

m - a u r a
a p r i l

NEW MEMBERS PARTY
*** April 8th ***
It's Back It's WOW
It's **You GOTTA go!**

2023

April 11th,
2023...
MADEATS
Returns

Apr 16th
General
Meeting
Speaker:
Kate Fenton
Paleontology

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ON THE COVERS:

Front February general meeting speaker Bruce Jones and his fascinating talk on ancient Chinese methods of land apportionment, and other novel ways of looking at prehistoric artifacts. Also, Leza and Randy diving deeper after the talk.

Back Top: Poker Winners from February: *(l-r)* 3rd Tommy Wright, 1st Mitch McCarsky, 2nd Kim Speed. **Center** Gunny Hartman, Elim Wong, Anne and Paul Whiteman at the Plano Symphony after Elim’s amazing performance of Mvt 1 of the Wieniawski Violin Concerto No. 2 in D minor, Op 22. **Bottom:** Avery and Jennalyse take a 1/60th of a second break at the North Texas Teen Book Festival.



Guaranteed almost Feghoot-free, **Whimsy SIG** publishes facts and fancy, communications from near and far. For more info contact Ruth Danielle, WhimsicalM@outlook.com

FROM THE NTM VICE PRESIDENT

COLLENE GOLDMAN

She's only fictional, but Elizabeth Green was wise. "Sometimes the most ordinary things could be made extraordinary, simply by doing them with the right people." That line from the novel *The Lucky Ones* comes to mind when I think about the latest development at the North Texas chapter of Mensa: We're starting community outreach.



We all know Mensa as a social organization of highly intelligent people. Our chapter tries to provide a stimulating intellectual and social environment for our members. But in a larger sense our mission is to identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity. And our vision is to encourage research into the nature, characteristics, and uses of intelligence. So we are expanding our community outreach program with a focus on expanding literacy in our area.

Our Gifted Youth Program and Scholarship Foundation are focused on this, with outstanding results. Now we're planning to do more, with a focus on expanding literacy in our area. Our first opportunity for volunteering is with the Dallas Public Libraries. The libraries help adults get a GED, at no cost, but need tutors to help. Our participation in this effort would make a significant and lasting impact on the community.

There will be numerous opportunities for groups to volunteer for half day events, such as helping walk shelter dogs as they await forever homes, cleaning up parks, and entertaining residents of senior living centers. In fact, we are encouraging all our members to create their own community outreach opportunities and recruit other NTM members, friends, and family to participate.

Expect an email with details on how to participate, how much of a commitment is needed, etc. When we get our new website up to speed, more detail will be available there as well.

Working together, let's make active participation in the North Texas Mensa Community Outreach programs extraordinary.

NEW NATIONAL SIG

There is a new SIG dedicated to discussing things such as current events, philosophy, and anything that might be of interest. The Virtual Discussion Group SIG is on Zoom on Saturdays from 1 to 2 PM CT. If you think you would be interested, email Ken Lawrence at VirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com

SIXTH SENSE — JOHN NEEMIDGE , REGION 6 VICE CHAIR

Happy April to everyone! I hope you're having a good spring. Things have been busy for me, and will likely continue to be that way, but busy is good, especially as we all return to normal and go back to doing more things.

We're in between AMC meetings this month, having just completed one and with another regular meeting in May. The May meeting will be virtual. I expect the agenda to come out in mid to late April. When it does, it will be posted at

<https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/meeting-reports>, as will mini-minutes (and, eventually, minutes) from the March meeting.

By far the most controversial topic on the agenda will be the question of whether the National Ombudsman should be removed for improper conduct at two AMC meetings. As I noted before, there are things I cannot discuss, since much of this pertains to executive sessions (I'll again refer you to my January 2023 column for more about those), but I'm happy to answer any questions and explain my reasons. I've received feedback from several members thus far; those members have had greatly different stances on the issue.

I can't tell you how I will vote, because it's certainly possible that new facts or arguments will come to light between now and May. I can say that, for myself at least, the most important thing is considering actions and not personalities. The standards for conduct and respect of executive session should be the same regardless of who is accused of failing to do so.

I continue to encourage everyone to attend the Annual Gathering in 2023 (happening July 5-9 in Baltimore, Maryland). Annual Gatherings are a lot of fun, and are American Mensa's biggest event of the year. Many of the side trips look to offer a great way to explore Baltimore as well. You can find out more at <https://ag.us.mensa.org>.

In other AG news, this year's keynote speaker is the legendary director (and Baltimore native) John Waters. From (very) controversial 'trash' pictures to a film which inspired a Broadway musical, Water's career is eclectic, and he'll be an interesting keynote speaker. Perhaps I'll see you at the keynote dinner!

Unfortunately, due to factors entirely beyond the control of Gulf Coast Mensa, GCM has had to cancel SynRG 2023. They are planning to be back in 2024. The situation is unfortunate and is affecting GCM beyond the cancellation of 2023, and we're hoping to have things resolved as quickly as possible.

Please send me any thoughts, ideas, questions, concerns, general comments, whatever. I've got a contact form for feedback at <https://tinyurl.com/RVC6-JLN>. Of course, if you prefer, you can always contact me via email at rvc6@us.mensa.org or by phone at 512-695-9876.



NEW MEMBERS PARTY!!

By Karen Brack

The world needs more parties, so we're throwing one. The New Members Party, an NTM tradition that goes back decades, is a chance for all members to gather, mingle, welcome our newest members, see old friends and make new ones. And if you're a member who's been a bit of an absentee member...Well, this is your chance to come out see what you've gotten yourself into. The New Members Party is one of a few big events we hold during the year, the others being the other New Members Party, and our Regional Gathering held over Thanksgiving weekend. You'll be reading more about that later in the year.


And we're trying something new this time by holding the party in a banquet space (J.J.'s Café, 10233 East Northwest Highway, Ste. 434 (between Audelia and Plano Rd) rather than a member's home. Some members said that this would make them more likely to attend. To them I say, **"Prove it. Come to the party."**

But in all seriousness, we all joined Mensa to meet people who get our jokes, people we can converse with without 'dumbing down' our vocabulary, and people who are capable of discussing more than cars, football and diets. Not that there is anything wrong with any of those, but we joined because we wanted more. Well, this is your opportunity to get more in a very welcoming, low-key, 'come as who you are' environment.

The party will run from 7:00 to 11:00 pm on April 8th. We'll supply refreshments (sandwiches, munchies, desserts – with vegetarian options), soft drinks, beer and wine. All members who have not attended a New Member Party since joining are welcome to bring a guest and you both attend for free. The folks who have been around for a while are asked to 'feed the kitty' \$10.00.

An RSVP is emphatically requested, but not required. We just want to make sure the caterers know how much food to prepare. No one goes home hungry from a Mensa party if we can help it!!

If you have any questions, or to RSVP, contact Karen Brack:

214.477.1151 / kwbrack18@gmail.com. **See Page 9 for details** 

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !



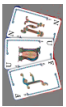
The following are new or rejoining members of North Texas Mensa. Please join us in welcoming them to our group.

New Mensans: Alexander Carvalho, Bryce Kachmar, Adam Lincks, Zachary Lozuk, Logan Mar, Neil Patel, Leena Patel, Alexandria Pinto, Matthew Rocco, Charissa Tanghongs, Maggie Wright

Moving to NTM: Bridgette Richardson, Michael Scruggs, Wenxiaoshan Sui

Rejoining Mensa and NTM: William Edmundson (Waskom), John Gregson (Josephine)—*I learned two new Texas towns-ed.*

We welcome you all, and look forward to seeing you at future functions!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 12:30 pm GY Book Club 	3 7 pm Munch Bunch	4 1 pm Richardson Lunch Bunch	5 7 pm Beer Garden	6 1 pm Lunch Bunch 7 pm HOTDAM	7 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch 7 pm Texas Hold 'Em 	1 6:15 pm GY Astronomy Night
9 9 pm M-Aura Calendar Deadline	10 7 pm Munch Bunch 9 pm M-Aura All-Copy Deadline	11 1 pm Richardson Lunch Bunch 7 pm MADEATS Returns!	12 7 pm Beer Garden	13 1 pm Lunch Bunch 7 pm HOTDAM	14 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	8 7 pm NEW MEMBERS PARTY!!
16 6 pm NTM Board Meeting 7:30 pm General Meeting	17 7 pm Munch Bunch	18 1 pm Richardson Lunch Bunch	19 7 pm Beer Garden	20 1 pm Lunch Bunch 7 pm HOTDAM	21 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	15 4 pm Small Group Meeting 6:30 Games SG 
23 1:30 pm Eclectic Book Club 2:30 pm Theodore Talk 30	24 7 pm Munch Bunch	25 1 pm Richardson Lunch Bunch	26 7 pm Beer Garden	27 1 pm Lunch Bunch 7 pm HOTDAM	28 1 pm East Dallas Lunch Bunch	22 12:30 pm Mensa Testing

~ April 2023~

FOR CALENDAR UPDATES, PLEASE VISIT
[HTTP://WWW.NORTHTEXASMENSA.ORG](http://www.northtexasmensa.org)

~WEEKLY EVENTS~

MONDAYS

7:00 PM - 8:15 PM Munch Bunch - Addison

Location: **BJ's Restaurant**, 4901 Belt Line Rd., Addison 75254

BJ's is an upscale brewpub with an extensive menu. On the north side of Belt Line just a couple of blocks west of the Tollway. Ask at the desk for the Mensa table.

Contact: **Roger Durham** (214-349-4521)

TUESDAYS

1:00 PM Richardson Lunch Bunch

Location: **Chili's**, 329 W. Spring Valley, Richardson 75081 Menu is eclectic, includes burgers, seafood, and Tex-Mex. Ask for Val or the Mensa table.

Contact: **Val Beasley** 972.998.2593; text me if you are coming (not required, but it helps with table size)

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Beer Garden – Dallas

Location: **District 9 Draught Haus**, 718 N. Buckner Blvd., Dallas

This is a neighborhood pub in the shopping center, corner of Buckner & Northcliff, which is the first stoplight south of NW Hwy. on Buckner. They have a good beer selection, wines and ciders on tap, and a tasty, but somewhat limited, menu. Ask for the Mensa table.

Contact: **Roger Durham** (214-349-4521)

THURSDAYS

1:00 PM - Plano Lunch Group

Location: **King Buffet**: 521 Central Parkway, Plano, TX 75074

Yelp loves King Buffet Plano's wide selection which ranges from pizza to made-to-order hibachi favorites. Look for Ty. <https://www.yelp.com/biz/king-buffet-plano-3>

Contact: **Ty O'Neil**: (214.394.7364 cell)

7:00 - 9:00 PM HOTDAM

Hang out Together with Denton Area Mensans

Location: **Cafe Brazil**, 501 W University Dr, Denton, TX 76201

Meet us for games, revelry, and more. Look for the owl statuette on the table. See YOU 'round!

PLEASE CALL OR TEXT CONTACTS FOR MORE INFO

Contact: **Deb Ramsey** (940) 391-9657 or **Christie Miller**, (940) 765-0429

FRIDAYS

1:00 - 2:30 PM East Dallas Lunch Bunch

Location: **Fish City Grill:** 7170 Skillman Street, Dallas 75231 Fish City Grill is a neighborhood seafood restaurant that delivers the best quality and fresh ingredients.
Contact: **Roger Durham** (214-349-4521)

April Events

01 SATURDAY

6:15 PM - NTM Gifted Youth Astronomy Night

Location: **UNT Planetarium:** 1704 W. Mulberry St, Denton; and the **Rafes Urban Astronomy Center**, 2350 Tom Cole Road, Denton

This is the combo package from the UNT Physics-Astronomy department, a Sky Show ("The Planets and Beyond") at the planetarium followed by an open telescope night at the astronomy center (actually, about 6-8 telescopes). We will have time to grab some food in between. \$12 adults, \$9 students. Recommend close-toed shoes as you'll need to park on the grass. You can optionally do only the sky show or the open telescopes. <https://astronomy.unt.edu/observatories/star-parties>
Contact: **Bill Rock:** (972.396.8160, bill.rock@rtx.com)

02 SUNDAY

12:30 PM - NTM Gifted Youth Book Club

(First Sunday of each month)

Location: **Zoom Meeting**

At this meeting, we will be discussing *Redwall* by Brian Jacques.

Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87284610508?pwd=WnZWQ2JhbmlEamJzcmc1TkRBcFZjZz09>

Contact: **Bill Rock:** (972.396.8160, bill.rock@rtx.com)



07 FRIDAY

7:00 PM – 11:00 PM - NTM Scholarship

Foundation Friday Texas Hold 'Em

Location: **Mary Milford's Home**, 4812 Rockcreek Lane, Plano, TX 75024.

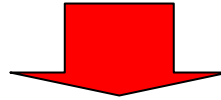
Join us for a pleasant evening of cards, bluffing and fun, as well as check out our remodeling work. No big winners or losers, just bragging rights for your \$10 contribution to the kitty, and a \$5 re-buy if you wish – all of which goes to the Scholarship Foundation. Plenty of snacks and drinks, and those new to the game are welcome to join in. As always, the party starts at 7 PM, and the game commences at 7:30 PM. And as always, if you feel sick or if you have Covid, please stay home!

RSVP. Please RSVP via text or e-mail to Anne Whiteman if you plan to



attend, since we may have to limit the number of people to "social distance":

Contact: **Mary Milford** (972-841-9779)
or mary.milford1@gmail.com.



08 SATURDAY

7:00 PM – 11:00 PM



NEW MEMBERS PARTY

Location: **JJ's Café** 10233 East Northwest Highway, Ste. 434
(between Audelia and Plano Rd)

This is our semi-annual event to introduce new and previously inactive members to the party that is North Texas Mensa. All members are welcome to mix, mingle and enjoy the company of friends new and old. All refreshments are provided. Members who have never attended a New Members Party are invited to bring a guest and attend for free. All others are asked to 'feed the kitty' \$10. An RSVP is emphatically requested, but not required. We just want to make sure we have enough goodies on hand. **See page 5** for more details.

Contact/ RSVP: **Karen Brack:** (Kwbrack18@gmail.com or 214.477.1151)

09 SUNDAY

9:00 PM – M-Aura Calendar Deadline (The 9th of each month)

Contact: **Calendar Chair, Sara Hawkins:**
(calendarchair@northtexasmensa.org, or 214-801-4704)

10 MONDAY

9:00 PM – M-Aura All Copy Deadline (The 10th of each month)

Contact: **Editor, Bill Rock:** (editor@northtexasmensa.org or 972.396.8160)

11 TUESDAY

7:00 PM – The Return of M.A.D.E.A.T.S

Location: **Resident Taqueria:** 9661 Audelia Rd. Suite 112,
Dallas, TX 75238

Yes folks, we're back. Out of an abundance of caution, MADEATS (the Mostly Affordable Diverse Eating Around Town SIG) went on hiatus during the recent Covid Kerfuffle. But we're back, baby! Our first foray will be to chef-driven Resident Taqueria. This is not your abuela's taco joint. Unless she's making tacos with caramelized cauliflower, glazed pork belly, crab cakes and escargot. The kitchen is dedicated to local, seasonal, fresh ingredients, and the menu changes often. They also have

an extensive beer program, and 7 flavors of margaritas. And there are plenty of options for vegetarians. R.S.V.P.s are greatly appreciated, but not required.

Contact/ RSVP: **Karen Brack:** (Kwbrack18@gmail.com or 214.477.1151)

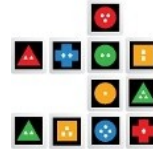
15 SATURDAY

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM - Small Mensa Meeting Canton /

Wills Point (Third Saturday of each month)

Location: We meet in each other's homes on a rotating basis We will send out a reminder about a week before each meeting giving this month's location and subject matter to be discussed. Purely a discussion group; no games, no food fests, no partying. Enjoy the exchange of thoughts and ideas without contention!

Contact: **Gerard Brohman:** (gbrohman@live.com)



6:30 PM – Games SIG

Location: **Bill & Ellen Rock's Home**

We have some classic board games and some new ones, and we're happy to try anything you care to bring over. Snacks and soft drinks will be available.

Contacts: **Bill and/or Ellen Rock :** (972.396.8160 •/+ 214.356.5819, bill.rock@rtx.com)

16 SUNDAY

6:00 PM- 7:00 PM - Board Meeting (Third Sunday of the Month)

Location: **Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas 5455**

La Sierra Drive, Dallas, or **Zoom Video:** [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81692083286?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81692083286?pwd=UWFmMlVvRUplazBZNldHcmxwSGpvZz09,)

[pwd=UWFmMlVvRUplazBZNldHcmxwSGpvZz09,](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81692083286?pwd=UWFmMlVvRUplazBZNldHcmxwSGpvZz09,) or

Zoom Phone: +1 346 248 7799 (in lieu of video call),

Meeting ID: 816 9208 3286, Passcode: 448903

All members of NTM are welcome to attend and to address the board. The board conducts the organization business decisions. Members are welcome to bring items to the board's attention if they wish. Following the Board Meeting there is usually time for socializing before the program. If you prefer, you may also attend via Zoom – links above.

Contact: **Gunny Hartman, President :**

(president@northtexasmensa.org)

7:30 PM – General Meeting Speaker—Kate Fenton

Paleontology — Can you Dig it?

Location: **Five Star Premier Residences of Dallas 5455**

La Sierra Drive, Dallas, or **Zoom Video/Phone:** (same as

board meeting)

Six years ago, a friend of Kate Fenton extended a casual invitation for her to attend a meeting of the Dallas Paleontological Society. Now Kate is an active member of the Society and its Education Committee. Since then, she has created a new way to record and replicate dinosaur footprints, and has helped excavate a whole dinosaur skeleton. Unimpeded by a PhD in research methodology and 34 years in higher education, Kate will share how searching for remnants of ancient life before man has provided exceptional personal benefits of life-long learning.

Contact/ RSVP: **Karen Brack:** (Kwbrack18@gmail.com or 214.477.1151)

22 SATURDAY

12:30 PM - 2:45 PM - Mensa Admissions Testing

Location: Carrollton Public Library (Hebron & Josey); 4220 N Josey Ln, Carrollton, TX 75010

Know someone who may qualify for Mensa? Please refer all interested testers (or anyone with questions!) to Rebecca Raymond at NTMTesting@northtexasmensa.org to obtain the pre-registration link and all other required details for this session.

Contact: **Rebecca Raymond**
(ntmtesting@northtexasmensa.org)



23 SUNDAY

1:30 PM – Eclectic Book Club (Fourth Sunday of each month)

Location: **Half Price Books Mothership:** 5803 E NW Hwy, Dallas, TX 75231 (Fourth Sunday of each month)

The book selection for this month is ***Dead Wake*** by Eric Larson. Eclectic Book Club picks are generally available in hardback, paperback or for e-readers. They should also be available at your local library.

Contacts: **Larry Strickler:** (lstrickler1@verizon.net or 972.495.8076) or **Bill Rock:** (972.396.8160 or bill.rock@rtx.com)

2:30 PM MENSA Theodore Talks

Location: **Zoom:** You must register for each lecture with an email address associated with your Zoom account. Topic is, **Invisible Warriors: African American Women in World War II**. This virtual event will take place on Zoom. Register for this presentation at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEude6rqzopG9PaaBmZz7OdgHb7OqTB6rWg>

Contact: **Brad Lucht:** (TheodoreTalks@MAMensa.org)

GIFTED YOUTH CORNER

by Bill Rock

I'll start this column with what I forgot. While sending out the reminder email for March, I was supposed to put a link in to the latest issue of Young Mensan News and notes. So here it is: https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/AMERICANMENSA/CommunityEmailAttachments/AeK6dXNORsG1tBFC929V_News%20and%20Notes%20for%20YM%20Families2.pdf I will try to remember and send this link with the reminder for this month's event.

Second, I can bring up the suggestion made when I asked about t-shirts for our members. One of the parents mentioned buttons instead. I think this is a great idea, reminiscent of the Little Yellow Map Pins that members wore in the 60's. I have a fairly easy way to get this done.

On to our event for this month, which is a planetarium show and open telescope night, both courtesy of the UNT Physics-Astronomy department. This is a fascinating event, where we first get to see a "self-guided" planetarium show, then go to the UNT observatory site where there will be several telescopes looking at stellar and interstellar objects.

One other virtual event from another group: 2023 Southeast Michigan Mensa (ZOOMantics) Kids' Talk April 15th, 2023: 10 AM - 11:30 AM EDT: How Engineering Accessibility Leads to the Greatest Innovation, given by University of Michigan Ann Arbor Computer Sciences student Liz Loehner. Register at: <https://mensadetroit.com/semantics>

On the topic of future events, it looks like the "Cardboard Challenge" was the top vote getter out of the NuMinds activity options. I will be working towards getting that set up this summer. If anyone knows of an office or meeting space we could borrow on a Saturday or Sunday, please let me know.

As always, send those ideas and suggestions along.
Bill.Rock@rtx.com or 972.396.8160 (landline)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ! The following NTMers add another candle to the cake in April:

Daniel Brantner, Josiah Luttrell, Martha MacDonough, April Barlow, Leonie Moger, William Blackwell, James Payne, Jill Senechal, Kendall Husa, Mark Petersen, Carol Borchardt, Jason Short, Troy Workman, Pia Talja, Stephen Hess, Perry Goldberg, Loral Levine, Sandy Lantz, Kash Hatton, Robert Dietrich, Jeremy Maxwell, James Wallace, Ralf Kittenbacher, Caleb Moomey, Richard Hatley, Susan Chizeck, Elizabeth Forman, Mitch (royal flush) McCarsky, Colin Kiser, Julie Schmitt, Erich Grundy, Steven Novick, Edgar Manton, Matt Delaney, Cindy Bicking, Samuel Griffith, Alfred Fraser, Gunny Hartman, Katherine Singleton, Alex Goldmann, Stephen Hightower, Robert Baxter, Dianne Snodgrass, Pruitt Swinford, Robert Dempsey, April May, Julie Catalano

NTM BOARD PROCEEDINGS - Sunday February 19th, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:00PM by Eric "Gunny" Hartman.

Present: President Eric "Gunny" Hartman, Vice-President Collene Goldman, Secretary Rajiv Lulla, Treasurer Cathy Allshouse, and Board Members at Chris Cree and Leza Mesiah

Absent: Board Member at Large Ken Roberts

1. Reports

President – Gunny Hartman noted that the next board meeting would be March 19, 2023 at 6PM at Five Star Premier Residences (5455 La Sierra Dr, Dallas, TX 75231) and that the default for 2023 board meetings would be the 3rd Sunday night of each month at 6PM at the same location. He reminded those in attendance to renew their membership, if necessary, by the end of March, since membership is requirement for serving on the board. He noted a NTM outreach opportunity in March, the Senior Expo at the Jewish Community Center, in case anyway was willing and able. Karen Brack offered further information regarding the event.

Vice-President – Collene Goldman ... NTM Community Outreach idea were presented, including a rationale for the importance of such. She gave some examples, but requested ideas from the membership for activities, especially those that could be completed in 1/2 day or less. Collene also presented a suggestion for a new position, Marketing Chair, one who "Reports to the Board and collaborates with cross-functional teams (communications, public relations, membership, event chairs, treasurer, community outreach, etc.)." This is different, but not unrelated to publicity and communications, upon which she elaborated during their respective slots. Those would work with and under the marketing chair.

Secretary – Rajiv Lulla ... The January 2022 Minutes, which were distributed by email and in person, were approved by unanimous assent.

Treasurer – Cathy Allshouse ... Cathy has yet to receive means to access NTM finances. 2022 Treasurer Paul Whiteman submitted the following: "Bank accounts (as of Jan 31, 2023): Checking: \$7780.04. Savings: \$14,029.28. Loan to Scholarship Foundation: \$10,000. Total net worth: \$31,809.32, an increase of \$720.70. Payment to printer had not cleared by end of the month."

Ombudsman – Roger Durham ... Ombudsman has nothing to report.

Membership – Ken Roberts ... "I received the authorizations for Membership a few days before our departure on 2 week cruise. I have intermittent connectivity and will start the analysis when I return (we are in the middle of the Caribbean) and I will give past and present reports in the March meeting."

Communications – Collene Goldman ... Definition: "Communications is the transmission of information to memo era and the public." She noted that the new website will be the primary source of information for our chapter, calendar, and events.

Publicity – Collene Goldman ... Definition: "Public relations is a strategic communication process that builds mutually beneficial relationships between organizations and their publics, as defined by the Public Relations Society of America. It's how and what we communicate who we are and what we do. All our communications

and and public relations need to be consistent with the outstanding graphics and messaging use din the new website; therefore, the information and messaging needs coordination."

Editor – Bill Rock ... March M-Aura done, except for an RVC column. Last word on Thursday is that it was aimed for Friday (the 17th).



Gifted Children – Bill Rock ... “Board Game event today lasted about an hour. Next month we’re attending the Storytelling Festival in Denton.”

Programs – Karen Brack ... Bruce Jones will be speaking on Sustainable Agriculture in Ancient China.

Testing Coordinator – Rebecca Raymond ... Andy tested 3 candidates in January (at the Dallas Library Timberglen Branch) and I tested 5 candidates in February (at the Carrollton Hebron & Josey library). Next test is March 11 at the Dallas Library Timberglen Branch. We’ve kicked off the year with some good groups and still

have a steady stream of prospects coming from nationals (fun fact: despite contacting prospects every time we have a new test, our number one “advertiser” is tracking to be the test session page on National’s website so I’m trying to have at least one test up at all times).

Publisher/Circulation Manager – Val Beasley ... No report.

Calendar – Sara Hawkins ... No report.

Webmaster – Andy McKellar ... Per Rajiv Lulla, who is transitioning to relieve Andy of webmaster duties: Website is progressing, but he needs photos & biographical information from board members.

S.I.G.H.T. – Gunny Hartman ... Nothing to report at this time

Scholarship Chair – Lauren Ogden ... All 694 essays have been assigned to judges. 64% complete. 36% in progress. Judge deadline is February 25. My deadline is Feb 28. 22 judges total now, half experienced and half first timers. I feel like the response has been amazing. I’m very pleased with the participation from NTM and the online process. Anne and I had thought we would have a celebration party in March after the process is complete, but we haven’t planned anything yet. Let me know if you have any other questions!

Social Media – Vacant ... This role would also report to the marketing chair.

Regional Gathering – Karen Brack ... The Gathering Committee’s recommendation was: “That NTM conduct an RG in 2023, provided that we can find a hotel that lets us bring in food and beverages.” Having been given the assurance of the request [much help], Karen Brack agreed to chair the RG.

2. Actions

After Karen Brack gave an update on the New Members Party at JJ’s, a motion was made by Collene Goldman and seconded by Rajiv Lulla to allocate \$1,500 for that party. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Cathy Allshouse and seconded by Rajiv Lulla to have a RG in 2023. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Collene Goldman and seconded by Rajiv Lulla to a Marketing Chair position consistent with the description presented by Collene Goldman. Motion passed.

Collene agreed to get Randy Brack a write-up of the position for Officers Handbook.

While Cathy Allshouse’s efforts are most appreciated in bringing the refreshments each

month for monthly general meeting, a committee of sorts will endeavor to assist her in the future, especially with regard to schlepping everything into the building.

Discussion of ways to cut expenses was postponed until March as the meeting was running long.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Cree; Leza Mesiah offered a second. The motion passed without opposition. Meeting was adjourned at 7:09PM.

NTM BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2023:

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Treasurer Cathy Allshouse	callshouse1@aol.com 713.398.7963	
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~NTM A PPOINTED POSITIONS ~

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Volunteers Coordinator—Open

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Social Media—Open

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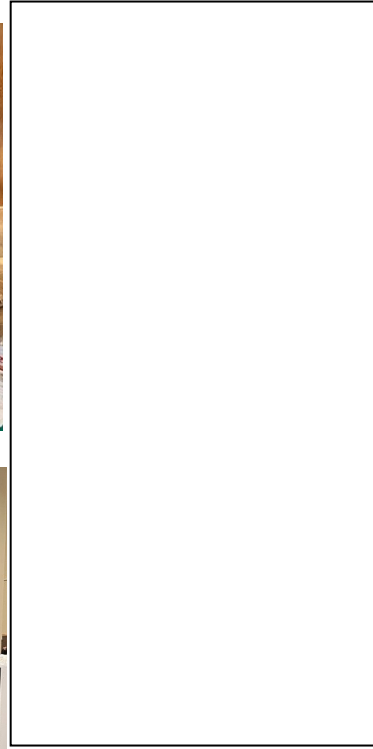
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Nominating Committee: Open
Election Committee: Open

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