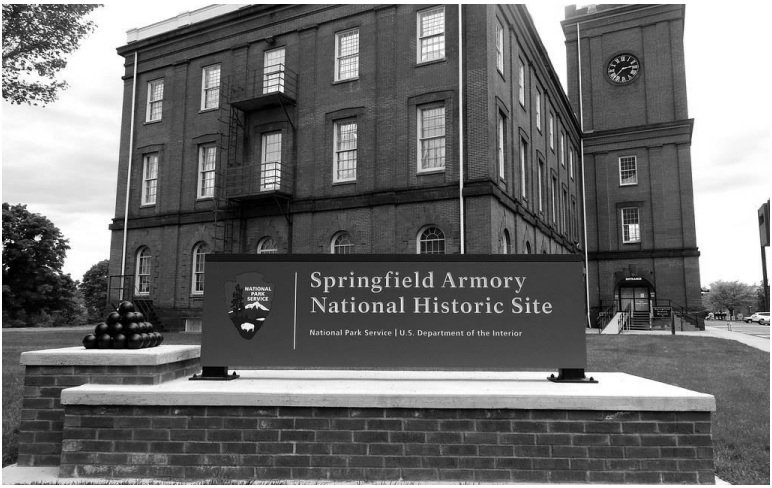
ILLUMINATE

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February Newsletter

Missouri Ozarks Mensa
814 E. Weldon Drive
Nixa, MO 65714



Historic Springfield Armory

The Newsletter of Missouri Ozark Mensa

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Contents

LocSec Thoughts 2
Regional Vice Chairman January Thoughts 3
Steering Committee Open Positions 3
Current Steering Committee/Volunteers 4
Coming Events 4
Events Calendar 5
February Birthdays 5
February Anniversaries 5
Annual Gathering Update 6

LocSec Thoughts

Many great leaders like Winston Churchill, FDR, and Stan Lee have said something like, "With great power comes great responsibility." Some might say LocSec only comes with the responsibility, but in truth, I think both the chapter's leaders and its members share the power. I am a volunteer. Missouri Ozarks Mensa is an all-volunteer organization. Ultimately, the Mensa experience is exactly what we make of it. I know our lives tend to be filled with family, work, and other responsibilities, as well as hobbies, video games, Netflix, social me--SQUIRREL! Where was I?

The position of LocSec seems to fit the 'servant leader' model well. A servant leader promotes the growth and well-being of people and the community, listens to feedback, involves others in decision making, and is a good steward of resources. And they care. I can honestly say that I do care about the members of this chapter, and I will do my best to serve them (e.g. you).

I want to help current members get more out of Mensa, and I would love to grow membership. To do this, I think we need more quantity and variety of activities. To do that we need more people planning and hosting those engaging activities. That's where I need your help. That's where we share the power, the power to strengthen and grow our chapter from within.

We need our volunteers to drive the success of the events and programs of the chapter, so please consider volunteering for one of the open positions.

Read, enjoy, and suggest articles for future issues. Remember that our website is updated regularly, so please visit https://missouriozarks.us.mensa.org to check out updated information. The Calendar Page has details and a map to events.

Lonny Burger – LocSec

Regional Vice Chairman January Thoughts

February can be a tough month. Days are still too short and it's getting colder. I'm sure that's why it has the fewest days in it. Soon it will be March; the sun will come out and start warming us up again. If you feel stuck waiting for Spring to come back, think about touching base with your Mensa friends and family. Some of our in-person meet-ups can slow down this time of year, but you might find some people to talk to on Facebook or Mensa Connect. If you're trying to find the right group or Zoom to join, let me know and I'll see if I can help. If you have an idea and want to set something up over Discord or Zoom, I would be happy to help with that as well.

At the time I'm writing this we haven't had a transfer of power in Washington DC yet, and we don't know who's going to be in the Superbowl. Hopefully it all went well, but I'm pretty sure Region 7 will be represented in New Orleans. Go Chiefs! Another big event coming up soon is our American Mensa Committee Meeting scheduled for March 15 in Hurst, TX. Much like National politics, we sometimes have our little dramas. Our meetings are hosted on Zoom with and broadcast through YouTube for members to watch along if they want. If you follow the "Lead" tab on American Mensa's website you can get meeting agendas, minutes, and a link to the broadcast.

If there is anything from Region 7 you would like me to discuss with the AMC or staff while I'm there, please let me know. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to send an email or a text. Also, if there is an event or a meeting in your local group you would like me to attend in 2025, let me know.

Curt Krambeck – RVC7

Steering Committee Open Positions

Missouri Ozarks Mensa's programs. If you have questions about any of the following positions, please email the LocSec.

Vice President
Treasurer
Membership Coordinator
Newsletter/Calendar Editor
Events Coordinator
Gifted Children Coordinator
Hosting Coordinator
Publicity Coordinator
Scholarships Coordinator
It would also be fun to have a Puzzle Master to provide puzzles for the newsletter.

Current Steering Committee/Volunteers

STEERING COMMITTEE

Local Secretary (LocSec):	Lonny Burger
Recording Secretary:	Felicia Ellis
Ombudsman:	Wes Younger
Newsletter Editor (Temporary)	Lonny Burger

OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Testing Coordinator:	Charles Myers
Testing Proctor:	Charles Myers
Webmaster:	Lonny Burger

Coming Events

DEADLINE FOR CALENDAR/ILLUMINATE SUBMISSIONS

February 14 at 5pm: This is the deadline for submissions of Events and Articles for the March Newsletter/Website to assure we have time to get them posted to the Website and included in the Newsletter in time for printing and mailing. Since we don't have an Editor yet, please email your events and any articles you want to include in the newsletter to the LocSec (who is also the Webmaster and temporary Editor).

SATURDAY LUNCH BUNCH

February 22nd at 1pm: We will gather at McAlister's Deli, 703 N. McCroskey, Suite 1 Bldg A, Nixa, MO 65714. They have a wide variety of food and beverages. Please RSVP to the LocSec by 5pm, February 15th, so that we can let them know how many to expect. Family and friends are welcome to attend.

Events Calendar

FEBRUARY 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Submissions Deadline	15
16	17 Presidents Day	18	19	20	21	22 Lunch Bunch
23	24	25	26	27	28	

February Birthdays

Cheryl Braswell (7)
Michael Thomas (20)
Wesley Young (21)

February Anniversaries

Adrienne Crow (2/28/2007)
Derek Fraley (2/20/2009)
Linda Fields (2/17/2012)
Abigail Harlin (2/20/1997)
Bob Lynch (2/6/2017)
Richard Pope (2/111/2024)
Halle Watson (2/24/2022)

Annual Gathering Update

Daisy has been keeping an eye on the Annual Gathering (AG) Team as they work hard preparing for the 2025 AG, July 2 through 6 in Chicago. She even made an appearance at a local regional gathering on Halloween weekend!

The 2025 AG will be held in the downtown Chicago Hilton at 720 S Michigan Avenue. The room rate is only $139/night for single, double, triple, or quad rooms. Yes, you saw that correctly! There will be free WiFi in hospitality as well as your sleeping room. Included will be four breakfasts, three lunches, and snacks – all available in hospitality. The current registration rate is $319 for adult members through January 31.



We are planning lots of programs and interactive opportunities for everyone to enjoy. We even expect we might see Daisy and her herd showing up from time to time. Details on tours and special events will be available within the next couple of months. Tickets for the Gala Dinner have sold out.

AG and hotel registration is available at ag.us.mensa.org. Registration is required before you can make your hotel reservation. Daisy and our AG Team look forward to seeing you there!!

Allison Reeves and Karen Gruebele
2025 AG Co-chairs

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