

LocSec, Robert Volkmann, Speaks:

Fellow Mensans,

I invite you to join your fellow Mensans for the monthly meeting. We will socialize, creatively. Then our own Yoshi (Yogashri Pradhan) will illuminate Climate Change from her perspective. Afterwards we'll discuss and socialize some more. If you've got something to say you'll be able to say it. If you prefer to silently observe from the back wall, or the snack table, that's okay. Shy folks are also welcome.

I have a request: Can you recommend a restaurant in Snyder, Texas where Permian Basin Mensa could meet and dine? Snyder is the town most nearly equidistant from our population centers in Lubbock, Midland/Odessa, San Angelo, and Abilene. I want to schedule a dine-out in a location that maximizes our opportunity to meet local Mensans.

Shirley and I are planning to attend the Lone Star Mensa Regional Gathering in Round Rock, Texas over Labor Day weekend. The Gathering details are in John Neemidge's column below. But I am excited about one of the many scheduled activities: PowerPoint Karaoke. It's new to me and should be hilarious fun for nerds like us.

Robert G. Volkmann, LocSec

Regional Vice Chair, Region 6, John Neemidge:

Sixth Sense – August 2019

As I write this, the Annual Gathering (AG) has just concluded and I'm back home from my trip. I met many interesting people from across the region and the country, and met up with many more that I already knew. We had an AMC (American Mensa Committee – our national board of directors) meeting and confirmed the 2023 destination for the Annual Gathering (Baltimore, MD) and designated Taz Criss as Chair of the 2021 World Gathering in Houston.

A number of local groups were recognized for Jewel Awards. Winning Emerald were: Central Oklahoma, Central Texas, Eastern Oklahoma, Gulf Coast, Mensa 76, North Texas, Permian Basin, South Texas, and North Texas. In a bittersweet turn of events, Paso Del Norte was the only Region 6 group to exceed Emerald, winning Sapphire. This is bittersweet because only a few days later Paso Del Norte was dissolved due to lack of ongoing volunteer commitment. I hope those who helped that group win Sapphire will contribute to their new local groups, whether as Area Coordinators or in some other role. In the past month Lubbock Mensa also dissolved, with their members joining Permian Basin. I hope Lubbock can become a successful area within Permian Basin.

Coming up in early September will be the next meeting of the AMC. This is a particularly important meeting, as on the Friday before the AMC meeting we will be reviewing American Mensa's strategic planning and looking to set goals and directions for the coming years. If you have thoughts, suggestions, recommendations, or gripes and complaints, please do let me know. I can only be your voice on the AMC if I know what matters to you. The agenda for the AMC meeting itself should come out in mid-August; if you see something that concerns you, let me know that too.

The experience of being at the AG reminds me (as if I needed it) that the company of fellow Mensans is a wonderful thing. We have a few opportunities for you to meet up with groups of Mensans. First up is LonestaRG, Central Texas Mensa (my local group)'s Regional Gathering. It'll be held over Labor Day Weekend, August 30 – September 2, 2019, in Round Rock, TX. You can find more information about LonestaRG at <http://www.lonestarmensa.org/lonestarg-21.html>. Register by mid-August before the rate goes up to the walk-in rate! There is a discount for first-time attendees.

Next up will be North Texas Mensa's Feast of Pleasures and Delights, held at Thanksgiving. Their early registration rate is just \$50 until August 31st, and half price if you are a first-time attendee. See <https://www.northtexasmensa.org/2019-rg> for more information and to register.

A bit further on – but important to consider registering now – will be Mind Games 2020. It will be held April 23-26 in Irving, TX. Mind Games is a very busy weekend of playing – and judging – games; the top games will be awarded Mensa Select recognition. Mind Games almost always fills up, so register early to make

sure you can attend. More information and registration are at <https://mensamindgames.com>.

Please send me any thoughts, ideas, questions, concerns, general comments, whatever. I've got a contact form for feedback located at <https://tinyurl.com/RVC6-JLN>. Of course, if you prefer, you can always contact me via email at rvc6@us.mensa.org or by phone at 512-695-9876.

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

Mentor: Yoshi (Yogashri Pradhan)

Treasurer: Mark McDonald (432) 697-0358

Editor: Shirley Volkmann (432) 570-6209

Scholarship Chair: Mark McDonald (432) 697-0358

Program Chair: Robert Volkmann

Bylaws Revision: David Nichols and Robert G Volkmann

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 \$60.00

Proctors:

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

Robert Volkmann, (432) 889-5868, Midland.

Susan Frances McPherron, (206) 930-5500, Midland.

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

Lubbock Coordinator: Open

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

RVC (Regional Vice Chair) Region 6: John Neemidge

First Class Mail

Postmaster - If undeliverable, return to:
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Deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month preceding the month of publication. PerMensa advertising rates, per issue, for members of Permian Basin Mensa: Business Card (2x2.5 in) \$5; quarter page - \$10; half - \$18; full page - \$35. Rate for non members are double.

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August 2019
Volume XXXVI , Number 2
Contact: (432) 889-6858

**MEETINGS, LUNCHESES,
DINE-OUTS**

Midland Third Thursday Lunch
August 15, 2019, Noon
Grand Buffet
2510 W. Louisiana Ave.
Midland, Texas 79701
(432) 688-8881

San Angelo Saturday Coffee
August 17, 2019, 10:30 AM
Starbucks
5651 Sherwood Way
San Angelo, Texas 76904

Program/Meeting
Saturday, August 17, 2019
7:00PM, Home of Ed Rowland,
4013 Lakeside Drive, Odessa,
Texas 79762
Climate Change: Crock of Sun?
Yogashri Pradhan