

Region 1 Roundup

News from National

Reiterating my lead from last month: The new database system at the national office was implemented in November. In early December, many members realized they were still having trouble logging in, when they tried to access nominating petitions for the upcoming AMC election. If you're an infrequent user of the American Mensa web site, please try to log in soon: even if you're not a candidate, you'll want to access the site to vote in this year's election. If you're still having trouble, contact the national office to request assistance. They can be reached at 817-607-0060 or webservices@americanmensa.org.

By the time you read this, the AMC (national board of directors) meeting will have been held in early December in New Orleans, Louisiana, and the mini-minutes should already be available. One of the items on the agenda was a proposed dues increase. Read the mini-minutes to see what your AMC voted.

Elections are upon us. You may remember that the most recent round of bylaws changes discontinued the Nominating Committee process, so that all would-be candidates for the AMC must qualify via petition. Petitions are due by January 31st (and candidates for office must have renewed their membership by that same date). If you want to run for national office, or if you want to sign a petition for someone else, or both, check out:

<https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/elections/2017-board-election>. And this is as good a time as any to remind you to renew your membership as soon as possible. You'll have to have renewed by the end of March if you want to vote in this year's election.

On a personal election note, I've very much enjoyed my tenure as your Regional Vice Chairman, but now I find I want

to do more on a national level. Toward that end, I am now running for AMC Secretary, and hope you'll consider voting for me in April. Several other national officers are also running for election to different posts. For the latest announcements and discussions, do check out the various Facebook groups.

News from Around the Region:

Connecticut & Western Massachusetts Mensa's George Waller is taking over as the new editor of their newsletter, Media. And the December issue has a moving memorial/obituary for long-time member Gail Trowbridge.

In New Hampshire Mensa, Webmaster Bill Alleman is stepping down, and Kevin Champagne is taking over. Instead of a T-shirt for their RG, the group is considering creating a scarf.

Southern Connecticut Mensa's recent monthly dinner meeting was host to a lecture with a topic of local interest: Professor Eric D. Lehman talking about his latest book, Homegrown Terror: Benedict Arnold and the Burning of New London.

Greater New York Mensa recently hosted an evening at Lincoln Center, attending a classical concert including works by Bach. In December, the group held no fewer than four distinct holiday parties (all around the wide-spread chapter).

Mid-Hudson Mensa reports the results of their recent election: their new ExComm (consisting of Andi Bartczak, William Hughes, Julie Klinge, David Schwartz, and Stephanie Walker) takes office January 1st. Bartczak is also responsible for writing a "Snappy Science Snippets" column in their newsletter, Mid-Mensan.

Central New York Mensa is holding an unopposed election, with Paul Baxter running for President, David Powell for Vice President, and Robert Mussi for Treasurer.

Several groups host monthly book discussion groups, and several participate in monthly (or more often) pub trivia nights. If your group doesn't, perhaps you'll want to organize such an event.

Just a reminder.. Upcoming Region 1 events:

New Hampshire RG February 17-19, 2017 - Around the World (and back to the End of the Universe). Best Western Hotel and Suites, Portsmouth, NH. For information: <http://www.nh.us.mensa.org/rg2017.shtm>

Did you know...?

In addition to your local newsletter (which contains this column), a lot of regular Mensa conversations take place in our various online fora, mainly Facebook. If you're not already participating, search for your local group's name or for Mensa Region 1 to join in.

This month's question for you...

Before you joined Mensa, what did you expect of the group? And has it met your expectations?

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Remember, there are several Mensa related groups on Facebook, including American Mensa, Mensa Region 1, and New Hampshire Mensa. Join up and have another way to keep in touch with what's happening.

