

From the RVC:

It's hard to believe that 2010 is already over, and it's time to wish all of you a very happy New Year. I'm still recuperating from a very busy month in November, starting with the fall meeting of the American Mensa Committee in Fort Worth and finishing with North Texas Mensa's Regional Gathering, the annual Feast of Pleasures and Delights, over Thanksgiving weekend. The RG was enjoyable from beginning to end; I wish I could say the same for the AMC meeting. I'm already looking forward to Gulf Coast Mensa's RG in May.

Actually, the meeting in Fort Worth was very productive, with a lot of hard work being done by the AMC, your national Board of Directors. We discussed the report of the Governance Task Force that I talked about in last month's column, and began the long process of considering changes to our basic organizational structure based on the Task Force's findings. I'll go into more detail about that as specific proposals begin to emerge from our discussions.

I was disappointed, however, that the AMC decided, over my objection, to raise dues next year by \$4. This amount is what we projected to be necessary to carry us through 2013 without another increase, but I felt (and still feel) that an increase of this magnitude is unwise under present economic conditions. I did receive a commitment from at least one member of the finance committee to reconsider this increase if membership growth produces sufficient new revenue to make a lesser dues amount workable. Should you see fit to re-elect me this spring, I will be seeking appointment to the finance committee myself when the AMC is reorganized for the 2011-13 term.

Likewise, my proposal to restructure the process for disciplinary hearings failed to attract sufficient support, but it did succeed in getting the AMC members thinking about changes to the National Hearings Committee set-up, and I will be revisiting this subject in the coming months.

Speaking of changes, many groups recently went through local elections and have new officers taking over this month. My congratulations (or condolences) and best wishes to all of you who are newly elected to a leadership position in your local group. Please do not hesitate to contact me ([rvc6@us.mensa.org](mailto:rvc6@us.mensa.org)) if I can be of assistance in any way.

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