The Official Publication of North Texas Mensa

M-AURA

2017

Speaker Oct 20th: Cathy Allshouse
and YOU—talking about books

October 25 @ 7
be there!
Friends, Food, and Fun
NTM NEW MEMBERS PARTY *see p 12*

Group #750 **CONTENTS** Issue #**556** DLVI

FROM THE NTM PRESIDENT / NEW MEMBERS	**3**
RVC REPORT / GIFTED YOUTH	**4-5**
OCTOBER EVENTS CALENDAR GRID	**6**
OCTOBER EVENTS LISTING	**7 –13**
THRILLING BYLAWS UPDATE (OOOH....AAAAH....)	**14-24**
BIRTHDAYS / BOARD PROCEEDINGS / NTM OFFICER LIST	**25-27**

For membership info, contact Ken Roberts, membership@northtexasmensa.org or American Mensa at 817.607.0060 (www.us.mensa.org). Mensa is registered at the U.S. Patent Office as the collective mark of an international organization. Qualification for Mensa membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any of a number of standardized IQ tests. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization whose main purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. Members receive the American Mensa Bulletin, the International Journal, and they are welcome at Mensa events around the world.

The M-Aura is published monthly by North Texas Mensa. Annual subscriptions are $6 per year for North Texas Mensa members, paid as part of their dues to American Mensa Ltd. Annual subscriptions for other Mensans are $12 per year, payable to North Texas Mensa. To subscribe, send your request to The Office of Publication: Val Beasley, 519 Tiffany Trl, Richardson, TX 75081-5616.

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 Left:* The "large" version of the video game. Really professional solder job on the 40 pin DIP chip (no socket). *Top Right:* Poker winners from August *(l-r)* 2nd - Paul Whiteman, 1st - Storm Ricamore (our August "hostess with the mostest"), 3rd - Jim Stamm. *Bottom*: The lab in full swing; clocks, video games, a Bluetooth speaker and a synthesizer under construction

Back More electronics workshop photos; Gamble playing his video game, Arshiya working on a really cool (and somewhat complicated) radio while her brother works on a clock, Athena working on a clock with her dad, Avyan shows off the clock he built.

Guaranteed almost Feghoot-free, ***Whimsy SIG*** publishes facts and fancy, communications from near and far. For more info contact Ruth Danielle, WhimsicalM@outlook.com

FROM THE NTM PRESIDENT

GUNNY HARTMAN

"It is not our abilities that show what we truly are; it is our choices." ~Dumbledore

You have some great choices available for you. Last year, treasurer Cathy Allshouse came up with a brilliant idea that has now become a tradition, since it is the **October program** two years in a row. As opposed to our more traditional program, with one speaker and many listeners, ***we are inviting you to come and share with us the best book you've read this year***. Join us Sunday, October 20, at 7PM for refreshments followed by an interactive discussion at 7:30PM regarding our favorite books read in 2024. (Location details can be found on page 11) Last year, we had a book swap as well, so you're invited to bring along a book to swap that might appeal to others.

We are excited to announce another **[New] Members Party.** We try to get many of the members together and to especially welcome our new(est) members into the NTM family. It will be Friday night, October 25. Please RSVP by October 20. More details can be found on page 12, but the evening is FREE for our new members and $10 for everyone else. We'll be returning to JJ's Cafe in Dallas, where we had a wonderful time in the spring of 2023. This will be a great opening act for November.

Our **Regional Gathering** (RG) will be over Thanksgiving weekend (Nov 28 - Dec 1); see page 5 for more information. Prepare for great conversation, speakers, food, games, and tastings. If you're interested in helping out, contact RG Chair Roger Durham. Hopefully, you can check **"all of the above" and bless us with your presence.**

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: Randon Fullmer, Aleksandr Nazaruk, Arjun Poi, Maadhav Prabhanjan

Moving to NTM: Michael Morton, Jackson Robinson
Rejoining Mensa and NTM: Sean McBride, Arthur Pletcher

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

HOWDY!

David McCallister, Region 6 Vice Chair

October is the perfect time to engage with potential members and capitalize on National Testing Month. Encourage them to get their testing voucher at half price this month! Once they have their voucher, they can schedule a proctored test session at their convenience in the coming months. If you know anyone who previously tested but didn't qualify, here's some good news: they can retake a test or test battery every eight weeks. This provides additional opportunities for those who didn't qualify before to become eligible to join.

Fall brings an increase in community service activities, as many members look for opportunities to make a difference through volunteering. Consider organizing a group event on a specific date where members can come together at a local food bank, senior center, or YMCA. This is an excellent way to foster camaraderie within your chapter, connect with fellow members, and enhance goodwill in the community.

After an inspiring weekend at the Mini-SynRG in Houston, it's clear that volunteers are the heartbeat of our organization. They bring essential energy, skills, and passion, and recruiting these dedicated individuals requires more than just asking for help. Finding volunteers can be challenging due to their varied interests and busy schedules. However, recognizing their hard work and dedication is crucial. Simple gestures like a thank-you note or public acknowledgment of their achievements not only highlight their value but also motivate others to join and stay engaged. A sincere thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and resources to make the Mini-SynRG a success!

This month, I'll be hosting office hours specifically for Region 6 members. You can find the Zoom link on Mensa Connect and the region6.us.mensa.org site. Bring your list of challenges for an open discussion, and leave with fresh ideas to improve your local group's member experience. Additionally, stay tuned for upcoming Virtual Leadership Development Workshops, which will soon be available to all members.

The upcoming Regional Gathering, hosted by North Texas Mensa, will be held in Dallas from November 28 to December 1, 2024, during the Thanksgiving weekend. Register before October 31 to take advantage of the early bird rates: $120 for adults and those over 12, or $60 for children ages 6-12. For more details and to register, visit northtexasmensa.org/rg_event/. I am grateful for all the feedback and comments received from members. For those who prefer a more direct approach, you can reach me by phone or text at 817-988-3283, email me at RVC6@us.mensa.org, or submit your feedback online at https://tinyurl.com/MembersVoice. Let's continue working together to ensure every member's needs are acknowledged, understood, and addressed.

GIFTED YOUTH CORNER

by Bill Rock

The lab was open for business in August. There were a lucky thirteen members (and siblings, and parents) who tried their hand at soldering up various electronics projects. The clock was very popular, as was the handheld tetris (like) game. Arshiya had the hardest challenge, the FM radio, that she completed as homework (and sent me a video of it in operation). Another project that took even more time was a synthesizer started in 2019 (when we last did this) and finished up not quite five years later. It worked, and we were able to reprogram it as a drum set, etc. As a note, if anyone was unable to finish their kit, feel free to contact me and we can work out a time for us to get together and complete it

We've had some interest lately from parents of our youngest members. We will likely be starting to have more activities directed to these members; we have at least one parent who is planning on becoming a formal GY Parent Volunteer. Parent Volunteers can organize activities, further enriching our group. We are allowed up to 10 volunteers for a group our size, so if anyone else is interested in getting more involved in planning activities for our group, please let me know.

This month, instead of digging into electronics, we will dig into art and architecture. The AT&T PAC does free tours of the complex on the first Saturday of the month. Tour includes the Winspear Opera House and Wyly theater. Join us and learn more about these Dallas landmarks.

As always, if you have questions or comments, or ideas for events, please feel free to contact me anytime.

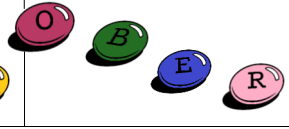
NORTH TEXAS MENSA PRESENTS:

FEAST OF PLEASURES AND DELIGHTS XLIII

NOVEMBER 28 – DECEMBER 1, DALLAS

Come join us for entertaining events, including great speakers, a variety of games, an indoor pool, delicious tastings, and other interesting and enjoyable activities.

This RG will truly please and delight one and all, so come socialize with your Mensa family and friends for another fun-filled Thanksgiving weekend! The hotel provides breakfast daily for registered guests, and the RG registration fee includes 3 dinners and 2 lunches in Hospitality. Full weekend registration (age 13+) is $120 until October 31 and $150 after, including walk-ins. Children 6-12 are half-price, and those 5 and under are free. Day rates are $75 for Friday or Saturday. Hotel is Holiday Inn Express & Suites North Dallas at Preston, 972-404-4500, $109, guaranteed until November 14. Register at northtexasmensa.org. For more information, contact Laura Stuart at 214-641-2520 or lrstuart@earthlink.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2024		**1** 7 pm Beer Garden	**2**	**3** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**4** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**5** 10:30 am Mensa Testing 11 am GY at the PAC
6 12:30 pm Gifted Youth Book Club 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**7** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**8** 7 pm Beer Garden	**9** 9 pm *M-Aura* Calendar Deadline	**10** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM 9 pm *M-Aura* All-Copy Deadline	**11** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch 7 pm Texas Hold 'Em	**12** 7 pm Singles Chat 'n Chew
13 2 pm Bright Ladies SIG 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**14** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**15** 7 pm Beer Garden	**16** 7 pm MADEATS	**17** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**18** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**19** 12:15 Mensa Testing 4 pm Small Group Meeting 6:30 pm Games SIG
20 4:30 pm SFRM —human space interface 6 pm NTM Board Meeting 7:30 pm NTM General Meeting 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**21** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**22** 7 pm Beer Garden	**23**	**24** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**25** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch 7 pm **New Members Party**	**26** *(recover from NMP)*
27 1:30 pm Eclectic Book Club 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**28** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**29** 7 pm Beer Garden	**30**	**31** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM		

~October 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)

SUNDAYS
8:00 PM Brainstorming SIG *(from mid MI Mensa)*
Location: **Zoom Meeting**: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82908600785?pwd=Kzl4YUhFbklwSnpCTTl4TDdHN0Jsdz09
Meeting ID: 829 0860 0785 Passcode: 1234
SIG's main purpose - Opportunity to brainstorm ways we do things.
Contact: **Ken Lawrence** MBrainstormingSessions@gmail.com

October Events

05 SATURDAY

10:30AM – 12:45PM – MENSA Admissions Testing

Location: **Carrollton Public Library - Hebron & Josey Branch:** 4220 N. Josey Lane, Carrollton, TX 75010.
Conference Room (the first room after the double sliding glass doors). 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)

11:00AM Gifted Youth Tour the ATT Performing Arts Center

Location: **Winspear Opera House (lobby)**, 2403 Flora Street Dallas, TX 75201
First Saturdays the ATT Performing Arts Center offers a free tour of the facility, including the Winspear Opera House and Wyly Theater.
Contact: **Bill Rock**: (william.m.rock@gmail.com or 972.396.8160)

2:00PM – 3:30PM Mensa Foundation Speaker Series 2024

Location: **Zoom Meeting**
Explore the Mensa Foundation Speaker Series in 2024 - an immersive journey into the realms of intelligence and giftedness In collaboration with esteemed partners such as the Gifted Development Center (GDC), the Dabrowski Center (DC), and Supporting Emotional Needs of the Gifted (SENG), the Mensa Foundation Speaker Series offers captivating 90-minute virtual sessions that dive deep into the world of intelligence and giftedness. Uncover new perspectives and ignite your intellectual curiosity.
October Speaker: **The Role of Intuition**

Registration and Fee Information: https://mensafoundation.ticketspice.com/mfss2024

06 SUNDAY

12:30PM - NTM Gifted Youth Book Club
(First Sunday of each month)

Location: **Zoom Meeting**
At this meeting, we will be discussing ***DK Life Stories: Helen Keller*** by Libby Romero.
Meeting Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87284610508?pwd=WnZWQ2JhbmlEamJzcmc1TkRBcFZjZz09
Contact: **Bill Rock**: (972.396.8160, william.m.rock@gmail.com)

09 WEDNESDAY

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 THURSDAY

9:00PM – M-Aura All Copy Deadline (The 10th of each month)
Contact: **Editor, Bill Rock**: (william.m.rock@gmail.com or 972.396.8160)

11 FRIDAY

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

Location: **Mary Milford's Home:** 4812 Rockcreek Lane, Plano, TX 750242
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**: Mary Milford (972-841-9779 or mary.milford1@gmail.com) if you plan to attend, since we may have to limit the number of people to "social distance". **FYI** - there is guest parking several houses down the street from Mary's home, if needed.

12 SATURDAY

7:00PM – 9:00PM – 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)

13 SUNDAY

2:00PM – 4:00PM Bright Ladies Brunch

(Second Sunday of each month)

Location: **la Madeleine French Bakery & Café**: 15125 Montfort Dr., Dallas

(one block east of the Tollway, on Montfort) Look for us (and the Bright Ladies logo) as you come in.

Contact: **Call Kathy McWhorter for directions or more details**: (214.215.5809)

16 WEDNESDAY

7 PM – MADEATS

Location: **Food From Galilee:** 6710 Snider Plaza, Dallas, TX 75205.

Let's take a trip to the Middle Eastern dining room at Food From Galilee, in Snyder Plaza – no passports required!

From kubbi and hommos to shwarma and stuffed grape leaves, this vegetarian friendly restaurant welcomes guests with middle eastern hospitality. And it is BYOB.

MADEATS tastefully requests RSVPs but does not require them.

Contact: **Karen Brack**, 214.477.1151. kwbrack18@gmail.com

19 SATURDAY

12:15PM – 2:30 – MENSA Admissions Testing

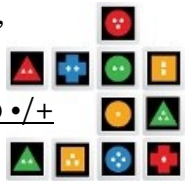
Location: **Dallas Public Library (Timberglen Branch) Classroom:** 18505 Midway Rd, Dallas, TX 75287.

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)

4:00PM – 6:00PM - 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)

6:30PM – Games SIG
Location: **Bill & Ellen Rock's Home**
"The Rock Pile": 701 Victorian Drive, Allen, 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)

20 SUNDAY

4:30PM – San Francisco Regional MENSA Speaker Series: The Human Space Interface
Location: This is a Zoom presentation/
Please register at: https://livepresentation.link/NASA
Dr. Gary Kitmacher, 40 year NASA veteran, will speak on what humans will need in order to live in space.

6:00PM- 7:00PM - 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)

7:30PM – Program Following the Board Meeting (Third Sunday of the Month)
Location: **Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas**, 5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas, or **Zoom** (see links for board meeting) Topic: **Your FAVORITE book(s) of 2024.** NTM Bibliophile Cathy Allshouse leads a freeform discussion of the best books you have read this year; the ones you could not put down (e.g., Sears' 1983 flypaper sample catalog).

25 FRIDAY

7:00PM – NEW MEMBERS PARTY

Location: **JJ's Café**, 10233 E. Northwest Hwy., # 434, Dallas, TX 75238
Let's welcome new members to North Texas Mensa! Light snacks, sodas, beer and wine will be provided.
$10 per person entrance fee for Mensans and their guests. New members joining this year get in free.
Please RSVP to Cathy Allshouse by Oct. 20th.
Contact: **Cathy Allshouse**: (713-398-7963 or callshouse1@aol.com)

27 SUNDAY

1:30PM – 3:00PM - Eclectic Book Club
(Fourth Sunday of the Month)
Location: **Half Price Books Mothership**: 5803 E NW Hwy, Dallas, TX 75231
The book selection for this month is ***The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*** by Laurence Sterne. 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)

2:30PM – MENSA Theodore Talks
(Fourth Sunday of each month)
Location: **Zoom**
The title of the October Theodore Talk is: ***Above and Beyond: The James Webb Space Telescope*** by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center astrophysicist Matt Greenhouse. 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.

AG 2025 is in Chicago!

"I'm vindicated!" says Daisy, Mrs. O'Leary's favorite cow. She asks you to join her in Chicago from July 2 thru 6 for Mensa's 2025 Annual Gathering (AG).

The 2025 AG will be held in the downtown Chicago Hilton on south Michigan Avenue. The room rate is only $139/ night for single, double, triple, or quad rooms. Yes, you saw that correctly! There will be free WiFi in hospitality and guest rooms. . Included in your $279 registration price, good until November 30, will be four breakfasts, three lunches, and snacks – all available in hospitality.

Come be part of Daisy's herd as she explores the area around the hotel, located across from Grant Park, and also close to Buckingham Fountain, the Museum Campus (Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum, Adler Planetarium), and Queen's Landing (where Queen Elizabeth II disembarked from her ship in 1959) on the lakefront. Milk your access to Chicago's wonderful sights. This will be THE annual gathering people will be mooing, erm, talking about for years to come!

Details on tours, the Gala Dinner speaker and special events are still being pasteurized, homogenized, and separated, and will be announced on the website as soon as they are packaged.

AG and hotel registration will be available November 1 at ag.us.mensa.org. Daisy and our AG Team look forward to seeing you there!!

Karen Gruebele and Allison Reeves

2025 AG Co-chairs

NTM BYLAWS UPDATES *by Chris Cree, Bylaws update chair*

Dear Members,

As of April, 2024, American Mensa, Ltd (AML) has mandated updates to individual chapter's bylaws that are to include what is being called Minimum Standard Bylaws (MSB).

The 25 page document can be found by clicking this link: us.mensa.org/lead/policydocuments/minimum-standard-bylaws/

The North Texas Bylaws Committee that currently consists of Chris Cree, Roger Durham and Paul Whiteman undertook this endeavor. The committee presented an updated bylaws document to the NTM Board which unanimously approved the document to be sent to the AML Bylaws Committee for approval. After one round of edits, AML has approved the proposed update to now go to the members to vote to approve or disapprove. A ballot will be provided no later than the next issue of the M-Aura.

The proposed bylaws document (with changes in **bold**) is as follows:

North Texas Mensa Bylaws

EFFECTIVE MONTH DD, 202?

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

1. The name of this organization shall be North Texas Mensa.
2. North Texas Mensa is a Local Group of American Mensa, Ltd. and is subject to the Constitution of Mensa, the Bylaws of American Mensa, Ltd., and the resolutions adopted by the American Mensa Committee. American Mensa, Ltd. is abbreviated in these bylaws as "AML" and the American Mensa Committee as "AMC." North Texas Mensa is abbreviated as "NTM."

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of NTM shall be open to all members of AML in good standing in the geographic areas assigned to NTM by the AMC, or as otherwise assigned by AML. Members of NTM residing outside this area but who are assigned to NTM by AML are full members in NTM for all purposes, including but not limited to voting and holding elected or appointed office.
2. Mensa members in good standing, including those who are not also members of NTM, are welcome to participate in the social activities of the local group at the discretion of the host or hostess.
3. The National Ombudsperson (or designee), the Regional Ombudsperson (or designee), and members of the AMC shall be permitted to participate in the business affairs of the local group in the discharge of their official duties.

"Ombudsman" changed to "Ombudsperson" throughout this

document

"his surrogate" changed to "designee"

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

1. An officer is defined as any person whose position is specified in these bylaws or who is appointed by the Board, or a member thereof, to a position with a title and specific responsibilities. All local group officers, whether elected or appointed, must be current members in good standing of AML and of NTM.
2. Board of Directors
   A. The governing body of NTM shall be a Board of Directors (Board) which conducts the business of the local group. The Board consists of the following elected voting members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Board Members at Large.
   B. The conflict of interest rules stated in the Bylaws of American Mensa for the AMC shall also be applicable to the local group and the members of its Board.
   C. No person may hold more than one elected position on the Board simultaneously. *(Added)*
   D. No member of the Board may personally hold more than one vote, no matter how many positions the person holds. *(Added)*
3. The President shall be the chief executive officer of NTM and the liaison with other local groups. He or she shall preside at Board meetings and meetings of the membership and shall be the chief point of contact between AML and the local group. The President shall endeavor to pass information to and from the local group in a timely fashion and shall notify AML (through the National Office) and the Regional Vice Chair (RVC) for the local group within two weeks of the results of elections and of changes in the officers of the group. The President shall be a member *ex-officio* of all committees except the Nominating Committee and the Election Committee.
4. The Vice President shall assist the President and preside over meetings in the absence of the President.
5. Treasurer
   A. The Treasurer shall be responsible for financial matters of NTM and shall submit to the Board a semi-annual financial report that shall also be published in the newsletter. The financial report shall contain schedules of income, expenses, and balances of all funds under the control of the local group, including Regional Gathering, scholarship, and other special funds.

   Removed "...including the finances of the newsletter.."

   Removed "...Single disbursements of funds exceeding $100.00 must be approved by a majority of the Board.

   B. At least quarterly, the Treasurer shall submit to the President or their designee, statements from banks and any other institutions where the group's money is deposited or shall cause a statement to be sent directly to the President or their designee (who must also be a member of the Board). All accounts must be separate accounts in the name of the local group and shall have more than one signatory so that funds can be accessed in the temporary absence of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be one of the signatories on all accounts.
   C. The Treasurer shall, if necessary, assist the Editor in the preparation and submission of any postal forms that might be required. The Treasurer shall

also maintain a listing of all equipment owned by the local group.

D The treasurer shall ensure that NTM complies with all federal financial reporting requirements. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual financial report for submission to American Mensa as part of the federal financial reporting requirements.

Reworded. Previously read:

D. The Treasurer shall, if given at least five days' notice by any member of NTM, make the financial records of NTM available for inspection by any member of the organization at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

6. The Secretary shall be responsible for the taking and maintaining of minutes of Board meetings and for maintaining a list of Standing Policies.

Removed –" In the absence of the Secretary at any meeting of the Board, the presiding officer shall appoint a member of NTM to record the minutes of the meeting."

7. The Board Members at Large shall perform such duties as are assigned by the Board.
8. The Editor shall edit the newsletter. The Editor shall be appointed by the Board for a term of office expiring on February 14th of each year to provide continuity while the new Board takes office. The outgoing Editor shall turn over all files, materials, computer software, user IDs, passwords, and equipment, in good order to the incoming Editor no later than 15 days after the outgoing Editor leaves office.

Reworded – previously read

8. The Editor shall edit the newsletter. The term of office of the Editor shall expire on February 14th to provide continuity while the new Board takes office. The outgoing Editor shall turn over all files, materials, computer software, user IDs, passwords, and equipment in good order to the incoming Editor no later than 15 days after the outgoing Editor leaves office

9. The Circulation Manager shall be responsible for distributing the newsletter, shall maintain an address that will be on file with the U. S. Postal Service, and shall prepare and publish Post Office forms if required. The Circulation Manager shall be appointed by the Board for a term of office concurrent with that of the Editor. The Circulation Manager may act as publisher for the purpose of signing Post Office forms. The Editor and Circulation Manager may be the same person.

Reworded – previously read

9. The Publications Officer shall act as the Circulation Manager and be responsible for distributing the newsletter, shall maintain an address that will be on file with the U. S. Postal Service, and shall prepare and publish Post Office forms if required. The Publisher may also serve as the Editor.

10. **Ombudsperson**

A. The Board shall appoint an **Ombudsperson**, who shall pursue local resolution of disputes and shall also perform such other duties as may be required for all local group ombudspersons by AML. The **Ombudsperson** may not be a member of the Board.

B. The term of office for the **Ombudsperson** shall be three years from the date of appointment. Once appointed, the **Ombudsperson** cannot be removed from office by the appointing Board or any succeeding Board. The mechanism for removal of an **Ombudsperson** from office prior to their term's expiration is a recall referendum as described in Article III, **Section 13**.

Section 13 – previously read Section 14

11. The terms of office of elected officers shall be one year from January 1st to December 31st, or until installation of a properly qualified successor, except in the case of resignation, succession to higher office as provided in Article III, Section 15, failure to maintain membership, or removal from office as provided in Article III, Sections 13 and 14. No elected officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Previous Section 11 removed:

11. Appointed positions of the local group may include, but are not limited to Area Coordinators for outlying groups of members, and coordinators for other activities as deemed necessary. The Board may authorize committee chairmen to select their own committees.

12. The term of office for all appointed officers and positions expires at the end of the term of office of the current elected officers, unless stated otherwise in these bylaws. Appointed officers, positions, and committees, including the position of committee chair, are appointed by the President with the approval of the Board, **except an appointment to fill a vacancy on the Board, as provided in Article III, Section 15, and may be removed from office by majority vote of the Board unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.** The Gathering Committee is a standing committee and has no expiration date. Any election/referendum committee in existence on December 31 shall so remain until the results of the election/referendum are certified and all challenges are resolved.

Bold print in Section 12 previously read:

(or in the case of the Editor, the Publications Officer) with the approval of the Board, and may be removed from office by majority vote of the Board unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.

13. Members of the Board and/or the **Ombudsperson** may be removed from office by recall referendum. A recall referendum may be called by a petition citing the reason for such action, signed by ten or more members of the local group as listed on the most recent membership roster provided by AML, and presented at a regular or special meeting of the Board. Ballots must be sent to members according to the provisions of Article VI, Section 7.C within 60 days of the presentation of the petition to the Board, and the dates set forth in Article VI shall be adjusted accordingly. Each such removal from office shall become effective when ratified by a two-thirds vote of those valid ballots cast in person or received in accordance with Article VI, Section 14.
14. Any member of the Board shall automatically be removed from office for three consecutive absences at Board meetings within the period of one term of office. The application of this section to any Board member(s) may be waived by majority vote of the other Board members.
15. Should the office of President become vacant, **the Vice President shall**

immediately and automatically succeed to that office. Should a vacancy exist in any other Board position, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the President. A replacement for an elected officer is considered to be an elected officer whose term of office ends with the seating of the elected members of the Board following the next regular election.

16. All elected and appointed officers shall turn over all files, equipment, computer software, user IDs, passwords, and materials pertaining to their offices to either their successor(s), to the current President, or to another member of the Board no later than four weeks after leaving office unless otherwise stated in these bylaws. **The sole exception is the Ombudsperson, who may, at their discretion, redact false, misleading, or otherwise unusually sensitive materials before turning records over.**
17. An annual financial review shall be conducted during January of each year. The Board shall appoint someone to conduct the review who was not involved in the issuing or collecting of money during the period being reviewed. The review shall include viewing statements from banks and any other institutions where the group's money was held during the period being reviewed.

ARTICLE IV. PUBLICATION

1. The Board shall publish **at least quarterly (except that a newsletter shall be published for the month of November of each year, regardless of whether any other newsletter shall have been published in that quarter)** a printed newsletter that shall be the official publication of NTM. If an electronic version of the newsletter is created, the local group shall observe the preferences of members regarding how their newsletters are to be delivered (electronically or printed), as filed with AML.

Bold text above changed from the word "monthly"

2. The newsletter shall contain, at a minimum, notices of meetings and programs, required ballots, results of Board meetings and elections, amendments to the bylaws and related discussions and ballots, the semi-annual financial reports, **and official communications to the membership from AML, the RVC, and the National, Regional and local Ombudspersons.**
3. The **Ombudsperson**, Regional **Ombudsperson,** and the National **Ombudsperson** may submit material to the Editor marked "for publication" that relates to their official duties. Anything so marked shall be given the highest practicable priority for publication in the newsletter.
4. NTM shall observe the preferences of members for suppression and publication of personal data, as filed with AML, when publishing a local group roster or membership directory/register.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

1. Regularly scheduled meetings of the Board and meetings of the membership shall be held at least at least quarterly, except that an election meeting shall be held in November of each year, as required by Article V, Section 2, regardless of whether any other meetings of the membership shall have been held in that quarter. Such meetings are open to all members of NTM. Notice of meetings and activities shall be published in the newsletter or

otherwise sent to each member, the RVC, and the National Office. If remote electronic access to the meeting is allowed for the membership and others, notice of the technical requirements for such access is to be provided at least 48 hours in advance.

Text above amended from:

1. **Regularly scheduled meetings of the Board and meetings of the membership shall be held at least once a month with the optional exception of a membership meeting in December. Such meetings are open to all members of NTM. Notice of meetings and activities shall be published in the newsletter or otherwise sent to each member, the RVC, and the National Office.**

2. **A** November meeting of the membership shall be held on or before the 20th of the month in order to permit members to cast a ballot in person during the general election.

   "A" was previously "The"

3. **A special Board meeting may be called at any time by the President or by any three members of the Board and shall be called upon receipt by any member of the Board of a petition made in writing signed by ten or more members of the local group as listed on the most recent membership roster provided by AML. The date, time, place, technical requirements for remote access, and purpose of any special Board meeting shall be announced in the newsletter (or by direct mail to each member, the RVC, and the National Office) if practicable, and shall be reported in the newsletter afterward. No business other than that indicated in the notice calling the meeting may be acted on.**

   Previously read:

   3. Special Board meetings may be called by the President or by any three members of the Board at any time upon seven days notice given to each member of the Board. Such notice may be in writing, in person, or by telephone. A recorded telephonic notice shall not be proper notification. Written notice shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in the United States mail. The seven day notification requirement for any meeting may be waived if all Board members so agree.

4. **For both regularly scheduled and special meetings of the Board, a simple majority of all members of the Board constitutes a quorum to transact business, and tied votes are considered not passed.**

   Previously read:

4. **A special Board meeting shall be called upon receipt by any member of the Board of a petition made in writing signed by ten or more members of the local group as listed on the most recent membership roster provided by AML. The date, time, place, and purpose of any special Board meeting shall be announced in the newsletter (or by direct mail to each member, the RVC, and the National Office) if practicable, and shall be reported in the newsletter afterward. No business other than that indicated in the notice calling the meeting may be acted on.**

5. Remote participation during meetings of the Board and of committees established by these bylaws is allowed. Any one or more members of the

Board or committee may participate in such meeting by means of telephone, on-line conference, or similar communications equipment allowing all persons participating in the meeting to communicate with each other simultaneously; participation by such means constitutes presence in person at the meeting.

6. All meetings of the Board shall be held at a designated physical site located within the geographical limits of the local group as assigned by the AMC.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

1. Nominating Committee
   A. No later than July 10th of each year, the Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of a **Chair** and at least **two members**. The names of the Nominating Committee members shall be published in the August issue of the local newsletter.

   All instances of "Chairman" are replaced with "Chair"

   Above and below, "two members" previously read "three members and at least one alternate"

   B. The Nominating Committee shall, no later than the deadline for the September issue of the newsletter, nominate one or more candidates for each elective office. The Nominating Committee shall cause the names of the candidates they have nominated to be either (a) published in the September issue of the newsletter, or (b) mailed by post or electronically to all members of the local group, no later than September 1st.
2. Election Committee
   A. No later than July 10th of each year, the Board shall appoint an Election Committee consisting of a **Chair** and **at least two members**. The names of the Election Committee members shall be published in the September and November issues of the local newsletter.
   B. The Election Committee shall be responsible for conducting the election, creating the ballot, receiving and counting the returned ballots, overseeing and safeguarding the ballots, and certifying the election results.
   C. Those sections of the election code pertaining to the duties of candidates shall be published in the September issue of the newsletter. The election code shall not be changed between ratification and the election, although the Election Committee shall make necessary decisions on its own initiative in the absence of specific direction.

   Reworded from:

   C. The Election Committee shall ratify an election code by August 10th. If no election code is ratified by August 10th, the election code for the previous year's election shall be in effect. Those sections of the election code pertaining to the duties of candidates shall be published in the September issue of the newsletter. The election code shall not be changed between ratification and the election, although the Election Committee shall make necessary decisions on its own initiative in the absence of specific direction.

   D. The Election Committee shall strive to maintain the anonymity of voters.
3. No member of the Board may be a member of the Nominating Committee or

the Election Committee. A member accepting appointment to the Nominating Committee or Election Committee may not be a candidate in the upcoming election. The Nominating and Election Committees **may comprise** or include the same members. **Doing so will not constitute a conflict**.

Previously read "may not comprise".

4. Additional nominations may be made in writing signed by three members of the local group other than the nominee and delivered to any member of the Election Committee no later than October 1st before the election.
5. All nominations shall include a signed statement from the nominee expressing their willingness to be nominated and, if elected, to serve and discharge the duties of the office.
6. Eligibility
   A. Candidates must be members of NTM in good standing to be eligible for nomination to office. No person shall be eligible for nomination to more than one office in the same election.
   B. Persons who are members of NTM according to the most current membership list provided by AML are eligible to cast one ballot in any election or referendum.
   C. No person's name may appear in more than one race on the same ballot. - *Added*
7. Ballots
   A. The Election Committee shall create the ballot no later than the submission deadline for the November newsletter.
   B. Ballots shall contain all necessary voting instructions, including the deadline for receipt of ballots and the address where completed ballots are to be mailed, and the names of all nominated candidates in random order, whether nominated by the Nominating Committee or by petition. Write-in candidates are not allowed.
   C. Ballots shall be printed in the November issue of the newsletter, including in the electronic version of the newsletter if such is available, or mailed by post or electronically to all members of the local group, at least 15 days prior to the deadline for the return of ballots. **Electronic distribution is acceptable for those members who request electronic distribution but cannot supplant distribution by postal mail for those members who want postal mail**. ***(added).*** The Election Committee (or Referendum Committee, in the case of a referendum) shall provide ballots to members who certify that they did not receive theirs.
8. Ranking of Candidates
   A. For each office, the voter shall rank the candidates numerically in order of preference by assigning the number "1" to the voter's first preferred candidate, "2" to the voter's second preferred candidate, and so on, until all candidates for the office have been ranked. The voter's ranking of the candidates for a given office must form an unbroken ascending sequence of positive integers, starting from one and increasing in increments of one, using the decimal system of counting, and must be written in standard Arabic numerals. Any such ranking that deviates from this description shall be invalidated starting at that point within the ascending numeric sequence where the first omission, repeated number,

or other departure from an unbroken sequence of integers occurs.

B. In any race, if the voter chooses not to rank the candidates numerically, the voter may make a check, "X", or similar mark next to the name of only one candidate. Such mark will be counted a number one vote for that candidate.

9. Returning of Ballots

A. Balloting by Mail

i. Each voter shall mail their ballot in an envelope on which the voter's name and address are clearly legible in the upper left corner. The ballot may, at the voter's option, be sealed inside a blank envelope before being sealed in the mailing envelope. Ballots must be mailed to the Chair of the Election Committee (or Referendum Supervisor, in the case of a Referendum) and received no later than the deadline date shown on the ballot, which shall be November 15th in the case of general elections. Ballots received after the deadline date shall not be counted. Ballots must be counted within six days of the deadline date.

ii. A mailing envelope may contain more than one ballot, so long as the name and address of each voter is shown as required in Section 9.A.i of this Article.

B. Balloting in Person

i. NTM members may vote in person at a meeting called for that purpose ("the meeting"). In the case of a general election, the meeting will be the November meeting of the membership. The Election Committee or Referendum Committee, as appropriate, will have blank ballots available at the meeting.

ii. Members may fill in the ballot at the meeting or prior to the meeting. At the meeting, the member will hand the completed ballot to a member of the Election/Referendum Committee or place the ballot in a receptacle provided by the Committee.

C. Procedures

i. At the meeting, a member whose ballot has not been received by the Election/Referendum Committee may cast a ballot in person. A member who has voted in the election/referendum by mail and whose ballot has already been received by the Election/Referendum Committee may not cast a second ballot.

ii. If the Election/Referendum Committee receives a mailed ballot from a member who has already voted in person or by mail in that election/ referendum, the Committee shall discard the second ballot received.

iii. If a voter does not follow the rules for submitting ballots in such a way as to compromise confidentiality, but the ballot is otherwise acceptable, the ballot shall be accepted and the voter shall be deemed to have waived confidentiality.

10. Counting of Votes

A. Uncontested Races

Any unopposed candidate who receives at least one valid number-one ranking shall be declared elected.

B. Contested Races

i. The counting of votes shall be conducted one office at a time, and each office shall be considered independently of all other offices.

ii. For the Board Member at Large offices, the elimination procedure (B.iv) shall be applied repetitively until a candidate is elected. That candidate shall then be considered eliminated from any subsequent counts, all other candidates for Board Member at Large shall be considered not yet eliminated, and the elimination procedure (B.iv) shall again be repetitively applied until a second candidate is elected. That candidate and the previously elected candidate shall then be considered eliminated,from subsequent counts, all other candidates for Board Member at Large shall be considered not yet eliminated, and the elimination procedure (B.iv) shall again be repetitively applied until a third candidate is elected.

iii. For each office other than the Board Member at Large offices, the elimination procedure (B.iv) shall be applied repetitively until a candidate is elected.

iv. Elimination Procedure

a. Assign each ballot to that candidate who, of all the candidates for the office being counted who are validly ranked on that ballot and who have not yet been eliminated, is ranked lowest numerically.

b. Of those candidates for the office being counted who have not yet been eliminated in that round of counting, eliminate the one who was assigned the fewest ballots in B.iv.a. A tie for elimination shall be resolved by a random or pseudo-random process, the outcome of which can be neither predicted nor controlled by any party.

c. When, for the office being counted, all candidates but one have been eliminated, the one remaining candidate shall be declared elected.

11. The **Chair** of the Election Committee shall certify the election results and notify the President and all candidates of the general election results prior to November 30.

Removed "The report of the Election Committee, including the names of any newly elected officers, shall be published in the next practical issue of the local newsletter."

12. Any challenge to the election/referendum must be made in writing to the Chair of the Election Committee/Referendum Supervisor and received within 30 days following the election/referendum. Any such challenge must be adjudicated within 14 days of submission. Any actions by the Board while a challenge is pending are not affected by the outcome of any such challenge.

13. When the results of the election are certified, the Election Committee will turn over all ballots to the Board, who will preserve them for a period of two months after the election.

Reworded from:

13. The Election Committee will mark invalid and late ballots, and when the results of the election are certified, turn over all ballots to the Board, who will preserve them for a period of two months after the election.

14. Referenda

A vote of the membership for recall of a Board member as specified in Article III, Section **13**; recall of the **Ombudsperson** as specified in Article III, Section 10.B, and new bylaws or amendments to the bylaws as specified in Article VII shall be conducted by referendum. Each member may vote in person at a meeting of the membership specified for that purpose or may

vote by mail in accordance with the procedures of Article VI, Section 9. The Board shall establish the dates for balloting and shall appoint a Referendum Supervisor **and at least two other Referendum Committee members** who shall: conduct the election; cause the publication of statements; prepare and distribute ballots; receive, verify, and count ballots; and certify and publish the results. Ballots shall be mailed to the membership in accordance with Article VI, Section 7 **and dates shall be adjusted accordingly.**

"13" was "14"

"at least two" was "three and at least one alternate"

"..and dates.." was "Results shall be published within 50 days of the ballot counting in the local newsletter."

ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS

1. New bylaws and amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by the Board or by a written petition signed by ten or more members of the local group and received by any member of the Board. Such proposals shall be submitted first to the AMC for its approval to ballot. After approval to ballot has been received, the proposed bylaws or amendment(s) shall be published in the next issue of the newsletter. A ballot shall be published in the issue of the newsletter that follows publication of the proposal and shall be sent to every member of the local group.
2. Changes to these Bylaws will be conducted by referendum as provided by Article VI, Section 14. The balloting deadline shall be no less than 90 days following the first publication of the proposed amendment(s) in the newsletter.
3. To become effective, an amendment to these bylaws shall require an affirmative vote of a **simple majority of those casting valid ballots,** as well as final approval by the AMC and filing of revised bylaws with the Bylaws Committee. **After filing of the amended bylaws with the National Bylaws Committee after the membership has voted, the National Bylaws Committee will notify NTM of the effective date of the bylaws as amended.**

"simple majority" was "two-thirds"

Last sentence was ". The Bylaws Committee will tell the local group the effective date of the bylaws as amended."

ARTICLE VIII. MENSA NAME AND LOGO

American Mensa, Ltd. (AML) has granted a royalty free, nonexclusive license to North Texas Mensa for the use of the mark "Mensa" and a logo, consisting of a globe over a stylized "M" within a border, in conjunction with the non-commercial uses of North Texas Mensa. AML retains full ownership of the mark and logo and all statutory and common law rights in the mark and logo.

ARTICLE IX. AUTHORITIES

1. The Minimum Standard Bylaws for Local Groups of AML are implicitly included in these bylaws. The minimum requirements are enforceable even if they are not explicitly contained in these bylaws. If there is a conflict between these bylaws and the Minimum Standards, the Minimum Standards take precedence.
2. The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, latest edition, shall govern the local group in all cases to which they are applicable and not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the local group may adopt.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! The following NTMers add another candle to the cake in October:
Stephanie Copeland, Warren Puziewicz, David Webster, Charles Bornsheuer, Winston Black, Robert Holland, Martin Gross, Kishore Raj, Andrew Essary, Lloyd Segler, Erin Wheeler, Michael Morton, Michael Pickard, Taylor Roth, Julie Bradley, Robert Pittman, Ameer Choonara, Mark Magazu, Davin Sanchez, Tony Wang, Sonya Cooper, Collene Goldman, Derek Blount, Jacqueline White, Roland Freeman, Curry Taylor, Lucy Hooker, James Oates, Jerold Skaggs, Holly Stone, Darlene Wade, Kathy "bright ladies" McWhorter, Alan Kazdoy, Scott Perdue, David Smith, Randon Fullmer, Doug "pot odds" Fix, Julie "bookie" Sandel, Anita Raskin, Thomas Rogers, Sven Ola Magnusson, Sharon Seagraves, John Daly, Daniela De la Chica, Glenn Harrison, Kimberly Chapin, Sara Stokes, Robert Rollins, Eric Beeby, Valiant (aka Dart) Vetter

NTM BOARD PROCEEDINGS- Sunday August 18th, 2024

NTM Board of Directors minutes for August 18, 2024
Meeting was called to order at 6:01PM by VP Ken Roberts. Present in person were Vice President Ken Roberts and Secretary Paul Whiteman, Treasurer Cathy Allshouse, Board Member at Large Chris Cree, and Jonathan Bethune. Present via Zoom was Juan Faura. Absent was/were President Eric "Gunny" Hartman.

1. Reports

President – Eric "Gunny" Hartman … "Next Board Meeting: 6PM August 18, 2024 at Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas (5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas) Election Committee Members: Jeff Bromberger (chair), Andy McKellar, Cookie Neely, Ken Roberts, and Eric Hartman, Jr.

Regional Gathering Chair: Roger Durham Beware of Scam/Phishing attempts within NTM, particularly emails impersonating other board members with financial solicitation.

Fall [New] Members Party: Location/Host(s) TBD - We are looking for volunteers to organize and/or host."

Secretary – Paul Whiteman … The minutes of the July 2024 board meeting, were prepared by Hartman and emailed to the board. No changes.

Treasurer – Cathy Allshouse … New numbers. Subsidy of $1128.50 was received from national. Expenses were $1,327.78, which resulted in a net negative income of $295.91. Financial statements for 2024 YTD, January through August 18th, were distributed. We have had a positive YTD new income of $2,219.33. At the end of July total NTM assets at $27,986.68. RG account balance is $1,500. Two subscriptions for the website were paid, JEvents and Network Solutions. Report accepted. Bethune believes that we may be paying too much for web site management although that includes amortize development costs. Bethune volunteered to manage the web back end

Ombudsman – Roger Durham … Nothing to report.
Membership – Ken Roberts … 19 New members. 10 leaving. 184 lasped (sic). Still 7th largest Regional Group. Roberts shared a list of 153 lapsed members, so those wanting to Cree for local contact.
Marketing – Vacant …
S.I.G.H.T. – Gunny Hartman … Nothing to report
Editor - M-Aura shipped to printer Saturday. Two extra sheets this month for Election and RG flyer.
Gifted Youth – Bill Rock … "Gifted Youth: 7 attendees for the TI "Bring your kid to work day". 12 signed up for Electronics (happening just before this meeting). Young Eagles event planned for September. Younger members (8 & under) reaching out for connections.
Circulation Manager – Val Beasley … No report
Scholarship – Lauren Ogden … Anne Whiteman Reports that the Scholarship Foundation has approved three $4,000 scholarships.
Web Contact – Andy McKellar … "A pop-up has been added to the login page asking users to add their last names and membership numbers to their user records after logging in. Next spring I plan to disable login privileges for anyone who has not done so, and require them to provide me that information before re-enabling them. This will have two effects: First, it will eliminate all possible ambiguity about duplicate names, and second, it will filter out all those who don't log in any more, which I suspect is most of them. If this does not meet with the Board's approval, be sure to tell me before next April."
Testing – Rebecca Raymond … New Report email. "We had 1 testers in our August session. September and October sessions are on the books. Discounted September prior evidence evaluation."
Calendar – Sara Hawkins … New Report email. " "Calendar is doing great.

Programs - vacant.
Social Media/Facebook – Collene Goldman … "Post reach (number of views): 2,648 Post engagement (number of reactions, comments, shares & clicks): 843, Followers: 94, New followers: 13"(www.facebook.com/NorthTexasMensa)
Bylaws Committee - Chris Cree, Roger Durham, and Paul Whiteman … AMC suggested revisions were made and approved, so that the bylaws may be submitted to the membership for vote. The rules for doing so are in our current bylaws. Bylaws approved by National. Needs to go to membership for approval. Committee will move forward.
Regional Gathering - Roger Durham … Registration form is online and in the Maura.

2. Actions

New Member's party. Still to be planned.
The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM after a motion was made by Bethune, which was seconded by Cree, and passed.

NTM Board Members for 2024: *Blue italics = new*

President Gunny Hartman	president@northtexasmensa.org 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 Paul Whiteman	paulw@ieee.org	4424 Ringgold Ln Plano 75093

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

Want Your Ad in the *M-Aura*?
Interior Pages:
1/4 page (business card) is $15; 1/2 page is only $25; Full Page is $40
Note: All ads will be in color for eSubscribe

Region 6 Vice Chair: David McCallister, rvc6@us.mensa.org, 817.988.3283

~NTM Appointed Positions ~

Membership Chair
Ken Roberts, membership@northtexasmensa.org

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

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

NTM Ombudsman
Roger Durham
durhamrog@gmail.com
214.349.4521

Calendar Chair
Sara Hawkins
calendarchair@northtexasmensa.org

Web Page Contact
Andy McKellar
andy.mckellar@twc.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; Gunny Hartman, Acting

RG Chair
Roger Durham
durhamrog@gmail.com

Publicity Coordinator—Open

Volunteers Coordinator—Open

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

Social Media—Collene Goldman
colleneg@gmail.com
469-503-3636

Marketing Chair — Open

S.I.G.H.T. Coordinator
Eric "Gunny" Hartman
President
@northtexasmensa.org
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

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: Bill Rock william.m.rock@gmail.com or 972.396.8160, Anne Whiteman, 214.868.4410 or Anne.whiteman1@gmail.com, Laura Stuart, (214.641.2520), Doug Fix, doug@dfix.org

Election Committee: Jeffrey Bromberger jbromberger@gmail.com (chair)
Andy McKellar, andy.mckellar@twc.com , Eric Hartman, Jr. JetHartman28@gmail.com
Cookie Neely, syntaxcop@gmail.com, Ken Roberts, krobs@yahoo.com