October - November - December 2026

Greater Phoenix Mensa's Official Newsletter

GPM Quarterly

Executive Committee (ExCom)

as of July 1, 2026

Local Secretary (LocSec)*	
Jim Delton	locsec@phoenixmensa.org
Assistant LocSec	
Rebecca Janssen	asstlocsec@phoenixmensa.org
Treasurer*	
Laura McGirr	treasurer@phoenixmensa.org
Recording Secretary	
Linda Zeise	recsec@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 1	
Judy Herrmann	memberatlg1@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 2	
Steve Broe	memberatlg2@phoenixmensa.org
Member at Large 3	
Ruth Forester	memberatlg3@phoenixmensa.org
Parliamentarian	
Marni Landry	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	
Kimberly Shaffer	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	
Carol Young	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	
OPEN	flagstaffmensa@phoenixmensa.org

Note Regarding Email Addresses:
Most email addresses are forwarded to the private email of the office holder. Any responses will come from that private email address.

Those officers who have a ***full send/receive email*** are marked with an *asterisk after their title and their responses will come from the official email.

AML Regional Officers

National Events Youth Program Coordinator	
Lisa Webster	youthevents@us.mensa.org
Regional Coordinator, Region 9	
Jay Friedlander	rvc9@us.mensa.org

Activity Coordinators

Ahwatukee M Happy Hour (Second Tuesday)	
Mike Riordan	phxlaw@mac.com
Original Games Night! (Fourth Saturday)	
Rebecca Janssen	lassisar@gmail.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	
Tom Schnorrenberg	ae02437@hotmail.com
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	
Carol Young	carolrants@gmail.com
Oenophile SIG	
Richard Poole	oenophilesig@phoenixmensa.org
Science and Technology SIG	
Marni Landry	scitechsig@phoenixmensa.org

Feedback

We're excited to be the first Local Group to use the paperless newsletter 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.

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Editor's Note: This edition has grown an extra page. We needed to include all of RVC's much larger articles. This would suggest that if there were member contributions on any subject we could include them. Not a problem with paperless!

April in Paris - Dave Pivin



Treasurer's Report FYTD as of 30 September 2026

Income	4,896.92
Expenses	4,595.60
CU GPM General Account	7,931.44
CU GPM Savings	55.00
Total	$7,986.44

GPM ExCom Minutes

Submitted by Lynda Zeise, Recording Secretary

The ExCom meets the 2nd Sunday of each month primarily by Zoom Teleconference or at a public location announced ahead of time, starting at 2 PM. (Consult GPM Live Web Calendar for actual location or Zoom link)

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED

AND INVITED TO ATTEND

July 11, 2026
The meeting was called to order at 2:43 PM as part of MAD Meeting at Holiday Inn & Suites, Airport. Present were LocSec Jim Delton; AsstLocsec, Rebecca Janssen; Editor, Dave Pivin; Recording Secretary Marni Landry for Lynda Zeise; Members at Large, Ruth Forester; Ombudsman Carol Young; Guest, Pete Costantino.

Seating of New Board
NomCom and others per Nomination List for 2026 – 2027 GPM Officers

James Delton	Local Secretary
Rebecca Janssen	Assistant Local Secretary
Laura McGirr	Local Treasurer
Lynda Zeise	Recording Secretary
Carol Young	Member-at-Large *
Steve Broe	Member-at-Large
Judith Herrmann	Member-at-Large
Ruth Forester	Member-at-Large **

* Carol Young moves to Ombudsman position
** Ruth Forester, who indicated interest earlier, appointed to MAL position
The * and ** items need a motion, etc to take place, see items 2 and 3 below. The others are installed via Bylaw directive.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting 14 June 2026 - Motion by Laura seconded by Dave approved at 2:46 PM.

Old Business
• Approved Gifted Youth Coordinator - Kimberly Shaffer - on board Jim will meet with her tomorrow

New Business
• Item 1 - (re)appoint: Newsletter Editor - David Pivin
• Item 2 - Appt Carol Young as Ombudsman
• Item 3 - Appt Ruth Forester as Member At Large to fill vacancy with Carol Young moving to Ombs
• Item 4 - (re) appoint:
– David Pivin as Local Circulation Manager, Web Contact
– Howard Asaki, Charles Eagle, Steve Broe as Proctors
– Steve Broe, David Pivin as Testing Coordinators
– Kimberly Shaffer as Gifted Youth Coordinator
– Charles Eagle and Will Hepburn as Area Coordinator
– Joanne Landfair as Local SIGHT Coordinator
– Pamela Miller as Mensa World Connect
– Greg Pitz as Forum Coordinator
• Motion by Ruth and Dave Pivin, passed
• Item 5 - Update, if any, RE 2027 RG Planning

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - June 2026 Recap
Recurring Expenses:
– Mail Chimp monthly - $41.08
– Fed Withholding - $0.18
Other Expenses:
– Forum Speaker Lunch – $21.82
– Postage - $7.74
– Awards - $126.54
Recurring Income:
– Dues from National – $741.28
– Dividend from CU - $0.77
Other Income:
– None
Balance in GPM Accts at the end of June = $9,756.14
Anticipated expenses for July:
– Mail Chimp email - $41.08
– MAD Expenses – $3,325 Hotel + 117 Supplies / Gift Cards
As of: 7/8/2026 1:57 PM
• All others - NTR.

Next Meeting
August 9, 2026, 2:00 PM by Zoom Teleconference.

Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by Dave, Laura seconded. Motion passed at 2:51 PM.

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August 9, 2026
The meeting was called to order at 2:06 PM Present were LocSec Jim Delton; AsstLocSec, Rebecca Janssen; Recording Secretary Marni Landry for Lynda Zeise; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Treasurer Laura McGirr; Members at Large, Steve Broe, Ruth Forester; Ombudsman Carol Young; Parliamentarian Marni Landry; Members Kim Shaffer and David Snyr; Guest, Pete Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, July 11, 2026 - Motion to approve by RJ Janssen, second by Steve Broe, passed 2:06 PM

Old Business
• Games night Update - Rebecca Janssen
– 4th Saturday of the month
– Low attendance, potential members have attended.
– May go on hold when RJ is out of town later this year
RG 10 hotels have proposals in
– Aug 6-8, 2027 potentially
– RJ will send the proposals to ExCom
Need to decide
– How much to charge guests
– How many days
– Snack / Drink / Meal options
Discussion tabled until September
• July MAD closeout report - Costantino, Pete
• MAD Recap
– 59 Attendees / 71 registrations
– 4.8/5 rating for presenters, 4.1 venue, 4.3 food
– Paid food: 40 breakfasts, 66 lunches
– $3702.43 cost

New Business
Gifted Youth Coordinator update - Kimberly Shaffer
• Sent survey to all GY families (80 children) about availability, interests & budgets.
• 6 parents interested in being a volunteer
• Goal 1 family friendly event / month
• Kim will invite youth members to game night
• Will work up a budget request
• Tentative
– September MIM
– October Herpetological
– November Liberty Wildlife
– January Lake Pleasant wildlife fieldtrip
Thanksgiving Event??? - Costantino, Pete
• Estimates $3500 budget, will submit official request at September ExCom.
• Motion by Dave Pivin for to start a committee to host a 2 day Thanksgiving, Second Rebecca Janssen, Motion carries 2:51pm.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - absent but submitted
Recurring Expenses:
– Mail Chimp monthly - $41.08
– Fed Withholding - $0.15
Other Expenses
– MAD Venue Bill - $3,324.65
– GoDaddy Email Subscription $117.70
– MAD Supplies - $708
– MAD Supplies - $34.90
– MAD Gift Cards - $75
Recurring Income:
– Dues from National – $853.68
– Dividend from CU - $0.64
Other Income:
– None
Balance in GPM Accounts end of July: $7,00.90
Anticipated expenses for August:
– Mail Chimp email - $41.08
– PO Box Rental - $188 last year
• MAAM Editor - eUpdate was late last week.
• LocSec - Zoom renewal with whiteboard cancelled due to non-use.
• All Others: NTR.

Comments from Members or Guests
• Carol Young - working on new member information introductions, 1 member interested in Music SIG starting 3rd week in September (Sunday 4pm).
• Kim is interested in designing and printing GY tee shirts

Next Meeting
13 September, 2026, 2:00 PM via Zoom Teleconference.

Adjourn
Motion to adjourn by Dave Pivin, Second by Steve Broe, passed 3:03 PM

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September 2026 (pending approval)
The meeting was called to order at 2:01 PM as a Zoom teleconference. Present were LocSec Jim Delton; AsstLocSec, Rebecca Janssen; Recording Secretary; Lynda Zeise; MAAM Editor David Pivin; Treasurer Laura McGirr; Members at Large, Judy Herrmann, Seth Forester; Ombudsman Carol Young; Parliamentarian Marni Landry; Members Kimberly Shaffer, Seth Forester; Guest, Pete Costantino.

Approval of Minutes
ExCom Meeting, 10 May, 2026 - Motion by Dave seconded by Laura, approved at 2:11

Old Business
• Item - Update on Mensa Insurance - Laura McGirr - Laura sent an email to National to confirm that "yes" we have insurance. Chapters are included in National. The only request is that incidents be reported to Police.
• Item - Update on 2026 Thanksgiving Event - Pete Costantino - $350 needed for the Humanist Society. Motion by Laura and seconded by Dave to give Pete permission to pay $350 for the Humanist Society included in the food budget of $3500. Motion passed 2:11 PM
• Item - Update on Games Night - Rebecca Janssen - Last meeting Rebecca was the only person attending. She suggested we put the Games night on hold until after the Christmas holidays and then assess the need for a Games Night. We should communicate about what types of games people want and maybe find better ways of doing Games - possibly a GPM Games SIG. Update on RG27 - Rebecca Janssen - Rebecca is trying to find the best way to communicate with committee members. The budget will probably be $10,000 to $15,000 with most of the money coming from Registration money. Laura mentioned that we need a floor number that GPM can afford if registration does not cover the complete cost making some money come from the GPM budget. Pete mentioned that the RG has traditionally been a money maker for GPM. Laura said as Treasurer she feels a hotel revenue commitment of $5000 is reasonable.

New Business
Item - Gifted Youth Budget - Kimberly Shaffer
Kim would like to get an annual budget for the Youth Program OKed. She needs to know how much money she has to work with before she can reserve certain venues and plan for certain event expenses. She has planned certain all MENSA events that are free. Jim mentioned that getting the Gifted Youth successful, is a goal and we should approve an $800 budget for this year. Kimberly' s motion to fund the $800, seconded by David. Kim has applied for certain grants and is looking into getting support from certain restaurants. Laura suggested giving Kim a starting amount of $300 and more when she needs it. Pete volunteered to make nametags. Dave suggested considering giving Kim a GPM Debit card. That can be discussed at a separate smaller meeting. The motion was passed at 2:46 PM.

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RVC9 Article - August 2026

Far West Foreword

From Jay Friedlander, RVC Region 9

The Fort Worth 2027 AG proved a popular event. You can't get around the fact that Texas is hot in July, but let's face it, the majority of the country is hot in July. Congratulations to AG Chair Austin Horowitz and his team for their successful Gathering. Congratulations to Nguyen Pham and the Mensa Foundation team for a successful Colloquium, Brain Health Across the Lifespan, which attendees found informative and stimulating.

One nice thing about Fort Worth is there is a train from the airport to three blocks from the hotel. I think we have a responsibility to minimize our travel expenses at these conferences, so I appreciated that, and so did many others. The best meal not at the gala was an opening night fajita feast, added to the menu in the last month. Due to costs, the AG has mostly gone away from providing dinners, so this was a pleasant surprise, and the quality was excellent. The breakfasts and lunches were what you would expect. A salad bar or at least a daily salad offering would have been nice, in case next year's team is reading this. The breakfast potatoes were tasty.

There was the expected assortment of speakers and games and debate rooms, of which I participated in the Separation of Powers and Ideology in Mass Media sessions. A couple of events featuring the Nimoy family, talking about legendary patriarch Leonard, and a screening of the film documentary Remembering Leonard Nimoy, which I regrettably missed since it was opposite my Region 9 Meet & Greet - I kind of had to be at that one, grrrrr. Special thanks to to Region 9 presenters Anton Anderssen (Purpose from Home), Kimberly Bakke (Gen Y Meet & Greet), Jonathan Elliott (Jonathan's Killer Spelling Bee), Rachel Kibler (Volunteering in Mensa), Richard Lederer (Dances With Words), Jim Lewis (Oh Hell), Barbara Lytle (Charades), Lauren Montgomery Wallman (When Development Isn't Linear) and Ed You (The Werewolves of the Forth Worth AG). Apologies if I overlooked anyone in the Region. If so, please email me and I'll give you a shout-out next month.

There were a number of tours, including an excursion to the Texas Rangers ballgame, a tour of the Fort Worth stockyards, featuring a rodeo and a tour of the now infamous Texas Book Depository in Dallas. Erica Schmelzer of Broward County Mensa was crowned the 2026 Misster Mensa winner. She won the charity pageant by performing 24 pop songs on a four-chord progression and reciting the iconic Barbie movie monologue. The competition successfully raised $18,000 for the Mensa Foundation.
The featured speaker at the Gala Banquet was Monica Lewinsky, interviewed on stage by a local reporter. Ms. Lewinsky was not selected for the incident which she is best known for, and which would probably not be a worthy topic for the Gala, but rather delivered an address focused on cyberbullying and public resilience. As a vocal advocate for a safer, healthier social media environment, Lewinsky's keynote and subsequent moderated conversation at the Gala Banquet directly supported the Mensa Foundation's anti-bullying initiative.

And let's wrap this column up with the announcement of our our newest Region 9 leaders. Please welcome to their posts, Kassandra Huntley, Region 9 Social Media Coordinator; Lauren Montgomery Wallman, Region 9 Young Adult M's Coordinator and David Bohm, Tucson Mensa LocSec. Welcome to the team, and I look forward to working with all of you in the months to come.

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RVC9 Article - September 2026

Far West Foreword

Jay Friedlander, RVC9 - Far West Region

Region 9 is eagerly anticipating A Gathering of Bohemians! Lots of creative and artistic events, but not forgetting the sciences and other serious subjects. There will be something for everyone. It wouldn't be an OC RG without homecooked meals by OC Mensa's own Valerie Spear! OC & SD Mensa, on their slightly earlier publication schedule will see this before the event, but tickets may be gone, considering the 80 seat limit so jump on it!

Speaking of SD Mensa, they will be holding their annual picnic September 12th (second Saturday) from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm. The Pavilion at Lake Poway provides an indoor air-conditioned space, a large playground including climbing structures, and lots of picnic tables. The local group will provide hot dogs, burgers, dishes, paper towels, and plasticware. Volunteers have already stepped up to bring sodas and water. The rest is potluck, so be thinking about what side dish or dessert you want to bring, if you can, but regardless, come anyway and enjoy the day. Barbara and Jim are bringing board games! There is no charge for attending. Free parking for active military and Poway residents. The parking fee will be covered by SDM for everyone else. The RSVP deadline will be August 25th to allow them to shop for enough food and arrange for parking.

Thinking about proposing an amendment to the American Mensa Bylaws? The online petition period opens Aug. 6 and runs through Oct. 5. Petitions must be submitted through the members' area on the 2026 Election & Bylaws Referendum Portal, where you'll also find election information and proposal guidelines. Early submission is strongly encouraged to allow time for review by the Bylaws Committee, legal counsel, and Mensa International before publication. Approved referenda will be posted on the American Mensa website in November and published in the November/December 2026 Mensa Bulletin. www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/election/2026-election-bylaws-referendum-portal/

SIG Spotlight

Dungeons M Dragons
Dungeons M Dragons is a place for role-play enthusiasts to meet up. If you are looking to start a new game or join an existing one, our Discord server has rooms set up for a variety of games, as well as general gameplay locations. https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sigs/dungeons-m-dragons/

Reel Thinkers
For those who love any kind of film — classics, current, adventure, romance, science fiction, documentary, music video, silent, comedy, foreign, independent, musical. If it's on film, we'll discuss it! https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sigs/reel-thinkers/

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RVC9 Article - October 2026

Far West Foreword, June 2026
From Jay Friedlander, RVC9

Orange County Mensa's A Gathering of Bohemians is in the books, and a magnificent time was had by all! OC Mensa President Ken Burke kicked off Friday with a trivia quiz, and reincarnated Carnac the Magnificent, with the help of Terry (Ed McMahon) Black. Pankaj Khemka hosted a poetry open mic, and read selections from his new tome, Any Pain, Any Scarring? Richard Lederer's talk was about We The People, 1776-2026, celebrating the USA's 250th anniversary. LA Times writer Gustavo Arrellano and his wife Delilah Snell were featured speakers, talking about Southern California culture and history (remember the Red Cars?). Jim Lewis and Barbara Lytle hosted ample games. Entertainment was provided by rock duo Mitchell Faris and Jeffrey Felton, and energetic belly dancer Samara. Thanks to Chair John Olson, Program Chair Karon Roberts, Registrar Tom Streeter, Treasurer Brian Sullivan and Master Hospitality Chair Valerie Spear for a very enjoyable event!

Southern Nevada Mensa said farewell to Local President Szilard Vegas, replaced on a temporary basis by Cooke Bakke. Region 9 wishes to extend condolences to Cooke for the loss of her husband, Doc. Southern Nevada Mensa will eventually fill the Local President role on a more permanent basis, and will soon schedule a Bylaws election to put their new proposed Bylaws before a membership vote. All chapters are now compliant with the Treasurer's Report requirement. Greater Phoenix Mensa and San Diego Mensa are currently in the site selection process which will hopefully lead to Regional Gatherings in 2027. Lauren Montgomery Wallman, Region 9 Young Adult M's Coordinator, held a beach party and a games day, and is slowly but steadily increasing participation in the Young Adult M's demographic.

American Mensa is opening the door to Mensa this October with Passport to Curiosity, a month-long campaign that gives potential members a taste of the Mensa experience. Prospective members will receive a free digital passport, attend select events open to nonmembers, collect virtual stamps, discover the many sides of Mensa — and receive 50 percent off Private Testing. Have a local October event that could be part of the journey? Send the particulars to JulieN@AmericanMensa.org. The Mensa Foundation Scholarship Program application process opens Sept. 15 — with an updated submission deadline of Nov. 15. Help spread the word with our ready-made ads — perfect for your newsletter or social channels. The Mensa Foundation awards more than $200,000 in scholarships each year, helping students pursue their educational and career goals. https://www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/

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SIG Spotlight

Homeschooling Mensans
This SIG is open to Mensans who homeschool their gifted children or anyone interested in homeschooling gifted children. This list is the discussion group. We advocate no particular method and promote no religious viewpoint. All discussions are welcome. https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sigs/homeschooling-mensans/?_zs=4euna&_zl=0MJ75

TeenSIG
A SIG focused on community service and volunteerism for young Mensans ages 13 to 17. Through participation in TeenSIG, YM's can share their community service ideas, successes, and suggestions; promote their fellow YM volunteers; and be rewarded for the work they're doing to make their communities better and stronger. https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/sigs/teensig/

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A God May Be Hiding in Your Sentence

By Richard Lederer
richardhlederer@gmail.com
https://verbivore.com

Director Christopher Nolan's The Odyssey, a film adaptation of Homer's Greek epic, created between the 8th and 7th century BCE), has garnered more than a billion dollars at the box office and reacquainted audiences with the power of classical mythology.

Of all the literary sources that aggrandize our English language, Greco-Roman mythology is one of the richest. We who are alive today constantly speak and hear and write and read the names of the ancient gods and goddesses and heroes and heroines, even if we don't always know it.

The most famous of all of the epic poet Homer's creations spent 10 years after the fall of Troy wandering through the ancient world encountering sorceresses and cyclopes (one-eyed monsters with 20/ vision). The wily hero's name, Odysseus, lives on in the word odyssey, which we use to describe a long journey or voyage marked by bizarre turns of events. Odysseus, king of Ithica, was tempted by mermaids who perched on rocks in the sea and lured ancient mariners to their deaths. Their piercing call has given us our word siren for the rising and falling whistle emitted by ambulances, fire engines, and police cars. Another great Greek hero, Hercules, needed all his power to complete 12 exceedingly laborious labors. We use the adjective herculean to describe a mighty effort or an extraordinarily difficult task.

Echo is an echo of a story that is more than two millennia old. Echo was a beautiful nymph who once upon a time aided Zeus, the king of the gods, in a love affair by keeping Hera, his wife, occupied in conversation. As a punishment for such verbal meddling, Hera confiscated Echo's power to initiate conversation and allowed her to repeat only the last words of anything she heard. Such was a sorry enough fate, but later Echo fell madly in love with an exceedingly handsome Greek boy, Narcissus, who, because of Echo's peculiar handicap, would have nothing to do with her. So deeply did the nymph grieve for her unrequited love that she wasted away until nothing was left but her voice, always repeating the last words she heard.

The fate that befell Narcissus explains why his name has been transformed into words like narcissism, narcissist, and narcissistic, "pertaining to extreme self-love". One day Narcissus looked into a still forest lake and beheld his own gorgeous face in the water. He at once fell in love with the beautiful image just beneath the surface, and he, like Echo, pined away for a love that could never be consummated. In one version of the story, Narcissus leaned over to kiss his reflection and fell into the watery image and drowned. My definition of a narcissist: "I am. Therefore, you're not."

One of the vilest of mythology's villains was King Tantalus, who served the body of his young son as a dish for the gods. They soon discovered the king's wicked ruse, restored the dead boy to life, and devised a punishment to fit the crime. They banished the king to Hades, where he is condemned to stand in a sparkling pool of water with boughs of luscious fruit overhead. When he stoops to drink, the water drains away through the bottom of the pool, and when he wishes to eat, the branches of fruit sway just out of his grasp. Ever since, when something presents itself temptingly to our view, we invoke this king's name, tantalize. The adjective jovial, "merry, inspiring mirth," comes from the name the ancient Romans gave to the king of their gods, Jove, because it was a happy omen to be born under his influence.

We call a collection of maps an atlas, named after the Titan who held up the sky.
The goddess of love and beauty bequeaths us many words from both her Greek and Roman names, Aphrodite and Venus: aphrodisiac, hermaphrodite, venereal, venerate.

Stentor, a Greek herald in Homer's Iliad, was a human public address system whose voice could be heard all over camp. Today, the adjective stentorian means "loud-voiced, bellowing."

Because of its fluidity and mobility, quicksilver is identified by a more common label that is the Roman name for Hermes, the winged messenger of the gods. That name, mercury, has also bequeathed us mercurial, an adjective meaning "swift, eloquent, volatile."

Richard Lederer



New Business *...continued from page 2*

Item - Scholarship - Jim Delton
Jim suggested that we use the scholarship money for our GPM Youth Program. The attendees agreed it was a good idea.
Item - Discontinuance of Local Group Testing - David Pivin - Dave suggested that it is not necessary to use our local people when we can get National to handle the testing. Now GPM pays $66 for local testing and people can take a private test for $99. If we promote the private test, we eliminate the need for the volunteer proctors of the local test.

Officer Reports
• Treasurer - August 2026 Recap
Recurring Expenses:
– Mail Chimp monthly - $41.08
– Fed Withholding - $0.15
Other Expenses:
– PO Box Rental - $194.00
Recurring Income:
– Dues from National – $771.28
– Dividend from CU - $0.61
Other Income: None
Balance in GPM Accounts end of August = $7,546.56
Anticipated expenses for March:
– Mail Chimp email - $41.08
• MAAM Editor - Dave said we have 2500 Mail Chimp addresses. We are getting close to that number. If we archive the emails of the people who never open our emails, we can stay under that number.
• Parliamentarian - Pete and Lyn Stinnet will represent our Adopt a Road people at the Scottsdale Thank You dinner. Jim suggested inviting the Youth Group to join us in the nest Clean Up.
• LocSec - A Prescott member is planning to do an event called "Are You Smarter than A MENSAN" to use as a membership drive. We will watch to see what happens.
• All others - NTR

Questions or Comments by Members or Guests
• Pete mentioned some people would like a change in the meeting time. After discussion it was agreed to try meeting at 1 PM for the next month.

Next Meeting
11 October 2026, 2 PM via Zoom Teleconference

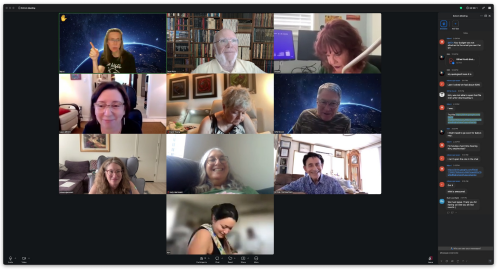
Adjourn
Motion to Adjourn by Carol, Rebecca seconded. Motion passed at 3:08 PM

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What ChatGPT thinks our ExCom looks like



What it really looks like



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 a location to be determined.

EXCOM ZOOM LINK:

https://zoom.us/j/92028884402?pwd=aThvSIlVai9KQm02b0ZobWVYYXc4UT09

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 Spinato's Pizzeria and Family Kitchen, 4848 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 - Location changes monthly. For October 8th, Join us at Mandi House, 1639 E Apache Blvd, Tempe, AZ 85281. by Tuesday, October 6th to 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.

2nd Saturday

- ME/P - GPM Forum 2026 - 10:00 AM to Noon - For October: Riding the 100-Foot AI Wave:- Depth Over Hype by Ana Melikian. Doors open 10:00 a.m. The program starts at 10:30. Questions: forum@phoenixmensa.org Mensans, guests, and the public invited.

3rd Saturday

- MO - Mensa Dine-Out - 6:30 - Closing. Location changes each month. For October please Join us Saturday, October 17th, 6:30 PM at Keegan's Grill, 3114 E. Camelback Rd., Phx., 85016 for good food and conversation. RSVP to Ellen Milner at elsbells417@yahoo.com or call 602 992-3031 by Wednesday October 14th to reserve your place.AE - Adult Event.

4th Saturday

- MO - 5:00 to 8:00 PM - Games Night! Has resumed monthly meetings at Mox Boarding House, 1371 N Alma School Rd, Chandler, AZ 85224. Bring your friends and family. Bring your favorite game, play one of mine, or check out one from Mox's free lending library. No table fees, on-site restaurant, no outside food or drink allowed. Plenty of tables for gaming. https://www.moxboardinghouse.com Look for the Mensa mind games tote bag or text me when you arrive and I'll tell you where we are. RJ (Rebecca Janssen) 480-250-8109.

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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.

GPM'S DAVE SEBESTA MEMORIAL ADOPT-A-ROAD



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.

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.