January - February - March 2025

Greater Phoenix Mensa's Official Newsletter

GPM Quarterly - First Paperless Issue

Welcome to the GPM Paperless Newsletter Beta Test

With the concurrence of GPM ExCom and Mensa Communications Officer we have embarked on a trial of mailing the GPM Quarterly only to those members with "Special Circumstances," i.e. no computer or the ability to use one. All others who select "Print" as their newsletter preference will receive a link to the Printable Document Format (PDF) version and join those who have selected "electronic" as their newsletter preference.

This program will continue for the 2025 calendar year and will be reviewed by the AMC before continuing in 2026. This test will result in a savings to GPM of over $2,400/year, since we currently print around 400 copies mailed to GPM members four times a year.

...continued on page 3, "Paperless"

Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary (LocSec)		
	Marni Landry	locsec@phoenixmensa.org
Assistant LocSec		
	Gene Holmerud	asstlocsec@phoenixmensa.org
Treasurer		
	Jim Delton	treasurer@phoenixmensa.org
Recording Secretary		
	David Pivin	recsec@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 1		
	Judy Herrmann	memberatlg1@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 2		
	Seth Forester	memberatlg2@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 3		
	Laura McGirr	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		
	Jenifer Guy	giftedyouth@phoenixmensa.org
GPM Speaker Forum		
	Greg Pitz	forum@phoenixmensa.org
Marketing/Communications		
	Richard Morris	marketing@phoenixmensa.org
Mensa World Connect		
	Pamela Miller	WorldConnect@phoenixmensa.org
Ombudsman		
	David Snyir	ombudsman@phoenixmensa.org
Scholarships		
	OPEN	scholarships@phoenixmensa.org
Social Media		
	Jim Delton	memberatlg3@phoenixmensa.org
SIGHT		
	Joanne Landfair	sight@phoenixmensa.org
Proctor Coordinator		
	Steve Broe	testing@phoenixmensa.org
Webmaster		
	Dave Pivin	webmaster@phoenixmensa.org

Area Coordinators

Prescott (Minds in the Pines)		
	David Eagle/Will Hepburn	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 Chair, Region 9		
	Kelly-Marie Jones	rvc9@us.mensa.org

Activity Coordinators

Ahwatukee M Happy Hour (Second Tuesday)		
	Mike Riordan	phxlaw@mac.com
Original Games Night! (Fourth Saturday)		
	Chris Ingle	christopher.ingle@yahoo.com
East Side Dine Out (First Thursday)		
	Les Rees	lesrees@yahoo.com
Mensa Dine Out (Third Saturday)		
	Ellen Milner	elsbells417@yahoo.com
Whine and Dine Happy Hour (Third Wednesday)		
	Bill Taylor	otherbill60@hotmail.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
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		
	Marni Landry	scitechsig@phoenixmensa.org



Treasurer's Report FYTD as of 29 December 2024

Income	6,072.57
Expenses	6,318.88
CU GPM General Account	7,435.96
CU GPM Savings	55.00
Total	$7,490.96

GPM ExCom Minutes

Submitted by Barbara Dabul, Recording Secretary

The ExCom meets the 2nd Sunday of each month primarily by Zoom Teleconference or at the Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004, at 2 PM (Consult GPM Live Web Calendar for actual location).

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED AND INVITED TO ATTEND

October 13, 2024
The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present were Asst LocSec Gene Holmerud; Recording Secretary Alan Gore for Barbara Dabul; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Treasurer Jim Delton; Parliamentarian Richard Morris; Member at Large Judy Herrmann; Member David Snyir; Guest Pete Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 8 Sept, 2024 - Motion to Approve by Dave Pivin, Jim Delton seconded. Motion passed at 2:05 PM.

Old Business
• Online Newsletter beta test, Dave reports: Doing very well, and NO approves.
– Proposal to put past and current issues on website, so people don't have to log in to see it.
– Discussion of security issues. Dave: No personal info is included. Gene: Would outsiders crash parties, etc.?
– Jim: Only keep most recent 1-4 issues on site? All are available on National site.
– Dave: Announcing feedback as beta proceeds.
• Gene: Any interest in our table hosting at AAGT conf?
– Cost $295.
– Judy: Venue is Mesa Conv Center.
– Gene: No interest, moving on.
• Gene: Scholarship program
– Dave: It's in the Agenda because we need to approve form and proceed.
– Jim: Do we need the 'I was referred by' question? Concerned that it might drive some applicants off. Shall we change wording?
– Dave: Not a required question. Change wording.
– Dave: Notify scholarship chair to modify wording.

New Business
• None

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - Jim D:
– Mail Chimp email - $36.00
– Other Expenses are:
– Sharko's Catering T-day (1/2 deposit) - $1,109.08
– Mensa/GPM Scholarship - $1,000.00
– Room Rental T-day Humanist - $250.00
– Recurring Income is:
– Dues from National – $866.26
– Dividend from CU - $0.77
– Balance in GPM Accounts = $8,498.24
– Anticipated expenses for October are:
– $36 for Mail Chimp.
– Anticipated balance at end of October is:
– $8500 + $870 (dues) - $36 (Mail Chimp) = $9,334
• MAAM Editor - Dave: Email blast to notify of online edition.
– Will also handle subscribe and unsubscribe requests. Members leave their mail preferences with NO.
– We could maintain a local list for blasts and notify NO of adr changes.
– The new list would be called the GPM Quarterly list.
– Such a list would have circa 700 names.
– Jim moved to create a local list, Dave seconded. Motion approved 2:37 pm
– A test is scheduled this month. Announcements have gone out to candidates.
• RecSec - all is well.
• All others - NTR.

Comments from Members or Guests
• None

Next Meeting
November 10, 2024, 2:00 PM by Zoom Teleconference.

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by David, Judy seconded. Motion passed at 2:44PM.

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November 10, 2024
The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present online were LocSec Marni Landry; Recording Secretary Barbara Dabul; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Treasurer Jim Delton; Assistant LocSec Gene Holmerud; Parliamentarian Richard Morris; Members at Large Judy Herrmann, Laura McGirr; Guest Pete Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 13 Oct 2024 - Motion to Approve by Marnie. Dave seconded. Motion passed at 2:03 PM.

Old Business
• Mailchimp:
– We get a price break at 1500 names, and are not quite at that level yet. We also want a separate e-list for the GPM Quarterly mailout, which should enable us to make this break. We will need to finalize this in Jan.
• Any final items to be added for Mini RG?
– Pete: Needs access to some software.
– Carol S wants to bring margaritas.
– Catering by Sharkey's

New Business
• Marnie: Is there a freeloader problem at RGs?
– Problem not deemed critical for now
• Jim: Issues accessing Google Docs files.
– Extended technical discussion, which Laura M thought should be taken offline.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer -
– Recurring Expenses are: Mail Chimp email - $36.00
– Other Expenses are:Last big printing of Newsletter - $652.32
– Recurring Income is: Dues from National – $829.20, Dividend from CU - $0.69
– Balance in GPM Accounts = $8,639.81
– Anticipated expenses for November are:
– Mailchimp email - $36.00
– Advance payment for Sub Sandwiches MAD Friday – $264.63
– Balance of Sharky's Catering for T-day - $1100.00
– Postage for Proctor - $15.00
– Mail Chimp Upgrade - $16.00
– Anticipated balance at end of November is:
– $8640 + $830 (dues) - $1432 (anticipated expenses) = $8,038
• MAAM Editor - The last Quarterly snail mail Issue is out. From now on, all issues are digital only.
• RecSec - Satisfied with way it is being handled.
• All Others: NTR.

Comments from Members or Guests
• NTR.

Next Meeting
December 8, 2024, 2:00 PM via Zoom Teleconference.

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by David, Judy seconded. Motion passed at 2:40 PM.

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December 8, 2024 (pending approval)
The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present online were LocSec Marni Landry; Recording Secretary Barbara Dabul; Editor David Pivin; Treasurer Jim Delton; Parliamentarian Richard Morris; Members at Large Seth Forester and Laura McGirr. Guest Pete Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 11 August 2024 - Motion to Approve by Richard Morris. Barbara seconded. Motion passed at 2:05 PM.

Old Business
• Mini RG: Pete reports
– It was basically a success, through not as many attendees as previously.
– We budgeted $3500, actual cost $2334.. Clark's estate sent $800, for a net of $1535.
– Our attendance was 32 registered for Thursday plus 4 unregistered.
– Same count Friday but different people.
– Quite a lot of leftover beverages that we can save for future events.
– The catered food worked well.

New Business
• Marnie: Nominating Comte for '25 elections should be in place soon. To whom should we reach out? Helen Goldman is one possibility
• If we want to do an RG next year, it's already time to look for a chair.
– The Hilton is no longer available because of remodeling and a policy change that prevents us from bringing in food.
– The Humanist Society is still our best venue, except for limited parking.
– Laura: A spring MAD held there could be used to gauge interest in larger events.
– Richard: these of us with opinions/ideas, send them separately to Board
– Marnie: Submit suggestions to Excom for January agenda.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - November Recap:
– Recurring Expenses are:
– Mail Chimp monthly - $52.88
– GoDaddy yearly – $115.85
– Zoom yearly – $159.90
– Other Expenses are:
– T-Day/MAD - $1254.14
– Proctor Mail - $15.00
– Recurring Income is:
– Dues from National – $827.80
– Dividend from CU - $0.70
– Ad Hoc Income:
– Jean Jones Clark Jones Memorial Contribution - $800
– Balance in GPM Accounts = $8,670.54
– Anticipated expenses for December are:
– Mail Chimp email - $52.88
– Forum Lunch - $27.12
– Anticipated balance at end of December is:
– $8670 + $830 (dues) - $80 (anticipated expenses) = $9420
• MAAM Editor - Email MAAM is now fully up and running.eList update - We have three areas to cover besides Phoenix metro, and we are now doing mailouts to all four lists, Is preparing an announcement on existing of a repository of older MAAMs on the public side of our server, so no login is required. To date, there has been only one request for a printed and mailed MAAM. This will be accommodated. We go live at start of 2025. I have completed creation of new GPM Quarterly eList. Has all addresses that are in the roster as of December 1. Data imported includes mail addresses, P/E preference, Area of GPM, and phone number if provided.I am putting together initial announcement to go out to the new list with info on how the delivery will work. I plan on having our own repository of all GPM Quarterly stored on the public side of the GPM site, but not visible without a link to be sent in the email. I will store all PDF copies there as an archive. This is in place of the traditional protected archive to continue at the Mensa site.This GPM Quarterly eList will be used quarterly but is combined with any use of the list for area announcements as each area email is tagged in the list.

..."December Minutes" continued on Page 3

RVC9 Article - October 2024

From Kelly-marie Jones, - RVC9

Hello all! We have a great meeting of the AMC in Dallas a couple of weeks ago and I wanted to share some of what came from it. The mini-minutes are be available on the national website.

In response to the IT challenges that we are all encountering we have established a National Technology Committee. The role of this committee will be to analyze and support the improvement of our current system. If anyone in your group is interested in being involved, please let me know!

As our 2020-2025 strategic plan reaches it's conclusion, we are establishing a new Strategic Planning Committee to develop the 2026-2030 American Mensa plan. We have learned about the challenges encountered in the current plan, and our goal is to learn from those and improve upon them.

Since the local groups' subsidy, which is now $0.96 per member per month, cannot be found on any official record, it was subject to change at any time and without prior notice. To make it official, we voted a motion to guarantee that it is acknowledged in the ASIEs, making it an official commitment.

Ian Strock resigned as 1st vice chair and Jon Gruebele the 2nd VC stepped into the 1st VC role. Applications for the vacant second VC position will be open on the volunteer marketplace in the next couple of weeks. I want to extend my gratitude to Ian for his service to American Mensa and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

Matthew Grob was appointed as temporary National Ombudsman. The election committee will shortly begin the process to fulfill that vacant position.

A reminder October is Mensa Membership month. Let me know how testing and membership efforts go in your area!
As always please feel free to reach out to kellyregion9@gmail.com with any feedback and questions!

Warm regards,

Kelly-marie Jones, EdD
Region 9 Vice Chair, American Mensa

RVC9 Article - November 2024

From Kelly-marie Jones, RVC9

Hello all! As we approach the end of the year, I am excited to report that Dr. Greta Zeimetz, CAE, SHRM-SCP, has been appointed as Interim Executive Director of American Mensa. I was lucky enough to chat with Greta this week and excited to hear her perspectives and recommendations to the organization. She is bringing extensive leadership experience to us, most recently as Executive Vice President/Chief Staff Officer/Chief Operating Officer of the American Association of Professional Landmen. She has also served as Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Legal Assistants, as well as Director of Education and Research at the National Association of Tax Professionals.

I'm enjoying our monthly chats and hopefully you are also. If you need the links to them, look on connect for our region, or please feel free to reach out to me. November is on Saturday the 16th and December will be on Tuesday the 17th.

I'm looking forward to seeing some of you in person at upcoming events, the Channel Islands Mensa Pizza Party and the San Diego Holiday Party.

Don't forget to register for the GLAAM RG in February, and of course our AG iin July.
I'm thrilled that Jen Guy has agreed to serve as our regional gifted youth coordinator, and a few of you had expressed interest in the regional Ombudsman role. I have listed the position on Volunteer marketplace and look forward to hearing from you that are willing to serve.

I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving and Holiday season and as always please feel free to reach out to kellyregion9@gmail.com with any feedback and questions!

Warm regards,

Kelly-marie Jones, EdD
Region 9 Vice Chair, American Mensa

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..."December Minutes" continued from Page 2

We now have three independent eLists that people will be able to unsubscribe at will. New members will be subscribed automatically to all three.Thus far, only one person has requested to be in the special circumstances mail list.Note from Greg Pitz via Dave:: Forum is looking for speakers, and we're not finding enough for the upcoming season.

- RecSec - Has not heard from Scholarship NO about her app for scholarship judge.
- All Others - NTR

Next Meeting
January 12, 2025, 2 PM via Zoom teleconference

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by Judy, Jim seconded.
Motion passed at 3:30 PM

...Paperless - Continued from Page 1

Background

In December of 2014, GPM made the decision to transition to electronic as the primary means of communication to the members in accordance with AML's change in policy. We started by transitioning the MAAM to a format which would still provide all the information of the monthly print MAAM but in a hybrid print-electronic format, using our web site, eUpdate, a MAAM blog, and in its current state, a printed quarterly newsletter. With the GPM Quarterly going to PDF only, this will be the last step in this long and deliberate process.

Process

Each Quarter we will continue to upload the GPM Quarterly to the AML web site and will publish a link to that PDF in the eUpdate and send a notice to members who provide an email address for AML to use in their profile.

We will still mail out a print copy to those with "Special Circumstances," as defined in the December 2014 issue of MAAM.

One of two criteria must be met:

1. Permanent lack of a computer or mobile device and the inability to access one.

2. Inability to use a computer through disability, age, or illness.

To enroll as a Special Circumstances member, contact GPM Editor by phone, 602-677-6129 or mail to PO Box 11931 Tempe, AZ 85284.

Feedback

We're excited to be the first Local Group to use this concept and looking forward to hearing your feedback. Contact Dave Pivin, GPM Editor at editor@phoenixmensa.org, or by phone, 602-677-6129 or mail to PO Box 11931 Tempe, AZ 85284. Comments may also be sent to Lily Noonan, American Mensa Communications Officer at communications@us.mensa.org or by phone call to 619-836-0077.

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 this calendar was uploaded, the following information was current. For more current information and updates, please go to the website**:**

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

Monthly Event Details

2nd Sunday

- MO - Executive Committee (ExCom), 2 - 3 pm via Zoom Teleconference or at Burton Barr Central Library, Rm A**.**

EXCOM ZOOM LINK:

https://zoom.us/j/92028884402?pwd=aThvSlIVai9KQm02b0ZobWVYYXc4UT09

MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

2nd Tuesday

- ME/P - Ahwatukee M Happy Hour, 5:30 - 7:30 pm Join us for a drink, a meal and stimulating conversation. Michael Riordan, PHXRiordan@gmail.com 480.335.9890. Every second Tuesday at CK's Tavern & Grill, 4142 E Chandler Blvd, Phoenix, AZ 85048

2nd Wednesday

- ME/P - Whine and Dine Happy Hour, 5 - 7 pm - Location: Manuel's Mexican Restaurant 2820 E Indian School Rd. Phoenix AZ. It will be necessary to RSVP Bill Taylor by noon Tuesday, the day before, as to whether you are coming or not, at otherbill60@hotmail.com, so he will be able to make reservations for the actual number attending.

2nd Thursday

- ME/P - East Side Dine-Out - 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM - For January,Join us at Fry Bread House on Thursday January 23 (fourth Thursday) at 1 PM to about 3 PM 4545 N. 7th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85013. RSVPs due by Tuesday January 21. lesrees@yahoo.com RSVP in the headline, please, or phone or text 480-476-2458. This event is for Mensa and Intertel members. They may each bring one guest.

4th Thursday

- ME/P - Mensa/Intertel Lunch Out - 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM - For January, join us at Fry Bread House on Thursday January 23 (fourth Thursday) at 1 PM to about 3 PM 4545 N. 7th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85013. RSVPs due by Tuesday January 21 lesrees@yahoo.com RSVP in the headline, please. You may also phone or text 480-476-2458. Again, RSVP in the text.

2nd Saturday

- ME/P - GPM Forum 2025, 10:00 AM to Noon. For January, Space Adventures with Don Doerres - Mensa member Don Doerres entertaining us with his life experiences regarding the Lunar Prospector, Unclassified Stories from the Nevada Test Site, Life On Other Worlds, and finishing with his fun book, The Baffling Boffin. Location: Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004, Room A. Doors open 10:00 a.m. The program starts at 10:30. Seating is limited. Questions and RSVP to: forum@phoenixmensa.org Mensans, guests, and the public invited. Forum Coordinator, Greg Pitz at forum@phoenixmensa.org for more info.

3rd Saturday

MO - Mensa Dine-Out - 7:00 - Closing. (On Hiatus for January) Location Varies Each Month. RSVP to Ellen Milner at elsbells417@yahoo.com before Thursday, before to reserve your place. If you were a previous no show who didn't let me know, priority will go to those who did.We welcome newcomers and visitors to give this event a try. We're a very friendly group. AE - Adult Event.

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.

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GPM Virtual Meetiings

While all events have resumed in-person meetings, the ExCom and two regular virtual events continue. 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 3:00 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, 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.

Office of Publication is:
PO Box 11931
Tempe, AZ 85284

POSTMASTER - Send address changes to:
Greater Phoenix Mensa
PO Box 11931
Tempe, AZ 85284

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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