

I have been taken to task by The Joyce Lundeen of Central Oklahoma Mensa over my last RVC column. T.J. asks how I can expect potential candidates for national office to get interested in national Mensa issues if their RVC won't discuss them publicly.

Well, the fact is that what discussion I see on national Mensa issues in places like M-Pol is mostly being carried on by ill-informed ideologues who would make very poor national officers even if they had a snowball's chance of being elected. This does not make me think that public discussion of national issues on a regional level would be particularly valuable. I repeat, however, that if any of you have any fact-based concerns about anything in American Mensa, whether it's something the American Mensa Committee is currently discussing or not, I would be happy to hear from you.

If you stop to think of American Mensa as what it is, a multi-million-dollar business corporation, you will understand when I say that the candidates we need for national office are not those especially interested in national Mensa issues, but rather experienced business people. I don't particularly want Mensa to be led by single-issue hotheads who burn with a desire to show the rest of us How the Cow Ate the Cabbage, and I don't think that's what most of you want, either.

Now, if I run across an issue that doesn't have pretty obvious right and wrong sides, strictly from a business standpoint, you can be assured that I will ask for the opinions of the membership, but you would probably be surprised at how few such issues there are. In fact, during my first year in office, there have been exactly none.

I'll be at the Houston RG over Memorial Day weekend, at the AG in Dearborn from June 30th through July 5th, and at the Austin RG for Labor Day weekend, so any of you who disagree can corner me and beat me up about this at any of those places, or just e-mail me at rvc6@us.mensa.org. With the exception of T.J., no one else has contacted with me about the April column, so unless I hear from you to the contrary, I'm going to have to assume that most of you are happy with the status quo.

During the coming year, in addition to the region's three RGs, I'm going to try to visit at least another 4 or 5 of the smaller local groups, so if you would like me to drop in on one of your events, let me know (a month or so in advance, if possible). I've already been to Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio, Oklahoma City, and Little Rock, and I'll be in Houston later this month, so the candidates for the remainder of the year are East Texas, Northern Louisiana, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Eastern Oklahoma, Lubbock, Permian Basin, Paso del Norte, and New Mexico.