

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

By Tony Jackowski, RVC7

Greetings fellow Heartlanders!

Well, here it is September already and summer's almost over (none too soon for me as we have been baking in 100 + degree temperatures for nearly 2 weeks!!!). It's been a very busy few months family-wise, but with school now in session and vacations over (and cooler weather coming...I hope, I hope), it's time to get back to the business of Mensa. So, without further ado, here's all the news that's fit to print.

MEMBER NEWS

Now that my brain is clear from all the excitement of the AG, I need to tell you of some key events that recently occurred.

First, please join me in congratulating Erin Koffler (recently of Lincoln Mensa, currently of North Dakota Mensa), for being only the second person in the Heartland region to receive the Regional Service Award. Erin was presented with this award for her many years of service as Regional Scholarship Chairman. This presentation was the final act of outgoing RVC7, Steve Burnham, and I agree with his choice. Congratulations Erin!! (FYI: Even before she was given this honor, Erin volunteered to once again be Regional Scholarship Chairman this year.) Thanks Erin!

Second, please extend a warm hand to Kevin Myles of Wichita Mensa for being appointed as Assistant RVC7. Kevin has shown great enthusiasm for Mensa and is currently LocSec of Wichita Mensa. He recently ran for the position of RVC7 (narrowly missing being elected). Kevin has some extensive background in leadership positions, and his expertise will surely be an asset to our region. Please welcome Kevin. I'm sure we will be hearing a lot from him.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Many groups seem to be only squeaking by these days on the money they receive from National. There are a number of ways you can get assistance with finances if you only ask. First, the primary resource you have is your very own RVC. While we do not have a lot of funds to disperse, we do have some discretionary funds that we can distribute to groups showing an honest need for assistance. Second, there is the under-utilized Bootstrap Fund. This is a fund specifically set aside to assist groups in need. Mr. Dave Remine is the Chairman of the Bootstrap Fund Committee, and he can be reached at PastPastChairman@us.mensa.org for further information about this fund and how it works. You can also see the latest issue of InterLoc for an article detailing the functions of this committee.

AMC MEETING

The next AMC meeting is scheduled for September 19-20, 2003, in Fort Worth, TX. If any member has a concern or suggestion that they wish to bring before the board, please contact me at (913) 307-9118. It is my responsibility to present your thoughts and ideas to the AMC.

That's it for now. Until next time...take care.