

Editor**Hello, My Fellow Mensans**

Do we have any chess players out there? We can have a chess tournament at a time and place most convenient to all. Call me or Robert, please; 432-570-6209, 432-889-6858 or 432-260-4002.

Volunteer Opportunities abound for the right person. Get your name in before the position you want is taken by someone else.

Welcome to new and returning Permian Basin Members.

We have a winner! Congratulations to (your name could be here) in the PerMensa Error-Finding Contest.

Thank You,

Shirley Volkmann

RVC Report June 2017

I am writing this column after returning from a weekend long convention that is held in Houston, known as Comicpalooza. This is one of the many conventions that we have seen becoming more and more prevalent around the country, the most well-known (and largest) being San Diego Comic-Con.

Cons such as these are a fantastic way to advertise for Mensa. Many groups around the country have been using vendor booths at these cons to spread the word about Mensa and local testing opportunities. Gulf Coast Mensa did just this at Comicpalooza. Volunteers talked to hundreds of people about what Mensa is, gifted youth benefits, scholarships, and testing. If your local group is interested in hosting a recruiting booth and wants to know where to start, please feel free to reach out to me.

I have heard people use cons as an example when attempting to describe Regional Gatherings and the Annual Gathering to non-Mensans. While there are definitely similarities, there are also some key differences. As my father, who has attended more than his share of both Mensa Gatherings and cons, said, "Cons have great speakers and panels. A Gathering is a great party that happens to also have great speakers."

I had a fantastic time at Comicpalooza, but AGs and RGs are easily more fun in my experience. I believe that a lot of this is due to the sense of community that can be found at AGs and RGs. The community among Mensans is unique. Whether it's a discussion about a fascinating speaker's presentation, playing games until late at night, or simply laughter while sitting around a table in Hospitality, the personal connections made at Gatherings are one of the most valuable aspects of membership in this awesome organization.

The upcoming Annual Gathering will be held July 5-9, 2017 in Hollywood, FL. This is the largest opportunity to get to experience this community. You can find more details and register online at <http://ag.us.mensa.org>. If you are looking for something a little closer to home, don't forget about LoneStaRG, Lone Star Mensa's Regional Gathering. LoneStaRG will be held September 1-4, 2017 in Round Rock, TX. You can find more information about LoneStaRG at <http://www.lonestarmensa.org/lonestarg-19.html>.

As always, I ask that if you have any questions, concerns, or general comments, please let me know. I have created a simple online form where members can offer feedback on any topic, both by name or anonymously. You can find this form at <http://tinyurl.com/AML-R6-Feedback>. Of course, if you prefer, you can always contact me via email at rvc6@us.mensa.org, phone at 512-779-3945, or snail mail at 10518 Horseshoe Bend Dr, Houston, TX 77064.

Permian Basin Mensa June 2017 Events

Third Thursday Mensa Lunch

Thursday, June 15, 2017, 12 noon

Grand Buffet Restaurant (Asian cuisine)

2510 W. Louisiana Avenue (corner of Andrews Hwy.)

Midland, Texas 79701

Dine-Out in Odessa

Saturday, June 24, 2017, 7:00 PM

Big Daddy's Catfish and Chicken

1121 E. 42nd St., Odessa, Texas 79762

432-550-6830

Dine-Out in Midland

Tuesday, June 27, 2017, 7:00 PM

Candelijas Restaurant (Mexican)

701 S. Marienfeld

Midland, Texas 79701

432-704-5516

First Thursday Mensa Lunch

Thursday, July 6, 2017, 12 noon

Grand Buffet Restaurant (Asian cuisine)

2510 W. Louisiana Avenue (corner of Andrews Hwy.)

Midland, Texas 79701

Dine-Out in Midland

Saturday, July 8, 2017, 7:00 PM

Kuo's Chinese Restaurant

3303 N. Midkiff Road

Midland, Texas 79705

432- 697-8888

Permian Basin Mensa Executive Meeting Minutes February 18, 2017

2:00 PM (began @ 2:08 PM)

Home of Mark McDonald, 2600 Culver Drive, Midland, Texas 79705

Roll Call - Mark McDonald, David Nichols, Robert Volkmann, Shirley Volkmann, Patti King (via telephone conference call)

Minutes of September 10, 2016 meeting approved.

Reports

Local Secretary – Robert: Election Chair Stephen Holmquest reports that there were two successful nominations received by December 31, 2016. They are, **Shirley Volkmann**, and **Patti King**. They will take office on April 1, 2017. Shirley and Patti declared their intention to recruit three additional board members. They asked Mark, David, and Robert if they would accept invitations to join the new board taking office on April 1. All three invitees indicated they would accept.

Testing Coordinator – Robert: The tool for contacting Mensa candidates is still non-functional, so the testing coordinator must use a work around to contact candidates. We had two test takers in Eola on January 14.

Acting Program Chair – Robert: Linda Blanchard joined us for games on Dec. 17. It was fun! We had a great program in San Angelo on Jan. 14.

Treasurer – Mark: We had \$6851.28 as of Jan. 31.

Scholarship Chair—Mark: We have 17 scholarship applications.

Newsletter Editor – Shirley: We have to print our own labels for the PerMensa now, so we will incur approximatley \$5 per month extra expense. We will transition to Libre Office

Membership Officer & Children's Coordinator– Shirley

Dine-out Chair – Shirley

Web person – David: We improved the style of the website

Ombudsman – Ed Rowland

Bylaws Review Chair – David & Robert

Elections Chair – Stephen Holmquest (see report in LocSec's report)

Old Business

New Business

Next Meeting - April 29, 2017

Adjourn - 2:48 PM Minutes approved April 29, 2017

LOC-SEC Speaks

In this column I want to answer questions. Some are questions that members have asked. (Some are questions I ask myself!)

1. Why are few Mensa activities oriented to my interests?

Our activities and programs are suggested by members. Other members found the activities to be interesting.

2. What do I have to do to get you to schedule an event that is interesting to me?

Tell me what interests you. My mind reading skills suck! Our interests are not the same. They may overlap, or they may differ. That's OK! There is probably another Mensan who shares your interest. I am here to help you get your needs met.

3. I have a favorite restaurant. Mensa never schedules a dine-out there. This makes me sad. Why don't you schedule a dine-out at my favorite restaurant?

This makes me sad too. Tell Shirley the name of your favorite restaurant. (Her mind reading skills also suck.) We like to eat food. We will schedule a dine-out at your favorite restaurant and we will all be happy!

4. Why do folks volunteer for Mensa?

I can answer that one! As a Mensa volunteer I meet *amazing people!* The Excom of Permian Basin Mensa consists of *talented and kind people.* I like being around such folks. We have other wonderful members who are not on the Excom. I like seeing them too!

As program chair I invite wonderfully talented non-Mensa and Mensa people to present to Mensa. That's fun!

5. Why does Permian Basin Mensa schedule lots of events one month, and few events the next?

Because Shirley and I are old. We sometimes rest for an entire month. We consult doctors. And sleep a lot.

ELECTED OFFICERS

Executive Committee: Patti King, Mark McDonald, David Nichols, Robert Volkmann, and Shirley Volkmann.

APPOINTED OFFICERS

Local Secretary: Robert Volkmann (432) 570-6209; cell (432) 889-6858

Treasurer: Mark McDonald (432) 697-0358

Editor: Shirley Volkmann (432) 570-6209

Scholarship Chair: Mark McDonald (432) 697-0358

Program Chair: Open

Bylaws Revision: David Nichols

Dining Out Chair: Shirley C. Volkmann, (432) 570-6209

Membership Chair: Shirley C. Volkmann, (432) 570-6209

Gifted Youth Chair: Shirley C. Volkmann, (432) 570-6209

Elections Chair: Stephen Holmquest (432) 260-5388, PO Box 52990, Midland, Texas 79710-2990

Testing Coordinator: Robert Volkmann (432) 570-6209; cell (432) 889-5868, Testing fee \$40.00

Proctors: Dr. Ed Rowland, (432) 638-2781, Odessa, Robert Volkmann, Midland. (432) 570-6209; cell (432) 889-5868

Ombudsperson: Dr. Ed Rowland, (432) 638-2781, Odessa.

SIGHT Coordinator: Open

Web Master: David Nichols

AREA COORDINATORS

San Angelo Coordinator: Dennis Hein, (325) 224-8186

Abilene Coordinator: Open

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

RVC (Regional Vice Chair) Region 6: Taz Criss, RVC6@mensa.org.

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Editor is responsible for any unattributed material in the PerMensa.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month preceding the month of publication. PerMensa advertising rates are available for members of Permian Basin

June 2017

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Contact: (432) 889-6858

MEETINGS, LUNCHESES, DINE-OUTS

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