



**Montgomery-Wiregrass Mensa
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SCHEDULED MEETINGS

June 25 — Royal Thai, Enterprise, AL
July 23 — Chappy’s Deli, Montgomery, AL
August 27 — Venue To Be Determined

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DO YOU LIKE COLOR

This issue of *The Wire* is being delivered by USPS in living Black and White. It is also available in millions of colors (Microsoft’s term, not mine) on the MWM Web site, <http://www.montgomery-wiregrass.us.mensa.org>.

The 45 MWM members who opted for electronic delivery are receiving a full color email copy. Other members can have this service by advising American Mensa at <http://www.us.mensa.org> that they elect to receive Electronic Communications.

Words from Christiane, our Loc Sec

As of May 30, 2016, our group had 91 members. In the past two months, three members have reinstated their membership. Welcome back to American Mensa, Paul ‘Marc’, Amanda, and Ken! And welcome to our group. We hope to meet you at one of the monthly dinner meetings soon. Speaking of which, our usual meeting time and place is the fourth Saturday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at places yet to be determined, usually in Troy or Montgomery, occasionally elsewhere. Check our website (<http://www.montgomery-wiregrass.us.mensa.org>) or our Facebook page for updates.



Prior to our March dinner meeting on March 26 meeting at Taj Café in Dothan, we had an Executive Committee meeting in which we discussed and organized our Picnic in April. In lieu of the April dinner meeting, we had a picnic at the Johnny Henderson park in Enterprise on April 23, 2016. It was fabulous. Sweet Tooth BBQ, a local award-winning restaurant, catered the event. There were several Young Mensans in attendance, but with ALL of our members being young at heart, EVERYBODY had a good time throwing Frisbee or just enjoying each other’s company under the pavilion. We are thinking about having another picnic in fall when the temperature is more bearable, possibly in Auburn. Let me know what you think.

Montgomery-Wiregrass Mensa held its First Annual Montgomery-Wiregrass Young Mensan Drawing Contest. The theme for 2016 was “Adventure”. The winner was our Young Mensan Hunter (age 11). Congrats, Hunter!! Your artwork is awesome. You’re so talented. We’re proud of you.

Montgomery-Wiregrass Mensa will be hosting a testing session on June 18 at the Enterprise Library. Eight testing candidates will take the Mensa Admission Test. Good luck to everybody!

Last but not least, the 2016 Mensa Annual Gathering is approaching fast. This year’s event is to be held from June 29 through July 3, 2016 in San Diego, California at the Town and Country Resort in Mission Valley. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend Annual Gathering this year. If you go please share pictures and experiences with the group. And have a wonderful time!

If you haven’t done already, please consider joining us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/125746080857981/>. We usually announce and/or confirm specifics (date/location) of our monthly meetings on our FB page as well as other news and tidbits related to (and sometimes not so related to) our group.

Take care everybody and be safe,

Christiane Robinson
Loc Sec

EDITOR'S DISCLAIMER

Opinions expressed herein are those of the writer — not of Mensa nor the editor unless he is the author. Anyone with an opposing or supporting view is encouraged to respond, and to include any other submissions to edtor.the.wire@gmail.com, Robert Akin, 104 Windwood Lane, Enterprise, AL 36330.

MEMBERS: Send address changes to American Mensa Ltd., and include your new phone number,

OUR RVC (BAKER RING) SPEAKS

At the beginning of May, I spent the weekend with over 100 of my fellow Mensans at the Carolinah RG sponsored by Piedmont Area Mensa. Participants weren't only from Region 5, but they come from Maryland, Michigan, New York, Illinois, and Florida. As always, this RG was successful. Thanks to the committee that put it together and carried it off.

Mensa in Georgia will hold their RG, Peachtreat, September 23-25. This RG is another opportunity to spend the weekend with a group of Mensans from all over. Look for details in upcoming columns, your local group newsletter or on the Mensa in Georgia website.

It's not too late to register for the Annual Gathering in San Diego. There is always a large group from Region 5 in attendance. Walter O'Brien, from Scorpion (TV show) fame, will be one of the speakers. The opening night entertainment will feature R & B singer Thelma Houston and other great entertainment. This is a great spot for a family vacation. As of this writing, the hotel is sold out, however, there is a waiting list as well as a nearby overflow hotel. Find more information on the AG website or Facebook page. And of course, on June 29, the day before the AG, the Foundation will sponsor the Colloquium. There is something for everyone in San Diego this summer.

Congratulations to James Martinez who is the new Loc Sec for Triad Mensa. David Roberts who served ably as Loc Sec will now serve as Asst. Loc Sec. Several other local groups have new officers. Carol Forthman is the new Asst. Loc Sec for French Broad Mensa and Mark Ishige is the Asst. Loc Sec for Savannah Area Mensa.

A few weeks before writing this I attended the monthly meeting for North Alabama Mensa. There, they elected Don Midkiff as their new Loc Sec. Many thanks to Linda Graves for serving as the previous Loc Sec.

There are several local groups who are getting ready to have elections or need to appoint members of their Executive Committees. If you are asked to serve, I hope that you will

OUR RVC SPEAKS (CONTINUED)

consider it. Even if you're not asked, volunteers are welcome. Volunteer with your local group to make it a better place for all members.

As the weather warms and vacations are scheduled, don't forget to attend some of your local group functions. One of the things that makes Mensa special is the opportunity to connect with other members.

Our LocSec provided an excerpt from Camille Anne's May 21 posting to *Summertime Poems — Hello Poetry*

Golden sunshine in between book pages,
butterflies fluttering in their cages.
Still summer afternoons, a loving sigh,
walking under the moonlit sky.
Spontaneous evening rendezvous,

Happy Birthday Wishes.

SSG Onastasia Gunlogson	June 12
Victor K. Raines	June 16
Patsy Karnes	June 19
Rebecca Gilliland	June 25
Gregory Preston Thompson	July 24
Barbara Hoover	July 28

List may be incomplete because 37 MWM members have restricted information as to date of birth.

Membership Anniversaries in June

Rebecca Gilliland	3 years
Patsy Karnes	4 years
Faye B. Lowe	33 years
James M. Nelson	14 years
J. Hugh Nichols	32 years
Selina Sun	3 years

Membership Anniversaries in July

Kathleen Connolly	1 year
Roger Corley	1 year
Timothy French	12 years
LtCol Thomas Gregory Funk	34 years
Andrew Hood	3 years
Barry McKnight	3 years
Christiane Robinson	5 years
Martha Johnson Whitt	14 years

(CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN)

RESULTS FROM ART CONTEST

The first annual Montgomery-Wiregrass Young Mensan Drawing Contest was a success. Using the 2016 theme of “Adventure” Hunter Savell completed this winning drawing which she entitled *Dreaming of A Wild Adventure*.



We also received word that another of our youth excelled — Brandon Hightower graduated from Alabama Christian Academy. He accepted a scholarship from the University of Alabama where he will pursue Computer Science studies this fall.

REPEATED APPEAL FROM OUR LOC SEC

We are still looking for a member to fill the position of Gifted Youth Coordinator. Please let me know if you're interested in this position. There are many services Mensa and the Mensa Foundation offers Young Mensans. Additionally, many of the benefits for Young Mensans are available to the children of Mensa members. As we parents of gifted children well know, there are also numerous other Mensa non-related programs out there to help our children learn and grow. I have extensive personal experience with regard to the following programs and organizations: Davidson Institute of Talent Development (<http://www.davidsongifted.org/>), Duke Talent Identification Program (<https://tip.duke.edu/>), Stanford University Education Program for Gifted Youth (<http://epgy.stanford.edu/>), and SENG Supporting Emotional Needs for the Gifted (<http://sengifted.org/>). Please don't hesitate and ask me questions about these programs and organizations.

THOUGHTFUL TIDBIT

A little something from one of Mensa's more famous members, Marilyn vos Savant. The following is a quote from her column as published by *Parade* on May 29, 2016.

I'm in Mensa, where I've been discussing this question with other members for years: What is the reason we are here? -- Jerry McGovern, Bueliton, Calif.

I think it depends on your spiritual beliefs. If you have a religion, it provides the answer. But if you don't believe in a god, the question contradicts your thinking. Having a reason implies having a purpose, which indicates an intelligent being (or cognitive power, etc.) with intent. That's what people call a god. So if you don't believe god exists, you can't believe a reason exists. You must settle for assuming we got here through some natural process, and that's that.



PICNIC IN THE PARK — APRIL 23, 2016



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