

# Armadillo Literary Gazette

A Publication of *Lone Star Mensa*  
Volume XLI  
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Editor: *Rose M. Berkowitz*  
Managing Editor: *Don Drumtra*  
Publisher: *Board of Officers*

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

Submitted By *Rose Berkowitz*



Well, summer is here once again. Perhaps you and your family have lots of activities planned, or are looking forward to a nice vacation. LSM has some interesting events planned as well. For examples, see pages 6 and 7. I hope you will

take advantage of some or all of these opportunities to get to know your fellow Mensans!

I'm always happy to hear from our members. 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).

## MAKE TESTING A PART OF YOUR EVENT

If you have any questions, or for support with your marketing and public relations efforts, contact *Johnnie Vaughn*, Testing Coordinator

When planning your next event, consider including a testing session prior to it. Invite the public to test and then to stay to enjoy the Mensa festivities. Along with increasing your testing sessions, you will be able to meet some prospective members and show them what Mensa has to offer.

If you have had success with this in the past, please share your stories with us.

## MENSA SOCIAL MEDIA

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.

Have you checked out any of our social media channels? If not, take a look at our most heavily used channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanMensa>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/americanmensa>

Google+: <https://plus.google.com/+americanmensa>

Social media platforms allow us to promote Mensa by engaging our members and those interested in Mensa with content they may find interesting, as well as delivering information that helps us to fulfill the organization's mission.

When you come across any content that you believe would be particularly interesting to other Mensans or people interested in Mensa, please send it our way!

Submitted by Patsy Graham, Mind Games Chair

Patsy and Erich



Hospitality



In my humble opinion, Mind Games 2014 was a huge success! Although I didn't get to play many of the games I did get to play with a few of my favorite people. Now Lone Star Mensa has a copy of all 56 games submitted and I will be bringing some to each Games Night.

I want to thank everyone who volunteered for Mind Games. At the very top of the list are **John and Geri Neemidge**, my co-chairs. Both worked tirelessly doing all sorts of jobs – negotiating with the hotel, designing the logo, getting us publicity, keeping Hospitality stocked, getting equipment we needed, etc. John and Geri arranged for our meals, ordered the t-shirts, mugs, and badge-holders, and so many other things I know I am forgetting. Geri cooked many dozens of cookies and John hard-boiled dozens of eggs. They even had Himalayan sea salt for the eggs! Also, **Paige and David Neemidge**, as usual, did all kinds of odd jobs during Mind Games, including being runners during the game giveaways.

Game Runners



Leslie



**Leslie Stevenson** also did so much, I can't thank her enough. She made the forms to order t-shirts, all the wonderful table and wall decorations, and also cooked several dozen cookies. She stayed in Hospitality all night so it could be open 24 hours! Leslie introduced us to the GroupMe app which was an immediate success with

those who used it. It made communications so much easier for the Mind Games Committee and for the judges, too! Leslie is Chair of Lone Star RG XVI and we are all in for an amazing RG this year.

Also contributing over 50 dozen delicious cookies were **Ellen Shafer** and **Diana Wilbur**.

Special thanks go to **Doug Williams, Douglas Yee, Dave Miller, Erich Graham,** and **George Graham** who moved refrigerators and many, many boxes of games to the hotel and then back (with a few less games).

**Sarah Graham Jones** handled Registration for us and Brent Jones set up our Feed Magnet Twitter feed.

**Sam Beckerman Phillips** stepped in and helped enormously whenever needed. She especially helped in the re-fluffing which is so essential before the game giveaway!

**Sharon Sarles** helped in Hospitality and ran a nondenominational Easter service for us Sunday morning. We had a surprise visit from SynRG 2014 Chair **Taz Criss** who jumped in to help in Hospitality, as well as **Lynn Kilgore**.

So many other people helped – **Howard Prince, Pam Donahoo, Victoria Liguez,** and **Julie Garcia** from the National office staff, chief Judge **Greg Webster**, past Mind Games Chairs, the hotel staff, games runners, etc.. Of course there would not have been Mind Games without all the wonderful judges who attended. Thanks to you all and see you in San Diego for Mind Games 2015!



### CELEBRATING MIND GAMES 2014

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.

Mind Games® once again was a great success, with more than 250 Mensans attending. Thanks to 2014 Mind Games Chair **Patsy Graham, John Neemidge, Geri Neemidge,** and crew of Lone Star Mensa, for hosting such a memorable event! Also thanks to Development Officer **Dr. John Sheehan** and Chief Judge **Greg Webster**.

Here are links to a few of the different press clippings:

- [www.austin.twcnews.com/content/news/298757/mensans-play-mindgames-in-austin/](http://www.austin.twcnews.com/content/news/298757/mensans-play-mindgames-in-austin/)
- [www.digitaljournal.com/pr/1861048](http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/1861048)
- [www.hollywoodindustry.digitalmedianet.com/articles/viewarticle.jsp?id=3198098](http://www.hollywoodindustry.digitalmedianet.com/articles/viewarticle.jsp?id=3198098)

The Mensa Select® winners are:

- Euphoria: Build a Better Dystopia
- Gravwell: Escape from the 9th Dimension
- Pyramix
- Qwixx
- The Duke

We'll see you next year in San Diego. Visit [mindgames.us.mensa.org/](http://mindgames.us.mensa.org/) for your early registration forms.

## GERI'S GRAB BAG

Submitted by Geri Neemidge, President



Mind Games was a fabulous success. Thanks to everybody who helped out baking, carrying, driving, cleaning up etc. Big shout out to Patsy for chairing and to John Neemidge and Leslie Stevenson for all their help.

I have been sifting through member data and emailing some folks trying to find some new volunteers and get more people involved. One thing I have noticed is that several of our members have their privacy set with American Mensa so that Lone Star Mensa does not have access to their email address. If you are reading this and you are one of those people; please reset your permissions via the National Office – (<https://www.us.mensa.org/my-mensa/profile-update/>). It would be helpful to have all our members on our Announce email list. The list is moderated and does not have heavy traffic. It is used to remind people of

upcoming events and to alert them of changes or cancellations in scheduled events. Even if Lone Star Mensa has your email address you can choose to opt out of the Announce email list. It would still be nice to be able to send you a message from time to time. Joining our Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/86611987434/>) (Lone Star Mensa) is another way to be reminded of upcoming events and also a place where you can visit electronically and get to know other local members. Our own website is being revamped right now and soon will also be a good place to check to see who's who and what's going on.

The biggest event of the summer is American Mensa's Annual Gathering. Our regional gatherings (in Austin, Houston, and Dallas) get lots of members together, 100 to 200 or so at a time. The Annual gathering (AG) has been growing every year for some time now and hosts about 2,000 people. This year it will be held in Boston, July 2-6. For more information see <http://ag2014.us.mensa.org/>. The gathering will be chock-full of opportunities for learning, playing, making friends, and all around enjoyment from early in the morning until earlier in the morning. If Boston is too far afield for you, next year's gathering will be a bit closer in Louisville, Kentucky.

I hope to see some of you all soon— electronically, or in person, around town, or in Boston. Happy Summer!



## THE 10 HARDEST LOGIC PUZZLES EVER CREATED

By Patrick Min – [www.Calculudoku.org](http://www.Calculudoku.org)



So you think you are clever, right? Then here is your chance to pit your brain against some of the world's hardest logic puzzles ever created. After having created number puzzles like Calculudoku and Killer Sudoku for many years, I decided to try and find the most challenging ones out there. Every once in a while I added a new type of puzzle, until I ended up with a list of 10.

In the following list you will find both familiar puzzles and games such as Sudoku and Calculudoku and lesser known ones such as the Bongard Problem and Fill-a-Pix. Some of these puzzles can be

solved right on this page while others can be downloaded or reached elsewhere. All of them, however, are promised to test your solving skills to the absolute limit and keep you busy for hours, if not days.

<http://gizmodo.com/can-you-solve-the-10-hardest-logic-puzzles-ever-created-1064112665>



## FROM THE RVC

Submitted by Roger Durham, Region 6 RVC



As I write this, I'm preparing to attend the year's first Regional Gathering in Region 6, Gulf Coast Mensa's SynRG in Houston. Depending on when you are reading it, there may still be time for you to register for SynRG, but if not, there will be plenty of other upcoming

opportunities for you to find out why Mensa Gatherings are so popular, if you've never attended one. Next up, of course, is the Mother of All Gatherings, the Annual Gathering, Mensa's annual national convention. Held in Boston this year, from July 2nd through July 6th, the AG will attract more 2,000 Mensans for four days and nights of games, workshops, speakers, dancing, partying, and general merriment. You can still be one of them. See your copy of the Mensa Bulletin for more information, or check the AG website ([www.ag.us.mensa.org](http://www.ag.us.mensa.org)).

And, for those of you planning to attend the AG, if you are a local group officer of some kind, and you think you might want to be the Local Secretary, or President, or whatever the office is called in your group, I encourage you to register for this year's Leadership Summit, to be held on July 2nd, the first day of the AG. American Mensa will pay \$75 toward the cost of your hotel room for Tuesday night, so you can be there bright and early for the beginning of the Summit on Wednesday. Ask your

local group to designate you as their representative at the Summit, and you can also request that they pay the remainder of your hotel room for Tuesday night. Attendance is limited, so apply right away. You'll learn best practices and helpful hints for running a local Mensa group from experienced local leaders from all over the country. Register for the Leadership Summit at <http://www.us.mensa.org/lead/leadership-workshops/leadership-summit-registration/>.

Another Regional Gathering comes up over Labor Day weekend in Round Rock, TX, just north of Austin, where Lone Star Mensa will put on the 2014 version of Lone Star RG. Shorter and smaller than the AG, but featuring many of the same opportunities to interact with your fellow Mensans. Details will be available soon.

Then, at Thanksgiving, you can attend North Texas Mensa's RG, Feast of Pleasures and Delights XXXIV. One of the oldest and largest RGs in this part of the country, the North Texas RG returns this year to the Sheraton D/FW in Irving, where we will continue to provide the same non-stop hospitality and fun as always. More information will be coming along in the near future.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your local group or American Mensa, please do not hesitate to contact me by email, [RVC6@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC6@us.mensa.org), or by letter at 9920 Ridgehaven Drive, Dallas, TX 75238.

## NATIONAL OFFICE RESOURCES

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.

The following are just a few resources that are available from the National Office to assist Local Groups with public relations efforts. Any officer who has access to [www.us.mensa.org/materials](http://www.us.mensa.org/materials) can request these items unless otherwise noted.

### Internal Publicity Guide

This guide contains information about media relations, including sample news releases, story ideas and answers to common questions about Mensa.

### Media Lists

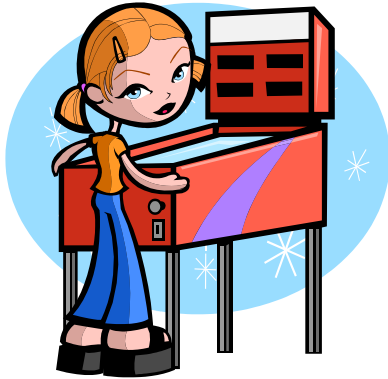
The LocSec or PR Coordinator from your Local Group can request a contact list for its local media. The list includes the email address, phone number and address for targeted media personnel. Please allow 7 - 10 business days.

### External Press Kit

The press kit provides the media with information about American Mensa, including a fact sheet, and notable members. Available online at [www.us.mensa.org/newsroom](http://www.us.mensa.org/newsroom).

## LUCKY 13TH CELEBRATION

Submitted by Geri Neemidge



Friday June 13th  
7pm-10pm  
Pinballz Arcade  
8940 Research Blvd., Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78758  
512-420-8458

Pinball! Pacman! Air hockey! Skee-ball! Come join your Lone Star Mensa friends for arcade fun. We'll have a party room, serve some refreshments, and hand out some tokens. Those under 18 need to leave at 10pm, and we'll close our party room at that time, but that doesn't mean you can't party until 2am when the arcade closes. Big hair and 80's outfits are optional—just come on out and enjoy this nostalgic gaming adventure!

## MEMBER MEETING

Submitted by Dave Miller

### 10 Things You Don't Know About Being Blind

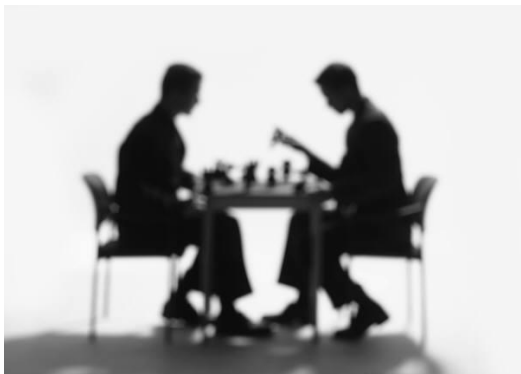


Saturday June 21st  
3:00 pm  
Twin Oaks Branch of the Austin Public Library  
1800 S. 5th Street  
Austin 78704

Sighted people know what we think about blindness. But blind people can have a different set of opinions about blindness, the sighted world and how sighted people treat the blind. And blind people don't always agree among themselves. So join us for some straight talk, demonstrations and occasional humor. Us? Blind Mensan Amanda Lacy; not-blind Mensan Dave Miller; two other young totally blind people and two guide dogs with personalities of their own

## EURO/STRATEGY GAMES

Submitted by Carla Young



Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup> 4pm  
Carla and Alex's House  
15301 Ecorio Drive  
[carla.x.young@gmail.com](mailto:carla.x.young@gmail.com)

Come and join us for an evening of strategy games such as Suburbia, Puerto Rico, Settlers of Catan, etc.

We'll provide soft drinks and light snacks but feel free to BYOB. We're planning to order delivery for dinner, so bring some cash if you want to partake. RSVP to [carla.x.young@gmail.com](mailto:carla.x.young@gmail.com)

## GAMES NIGHT

Submitted by Patsy Graham



Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>  
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Emerald Tavern  
9012 Research Blvd #6  
Austin, TX 78758

Games Night is once a month on the 3rd Saturday night of the month.

Bring a game or just show up. You can bring family and friends, but if you have very small children you will be responsible for watching them. Thanks!

## NEW MENSA WEB RESOURCE

Submitted by Howard Prince <jhowardprince@gmail.com>

American Mensa's Communications Committee and Web team announce our newest web resource.

The Mensa Compendium is a web-based educational resource, edited and maintained by members and staff. This members-only asset consolidates and updates the historic, encyclopedic and training material previously available on our website and in other diverse, and sometimes rare, publications.

At its essence, the Compendium is a one-stop knowledge center – the authoritative, multimedia source about American Mensa. It serves a tutorial role for newer officers, members and Mensa veterans alike.

Continually updated and fluid, the Compendium's goal is to keep officers and members informed. Consider it equal parts encyclopedia, dictionary, and instructional and historic document, with healthy doses of wisdom from the village elders.

We hope you will make it your ultimate Mensa reference.

Visit <http://compendium.us.mensa.org> or locate it via the Lead menu on the American Mensa website. Be sure to check out the Future Updates page for a list of planned updates.



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## HELP US STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOU

*Submitted by John Neemidge, Previous Loc Sec*

Greetings fellow Lone Star Mensans! One of the things we try to do, as a group, is stay in touch with members. The newsletter is one way we do that, but we also do it via local email lists and Facebook, and we're working on new ways to stay in touch as I write this. This article is all about email and how you can help us reach out to you and let you know what's going on in your local group.

We can currently reach about 2/3 of our members via email. This is good, but we can do better. If you're one of the 1/3 that we don't reach this way -- almost 200 members -- we'd like you to help us stay in touch with you by making sure that your email address is on file with National and that we have permission to make use of it.

How do you know if you're in this group? First, if you get the newsletter via email, you're in good shape -- we can only send email newsletters to people who give us their address. Second, if you receive emails from the LSM-Announce email list, you're also in good shape. If you receive newsletters but not emails, likely your email is messed up on the list -- I can help with that.

So—if you receive a paper copy of the newsletter, have an email address, and do not receive LSM-Announce messages, please read on. What we'd

like you to do is to go to the American Mensa website ([www.us.mensa.org](http://www.us.mensa.org)), select "Member Profile" from the "My Mensa" menu at the top, log in (using your email address and password; if you don't know your password, you can reset it, and if your email address is wrong there's a way to reset that too) and verify that your email address matches the one you're using now. You can also enter an alternate email address. Then select "Privacy releases" from the list on the left side of the screen, and verify that "Release my email address within the organization" is set (this won't release it anywhere but to us). We promise we're not going to spam you with non-Mensa mailings; we won't sell your address or send it outside the group. We just want to be able to reach you and let you know what your group is doing.

We know some people use the internet extensively but don't do much with email. If you're in that category -- or if you want to let us reach you but don't want to give your email address at all -- or if you just like Facebook -- please join our Facebook group, Lone Star Mensa.

We really appreciate your taking the time to do this, and it'll save us a lot of work later when we move into verifying email addresses and attempting to contact people without working addresses.

## AMERICAN MENSA ACADEMY

*Now available for download through Xbox Live Arcade, iOS and Steam. Spread the word!*

Created in direct collaboration with American Mensa, American Mensa Academy™ aims to sharpen a player's mental acuity with more than 100 brain training mini-games and challenges directly inspired by questions from the Mensa Admission Test and the Mensa Home Test.

Prepare to exercise your grey matter as you train through arduous puzzles and challenges designed to expand and cultivate your brilliance. From logic to language, American Mensa Academy's brain training offers players the ultimate cerebral workout. Improve your memory, grow your vocabulary and hone your skills in arithmetic and logic before advancing on to compete directly against your friends and family.

Traversing three separate modes, Play, Coach and Test, players will be challenged by more than 100 replayable levels filled with questions from five disciplines — math, language, logic, memory and visual ability. In Coach mode, players receive training and their skills are assessed before they progress to the Test level and receive a Mensa Academy Score. Challenge your friends and family, start a competition or simply challenge yourself. Either way, prepare yourself for some serious cranial calisthenics.

American Mensa Academy is now available on Xbox Live Arcade, iOS and Steam and will soon be available on Android, Playstation® Network and PC. For more information and details on where to purchase the game, visit [www.americanmensaacademy.com](http://www.americanmensaacademy.com).

*American Mensa Academy™ is developed by Silverball Studios and Barnstorm Games and published by Square Enix.*



By Johnnie Vaughn

Once upon a time, many, many moons ago, before magical threads of energy connected remote groups and allowed instantaneous communication... there existed a group that served as the gateway to new worlds. There are various stories about how it started, and some are more interesting than others. Mensa membership was limited to those individuals that scored at or above the 98th percentile on standardized intelligence tests. Although this illustrious organization started in England, its growth exploded after its arrival in the United States.

Holding monthly meetings and ceremonial gatherings based upon Regional and National associations, this strange organization called Mensa beckoned to the many versions of intellectually gifted who sought refuge among like-minded individuals. The athletic quarterback hiding the genius IQ was just as welcome as the lab rat who rarely saw the light of day. Multitudes of those feeling degrees of isolation found themselves welcome, and saw new doors opened. Yes, the organization has always seen extremes. Scientists sat at the same table as truck drivers and plumbers; doctors broke bread with professional wrestlers and porn stars; lawyers conversed with felons...

During the 60s and 70s, one has been able to qualify for Mensa membership with scores from many national standardized tests. School districts often administered tests that were accepted as evidence of eligibility. The military's Armed Forces Qualifying Test (AFQT) provided a means of gaining admittance through 1980, and this was frequently given to entire high school classes. Colleges often required the SAT or ACT, and these were accepted by Mensa into the 90s.

It is quite different today. While scores from a few tests such as the Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) can still be used, most of the common ones such as the ACT or SAT are no longer accepted. An interested prospect could schedule an evaluation with a psychologist and take one of the many accepted IQ tests, but that is a pretty expensive way to go. These days, the more common approach is to attend a proctored testing session and take the Mensa Admissions Test. The Mensa Admission Test takes two hours to complete and includes two tests featuring questions involving logic and deductive reasoning. If a prospective member scores at or above the 98th percentile on either of

the two tests, they qualify and will be invited to join Mensa.

The heart of the Mensa testing program is the test proctor. Proctors are often the very first members of Mensa with whom the candidates may have contact. As such, they may have an impact on the candidates' perception of Mensa. These volunteers must undergo training and be certified to administer tests under the program guided by Dr. Frank Lawlis, American Mensa's supervisory psychologist. Due to state requirements regarding the practice of psychology, all Mensa Proctors are working under the license of Mensa's Supervisory Psychologist (unless they themselves are licensed psychologists).

Proctors must have a 4-year degree and meet a series of requirements to become certified. Recent additions to the requirements include conducting a testing session at least once every 24 months, and signing a Code of Ethics. The exact requirements can be found on American Mensa's website.

The Board of Lone Star Mensa has voiced its support for increasing public testing opportunities, but to do so we need additional proctors. For the past few years, Michael Tolbert has graciously borne the burden of providing proctor services in the Central Texas area, with Austin Meyer serving as Testing Coordinator. Since Austin has moved out west to pursue his medical degree, I have been asked to take on the role of Testing Coordinator. Now we'd like to get Michael some proctor help and even expand our testing into the surrounding area. Our group's boundaries stretch from north of Waco, down past San Marcos. Baylor, Texas State, and Texas A&M are all in our area. All of these have the potential for adding vibrant, younger members to our organization if we can reach them and get them interested in Mensa.

If Mensa has played an important role in your past and you'd like to give back a little, this might be the perfect opportunity. I know most of us lead extremely busy lives and sometimes it is hard to find extra time for a long-term commitment. Can you devote some time to periodically testing candidates? Are you willing to be a face for the organization and represent Mensa? If you are interested in becoming a test proctor, contact Johnnie Vaughn, Testing Coordinator, at [johnnie.r.vaughn@gmail.com](mailto:johnnie.r.vaughn@gmail.com) or Geri Neemidge, President, at [geri@neemidge.net](mailto:geri@neemidge.net).

## YOUR SUDOKU PUZZLE

### Extreme Sudoku

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

By Douglas Yee



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

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.

## LETTERS

[Regarding Mind Games 2014] I presume everyone has seen the winners:

- **Euphoria** (I didn't play it.)
- **Gravwell** (You race your ship against gravity and other ships in an effort to escape a black hole. Simple game play, easy to pick up, not too long to play a game. I liked this one.)
- **Qwixx** (A dice-rolling game not too terribly different from Yahtzee in terms of the mechanics, but because your scorekeeping interacts with the other players', it is much more strategic. Very fun, another quick one to learn, and not expensive.)
- **Pyramix** (A token picking game where the tokens happen to be dice. You try to maximize your points by selecting one of 3 die types in one of 4 colors, taking turn with your opponent and working around the cobras, which limit the dice you can choose. Beautifully constructed out of sturdy plastic, moderately priced, and easy to learn.)
- **The Duke** (I won't describe this one fairly, because I really didn't like it. It's beautifully made, has expansion sets, and seemed to be quite popular among folks who like that kind of game -- I would describe it as a cross between chess and a war game, with randomly selected pieces that move in really complicated ways.)

In terms of dogs, there didn't seem to be any universally panned games, except possibly for **Down and Out**, which was a very contrived variant on checkers (? - may be a better analogy out there) with extremely opaque rules. Other games that I liked included:

- **Council of Verona** (A very quick game of bluffing played with a very small deck of character cards and 3 influence tokens per player. Hard to explain without the game in front of you, but I loved it. It was my top pick. Individual rounds go quickly, and you play one round for each person in the game, allowing each player to go last once. There is a big advantage in going last. This was a Kickstarter game, but I don't know if it has now been picked up by a traditional publisher.)
- **Forgo** (A hexagonal wooden board game from Europe, featuring two wooden pieces for each player. You rotate the pieces around two movable pegs in an effort to trap your opponent into not being able to move.)
- **Serpent Stones** (A 2-player duel card game with non-collectible cards, played on a cloth mat provided in the game. Fairly simple but a nice quick game for 2. An expansion set was included with the game, but we didn't play the expansion.)

In terms of the facility, the hotel was very nice, provided meals were quite good (my wife and I enjoyed the vegetarian options at the dinners in particular), and hospitality was outstanding, with a good mix of treats and healthy options. Well done by the Austin group and other organizers!!

Patrick Lusk

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## LETTERS (Continued)

Congratulations to Patsy and everyone who helped her during registration, game playing, hospitality and other aspects of MG. The folks I talked with at Mind Games had nothing but good words for LSM. I had the unexpected opportunity to talk briefly with Pam Donahoo and Howard prince on Saturday. Both reported that we were doing a wonderful job in making the MG a success. Way to go all!

Don Drumtra

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When I once commented on something in the ALG, Rose, you told me that you had to be fair and present all sides of an issue. If that is indeed your stance, then perhaps you would not mind printing another view of an issue, a bit different than that which you placed over half a page in the April issue. I will paraphrase the title of your article thus: "If the Founding Fathers were Not Christians, why would they say this?"

"While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens and soldiers, we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian." *George Washington, 1st President of the USA*

"God who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that their liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated, but with His wrath? Indeed, I shudder for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever". *Thomas Jefferson, writer of the Declaration of Independence, 3rd President of the USA, Governor of Virginia.*

And..."I am a real Christian – that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus Christ." Also by *Thomas Jefferson.*

Rather than continue with more quotes from Samuel Adams, John Adams, John Hancock, Benjamin Franklin, Elbridge Gerry, Gouverneur Morris, Charles Carroll, Alexander Hamilton, and many others, I will conclude with the expectation that the next issue of the ALG will present your fair and balanced presentation of the other side of the issue.

Glenn Mautner  
24-year Mensa member  
Georgetown, Texas

\*\*\*

## POETRY CORNER

### Afternoon On A Hill

By Edna St. Vincent Millay

I will be the gladdest thing  
Under the sun!  
I will touch a hundred flowers  
And not pick one.

I will look at cliffs and clouds  
With quiet eyes,  
Watch the wind bow down the grass,  
And the grass rise.

And when lights begin to show  
Up from the town,  
I will mark which must be mine,  
And then start down!



## LSM MEMBER NEWS

Compiled by Patsy M. Graham, Membership Chair

As of April 30, 2014 there were 544 members in Lone Star Mensa, the 28th largest group out of 130.

### HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS\*

1 John B Sanders  
1 Donald W Drumtra  
3 V O Speights Jr  
3 Thayer McCaffree  
3 James Daniel South  
3 Michele Vaughan  
5 Thomas O Myer  
5 Philip D Ryals  
6 Maia E Claussen  
7 Rachel Palmer Shelton  
8 Thomas Cloyd  
8 James Tupa  
8 Robert Max Ruhge  
9 Stephanie Hilliard  
12 Jeff Dommenege  
13 Chris Markey  
14 Luke Mitchell Parish  
15 Taylor Griffin Smith  
18 Patricia Ann Drumtra  
18 Benjamin H Ashmore Jr  
22 Paul Rabago  
22 Ronald Wayne Holder Jr  
24 Lawrence E Drake  
26 Michael F Tipshus  
27 Sean M Medley  
27 Chris Gugleta  
27 Dean McCormick  
29 Alaesa Hearn  
30 Jo Ann Berg Megahan  
30 Madison R Jones



### NEW MEMBERS—WELCOME!

James Autry of Round Rock

### JUST MOVED IN—HI NEIGHBOR!

Pulin Wang, Austin  
Noelle K Phillips.College Station  
Rachel Palmer Shelton, Dripping Springs  
Margot McGann. Austin \

### WELCOME BACK--MISSED YOU!

Edward Loomis, Austin  
Kim Brushaber, Austin

### GOODBYE—MOVING AWAY

Brian Selman

*\* 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.*

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## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

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### MEMBER FOR 40 YEARS

Maj Rodney B Corona Ret

### MEMBER FOR 30 YEARS

Eileen M Pack

### MEMBER FOR 15 YEARS

Michael E Legatt

### MEMER FOR 10 YEARS

Michael Tolbert



### MEMBER FOR 5 YEARS

Samuel Blasco

### MEMBER FOR 1 YEAR

Trevor W Graham



## SOME DEFINITIONS

Going around the internet

1. ARBITRATOR: A cook that leaves Arby's to work at McDonalds
2. AVOIDABLE: What a bullfighter tried to do
3. BERNADETTE: The act of torching a mortgage
4. BURGLARIZE: What a crook sees with
5. CONTROL: A short, ugly inmate
6. COUNTERFEITERS: Workers who put together kitchen cabinets !
7. ECLIPSE: What an English barber does for a living
8. EYEDROPPER: A clumsy ophthalmologist
9. HEROES: What a guy in a boat does
10. LEFTBANK: What the robber did when his bag was full of money
11. MISTY: How golfers create divots
12. PARADOX: Two physicians
13. PARASITES: What you see from the top of the Eiffel Tower
14. PHARMACIST: A helper on the farm
15. POLARIZE: What penguins see with
16. PRIMATE: Removing your spouse from in front of the TV
17. RELIEF: What trees do in the spring
18. RUBBERNECK: What you do to relax your wife
19. SELFISH: What the owner of a seafood store does
20. SUDAFED: Brought litigation against a government official

## A PET'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

Going around the Internet



1. My life is likely to last 10-15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.
2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.
4. Don't be angry with me for long and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your friends, your entertainments, but I have only you.
5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.
6. Be aware that however you treat me, I will never forget it.
7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you, and yet I choose not to bite you.
8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I have been in the sun too long, or my heart might be getting old or weak.
9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You too, will grow old.
10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me please. Never say you can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there, because I love you so.

Take a moment today to be thankful for your pets. Enjoy and take good care of them. Life would be a much duller, less joyful experience without them.

We do not have to wait for Heaven to be surrounded by hope, love, and joyfulness. It is here on earth and has four legs!

Makes you think, huh?

## LONE STAR MENSA CONTACTS BY FUNCTION

Compiled by Don Drumtra, Officer Coordinator, as of 04/30/14

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Asst. Scholarship Chair	<a href="mailto:scholarship@lsm.us.mensa.org">scholarship@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Claudia Harbert	512-238-0205
Financial Outreach		<b>VACANT</b>	

### EVENTS

Monthly Programs		<b>VACANT</b>	
TGITs	<a href="mailto:drumtra@aol.com">drumtra@aol.com</a>	Don Drumtra**	512-291-0315
Games Night	<a href="mailto:mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org">mensapats@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Patsy Graham	512-380-0141
Chess Night	<a href="mailto:cmvc95@yahoo.com">cmvc95@yahoo.com</a>	Douglas Yee**	512-288-9172
Eclectic Eats		<b>VACANT</b>	
Gen X/Y Events	<a href="mailto:carla.x.young@gmail.com">carla.x.young@gmail.com</a>	Carla Young	954-465-3498
Area Events Coordinators		<b>VACANT</b>	

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<a href="mailto:mostquality@austin.rr.com">mostquality@austin.rr.com</a>	& Johnnie Vaughn	512-867-5658

### OMBUDSMAN

<b>REIMBURSEMENTS</b>	<a href="mailto:treasurer@lsm.us.mensa.org">treasurer@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	Douglas Yee**	512-288-9172
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### S.I.G.H.T.

<b>EVERYTHING ELSE</b>	<a href="mailto:President@lsm.us.mensa.org">President@lsm.us.mensa.org</a>	<b>VACANT</b>	
		Geri Neemidge**	512-310-7863

\* 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: Geri Neemidge, Don Drumtra, Aaron Rabushka, Doug Williams, Ron Edelstein, Leslie Stevenson, Johnnie Vaughn and Douglas Yee.

## JUNE CALENDAR

Compiled by Rose Berkowitz, Calendar Editor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 ALG Due Chess Night TGIT-North	13 Lucky 13 <sup>th</sup> Celebration	14
15	16	17	18	19 TGIT-South	20	21 Board Mtg Member Mtg Games Night
22	23	24	25	26 TGIT-North Seal & Label	27	28 Euro/Strategy
29	30					

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.

### ALG/Calendar Deadline

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**  
**June 12, Midnight**  
Submissions due to Editor.



### Chess Night at TGIT-N

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday**  
**June 12, 6-8 pm**  
Come cross swords with us! We welcome observers and players of any and all skill levels. Learn to play the Royal Game! Join us for dinner and conversation. Hosted by Douglas Yee ([cmvc95@yahoo.com](mailto:cmvc95@yahoo.com)).

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**  
**June 12 & 26, 6-8 pm**  
Join us for conversation, food and fun. Prospective members welcome.

### Lucky 13<sup>th</sup> Celebration

**Friday, June 13, 7-10 pm**  
Pinballz Arcade  
8940 Research Blvd., Suite 100  
Austin, TX 78758  
512-420-8458  
See page 6 for details.

### Board Meeting

**June 21, 1-3 pm**  
Twin Oaks Branch of Austin  
Public Library



### Member Meeting

**June 21, 3 pm**  
Twin Oaks Branch of Austin  
Public Library  
See page 6 for details.

### Games Night

**Saturday June 21**  
**7-10 pm**  
Emerald Tavern  
9012 Research Blvd #6  
Austin, TX 78758  
See page 7 for details.

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

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday**  
**June 19, 6-8 pm**  
Join us for conversation, food, and fun. Prospective members welcome.

### Seal & Label at TGIT-N

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**  
**June 26, 8 pm**  
Join the TGIT Group to help seal and label the newsletter.

### Euro/Strategy Games

**Saturday June 28, 4 pm**  
Carla and Alex's House  
15301 Ecorio Drive  
[carla.x.young@gmail.com](mailto:carla.x.young@gmail.com)  
See page 6 for details.

### UPCOMING IN JULY

Jul 10, ALG, Cal due  
Jul 10 TGIT-N, Chess Night  
Jul 17, TGIT-S  
Jul 19, BM, MM, GN  
Jul 24 TGIT-N, S&L

## EVENT DIRECTIONS

**Twin Oaks Branch Library**  
1800 S. Fifth St.  
Austin, TX 78704.

**Central Market Café North (TGIT-N)**  
Central Park, Austin  
4001 N. Lamar Blvd.,  
512-206-1020.  
On the south side of the store. Look for the Mensa table sign—usually we're upstairs on the Mezzanine.

**Central Market Café South (TGIT-S)**  
Westgate Mall  
4477 S. Lamar Blvd.,  
Austin  
512-899-4300  
Enter at the east side of the store by the statues of fruits and vegetables.

**Emerald Tavern**  
SW corner of Burnett Road and Research Blvd (US Hwy 183)  
Lone Star Center  
9012 Research Blvd,  
Suite C6, Austin  
512-994-4649

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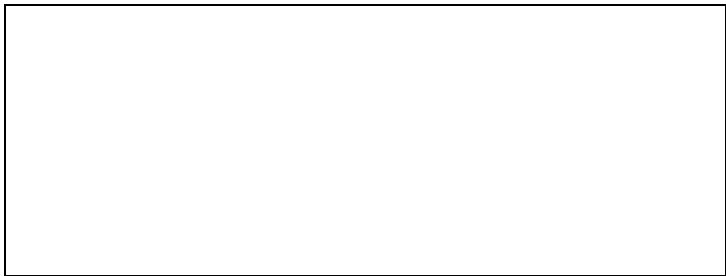
### PUBLICATION NOTICES

**The Armadillo Literary Gazette** is owned by American Mensa Limited and is the monthly official publication of Lone Star Mensa.  
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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 lines 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  
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Calendar submissions may be sent to  
[calendar@ism.us.mensa.org](mailto:calendar@ism.us.mensa.org)

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