

It feels like 2015 started last week, but the year is already drawing to a close. For some of the 15 local groups within Region 6, elections have been happening, and new people will be holding office as of January 1. If you have previously volunteered your time or are about to embark on your first foray into local group leadership, I thank you. Mensa is a member-run organization and nowhere is that more obvious than at the local group level. If you are interested in getting involved with your local group, but are not yet ready to dive into the deep end of elected office, contact your LocSec or myself to learn about other volunteer opportunities.

This is also the time of year when many people choose to apportion donations. The Mensa Foundation is the charitable arm of American Mensa, providing scholarships and other funding for gifted youth programs throughout the year. The Foundation annually awards over 50 scholarships of up to \$1,000 each. These scholarships are available to students who are not members of Mensa as well as members, so please encourage the college students in your life to apply. More information and an online donation form can be found at www.mensafoundation.org.

Finally, it is time for another meeting of the American Mensa Committee. This quarter's meeting will have a slightly different schedule than usual. Saturday, December 5, will be an all-day strategic planning workshop. This workshop and planning session is open to all Mensa members. It will be followed by the regular business meeting on Sunday, December 6. As the DFW area is again playing host to this meeting, I encourage all of you to consider attending. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, please feel free to reach out to me with any feedback regarding the planning workshop or scheduled agenda items for the AMC meeting. I will be discussing any decisions made at this meeting in my column for January.

As always, I ask that if you have any questions, concerns, or general comments, please let me know. I have created a simple online form where members can offer feedback on any topic, both by name or anonymously. You can find this form at <http://tinyurl.com/AML-R6-Feedback>. Of course, if you prefer, you can always 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