

From the RVC:

As I write this, in early September, I have just returned from a great weekend at LoneStaRG in Round Rock, TX. John Neemidge, a last-minute substitute as RG Chair, did a terrific job: a wide variety of speakers, Ray O'Connor's sumptuous hospitality, three tastings (wine, cheese, and chocolate), and a Pajama Party dance, among other things. I didn't get to see the final attendance list, but I noticed folks there from Gulf Coast, South Texas, North Texas, Permian Basin, New Mexico, and Mensa 76, in addition to host group Lone Star Mensa. Besides the opportunity to socialize with some new people, I also enjoyed the chance to exchange a few ideas with some other national officers: Bob Bevard, our national Development Officer; Brian Bloch, Interloc Editor; and Jeff Dommence, Assistant RVC.

A good time was had by all, I believe, and now I'm looking forward to the Region's next big party, the Feast of Pleasures and Delights, North Texas Mensa's 30<sup>th</sup> annual RG, taking place over Thanksgiving weekend at the Radisson Dallas East, LBJ Freeway at Jupiter in Dallas.

Before that, however, I'm scheduled to speak at South Texas Mensa's upcoming Leadership Development Workshop (LDW), October 9-11 in San Antonio. I hope many of you from across the region have signed up for this, as an LDW will help you to understand what is expected and required of anyone taking a leadership position in a local Mensa group. The South Texas group intends for this to be a regional event, not just for their own members, so if you are considering an elected or appointed office in your local group, this would be a great way to get started.

Two weeks after that, October 22-25 will find me in Arlington, TX for the fall meeting of the American Mensa Committee (AMC). The agenda has not yet been posted, but I expect there will be many new developments to discuss and several new initiatives to evaluate. Then I get a break from American Mensa business, while I enjoy the Dallas RG. Carol Hilson, a two-time Annual Gathering Chair (so far) is the RG Chair this year, and has promised a rip-roaring good time. For those of you who haven't heard, the AMC recently agreed to hold the 2013 AG in Fort Worth, but with a new twist: the AG will be run, not by host group Mensa 76, but by North Texas Mensa, and Carol will become Mensa's first (and probably only) three-time AG Chair. I look forward to seeing some of you in San Antonio this month, and many more of you in Dallas in November.