

Region 1 Roundup
by Ian Randal Strock
Region 1 RVC
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How can it already be a month into the year? Wasn't it New Year's just a few days ago? I've been busy, but not much of it has been Mensa-related. Well, other than a New Year's Eve party at a local Mensan's apartment, and then a New Year's Day party here with a bunch of Mensans, and then two days with several of in Brooklyn hosting an Australian Mensan through SIGHT, and then a small gathering of Mensans out of town, and trivia with my local group, and then I was the monthly speaker for my local group, and then I wrapped up the month with poker night at another Mensan's home. Hmm, I guess Mensa was a big part of my January. It just seemed Mensa-lite because of what's coming up.

Tomorrow is the AMC Finance Committee's annual budget meeting (in which I participate), where we set the budget which the AMC will consider at our March meeting (at the RG in Las Vegas; feel free to join us!). I don't expect any major changes from the current year's budget, but I'll give a more in-depth report after numbers are finalized.

In a fortnight is New Hampshire Mensa's Regional Gathering (and I have absolutely no idea how it got to be 30 years old!), so I can't really urge you to join me there (since you'll be reading this after it). But I had a preview of the program book, and it looks like a packed, wonderful weekend is awaiting those of us willing to trek up to (southern) New Hampshire.

I'm also thrilled to tell you about new activities around the Region:

* The first weekend in April, Southern Connecticut Mensa is hosting their first mini-RG in Norwalk. A weekend of games, puzzles, escape rooming, eating, drinking, talking, and most importantly, Mensans!

* On May 2, Mid Hudson Mensa will be hosting their third Games Day in Fishkill, New York. They're hoping to grow these into a new RG at some point, and I urge you all to help them out.

They both would love your support and presence to help make the events even better.

Beyond those two, Connecticut & Western Massachusetts Mensa is seriously working on reviving their own RG. And of course, there are the current long-lived gatherings in the Region.

What should all of this mean to you? It means many, many opportunities to get the most out of your Mensa membership. If you haven't been to an in-person event, we're all waiting to meet you. And if you have, you already know why you want to come back. Just remember that, as a member of Mensa, you're welcome in every local group, so check out not only your own calendar (in this issue), but the newsletters and calendars of other local groups. Their newsletters (and calendars) are available to you on the Mensa web site (from the main us.mensa.org web site, pull down the "Read" tab and click on "Local Group newsletters"). And I urge you to share

your events with those surrounding groups' calendar editors. Keep up to date with the latest goings on in the region in Region 1's Facebook group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/188180494045/>

Upcoming Region 1 Regional Gatherings:

Southern Connecticut Mensa's Escape to Norwalk Mini RG: (April 3–4) in Norwalk, Connecticut. For more info, see <https://sctmensa.wixsite.com/sctmensa>

Mid Hudson Mensa's Games Days: (May 2) in Fishkill, New York. For more info, contact Bill Hughes at theballoonmanbill@gmail.com.

Boston Mensa's Cape Cod Mini-RG: (May 8–10) in Dennis Port, Massachusetts. For more info, see <https://cape.bostonmensa.org/>.

Maine Mensa's 5th Annual Fun & Games Mini-RG: (May 29–31) in Portland, Maine. For more info, see <https://mainemensawordpress.com/>

Mensa of Northeastern New York's RechaRGe: (September 4–7) in Albany, New York. More info later in the year.

Boston Mensa's Wicked Good RG: (October 23–25) in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. More info later in the year.

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Glossary:

AMC: American Mensa Committee, the national board of directors

RVC: Regional Vice Chairman, a member of the AMC with responsibility for a specific region of American Mensa

Region 1: The northeast region of American Mensa, comprising New England, Northern New Jersey, and most of New York

AG: American Mensa's once-a-year five-day Annual Gathering, featuring the Annual Business Meeting, more than a hundred speakers, and more than a thousand Mensans.

RG: Regional Gathering: a weekend-long get-together hosted by a local group featuring speakers, games, events, and more with 100–400 of your closest friends you haven't met yet.

ExComm: Executive Committee, in some groups known as Board of Directors: the members who have volunteered and been elected to take care of the day-to-day business of operation of a local group. The local group version of the AMC.

LocSec: Local Secretary, aka president: the elected leader of a local group (the name comes from our British roots)

SIGHT: the Service of Information, Guidance and Hospitality to Travelers
(<https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sight/>)

YM: Young Mensan: teenaged members and those younger

YAM: Young Adult Mensan: members in their 20s and 30s