 15" cookie sheet with sides, line it with foil, and spray it with Pam or something.
2. Arrange the crackers as closely together as you can, salty side down, over the whole cookie sheet.
3. Melt the butter and brown sugar together and smooth it evenly over the crackers.
4. Bake at 400° F for 10 minutes.
5. If the crackers have shifted around, put them back as they were,
6. Right away, pour the chocolate chips evenly over the crackers. After they have melted (10 minutes or so) spread the chocolate evenly with a table knife.
7. Refrigerate until it is all cold and hard. Peel the foil off and break up the whole thing into your preferred shingle size.

## MEMBER MEETINGS

Submitted by Angela Adams, Symposia Chair

### August

This month will be random discussion topics again.

### July

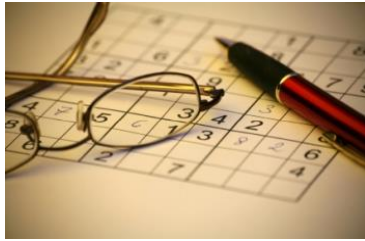
Since this meeting fell right after the AG, the meeting covered random discussion topics.

## YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE

### Weekly Extremes

<http://www.sudoku.org.uk/>

By Douglas Yee



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

*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.*

## LET'S HANG OUT!

By Angela Adams, Symposia Chair

- **Austin Italian Festival** — Sunday, August 25, 4:00 – 9:00 pm — Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th St. \$10 for anyone 10 and older; proceeds go to support the Austin Museum of Art (AMOA). Celebrate all things Italian by attending the Austin Italian Festival. See some sexy bodies at the Ferrari and Alfa Romeo car show, live music, and dancing. There will also be Italian food, wine, and gelato, and Italian-themed arts and crafts. Buon amici, buoni cibo, bei momenti (Good friends, good food, good times)! Family friendly.
- **Out of Bounds Comedy Festival** — Tuesday, August 27 through Mon, September 2, various times — Various venues. Tickets range in price. The 12th Annual Out of Bounds Comedy Festival features some of the world's best in improv, sketch, and stand-up comedy. The festival will host over 500 performers in 120 shows. Unfortunately, as of press time, the schedule of performances was not finalized yet. Check their website for times, places, and prices. Maybe we can get an RG group interested in going?
- **Lone Star RG XV: It's About Time!** — Friday, August 30 through Mon, September 2 —Wingate by Wyndham hotel / Williamson Conference Center, Round Rock. Registration required. I would be remiss if I did not submit a short plug for our annual Regional Gathering! The RG features fun and intellectually stimulating short lectures on a variety of topics, workshops, games, and parties. The registration fee allows admittance to all of these events, and even covers food and drink (adult and otherwise) all weekend long in our Hospitality Suite. Isn't it about time you met the Mensans in your local group? Family friendly.

Honorable mentions (I won't be at these events but you might want to check them out):

- **Return of the Revenge of the Son of the Bad Film Festival**—July 22, through August 5 at 6:30 PM at the Carver Library: <http://library.austintexas.gov/press-release/return-revenge-son-bad-film-festival>
- **Order of the Purple Foot Grape Stomp 2013** — Saturday, August 3, 10, or 17, 10:00 to 2:00 pm — Dry Comal Creek Vineyards, New Braunfels. \$130 per adult couple. If you and your friend/partner/spouse enjoy wine, and secretly have always wanted to try stomping grapes with your feet, then here's your chance! The price includes entry into the grape stomping contest, a hearty lunch for two, two keepsake glasses, two drink tickets, and two commemorative t-shirts. Register early before they sell out!
- **Batfest** — Saturday, August 24, 4:00 pm to midnight (bats usually start flying anywhere from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, for about a half hour) — Ann Richards Congress Ave Bridge. \$7 general admission, \$60 VIP. Na-na-na-na-na-na-na Batfest! General admission will let you view the estimated 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats that live underneath the Congress Ave Bridge as they leave for their nightly feeding. In addition, you will get to participate in the bat-tastic festivities: 2 stages with live bands, a bat costume contest, children's activities, food and drink, and arts and crafts. Family friendly.

If you are interested in any of these events, please email me at [angsu@hotmail.com](mailto:angsu@hotmail.com) so that we can coordinate and meet up.

## REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Submitted by *Claudia Harbert*, Scholarship Chair

**"No child should have to worry that much about food," says local student to win Regional Scholarship.**

A contestant from our local area won one of three regional scholarships in this year's essay contest. Corinne Alford graduated from Westwood High School this year and will be at UT pursuing a degree in engineering to work toward her goal of helping with international nutrition. Here is Alford's inspired essay:



### **Winner of Regional Grosswirth-Salny Scholarship Corinne Alford**

The Honduran students lined up after school, their hands still by their sides and their lips pressed together. It was hard to believe that these were the same rowdy students I had struggled to teach earlier that day. The first time I witnessed this event, I wondered what could possibly compel a group of elementary-aged kids to behave in such a way. I soon determined the answer: food. I stood mesmerized as kids in line yanked plastic bags out of their pockets and eagerly held them out to teachers, who scooped rice, flour, dried beans and corn out of bins and into their bags. Speaking with a teacher, I learned that this food was distributed by the World Food Programme because of a high incidence of malnutrition in the region. It was then that I fully understood the reverence with which the children treated this food.

This experience solidified my desire to pursue engineering; no child should have to worry that much about food. Upon my return to the US, I found myself thinking more and more about pursuing a degree in chemical/biological engineering, a degree closely tied to research about higher yield or more nutritious crops or foods. I don't want to work from the sidelines though. I want to work in Latin America and through an NGO or international aid group and use my engineering skills to make some headway toward reducing malnutrition.

In school I enrolled in engineering classes and a biotechnology course. I also decided to continue taking Spanish classes beyond those required, in order to master the language of the area I desire to work in. As I began to look for colleges, I searched for strong engineering schools that also have an international or humanitarian focus. I feel that my decision to begin taking classes applicable to my future career in high school will allow me to enter college prepared to succeed in higher level classes. Additionally, going in with a precise focus on reducing malnutrition in Latin America, I will be able to take more of the classes that will really help me and avoid those that won't.

Outside of school, my friends and I decided to delve even further into engineering by participating in the ExploraVision competition. I helped to write an essay on the future of pancreatic cancer treatment. While this topic isn't what I want to pursue in the future, the experience I gained learning to read scientific papers and the technical writing skills I picked up will be invaluable to my future engineering career. Additionally, our project placed 2nd in the nation and so I gained public speaking skills while presenting my project to members of Congress and the President of Toshiba. I feel that my success in this competition, despite not knowing anything about the topic when I started, speaks to who I am as a person. I don't do anything half way; even if that means spending Christmas break reading scientific journals to learn everything I need to write a thorough essay. I know this about myself, and I also know that I'm determined to reduce the number of children having to face the hunger my students faced. With this in mind, I know I will work tirelessly for my students and those in similar situations.

## MENSA TESTING DAY

Submitted by [julieg@americanmensa.org](mailto:julieg@americanmensa.org)

Local Groups host test sessions all year long across the United States. This year, plan for a nation-wide testing session on October 19. If your Local Group isn't able to participate on that day, we encourage you to schedule testing sessions within that month.

October is the month in which Mensa was founded. This is the perfect time for the organization to share the benefits of membership, our rich history, and how taking one test can lead to friendships, fun events, and a multitude of opportunities to challenge one's intelligence. More details about special promotions for test takers will be forthcoming. Stay tuned!

Be thinking about how you would like to promote Mensa Testing Day in your area.



If you have any questions or for support with your marketing and public relations efforts, contact **Julie Garcia** at [JulieG@americanmensa.org](mailto:JulieG@americanmensa.org) or 817-607-0060 ext. 5547.

## POETRY CORNER

By Rose M. Berkowitz

### I'M NOT GONNA FORGIVE YOU ANYMORE

You beat me till I was blue and black  
You didn't care when you made me cry  
And now you're begging "Take me back"  
"Give me one more chance or I'll surely die"

Well, I'm not gonna forgive you anymore  
This time we're gonna even the score  
Fool me one time, shame on you  
Fool me again-and shame on me

I never asked you to walk on water  
Don't blame me for the mistakes you've made  
And I'm not a lamb to be led to slaughter  
While you're cryin' about the dues you've paid

No, I'm not gonna forgive you anymore  
This time won't be like it's been before  
Fool me one time, shame on you  
Fool me again-and shame on me

You wanted everything from me  
Mother and whore, wife and child  
But mostly you gave me misery  
I've had enough of being meek and mild

And I'm not gonna forgive you anymore  
This time you blew your chance for sure  
Fool me one time, shame on you  
Fool me again-and shame on me

I'm scared but I'll make it on my own  
And maybe someday I'll try again  
With a man whose heart is fully grown  
Who can be my lover and my friend

So I'm not gonna forgive you anymore  
This time I'm walkin' out that door  
Fool me one time, shame on you  
Fool me again-and shame on me

## 2013 ANNUAL GATHERING MEDIA COVERAGE

Submitted by [julieg@americanmensa.org](mailto:julieg@americanmensa.org)



The 2013 Annual Gathering received extensive media coverage. We sent out a media release announcing the event, emailed and made daily follow up calls making them aware of the opportunities. Above are a couple of screen shots from the media attention we received.

Making the media aware of your event and following up with them are important steps that can help you gain publicity for your Local Group's events. The marketing department can provide you with a local media list contact list.

If you have any questions or for support with your marketing and public relations efforts, contact Julie Garcia at [JulieG@americanmensa.org](mailto:JulieG@americanmensa.org) or 817-607-0060 ext. 5547.

**To talk well and eloquently is a very great art, but an equally great one is to know the right moment to stop.**  
*- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*

By [Frank.Viscomi43](#)



There must be more than one dimension of time. In our apparent universe we describe physical nature as three space dimensions and one time dimension. I believe that gravity, the weak force, strong force, electromagnetic force, and inertia, are all related. Future research may bring knowledge that defines the interactions of waveforms and the structure they create, closer to being able to define gravity as part of some super symmetry or perhaps a substratum. The relationship of these forces can be found in defining their respective waveforms as being continuous through some substratum. The interactions of these waveforms generate a coupling to form a lattice or grid defined by Planck's length, as a medium through which matter and light traverse space-time. That is to say that all waves must propagate through some medium. Matter is continuously reconstructed in space, regardless of static or dynamic positioning. Motion is then a continuous process of standing waves disappearing and reappearing elsewhere in space. Nothing actually moves. In space-time, stationary objects move in the 'time' dimension.

If gravity is the basis of space-time, then it is possible that there are in existence other dimensions beyond what is perceived by us. If we were to equate waveforms of mass and light into a structure like that of a lattice or grid system, then we can imagine the intersections of these waveforms creating areas that represent additional dimensions. As the universe expanded or inflated, dimensions increased in size and moved towards a flatter profile. In the early beginning, dimensions would have been small and highly curved, at a Planck scale of  $10^{-33}$  cm. The distance each particle (mass and photon) travels is the product of the individual velocities and time. If mapped to a grid system or matrix, the size of each coordinate grid is assumed to be a Planck length, the size of the basic dielectric entity, so nothing can exist in between—no dielectric, no space, and no time.



## MUSIC HUMOR - RULES OF THE BLUES

Author unknown. (Wish we knew, 'cause it's really funny)

1. Most Blues begin, "Woke up this morning..."
2. "I got a good woman" is a bad way to begin the Blues, unless you stick something nasty in the next line like, "I got a good woman, with the meanest face in town."
3. The Blues is simple. After you get the first line right, repeat it. Then find something that rhymes... sort of: "Got a good woman with the meanest face in town. Yes, I got a good woman with the meanest face in town. Got teeth like Margaret Thatcher, and she weigh 500 pound."
4. The Blues is not about choice. You stuck in a ditch, you stuck in a ditch--ain't no way out.
5. Blues cars: Chevys, Fords, Cadillacs and broken-down trucks. Blues don't travel in Volvos, BMWs, or Sport Utility Vehicles. Most Blues transportation is a Greyhound bus or a southbound train. Jet aircraft and company motor pools ain't even in the running. Walkin' plays a major part in the blues lifestyle. So does fixin' to die.
6. Teenagers can't sing the Blues. They ain't fixin' to die yet. Adults sing the Blues. In Blues, "adulthood" means being old enough to get the electric chair if you shoot a man in Memphis.
7. Blues can take place in New York City but not in Hawaii or any place in Canada. Hard times in Minneapolis or Seattle is probably just clinical depression. Chicago, St. Louis, and Kansas City are still the best places to have the Blues. You cannot have the blues in any place that don't get rain.
8. A man with male pattern baldness ain't the blues. A woman with male pattern baldness is. Breaking your leg 'cause you were skiing is not the blues. Breaking your leg 'cause a alligator be chompin' on it is.
9. You can't have no Blues in an office or a shopping mall. The lighting is wrong. Go outside to the parking lot or sit by the dumpster.
10. Good places for the Blues:
  - a. A. Highway
  - b. Jailhouse
  - c. An empty bed
  - d. Bottom of a whiskey glass
11. Bad places for the Blues:
  - a. Nordstrom's
  - b. Gallery openings
  - c. Ivy league institutions
  - d. Golf courses
12. No one will believe it's the Blues if you wear a suit, 'less you happen to be an old ethnic person, and you slept in it.
13. You have the right to sing the Blues if:
  - a. You older than dirt
  - b. You blind
  - c. You shot a man in Memphis
  - d. You can't be satisfied
14. You don't have the right to sing the Blues if:
  - a. You have all your teeth
  - b. You were once blind but now can see
  - c. The man in Memphis lived
  - d. You have a pension fund

15. Blues is not a matter of color. It's a matter of bad luck. Tiger Woods cannot sing the blues. Sonny Liston could. Ugly white people also got a leg up on the Blues.
16. If you ask for water and your darlin' give you gasoline, it's the Blues
17. Other acceptable Blues beverages are:
  - a. Cheap wine
  - b. Whiskey or bourbon
  - c. Muddy water
  - d. Nasty black coffee
18. The following are NOT Blues beverages:
  - a. Perrier
  - b. Chardonnay
  - c. Snapple
  - d. Slim Fast
19. If death occurs in a cheap motel or a shotgun shack, it's a Blues death. Stabbed in the back by a jealous lover is another Blues way to die. So is the electric chair, substance abuse and dying lonely on a broke-down cot. You can't have a Blues death if you die during a tennis match or while getting liposuction.
20. Some Blues names for women:
  - a. Sadie
  - b. Big Mama
  - c. Bessie
  - d. Fat River Dumpling
21. Some Blues names for men:
  - a. Joe
  - b. Willie
  - c. Little Willie
  - d. Big Willie
22. Persons with names like Michelle, Amber, Debbie, and Heather can't sing the Blues no matter how many men they shoot in Memphis.
23. Make your own Blues name Starter Kit: a. name of physical infirmity (Blind, Cripple, Lame, etc.), b. first name (see above) plus name of fruit (Lemon, Lime, Melon, Kiwi, etc.) c. last name of President (Jefferson, Johnson, Fillmore, etc.) For example: Blind Lime Jefferson, Jackleg Lemon Johnson or Cripple Kiwi Fillmore, etc. (Well, maybe not "Kiwi.")
24. I don't care how tragic your life: if you own even one computer, you cannot sing the Blues.



## MEMBER NEWS

Compiled by Don Drumtra, Records Manager, as of 06/30/13

### HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Hugh Brown  
1 William J Worthington  
IV  
2 Steven Miller  
3 Betty L Wolverton  
8 Rudy S Apodaca  
9 Allen E Boyles  
9 Jerry Dike  
10 Alan Baumann  
10 William Lawes  
12 Kyle Patrick May  
14 Keith R Babola  
14 Ronald E Garner  
17 Terrence R King  
18 Douglas W Stidham  
19 Jill E Bosche  
19 Lisa Mather  
19 William D McCarty  
20 Michael E Legatt  
20 Elizabeth M Petit  
20 James B Robinson  
21 Scott A Johnson  
23 Matthew C Lawrence  
24 Paula Blessing Beard  
25 Kenneth V Mosher II  
26 Patrick Buchanan  
28 Ravina J Nelson  
28 Lucille S Russell  
28 W Randall Strahan Jr  
28 Steve Young  
30 Helen Ruth Siders  
31 Kimberly A Michalik

### NEW MEMBERS— WELCOME!

Trevor W Graham  
Colton Lee  
Sierra Stephens

### JUST MOVED IN—HI NEIGHBOR!

Joseph Brian Gresham  
Roy C Minton  
Margaret Rose  
Robert W Rucker

### WELCOME BACK--MISSED YOU!

Deborah Jordan  
Quentin Stephenson

### GOODBYE—NOVING AWAY

Brian Slone

*\* 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.*

### **AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES**

#### MEMBER FOR 40 YEARS!

F J Ross

#### MEMBER FOR 30 YEARS

Howard Edward Spiker PhD

#### MEMBER FOR 10 YEARS

Ted Alexander  
Joan C Dameron  
Melodee Ann DuBois  
Shannon Huggins  
Jack R Speyer

#### MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS

Carolyn A Cox  
A Oriana Yates

#### MEMBER FOR 1 YEAR

Steven Miller  
Garry Morgan Watkins

## AG REPORT

By Linda Edelstein

The AG was great. We had more than 15 attendees from LSM - three Mr. Mensa contestants, the Drumtras, us, John and Geri and their kids, Modelle, Amanda, Crockett Grabbe, and a few others.

The Mr. Mensa contest was a lot of fun, Hugh Brown won Mr. Congeniality. And my personal opinion is that Johnnie Vaughn was the most handsome, but the winner was not from LSM. Johnnie had some really smooth moves in his tuxedo and in his talent presentation.

I mostly hung out in the games room, but I went to several presentations, including ones on how to put on an RG and how to do hospitality. The one I found the most useful was How to Enter and Leave a Conversation Gracefully. I got a couple of ideas from that that have been making it easier for me in group situations already.

Ron and I and the Drumtras attended the Symposium the day before the RG and heard several speeches on sci-fi and its impact on reality. It was enjoyable, and I got books signed by three of the four authors there, including Todd McCaffrey and Brin. Also got a little volume signed by the speaker on getting into and out of conversations.

## COSTUME DANCE AT THE RG

*Submitted by Linda Edelstein, RG Co-Chair*

For the dance on Sunday evening we've secured a DJ who plays records on an old time gramophone. She will play jazz, swing, and other 20's and 30's music for the first two hours of the dance, and she'll be dressed in 1920's costume. Everybody is invited to come in period costume, or any other dance costume of their choosing, to compete for a "Flapper/Gangster" prize.

You're running out of time to register for the RG on Labor Day weekend. Please get your registration in so we can get a count of how many are coming. We're expecting to have a lot of fun. Room rates are only guaranteed through August 9.

## VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS NEEDED FOR RG

*Submitted by Linda Edelstein, RG Co-Chair*

To raise money for our Mensa scholarship program we will be having an auction/drawing on Monday morning, with better items having a silent auction, other items a drawing from purchased tickets. We need twenty to thirty new or very gently used items for this event. If you can solicit a local business or get a certificate for a meal from a favorite restaurant, that would be great. Please let me know if you will be contributing something. I'd like to pick up items beforehand as much as possible.

We can use lots of help for the RG. One person is needed to help Linda shop for food the week of the RG. Help is needed to carry things in and set up on Friday, to pick up pizza for Friday evening, to breakdown Monday morning. Someone needs to pick up ice on Saturday and Sunday mornings. We could use some "speaker shepherds" to show speakers to their rooms and introduce them. Because of the new ownership of the hotel we need someone with a TABC bartending license in Hospitality at all times – there's a two to four hour course on line at a number of sites: <http://learn2serve.com> has it for \$11.99 – if lots of folks get the license, shifts will be easy to fill. Also, because we don't have use of the kitchen, someone will have to make a grocery run on Sunday to get a few items for lunch and dinner. Help setting out and putting away food would also ease things for our hospitality chair. As you can see, none of these things take much time. If you can volunteer an hour or two and have a preference for tasks, please contact [ledelstein@mindspring.com](mailto:ledelstein@mindspring.com) to let me know – the more we have scheduled in advance, the easier and more fun it will be for all.



# Lone Star Mensa RG XV: It's About Time



**When:** Labor Day Weekend, August 30-September 2, 2013

**Where:** The Wingate By Wyndham, 1209 N. IH 35, Round Rock, TX 78664

Join us for LoneStar Mensa RG XV. It'll be a great weekend with lots of interesting speakers, workshops, games, contests, and tastings of cheese, spices, and honey.

Registration for the full weekend is \$70 Aug. 2 – Aug 28, and \$85 Aug. 29 and at the door. Daily rates are \$10 for Friday, \$40 for Saturday, \$40 for Sunday, and \$10 for Monday. Children 8 and under are free; children 9-17 are half the adult rate. Your registration fee includes all speakers, workshops, and other events, plus meals, drinks, and snacks all weekend long. Tasting tickets are \$5.00 each.

Our hotel is the Wingate By Wyndham, located just north of Highway 79 on northbound IH-35 in Round Rock. The LoneStar Mensa rate is \$89/night. Contact the hotel at 512-341-7000 to make your reservation. More hotel information is available at <http://www.wingateroundrock.com/>.

To register by mail, send the form below to Patsy Graham, 5804 Shoal Creek Blvd, Austin, TX 78757. To register via PayPal, please visit <http://lsm.us.mensa.org/events/rg/rg15reg.htm>.

If you have questions, contact our Co-chairs, Ron [aduanam@mindspring.com](mailto:aduanam@mindspring.com) and Linda Edelstein [ledelstein@mindspring.com](mailto:ledelstein@mindspring.com), or our Registrar, Patsy Graham, at [patsy@paloent.com](mailto:patsy@paloent.com).

## Lone Star Mensa RG XV Registration

-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Badge 1. \_\_\_\_\_  Adult  Child 9-17  Child 0-8 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Badge 2. \_\_\_\_\_  Adult  Child 9-17  Child 0-8 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Badge 3. \_\_\_\_\_  Adult  Child 9-17  Child 0-8 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Badge 4. \_\_\_\_\_  Adult  Child 9-17  Child 0-8 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tasting tickets: \_\_\_ Cheese \_\_\_ Spices \_\_\_ Honey Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Make check or money order payable to "Lone Star Mensa RG." (Please do not send cash.)

### Special Instructions:

- Please don't include my name/our names and city/state on the list of registrants on the web
- Please don't include me/us on the list of registrants made available to attendees
- Please use the postal service (not email) for RG updates and correspondence.

I would like to volunteer for the following:

- Hospitality  Solicit Donations  Prepare Food  Registration
- Bring Games  Logistics/Purchasing  Speaker Assistant  Other

I need:  A roommate  A ride from the airport to the hotel

## LONE STAR MENSA CONTACTS BY FUNCTION

Compiled by Don Drumtra, Officer Coordinator, as of July 31, 2013

<b>NEWSLETTER</b>			
Editor	<a href="mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org">editor@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Rose Berkowitz	467-4871
Emailing	<a href="mailto:epostmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org">epostmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Linda Edelstein	491-9881
Snail mailing	<a href="mailto:postmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org">postmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra*	291-0315
Online	<a href="mailto:records@lsm.us.mensa.org">records@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Calendar	<a href="mailto:calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org">calendar@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Rose Berkowitz	467-4871
Publicity	<a href="mailto:publicity@lsm.us.mensa.org">publicity@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Paul Anderson	259-7824
Advertising		Vacant	
Photographer		Vacant	
Managing Editor	<a href="mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org">editor@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Publisher	<a href="mailto:recsecretary@lsm.us.mensa.org">recsecretary@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Board of Officers	291-0361
<b>ON LINE</b>			
Website Design	<a href="mailto:mensapats@att.net">mensapats@att.net</a>	Patsy Graham	380-0141
Website Maintenance	<a href="mailto:webmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org">webmaster@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Douglas Yee	288-9172
LSM Officers, contacts	<a href="mailto:records@lsm.us.mensa.org">records@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Board Meetings	<a href="mailto:records@lsm.us.mensa.org">records@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Operating standards	<a href="mailto:records@lsm.us.mensa.org">records@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Email Lists	<a href="mailto:emaillists@lsm.us.mensa.org">emaillists@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	John Neemidge*	310-7863
Facebook	<a href="mailto:facebook@lsm.us.mensa.org">facebook@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Geri Neemidge	310-7863
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>			
	<a href="mailto:membership@lsm.us.mensa.org">membership@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Fred Goertz**	569-1758
New Members	<a href="mailto:mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org">mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Patsy Graham	380-0141
Renewals	<a href="mailto:ravina_n@hotmail.com">ravina_n@hotmail.com</a>	Ravina Nelson	795-0739
Testing	<a href="mailto:testing@lsm.us.mensa.org">testing@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Austin G. Meyer	971-0123
Awards	<a href="mailto:membership@lsm.us.mensa.org">membership@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Vacant	
Officers	<a href="mailto:records@lsm.us.mensa.org">records@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
		Vacant	
Gifted Youth Programs	<a href="mailto:giftedchildren@lsm.us.mensa.org">giftedchildren@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Michele Vaughan	388-5970
Scholarships	<a href="mailto:scholarship@lsm.us.mensa.org">scholarship@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Claudia Harbert	238-0205
Financial Outreach		Vacant	
<b>EVENTS</b>			
	<a href="mailto:angsu@hotmai.com">angsu@hotmai.com</a>	Angela Adams**	263-8780
Monthly Programs	<a href="mailto:angsu@hotmai.com">angsu@hotmai.com</a>	Angela Adams	283-8780
TGITs	<a href="mailto:drumtra@aol.com">drumtra@aol.com</a>	Don Drumtra	291-0315
Games Night	<a href="mailto:mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org">mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Patsy Graham	380-0141
Chess Night	<a href="mailto:cmvc95@yahoo.com">cmvc95@yahoo.com</a>	Douglas Yee**	288-9172
Eclectic Eats	<a href="mailto:arabushka@austin.rr.com">arabushka@austin.rr.com</a>	Aaron Rabushka	280-2807
Picnics and Parties		Vacant	
Area Events Coordinators		Vacant	
<b>RG CO-CHAIRS</b>			
	<a href="mailto:aduana@mindspring.com">aduana@mindspring.com</a>	Ron and Linda Edelstein	491-9881
<b>OMBUDSMAN</b>			
	<a href="mailto:ombudsman@lsm.us.mensa.org">ombudsman@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Ron Edelstein*	491-9881
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS</b>			
	<a href="mailto:treasurer@lsm.us.mensa.org">treasurer@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Don Drumtra**	291-0315
<b>S.I.G.H.T.</b>			
		Vacant	
<b>EVERYTHING ELSE</b>			
	<a href="mailto:locsec@lsm.us.mensa.org">locsec@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	John Neemidge**	310-7863

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

\*\* LSM board members: John Neemidge, Don Drumtra, Douglas Yee, Angela Adams, and Fred Goertz.

# AUGUST CALENDAR

Compiled by Rose Berkowitz, Calendar Editor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Board Meeting	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 ALG Due Chess Night TGIT-North	9	10
11	12 Member Meeting	13	14	15 TGIT-South	16	17 Games Night
18	19	20 Eclectic Eats	21	22 TGIT-North Seal & Label	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

See the online calendar ([sm.us.mensa.org/events/calendar.shtml](http://sm.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..

## Board Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday

Aug. 1, 7:30-8:30 pm

Carver Branch Library.

## ALG/Calendar Deadline

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Aug. 8, Midnight

Submissions due to Editor.

## Chess Night

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

Aug. 8, 6-8 PM

Bring your chess sets if you have them. Hosted by Douglas Yee.

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

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

Aug. 8 & 22, 6-8 PM

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

## Member Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

Aug 12, 6:45 to 8:15 pm

Carver Branch Library

## Games Night

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday

Aug. 17, 7-10 pm

Café Express

3418 N. Lamar, Austin

Bring a game or just show up. Café Express has lots of tasty items and beverages, but you do not have to buy a meal to sit with us! Family and friends are welcome. (Please note that you are responsible for the behavior of any children you bring.)

## Eclectic Eats

Tuesday

Aug. 20, 7:00 p.m.

Café Express

3418 North Lamar Boulevard

Austin 78705

<http://www.cafe-express.com>,

512-452-9888

Café Express is familiar to many local Mensans from Patsy's game nights, and it features a broadly appealing menu in a relaxed atmosphere. Please RSVP to Aaron Rabushka at 512-280-2807 or [arabushka@austin.rr.com](mailto:arabushka@austin.rr.com) by mid-day on Monday, August 19..

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

Aug. 15, 6:00-8:00 PM

Join us for conversation, food, and fun. Prospective members welcome.

## Seal & Label

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday

Aug. 22, 6-8 PM

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

## UPCOMING IN SEPTEMBER

Aug 30-Sep 2 Lone Star RG, Round Rock

Sep 5 Board, Meeting, Carver

Branch Library

Sep 9 RMM, Carver Branch Library

Sep 12 TGIT, Central Market North

Sep 12 Newsletter input due

Sep 12 Calendar input due

Sep 19 TGIT, Central Market South

Sep 26 TGIT, Central Market North

Sep 26 S&L, Central Market North

## 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 130 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 38<sup>th</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> Streets; on the south side of the store. Look for the Mensa table sign—usually we're upstairs on the Mezzanine..

### 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. Enter at the east side of the store by the statue of fruits and vegetables.

**ARMADILLO LITERARY GAZETTTE**  
(USPS 554-650)

**Periodicals Postage Paid at Austin, Texas**

Send undeliverable copies or change of address to:

**AMERICAN MENSA LIMITED**  
1229 CORPORATE DR W  
ARLINGTON TX 76006-6103

### **PUBLICATION NOTICES**

**The Armadillo Literary Gazette** is owned by American Mensa Limited and is the monthly official publication of Lone Star Mensa.

**Subscriptions** are included with Lone Star membership. Other Mensa members may subscribe for \$10 per year. Subscribers may request delivery by email, USPS mail, or both. Send subscription requests to the Publications Office, 3206 Twilight Trail, Austin, TX 78748-2608.

**Submissions** of all types are encouraged. The deadline is the second Thursday of each month. Submissions may be by email (preferred) 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, unless restricted by the author.

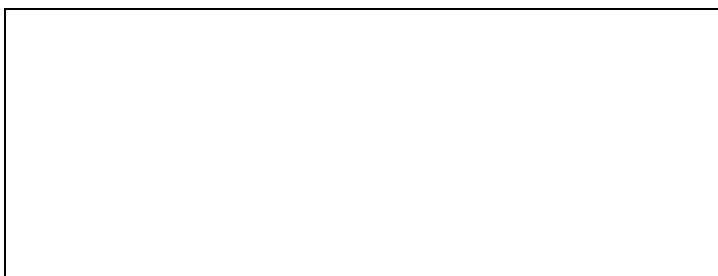
**Calendar** inputs may be submitted at any time and will normally be published online within three days and in the next month's printed calendar if received before the cut-off date. The cut-off date is the second Thursday of the previous month.

**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@ism.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@ism.us.mensa.org)

Calendar submissions may be sent to [calendar@ism.us.mensa.org](mailto:calendar@ism.us.mensa.org)

The editor's snail mail address is  
Rose Berkowitz  
10610 Morado Cir Apt 1302  
Austin, TX 78759-5555



## *Armadillo Literary Gazette*

### **IN THIS ISSUE**

Editor's Choice/LocSec Column	1
Board Minutes/RVC Column	2
Featured Recipe/Member Meetings	3
Sudoku/Let's Hang Out!	4
Regional Scholarship Award	5
Mensa Testing Day/Poetry Corner	6
AG Media Coverage	7
Essay	8
Humor	9
Member News/AG Report	11
RG News	12
RG Registration Form	13
LSM Contacts	14
Calendar	15
Postal Page/Table of Contents	16