

December always seems to be a whirlwind. Between holiday celebrations of all sorts with friends and family, office parties, and the fact that many people have work fewer days, it's easy for things to slip through the cracks.

I hope you haven't let your registration for NORGY, New Orleans Mensa's Regional Gathering, slip through those cracks. NORGY will be held December 9-11, 2016. LocSec Bart Geraci and the NOM team have put together what looks like a truly fantastic weekend of culture, food, and general fun. It has been several years since NOM hosted an RG, but it looks like they will be making up for it with a vengeance. You can register and find more details about the schedule and programming online at <http://bit.ly/2bsVF4y>.

December is also the time that people make charitable donations. If you have not yet found your worthy cause, I would ask you to consider donating to the Mensa Foundation. The Foundation awards tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships each year, as well as providing funding for many gifted youth programs and educational efforts. Your donations to the Mensa Foundation are tax-deductible. More information and an online donation form can be found at [www.mensafoundation.org](http://www.mensafoundation.org). You can also call the office at 817-607-0060 ext. 199 and speak to a staff member if you have questions or prefer not to donate online.

During the hustle and bustle of this month, I encourage you to take the time to attend a local Mensa event. Growing up in this organization, I have repeatedly found kindred spirits and some of the most fascinating people through conversations with my fellow members. It is my personal experience that the connections with fellow members are largely rewarding. So go forth and enjoy the top benefit of membership in this fantastic organization – other Mensans.

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

I wish all of you a very happy new year.

Taz Criss