ILLUMINATE

Vol 37 Issue 8

August Newsletter

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



The Newsletter of Missouri Ozark Mensa

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LocSec Thoughts

Happy August. I hope everyone had a great 4th of July with family and friends and that the heat wave didn't get in the way of your holiday celebrations.

We're asking for folks who read the newsletter to let us know that you've received it. Also, if you plan to attend the Lunch Bunch or Games Night (new on the calendar for this month), so that we can get a reliable head count. Please email me your attendance plans and newsletter receipt at locsec@missouriozarks.us.mensa.org.

Just a reminder that Missouri's primary election is on August 4th so please vote and remind friends and family to cast their ballots as well.

Many Thanks!

Regional Vice Chairman August Thoughts

It's August, middle of the dog days of summer, and that means it's time for a post-Annual Gathering newsletter. This starts my third year as an RVC. Will I be re-elected as RVC for next July? Will it be you? Let me know what you think. The American Mensa Committee is going through a lot of changes, along with changes at the National office, which makes it an exciting time to be part of the growth and future of Mensa.

One of the biggest changes is our new "Pillars" strategic plan. I am part of the "Trust, Culture, and Safety" pillar. We are building our foundation now. If you want to be part or are looking for volunteer opportunities, let me know and I'll connect you. Our "Member Experience and Retention" pillar posted a survey through July that I hope you responded to. That information will help us develop a communications and marketing strategy to better engage current members and target potential new members. Another great initiative is a wiki Beth from Region 4, our Sustainable Revenue and Event chair, set up to develop a local group toolkit. This is still being developed, but feedback is encouraged. We would like to create a living document that will help give new Mensa leaders a place with resources to help them learn their role and give them the tools they need to be successful. Please go visit and sign up at wiki.us.mensa.org.

Mensa Connect is also a great way to stay in touch with your Mensa peers. If you haven't checked out connect.us.mensa.org yet, give it a look. On the right side of the screen is a quick links frame with "Adjust my subscription settings." There you can turn on notifications to make sure you stay up to date with what's going on in your communities and with your friends.

Finally, I was also going to make a comment on how great the barbeque was in Fort Worth, but I'm in Kansas City. Glad to be back home.

Feedback is always appreciated. You can send me your thoughts at rvc7@us.mensa.org.

Steering Committee/Volunteers

We've had more folks volunteer for positions so there are a couple of positions still open. If you want to volunteer for one of the vacant Volunteer Positions, please email the LocSec at locsec@missouriozarks.us.mensa.org.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Local Secretary (LocSec):	Lonny Burger
Vice President:	Jonathan Long
Recording Secretary:	Felicia Ellis
Treasurer:	Felicia Ellis
Ombudsman:	Wes Young
Illuminate Editor (Non-Voting):	Lonny Burger

OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Calendar Editor:	Lonny Burger
Gifted Children:	Austin Sandberg
Hosting:	Vacant
Membership:	Austin Sandberg
Testing Coordinator:	Charles Myers
Testing Proctor:	Charles Myers
Publicity:	Patrick Flynn
Public Relations:	Patrick Flynn
Puzzle Master	Wes Young
Scholarships:	Austin Sandberg
SIGHT Coordinator:	Vacant
Speaker Coordinator:	Vacant
Webmaster:	Lonny Burger

Membership Report

As of the end of July, we're down to 80 members in Missouri Ozarks Mensa because of lapsed memberships. If you've let your membership lapse, please renew. If you know people who might be interested in joining, please direct them to the Membership Page of the Website.

Membership Corner

Moving? If you are moving or have a change of address the simplest way to have your records changed is to log in to your MENSA account at https://www.us.mensa.org/. If you don't have an account with American Mensa, it is a simple process to create a new account.

If your membership has lapsed, you can renew at by going to the American Mensa website and clicking on JOIN at the left of the top menu bar, then Rejoin from the dropdown. You can also rejoin by phone or mail to American Mensa, 1315 Brookside Dr., Hurst, TX 76053, 1-817-607 0060.

Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance 5/1/2026:	11,843.64
Deposits From National:	157.64
Expenditures:	127.40
Closing Balance 6/30/2026:	11,873.96

Events Calendar

AUGUST 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Lunch Bunch
23	24	25	26 Games Night	27	28	29
30	31					

Coming Events

Deadline for September Calendar/Illuminate Submissions

August 10th at 5pm: This is the deadline for submissions of Events and Articles for the September Newsletter/Website update to assure we have time to get them posted to the Website and included in the Newsletter in time for printing and mailing. Please email your events and any articles you want to include in the newsletter to the LocSec locsec@missouriozarks.us.mensa.org.

August Saturday Lunch Bunch

Let's Lunch Bunch on August 22nd at 1pm at Asian King Buffet, 3130 S. Glenstone Ave, Springfield. Please email me by 5pm, August 17th at locsec@missouriozarks.us.mensa.org if you will be attending so that we can provide a good head count. Thanks so much and we hope to see a good group. Remember that friends and family members are welcome to attend.

August Games Night

August 26th at 7pm at Springfield Library Center.

Have you set up the perfect Magic deck?? Think you can beat everyone with your deck?? Let's get together and see!!" Or..."Settlers of Catan...how are you at building cities?? Can you get 10 victory points first?? Come try your luck at our Games Night! What's the best thing about game night?? Games...or snacks?? Bring a drink for you and something yummy to share. along with your favorite game!!

We really will need a good head count, so please email me at locsec@missouriozarks.us.mensa.org. by August 21st at 5pm if you are going to attend.

August Birthdays

Lorraine Gardner (5)
Richard Pope (24)

August Anniversaries

Douglas Cloyd (8/25/2003)
Layla Harrell (8/28/2003)
Evan Listopad (8/21/2010)
Amy Scher (8/28/1981)
Robert Shannon (8/13/2001)
David Wood (8/4/2021)

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