

From the RVC:

Well, another year has gone by, and it's time to renew your Mensa membership again (unless, of course, you're a life member, or you paid for a multi-year renewal that still has some time to run). I know some of you are disappointed that dues have increased once again this year, and I sympathize with you, but the fact is that our costs continue to increase and we have to keep up somehow. However, there is a way to insure that your Mensa dues will never increase again – life membership. I wish I had bought one when I first joined – I would have saved a bundle. Come on now, just bite the bullet and get a life membership this year, and from now on you can just smile smugly whenever the dues notices come out.

Another thing that it's time to do is make your plans to attend the 2011 version of SynRG, the Regional Gathering of Gulf Coast Mensa, taking place over Memorial Day weekend in Houston. Register before April 1 and save \$10. Go to www.gcmensa.org for more information and a registration form. Houston, where I joined Mensa, was the first RG I ever went to, and also, a few years later, the first one I ever chaired, so even though I've been to dozens of others since (and chaired a fair number of them), SynRG is still near and dear to my heart. If you've never been to an RG, you owe it to yourself to check it out. I hope to see you there!

Also, it's past time to make plans to attend the 2011 Annual Gathering of American Mensa, June 30-July 4 in Portland, OR this summer. Registration is running ahead of previous AGs, which means that attendance is likely to be well over two thousand Mensans from all parts of the country. Register by the end of March and save \$20. Visit www.ag.us.mensa.org for details.

Finally, of course, the arrival of March means another American Mensa election is right around the corner. There are quite a few contested races this year (including mine!), the outcome of which could be vitally important to the future of our organization, so please read the biographies and candidate statements in the Mensa Bulletin carefully, and then vote for the candidates of your choice.

Last month I asked for your help in re-imagining American Mensa. Now I've been asked to serve on the Task Force that is charged with putting together concrete recommendations for restructuring our national organization, so your input is more important than ever! If you've ever thought that you could design a more efficient governing structure for Mensa, now is the time to speak up. I have some ideas of my own, to be sure, but I know some of you can envision things that would never occur to me. There will never be a better opportunity for you to make a real difference in Mensa. Please send your suggestions to me at rvc6@us.mensa.org or by snail mail at 9920 Ridgehaven Drive, Dallas, TX 75238.

Roger Durham