MONTGOMERY-WIREGRASS MENSA NEWSLETTER

# THE WIRE

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**SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

June 3, 2017 — 6:00 pm, in a Private Room at The Old Mill Restaurant, (334-794-8530) 2557 Murphy Mill Road, Dothan, AL https://www.oldmilldothan.com/

July 22, 2017 — Date and Venue TBD

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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 34 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

Greetings fellow Mensans,

Happy Spring!

Welcome to our new members! We hope to meet you soon at one of the monthly dinner meetings. 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.

In other news: On April 1st, the AMC approved a price increase for Testing and Prior Evidence review. This increase was necessary to pay for increased expenses in the testing department and for continued promotions of testing and Prior Evidence review. The price will be raised to $60. The price increase will go into effect on July 1st.

Speaking of testing, Montgomery-Wiregrass Mensa hosted a testing session on February 25 at the Enterprise Library.

Last but not least, the 2017 Mensa Annual Gathering is approaching fast. This year's AG will be held in Hollywood, Florida, from July 5 through 9. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the Annual Gathering this year. Please share pics and experiences with the group, if you go. 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 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

A few days before writing this, I returned from the Carolinah RG in Greenville, SC. PAMinal House was great fun for everyone. If you missed it, put it on your calendar for next year. This won't be your last chance to attend a Region 5 RG. We still have Mensa in Georgia's RG, Peachtreat 42, "The Answer – to Life, the Universe, and Everything", September 22- 24. For more information, check out their website.

I certainly don't want to forget the the Annual Gathering in Hollywood, FL, July 5-9; with the Colloquium on July 5. There is a lot of information about the AG on the website. If you are bringing children, there is a great schedule for SPARK.

It's always exciting to see so many folks from Region 5 each AG. We will have a Region 5 Meet and Greet where new AG goers and those who are experienced at AGs can get together and compare notes. If you haven't already registered, there is still time. From Programs to SIGs, to Meet and Greets, to Tours, and Hospitality. There is something for everyone at the AG. If you aren't able to attend AG 2017, start planning now for AG 2018 in Indianapolis.

As you know, the Mensa membership year ended March 31. If you know someone who hasn't renewed, encourage them to do so this month. You wouldn't want them to miss out on anything.

The elections for Mensa International and American Mensa are now over. American Mensa's new officers will be taking office at the Annual Gathering. Four years ago, when I was first elected, almost ½ of the Board of Directors (AMC) was new. As one of the new ones, I appreciated that support and encouragement that I received from people in Region 5, as well as from across the country. I hope that our new Board members will receive the same support that I have received.

### Happy Birthday Wishes.

| | |
|---|---|
| Autumn W. White | May 18 |
| Robert F. Akin | May 24 |
| Leopold Blum Babin | May 24 |
| Allison Shelley | May 26 |
| Burt Buchanan | June 7 |
| Onastasia Gunlogson | Jun2 12 |
| Victor K. Raines | Jun1 16 |
| Patsy Karnes | June 19 |
| Kimberly Michelle Dunn | June 24 |
| Rebecca Gilliland | June 25 |
| Charles John Gantner | July 3 |
| Faye B Love | August 3 |
| James M Nelson | August 24 |
| James P Golson | August 29 |

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

### Membership Anniversaries in June

| | |
|---|---|
| Rebecca Gilliland | 4 years |
| Patsy Karnes | 5 years |
| Faye B. Love | 34 years |
| James M. Nelson | 15 years |
| Selina Sun | 4 years |

### Membership Anniversaries in July

| | |
|---|---|
| Roger Corley | 2 years |
| Timothy French | 13 years |
| Thomas Gregory Funk | 35 years |
| Andrew Hood | 4 years |
| Christiane Robinson | 6 years |
| Douglas Topolse | 6 years |
| Martha Johnson Whitt | 15 years |

### Membership Anniversaries in August

| | |
|---|---|
| Jason Karnes | 5 years |
| Henry John Kravec | 31 years |
| Hunter Savell | 2 years |

# Some of our Youth have been very active

On February 8, 2017, Phillip Allen Lane was officially announced the Class of 2017 Valedictorian for Success Unlimited Academy in Montgomery, AL. Congratulations to Phil on all his hard work!

Phillip will be attending the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) Honors College in the fall & plans to double major in Computer Science and Mathematics.

Taj Patel won the County Spelling Bee after 106 rounds. The winning word was "Zephyr" and this will be Taj's third appearance at the Alabama State Bee. Taj still holds the title of being the youngest participant at six years old to attend the Alabama State Bee and also the title of winning his school spelling bee for the last six years in a row.

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Kiara Robinson was one of the students who participated in the Piney Woods Arts Festival competition in Enterprise this year. She was the winner for the 11th- and 12th- grade category for painting. Congratulations, Kiara! You make us proud.

Hunter Savell excelled in at least three areas. Way to go! Guess your dad was correct when he posted, "The kid cleaned up."

# Membership Rates for New Members

We are in the second month (May) of the 2017-2018 membership year. In the past, a new member paid the full dues amount ($70) regardless of when in the membership year they joined (minus the promotions that AMC runs in November and December). The way AMC handled their extra payment was to issue members a credit for the unused time to be used in year two of membership. No more. AMC's accounting firm decided it was not the best financial practice and recommended moving to a prorated dues format. Beginning this year, new members and former members that have lapsed for more than one year will pay a prorated amount to either join or re-join. Please note, this will not affect current year lapsed members. Because they keep their "member since date" they still pay the regular price all year (in the past, they did not receive a credit for paying their dues during the first year of their lapse so there is no change for them). The table at the right outlines how the proration works. AMC is still working on the promotion for November and December, 2017 so those figures are not yet available. This table also includes the dues rate increase on July 1st which is why the dues shown increase beginning in July.

| MONTH | JOINING DUES PRICE |
|---|---|
| April | **$70.00** |
| May | **$64.17** ($70 - $583) |
| June | **$58.34** ($70 - ($5.83 * 2)) |
| July | **$59.26** ($79 - ($5.83 * 3)) |
| August | **$52.68** ($79 - ($5.83 * 4)) |
| September | **$46.10** ($79 - ($5.83 * 5)) |
| October | **$39.52** ($79 - ($5.83 * 6)) |
| November | **Promo to be determined** |
| December | **Promo to be determined** |
| January | **$79.00** (includes 2018-2019 membership) |
| February | **$79.00** (includes 2018-2019 membership) |
| March | **$79.00** (includes 2018-2019 membership) |

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