

SCAM

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Inside This Issue:

- RVC10 Letter from Thomas G Thomas.
- LocSec Message: Here We Are.
- NomElComm Report: Declared Candidates
- Latest Minutes.

Volume 36, No. 2

September/October 2018



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SPACE COAST AREA MENSA
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spacecoast.us.mensa.org



Executive Committee

Local Secretary

Robert K Roth
898 Island Club Square
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locsec@scam.us.mensa.org

Assistant Local Secretary

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826 Buxmont Ct.
Rockledge FL 32955
321-633-1636
member@scam.us.mensa.org

Secretary

VACANCY – HELP WANTED

recsecretary@scam.us.mensa.org

Treasurer

Val Valek
treasurer@scam.us.mensa.org

Member At Large

Aron Travis
440 Rheime Rd NW
Palm Bay FL 32907
321-501-7547
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Appointed Positions

PROCTOR COORDINATOR, Hank Rhodes, MensaTest@cfl.rr.com

S.I.G.H.T., Karen Freiberg, Sight@scam.us.mensa.org

RG Chair, VACANT – HELP WANTED

Bylaw Committee, Wynn Rostek, wynn.rostek5@gmail.com

Mediator, George Patterson, membership@scam.us.mensa.org

Membership, VACANT – Help Wanted.

Publicity, VACANT – Help Wanted.

Social Media, Doug Starke.

Newsletter Editor: VACANT – HELP WANTED

Webmaster, Karen Freiberg, 321-633-1636, webmaster@scam.us.mensa.org

Calendar, Doug Starke, 321-633-1636

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All submissions must be received by the Editor before the 10th of the month preceding publication. Please allow extra time for mailed submissions, which may be **typed or legibly handwritten**. Email submissions are preferred. They may be in any of most common **word processing formats**. All submissions should be sent to the **Editor**, whose contact information is on page 2.

Message #3 From Tired Old SCAM LocSec

Robert K Roth, LocSec

As Local Secretary, it fell upon me to keep promises that I made to increase membership and participation through what I thought would be innovative and forward looking organizational and management concepts. I believed that the membership would respond to a new vision, and that a fertile garden of new ideas, interest, and participation would follow. We (1) increased SCAM presence on social media a little, (2) conducted individual mail and email outreach to lapsed members in an attempt to lead them back to the fold, (3) encouraged discussion and debate at meetings to foment participation, (4) took members concerns over high annual renewal fees to National, (5) scheduled and executed meet-and-greet events in Vero Beach and Titusville to reach members not likely to travel to events in Melbourne or Rockledge each month, (6) attempted to organize a mini gathering to take place coincident with the annual election in December, and (7) sought at every opportunity to encourage and empower younger members of SCAM to step up and bring their unique visions to the fore.

By any logical and/or reasonable metric, these efforts have been a resounding failure, and I am responsible. The remaining ExComm directors, Karen Freiberg, Val Valek, and Aron Travis, did what they could to support my vision, but without hoped for additional participation, we failed. At this point, except for a small blip of additional participation at the meet-and-greets, the membership has decided to remain largely silent and uninvolved. Membership is down. The number of volunteers in vital support positions is down. An ExComm director resigned, without replacement. We have no Gifted Youth Coordinator. We have no Newsletter Editor. We have no corporate Secretary. Input from the membership at any level of participation is down.

I accept responsibility. I will serve my complete term until December 2018, but I have not placed my name on the ballot for election to the 2019 ExComm. We must elect, in my opinion, a new, younger generation to the open positions on the ExComm, and critical volunteer support positions, if SCAM is to have any chance to continue as an independent group within American Mensa.

Please step up and BE that opportunity to change and improve SCAM through YOUR participation.

Rob

Next ExComm Meeting is October 16th at 6:30 pm, at the home of Karen Freiberg (address on page 2). You are invited and encouraged to attend. You will enjoy the companionship of like-minded persons engaged in intelligent conversation. An RSVP would be appreciated.

SCAM Advertising Rate Card. SCAM members may place non-commercial ads at no cost, within space limitations established by the editor. Others may purchase ads at the following rates: \$50 full page, \$25 half page, \$10 bus card. Rates are per month. Discounts are available based on size and term of placement. Layout and design are responsibility of the purchaser. Email subscription is included with dues. Others and snail mail available for \$10 per year in advance.

Report of The NomElComm

Robert K Roth

There are five positions on the Space Coast Area Mensa Executive Committee (ExComm). These five director positions shall be filled in an election to conclude in December 2018.

Directors are elected “at large.” Once elected, the five directors meet to elect their officers to serve for the next year. In addition, they will vote to either replace or reinstall the many volunteer position holders that support the ExComm.

The NomElComm (Nominating and Election Committee) this year is comprised of Wynn Rostek and William Lamb. A third member may be added if a volunteer presents him/herself.

The NomElComm has advised the LocSec that the following candidates have expressed interest in serving in one of the five ExComm positions:

Karen Freiberg

Val Valek

No other candidates expressed interest in serving in the remaining three positions. The NomElComm is recommending approval of these candidates by the membership of SCAM.

Nominations remain open until October 15th, at which time the NomElComm will close nominations and the ballot shall be distributed to the membership for a vote.

You are encouraged to consider submitting your name to serve on the Executive Committee for 2019, by sending your intentions by email to Wynn Rostek, Chair NomElComm, wynn.rostek5@gmail.com. You may also mail your self-nomination to Wynn Rostek, 3456 Willis Drive, Titusville, Florida 32796-4535.

All nominations received NOT LATER THAN October 15th, shall be included on the OFFICIAL BALLOT mailed to members shortly thereafter.

Are you the Mensan at work? Do you work with other Mensans...or...are you the only one? If the latter is true, do your coworkers know that you are in Mensa? What about your boss? What are your impressions and experience at work? Do you have a leadership position? Do you serve in any kind of “support” (formal or informal) role? Does your status as a Mensan have a positive or negative **A Mensan In The Workplace**

impact on your work relationships? Finally, if preparing a resume, would you include your Mensa membership as an item (or would you state that you qualified to join Mensa)? Why or why not? Let us hear from you.

Report From RVC10, Thomas G Thomas

The American Mensa Committee (AMC) held a teleconference on August 22 to elect **Greg Kontz** as our new Secretary following the resignation of our previous Secretary **Lisa Maxwell**, per the procedure set forth by Article III.(12) of the American Mensa Bylaws. We also used the opportunity to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2018 AMC meeting. The full minutes are now available for review at <http://us.mensa.org/meetingreports> by selecting 2018-07-05 - Indianapolis from the dropdown.

Also available at the meeting reports link, you will be able to find the agenda for the upcoming September 2018 AMC meeting. Agenda items include appointment of the 2019 Election Committee, as well as changes to the membership of existing committees. There will be discussion regarding Event Safety, and a report from the Risk Management Committee. In New Business, there is a motion to create an AML History Task Force to collect historical information about American Mensa and format it so it is accessible to the membership. This will leverage volunteer efforts, and if approved, I will serve on this Task Force. There are also four separate motions proposing changes to the ASIE regarding "Responsibility To Control Offending Parties". I have no sense of how these will play out, since between the AMC meetings an Event Safety Task Force was created, and I have also been appointed to that Task Force.

The AMC has many committees, and although there are several others I find very interesting, as the saying goes, "You can do anything, but not everything." For this reason, we all trust that our colleagues who serve on the AMC will provide due diligence on the committees the rest of us don't have time for, and we also make use of the expertise provided by member volunteers from outside the AMC as much as feasible. This extends beyond the AMC, however, and also applies to the Local Groups. There's a lot to do, and I've heard from some of the local leaders that the most frustrating parts of their roles is the assumption that if things are going well that they don't need help. But help is always needed. For instance, the annual Scholarship Program has just launched (<https://www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/>), and our local scholarship chairs will be looking for volunteers to help judge essays. All local groups need proctors for admission tests to find new members. All local groups need event organizers to provide stimulation for other members (and all event organizers need members to attend!). All local groups need members who promote Mensa to new prospective members, through social media or community service projects (<https://www.us.mensa.org/volunteer/community-service/>). And so forth. The local group officers can't do it all themselves. Bottom line, all local groups need YOU. They can't do it without you.

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

Sept/October 2018 Calendar Of Events

SEPTEMBER

29th - **SNORT**, 5:30pm to ? Naoki Restaurant 3360 Dixie Hwy (US1), Palm Bay.

29th – Game Night. Home of Cliff Miller (RSVP required – 73fromme@bellsouth.net), 916 47th Ave., Vero Beach FL 32966.

October

10/15 - Deadline for RECEIPT of nominations for the ExComm Election.

10/16- **ExComm Meeting and Disorganized Discussion Symposium**, 6:30 pm. Home of Karen Frieberg (See page 2 for address).

10/27- **SNORT**, 5:45 pm. Naoki Restaurant, 3360 Dixie Hwy, Palm Bay.

The Fine Print for Calendar Events:

Members are eligible to attend SCAM social functions. Escorted or invited guests of a member or host are invited as well. Adult family members of Mensans are also encouraged to participate in SCAM activities. However, attendance at any social function in a **private home** is subject to the hospitality (approval) of the host. Compliance with published house rules is required, and “kitty” payment is not optional. As a courtesy, notify the host if you plan to attend. Announced hosts should attend their events or arrange for a stand-in when unavailable. When reservations are required, you may not be able to participate if you fail to call.

S-smoking, NS-no smoking, SS-separate smoking space provided. P=pets in home, NP-no pets present, BYO-bring your own: __snacks, __drinks, __everything. SNORT-Saturday Night Out dinner at the Round (rectangular) Table.

A Mensan in the Family?

Are you the Mensan in your family? Or, is your spouse, child, parent or sibling the Mensan in your household? Are two or more (maybe ALL) in your household Mensans? If any of these apply, The SCAM is soliciting an article from you. All members of SCAM or family members are invited to respond. What are your impressions and experiences?

Minutes of August 2018 ExComm Meeting

The ExComm met at the Sun Shoppe Café, Melbourne Florida, on Tuesday, August 21, 2018. The meeting was **Called to Order** by LocSec Robert K Roth at 6:10 PM.

Members present: Robert K Roth, Karen Freiberg, and Aron Travis. Guest: Doug Starke.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurers Report: None

LocSec Report:

Vacancies need to be filled: Newsletter Editor, Secretary, GYC, Membership Chair, Publicity Chair, Social Media Chair, and Website Chair.

Minutes of Previous Meeting (July) approved by General Consent.

Testing Report: No testing has been conducted since February 2017, nor have we had a report from Hank Rhodes. Robert suggested that we add test proctors for North and South portions of the group area.

Robert asked the ExComm to consider using Skype for future ExComm meetings.

The previously discussed Mini-RG is tabled for the time being.

Robert reports that both Indian River and Titusville gatherings were well attended. The next Indian River gathering will take place at Ocean's Café on September 6th, at 6 PM., and the Titusville gathering will be at the Village Inn at 2PM, November 18th.

Thomas G Thomas (RVC10) will be coordinating an RG in Tampa next July or August.

Member at Large Report: Aron proposed making a post card to send to SCAM members to gather missing email addresses and ask for volunteers for all vacant ExComm positions.

Old Business

Elections are pending for December. Prepare.

MOTION: Passed 2 to 1, with Robert opposed. To reappoint George Lebovitz as GYC.

The Calendar Coordinator needs to be informed of events such as future game nights. Date for SNORT and game night at Cliff Miller's residence were clarified.

New Business

Decorum of communication needs to be addressed. A man overhearing our meeting suggested that the software platform "Slack" would solve our communication problems.

Clarification is required to determine who needs to be background checked within GY program, for example, do all parents require a background check?

Next ExComm meeting is scheduled for September 18th at the Sun Shoppe, 6 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

WELCOME TO SCAM

Eric Bram

Olivia Nicholas

Roberta Brock

Jody Romanowski

Julie Costopoulos

Jenny Stewart

John Livingston

Lisa Willnow

Alexandra Nicholas

WELCOME BACK!

June-October BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Bill Emmons, 6/2

Richard Ramnath 8/6

Stephanie Coffman 10/6

Margaret Bartlett, 6/7

Christy Everette 8/8

Rex Repich 10/8

Jane Williams 6/17

Cypryan Klish 8/11

Christopher Buccieri 10/8

Arthur Belefant 6/17

John Livingston 8/12

Philip Devlin 10/9

Christopher Moss 6/24

Ronald Gaynor 8/13

Merri Stowe 10/10

Sam Kirschten 6/24

Emmalyn Smith 8/13

Michael Hansen 10/11

Jorfan Romero 7/1

William Lamoureux 8/15

Elizabeth Lay 10/11

Robert Tuck 7/5

Shirley Jones 8/22

Stuart Babins 10/14

James Conaway 7/6

Charlay Marbell 8/24

Christopher Kalil 10/18

Rick Bugado 7/8

Wade Hollowell 9/1

Frank Stockman 10/25

Harriet Dyer 7/11

George Peterson 9/2

Maximo Salinas 10/27

Michael Coats 7/15

Leah Simpson 9/7

Gregory Bunn 10/28

Jeffrey Barbour 7/20

R Kent Buchanan 9/10

R Livingston 7/23

Janet Mueck 9/12

Pepper Stevens 7/26

Michael Fuller 9/17

Jody Romanowski 8/1

Harry Martin 9/27

James Vanarman 8/2

Charles Satchwill 9/28

Michael Lawley 8/6

Alexander Green 10/2

