

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

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

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

*Submitted By Rose Berkowitz*

According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, September 22 was the first day of Fall. I can't believe how quickly summer passed. But I'm sure most folks are ready for cooler temperatures, football season, anticipated TV shows and outdoor activities. Be sure and keep an eye on our calendar for upcoming events. And as always, let us know how we can better serve you,

Our new Lone Star RG XVI Co-Chair, Leslie Stevenson, has some exciting ideas for our next RG. See page 4 for her write-up. You won't want to miss it!

I'm always glad to hear from you. You can send in comments/reactions to newsletter items, ideas, poetry, essays, or whatever else you'd like to contribute. If you tried a recipe we published, tell us how [you liked it](#). No particular word limit, but emailed submissions are appreciated. Send them to [editor@lsm.us.mensa.org](mailto:editor@lsm.us.mensa.org).

## ONE MEMBER'S VIEW

*By Johnnie Vaughn, Lone Star RG XVI Co-Chair*

"No one has time..."

While that line has probably been used in a bazillion articles, I pulled it from an August 2002 ALG article by Barbara Bartlett, "Raising the Boom." It was an article about how we sometimes miss opportunities because we are too busy to take advantage of them. Look it up and read it. It is worth the effort.

On Monday, I attended the September monthly meeting. I brought along a friend who had just returned to the Austin area, and had just recently renewed her Mensa membership. We both enjoyed Rob Shook's presentation about his experiences in Tanzania as a member of IBM's Corporate Service Corps. Now I have been a Mensa member on-and-off for many years, and assigned to the Lone Star Mensa group since 2006. But this was actually my first monthly meeting. (Why? I didn't have time, of course...) I wound up leaving work later than I had planned, and it would have been so easy for me to put off going yet again. So what was different?

This time I had made a commitment to do something with a friend. It was no longer "just me."

All of a sudden, I actually had time because I made time. Of course, I didn't really have any more or any less time than I would have had if I had skipped yet another meeting. It wasn't really that hard to drive down to the library. It wasn't like I was the person who had to go out and find the speakers. It wasn't like I was the speaker who had to prepare his presentation and donate his time. All I really had to do was just show up. And I had fun...

Yes, we need board members, and people to host events, and speakers for meetings, and dozens of other jobs. But one of the easiest jobs of all is also one of the most important. All you have to do is show up. I hear that having a workout buddy helps people stick to a program at the gym. We can use the same technique to get ourselves out to functions. Grab an "event buddy" and make a commitment to attend. You'll be surprised how easy it is.

Maybe next month I'll make it two in a row—if I have time. □'D

## A WORD TO THE WISE

Submitted by John Neemidge, LocSec



We're going into the fall again, and that means election season. Yes, Lone Star Mensa elections will be upon us again soon. That means we need two things: people *to run* the election and people *to run for* election. To run the election, we need members of the Nominating Committee and the Election Committee (usually the same people, though that's not required). Their job is to identify candidates for office and to conduct the election. Candidates run for the Board, and then the Board internally elects the senior officers (President, Vice President/Secretary, and Treasurer). We will need about 4 candidates ideally (the number we need depends on how many of the current officers decide to run again); anyone is welcome to run. Please contact me if you're interested in volunteering for the committees—and, until we have a nominating committee, you're welcome to let me know if you might be

interested in running for office. You can reach me at [john@neemidge.net](mailto:john@neemidge.net) for these things or for anything else you're like to discuss about the group.

Two groups will also be asking for your attention, ideas, and energy this month and through the next many months. The first is our Mind Games committee, who will need lots of help, both in the form of ideas and in the form of volunteers. There'll be a meeting in October, so check the calendar and try to attend if you can. The second is our Lone Star RG XVI committee, who are busily working on ideas for the next Lone Star RG. If you attended Lone Star RG XV, please send in your feedback (the form is on the RG page at <http://www.ism.us.mensa.org/events/rg>); even if you didn't, you're welcome to fill in the form with thoughts and ideas towards next year's gathering, or just pass them directly on to our co-chairs, Leslie Stevenson and Johnnie Vaughn.

If you have any questions about these topics, any suggestions for other ways of communicating, or any feedback at all, please send me a note at [john@neemidge.net](mailto:john@neemidge.net). I look forward to hearing from you!

## FROM THE RVC

Submitted by Roger Durham, Region 6 RVC



As I write this, in early September, I have just returned from a great weekend at the Lone Star RG in Round Rock, TX. As usual, the Austin group did a terrific job: a wide variety of speakers, sumptuous hospitality, an aged cheese tasting, and a Jazz Age dance, among other things. I didn't get to see the final attendance list, but I noticed folks there from

Gulf Coast, East Texas, South Texas, North Texas, and Mensa 76, in addition to host group Lone Star Mensa. Besides the opportunity to socialize with some new people, I also enjoyed the chance to exchange a few ideas with Asst. RVC Bob Bevard. A good time was had by all, I believe, and now I'm looking forward to the Region's next big party, SynRG 14, to be held over Memorial Day weekend next year.

Over the last couple of months I have received two inquiries about the possibility of reduced dues for long-time members who are now retired and on a fixed income. I'm afraid the answer to that is "slim and none", for two reasons: first, because reducing dues for anyone

would mean increasing dues for everyone else (not a popular idea), and second, because retired long-time members are a large and growing group. Besides, there is an element of personal responsibility involved here: presumably these folks knew they would be on a fixed income someday, and could have taken the opportunity to invest in a life membership while they were still working. Still, if your local group has a long-time member who contributes substantially to the group in some way and is now unable to afford to continue membership, there is no reason your local group could not subsidize that person's dues out of local funds.

There will almost certainly be a discussion about dues at the next meeting of your national Board of Directors, taking place in Arlington, TX the first weekend of October, and I'll bring this up at that time, but I don't expect the idea to gain much traction. I'll update you on the result when I report on the Board meeting in my November column.

As always, if you have any suggestions, complaints, or questions you would like to share with me, please feel free to contact me at [rvc6@us.mensa.org](mailto:rvc6@us.mensa.org), or by snail mail at 9920 Ridgehaven Dr., Dallas, TX 75238.

## SEPTEMBER BOARD MINUTES

Submitted by John Neemidge, acting Scribe

The September regular meeting of the Lone Star Mensa board of officers convened at 7:25 PM, Thursday, Sep 5, 2013 at Carver Public Library, Rooms 2-3, 1161 Angelina, Austin TX. Attending were **Don Drumtra, Tami Heaton, John Neemidge, Douglas Yee, and Johnnie Vaughn**. The board adopted the agenda and the minutes of the August regular board meeting as printed on page 4 of the September *Armadillo Literary Gazette*. The *Gazette* is available on the LSM Website and paper copies are available on request.



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

- **LocSec:** John sent in a LocSec Workshop action plan.
- **Treasurer:** Don presented an updated financial report under cash accounting. Don also presented the new restricted account plan. The bank has made it much easier for us to create additional bank accounts. We may open an account for the RG and are considering opening a savings account.
- **ComComm:** Another successful mailing. Annual Mailing Report due end of September. We had a discussion about advertising in the Armadillo. Currently RG advertising does not count as advertising. We are also not expecting any short-term significant changes in mailing rules.
- **EdComm:** Raised money for scholarships at the RG; not as much as last year, but roughly \$300 based on preliminary information. Mailed newsletters to scholarship recipients.
- **MemComm:** No major updates in September.
- **SymComm:** Rob Shook will be speaking at the September meeting.
- **Lone Star RG 2013 Committee:** Congratulations to the committee for a successful RG.
- **Lone Star RG 2014 Committee:** Committee received good input from the planning meeting held at Lone Star RG XV. Would like to be able to start contacting members later this fall.
- **Website Working Group:** Tami Heaton discussed potential updates to the website, including limitations of the National server. Plan is to present more information at next month's meeting, possibly including a display. We will discuss hosting options next month.
- **Mind Games Committee:** We have 176 room nights reserved as of Sep 5 and 111 Mind Games registrations as of Aug 31, 2013. Both numbers are at or above expectations.
- Tami Heaton volunteered to be ComComm chair. John appointed her to the chair position with the advice and consent of Don and Douglas.



Announcements:

- The next monthly board meetings are scheduled for 7:15-8:15 PM, Thursday, Oct 3 and Thursday, Nov 7 at the Carver Branch Library.
- The next regular monthly meetings are scheduled for 6:45-8:15 PM, Monday, Sep 9, Oct 14, and Nov 4 at the Carver Branch Library.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Submitted by Leslie L. Stevenson, Co-chair for 2014 Lone Star RG XVI

Howdy! Some of you folks may have met me at the Lone Star RG XV... some I've yet had the pleasure to meet! I finally "took the test" at the *Culture in Cowtown* AG in July, and now I'm excited to be a member! I've been a self-proclaimed "Mensa Groupie" for years – attending Lone Star and Gulf Coast RG's with my cousins Joe and Barbara Bartlett.

In the two months since becoming a member:

- I signed up to every SIG group I had a remote interest in. I got on the Facebook group, and went to a Games Night and a Board meeting.
- Then I really just wanted to register for the 2013 RG, and saw that Linda and Ron Edelstein were taking suggestions... so I emailed them. I wanted to help out where I could, and thought I could help with dance decorations. I went over to their house and they gave me good coffee and I enjoyed a chat with the two of them... and then somehow... some way... I now am the co-chair for 2014 Lone Star RG XVI: Playtime! Come play with us!

Also I was voted Hell's M's "Party Animal" at our RG! Now I'm hooked, I'm going to be a member, and I want my t-shirt.

I don't think I'm doing too badly for my first two months as a Mensa member.

So, on to talking about our next RG:

A couple of things are going on here: I know there have to be some of you that are Gen X or Gen Y... I am Gen X myself. I'm really NEEDING to get some more feedback from you guys!

What would make an RG attractive to you? What would you like to see our area do more of this year? What do YOU do for fun? I know I was disappointed there wasn't more SIG involvement, some more hip things to do together. Check out some of the other areas (Mensa of Northeastern New York (MoNNY) for example... I know what you are all thinking... it IS New York--- but Northeastern New York for goodness sakes! We are one of the areas with the most members!) and you will see what I mean.

Some ideas we are already working on for Lone Star RG XVI:

- Getting local Role Playing Game leaders to come help us learn to play Dungeons & Dragons

- A presentation about Roller Derby
- Moth storytelling icebreaker evening with Sam Beckerman (examples can be found at <http://themoth.org/>)
- A Photo Scavenger Hunt
- A Discussion Room with the help of Hugh Brown
- Duct Tape Fashion
- Our own version (everyone allowed to participate) of WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?
- A presentation on Keeping Austin Weird
- Play-Doh Sculptures
- A presentation from the president of the Buster Keaton fan club
- Breaking into the professional acting business and getting an agent
- Tastings: Vodka, Salsa
- Various crafts and other activities
- Some tournaments:
- Rock Band
- Magic the Gathering
- Chess/Speed Chess with Douglas Yee
- A Pun Off

We have a lot more ideas, but this should give you some "teasers" of the direction this upcoming RG is heading.

I'm working closely with my co-chair, Johnnie Vaughn, and our new Lone Star area Communications Chair, Tami Heaton. Tami has some really cool surprises in store for us in the next couple of months... stay tuned!

If you have suggestions, want to volunteer for help, or get on the RG Planning committee, please feel free to email me at [leslielstevenson@gmail.com](mailto:leslielstevenson@gmail.com).

One last note: let people know about us! Shake up this area! If you go to a Comic Con, are involved in RPGs, attend a renaissance festival, are involved in a science or book club... spread the word! I know people are sometimes shy about their involvement in Mensa, but maybe we could let people know that we are the cool kids after all!

And ask yourself, what can you bring to the table? Several members have been keeping things active for YEARS... I bet some are tired! Hopefully we can help share the load and make our area one to talk about! Fire it up! Mensa ROCKS!

Thank you very much, [leslielstevenson@gmail.com](mailto:leslielstevenson@gmail.com) (also my Facebook address)

## LONE STAR MENSA SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR CHANGES

Submitted by Claudia Harbert, Scholarship Chair Emeritus

Serving as Lone Star Mensa's Scholarship Chair since July of 2005 has been an honor, a challenge, and a pleasure. During my first contest, we judged 38 entries. Over the years, the number of entries climbed steadily, culminating at 226 in 2013. At first, I mailed the entries to the judges and they mailed back their scores. Then, for a few years, we had "Judgment Day" parties—long afternoons of eating, talking, and judging; those were my favorite years! Then, as the entries became too numerous to judge in one afternoon, we met the challenge by moving all the judging to email. Every year, entries from our local area won more than just our local scholarship, with many regional winners and several winners of national-level scholarships. Notifying the winners was always a pleasure!

It has been an honor to represent Lone Star Mensa, and both an honor and a pleasure to work with the volunteers who have judged the essays each year. I have been humbled and impressed by the generosity of those who have attended the RG fundraising events and allowed us to increase our local scholarship via their donations.

The challenging part of being Scholarship Chair has been coordinating all the aspects of the program.

Each year has had its challenges, and more than once I experienced Mensa magic, when I perceived a potential crisis and Mensan volunteers sprang to my aid.

At this juncture, I am divesting myself of some volunteer hours to focus on personal projects. The scholarships program is undergoing major changes at the national level. This is an auspicious time for someone new, with different abilities and a fresh perspective, to take charge of the scholarships program for Lone Star Mensa.

I am pleased to introduce your new Scholarship Chair, Michael Richards! Michael recently moved to Dripping Springs from San Antonio, where he continues to commute to teach in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Texas in San Antonio. He is eminently qualified, with a doctorate in education. He is deserving of the honor and is willing to accept the challenges. Michael will be a fun and helpful addition to our local group! Please welcome him, help him when he asks for volunteer judges. etc., and enjoy getting to know him.

Thank you, Lone Star Mensa!

## EINSTEIN RUNS AGAIN!

By Lynn Herrick

Here we are, running neck and neck—straining every muscle, rivers of sweat pouring off us, ground whizzing under our pounding feet. But from each other's viewpoint neither of us is budging an inch.

And if I suddenly put on a burst of speed and get going a couple of miles an hour faster than you, from your point of view I'm only going two miles an hour. And from my point of view—forget it!—you're going two miles an hour *backwards*. Might as well quit while you're behind.

At least, this is what Einstein would tell you if he were still around. (Maybe that's why he isn't!) Movement is all relative—it all depends on who's doing the measuring, and one viewpoint isn't "realer" than another.

Of course, a standing-still-type person might argue with that and say that I'm "really" going six miles an hour and you're "really" going four. But what do standing-still types know about relativity anyway? They don't even know they're not standing still, but going almost a thousand miles an hour themselves (forwards or backwards) just by standing on the surface of the Earth and letting it do all the work. So from the Earth's point of view we're both doing nearly a thousand miles an hour, give or take a few miles, depending on which way we're running.

And from the Sun's point of view...well, just add another 18 miles a second.

## FEATURED RECIPE

### Double Tomato Bruschetta

Submitted By: Rose Berkowitz

Prep Time: 15 Minutes

Ready In: 35 Minutes

Servings: 12



#### **Ingredients:**

6 roma (plum) tomatoes, chopped	1/4 cup fresh basil, stems removed
1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, packed in oil	1/4 teaspoon salt
3 cloves minced garlic	1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/4 cup olive oil	1 French baguette
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar	2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

#### **Directions:**

1. Preheat the oven on broiler setting.
2. In a large bowl, combine the roma tomatoes, sun-dried tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, vinegar, basil, salt, and pepper. Allow the mixture to sit for 10 minutes.
3. Cut the baguette into 3/4-inch slices. On a baking sheet, arrange the baguette slices in a single layer. Broil for 1 to 2 minutes, until slightly brown.
4. Divide the tomato mixture evenly over the baguette slices. Top the slices with mozzarella cheese.
5. Broil for 5 minutes, or until the cheese is melted.

## MEMBER MEETINGS

Submitted by Angela Adams, Symposia Chair

### September Meeting

This month our speaker was Rob Shook, a local lifetime Mensan and IBM employee. He had recently returned from Tanzania, where he was on assignment with the Corporate Service Corps, or “mini Peace Corps,” of IBM. He and 13 other IBMers from all over the globe assembled with the goals of advising and assisting the Tanzania Meteorological Agency, the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation, and the burgeoning sisal and coconut fiber recycling industry in Tanzania. They faced many significant challenges, including corruption, lack of electrical infrastructure, and third world healthcare (a serious issue when Rob managed to contract a disease that stumped his Tanzanian doctors). They also had life-altering experiences with some amazing, inspiring people in a land filled with incredible natural beauty. Eight intrepid armchair adventurers showed up to listen to his captivating stories, behold some remarkable pictures, and ask random Mensan questions.

### October Meeting

In October, our speaker will be Eric Maisel, PhD, renowned creativity coach and author of over 40 books, including his newest, *Why Smart People Hurt: A Guide for the Bright, the Sensitive, and the Creative*. In this book, Dr. Maisel describes the special challenges that smart and creative people face, such as a society that does not embrace its intellectuals, “racing brain syndrome,” and dealing with boredom and ennui. Then the author outlines specific solutions that allow us to create meaning out of our life. Take a peek at the book or purchase it online at [http://www.amazon.com/Why-Smart-People-Hurt-Sensitive/dp/1573246263/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1368229008&sr=1-1&keywords=why+smart+people+hur](http://www.amazon.com/Why-Smart-People-Hurt-Sensitive/dp/1573246263/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1368229008&sr=1-1&keywords=why+smart+people+hur).

## YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE

### Weekly Extremes

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

By Douglas Yee



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

*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

Here are Angela's happenings in the month of October:

- **German-Texan Heritage Society Oktoberfest** — Saturday, October 19, 11:00 am – 6:00 pm — German Free School on 10th Street. Ticket prices unknown at press time. The German-Texan Heritage Society holds Oktoberfest in Austin every year (no need to daytrip out to Fredericksburg!). Their fest provides all things German – live music, food, biergarten, dancing, and activities for the kids. Family friendly.
- **Texas Book Festival** — Saturday, October 26 through Sunday, October 27 — State Capitol Building. Free. This huge event is chaired by former First Lady Laura Bush and features an impressive list of authors and speakers (check online for the full list; past guests include Bill Clinton and Amy Sedaris). Oh, and they sell books there, too. Family friendly.

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

- **Austin City Limits Music Festival** — October 4-6 & 11-13, 11:00 am – 10:00 pm — Zilker Park. \$\$\$, kids 10 and under are free with parents. If you don't know what ACL is, then you're just not a live music fan, and you should avoid Zilker Park and the surrounding area like the plague for these two weekends (trust me). For the new people, ACL is Austin's largest outdoor music festival, now offered on two weekends. They aren't selling 1-Day Passes this year, so be prepared to shell out at least a couple hundred dollars for a 3-Day Pass if you're planning to go (some discounted Student Passes are available, but you have to wait in a long line and be lucky). Check out the lineups on the ACL website. Family friendly (Austin Kiddie Limits).
- **Fredericksburg Oktoberfest** — Friday, October 4 through Sunday, October 6, various hours— Fredericksburg, TX (day trip!). Adults \$7, kids 6-12 \$1, kids under 6 are free (multi-day passes are available). German food, drink (including a wide selection of beers), music, dancing, and carnival games abound for your festival pleasure. Wear your lederhosen or dirndl if you've got one! Family friendly.
- **St. Elias Mediterranean Festival** — Friday, October 18 (6:00 pm-11:00 pm) through Saturday, October 19 (noon – 11:00 pm). Free from noon – 4:00 pm on Saturday, otherwise a \$5 donation. The 81st annual Med Fest 2013 features Greek food, drink, music, dancing, and shopping. Family friendly (Kids' Oasis).
- **Austin Film Festival and Conference** — Thursday, October 24 through Thursday, October 31, various hours—various locales. \$50 Film Pass (upgraded badges of various levels and prices are also available). If you love movies, then you won't want to miss this! Whether you just want to watch films or you are interested in working in the film industry, you'll find something to pique your interest. Be the first to see all the documentaries, animated films, indies, and movies that your friends will be talking about next year. Besides the movies, there are panels and workshops that offer incredible learning and networking opportunities. Best of all, every night ends with a party!

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

## MENSA TESTING PROMOTION/PUBLICITY

Submitted by Julie Garcia at [JulieG@americanmensa.org](mailto:JulieG@americanmensa.org)

**WHAT: Summer Promotion – Take the online Mensa Home Test, receive \$18 off your test session (45% off) in October**

**WHEN: September 16– September 30**

Now through September 30th take the online Mensa Home Test, and receive 45% off the price of the official Mensa Admissions Test. Simply print off the receipt and bring it in to your nearest testing session in the month of October and you will pay only \$22 (regularly \$40). Access the test at [www.us.mensa.org/MHT](http://www.us.mensa.org/MHT). (One per test taker.)



### **Radio Public Affairs Shows: A great resource for publicity**

A good way to secure some publicity is to contact the public affairs show on your local radio station. Most stations will carry a public affairs show that will feature stories on local charity and community service events in their area. The producers and hosts are always on the lookout for interesting topics to share with their audience. Consider contacting your local radio station to set up an interview to discuss your Local Groups testing dates in October. They tend to book the shows weeks, sometimes months, in advance, so start early.

A great example is Chicago Area Mensa. Last month, Membership Officer Beth Anne Demeter and fellow Mensan Damian Christiansen were guests on the "Mix Matters" public affairs show on WTMX-FM/101.9 The Mix. They provided information about programming, testing and the Gifted Youth program. They discussed educational tips for the preschool set and also mentioned the social aspect of the organization. The interview will air Sunday, Aug. 25 from 6:26-6:58 a.m. on 101.9fm-The MIX and can be heard at <http://www.wtmx.com/home.php>. It will also be included in a blog preview, put up on a podcast and then shared on the station's website. Way to go, Chicago!

If you need a list of your local radio stations, please contact **Julie Garcia** at [JulieG@americanmensa.org](mailto:JulieG@americanmensa.org) or **817-607-0060 ext 5547**.



## How are you reaching prospective members?

Each Local Group uses different tools when it comes to reaching out to its prospective members. An email newsletter is a great way to reach them. One major benefit is quick turnaround time. Here is a great example from Memphis Mensa. They focused on the Online Mensa Home Test summer promotion. Fantastic job, Memphis!

Another great example is Charlotte/Blue Ridge Mensa. A college student contacted them asking about any upcoming events that the group could promote to their students. The Local Group sent the \$1 Days promotions information. By doing this, they promoted the most relevant information to a motivated consumer, plus it established contact with a possible future partner, perhaps someone who could help secure a classroom for future testing opportunities.

As always, if you should have questions, concerns or need clarification, please contact **Julie Garcia** at **JulieG@americanmensa.org** or **817-607-0060 ext 5547**.



### **LONE STAR MENSA IS HOSTING MIND GAMES**

*Submitted by Geri Neemidge, Mind Games Hospitality Chair*

As many of you know, Lone Star Mensa is hosting Mind Games over Easter weekend April 18 - 20th 2014 at the Airport Hilton. Mind Games is a National gathering where games are judged by Mensans (and a few non-Mensans). The winning games are awarded the Mensa Select Seal which they display proudly on their packages and web sites. If you like table top games, this is the gathering for you. You will be given a list of about 30 games to play and judge. You score each game on criteria set by American Mensa and you are also encouraged to give feedback to the game designers. I think the feedback is in many ways the most valuable thing that the game companies get (unless they win that seal!).

We will be hosting around 350 people for the weekend and we are going to need some help. We need people to volunteer to help with hospitality. The hotel is catering meals, but we will have folks up for hours and hours and hours playing games. I am looking for people who will bake some homemade sweets which we can serve over the weekend. We will also need hospitality volunteers on site to help us to keep things tidy and restock our veggie trays and our dips. We will also need people on site to help out with whatever may come up—maybe a run to get us ice or soda, maybe to an office supply store. We will need folks to help keep our gaming area clean and organized and just help the event the run smoothly. We also need help on Friday morning with registration. You can volunteer for these positions even if you are registered for Mind Games, as they won't take much of your time.

There is a Mind Games Committee Meeting at on Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar at 7 pm (6:30 pm if you want to eat first) on the calendar, If you are considering volunteering, you may want to attend. If you would like to just ask questions and hear more about it, come on out. If you are ready to help out, THANK YOU! Let me, Geri Neemidge ([geri@neemidge.net](mailto:geri@neemidge.net)), Hospitality Chair, or Patsy Graham, ([mensapats@att.net](mailto:mensapats@att.net)), Mind Games Chair, know.

## MEMBER NEWS

Compiled by Don Drumtra, Records Manager, as of 08/31/13

### HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 David Floyd
- 1 Melanie G Gover
- 1 Robert Brian Holder
- 1 James Micheal Rauch
- 3 Thomas M Spillman Jr
- 3 John David White
- 4 Joan C Dameron
- 4 Michael McKenzie
- 4 Angela Philley
- 4 Karen M Werner
- 10 Janis Anderson
- 10 Robert Allan Larson
- 10 Nina Jo Saint
- 15 Vicky Yvonne Spradling
- 19 Charles D Daniel
- 23 Michael Bennett McCormick
- 25 Deidre Brightman
- 25 Audrey L Patton
- 26 Robert I May
- 26 Amber C Pine
- 26 Robert W Rucker
- 26 Elizabeth Wrightson
- 28 Kimberly R Chapin
- 28 W Andrew York
- 29 Stephen A McAlister
- 29 Mary Frances Satterfield
- 29 David R Travis

### NEW MEMBERS—WELCOME!

Robert L Moore  
Nathan E Rippstein  
Sizhan Shi  
Katerina Tsasis

### JUST MOVED IN—HI NEIGHBOR!

Alejandro A Loayza  
Christopher Willingham  
Carla Young

### WELCOME BACK--MISSED YOU!

Annette Berksan  
Elizabeth Anne McKinney

### GOODBYE—NOVING AWAY

Charles Wilson

*\* 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.*

### **OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES**

#### MEMBER FOR 30 YEARS

Mary L Hoane

#### MEMBER FOR 20 YEARS

Linda Van Broeke-Pierce

#### MEMBER FOR 15 YEARS

Jeffrey S Schaver

#### MEMBER FOR 10 YEARS

Katherine G Blair  
Scott T McAfee

#### MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS

Samantha Collins  
Brock Gascon  
William Lawes

#### MEMBER FOR 1 YEAR

Karen Evans Collier  
Charles B Owen  
Shawn Sprinkel



*There are perhaps no days of our childhood we live so fully as those we spend with a favorite book*  
**- Marcel Proust.**



## YOUNG MENSANS IN THE NEWS

Over the last few weeks, 4-year-old Anala Beevers of Louisiana has been featured in several national stories regarding her membership. Below are just a few articles we would like to share with you.

- <http://www.people.com/people/article/0,,20721049,00.html>
- <http://news.yahoo.com/4-year-old-with-iq-of-145-becomes-mensa-s-newest-member-141316099.html>
- <http://www.nasdaq.com/video/4-yr-old-genius-517875260>
- <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/videos/news/4-year-old-genius-is-a-hometown-hero/v887G/>

Sharing positive and inspiring stories about ourselves helps our public outreach and increases the ability for us to connect with prospects. Find out who in your group has a newsworthy story they would like to share and have your PR Coordinator pitch it to the local newspaper or the online news source in your community.

If you need help creating the pitch or a media list to pitch to, please contact Julie Garcia at [JulieG@americanmensa.org](mailto:JulieG@americanmensa.org) or 817-607-0060 ext.5547



## PUNOGRAPHY

Submitted by Ron Edelstein

*I tried to catch some fog. I mist.*

*When chemists die, they barium.*

*Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.*

*I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time.*

*How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.*

*I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.*

*This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.*

*I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I can't put it down.*

*I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.*

*They told me I had type A blood, but it was a type-O.*

*A dyslexic man walks into a bra...*

*Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.*

*Class trip to the Coca-Cola factory-- I hope there's no pop quiz.*

*The Energizer bunny arrested and charged with battery.*

*The old man didn't like his beard at first. Then it grew on him.*

*Did you hear about the cross eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?*

*When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.*

*What does a clock do when it's hungry? It goes back four seconds.*

*Broken pencils are pointless.*

*What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.*

*England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.*

*I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.*

*All the toilets in New York 's police stations have been stolen. Police have nothing to go on.*

*I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.*

*Velcro - what a rip off!*

*Cartoonist found dead in home. Details are sketchy.*

*Earthquake in Washington—obviously government's fault.*

*I used to think I was indecisive, but now I'm not so sure.*

# Think you're Mensa® Material? TEST YOURSELF



Mensa is an organization for people with IQs in the top 2%. Take our Mini-Quiz today to gear up for the Mensa Admissions Test.

1. What is the 4-digit number in which the first digit is one-fifth the last, and the second and third digits are the last digit multiplied by 3? (Hint: The sum of all digits is 12.)
2. Jane went to visit Jill. Jill is Jane's only husband's mother-in-law's only husband's only daughter's only daughter. What relation is Jill to Jane?
3. Which of the words below is least like the others? The difference has nothing to do with vowels, consonants or syllables.

MORE, PAIRS, ETCHERS, ZIPPER

4. Tabitha likes cookies but not cake. She likes mutton but not lamb, and she likes okra but not squash. Following the same rule, will she like cherries or pears?
5. What is the number that is one more than one-tenth of one-fifth of one-half of 4,000?
6. In a foot race, Jerry was neither first nor last. Janet beat Jerry, Jerry beat Pat. Charlie was neither first nor last. Charlie beat Rachel. Pat beat Charlie. Who came in last?
7. Find the number that best completes the following sequence.  
  
1 2 4 7 11 ? 22
8. Marian bought 4 oranges and 3 lemons for 90 cents. The next day she bought 3 oranges and 4 lemons for 85 cents. How much did each lemon and orange cost?
9. Start with the number of total mittens the numbered kittens lost, and multiply by the voting age in the U.S. What's the answer?
10. There is at least one nine-letter word that contains only one vowel. Do you know what it is?

© Dr. Abbie F. Salny

## Scoring:

Count the number of correct answers.

**9-10:** Excellent! You should start making room in your wallet for your Mensa card.

**7-8:** Great job! See you at the next Mensa test session!

**5-6:** Not bad at all! Try the Mensa Home Test for a little more practice. ([www.us.mensa.org/mht](http://www.us.mensa.org/mht))

**Below 5:** Our online game room is a great place to give your brain a workout. Play some games and try our Mini-Quiz again. [www.us.mensa.org/games](http://www.us.mensa.org/games)

Answers  
1. 1,155  
2. Jane's daughter (Jane's mother's husband is Jane's father, his daughter is Jane, and Jill is her daughter.)  
3. Zipper (The others can be anagrammed into the names of cities: Rome, Park, Chester.)  
4. Cherries (Tabitha only likes food with two syllables.)  
5. 41. (4000 / 2 = 2000, / 5 = 400, / 10 = 40, + 1 = 41)  
6. Rachel  
7. 16 (Each number adds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, respectively, to the preceding number.)  
8. Oranges cost 15 cents each; lemons cost 10 cents each.  
9. 216. (3 kittens @ 4 mittens each = 12 x 18. Kittens have 4 paws.)  
10. Strengths

## Learn more about Mensa

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Ready for the **REAL** test? Find a test site near you by visiting [www.us.mensa.org/testingcalendar](http://www.us.mensa.org/testingcalendar).

*This is an authorized Quiz that may be given to Prospects, Media, and other parties to help advertise and promote Mensa.*

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Compiled by Don Drumtra, Officer Coordinator, as of 09/30/13

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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.

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

# OCTOBER CALENDAR

Compiled by Rose Berkowitz, Calendar Editor

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

See the online calendar ([ism.us.mensa.org/events/calendar.shtml](http://ism.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  
Oct/ 3, 7:15-8:15 pm  
Carver Branch Library.

## Member Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday  
Oct. 7, 6:45 to 8:15 pm  
Carver Branch Library

## Mind Games Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 9, 2013  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
(Patsy will be there at 6:30 if you want to eat first)  
Central Market North  
You don't have to make a commitment; you can just make suggestions or ask questions. We do need some help before the event, however.

## ALG/Calendar Deadline

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
Oct. 10, Midnight  
Submissions due to Editor.

## Chess Night

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
Oct. 10, 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  
Oct. 10 & 24, 6-8 PM  
Meet us upstairs at the Café for conversation, food and fun. Prospective members welcome

## Eclectic Eats

Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7:00 PM  
Verona Ristorante Italiano, 6406 North IH-35 in Austin (in the Lincoln Shopping Center) 512/458-3500, <http://www.veronaustin.com>  
Verona offers an impressive selection of Italian food (including appetizers, beef, veal, chicken, seafood, and vegetarian dishes) in a relaxed atmosphere that is sure to provide a welcome addition to your day. There is an extensive wine list, and beer and cocktails are also available. Please RSVP to Aaron Rabushka at 512-280-2807 or [arabushka@austin.rr.com](mailto:arabushka@austin.rr.com) by noon on Monday, October 14.

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday  
Oct. 17, 6:00-8:00 PM  
Join us for conversation, food, and fun. Prospective members welcome.

## Games Night

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
Oct. 19, 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.)

## Seal & Label

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday  
Oct. 24, 6-8 PM  
Join the TGIT Group to help seal and label the newsletter.

## UPCOMING IN NOVEMBER

Nov 7 LSM Board, Carver Branch Library  
Nov 11 RMM, Carver Branch Library  
Nov 14 TGIT, Central Market North  
Nov 14 Newsletter input due, email  
Nov 14 Calendar input due  
Nov 21 TGIT, Central Market South  
Nov 26 Tuesday, TGIT, Central Market N  
Nov 26 Tuesday, S&L, Central Market N  
[Nov 21-24, Dallas RG]

## 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.

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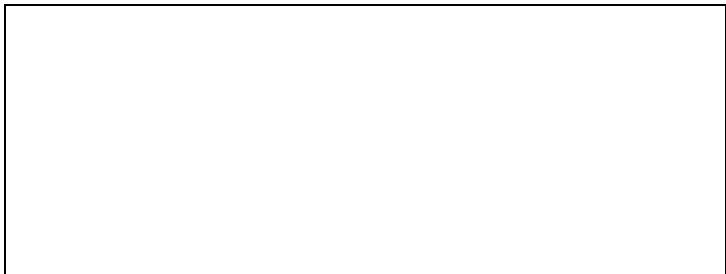
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**Submissions** of all types are encouraged. The deadline is the second Thursday of each month. Submissions may be by email (preferred) or by snail mail in typed format. Anonymous submissions are not accepted, although the author's identity may be 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.

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# Armadillo Literary Gazette

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