

February has always been a catch up month for me. After the hustle and bustle of the holidays, January tends to speed by before I realize what is happening. February is generally my first chance to stop and take a breath. This year will be no exception, as I moved into a new house in January, making the month even more hectic. I'm looking forward to the chance to simply vegging out for a weekend. Unfortunately, that is still a few weeks away from the time I am writing this.

I am currently preparing to attend the budget meeting in my role as a member of Mensa's Finance & Audit Committee. After the budget is reviewed by the committee, it will come before the American Mensa Committee for vote at the March board meeting. As with all quarterly AMC meetings, the March meeting will be open to all current Mensa members. This meeting will once again be held in Region 6, though we will be leaving the DFW area and visiting South Texas Mensa in San Antonio. I encourage any of you who are interested to attend this meeting. South Texas Mensa is also planning to host a hospitality suite and a speaker meeting during the weekend as well. I will have more information available next month.

February is also the time that you will start seeing more frequent notices to renew your Mensa membership. Your early renewal saves Mensa money, allowing us more funding to support valuable membership services. You can renew by phone, mail, or online at <http://us.mensa.org/renew>.

While you are preparing to renew you membership, consider adding the Annual Gathering to your summer plans. This year, the AG will be held in San Diego, CA. AGs are a unique opportunity to connect with Mensans from across the country. There will be around 2,000 members in attendance, making this the largest Mensa event in the country. This year, we are taking over a resort completely, allowing us the rare opportunity to not have to share convention space with any other group during the AG. You can find out more about the AG and register online at <http://ag.us.mensa.org/>.

As always, 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](mailto:rvc6@us.mensa.org), phone at 512-779-3945, or snail mail at 10518 Horseshoe Bend Dr, Houston, TX 77064.

Taz Criss