January - February - March 2021

Greater Phoenix Mensa's Official Newsletter

GPM Quarterly

Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary (LocSec)	
David Sebesta	locsec@phoenixmensa.org
Assistant LocSec	
Marni Landry	asstlocsec@phoenixmensa.org
Treasurer	
Chris Ingle	treasurer@phoenixmensa.org
Recording Secretary	
David Pivin	recsec@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 1	
John Perez	memberatlg1@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 2	
Jim Delton	memberatlg2@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 3	
OPEN	memberatlg3@phoenixmensa.org
Parliamentarian	
Richard Morris	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	
OPEN	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	ombudsman@phoenixmensa.org
Regional Gathering 2021	
David Sebesta	rg2019chair@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	
Dave 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 Coordinator (Interim), Region 9	
Rachel Kibler	rachelregion9@gmail.com

Activity Coordinators

Ahwatukee M Happy Hour (Second Tuesday)	
Mike Riordan	phxlaw@mac.com
Corbin Casino Lunch (First Saturday)	
Mike Johnson	mensamike@gmail.com
Original Games Night! (Fourth Saturday)	
Chris Ingle	christopher.ingle@yahoo.com
The Idea Exchange (First Thursday)	
Mike Johnson	mensamike@gmail.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

COVID-19 UPDATE

Until further notice, all upcoming GPM Calendar events have been canceled or postponed in accordance with government policies. Please follow social distancing guidelines. If you have any questions, contact the event host listed in the calendar. ExCom meetings are being held using Zoom. All members are welcome to join these virtual meetings. Details may be found in the GPM Calendar. **Two event hosts have scheduled weekly events using Zoom.** Details on p 3.

Treasurer's Report YTD as of 30 December 2020

Income	6,697.64
Expenses	2,939.51
CU GPM General Account	20,115.21
CU GPM Savings	55.00
Total	$20,170.21

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, or by Zoom Teleconference at 2 PM.

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED AND INVITED TO ATTEND

October 11, 2020
The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present online were LocSec David Sebesta; AsstLocSec Marni Landry; Treasurer Chris Ingle; Recording Secretary David Pivin; Parliamentarian Richard Morris; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Members at Large Jim Delton and John Perez; Members Lyn Stinnett and Zoe's Kids.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 13 Sept 2020 - Motion to Approve by Richard Morris, seconded by Marni Landry, approved at 2:03 PM. Link to this Zoom meeting was not correct but everyone got on immediately. Link in the eUpdate was incorrect.

Old Business
• Thanksgiving Get-Together - Lyn Stinnett said she would host. Will have COVID-19 prep for about 50. David Pivin will formalize the event in the calendar and website. RSVPs to go to Lyn. Pete volunteered for a turkey and supplies provided by GPM. Time set from 2 until 6 PM. Directions on parking to be included. Use Lyn's mobile phone as contact. Rules of conduct to be added.
• Spring Member Appreciation Dinner - Picnic during the day, February to March..
• Reopening In-Person Events - Hosts have final discretion. Suggestions in eUpdate
• GPM RG Refunds - Done

New Business
• Expecting scholarships to be funded. $600 Moved to fund by Richard Morris, seconded by Chris Ingle. Passed.

Officer Reports
Treasurer - Problems with connection to accounts. LocSec will schedule a meeting soon among Chris Ingle, David Sebesta and Dave Pivin.
MAAM Editor - GPM Quarterly is in the mail. Uploaded copy done on October 1.
Members@Large - Jim Delton, at last idea exchange someone did not want to join with video. Created new rule to encourage active interaction. Dave Pivin to update the calendar items.
All others - NTR

Next Meeting
8 Nov 2020, 2 PM Zoom Teleconference.

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by John Perez, Marni Landry seconded. Motion passed at 2:44.

~

November 8, 2020
The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present online were LocSec David Sebesta; AsstLocSec Marni Landry; Treasurer Chris Ingle; Recording Secretary David Pivin; Parliamentarian Richard Morris; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Members at Large Jim Delton and John Perez; Member Lyn Stinnett; Guest Peter Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 11 October 2020 - Motion to Approve by Richard Morris. Marni Landry seconded. Motion passed at 2:01.

Old Business
• Treasurer Report Access. Able to login to CU account. Working on editing the spreadsheet. Update completed by the end of meeting.
• Thanksgiving Celebration - little interest shown so far. COVID-19 getting worse. Motion to cancel by Richard Morris, second by John Perez, approved at 2:07.
• No Gifted youth Coordinator candidate. Julie lost her election, possibly she may be interested?

New Business
• Mensa Admission Testing and Private Testing - Dave Pivin Discussed this as our main method of testing considering COVID-19 restrictions and no scheduled tests to at least April. Will be put on our How to Join page and announced in the Test eList..Dave Sebesta noted GMAT is no longer accepted.

Officer Reports
Treasurer - Chris Ingle was able to make all account online connections and updated the Treasurer spreadsheet: Total funds $20,170.21, Checking $20,115.21, Savings $55.00.
Assistant LocSec - What's going on with Mensa FB? PC speech code is impacting groups. Firehouse off of Mensa Connect. Firehouse and Hospitality changed to SIGs
All others - ntr

Comments by Members or Guests
Pete Costantino - Feeling better after his pacemaker.

Next Meeting
13 December 2020, 2 PM as Zoom Teleconference

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by John Perez. Richard Morris seconded. Motion passed a 2:32.

~

December 13, 2020
The meeting was called to order at 2:06 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present online were LocSec David Sebesta; AsstLocSec Marni Landry; Recording Secretary David Pivin; Parliamentarian Richard Morris; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Members at Large Jim Delton and John Perez; Guest Peter Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 8 November 2020 - Motion to Approve by Jim Delton. John Perez seconded. Motion passed at 2:07.

Old Business
• Private Testing Update - Dave Pivin - Added Mensa Private Testing info to How to Join Page, including a detailed walk-through of the process to purchase a Private Test. Test is $99 and previously obtained paid vouchers may be applied by contacting Member services.
• GYC Update - Dave Sebesta - Nothing back from Julie. There will be a regional coordinator may help.
• Treasury Report - Chris Ingle not present, however, the current state of balance spreadsheet included below.

New Business
• Test Score Reporting Process Change - David Sebesta - No raw scores to be given to individuals. Also they announced there is a new Minimum Bylaws document being published.
• Additional Virtual Opportunities - Possible ideas, no interest from ExCom members.
– Escape Room
– Trivia Night
– Virtual Game Night

Officer Reports
Treasurer - From live Treasurer Spreadsheet: Total funds $20,170.21 Checking $20,115.21, Savings $55.00.
All Others - ntr

Comments by Members or Guests
Pete Costantino - They should have made the cost of the Private Testing $98 to agree with 98th percentile Mensa requirement.

Next Meeting
10 January 2021, 2 PM via Zoom Teleconference

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by Richard Morris. John Perez seconded. Motion passed at 2:30.

~

GPM Virtual Meetings
This has been a challenging year for all of us. When the first restrictions on gatherings and restaurants began in mid-March, the ExCom began meeting remotely using Zoom and held our first meeting in April. We began with the planning for the 2020 RG at that meeting, only to find out later that things would not improve and we would have to postpone the RG until 2021.

We have two regular weekly events that would normally be in-person, but have transitioned to Zoom for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. This might be a good time to try and join one of these meetings. They are attended well by many GPMers you already know. Full details on how to join are available on our web site:

http://phoenix.us.mensa.org/Info/index.html

Sundays at 6:00 PM
VIRTUAL IDEA EXCHANGE discussion group. You may propose anything of interest to you. We discuss the topic(s) of most interest. A book, movie, news item, TV report, idea - ANY TOPIC of your choice. Join Zoom Meeting (visit the detailed link above for details) Pete Costantino, pete@usa1944.com, will run this meeting. Audio and Video required for participation. Contact: Jim Delton, jimntempe@yahoo.com. Feel free to email Pete (cc Jim) with your proposed topics.

Saturdays at 4:00 PM
MENSA / INTERTEL VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR - Even introverts get tired of being by themselves after a while! Are you getting tired of only talking to your pets? Connect virtually with other introverts on Zoom! (visit the detailed link above for details) Use the Zoom app, or use Zoom in your browser, or use the audio on your smartphone. Just follow the links on "Join Zoom Meeting". Audio and Video required for participation. BYOB - Bring Your Own Beverage, Owl - $ Contributions are in order, RSVP - Reservations should be made, contact Judy Herrmann, MensaDinner@gmail.com.

What Next?
As we begin 2021 we expect that we will be continuing Zoom ExCom meetings for at least the next quarter. We will be giving two weeks notice of the resumption of in-person meetings.



Screenshot from Zoom ExCom



Regional Coordinator Letter – January 2021
Happy New Year, Mensans in Region 9! Welcome to 2021, and may this year be better than 2020. The last year brought us a realization that we don't need to be in person to build community, for which I am thankful. However, I'm excited about the prospect of being together again when we can be. I've built friendships with people across the country and been able to spend time with several groups in Region 9. I hope we have a mix of virtual and in-person events as things begin to open again. In the next few months, I will also be meeting with local groups individually to talk about Mensa and what you want to see. I hope you'll join me when it's your local group's turn!

On a national level, we had our quarterly board meeting on December 12th. We had a productive session, revising some statements that clarify the charges of committees, debating a budget cap proposal, and generally trying to work more collegially together. LaRae Bakerink (our Chair) asked us to be more respectful of each other and our membership. Her opening statement was thoughtful and appropriately chiding of how we've been treating each other. Taz Criss (our Treasurer) walked us through the budget process and prepped us for understanding the consideration that goes into it before our vote in March. Ian Randal Strock (RVC 1) pointed out the twin towns program that Bill Zigo (our national SIGHT coordinator) has set up, and I hope some of you will look into it.

We are also in our election cycle for the 2021-2023 American Mensa board and International Mensa board. If you are interested in running for regional, national, or international office, reach out! If you want to set yourself up for running in the next cycle, I recommend getting involved at a local level and volunteering for a national committee.

The first step for running for the American Mensa board is getting signatures to be able to appear on the ballot. You can view candidate petitions here: **https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/elections/candidate-petitions/**. You are eligible to sign for national offices and for RVC 9. Note that this is NOT a vote, it is merely a signature to let the person appear on the ballot.

Happy New Year, and I hope this year brings you joy, health, and mental stimulation!

Rachel Kibler
Region 9 Coordinator

Saturday, January 9, 2021
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM - MO - ZOOM CHAT WITH RACHEL KIBLER, RVC9 CANDIDATE - Come chat with the Regional Coordinator for our region, Rachel Kibler! She wants to hear from members about what you like, what you don't like, and what you want to see in Mensa. **https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83430137895?pwd=cG5YMWVUTStYOXhjdjdEV3ZreTJsQT09**



New Year's Resolution?
You will note that nearly all GPM events and news are now available on your computer or mobile device. Due to continuing COVID-19, this coming year will have the same challenges to in-person events. If you haven't tried Zoom or any other method for video conferencing, we recommend it as a way to interact with GPM friends or your own family. It's not just for the geeks or young people as you can see from our ExCom. Email me at editor@phoenixmensa.org or give me a call at 602-677-6129 so I can help you with personal support in doing this.

- Dave Pivin, GPM Editor

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.

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/**

COVID-19 UPDATE

Until further notice, **all upcoming GPM Calendar events have been canceled or postponed** in accordance with government policies. Please follow social distancing guidelines. If you have any questions, contact the event host listed in the calendar. ExCom meetings are being held using Zoom. All members are welcome to join these virtual meetings. Details may be found in the GPM Calendar. Event hosts are encouraged to schedule events using Zoom. These may be promoted in the calendar and eUpdate.

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

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 - 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.

GPM VIRTUAL MEETINGS

With all GPM in-person events having been canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions, two of our regular events have moved to an online format using the videoconfrencing app Zoom. Details are in the GPM Live Web Calendar and on the GPM Website. All you need is a computer or mobile device connected to the internet to participate. Visit ***http://phoenix.us.mensa.org/Info/index.html*** for more info and easier links to follow.

ME/P - VIRTUAL IDEA EXCHANGE
discussion group. Every Sunday at 6:00 PM. You may propose anything of interest to you. We discuss the topic(s) of most interest. A book, movie, news item, TV report, idea - ANY TOPIC of your choice. Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/226759604?pwd=Z1QrSHRFTDNiUkZpc3JiUFNZM3hwdz09 Pete Costantino, pete@usa1944.com, will run this meeting. Contact: Jim Delton, jimntempe@yahoo.com.

ME/P - MENSA / INTERTEL VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR. Every Saturday at 4:00 PM - Even introverts get tired of being by themselves after a while! Are you getting tired of only talking to your pets? Connect virtually with other introverts on Zoom! Link up with us by clicking on the Zoom link.https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73135450985?pwd=bDA5aWRIREpXWFFUMmh1SmR1SXFxdz09 Use the Zoom app, or use Zoom in your browser, or use the audio on your smartphone. Just follow the links on "Join Zoom Meeting" RSVP - Reservations should be made, contact Judy Herrmann, MensaDinner@gmail.com.

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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Phoenix, AZ 85082-0456

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Greater Phoenix Mensa
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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.

MENSA is an international society in which the sole requirement for membership is a score at or above the 98th percentile on any of a number of standardized intelligence tests. Mansa is a not-for-profit organization whose main purpose is to serve as a means of communication and assembly for its members. **Mensa©** is registered at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as the collective mark of an international membership association.