

As I write this, I am just shy of six weeks into my term as RVC. This has been an extremely hectic six weeks, but I am very excited about the potential for the continued improvement and growth of American Mensa and Region 6 in particular.

I have two regional officers to announce. Randy Brack of North Texas Mensa has consented to stay on as our Regional Ombudsman. He has written a column introducing both himself and his role that you will likely be able to find in either this issue or the previous issue of your newsletter.

September is the beginning of scholarship season with the Mensa Foundation. I have asked Johnnie Vaughn of Lone Star Mensa to serve as our Regional Scholarship Chair. Johnnie and I are both very enthusiastic about the charitable arm of our organization. I hope you will all consider supporting the Foundation, either financially or with your time as a scholarship judge. Judging scholarship essays can be a lot of fun without taking up too much of your time. Contact your local scholarship chair to find out how you can participate. If your local group does not have a scholarship chair, please get in touch with your LocSec and Johnnie (scholarships@region6.us.mensa.org).

I had the opportunity to spend a day in the National Office at the end of July. I was able to have several meetings with members of our staff, but the one I am most excited about was the meeting to discuss an upcoming tool for local group officers, the local group dashboard. While this tool is still in development, it is going to be absolutely fantastic. Many of the tasks that are rather cumbersome or require officers to reach out to the National Office will be able to be updated remotely through the dashboard. Stay tuned for details in the coming months.

I am kicking off my travels to local groups in the region with my trip around Northern Louisiana Mensa. I will be meeting with members in Shreveport, Monroe, and Alexandria during the last weekend of August. The following weekend, I will be attending LoneStaRG 17 in Round Rock, TX. The lineup of programs looks fantastic. If you have not yet registered, I hope you will reconsider. This is always a great party. You can find more details and register online at <http://www.lonestarmensa.org/lonestarg-2015.html>.

As members of Region 6, we are playing host to the next three meetings of the AMC. The first will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at the Hilton Arlington Hotel. AMC meetings are open to all current members of Mensa, and I hope some of you will consider attending.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, you can contact me via email at rvc6@us.mensa.org, phone at 512-779-3945, or snail mail at 7907 Sandpiper Dr, Houston, TX 77074.

Taz Criss