The Official Publication of North Texas Mensa

M-AURA

SEPTEMBER

2024

Speaker Sep 15th: Gunny Hartman
:::The Biblical Sublime:::
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL JOURNEY
INTO THE USE OF THE TERROR SUBLIME

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ON THE COVERS:

Front *Top Left:* Elizabeth discusses robot programming languages at the July presentation on BEST. *Top Right*: Gunny and Elizabeth ensuring we have enough high quality photos for the M-Aura. *Bottom:* Attendees at the TI "take your kid to work day" (Gifted Youth division) *(l-r)* William, Aiden, and Ishaan experiment with different sensor systems.

Back *Left:* One of the longest Wingspans ever recorded, this three-hour mega-game had *(cw from bottom)* Doug, Cathy, Deborah, Charles, Laura, and Barbara (among others). *Top Right:* June Poker winners, *(l-r)* 2nd-Bill St. John, 3rd-Anne Whiteman, 1st-Mitch McCarsky. *Bottom Right:* Tatiana learns by doing—proper fire extinguisher use, at the TI event.

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

"So, I got that goin' for me, which is nice."

~Carl

On my deathbed I do not anticipate total consciousness, but I do see many great things on my horizon, some of them are available to all those in NTM.

- We have our regular **Special Interest Groups**, or SIGs activities, where you can interact with fellow Mensans of similar interests (e.g., culinary or reading or games or poker). See pages 6-11 for calendar information.
- On the 3rd Sunday night of the month, following our Board of Directors meeting, we have a monthly program/speaker; for this month, see page 10. Refreshments are served.
- In the works are plans for a **[New] Members Party.** This is a time to try to get many of the members together and to especially welcome our new(est) members into the NTM family.
- November 17 is the **election for the 2025 Board of Directors**. There is still time to throw your hat in the ring. See pages 13-16 for more information.

But the most exciting is the ***Regional Gathering*** (RG), which is 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.

As a NTM member, YOU got THAT goin' for you, which is nice.

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: Kathryn Chudy, Juliet Dopp, Avyan Gupta, Owen Harris, Alika Josh, Zaquinten Nwokeocha, David Westbrook, Benjamin Whillock

Moving to NTM: Andrew Friedman, Kendrick Kim, Soobin Lee, Scott Richardson, Stephen Zink

Rejoining Mensa and NTM: Marisa Basso, Samuel Pawley

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

In Memoriam: NTM is saddened by the passing of longtime member Stephen Zink of McKinney. He will be missed.

DAVID MCCALLISTER, REGION 6 VICE CHAIR

With the arrival of fall comes a fresh wave of opportunities for enhancing member engagement. Following the August article on the impact of mentoring, I've received numerous inquiries about incorporating mentoring into your local chapters. Outlined are some key highlights that could be valuable for your chapter's initiatives. Mentoring is a developmental relationship in which an experienced individual, the mentor, offers guidance, support, and advice to someone less experienced, the mentee. Through regular meetings, the mentor helps the mentee grow and advance in their career or personal life by sharing knowledge, providing constructive feedback, and offering encouragement.

How can you start a mentoring program in your group? Here are a few approaches you might consider:

1. **Create a Survey or Form:** Develop a simple form or survey for current members to complete, and have new members fill out the same form. Use this information to match existing members with newcomers based on shared interests and goals.
2. **Post on Mensa Connect:** Make a post in your local group's Mensa Connect, inviting members interested in mentoring to come forward.
3. **Include in Communications:** Feature the mentoring program in your monthly newsletter, e-blasts, or announce it at your next local group meeting.

If you're interested in starting a pilot mentoring program or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly for more details.

A mini-SynRG will take place from September 13-15, 2024, at the Doubletree Intercontinental in Houston. Registration covers speakers, activities, meals, and beverages. Visit https://gcmensa.org/index.php/synrg/synrg-2024

Another event on the horizon is the AMC meeting, open to all members, in Hurst 21 Sep 24. This offers a fantastic opportunity to connect with other members and gain firsthand insights into policy-making and governance.

In October, I will host Office Hours exclusively for Region 6 members. Bring your list of challenges for an open discussion, and leave with new ideas to enhance your local group's member experience.

November brings another Regional Gathering: **Pleasures and Delights XLIII**, taking place over Thanksgiving Weekend from November 28 to December 1, 2024. Hosted by North Texas Mensa, this event promises to be both enjoyable and engaging. Visit northtexasmensa.org/rg_event/.

I'll be attending all these events and look forward to meeting each of you who will be there. Your feedback and comments are invaluable to me. For those who prefer quick and straightforward communication, contact me directly via phone or text at 817-988-3283 or submit feedback online at https://tinyurl.com/MembersVoice. Together, let's continue to shape a future where every member's needs are acknowledged, understood, and addressed.

GIFTED YOUTH CORNER

by Bill Rock

July brought us several things to try, more on-line games (I learned a couple of new ones) and we all had a great time touring the TI Forest Lane building, with scores of exhibits on all kinds of different topics, from power electronics to how DLPs work (it is all mirrors but no smoke). From "39 more fun things to do (carefully) with liquid nitrogen" to tech trivia. On the covers you can see that we also got to learn how to properly use a fire extinguisher and got some info on how sensors work.

For this month, we're bringing back a very popular event. The Young Eagles program allows people between the ages of 8 and 17 to get a chance to experience aviation firsthand by getting a free ride in a small plane. We have a couple of local pilots who donate their time (and avgas) to give kids this experience. Sign-ups for this activity are done online, so look for an email on the topic.

And lastly, we have a new member of the Junior Mensa Honor Society. **Henry Leskiw** has been accepted into the JMHS as of June. What is the JMHS, you ask? It is a way to recognize those Gifted Youth who take active roles in their communities, with service hours and community participation while maintaining good academic standing. For more info see https://www.us.mensa.org/learn/gifted-youth/honor-society/jmhs-overview/ Henry additionally received a silver certificate for having over 115 service hours.

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
1 12:30 pm Gifted Youth Book Club 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**2** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**3** 7 pm Beer Garden	**4**	**5** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**6** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch 7 pm Texas Hold 'Em	**7** 12:15 pm Mensa Testing
8 2 pm Bright Ladies SIG 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**9** 7 pm Munch Bunch 9 pm *M-Aura* Calendar Deadline	**10** 7 pm Beer Garden 9 pm *M-Aura* All-Copy Deadline	**11**	**12** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**13** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**14** 7 pm Singles Chat 'n Chew
15 6 pm NTM Board Meeting 7:30 pm NTM General Meeting 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**16** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**17** 7 pm Beer Garden	**18** 7 pm MADEATS	**19** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**20** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**21** 4 pm Small Group Meeting
22 1:30 pm Eclectic Book Club 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**23** 7 pm Munch Bunch	**24** 7 pm Beer Garden	**25**	**26** 1 pm Lunch Group 7 pm HOTDAM	**27** 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	**28** 8 am Gifted Youth Flying 6:30 pm Games SIG
29 8 am More Gifted Youth Flying 8 pm Brainstorming SIG	**30** 7 pm Munch Bunch	2024		SEP	TEM	BER

~September 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)

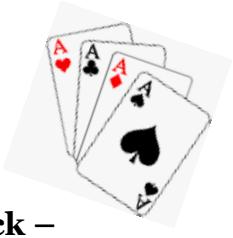
FRIDAYS

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=Kzl4YUhFbklwSnpCTTl4TDdHNoJsdz09
Meeting ID: 829 0860 0785 Passcode: 1234
SIG's main purpose - Opportunity to brainstorm ways we do things.
Contact: **Ken Lawrence** MBrainstormingSessions@gmail.com

September Events

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



06 FRIDAY
7:00 PM – 11:00 PM - NTM Scholarship Foundation Friday Texas Hold 'Em
Location: **The Home of Bill and Ellen Rock – "The Rock Pile":** 701 Victorian Drive, Allen, TX 75002
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 to Bill and/or Ellen Rock (972.396.8160 (landline) •/+ 214.356.5819 / william.m.rock@gmail.com)

07 SATURDAY
12:15PM – 2:30PM – 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)

08 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)

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

10 TUESDAY
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)

14 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)

15 SUNDAY
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 on **Zoom** (same info as board meeting above)
September Program: "The Biblical Sublime: An Autobiographical Journey into the Use of the Terror Sublime." NTM President Eric "Gunny" Hartman will give a presentation originally delivered to the Rhetoric Society of America addressing the literary phenomenon of the sublime, particularly looking at the terror sublime in the Bible.

18 WEDNESDAY

7:00PM – MADEATS (Mostly Affordable Diverse Eating Around Town SIG)
Location: **Bavarian Grill**: 3425 Premier Drive, Plano
To celebrate Oktoberfest (which starts in September in Germany), MADEATS will go to a Dallas institution: Bavarian Grill. The restaurant is offering a special menu of Oktoberfest beers and entrees, alongside their regular menu with a large variety of sausages, schnitzels and other German specialties. They've been doing this for decades, so they must be doing something right. As always, MADEATS consistently requests that you RSVP, but it is not required.
Contact and RSVP: **Karen Brack**: (kwbrack18@gmail.com, 214.477.1151)

21 SATURDAY

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)

22 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 Handmaid's Tale*** by Margaret Atwood. Eclectic Book Club picks are generally available in many formats or 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)

28 SATURDAY and 29 SUNDAY

8:00AM – 12:00PM
Gifted Youth Flying Airplanes
Location: **Denton Enterprise Airport (SheltAir Aviation)**, 5035 Warbird Drive Denton, TX 76207
Our "pilot connection" is offering another chance for Young Mensans to fly in a small plane as part of the EAA Young Eagles program. Coordination is done via email. Young Eagles flights are free orientation flights for those 8-17 years of age, offering them the unique opportunity to fly in a small plane. Youngeagles.com
Contact: **Bill Rock**:
(972.415.5302, william.m.rock@gmail.com)

6:30PM – 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)

CRITIQUE OF PURE PERFECTION *by Raj Dore*

Sorry Herr Immanuel Kant if I have a categorical imperative to rationalize on you. That is exactly the point.

In my Ethics course a fellow was found cheating in the test. The question was an exercise on how to distinguish between Good and Right. He failed because what he did was good but not right. But that is exactly what the course taught us to choose.

My professor of Finance was lecturing extolling the virtues of risk taking. He explained how risk taking is so important to success as most of us are averse of doing that. I raised my hand and asked him if risk taking is just a euphemism for gambling. He flushed on his face. He said I deserved to get a D in his course if I asked such a question. I mustered enough courage to weakly respond saying I was sorry to have taken the risk of asking that question. I rested my case.

Distinction between Right and Good is not the same as the conundrum of Ends and Means. It is the goal itself that can be good or right.

The two terms of President Obama were so perfectly good. He epitomized all that America wants to be or thinks it is.

On the other hand, President Trump couldn't care less. To some people he may even appear weird. He is so imperfect. That is why he is so right. He epitomizes what America truly is.

What is rationally perfect is not right. Failings are perfectly human.

It was at the Senate's Iran Contra hearing. I think it was Senator Walter Rudman who made a remark that hit my solar plexus like a ton of bricks. He said: Oliver North might have been right, and the Congress might have been wrong, but the Congress has a constitutional right to be wrong which he cannot take away.

Just imagine if Earth were to go around the Sun in a perfect circle and revolved on a perfectly perpendicular axis how would it be. It is those little imperfections that make life possible. Those are the causes for seasons, Shakespeares, Miltons, sonnets, romance and music.

One president got fellatio from a barely legal intern under his charge. Another president paid and got unprotected sex from a porn star.

Let the conservative right-wing Evangelicals figure who was right and who was good.

Next time please rationally and consciously mix measured amount of imperfection to whatever you do to make it perfectly imperfect. Else Gods might feel challenged and angels may weep.

BIG PRE-ELECTION SECTION

This is it, your source for fair and unbiased information about the election in November…. The NTM Board Of Directors election, that is.

ELECTION COMMITTEE

The NTM Board is pleased to announce the Election Committee for the 2025 NTM BOD.
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

Please feel free to contact any of them if you have a question about the upcoming election.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE SLATE OF CANDIDATES

Your 2025 NTM Nom Com is pleased to present the following members who are running for a position on next year's Board Of Directors:

President:	Cathy Allshouse
Vice President:	Chris Cree
Secretary:	Becky Van Uum and Gunny Hartman
Treasurer:	Paul Whiteman

The following members are running for the three Board Member At Large positions:
Chuck Weis, Phillip Tocci, Thomas Russell, Charles Rigsby, Doohi Lee, Glenn Harrison, Byron Haney, Maria Hall, Sue Garrett, and Elsa Gamble

Please note that if anyone else would like to run for the board, all that is required is to submit a completed Nomination Form by Oct 1. See pages 14 -16 for details.

NTM Election Code for Election of Officers (Excerpt for Nominees)

Section 2: Nomination Rules

Rule 1

Candidates must be members of North Texas Mensa in good standing, and listed as a member of North Texas Mensa in the most up-to-date membership list, to be eligible for nomination to office. No person shall be eligible for nomination to more than one office in this election. A member who has accepted appointment to the Nominating Committee or who has accepted appointment to the Election Committee is not eligible for nomination to office in this election.

Rule 2

All nominations shall include a signed statement from the nominee expressing his/her willingness to be nominated and, if elected, to serve and discharge the duties of the office. The term "signed" is interpreted to include facsimile and email signatures.

Rule 3

A. The Nominating Committee will expeditiously send a Nomination Form to anyone upon request.

B. Additional nominations (other than from the Nominating Committee) may be made in writing to any member of the Election Committee prior to October 1. Such nominations shall be made and subscribed by three members in good standing of North Texas Mensa, other than the nominee.

Section 4: Candidates

Rule 1

Noncompliance with the provisions of the Bylaws, if not remedied, shall deny inclusion on the ballot.

Rule 2

Nominees are responsible for acquainting themselves with the rules governing this election and complying with rules and deadlines thereof.

Rule 3

Each candidate may submit two statements: a written biographical statement not to exceed 100 words, and a written campaign statement not to exceed 150 words, as tallied by the word count feature of Microsoft Word. These election materials must be received by a member of the Election Committee not later than October 5. The Election Committee shall review these election materials. Each shall be cut from the point at which it exceeds the

allowed word limit as determined by the word-count function of MS Word. No other changes shall be made. The Election Committee shall then forward the reviewed election materials to the Editor not later than October 10 for verbatim publication in the November M-Aura.

Rule 4

Nominees may advertise their candidacy as follows:

A. Nominees who submit election materials under Rule 3 authorize publication of this material in the M-Aura. The M-Aura shall not publish any materials advertising any individual's candidacy other than those forwarded by the Election Committee.

B. Nominees may make written request for a copy of the NTM membership list to be furnished by the Election Committee at the nominee's expense. Campaign literature may be mailed or e-mailed to the voters at the nominee's expense.

C. Each nominee may make a campaign statement, not to exceed three (3) minutes, at the November General Meeting.

D. Beyond these provisions, each nominee may distribute campaign material to eligible voters at their own expense.

Rule 5

Any candidate for office aggrieved by what the candidate considers an irregularity or defect in the election procedure may bring the matter to the attention of the Election Committee.

A. Complaints may be brought before the Election Committee. The Election Committee may, at its option, take the complaint under advisement for more timely disposition or may respond immediately.

B. Complaints made to the Election Committee should be as specific as possible, stating the particulars of the grievance and specific requests for remedial action. Complaints must be received by the Election Committee no later than 30 days following the election. These complaints shall be adjudicated within 14 days. Complaints made after the 30 days date must be made to the Board.

C. Appeal of Election Committee judgment must be made in writing to the Board. The appeal shall contain the original complaint, the response of the Election Committee, and other pertinent information. The appeal must be received by the Board not later than January 31.

The following on Page 16 is the format of a printed petition nomination form. Emailed forms can be sent and signed & dated individually, but collectively they must be from at least three NTM members in good standing. Only one must have section one filled out.

Nomination Form

SECTION 1: NOMINEE

I, _____ hereby affirm that I am a current member of North Texas Mensa; that I accept nomination to the office of

_____ for the 2025 term, and that, if elected, I will serve and will discharge the duties of that office.

_____

_____

(Signature of nominated member) (Date)

SECTION 2: NOMINATOR(S)

We, the following members in good standing of North Texas Mensa, hereby nominate

_____

for the office of

_____

for the 2025 term.

_____

_____ _____

(Printed name of nominating member) (Signature) (Date)

_____

_____ _____

(Printed name of nominating member) (Signature) (Date)

_____

_____ _____

(Printed name of nominating member) (Signature) (Date)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! The following NTMers add another candle to the cake in September:
Michael Jarvis, Sally Fallis, Thomas Denton, John Parnell, Carolyn Garner, Suzanne Wills, Zeba Khan, Chloe Cohen, Christian Wright, Cherie Fruehan, Gilbert Daniel, Catherine Fontaine, Clif Bonner, Jerry Bassett, James Goodnight, Howard LaGrone, Robert Hallam, Robert Frowe, Martin Mahony, Clifford McCarthy, Matthew Palububicki, Zachary Smith, Eldon Tucker, W R McKenzie, Aaron Taylor, Mark Eitzen, Brett Wheeler, Hannah Binti Mohd Zaman, Thomas Paholski, Grant East, Kirsten Faulder, Penny "legal eagle" Robe, Jennifer Shaw, Marisa Basso, Steven Vazquez, Henson Rogers, James Dobbs, Benjamin Cohen, Roger Durham, Jeffrey Tarrant, Debra Hodges, Matthew Brnicky, Chris "hard scrabble" Cree, Charles Loukus, Misty Simons, Michael Peters, James O'Reilly, Kat Walston, Mary Turner, Bruce Zak

NTM BOARD PROCEEDINGS- Sunday July 21st, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Gunny Hartman. Present in person were President Eric "Gunny" Hartman and Treasurer Cathy Allshouse. Present via Zoom were VP Ken Roberts and Board Members at Large Jonathan Bethune, Chris Cree, and Juan Faura. Absent was Secretary Paul Whiteman.

1. Reports

President – Eric "Gunny" Hartman … The next Board Meeting: 6PM August 18, 2024 at Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas (5455 La Sierra Drive, Dallas). Roger Durham is willing to serve as RG Chair. We URGENTLY need Election Committee Members. Secured is one member and an alternate, but a chair and other members are needed. We need to start planning for the fall [new] members party.

VP – Ken Roberts … Nothing to report

Secretary – Paul Whiteman … The minutes of the June 2024 board meeting, which were prepared by Anne Whiteman, were distributed via email. With no corrections, the minutes stand approved.

Treasurer – Cathy Allshouse … Subsidy of $1,031.76 was received from national. Expenses were $604.81, which resulted in a net income of $426.95. Financial statements for 2024 YTD, January through July 20, were distributed. We have had a positive YTD new income of $2,031.30. At the end of June, we had $3,840.68 in checking, $12,031.02 in savings, and a note receivable for $10,000, putting total NTM assets at $25,871. RG account balance is $1,500.

Ombudsman – Roger Durham … Nothing to report

Membership – Ken Roberts … As of June 1st, we have 1057 members, with 189 still lapsed, making us 7th among chapters in membership. Ken shared a list of lapsed members, so those wanting to do so can contact them.

Marketing – Vacant … Juan Faura & Jonathan Bethune mentioned some ideas to make NTM more visible, especially to millennials and Gen Z. Hopefully, they can spearhead further discussion and actionable ideas in that regard.

S.I.G.H.T. – Gunny Hartman … Nothing to report

Editor – Bill Rock … "M-Aura almost done. Holding on RVC column from new RVC. Second reminder sent, still no reply."

Gifted Youth – Bill Rock … "Gifted Youth had 7 attendees for book club, from Florida to Washington, with several from Dallas. We had six attendees at on-line games. Plan for July is to tag along on the TI 'Take your child to work day' event. August event will be electronics workshop."

Circulation Manager – Val Beasley … No report

Scholarship – Lauren Ogden … "Nationals will be done soon and post the winners of this year's scholarships. I am helping National test out the new online scholarship application process."

Web Contact – Andy McKellar … "No significant Issues. I have reviewed the user list for lapsed members and suspended login privileges for a couple of dozen or so; so far none have asked to be re-enabled. I will be working with Hubra to encourage users to enter their membership numbers in their user records, and if the Board permits, next spring I will suspend login privileges for everyone who has not done so and also has not logged in during the previous year. This is actually less draconian than it sounds; at a rough guess, about 70% to 80% of our users have not logged in since the first three months after registering, so they probably won't even notice." Jonathan Bethune volunteered to help investigate ways to minimize web costs. Gunny will try to get him more access to explore further.

Testing – Rebecca Raymond … "We had no call-no shows in June, but 3 testers in July. Our next session is August 10 at the Carrollton library. October's tests (50% off) will be booked in early August - hopefully we'll have at least 2 sessions!"

Calendar – Sara Hawkins … "Calendar is doing great. I need to update the July online calendar. Hopefully tonight."

Programs - Gunny Hartman (acting) … Bill Rock will be talking about the BEST Robotics program, which encourages high school students to think about engineering and problem solving through a sports-like competition.

Social Media/Facebook – Collene Goldman … "Reach: 4,848 (the number of people who saw any of our posts at least once). Engagement: 513 (the number of times people engaged with our posts through reactions, comments, shares and clicks). Followers: 930 (49% Men followers; 51% Women followers" (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.

Regional Gathering - Roger Durham … The following roles have been filled: Speaker seeker, hospitality, scheduling, treasurer, registrar, and beer & wine. Two speakers have been secured and there are some potentials already identified. Some speakers have already been lined up and there are members signed up for hospitality and meals. A budget is in the works. Roger needs a copy of the contract. Hotel/location is same as last year, Holiday Inn Express & Suites North Dallas at Preston (6055 Lyndon B Johnson Fwy, Dallas, TX 75240). Ken Roberts mentioned Bill Dutton of Dallas Games, who may be a RG resource. RG Helpers would be welcome and should contact Roger.

2. Actions

Juan Faura made a motion to appoint Roger Durham as the Regional Gathering chair, which was seconded by Ken Roberts.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55PM after a motion was made by Chris Cree, which was seconded by Juan Faura, 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

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

~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,
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NTM Ombudsman
Roger Durham
durhamrog@gmail.com
214.349.4521

Calendar Chair
Sara Hawkins
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Program Chair—Open; Gunny Hartman, Acting

RG Chair
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durhamrog@gmail.com

Publicity Coordinator—Open

Volunteers Coordinator—Open

M-Aura Editor
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Marketing Chair — Open

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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