

As I write this column, we are one day away from the close of the voting periods for both the American Mensa and Mensa International elections. After four years, this is my final column as Regional Vice Chair for Region 6. Each of the candidates to fill this role brings a passion for Mensa and a desire to work for the betterment of the organization. I'm sure that regardless of who my successor is, the region will be in excellent hands. I will continue to be available to all of you as the national Treasurer of the American Mensa Committee.

I have often heard people mention that while they would like to get more involved with Mensa, they aren't sure where to start. We are rolling out a new Volunteer Market as a part of Mensa Connect at <https://tinyurl.com/AMLVolunteers/>. You will be able to create a profile with your skillset, similar to a job board such as Indeed or Monster. Local groups and national committees will be able post volunteer opportunities that you can apply to, again, just like a job board. If your volunteer profile matches a new opportunity posted by a local group, the local group officers can specifically invite you to apply for a new role as it is posted. Training webinars will be posted to explain how to use the system

Another great way to get involved is by attending a Gathering, either the Annual Gathering or one of the many Regional Gatherings around the country. The upcoming Annual Gathering will be held July 3-7, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ. This is the largest opportunity to get to experience this amazing community and meet members from across the country. Whether it's a discussion about a fascinating speaker's presentation, playing games until late at night, or simply laughter while sitting around a table in Hospitality, the personal connections made at Gatherings are one of the most valuable aspects of membership. You can find more details and register online at <http://ag.us.mensa.org>.

If you are looking for something a little closer to home, don't forget about LoneStaRG, Lone Star Mensa's Regional Gathering. LoneStaRG will be held August 30-September 2, 2019 in Round Rock, TX. You can find more information about LoneStaRG at <http://www.lonestarmensa.org/lonestarg-21.html>.

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 (through June 30) or taz@tazcriss.com or by phone at 512-779-3945.

Taz Criss