



Greetings fellow Mensans,

**Montgomery-Wiregrass Mensa
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Words from Christiane, our Loc Sec

It's May and summer time is here! And the Mensa AG is right around the corner. Well, not really!

This year's annual gathering (AG) under the motto "Monumentally Mind-bending!" will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Marriot IndyPlace from July 4 to July 8, 2018.



A little closer to home, we had a lovely monthly meeting a couple of weeks ago at Niffer's at the Tracks in Opelika, organized by our new Assistant LocSec, Steven Knuckles, who took over this position from Laurel Akin. Thank you, Laurel, for everything you've done for MWM in the past years/decades, and a very warm welcome to Steven as our new Assistant LocSec.

In other news, on April 13th, Young Mensans and children of Mensa members met at Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine for a tour and picnic. See picture on page 4. We also had a few guests from the Wiregrass Homeschoolers who joined us! The Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine is a private, non-profit medical school for osteopathic medicine located in the city of Dothan in the U.S. state of Alabama. This was an exciting day. Bob Willis, Executive Director of Enrollment Management, gave us a tour of the facility, and we all learned a lot about the practice of Osteopathic medicine. This event was organized by our Gifted Youth Coordinator (GYC) Jennifer Cumming. Thank you, Jennifer!

If you haven't done already, please consider joining us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/125746080857981/>. We usually announce 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 stay cool,

Christiane Robinson
Loc Sec

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

May 19, 2018 — 6:00 pm Troy, AL
Julia's Restaurant (334) 566-5440
809 Highway 213 South

June 23, 2018 — 6:00 pm
Venue To Be Determined

July 28, 2018 — 6:00 pm
Venue To Be Determined

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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

The Mini-Minutes for the Spring AMC Meeting, held in Denver, CO are online. Since March 31 is the end of the Mensa year, the Board passed the budget and completed other business. The Mini-Minutes are generally on line within a few days of the meeting. The Minutes can't be posted until they are approved. Either at the next regular meeting, or at a special-called tele-meeting

This year's Carolinah RG, held in Greenville, SC, was their largest ever. More people means more fun. Next year, it will be towards the end of March again. Plan, now, to be there. The next RG will be in the Atlanta area in September.

This year's AG, "Monumentally Mindbending", is almost upon us (July 4-8). Tours are listed online, and programs are added as times and dates firm up. I'm looking forward to a great time for all. Looks like we will have a large contingent from our 20 local groups. This year's colloquium will take place the day before the AG and will deal with manufacturing.

Indianapolis is easy driving for most of us, however, there has been concern about parking. Parking at the hotel is convenient and expensive. However, the AG Committee has worked hard to find off-site parking which is much more reasonably price. This is a link to the parking info page: <https://ag.us.mensa.org/pages/essentials/event-parking/>. I know that if you are driving, you will appreciate their hard work. I surely do.

As we have ended the Mensa year, I hope that everyone has renewed. If not, why don't you do it today? Several of our groups ended the year with an increase in membership over the previous year. Every time I read a local group newsletter I am enthused about the variety of activities that some of our groups host. If your group isn't hosting the type of event that you would like to attend, contact a member of your Executive Committee and work on setting something up. All of our local groups could use additional volunteers. Mensa is a volunteer organization and if you don't volunteer, who will? Last year, Mensa's Community Service Committee began Mensa Cares. If your local group participates in Mensa Cares, I hope that many of you will participate. Many of our members have expressed interest in doing community service. Some local groups do it once a year, others, on an ongoing basis. Since some groups may not be aware of service opportunities, if you know of any that would work for your groups, contact your Ex Com.

Hoping that you have a great Spring... if it ever gets here.

Happy Birthday Wishes in May

David Holman Bennett	May 17
Autumn W White	May 18
Robert F Akin	May 24
Leopold Blum Babin	May 24
Alison Shelley	May 26

Happy Birthday Wishes in June

Burt Buchanan	June 7
Onastasia Gunlogson	June 12
Victor K Raines	June 16
Kimberley Michelle Dunn	June 24
Debra Ann Freisleben	June 27

Happy Birthday Wishes in July

Charles John Ganther, Jr	July 3
Steven William Knuckles	July 16
Gregory Preston Thompson	July 24
Haley Elena Roberts	July 26

List may be incomplete because 36 MWM members have restricted information as to date of birth.

Membership Anniversaries in May

David Holman Bennett	3 years
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Membership Anniversaries in June

Selinia Sun	5 years
James M Nelson	16 years
Faye B Love	35 years

Membership Anniversaries in July

Roger Corley	3 years
Christiane Robinson	7 years
Timothy French	14 years
Martha Johnson Whitt	16 years
Thomas Gregory Funk	36 years

ASSISTANT LOC SEC

I was born and raised in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. I graduated high school in 1980 and from Arkansas State University in December 1983 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Radio and Television Communications. After marrying Diana in May 1984, we lived in Montgomery for two years where I worked for what is now ABC32 before moving to Tampa. After spending 1.5 years there, I was hired by the US Postal Service in Jacksonville and began my federal career in October 1987. After two years there -- and the birth of our first daughter, Jennifer -- we relocated back to Missouri to be nearer to my elderly parents. Our youngest daughter, Christina, was born in 1991.



My hobbies are limited, yet varied. I am continually working on my paternal family genealogical mysteries and am also a Kansas City BBQ Society Certified Master Judge, having judged 79 contests to-date. The best hobby, however, is playing with our grandchildren! Anna is nine and twins Mason and Mackenzie are two.

I became interested in Mensa in 1991 and obtained my school records shortly thereafter which revealed I had taken two IQ exams as a child. One of those served as my ticket into this wonderful organization. My admission was granted in 1992 and I participated as much as possible with SLAM (St. Louis Area Mensa). I am grateful and honored to be selected as the newest Assistant Local Secretary for Montgomery Wiregrass Mensa. I have some awesome shoes to fill. Many thanks to Laurel Akin for serving in this position for so many years and for such a smooth transition. I still have much to learn, so please be patient.

GIFTED YOUTH



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