

Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of Lone Star Mensa

Volume XLI Number 1



Acting Editor: Ron Edelstein

Managing Editor: Don Drumtra

Publisher: Board of Officers

EDITOR'S CHOICE

By Ron Edelstein

Our regular editor, Rose Berkowitz, is home and recovering from her hospital stay and hopes to return to editing the Armadillo Literary Gazette in the near future. But right now is not a good time for her to take it on, so it is still in my hands for the moment.

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.

Please join me in wishing our regular newsletter editor, Rose, a Happy Birthday on January 16th. And if you know any of our other January birthday people, do the same for them.

This month, just for fun, there are some pictures of some old cars for you to try to identify. All are very well known models. No prizes for getting them, just for fun. But you can write to me if you like to talk cars.



Name This Car: Often called the "Ultimate Sports Car". Make, model and year.

A Word To the Wise



Happy New Year to you all! This is going to be a very busy year for Lone Star Mensa -- our busiest year ever -- and we hope you will all come out and get involved! We have a lot of things going on, and we're always looking for people to host new events as well.

First off, we are slated to have a new website by the new year or shortly after. This should offer a lot more information in an easier-to-use form. Along with this we are planning to add or upgrade a number of other electronic communication methods (Facebook, Twitter, Google+, etc). Our goal is to be able to offer more ways for members to participate and get involved in our Mensa chapter.

Second, we're having elections for the Board. We have many more candidates than we have had in recent years, but even with that, we still will have a number of positions, including appointed Board positions, to fill. I'll write more about those next month, but if you're looking to get involved, we still need you!

Next, Mind Games, which will be Easter weekend, April 18-20! This will be the largest event Lone Star Mensa has ever hosted, with a planned attendance of 300 people, and we will need your help. We need many volunteers for hospitality, set-up, cleanup, and more. We also hope some of you will register and come play games! Patsy Graham, our Mind Games chair, will be writing more about this, and there'll be a number of planning meetings on the calendar -- everyone is welcome to attend.

LonestaRG XVI: Playtime, our annual Regional Gathering (or convention), will be Labor Day Weekend. The theme this year will be "The Games People Play". Our Co-Chairs, Leslie Stevenson and Johnnie Vaughn, are busy at work already planning a great weekend. As with Mind Games, we'll need lots of volunteers and there are many ways to help. Keep an eye out for planning meetings and other ways to get involved.

Finally, there's everything else. We have our Monthly Meeting (for which we are searching for a new coordinator -- more on that next month), we have a number of regular events (TGIT, Fold & Sticker, Eclectic Eats, Games Night, Chess Night), we have picnics and parties and all sorts of things. Anyone can place an event on the calendar and we encourage people to try things and see what works.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in the New Year. My term as President will end in April with the new Board, but I expect to be around and very active. Come out, join us, and help make this year a great one for Lone Star Mensa and all of our members -- including you!



When you choose the lesser of two evils, always remember that it is still an evil."

--Max Lerner

From the RVC

From the RVC:

Once again, another year is gone, and it's time to wish all of you a very happy New Year. As I write this in early December, I have just returned from the winter meeting of the American Mensa Committee in Florida.



As I'm sure you recall, at our last meeting the Board adopted a policy banning weapons at national Mensa events. Although I, as a member of the Risk Management Committee, was the seconder of this motion, I wasn't very happy with the final wording that we ended up with after several last-minute amendments. Consequently, at the December meeting I offered a revised policy, seconded by LaRae Bakerink, our Second Vice-Chair, which I'm happy to report that we passed. Under this new policy, if not prohibited by local law or the hotel itself, you may bring a firearm to the hotel, keep it in your room, and carry it when you go outside. You are only asked not to bring it into the actual rooms where Mensa functions are taking place, such as speaker rooms, hospitality, game rooms, and so on. The new policy applies only to firearms, unlike the original

one, which prohibited weapons of any description. I am indebted to Brian Reeves, our Secretary, for his help in drafting the new policy. Although opposed to the idea on general principles, he generously assisted me to find wording which I hope will be less objectionable to members concerned about their 2nd Amendment rights. Please keep in mind that this is not a political statement, just an attempt to placate our liability insurance carrier.

Now, following up on last month's column, I have been asked to remind everyone that our Regional Scholarship Chair, Tom Ehrhorn of New Mexico Mensa, needs regional judges for the second-level scholarship essay judging next month. It's all done by email these days – you don't have to leave the comfort of your favorite chair. If you can help by reading 50 or so essays, please contact Tom at "tomehrhorn@comcast.net". Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Finally, if yours is one of the groups which recently went through local elections and have new officers taking over this month, my sincere congratulations (or condolences) and best wishes to all of you who are newly elected to a leadership position in your local group. Please do not hesitate to contact me (rvc6@us.mensa.org) if I can be of assistance in any way.

Roger Durham

*What a heavy oar the pen is, and what a strong
current ideas are to row in!*
-Gustave Flaubert, novelist (1821-1880)

Board Minutes

December Board Minutes

Submitted by John Neemidge, acting Scribe

The December regular meeting of the Lone Star Mensa board of officers convened at 7:30 PM, Thursday, Dec 5, 2013 at Carver Public Library, Rooms 2-3, 1161 Angelina, Austin, TX. Attending were Don Drumtra, John Neemidge, Douglas Yee, and Johnnie Vaughn. The board adopted the agenda and the minutes of the October and November regular board meetings as printed on page 6 and 7 of the December 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:** Holiday Party coming up Dec 14. Geri & John will buy and bring food, soda, cider, and so forth.
- **Treasurer:** Don is progressing on getting the books updated.
- **ComComm:** Tami Heaton is resigning at the end of the month; Sean Medley will be taking over. The Postal Service is migrating our mailing service and we must have things done by January according to the current rules, but there may be a delay. The National Office does not have the capability to make the changes. Local groups may need to print their own labels.
- **EdComm:** They are continuing to work on the scholarship award.
- **MemComm:** No major updates in December.
- **SymComm:** No program for January; it will be the annual business meeting.
- **LonestarRG 2014 Committee:** Committee has been in contact with most of the major hotels; no bids were competitive. They are planning on remaining at the Wingate. John will meet with Leslie and Johnnie at the Wingate to finalize the contract. Website is on track for January advertising; planning meetings will start in the spring.
- **Website Working Group:** Website update is on track. A scaled-back version of the website will be up by Jan. 1, with the full site by Feb. 1.
- **Mind Games Committee:** We have 201 room nights reserved as of Dec 5 and 139 Mind Games registrations as of Nov 25, 2013. Both numbers are at or above expectations.
- **Nomination and Election Committees:** Committees continue to work towards the election. We have nearly as many candidates as offices at this time.

Unfinished Business:

- Ratified the Nov. 19 email appointment of Janet Kres and Patsy Graham to join Linda Edelstein as members of the Nomination and Elections Committees.
- Discussion of possibly requiring standing committee chairman to attend at least one regular board meeting a quarter. Motion withdrawn, but the Board will continue to look into ways for members to participate, whether via written reports or using something like **Skype**.

Announcements:

- The next monthly board meeting was scheduled for 7:15-8:15 PM, Thursday, Jan 2, and Thursday, Feb 6 at the Carver Branch Library.
- The next regular monthly meetings are scheduled for 6:45-8:15 PM, Monday, Jan 13, and Monday, Feb 10 at the Carver Branch Library.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Lone Star Mensa is hosting Mind Games over Easter weekend April 18 - 20th 2014 at the Airport Hilton in Austin, 800-584-5091. Mind Games is a national gathering where attendees judge games. 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.

Registration is limited to 300, and we are nearly halfway full already!

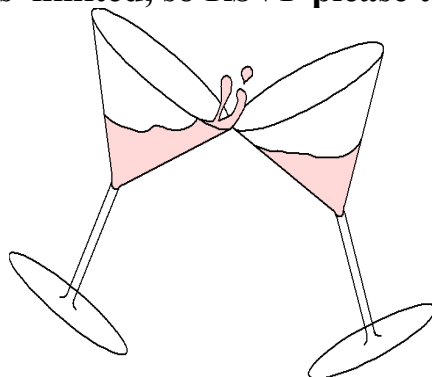
You can register online
<http://www.mindgames.us.mensa.org/register/player-registration>

Cost is \$85 through December 31, 2013 and \$90 thereafter (includes 3 catered meals). For more information contact Patsy Graham, MGChair@mindgames.us.mensa.org or call 888-294-8035 Ext 5532.



New Year's Eve Party

December 31, 8 pm to 1 am at the Edelsteins', 1439 Dapplegrey Lane., Austin 78727. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share and BYOB if you want anything other than soft drinks or beer. We will have a ham and other sandwich makings available. Space is limited, so RSVP please to ledelstein@mindspring.com



Members Write

Dear Rose,

I was sorry to read in the current ALG that you have not been well. I hope the 'crisis' has passed and that you are on your way to a successful and speedy recovery. My thoughts are with you.

Best wishes not only for your return to good health but for a great Holiday Season!

Victor Albanese

January 13 General Meeting: I've Been Reading...

by Linda Edelstein

Our January meeting will be a discussion group on books/articles members have recently read. Please bring a list of the most recent book or magazine article you have read in each of the following categories that apply: mystery, romance, science fiction, other fiction, and for ease of figuring category – the Dewey Decimal system:

000 – General works, Computer science and Information

100 – Philosophy and psychology

200 – Religion

300 – Social sciences

400 – Language

500 – Science

600 – Technology

700 – Arts & recreation

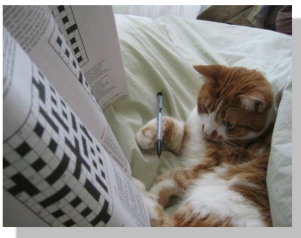
800 – Literature

900 – History & geography

If you find you've read one or more books in each category recently, you get a super star reader award. I'll figure out what that is if we get any submissions.

Each person will have five minutes to discuss their favorite or most interesting read, and we'll take your lists and consolidate them for an article in next month's Armadillo: *"What Lone Star Mensans Have Been Reading."* To that end, please make your list legible, and include author's name, publisher's or magazine name and issue if applicable, so that other members can find your favorites.

YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE



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

Too Clever By Half: Highbrow Jokes

1. A photon checks into a hotel and the porter asks him if he has any luggage. The photon replies: "No, I'm traveling light."
2. "Is it solipsistic in here, or is it just me?"
3. What does a dyslexic, agnostic, insomniac spend most of his time doing?
Staying up all night wondering if there really is a dog.
4. A TCP packet walks into a bar, and says to the barman: "Hello, I'd like a beer." The barman replies: "Hello, you'd like a beer?" "Yes," replies the TCP packet, "I'd like a beer."
5. An electron is driving down a motorway, and a policeman pulls him over. The policeman says: "Sir, do you realize you were traveling at 130 km per hour?" The electron goes: "Oh great, now I'm lost."
6. Pavlov is enjoying a pint in the pub. The phone rings. He jumps up and shouts: "Hell, I forgot to feed the dog!"
7. How many surrealists does it take to screw in a light bulb? A fish.
8. There are 10 types of people in this world. Those that know binary, and those that don't.
9. When I heard that oxygen and magnesium hooked up I was like OMg.
10. The barman says: "We don't serve faster-than-light particles here." A tachyon enters a bar.
11. A Buddhist monk approaches a hotdog stand and says: "Make me one with everything".
12. What do you call two crows on a branch? Attempted murder.
13. An Englishman, a Frenchman, a Spaniard and a German are walking down the street together. A juggler is performing on the street but there are so many people that the four men can't see the juggler. So the juggler goes on top of a platform and asks: "Can you see me now?" The four men answer: "Yes." "Oui." "Si." "Ja."
14. Never trust an atom. They make up everything.
15. How many programmers does it take to change a light bulb? None, it's a hardware problem.
16. A student traveling on a train looks up and sees Einstein sitting next to him. Excited, he asks: "Excuse me, professor. Does Boston stop at this train?"
17. Did you hear about the jurisprudence fetishist? He got off on a technicality.
18. Werner Heisenberg, Kurt Gödel, and Noam Chomsky walk into a bar. Heisenberg turns to the other two and says: "Clearly this is a joke, but how can we figure out if it's funny or not?" Gödel replies: "We can't know that because we're inside the joke." Chomsky says: "Of course it's funny. You're just telling it wrong."
19. A Roman walks into a bar, holds up two fingers, and says: "Five beers, please."
20. Did you hear about the man who got cooled to absolute zero? He's 0K now.
21. An infinite number of mathematicians walk into a bar. The bartender says: "What'll it be, boys?" The first mathematician: "I'll have one half of a beer." The second mathematician: "I'll have one quarter of a beer." The third mathematician: "I'll have one eighth of a beer." The fourth mathematician: "I'll have one sixteenth of a..." The bartender interrupts: "Know your limits, boys" as he pours out a single beer.
22. What does the "B" in Benoit B Mandelbrot stand for? Answer: Benoit B Mandelbrot.
23. Jean-Paul Sartre is sitting at a French café, revising his draft of Being and Nothingness. He says to the waitress: "I'd like a cup of coffee, please, with no cream." The waitress replies: "I'm sorry, Monsieur, but we're out of cream. How about with no milk?"
24. A classics professor goes to a tailor to get his trousers mended. The tailor asks: "Euripides?" The professor replies: "Yes. Eumenides?"
25. A programmer's wife tells him: "Run to the store and pick up a loaf of bread. If they have eggs, get a dozen." The programmer comes home with 12 loaves of bread.

*The right to do something does not mean it is right to do it.
--William Safire*

Foundation 2014 Scholarship deadline

The deadline for the Mensa Foundation scholarship application process is Jan. 15, 2014. The details for the various scholarship programs can be found at: mensafoundation.org/scholarships.

- Most scholarships are based solely on an essay written by the applicant, but special category scholarships are awarded to applicants who meet specific academic or personal requirements.
- The application is available online at mensafoundation.org/scholarships.
- Eligibility requirements for a general Mensa Foundation scholarship include: legal U.S. residency and enrollment at an institution of post-secondary education for fall 2014.
- General Mensa Foundation scholarships are awarded with no restrictions regarding age, general, academic grade point average or financial need.



Bodium Castle - Sussex, England, UK

What is morally wrong can never be advantageous, even when it enables you to make some gain that you believe to be to your advantage. The mere act of believing that some wrongful course of action constitutes an advantage is pernicious.

*-Marcus Tullius Cicero
statesman, orator, writer (106-43 BCE)*

Member News

Happy January Birthday

- 5 Jonathan Baumgardner
- 8 John Jertson
- 8 Paul F Memrick
- 8 Benjamin Schrader
- 9 Charles B Owen
- 10 Elizabeth A Collins
- 10 Robert L Moore
- 10 William C Neely Jr
- 11 Sharon Phifer
- 11 Richard Wilcox
- 14 Glenn Smith
- 15 Linda Carole White
- 16 Rose M Berkowitz
- 16 Maria Maegan Priscilla
Navarro Quejada
- 17 Rodney Appling
- 18 Robert J Ely
- 21 Victoria Leonard
- 24 Kevin M Dorman
- 24 Derek Saunders
- 25 Harry D Keirns
- 25 Timothy T Rueger
- 25 James George Zimmerman
- 26 R Dennis Conine
- 27 Annette Berksan
- 27 Hans T Weger
- 28 Tim Brown

January Mensaversaries

MEMBER FOR:

- 30 Years** - G D Griffin
- 25 Years** - Lawrence E Drake
- 20 Years** - Frank M Lopez
- 10 Years** - Philippe David
Dube
- 5 Years:**

Kenneth V Mosher II
Erik W Mulloy

1 YEAR

Christopher Alby
Floyd L Anderson Jr
Deidre Brightman
Keith Busby
Jeff Dawson
Jaszmine DeFranco
Robert J Ely
Christian Jackson
Gwyndolyn N Jones
Miller Roberts
Robert W Rucker
Lorna Schwimmer
Roger W Waak

New to Mensa and LSM in November (Joined)

Andrew Badgley
Alyssa Byrd
Melissa James McIlhaney
Todd McIlhaney
Scott Schroeder

*** 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**

Mensaversaries are calculated according to the AML National Office's records and reflect the length of continuous membership. Lapses of 1 year or more "reset" the date since which you are considered to have been a member. If you believe your membership record is in error, contact the CFM Membership Officer at membership@cfm.us.mensa.org.

January Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 LSM Board,	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 ALG deadline TGIT North Chess night	10	11
12	13 Member meeting	14	15	16 TGIT South	17	18 Games Night
19	20	21 Eclectic Eats	22	23 TGIT North, S&L	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Jan 2, 1st Thursday, 7:00 PM, LSM Board, Carver Branch Library

Jan 9 Midnight, ALG Deadline

Jan 13, 2nd Monday, 7:00 PM, Member Meeting, Carver Branch Library

Jan 16, 3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM, TGIT South, Central Market South

Jan 18, 3rd Saturday 7:00 PM Games Night, Cafe Express,

Jan 21, 7:00 PM Eclectic Eats Blue Dahlia Bistro at 1115 E. 11th Street in Austin (512/542-9542, www.bluedahliaastro.org). Blue Dahlia is a charming French-inspired eatery with exquisite entrees and deserts (including bakery items), with breakfast served all the time they are open, and a great selection of wines and beers. Participants must provide their own transportation. RSVP to Aaron Rabushka at arabushka@austin.rr.com or 512/280-2807 by noon on Monday, January 20.

Jan 9 & 23, 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7:00 PM, TGIT North, Central Market North

Jan 9, 2nd Thursday, 7:00 PM Chess Night at TGIT North

Jan 23, 4th Thursday, 7:00 PM, S&L ALG at TGIT North

UPCOMING IN FEBRUARY

Feb 6, LSM Board, Carver Branch Library
Feb 10, RMM, Carver Branch Library
Feb 13, TGIT, Central Market North
Feb 13, Newsletter input due, email
Feb 13, Calendar input due
Feb 20, TGIT, Central Market South
Feb 27, TGIT, Central Market North
Feb 27, S&L, Central Market North]

Events 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 and 44 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 statues of fruits and vegetables.

Lone StaRG XVI

The Games People Play

Let's talk about the theme. -- How did we come up with the theme?

In tossing themes around, I emailed a lot with Geri and John Neemidge – who have chaired a BUNCH of RGs, for ideas and input. We were thinking of something to do with 16... but I kept gravitating towards fun and games and playing – because *I* like these things. I had been slightly nervous about how close it was to the Mensa Mind Games LS is hosting in Austin in April, but I was assured that most Mensans like their fun and games, so I went with it. In tossing themes around, I emailed a lot with Geri and John Neemidge – who have chaired a BUNCH of RGs, for ideas and input. We were thinking of something to do with 16... but I kept gravitating towards fun and games and playing – because **I** like these things. I had been slightly nervous about how close it was to the Mensa Mind Games LS is hosting in Austin in April, but I was assured that most Mensans like their fun and games, so I went with it.

“Play” and “Game” can cover so many things! But I also really want to appeal to younger generations of Mensans. I work around college students and have been watching what they enjoy doing, and even asked my adult Gen-Y aged son for input. I’ve been scanning other area’s RG’s for fun ideas... I’ve found so many cool ideas that I wish we had a WEEK (and an unlimited budget) at a hotel to cover all the amazing things other RG’s do! Plus maybe a LOT more people to participate...

Which really gets me anxious to want to get more testing dates scheduled, let more people know we are here and having fun, marketing our area and getting people wanting to come play with us! So YOU, reading this right now, please come and help make this RG amazing! Bring your friends! Let us know what you want! We hope to have a final schedule by April or May. So there is time to send suggestions!

You can email me with suggestions and ideas! Are you “in” with someone who may make a cool presentation or workshop at the RG? Please let me know! LeslieLstevenson@gmail.com

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**Name This Car: Often referred to as “America’s first Personal Car”.
Make, Model and year**



Odd Change

For most of the lifetimes of most Americans now, our United States pocket change has looked pretty much the same. There's the cent (usually mislabeled the "penny") the five cent coin, usually referred to as a "nickel", the dime and quarter dollar, and occasionally you will see a half dollar or one of the small dollar coins, either a copper-nickel Susan B. Anthony or the "golden dollars" with Sacajawea on it. The dollars are relatively new on the scene--now going back to the turn of the 21st century. The Kennedy half dollar was first issued fifty years ago, next year, in 1964. The cent, nickel, dime and quarter are much older--the dime dating to 1946 with the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the nickel to 1938 and the cent, the oldest coin in U.S. history, now over a century old, dating from 1909. Some of these coins have changed metal composition over the years...the dime and quarter and half dollar changed from 90% silver to copper-nickel -- 75% copper and 25% nickel -- in 1965. During World War II, the five cent coin was made of 35% silver to conserve copper and nickel for the war effort, and in 1943--my birthyear -- the cent was made from zinc-plated steel.

But what other coins have featured in our nation's history? Many that would seem very odd today. Leaving aside the gold coins that were withdrawn from circulation in 1933, let's look at some of the others.

Half cents: Now with the one cent coin having so little value, it's hard to imagine an even smaller denomination, but back in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, there was quite a lot of use for the half cent coins. They were issued by the U.S. Mint from 1793 until 1857, when they finally passed out of use.

Two Cents: First issued during the Civil War in 1864 to help alleviate coin shortages. they continued until 1873.

Three Cents: This odd little bit was originally issued as a silver coin in 1851 with the advent of the 3 cent postal rate. It was intended to facilitate the purchase of 3 cent stamps--a new innovation at the time. Concurrently with the 3 cent piece, the smallest coin the U.S. ever issued, was a \$3 gold coin to purchase sheets of 100 stamps. The 3 cent coin, referred to as a "trime" was not very popular. Oddly enough, in 1865, a copper-nickel 3 cent coin was issued and the two circulated together until the silver one was phased out in 1872, with the CuNi coin continuing to circulate--more or less--until 1889, when it was also discontinued. The 3 cent coin was the first United States "nickel". The trime was also the first U.S. token coin, that is, a coin worth less in metal than its face value. It was made of 75% silver instead of the 90% which was the U.S. standard until silver was discontinued in 1965.

Half Dime: The five cent coin, referred to as a "half dime" was silver at that time. The half dime was the first coin issued by the new U.S. Mint in 1792. The first half dimes and dimes were labeled "disme" the time--pronounced "deem". It is believed that Martha Washington, wife of the President, may have modeled for "Miss Liberty" on the first half disme. There was also a popular legend that Washington contributed his table silver to strike the first coins, but that is only a legend and not true. The half dimes were replaced with copper-nickel coins, now called nickels, in 1866.

Twenty Cents: For some reason, in 1875, Congress decided to have the Mint issue 20 cent coins. There was very little use for them and they were easily confused with the quarter dollar, which shared most of the same design features. This was the shortest lived coin in U.S. history. It was only issued for circulation in 1875 and 1876, with a few proof in the next couple of years, issued for collectors. Needless to say, these are quite expensive today.



Half Cent

Silver 3 Cent

Bronze 2 Cent

Twenty Cent

Half Dime

Election of LSM Board Members

It's time to elect a new Board to govern our group. Last year no election was held, as the nominating committee did not secure any nominees. This year we have been able to secure ten nominees for the eight vacant positions. Their names are at the end of this article, and their candidate statements will be in the February Armadillo newsletter, along with the ballot. This is a double election, as last year no candidates were found and the Board has through attrition and expiration of terms been reduced to three officers, two of whom are running for re-election. The third, the Board President John Neemidge, will continue on the Board as an ex-officio member for one year. There are four one year terms to fill, and four two year terms.

Because our by-laws require that each member receive a paper ballot, everyone will receive a February newsletter by mail next month. Those who have elected to receive their Armadillo by e-mail will also receive an e-mail copy. Ballots may be returned to the committee by any of three methods – delivered in person to any committee member (Linda Edelstein, Patsy Graham, or Janet Kres), by postal mail, or if you are not concerned with anonymity, by e-mail. (Side note: because this will be an extra large mailing, the communications committee could use more hands at the “label and sticker” event on January 23rd. Each ballot must be accompanied by either an envelope containing your name and member number, or by an e-mail message with the same. Ballots received in envelopes will be opened by a non-Mensan to assure anonymity. All ballots must be received no later than February 10. Ballots received after that date will not be counted.

Our candidates are a mixture of experienced board members (4), and Mensans who have never served on the board (6), and of experience in Mensa, ranging from life members to one who has been a member for less than one year.

The candidates, in alphabetical order, are: Andrew Badgley, Donald Drumtra, Ronald Edelstein, Ed Gordon, Geri Neemidge, Aaron Rabushka, Leslie Stevenson, Johnnie Vaughn, Doug Williams, and Douglas Yee.

We're hoping for more than the 20 votes out of over 600 members that our last election received, so please make your voices heard.



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Election Chair	ledelstein@mindspring.com	Linda Edelstein	512-491-9881
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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, and Fred Goertz

*A ship in port is safe; but that is not what ships are built for.
- Grace Hopper, computer scientist and US Navy
Rear Admiral*

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Advertising may be accepted subject to space limitations. Lone Star Mensa members may submit 2 noncommercial 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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