



**Montgomery-Wiregrass Mensa
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SCHEDULED MEETINGS

September 28, 2019
Mr. Gus' Ristorante
6268 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery

October 26, 2019
Venditori's Italian Restaurant
2572 Hilton Garden Drive, Auburn

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Words from Steve, our Loc Sec



Greetings! As I begin this column, I'm looking back at the column I wrote for our April newsletter and am laughing because I suggested it already felt like summertime. HA! On this Monday afternoon on our front porch, it's 98 degrees with 51 percent humidity. Doesn't that calculate to around a 150-degree heat index...or close? It's 74 degrees in front of this computer and that's what matters at this point!

Welcome again to our new and renewing members and to those who have transferred into Montgomery Wiregrass Mensa. If your membership has recently lapsed, please consider renewing because we want to see you at our meetings! Since March, our membership has decreased from 89 to 81, which is still an increase of seven at this same time last year.

IMPORTANT: PLEASE consider volunteering to help make our group an even greater success by serving in one of our two open opportunities. Our greatest current need is for a quarterly newsletter editor. Bob Akin can address what is required of this position. He has served as "The Wire" editor admirably for more than four years and we deeply appreciate him and his efforts! Our other open position is for an Assistant Local Secretary. Basically, the Assistant LocSec helps with monthly meeting coordination and will fill-in when I'm away. Each of these two positions don't require a tremendous time commitment and would greatly help MWM.

Due to our July meeting occurring at Riverwalk Stadium in Montgomery, we're resuming our Troy-Auburn-Montgomery meeting rotation (not necessarily in that order). We had a nice group of nine in attendance in Troy at the Mossy Grove School House Restaurant on August 24th...and enjoyed outstanding food, food, as well. Please make plans to join us for our September 28th meeting at Mr. Gus' Ristorante in Montgomery at 6:00 PM. October's meeting will be at Venditori's Italian Restaurant in Auburn on the 26th at 6:00 pm.

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OUR RVC (NANCY CAMPBELL) SPEAKS

Several weeks ago, I received the news that you had elected me RVC5 for the 2019-2021 term. To those of you who voted for me, a sincere thank you. To those of you who didn't vote for me, I hope to earn your trust and confidence as I work to make Region 5 the best that it can be. I want to thank Dan Brown for a friendly, non-competitive campaign. You will be seeing more of Dan in the next two years, because he has pledged to work cooperatively with me to help the region grow and thrive.



I especially want to thank Baker Ring for his six years of exemplary service to Region 5. He has always been available to help when a tough situation arises, and we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. RVC is a thankless (and unpaid) job, and Baker showed how to do it right.

Shameless plug for upcoming RGs in Region 5: Peachtreat 44, "Double Trouble," takes place in Duluth, GA (near Atlanta) on September 20-22, 2019. The time to register for it is NOW! You can get more information about it at www.georgia.us.mensa.org/generalinfo.html Sweet Carolina RG, "For the Health of it," will occur in Charlotte, NC from November 15-17, 2019. Details at cbrmensa.org/rg.

I will be attending these two RGs as well as the RGs in Greenville, SC and Alabama in 2020. I'm looking forward to meeting those of you that I have not met yet, and seeing old friends again. I need your help! I hope to have annual Leadership Development Workshops in Region 5 during my term. Charlotte /Blue Ridge Mensa has hosted the last two regional workshops. I am seeking volunteer sites for 2019 and 2020. I will help you locate a hotel, plan the LDW, and find speakers. I just need you to agree to host it.

Finally, I plan to visit all twenty Local Groups in Region 5 during my term. I will be working intensely with several groups who want to grow in numbers or in programming. If you would like your group to be one of the target locations, please contact me as soon as possible. I sincerely want to serve you for the next two years.

I'm pleased to announce that South Coast Mensa has agreed to host a Leadership Development Workshop (LDW) in Mobile, AL on March 6-8, 2020. As the last two regional LDWs have been

hosted by Charlotte Blue Ridge Mensa, so having one on the western side of Region 5 is really good news. There will be folks from nearby regions there, too, if past experience is any predictor. So, what is a Leadership Development Workshop? Glad you asked! It's a gathering of leaders and wannabe leaders from across the region to learn how to make a local group stronger. Don't let the word "wannabe" put you off. Mensa is totally led by volunteers, and volunteer means YOU! Of course, we expect the LocSecs and Editors and Treasurers to be there to learn more about their crafts, but if you have ever thought about getting Youth activities started in your local group, or increasing attendance at local events, etc., then YOU should be there, too. The LDW is open to any Mensa member who resides in Region 5, or nearby regions.

Participants pay for their transportation, lodging (we have negotiated room rates of \$75 per night, including breakfast), and \$25 registration fee. Region 5 will pay for everything else, including Friday night dinner; Saturday lunch and dinner; meeting room rentals, AV equipment, badges, handouts, etc.

If you have presented an LDW workshop session at a regional or national gathering, we'd love to hear from you. The actual workshop sessions will be determined by polling the attendees in advance, but we are looking for regional and national leaders to teach the sessions. So – write March 6-8, 2020 on your calendars now. We'll be sending out more information in the coming months.

A favorite theme of mine is that the Jewel awards are a Blueprint for how to make your local group stronger in both participation and numbers. You can see the points allocations for various activities at <https://www.us.mensa.org/recognize/group-awards/local-group-jewels/> (Please note that attending an LDW is one of the ways to earn points – 5 per person attending.)

Peachtreat 44 is right around the corner! Help Mensa in Georgia celebrate 44 years when they meet Friday September 20 through Sunday, September 22, 2019. Need to register? Go to www.georgia.us.mensa.org/generalinfo.html

See you at Peachtreat!

Nancy Campbell

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GIFTED YOUTH

No input received for this newsletter


Words from Steve, our Loc Sec
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We will not meet in November so we may have our annual Holiday Dinner on December 14th, tentatively scheduled for Mr. Gus' Ristorante in Montgomery. This is the party for which MWM pays for the meal, so there's no reason to not join us! I always welcome suggestions for new (or previous) meeting locations. I still consider myself "new" to the MWM region after two years, so please let me know if you know of a potential meeting location. Our only requirements are that the restaurant location is relatively quiet (a small room helps greatly) and that the restaurant's meeting area is handicapped accessible.

I will not be in attendance at our September nor October meetings. I don't have many opportunities to watch my alma mater Arkansas State Red Wolves play football and we're playing in Troy on September 28th. In October, I'll be in Vietnam for the day on a cruise.

Take care!

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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 editor.the.wire@gmail.com, Robert Akin, 104 Windwood Lane, Enterprise, AL 36330.

Happy Birthday Wishes in August

Michael I Wegner	Aug 1
Vincent Raymond Courtney	Aug 2
Faye B Love	Aug 3
Sandra G Newman	Aug 11
James M Nelson	Aug 24
James P Golson	Aug 29

Happy Birthday Wishes in October

Laurel O Akin	Oct 5
Matthew G Thompson	Oct 8
Michele L Waters	Oct 22
Ellen Rothfeld	Oct 26

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

Membership Anniversaries in August

Benny Brooks Walton	2 years
Haley Elena Roberts	3 years
Tina Chappell	3 years
Michelle L Waters	5 years
Henry John Kravec	34 years

Membership Anniversaries in September

Jenny Baek	2 years
Leslie Reid Brasher	2 years
Sarah E Connors	3 years
Jason B Grice	5 years
John Simmons Jr	5 years
Onastasia Guniogson	11 years
Casmir Christian Lukjan	15 years

Membership Anniversaries in October

McKinley Lee Grier	3 years
Vincent Raymond Courtenay	4 years
Kiara Sherie Robinson	5 years
Jay Lewis	5 years
Jack Patel	6 years
Taj Patel	7 years
Laurel O Akin	17 years
Eric Payne	17 years
Brent Howard Gourley	18 years
James P Golson	25 years



AUGUST MEETING PHOTOGRAPHS



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