April - May - June 2020

Greater Phoenix Mensa's Official Newsletter

GPM Quarterly

Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary (LocSec)
Richard Morris locsec@phoenixmensa.org
Assistant LocSec
Lynn Floyd asstlocsec@phoenixmensa.org
Treasurer
Marni Landry treasurer@phoenixmensa.org
Recording Secretary
David Pivin recsec@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 1
David Sebesta memberatlg1@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 2
John Perez memberatlg2@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 3
Jim Delton memberatlg3@phoenixmensa.org
Parliamentarian
Chris Ingle parliamentarian@phoenixmensa.org
Newsletter Editor
David Pivin editor@phoenixmensa.org
All ExCom
All the Above excom@phoenixmensa.org

Appointed Chairs and Officers

eUpdate Coordinator
David Pivin info@phoenixmensa.org
Gifted Youth
Julie Gunnigle giftedyouth@phoenixmensa.org
GPM Speaker Forum
Jim Delton forum@phoenixmensa.org
Marketing/Communications
Richard Morris marketing@phoenixmensa.org
Mensa World Connect
Pamela Miller WorldConnect@phoenixmensa.org
Ombudsman
OPEN(contact LocSec) ombudsman@phoenixmensa.org
Regional Gathering 2020
David Sebesta rg2020chair@phoenixmensa.org
Scholarships
Lynn Floyd scholarships@phoenixmensa.org
Social Media
Jim Delton memberatlg3@phoenixmensa.org
SIGHT
Joanne Landfair SIGHT@phoenixmensa.org
Proctor Coordinator
Al Krever testing@phoenixmensa.org
Webmaster
David Pivin webmaster@phoenixmensa.org

Area Coordinators

Prescott (Minds in the Pines)
David Eagle prescottmensa@phoenixmensa.org
Yuma
OPEN yumamensa@phoenixmensa.org
Flagstaff
Ted Dwyer flagstaffmensa@phoenixmensa.org

AML Regional Officers

National Events Youth Program Coordinator
Lisa Webster youthevents@us.mensa.org
Regional Vice-Chairman, Region 9
Alton Hitchcock rvc9@us.mensa.org

Activity Coordinators

Ahwatukee M Happy Hour (Second Tuesday)
Mike Riordan phxlaw@mac.com
Corbin Casino Lunch (First Saturday)
Mike Johnson mensamike@gmail.com
Dine Out Group (D.O.G.) (Third Saturday)
Judy Herrmann MensaDinner@gmail.com
Original Games Night! (Fourth Saturday)
Chris Ingle christopher.ingle@yahoo.com
The Idea Exchange (First Thursday)
Mike Johnson mensamike@gmail.com
Tuesday on Thursdays? (Thursdays)
Gary & Gail Maycroft g2@g2team.com
West Side Lunch (First Thursday)
Jean Barton bartrabbit@aol.com
Whine and Dine Happy Hour (Wednesdays)
Mike Johnson mensamike@gmail.com

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

GenX Ms SIG
Tracey Guice rvc8@us.mensa.org
GeneSIG (a national SIG - Genealogy)
Janice Sellers janicemsj@gmail.com
HamSIG (a national SIG - Ham Radio)
James Stiles james.stiles.us@member.mensa.org
Mensa Space Exploration & Education SIG
Rev. Bonnie Ann Burgard spacesig@phoenixmensa.org
Millennial SIG
Richard Poole millennialsig@phoenixmensa.org
Music SIG & Video Views
Eileen Grant musicsig@phoenixmensa.org
Oenophile SIG
Richard Poole oenophilesig@phoenixmensa.org
Science and Technology SIG
Tom Albrigo, Marni Landry scitechsig@phoenixmensa.org

Treasurer's Report YTD as of 31 Mar 2020

Income	19,055.21
Expenses	19,177.06
CU GPM General Account	16,053.59
CU GPM Savings	55.00
Total	$16,108.59

GPM ExCom Minutes

Submitted by David Pivin, Recording Secretary

The ExCom meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at the Hilton Garden Inn Midtown, 4000 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, at 2 pm

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED AND INVITED TO ATTEND

January 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM. Present were LocSec Richard Morris; AsstLocSec Lynn Floyd; Treasurer Marni Landry; Recording Secretary David Pivin; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Members at Large Jim Delton, David Sebesta, John Perez; Parliamentarian Chris Ingle; Members Zoe's Kids +1; Guests Pete Costantino and Ericka Mingers.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting 8 December 2019 - Motion to Approve by David Sebesta, Lynn Floyd seconded. Motion passed at 2:05.

Old Business
• Executive Session delayed to end of New Business - ExCom
RG Accounting - All - Feeling was that we "took a bath" but totals provided that show that this year compared to last year was less than $50 difference.
- Fixing problems - All - We could charge more and/or get more people to reduce the expenditure. Start early and increase marketing. DaveS will be meeting with the hotel this month to set this year's costs. Target 1 May RG site online and ready for registration.

	2020	2019
Events RG Bank Fees	$173.98	117.18
Events RG Banquet	$5,097.24	4925.00
Events RG Hospitality	$1,477.28	1275.59
Events RG Hotel	$5,363.97	4678.04
Events RG Other	$306.65	337.83
Events RG Printing	$301.13	463.68
Event RG Supplies	$0.00	879.89
Total RG Expense	$12720.25	12677.21
Income RG	$6,543.00	9737.14
47 transactions		

• AAGT Meeting - Julie Gunnigle - Unable to attend today. Stated in phone call to Richard she is getting a volunteer to assist with the GYP.
- Conference table materials - Marni Landry - Brought a box of materials she ordered and gave to Richard Morris who will order more if needed.

New Business
• Ombudsman Resignation - All - Julie Garner moved to Bisbee, changing to Tucson area. Richard asked for volunteer to replace her as Ombudsman. Request will go out to the membership by Editor.
• PO Box Account Information & Payment - Marni Landry - Bill for renewal paid on Dec 10 by check. They also sent renewal to Jen Hallden email. Check wasn't cashed, Marni paid online. Decided not to stop payment. Re-established USPO online access under Greater Phoenix name.
• Nominating Committee volunteer - Richard Morris - Judi Herrmann has volunteered. Current members should contact her to state their desires for the upcoming year.
• Academic Decathlon - Dave Pivin, All - Howard Asaki asked for volunteers to help with the program. Requests to be published in eUpdate and MAAM.
• Scholarship Essays - Lynn Floyd - Essays won't be available until Jan 14 due to IT problems, deadline for completion moved to mid March.
• Executive Session - ExCom only
- Letter, Order - Chris, Richard - Course of action to define acceptable member conduct in registration form and RG site.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - Checking Balance $14,516.67, Savings Balance $55.00, Total Cash Balance $14,571.67
• MAAM Editor - GPM Quarterly shipped.
• ISComm - Will publish all 2019 RG photos this coming week.
• Members@Large - Jim Delton - PHXM working well.
• LocSec - Idea to have a Kids' ExCom to be discussed with Julie Gunnigle.
• All Others - NTR

Guest Questions or Comments
• Lyn Stinnett - Need to get RG 2020 into Bulletin.
• Pete Costantino - How would LocSec's idea for Kids' ExCom work?

Next Meeting
9 February, 2 PM at Hilton Garden Inn

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by David Sebesta, John Perez seconded. Motion passed at 2:52.

~

November 11, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM. Present were LocSec Richard Morris; AsstLocSec Lynn Floyd; Treasurer Marni Landry; Recording Secretary David Pivin; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Proctor Coordinator Al Krever; Members at Large Jim Delton, David Sebesta, John Perez; Parliamentarian Chris Ingle; Members Lyn Stinnett, Zoe's Kids +1; Guests Pete Costantino, Judy and Ericka Mingers.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 12 January 2020 - Motion to Approve by John Perez. David Sebesta seconded. Motion passed at 2:01.

Old Business
• MVP Resurrection - Richard Morris - seems to be going OK. We have gotten 4 requests to get the voucher. Same request went to AAGT although won't know if it resulted in leads.
• AAGT post mortem - Marni Landry - Conference was 6-700 attendees. Passed out yellow info cards that Richard provided. Cards and Mensa promo materials were stuffed into goodie bags. Richard observed a small uptick in our web site that may be correlated to the cards. Marni recommended that we do this again next year.

New Business
• Member Appreciation Day - Do we have one this spring? Yes. Jim Delton and Pete Costantino volunteered to Co-Chair, Chris Ingle and Al Krever will help. Some suggestions of a possible location around the valley, committee will research. Timing? March or April.
• RG Registration Software - Dave Pivin - WuFoo is raising their pricing from $295 to $349. Need to switch. Evaluated JotForm. It is capable of replacing WuFoo at substantial savings. We could possibly use the lowest tier of FREE that supports up to 10 payment transactions/month. I will be establishing a form using it at the free tier as soon as we have a complete registration form. Dave Sebesta is waiting for pricing from Hotel and expects a proposal by the next ExCom where we will kick off RG meeting.
• Scholarships - Lynn - Scholarship online system is to complex and confusing and has reverted to manual scoring. Judging deadline moved to Mar 15. 318 essays received. 269 made it through to the next round. Was well promoted. Judging continues. Richard requested Lynn to provide a précis of the process and the issues that were problematic.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - Marni Landry - finally got back the USPS check that was "lost." Checking Balance $115,431.24, Savings Balance $55.00, Total Cash Balance $15,486.24
• Proctor Coordinator - Al Krever - Tests for Feb Mar and April scheduled.
• Members@Large - Jim Delton - obtained permission to get the report he had been looking for regarding the members list, although has not been able to get NDA copy yet. Not happy with his ability to get speakers. Should we open up to Political presenters?

Next Meeting
8 March 2020, 2 PM at Hilton Garden Inn

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by John Perez, David Sebesta seconded. Motion passed at 3:06

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March 8, 2020

(Minutes approval is pending April 12, 2020 ExCom meeting)The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM. Present were LocSec Richard Morris; AsstLocSec Lynn Floyd; Treasurer Marni Landry; Recording Secretary David Pivin; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Proctor Coordinator Al Krever; Members at Large Jim Delton, David Sebesta (absent excused), John Perez; Parliamentarian Chris Ingle (absent excused); Members Lyn Stinnett, David Coast; Guest Pete Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 9 February 2020 - Changes by Jim Delton. Motion to Approve by Jim Delton, John Perez seconded. Motion passed at 2:03.

Old Business
• Regional Gathering - David S., Not available.
- Pricing
- Discount Schedule
- Hotel contract To RVC?
• Member Appreciation Day - Jim, Pete, All - Location Margaret Hance Park. Date available in only two weeks. Concern over Corona Virus and short notice. Motion to cancel or postpone by Jim Delton. Seconded by John Perez. Concern over trend of attendance. Motion Carried 2:07.
• Owner's Manual rewrite - Lynn, All - Done by May 1. Wants to make smaller, booklet size.
MVP Resurrection - Richard - Had some more requests for codes. Promo ends this month.

New Business
• Whither GYP? - Julie G. - Not present.
• Nominations for incoming ExCom - All - Please contact Judy Herrmann to give your preference for the coming term.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - Report being prepared to NO due April 30. Checking Balance $16,053.59, Savings Balance $55.00, Total Cash Balance.
• ISComm - Switching to JotForm for RG registration at lower cost.
• Assistant LocSec - Scholarships to be finished this week. Glitches with system bypassed by not using the online system. Roughly the same number met final criteria as last year although there were many more rejected this time for not following the rules, like having their name appear in the essay.
• LocSec - ExCom members, be sure to tell Judy Herrmann your intentions for the next term.
• All others - NTR

Questions or Comments by Members or Guests
• Lynn Stinnett - RG in Bulletin? Yes, Dave Sebesta needs to complete the contract.

Next Meeting
12 April, 2020, 2 PM at Hilton Garden Inn

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by John Perez. Lynn Floyd seconded. Motion passed at 2:27 PM.

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From RIchard Morris, GPM LocSec:

'Mensa in the time of Coronavirus

Or

From the LocSec as he done writed it'

Forgive me if this seems a particularly subjective essay. It seems that way because it is. It's the reflections of a Mensa member who has spent the better part of the last decade immersed right up to his lower lip in the inner workings of Greater Phoenix Mensa. During that time I've done a bunch of stuff. I've been on several committees, I've been RG programs Chair, RG co-chair and chair a number of times. I've been Recording Secretary, Assistant LocSec, LocSec several times, and Parliamentarian as many times.

It's nearly true that in every case I did those gigs voluntarily. I say 'nearly true' because the first time I became LocSec was when I'd been elected Assistant LocSec and the elected LocSec decided she'd had enough. It was sort of a 'discover checkmate' election to the office. But largely, my participation was voluntary.

During that time I've watched Mensa move onto the same glide path to extinction all the other civic and quasi-civic organizations seem to be following. GPM may appear to be an exception since our membership has remained more or less stable, but that's just appearance. Our census stays up because Mensa members from elsewhere are moving here as fast as members drop out or move away.

Since I find considerable value in Mensa I've mused about this decline and have reached some conclusions.

The first conclusion addresses the fact that approximately 89% of Mensans never participate in any Mensa event. Which on its face is stunning. The vast majority of us do nothing but pay dues and maybe read the Bulletin. On reflection, I think that's okay. To paraphrase Yogi, if people don't go to Mensa events you can't stop 'em. Local Groups get 82¢ per member per month out of our annual dues. So the 11% of us who do Mensa stuff have that much more money to do the Mensa stuff we want to do.

The second conclusion has to do with the question of why more members don't do Mensa stuff. My conclusion is that it doesn't matter why. We are each independent moral actors. We get to choose how we order our lives. I choose to have Mensa activities in mine. Others may choose differently.

The third conclusion answers (for me) a very basic question: What is Mensa, anyway? We can set aside the glittering platitudes offered as the goals of Mensa. They are undefined, undefinable, and therefore unattainable. But what is it? For me, it's a do-it-yourself buffet offering food for my mind and spirit. The operative phrase is 'do-it-yourself.' But for me, when I've done it myself, others have added yeast to my contribution so I've gotten more out than I put in.

At the end of this term on July 1, I'm going to step back from direct participation in GPM's ExCom except in an advisory capacity, if I'm asked, that is. My wish for you reflects my belief stated above. I hope you will continue to take from Mensa what you want with the understanding that if you don't put anything in you'll probably not get very much out. The choice is yours. The enforced seclusion we face might be a good time to think on what that is.

Thank you for allowing me to take from Mensa all the value I've been able to find. Similar value is there for you if you want it.

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Mensa Acronyms & Calendar

AG: Annual Gathering (convention)
AMC: American Mensa Committee (Nationally elected/appointed Officers)
AML: AmericanMensa,Ltd. (National Office Employees)
ASIE: Action Still In Effect (Existing AMC or GPM policy)
ExCom: Executive Committee GPM Greater Phoenix Mensa
LDW: Leadership Development Workshop
LocSec: Local Secretary/President
M/Ms: Mensan/Mensans
MERF: Mensa Education & Research Foundation
MIL: Mensa International, Ltd.
NO: NationalOffice
RG: Regional Gathering
RVC: RegionalViceChair
SIG: Special Interest Group
SIGHT: Service of Information, Guidance and Hospitality to Travelers

Calendar Event Codes

MO: Mensans, guests and prospects only.
ME/P: GPM Event, public welcome.
PE/M: Public event, Mensans welcome.
GYP: Event hosted by our **Gifted Youth Program** to support our youth members, families and guests.

SPECIAL NOTE: At the time of this publication, all GPM Calendar events have been suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions. This is expected to be lifted in the near future, but the events scheduled here are the days and times for the regular schedule. Contact event host for details on resumption of the schedule.

IMPORTANT NOTE: As of the time the calendar was printed, the following information was current. For more current information and updates, please go to the website:

http://www.phoenix.us.mensa.org/

Weekly Event Details

- ME/P - Whine and Dine Happy Hour, Wednesdays 5 - 7 pm - Location varies, 1st Wed. - Desert Jade Kitchen, 3215 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, 2nd & 4th - Wildflower Bread Company, 4290 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix (602) 850-8585, no alcohol, 3rd - Manuel's Mexican Restaurant & Cantina 2820 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85016, 3rd - Manuel's Mexican Restaurant & Cantina 2820 E Indian School Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85016, 5th - Aunt Chilada's 602-703-9324, 7330 N. Dreamy Draw Dr, Phoenix 85020, Contact Mike Johnson 602-703-9324
- MO - Tuesday on Thursdays! - Thursdays 5 - 6:30 pm - Ruby Tuesdays, 27 S McClintock Dr,#15, Tempe. Gary & Gail 602-790-8626

Monthly Event Details

2nd Sunday
- MO - Executive Committee (ExCom), 2 - 3 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn Midtown, 4000 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. ***MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!***

2nd Tuesday
- ME/P - Ahwatukee M Happy Hour, 5:30 - 7:30 pm at Keegan's Grill, 4723 E. Ray Road, Phoenix. Michael Riordan 480-335-9890 or PHXRiordan@gmail.com

1st Thursday
- ME/P - Westside Lunch Group, 1 - 3 pm at Little Bite of Italy, 15456 N. 99th Ave (at Greenway), Sun City. Contact Jean Barton 623-546-3180 or Bartrabbit@aol.com
- ME/P - The Idea Exchange, 6:30 - 8:30 pm at Denny's, 3315 N. Scottsdale, Rd Scottsdale. Contact Mike Johnson at mensamike@gmail.com or 602-703-9324.

4th Friday
- ME/P - Mensa Forum, 7 - 8:45 pm Topics Vary. Paradise Valley Town Hall, 6401 E Lincoln Dr, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253. Contact Forum Coordinator, Jim Delton, jimntempe@yahoo.com for info.
- ME/P - Post Forum Debriefing, 9 - 10 pm - Humble Pie Pizza, 6149 N Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85250. Contact Forum Coordinator (above) for info.
- PE/M - Contradance, 7:30 - 10:30 pm at Irish Cultural Center, 1106 N Central Ave, Phoenix. Contact Peter B. 323-788-4883 or 1bergonzi1@gmail.com

1st Saturday
- ME/P - Casino Lunch, 12 - 3 pm - This alternates the location each month. About $18. Call 602-703-9324 or MensaMike@gmail.com

2nd Saturday
- PE/M - Contradance, 7:30 - 10:30 pm at Kenilworth School, 1210 N 5th Ave, Phoenix. Contact Peter B. 323-788-4883 or 1bergonzi1@gmail.com (off in July)

3rd Saturday
- ME/P - DINE OUT GROUP (D.O.G.) - 2:00 - 4:00 PM Hey you! Get out of the house and make new friends! Monthly meals at various locatons. Joint meeting with Intertel. RSVP by Wednesday before to Judy Herrmann at MensaDinner@gmail.com.

4th Saturday
- MO - 6:00 to 11:00 PM - Original Games Night! Owl is $2.00 per person. SO, WBC. New host, Chris Ingle may be contacted at christopher.ingle@yahoo.com or by cell at 520-240-9810 for detailed directions to location near Baseline Rd and Loop-101 in Tempe.

Greater Phoenix MENSA

Greater Phoenix Mensa publishes a quarterly newsletter, the **GPM Quarterly**, which contains the basic informaiton required by GPM Bylaws and the American Mensa Editors Handbook. The GPM Quarterly is available as part of membership in Mensa at no cost to the member.

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P.O. Box 60456
Phoenix, AZ 85082-0456

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P.O. Box 60456
Phoenix, AZ 85082-0456

Mensa requires the official newsletter to publish a calendar listing, election information, referenda and bylaws proposals, Treasurer's Reports, and Ombudsman's official comments and findings.

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