

# Space Coast Area Mensa



NEWSLETTER

Volume 40, Issue 10

October 2022

## From Your LocSec

A hearty welcome aboard to **Bruce Barton, Mike Bauer, Donna Desideri, and Brittany Shen**. These are new members since the previous newsletter.

This issue is predominantly devoted to the recent event at the Brevard Zoo. While our chapter was the primary host, given that the zoo is in our area, Central Florida Mensa played a major role to pull it off so successfully. It would be churlish of me to not recognize their ExComm for co-hosting the event, but the highest praise goes to **Debbie Freeland** who sacrificed a great many hours creating the registration site and making an expedited check-in process the day of the event so we could get people into the zoo as quickly as possible. Debbie also provided the signage, table linens, name stickers, lunch tickets, door prize tickets, and her experience as an event planner. It literally could not have happened without the support of Debbie and CFM. In all, four chapters in Region 10 subsidized their members and guests paying for 50% of the admission costs and all meal costs. Space Coast and Central Florida split the lodge rental, animal encounters, and train rides for all attendees. If you attended this event, I hope you had a great time and got to learn about the animals and the rehabilitation efforts the zoo provides.

We remain in the election period for a new Executive Committee. Unfortunately, we have had no self-nominations and members have until October 1st to make nominations by petition. Said petitions must be signed by 10 members of Space Coast Area Mensa and delivered to Tom Lempicke (Nomination/Election Committee Chair) by October 20th for inclusion in the November newsletter. The term for current ExComm members ends on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. The election committee must meet publicly prior to December 7<sup>th</sup> to count ballots and certify the results. If sufficient ballots are not received to fill the four ExComm positions, I will reach out to **Thomas Thomas**, our Regional Vice Chair and advise him of our predicament. Since we cannot exist without an Executive Committee, failing to elect a new ExComm will be the demise of our chapter and National will determine what to do with our chapter.

*Jim Fitzgerald*

## RVC10—Thomas G. Thomas

I am writing this column a few days before the quarterly American Mensa Committee (AMC) meeting, held on September 17, 2022 at the National Office in Hurst, Texas. While I cannot tell you what happened for the October newsletters, I can let you know what was on the agenda, which was relatively brief.

In each meeting, the first action taken after opening remarks and comments is the approval of the Consent Agenda. These are items that are approved without debate. (If any item from the Consent Agenda needs to be discussed, it is removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to the end of New Business.) This time around this includes the approval of the minutes from the July 28 Special Meeting (which I reported on last month), the acceptance of officer and committee reports, and the appointment of the three voting members of the Bylaws Committee, of which I am one.

Before any further actions are taken, the AMC receives reports from the Treasurer (**Taz Criss**) and the Executive Director (**Trevor Mitchell**), and then moves into Executive Session (closed session) to discuss confidential volunteer personnel and legal issues. I hear occasional complaints about this last piece, but most legal issues really shouldn't be discussed publicly, nor should discussions about individuals which in some circumstances may be construed as defamatory should the discussions become public. After we come back from Executive Session, the Secretary reads any pertinent information from the session into the record.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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## RVC10—Thomas G. Thomas

(Continued from page 1)

The next section is to address unfinished business, which in this meeting are the five motions that were tabled from the July meeting. These are the proposed referenda regarding the Ombud role, which needed further discussion and review by the Bylaws Committee (as required by ASIE Article 2 Section C.1.b.ii and b.iii). I referred to these referenda in my August column but due to space limitations in my column did not go into detail.

There are three items of New Business to be dealt with:

- Appointment of the 2024 Annual Gathering Co-Chairs
- Setting the location of the 2026 Annual Gathering
- Amending the Membership Data Agreement (MDA)

(This last motion is to clarify the MDA motion passed at the July AMC meeting, which could have been interpreted as preventing the sharing of member data among local group officers in order for them to fulfill their roles. This corrects that misunderstanding.)

Finally, there will be two presentations: Education by the Treasurer (**Taz Criss**) and an introductory presentation by our newly elected Ombud (**R. Edward Lomas**).

The agenda for the meeting is posted at <https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/meeting-reports/> under the dropdown “2022-09-17 — Hurst, TX”. By the time the October newsletters come out, this link should also include the mini-minutes from the meeting.

On the Regional side, I would like to commend **Jim Fitzgerald** of Space Coast Area Mensa on organizing one of the most ambitious cross-region events in years, with an outing to the Brevard Zoo on September 17, together with logistical and publicity assistance from **Debbie Freeland** of Central Florida Mensa. With over 160 members and guests from at least five local groups attending (including North Florida Mensa, Tampa Bay Mensa and Mensa of Jacksonville), this is the largest single-day event in Region 10 in my memory. Kudos to all involved.

Until next month (or until I see you online),

Thomas George Thomas

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thomas.g.thomas>

Mensa Connect <https://connect.us.mensa.org/communities/local-groups/region-10>

Region 10 Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MensaRegion10/>

*The title of this section uses a common cipher*

7 F J < 3 J > > O F V

I am nine letters long: 123456789

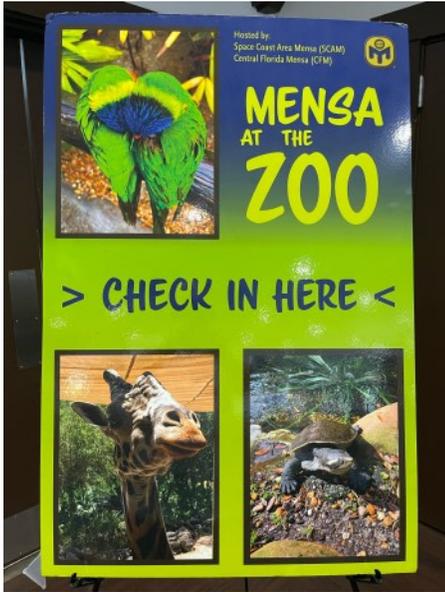
My first four “1234” is to recognize

My last five “56789” is a ridge

My last four “6789” is a boundary

What am I?

Answer is at the bottom of page 12



17 September 2022



*The Griffin Family, CFM*

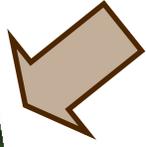
*The Fouraker Family, CFM*



*The Masella Family, CFM*



*The Moretta Family, TBM*



*The Warner Family, CFM*

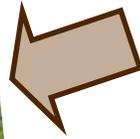


*The Prince Family, CFM*





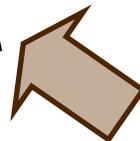
*The Oedewaldt Family, SCAM*



*The Cotman Family, CFM*

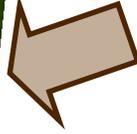


*The Coker Family, NFM*

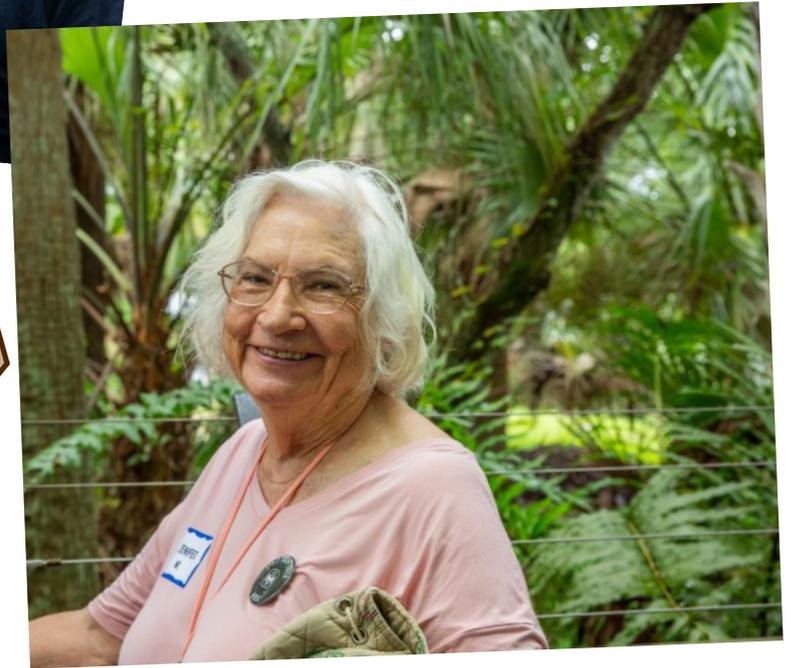




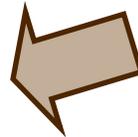
*The Loughlin Family, CFM*



*J. Mina, SCAM*



*The Patterson Family  
and S. Williams, CFM*





*The Subramaniam Family, SCAM*

*D. Desideri, SCAM &*

*D. Funkhouser*



*M. Franco, CFM*





*The Zajić Family, PBM*



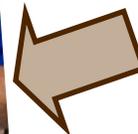
*D. Pecarina, SCAM*

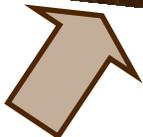


*The Cable Family, NFM &*

*B. Mayer &*

*V. Kelly*





*Feeding time at the zoo*



*Monkey Birthday Party*

*Sloth—Animal Encounter*



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## Newsletter Submissions

To submit articles, events, SIGs, announcements, please email [locsec@scam.us.mensa.org](mailto:locsec@scam.us.mensa.org)

All submissions must be received by the Editor before the 15th of the month preceding publication.

### Upcoming Events

**13 Oct:** ExComm Meeting: 6:00 PM meeting via Zoom Passcode: 719659

F  
A  
C  
T

October 21st is the birthday of Martin Gardner, a mathematician and prolific author. He brought recreational mathematics to readers of *Scientific American* for 25 years. The *Gathering 4 Gardner* foundation developed the **Celebration of Mind** event held annually on or around Martin's birthday where people come together to enjoy puzzles, games, math and magic.

### Picture of the Month



**Baby Great Horned Owls**

Photo by: Jim Fitzgerald

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# Space Coast Area Mensa

## Officers and Appointees

Local Secretary	Jim Fitzgerald	<a href="mailto:locsec@scam.us.mensa.org">locsec@scam.us.mensa.org</a>
Deputy Local Secretary	Arleigh Sharpe	<a href="mailto:asstlocsec@scam.us.mensa.org">asstlocsec@scam.us.mensa.org</a>
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Testing Proctor	Harold (Bud) Long	
Testing Proctor	Hank Rhodes	
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Scholarship Chair	Julie Costopoulos	<a href="mailto:scholarship@scam.us.mensa.org">scholarship@scam.us.mensa.org</a>
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Gifted Youth Coordinator	Vacant	
Ombudsman	Tom Lempicke	<a href="mailto:tom@lempicke.com">tom@lempicke.com</a>

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### Mensa Links

#### SCAM Web Site

<http://www.spacecoast.us.mensa.org>

#### SCAM Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/138237718381/>

#### American Mensa

<https://www.us.mensa.org/>

#### Mensa Connect

<https://www.us.mensa.org/connect/mensa-connect/>

#### Your Membership Profile

<https://www.us.mensa.org/my-mensa/my-membership-profile/>

Receiving the newsletter electronically is easy. Just follow these simple steps:

1. Go to <https://members.us.mensa.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=CommPref>
2. Edit the top box "Publication Preferences" and set 'Local Group Newsletter' to "Electronic" and click 'Save'
3. Done. Told ya it was easy and you save our chapter print costs. Win-win.

The cipher used in the title of this section is called Pigpen and translates to **Gray Matters**. You may run into this in an escape room.

Answer from Page 2: **KNOWLEDGE**