



New Opportunities for a New Decade ...

Gregg Wiggins

The same small, dedicated group has directed SCAM for some time, but it is always good for new voices to join the conversation. The process to find and select next year's Executive Committee (usually shortened to "ExComm") has begun. Lee McLamb, Dennis Schindler and I have been named to a Nominations and Election Committee to recruit candidates and oversee the selection of 2020's officers for our group.

There will be elections for four offices: Local Secretary (usually shortened to "LocSec"), Assistant LocSec, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. Three appointed positions oversee programs, publications, and scholarship activities. People interested in running for an ExComm position have until September First to let us know. You will be asked to submit a candidate statement describing your interests and qualifications to help the membership make their ballot choices. That ballot will be distributed by mail, and based on who our members select, the new ExComm will take office at the start of 2020.

For information about this process, the duties of these positions, or any other questions, please feel free to contact me at greggwiggins@gmail.com, or to call or text me at 703-671-6224. 🍀

Who's Who at the Zoo?

Karen Freiberg, LocSec

For those of you who missed the General Organizational Meeting called by our Regional Vice Chairman (RVC), Thomas G. Thomas, on Saturday July 13th, Space Coast Area Mensa (SCAM) is in a bit of a slump. Due to the resignation of our recording secretary and our newsletter editor, and the ill health of Local Secretary (or, in its diminutive form: LocSec) Wynn Rostek, two members of the SCAM Executive Committee (or ExComm) have been unsuccessfully trying to run SCAM. After much discussion, the SCAM members (and the RVC and the 2 ExComm members) attending the July 13th meeting decided to attempt to breathe new life into the group rather than attempting to disband it. To this end, I was convinced to swap places with Wynn Rostek, temporarily assuming the role of LocSec (while continuing to fulfill my obligations as Webmaster and S.I.G.H.T. Coordinator). Wynn (although temporarily incapacitated by medical issues) will act as Assistant LocSec. Elizabeth (Libby) Wilder stepped forward to act as Recording Secretary. Steve Vander Veer has volunteered to put out at least one newsletter as editor (we hope he will make this a habit!). Julie Costopoulos will be our Scholarship Chair (and continues as Membership Officer). Val Valek continues as Treasurer.

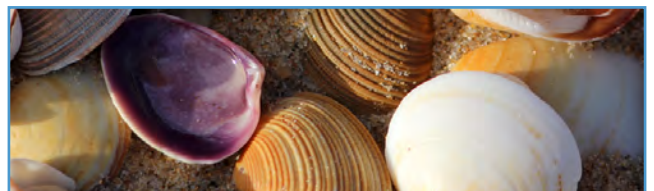
Gregg Wiggins, Lee McLamb, and Dennis Schindler agreed to act as the urgently needed Nominating and Elections Committee (NomElCom) for the December 2019 election (please reference the previous article).

We look forward to your input and participation. Would you be willing to volunteer, too? What do you most want from SCAM? How can we help? How can YOU help? 🍀

2019 Election Deadlines

- Nominee names, election rules, and timeline: due to newsletter editor by Sept. newsletter deadline or mailed no later than 9/1
- Nominations by petition due to Nominating and Elections Committee by 10/1
- Ballots are due to newsletter editor by Nov. newsletter deadline - electronic and mailed ballots sent no later than 11/1
- Ballot return deadline, 11/30
- Counting of said ballots no later than 12/7

ExComm



Space Coast Area Mensa Group

Executive Committee

Local Secretary: Karen Freiberg
(321) 633-1636 • locsec@scam.us.mensa.org

Ass't Local Secretary: Wynn Rostek
(321) 626-3670 • asstlocsec@scam.us.mensa.org

Recording Secretary: Elizabeth (Libby) Wilder
recsecretary@scam.us.mensa.org

Treasurer: Val Valek
(321) 626-8523 • treasurer@scam.us.mensa.org

SCAM Appointees

Membership Officer: Julie Costopoulos
membership@scam.us.mensa.org

Testing Coordinator: Hank Rhodes
testing@scam.us.mensa.org

Proctor Coordinators: Julie Costopoulos
Hank Rhodes
Harold (Bud) Long

S.I.G.H.T.: Karen Freiberg
(321) 633-1636 • sight@scam.us.mensa.org

Scholarship Chair: Julie Costopoulos
scholarship@scam.us.mensa.org

SCAM Editorial Staff

Newsletter Editor: Steve Vander Veer
editor@scam.us.mensa.org

Webmaster: Karen Freiberg
(321) 633-1636 • webmaster@scam.us.mensa.org

Calendar: Doug Starke
(321) 633-1636 • doug@starke.com

American Mensa

(RVC10) Thomas G. Thomas
(813) 994-3981 • RVC10@us.mensa.org

Mensa National Office

1229 Corporate Drive West
Arlington, TX 76006-6103
(817) 607-0060 • AmericanMensa@mensa.org



Canaveral Launch Schedule

Delta IV M+(4,2)

GPS III SV02
United Launch Alliance
Thu, Jul 25th, 2019, TBD
Cape Canaveral, FL, USA

Atlas V 551

AEHF-5
United Launch Alliance
Wed, Aug 7th, 2019, TBD
Cape Canaveral, FL, USA

Pegasus XL

Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems
Sat, Aug 31st, 2019, TBD
Air launch to orbit

KSC Historical Review

The John F Kennedy Space Center (KSC, originally known as the NASA Launch Operations Center) is one of ten National Aeronautics and Space Administration field centers. Since December 1968, Kennedy Space Center has been NASA's primary launch center of human spaceflight. Launch operations for the Apollo, Skylab, and Space Shuttle programs were carried out from Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39 and managed by KSC.

Located on the east coast of Florida, KSC is adjacent to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS). The management of the two entities work very closely together, share resources, and even own facilities on each other's property.

Though the first Apollo flights, and all Project Mercury and Project Gemini flights took off from CCAFS, the launches were managed by KSC and its previous organization, the Launch Operations Directorate. Starting with the fourth Gemini mission, the NASA launch control center in Florida (Mercury Control Center, later the Launch Control Center) began handing off control of the vehicle to the Mission Control Center shortly after liftoff; in prior missions it held control throughout the mission.

Additionally, the center manages launch of robotic and commercial crew missions and researches food production and In-Situ Resource Utilization for off-Earth exploration. Since 2010, the center has worked

Region 10 Update

Thomas George Thomas



During the AG (Annual Gathering) in Phoenix in July, many members of Region 10 were recognized with National Awards for their service and achievements in Mensa. American Mensa Chair LaRae Bakerink presented Chairman's Service Awards to 16 members, including Belinda Nemeth of Tampa Bay Mensa for her hard work and diligence in modernizing Tampa Bay Mensa, Brian Reeves of Palm Beach Area Mensa for his hard work (together with Allison Reeves of Chicago Mensa) in providing the Phoenix AG, and Elissa Rudolph of Palm Beach Area Mensa for her service as Advocate over the last term. National Certificates of Appreciation went to Nora Foust of Central Florida Mensa for her service on the Election Committee, and to Jason Knight of Broward Mensa for his service on the 2017, 2018 & 2019 AG Committees, and the Gifted Youth Coordinator of the Year went to Micki Hawn of Broward Mensa.

Local Groups were also recognized via the Jewel Awards, which recognize a combination of accomplishments and participation in Mensa activities within five different class sizes. The awards are (in ascending order), Emerald, Sapphire, and Ruby, plus Diamond for the highest achievement within each class. Ruby awards went to Tallahassee Area Mensa in Class V (fewer than 100 members) and Northwest Florida Mensa in Class IV (100 to 199 members), while Emerald Awards went to Manasota Mensa, Mensa of Jacksonville, and North Florida Mensa in Class III (200 to 399 members), and to Broward Mensa and Tampa Bay Mensa in Class II (400 to 899 members).

Culture Quest winners were also announced, with The Browsers of Broward Mensa taking 19th place, Jackson-Villains of Mensa of Jacksonville placing 11th, and Tragic Kingdom of Central Florida Mensa continuing as the reigning champions for an amazing sixth year in a row!

The Mensa Foundation also announced its list of scholarship winners prior to the AG. Scholarships are awarded at the Local, Regional, and National levels. Scholarship winners in Region 10 included 14 Local scholarships, 2 Regional scholarships, and 2 National scholarships, plus one Mensa Member scholarship, totaling \$14,400 overall.

I would like to extend my thanks to our Regional Scholarship Chair Albia Dugger for her service, as well as to all the local scholarship chairs and judges who made this such a success.

At the American Mensa Committee (AMC) meeting held at the AG, most of the actions taken were housekeeping items such as appointments of committee chairs and event policies for the AG and Mind Games. We also approved four Appointed AMC officers for one-year terms in 2019-2020. Alexander Huthwill be continuing as Marketing Officer, Stephanie Thornton will be returning as Membership Officer (after a break of a couple of years), Lora Mitchell will be taking on the position of Communication Officer, and Keri Guilbault will be joining us as Director of Science and Education. We also approved Baltimore, Maryland as the site of the Annual Gathering for 2023.

The next scheduled AMC meeting will be on September 7, 2019 in Arlington, TX. 

Just Meandering By ...

The Editor

It occurs to me that volunteering is a dangerous, and unpredictable, activity. Past victories (and defeats) are moot ...

So, here we are - a supposed meeting of the minds. Activities planned, responsibilities shared, helping hands provided - the relay race of Civilization ...

As this is a new (though possibly temporary) position, there still exists the pressure of introduction (as showcased in print), seemingly benign observation (by you, the gentle reader), and hopes for a truly positive Future (*SCAM, SCAM, SCAM!*) ...

It's been a pleasure, so far ...



Space Coast Area Mensa Group

876 Buxmont Court

Rockledge, FL 32955



Upcoming Events

MENSA Testing – Saturday, August 17th

Games Night* – Tuesday, August 20th at 6:00pm

SNORT – Saturday, August 31st at 5:15pm

*Gather to play games at this new game pub in Cocoa Village. REC 225 (www.rec-225.com) has bunches of board games, darts, billiards, even bocce. Then at eight o'clock help take on the world, or at least the bar, at their weekly team trivia tournament. 225 King St. (Fla. Rt. 520) is about a quarter-mile east of U.S. Route 1.

Have a question? Want to say “see you there?” Tell Gregg Wiggins by email at greggwiggins@gmail.com or call/text 703-671-6224. 🍀

Games and Trivia in Cocoa Village
Tues. Aug. 20th 6pm to 9pm (ish)
at REC 225, 225 King St. Cocoa
www.rec-225.com

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to become a multi-user spaceport through industry partnerships, even adding a new launch pad (LC-39C) in 2015.

There are about 700 facilities and buildings grouped across the center’s 144,000 acres (580 km²). Among the unique facilities at KSC are the 525-foot (160 m) tall Vehicle Assembly Building for stacking NASA’s largest rockets, the Launch Control Center, which conducts space launches at KSC, the Operations and Checkout Building, which houses the astronauts dormitories and suit-up area, a Space Station factory, and a 3-mile (4.8 km) long Shuttle Landing Facility. There is also a Visitor Complex open to the public on-site. 🍀

