The Official Publication of North Texas Mensa

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The *fine* **`print`**: We reserve the right to decline any contribution or advertisement, but we rarely do. I mean, seriously, our standards are pretty low. Submissions may be edited for space, or for any other reason, not to exclude delusions of grandeur (or "mastery" of English) by the editor. Neither the M-Aura nor NTM is responsible for verifying the accuracy of any advertisement appearing herein. The opinions expressed herein, however questionable they may be, are those of the editor or other contributors, and are by definition not those of Mensa, which, of course, has no opinions or body odor. All contents herein are Copyright © 2024, North Texas Mensa (unless otherwise attributed). Other Mensa publications may quote and reprint from this newsletter provided that all quotes and reprints must credit the author and this newsletter as the source, and must carry appropriate copyright notice (as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations). If you reprint something from the M-Aura, please email editor@northtexasmensa.org to let me know what you thought was worth reprinting. Quote/reprint permission for non-Mensa publications must be obtained in writing from an NTM officer or from the editor of this newsletter. So there.

ON THE COVERS:

Front *Top:* 2023 **Semper Servitum** Award winner Val Beasley is given the award by President Gunny Hartman. *Bottom left:* New Years Eve at the Whitemans (*l-r)* Storm, Jim, Margaret, Ellen, and Karen. *Middle right*: Member Beckett P. attending the Dallas Tubachristmas event in Thanksgiving Square. *Bottom Right:* NTMer wearing stripes orthogonal to the ones he's used to at Texas BEST Robotics.

Back *top:* Larry unwraps a really nice pair of slippers in the NYE gift exchange. These eventually turned into a emergency light. *Middle:* Tommy and Telena with her extra large box of chocolates. *Bottom left:* Gifted Youth book club holds a debate on the utility of gym class. *Bottom Right:* Karen and her made-on-the-spot tipsy laird's trifle, a delicious way to celebrate New Years

FROM THE NTM PRESIDENT

GUNNY HARTMAN

"A man's got to know his limitations." ~Harry Callahan

Over the years, I have become more and more self-aware. I recognize my strengths and weaknesses, things I do well and things I do not. I won't bore you with the plethora of things I do well, as M-Aura space is limited. So, just trust me and don't bother asking around.

However, on the NTM Board, we have struggled getting speakers for our monthly general meetings. We meet on the third Sunday evening of the month. About 7PM we have a time of refreshments and visiting, followed by some manner of program at 7:30PM, typically a speaker.

I have been consistently impressed by how interesting our members are. I wonder if perhaps YOU would have **an idea or two for a speaker** or activity or presentation that may be of interest. Or perhaps **you have something you would be willing to share** along those lines with your fellow Mensans at a monthly meeting. It could be related to your vocation, your hobbies, interests, personal research, or something along those lines.

If you would be interested and/or have any insights in that regard, please contact me at President@NorthTexasMensa.org.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! The following NTMers add another candle to the cake in February:

Betty Mayeur, Stephen Shelnutt, Kenneth Cassa, Stanley Francis, Kenneth Price, Phillipe McCracken, David Lanners, Telena Wright, Chris Hill, Karen Brack, Thomas Graca, Hall Harris, Marcus Kouma, Alvin Go, Mary Lou Bradford, Andy McKellar, Larry Lozuk, Michael Montalvo, Lacy Brown, William Casto, Susan McCall, William Coleman, Joshua Petty, Bruce Cameron, Lavonne Raymond, Wolfgang Rosenfeldt, Deborah Flournoy, David Bradley, Dennis Goldsberry, Richard Marlow, Michael Bratkovich, Micah Putman, Eric Kim, Keith Brown, Vijay Reddy, Thomas Dwyer, Gerrit Brink, William Parker, Barbara Smith, Trey Williams, Brian Gobran, Deborah Lockhart, Sean Dodson, Daniel King, Evelyne DeLong, Serena Dalhamer, Brett Shoulders, Peter Adams, Jyme Mariani, David Hallisey, Bruce Goldin, Trent Christian, Austin Litman, Mark Edwards, Jarrod Harelik (Mark and Jarrod, celebrating birthdays on *the day* this year)

SIXTH SENSE — JOHN NEEMIDGE, REGION 6 VICE CHAIR

Happy February! It's been brutally cold where I live, and across most of our region, so I hope you're staying warm. I hope you're able to get out and see some of your fellow Mensans, too!

If you're reading this before February 1st , please visit the American Mensa elections website (https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/elections/2024-election-portal/), click on 'View Candidate Petitions,' look at the candidates for various offices, and consider signing their petitions. A signature is not an indication of support or a promise to vote for any candidate. It merely states that you believe they are capable of performing the job if elected.

If you're reading it after that point, please keep an eye on the elections. Learn about the candidates and ballot measures and be ready to make an informed decision. Voting will be coming in April, and you'll need to renew by March 31st in order to vote.

We are going to have a special AMC meeting in late January. Mini-minutes may be out by the time you read this. It's likely to be completely in executive session, so there's very little I can tell you about it. Mini-minutes of the December 9 th meeting are also available at https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/meeting-reports.

The next meeting will be in early March in Hurst, TX. The most important item on the agenda for that meeting will be the second (and final) vote on a dues increase. I did not support it on the first vote. If you have an opinion either way on it, I welcome your thoughts and inputs on the dues increase (and on any other American Mensa business). Please let me know how you feel.

Many local groups, and Region 6 as a Region, will be looking for scholarship judges this spring. We need your help! Please consider volunteering.

Please send me any thoughts, ideas, questions, concerns, general comments, whatever. I've got a contact form for feedback 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.

GIFTED YOUTH CORNER

by Bill Rock

Book club discussion in January was interesting. We had two attendees from out of town, though one did not stay as he had not finished the book and did not want any spoilers. For this month we have picked the Hugo-nominated "Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir. The book is available as an audio book for those that might prefer it be read to them. I anticipate that we will have more attendees from around the country as several other chapters are placing the event on their calendars. I think it will be fun to discuss books with people that are in other states.

For this month, we have an opportunity to help clean up a Dallas landmark; once a month the community around White Rock Lake has a "Second Saturday Spruce Up" where teams of volunteers help make sure that the lake and surrounding shoreline are clean and pleasant. They provide bags and gloves, and we do the rest. This time of year it is easy to find plenty to clean, and we get a nice view of the lake shore environment at the same time. I plan on bringing my inflatable kayak so we can take part in the "flotsam flotilla" and grab trash from further offshore.

As always, I am open to any ideas for other events. Would someone like to host a movie at their house? Let me know your ideas and I'll work on making it happen.

SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

The Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair is being held February 17th at Fair Park. The DRSEF is seeking people to assist with the judging that day. Come help inspire the future scientists and engineers. Go to drsef.org ->Judges for more information, or contact the M-Aura editor.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

The following are new or rejoining members of North Texas Mensa. Please join us in welcoming them to our group.

New Mensans: Elsa Gamble, Heather Gunn, Byron Haney, Sai Priya Kasiraman, Rajveer Sharma, Harrison Whaley

Moving to NTM: Conner Brown, William Casto, Leonardo Porchia, David Stouffer

Rejoining Mensa and NTM: Jeffrey Antonson, Kirsten Faulder, Jeffery Hayward, Shelly Holmes, Lucy Hooker, Gary Lisch, Janis Rooks, David Smith, Gregory Stephens, Elijah Townsend

We welcome you <u>all</u>, and look forward to seeing you at future functions!

HOWDY!

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**2** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**3** 10:30 am Mensa Testing 1 pm Virtual Discussion Group
4 12:30 pm Gifted Youth Book Club 	**5** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**6** 7 pm Beer Garden	7	**8** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**9** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch 9 pm *M-Aura* Calendar Deadline	**10** 8:30 am GY Lake Cleanup 1 pm Virtual Discussion Group 7 pm Singles Chat 'n Chew 9 pm *M-Aura* All-Copy Deadline
11 2 pm Bright Ladies SIG 	**12** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**13** 7 pm Beer Garden	**14** 	**15** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**16** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch 7 pm Texas Hold 'Em 	**17** 1 pm V Discussion Group 4 pm Small Group Meeting 6:30 pm Games SIG
18 6 pm NTM Board Meeting 7:30 pm NTM General Meeting	**19** 7 pm Munch Bunch 	**20** 7 pm Beer Garden	**21**	**22** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**23** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**24** 12 pm Mensa Testing 1 pm Virtual Discussion Group
25 1:30 pm Eclectic Book Club 2:30 pm Theodore Talk	**26** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**27** 7 pm Beer Garden	**28**	**29** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	2024	

~February 2024~

FOR CALENDAR UPDATES, PLEASE VISIT
HTTP://WWW.NORTHTEXASMENSA.ORG

~WEEKLY EVENTS~

MONDAYS

7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Munch Bunch - Addison
Location: **BJ's Restaurant,** 4901 Belt Line Rd., Addison 75254
BJ's is an upscale brewpub with an extensive menu. On the north side of Belt Line just a couple of blocks west of the Tollway. Ask at the desk for the Mensa table.
Contact: **Roger Durham** (214.349.4521)

TUESDAYS

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Beer Garden – Dallas
Location: **District 9 Draught Haus**, 718 N. Buckner Blvd., Dallas
This is a neighborhood pub in the shopping center, corner of Buckner & Northcliff, which is the first stoplight south of NW Hwy. on Buckner. They have a good beer selection, wines and ciders on tap, and a tasty, but somewhat limited, menu. Ask for the Mensa table.
Contact: **Roger Durham** (214.349.4521)

THURSDAYS

1:00 PM - Plano Lunch Group
Location: **King Buffet**: 521 Central Parkway, Plano, TX 75074
Yelp loves King Buffet Plano's wide selection which ranges from pizza to made-to-order hibachi favorites. Look for Ty. https://www.yelp.com/biz/king-buffet-plano-3
Contact: **Ty O'Neil**: (214.394.7364 cell)

7:00 - 9:00 PM HOTDAM
Hang out Together with Denton Area Mensans
Location: **Cafe Brazil**, 501 W University Dr, Denton, TX 76201 Meet us for games, revelry, and more. Look for the owl statuette on the table. See YOU 'round!
PLEASE CALL OR TEXT CONTACTS FOR MORE INFO
Contact: **Deb Ramsey** (940.391.9657) or **Christie Miller**, (940.765.0429)

FRIDAYS

1:00 - 2:30 PM East Dallas Lunch Bunch
Location: **Fish City Grill**: 7170 Skillman Street,
Dallas 75231 Fish City Grill is a neighborhood seafood restaurant that delivers the best quality and fresh ingredients.
Contact: **Roger Durham** (214.349.4521)

SATURDAYS
1:00 PM National Virtual Discussion Group
Location: **Zoom Meeting**: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726108623?pwd=cUgyelF2K0ZLQzNWbVByZE9UMXpxdz09
Meeting ID: 867 2610 8623 Passcode: 1234
We talk about whatever anybody wants to talk about.
Contact: **Ken Lawrence** (Mid MI Mensa) MensaProctor670@gmail.com

February Events

03 SATURDAY

10:30AM – 12:45PM MENSA Admissions Testing
Location: **Carrollton Public Library (Hebron & Josey Branch) Conference Room,**
4220 N Josey Ln, Carrollton, TX 75010
Know someone who may qualify for Mensa? Please refer all interested testers (or anyone with questions!) to Rebecca Raymond at NTMTesting@northtexasmensa.org to obtain the pre-registration link and all other required details for this session.
Contact: **Rebecca Raymond**: (ntmtesting@northtexasmensa.org)

04 SUNDAY

12:30 PM - NTM Gifted Youth Book Club
(First Sunday of each month)
Location: **Zoom Meeting**
At this meeting, we will be discussing ***Project Hail Mary*** by Andy Weir
Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87284610508?pwd=WnZWQ2JhbmlEamJzcmc1TkRBcFZjZz09
Contact: **Bill Rock**: (972.396.8160, william.m.rock@gmail.com)

09 FRIDAY

9:00 PM – M-Aura Calendar Deadline (The 9th of each month)
Contact: **Calendar Chair, Sara Hawkins**: (calendarchair@northtexasmensa.org, or 214.801.4704)

10 SATURDAY

8:30 AM Gifted Youth help with the **Second Saturday Spruce up at White Rock Lake**.
Location: **FTLOTL office,** 1152 N. Buckner Blvd. Suite #123, Dallas, 75218
Come join the fun as we help clean this Dallas landmark. Meet at the

For The Love of The Lake office, Casa Linda Plaza, NW corner of Buckner Blvd and Garland Rd for supplies before we go. Sure we find cups and bottles, but we also have found weird stuff….a mailbox …a door from a safe…and tops for irony: a 90 gallon trash can. www.whiterocklake.org

Contact: **Bill Rock**: 972.396.8160, william.m.rock@gmail.com

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM – Singles Chat and Chew (Second Saturday of each month)

Location: **Jason's Deli**: 9100 N. Central Expressway, Suite 139, Dallas, TX 75231.

This at the NE corner of Central Expressway and Park Lane. Come join other singles for dinner and have great conversations.

Contact: **Laura Stuart**: (214.641.2520)

9:00 PM – M-Aura All Copy Deadline (The 10th of each month)

Contact: **Editor, Bill Rock**: (william.m.rock@gmail.com or 972.396.8160)

11 SUNDAY

2:00-4:00 - Bright Ladies SIG

Location: **la Madeleine French Bakery & Cafe,** 15125 Montfort Dr., Dallas (one block east of the Tollway, on Montfort, north of Beltline. Behind Walgreens). Look for us (and the logo above) as you come in. Call Kathy McWhorter for directions or more details – 214/ 215-5809. We will be meeting there the Second Sunday of each month at 2:00-4:00.

Contact: **Kathy McWhorter** 214.215.5809

16 FRIDAY

7:00 PM – 11:00 PM - NTM Scholarship Foundation Friday Texas Hold 'Em

Location: **Mary Milford's Home,**
4812 Rockcreek Lane, Plano, TX 75024

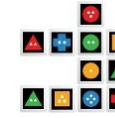
Join us for a pleasant evening of cards, bluffing and fun. No big winners or losers, just bragging rights for your $10 contribution to the kitty, and a $5 re-buy if you wish – all of which goes to the Scholarship Foundation. Plenty of snacks and drinks, and those new to the game are welcome to join in. As always, the party starts at 7 PM, and the game commences at 7:30 PM. And as always, if you feel sick or if you have Covid, please stay home!

RSVP: **Please RSVP via text or e-mail to Mary if you plan to attend,** (972.841.9779) or mary.milford1@gmail.com.

FYI - there is guest parking several houses down the street from Mary's home, if needed.

17 SATURDAY

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM - Small MENSA Meeting Canton / Wills Point (Third Saturday of each month)
Location: **We meet in each other's homes on a rotating basis**
We will send out a reminder about a week before each meeting giving this month's location and subject matter to be discussed. Purely a discussion group; no games, no food fests, no partying. Enjoy the exchange of thoughts and ideas without contention!
Contact: **Gerard Brohman**: (gbrohman@live.com)



6:30 PM – Games SIG
Location: **Bill & Ellen Rock's Home "The Rock Pile"**: 701 Victorian Drive, Allen, TX 75002
We have some classic board games and some new ones, and we're happy to try anything you care to bring over. Snacks and soft drinks will be available.
Contacts: **Bill** and/or **Ellen Rock**: (972.396.8160 •/+ 214.356.5819, william.m.rock@gmail.com)

18 SUNDAY

6:00 PM- 7:00 PM - Board Meeting (Third Sunday of the Month)
Location: **Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas**, 5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas, or
Zoom Video: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81692083286?pwd=UWFmMlVvRUpiazBZNldHcmxwSGpvZz09, or **Zoom Phone**: +1 346 248 7799 (in lieu of video call), Meeting ID: 816 9208 3286, Passcode: 448903
All members of NTM are welcome to attend and to address the board. The board conducts the organization business decisions. Members are welcome to bring items to the board's attention if they wish. Following the Board Meeting there is usually time for socializing before the program. If you prefer, you may also attend via Zoom – links above.
Contact: **Gunny Hartman, President**: (president@northtexasmensa.org)

7:30 PM – Program Following the Board Meeting
Location: **Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas**, 5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas, or **Zoom Video**: (same as board meeting)

24 SATURDAY

12:00 PM – 2:45 PM MENSA Admissions Testing
Location: **Dallas Public Library (Timberglen Branch) Auditorium,** 18505 Midway Rd, Dallas, TX 75287
Know someone who may qualify for Mensa? Please refer all interested testers (or anyone with questions!) to Rebecca Raymond at NTMTesting@northtexasmensa.org to obtain the pre-registration link and all other required details for this session.
Contact: **Rebecca Raymond**: (ntmtesting@northtexasmensa.org)

25 SUNDAY

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM - Eclectic Book Club
(Fourth Sunday of each month)
Location: **Half Price Books Mothership**:
5803 E NW Hwy, Dallas, TX 75231
The book selection for this month is ***The Son*** by Philipp Meyer. Eclectic Book Club picks are generally available in hardback, paperback or for e-readers. They should also be available at your local library.
Contacts: **Larry Strickler**: (lstrickler1@verizon.net or 972.495.8076) or **Bill Rock**: (972.396.8160 or william.m.rock@gmail.com)

2:30 PM – MENSA Theodore Talks (Fourth Sunday of each month)
Location: **Zoom**
The title of the February Theodore Talk is, "The WWI Museum and Memorial in Kansas City." This virtual event will take place on Zoom January 28 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 8:30 GMT). Register for this presentation at https://tinyurl.com/5t4mk2mt. Conducted by American Mensa.
A list of future Theodore Talks can be found on the Mensa National Events Calendar at https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/, or by viewing the January issue of the Mensa Bulletin.

Calendar/Event Guidelines and Policies: No guarantee of inclusion or accuracy is made with regard to calendar events. For best possible accuracy, email information directly to the Calendar Chair. Costs listed are intended only as reimbursement of expenses and should be honored when listed. Events on the calendar are open to all members. If an event is designated for a specific group, and you don't fall within that group, please have the courtesy to seek the consent of the host/hostess prior to attending the event. The monthly meeting is open to the public. If you wish to bring a non-member to another event, please contact the host/hostess for permission prior to attendance. Email all event information by the deadline listed in the calendar to calendarchair@northtexasmensa.org.

LADIES OF MENSA QUIZ
BRIGHT LADIES SIG

We Mensans love quizzes (be honest – you do). Here is a fun quiz **just for the ladies** in the group.

Mark YES or NO -

1. You were told that math and/or science classes were for boys.
2. A college counselor recommended changing your major to something "more feminine".
3. You find most prime-time sitcoms boring and predictable.
4. You know the characters on *Sherlock (British version)* or *Midsomer Murders* or *Doc Martin*, but few of the characters on current popular shows.
5. You love puzzles, finish most of them – but can't share the results with those around you.
6. You know a quick cure for a co-worker's leg cramps (pickle juice), but you'd never share that at the work lunch table for fear of being labeled (a) a Know it All, (b) Amy Farrah Fowler or (c) Queen Geek.
7. You know what's in pickle juice that cures leg cramps.
8. You solve most t.v. mysteries in the first 10 minutes but watch the rest of the show just to see if you're right.
9. You've read most of the *New York Times Best Sellers*, but can't talk about them at lunch for fear of being labeled (a) a Know it All, (b) Amy Farrah Fowler or (c) Queen Geek.
10. You've dumbed down a job interview, a date, or a visit with the in-laws.
11. You hide your Mensa membership from coworkers or non-M friends.
12. While your male counterparts were praised for being "assertive" and "confident," you've been called "bossy", "pushy", or "Miss Smarty Pants".
13. A relationship broke up because you were smarter than him.
14. You skipped a social event to watch a PBS documentary or attend a lecture.
15. You joined Mensa to meet other bright ladies so you don't have to edit, restrict or dumb down your likes, interests and conversation. You'd love the freedom of being yourself – truly yourself – with girlfriends without fear of judgment or rejection.

Score 5 points for every YES answer. Add 25 points for question #15. Deduct 10 points if you said NO to question #3 or #4. Add up your score. If you scored 30 or more, please come and join the other clever gals at the new Bright Ladies SIG.

<u>February 11 (Sunday) – 2:00-4:00</u> - <u>Bright Ladies SIG</u> – la Madeleine French Bakery & Cafe, 15125 Montfort Dr., Dallas (one block east of the Tollway, on Montfort, north of Beltline. Behind Walgreens). Look for us (and the logo above) as you come in. Call Kathy McWhorter for directions or more details – 214/ 215-5809. We will be meeting there the Second Sunday of each month at 2:00 -4:00.

NTM Board Proceedings- Sunday Dec 17th, 2023

Present: President Eric "Gunny" Hartman, VP Collene Goldman (via Zoom), Treasurer Cathy Allshouse, Board Members at Large Val Beasley, Chris Cree, Leza Mesiah, and 2024 BMALs Jonathan Bethune and Juan Faura.
Absent: Secretary Ken Roberts

Reports

President – Eric "Gunny" Hartman: The next Board Meeting will at 6PM January 21, 2024 at Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas (5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas). NTM officers in attendance introduced themselves to the new (i.e., 2024) board members, Jonathan Bethune and Juan Faura, who did likewise. Val Beasley received the well deserved 2023 Semper Servitium award for outstanding service to NTM.
Vice-President – Collene Goldman: Nothing to report.
Secretary – Ken Roberts: Minutes were modified to show Val Beasley was present at the November board meeting before being accepted.
Treasurer – Cathy Allshouse: Financial statements were distributed. The Board expected expenses to exceed income for 2023, due to an allocation and expenditure of $5,000 to overhaul our website, NorthTexasMensa.org, but Cathy recommended for 2024 not only to have a balanced budget, but also one where expenses do not exceed income. November started with $2,688.79 in checking and $12,030.25 in savings, for $13,972.55 cash on hand and $10,000 note receivable for $23,972.55 in Total NTM assets. As of 12/17, there was 24,267.26 in Total NTM assets. There was a discussion about ways to minimize the deficit we are experiencing with regard to the M-Aura, as it costs us more money to produce and mail a print copy of the M-Aura to those who prefer the print copy, which is the default for a member, unless a member intentionally chooses to receive it electronically. Chris Cree, Juan Faura, and Jonathan Bethune will work on and propose some ideas on M-Aura cost cutting for Board consideration. After a full inventory as part of the RG, there were enough NTM items, especially RG items, to validate the use of a storage shed, but after the RG retained items were moved to a smaller, cheaper location. Instead of $198 per month, the cost will be $51 per month. As the previously purchased projectors were found in the storage, the projectors purchased this year for the RG were returned and the funds were restored. Impressively, the RG was a smashing success AND finished with a surplus.
Ombudsman – Roger Durham: Nothing to report
Membership – Ken Roberts: After the meeting, an email report noted that NTM is now the 6th largest chapter of American Mensa with 1157 members. "Special thanks to communication, marketing, RG committee, and especially the testing director [Rebecca Raymond]. "
Marketing – Vacant: The idea of more proactively seeking advertisers for the M-Aura was discussed, not only to get our name out there, but also to help offset costs.
Communications – Collene Goldman: Nothing to report
Publicity – Collene Goldman: Nothing to report
S.I.G.H.T. – Gunny Hartman: Nothing to report
Election Committee – Randy Brack: Full election report will appear in the January M-Aura, but the results of the November 19 elected produced a 2024 board of President Eric "Gunny" Hartman, VP Ken Roberts, Secretary Collene Goldman, Treasurer Cathy Allshouse, BMALs Chris Cree, Juan Faura, and Jonathan Bethune. Randy mentioned some ideas for a future election code that

would save NTM money regarding the PO Box we typically get. As there were no challenges to the election, the election committee is officially dissolved, having completed its mission with precision and efficiency.
(Beasley) **Editor** – Bill Rock: Last input needed before sending to printer was RVC column, but should go to print Monday.
(Beasley) **Gifted Children** – Bill Rock: They had a debate at the book club discussion on a debating book. Online games event planned for January.
(Beasley) **Publisher/Circulation Manager** – Val Beasley: Costs associated with M-Aura printing and postage options will be investigated.
(Mesiah) **Scholarship Chair** – Lauren Ogden: Roger noted that NTM will provide three $3,000 scholarships. An overview of the scholarship process, including the enjoyable, but necessary, element of NTM members helping to judge essays, was discussed.
(Mesiah) **Webmaster** – Semi-Vacant (Andy McKellar performing some website functions): No known problems on the website and Andy has all new user registrations current. With the change of board, there will need to be a modification to the email forwards. Gunny will get the new email addresses to the Hubra to make the change at the end of 2023, so that new board members receive intended correspondence.
(Mesiah) **Testing Coordinator** – Rebecca Raymond: "We tested 6 candidates in December (a great turnaround from November)!! All final testing receipts have been submitted to close out 2023 and our first 2024 test is booked for January 20."
(Cree) **Calendar** – Sara Hawkins: Things are going well with the calendar.
(Cree) **Programs** – Vacant: Officers in attendance made suggestions of potential speakers and means for finding speakers who may be of interest to our membership. Gunny noted that if each of the board members would try to get one speaker for 2024, then we might be able to fill out the schedule.
(Cree) **Regional Gathering** – Karen Brack: We had 86 people. The RG feedback was positive, particularly the perception of getting value for their money. In addition to the RG team doing an outstanding job, the hotel was accommodating, and staff was very helpful. The hotel is a solid option for us in the future. The RG team is working on their After Action Reports, of what went well, what didn't go so well, and what could be done better for next time, so that the 2023 RG team will have helpful information to handoff to the 2024 RG team.
Social Media – Vacant

New Business

Archives Report – Randy Brack: After mining through the many boxes of archives found in the old storage shed, the following nuggets were discovered. 1. Many past M-Auras, some of which unofficial historian Randy Brack did not have archived. Those going back to the early 1970s revealed that the newsletter M-Aura predated the separation of Mensa 76 (Fort Worth) and NTM, though the terms origins are still murky. 2. A 1996 *Dallas Morning News* article spotlighting a young lady who was at that time the youngest member of Mensa, a 4 year old who had appeared on the *Tonight Show* with Jay Leno. (Randy was able to meet with her and pass it along to her.) 3. A physical copy of the 1996 proclamation from then mayor Ron Kirk declaring November 20-26 "Mensa Week" in Dallas.
Nametags – Chris Cree: Anne Whiteman will get nametags printed for our new board members and those with new positions.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:08PM, after a motion by Leza Mesiah and a second by Cathy Allshouse.

NTM Board Members for 2024:

President Gunny Hartman	Gunny@AggieNetwork.com 214.477.5047	139 Westminster Ave Murphy, TX 75094
Vice President Ken Roberts	krobs@yahoo.com	2208 Loch Haven Dr Plano TX 75023-5313
Treasurer Cathy Allshouse	callshouse1@aol.com 713.398.7963	8325 Meadow Rd., #149, Dallas 75231
Secretary (vacant)		

2024 NTM Board Members At Large:

Jonathan Bethune	jbethune777@gmail.com 972.213.2715
Chris Cree	ccree@earthlink.net 214.701.4681
Juan Faura	jafaura@gmail.com 817.937.7435

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Region 6 Vice Chair: John Neemidge, rvc6@us.mensa.org, or 512-695-9876, or https://tinyurl.com/RVC6-JLN.

~NTM Appointed Positions ~

Membership Chair
Ken Roberts, membership@northtexasmensa.org

Gifted Youth Coordinator
Bill Rock 972.396.8160
william.m.rock@gmail.com

Proctor/Test Coordinator
Rebecca Raymond,
ntmtesting@northtexasmensa.org

NTM Ombudsman
Roger Durham
durhamrog@gmail.com
214.349.4521

Calendar Chair
Sara Hawkins
calendarchair@northtexasmensa.org

Webmaster
Michael McCracken
pmmsocial@icloud.com

Communications
Collene Goldman
colleneg@gmail.com
469-503-3636

Area Coordinators

Denton & Collin County, & Texoma Area
Pam Kittenbacher
972.727.3300
pamkittenbacher@gmail.com

East Texas
Cookie Neely
903.668.2097
syntaxcop@gmail.com

Program Chair
—Open

RG Chair
—open

Publicity Coordinator —Open

Volunteers Coordinator—Open

M-Aura Editor
Bill Rock , 972.396.8160
editor@northtexasmensa.org

Social Media—Open

Marketing Chair — Open

S.I.G.H.T. Coordinator
Eric "Gunny" Hartman
Gunny@AggieNetwork.com
214.477.5047

NTM Scholarship Chair
Lauren Ogden 972.207.1776
lrngdn76@gmail.com

Circulation Manager/ Publisher
Val Beasley 972.235.7105
valeria2@tx.rr.com

Testing Coordinator
Rebecca Raymond
ntmtesting
@northtexasmensa.org

Gatherings Committee: Kevin Buchanan kevinbob@flash.net, 214.826.7725
Randy Brack, mrbrack46@gmail.com, 972.495.2659 , Karen Brack, 214.477.1151
kwbrack18@gmail.com

Nominating Committee: open
Election Committee: open

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