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ABOUT THE COVER: An East Indian folk tale tells of a woman who lost her only child and couldn't stop grieving. To alleviate her sorrow, a soothsayer gave her a small vial with instructions to collect one tear from everyone she met. Doing this, she soon learned that heartbreaks were everywhere, some much worse than her own - and that her own pain was beginning to lessen.

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Ambivalence

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Mañana

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March 1989 Mensa Bulletin 1

COLLOQUIUM IV

SCIENCE & SOCIETY: Our Critical Challenges

A COLLECTIVE RETROSPECTIVE OF PERSPECTIVES

Mary Prior

"IF YOU GET EXCITED when minds meet minds ... if you get excited stretching your own mind ... if you get excited reaching out for new insights ... if you get excited exploring concepts, investigating ideas ... if you get excited engaging in stimulating, thought-provoking conversations ... then this Colloquium is for you."

These words from **Gabe Werba**, Past Chairman of American Mensa, officially opened Colloquium IV at the Capitol Marriott in Austin, TX, October 7-9, 1988, and started us on a weekend-long journey into ourselves that certainly left a forceful impact on the more than 200 of us who joined together to share this unique experience. In retrospect, I realize how appropriate it was to begin our journey of discovery during the time we celebrate remembrance of another explorer, Christopher Columbus.

PRELUDE: CONCEPT AND PREPARATION

Colloquium IV was sponsored by the Mensa Education and Research Foundation (MERF) and the American Mensa Committee. It was a combined effort, co-hosted by three Texas Mensa Groups: Lone Star Mensa (Austin), Gulf Coast Mensa (Houston), and San Antonio Mensa, plus "a little help from their friends." The "plus" was the assistance and experience proffered by: North Texas (Dallas) Mensan and the Dallas AG ChairM, **Carol Hilson**, who acted as Liaison and Advisor to the Executive Committee; **Lynne Killgore**, originally from Permian Basin Mensa, who trained the facilitators and handled corporate fund raising; **Jean Zimmerman**, Speaker ChairM, from North Texas Mensa; and our RVC **Ed Ashworth**.

From conception, the three geographically separated groups had little more than nine months (18 months is the norm) to prepare for Colloquium IV - which was presented in record time, actually exceeded break-even, ended with satisfied participants, and achieved the most important goal: There will be another Colloquium.

A number of members who originally started working with the committee had difficulties - lost jobs, job changes, other demands on them that made it impossible to continue. But the three groups stuck together, alternating monthly meetings in each of the cities, overcoming many difficulties to bring

you Colloquium IV. This was the first Colloquium for many of the participants, and it was the first gathering of any kind hosted by Lone Star Mensa in Austin.

None of us on the Texas host committee had ever attended a colloquium. One major question we asked was, "What is the difference between a gathering and a colloquium?" Regional Gatherings (RGs) and Annual Gatherings (AGs) fill a need for many of us. We need gatherings for various reasons: to spend time with our special friends in Mensa whom we may see only once a year or so (friendships possible because of our mobile society); to renew our soul through such friendships; to let our hair down, be silly, let down the defenses we frequently need to survive in our "normal" lives. Gatherings provide an intense and concentrated refresher for many Mensans.

Yet many of us feel a need for more. **Kerstin Eriksson** (Smyrna, GA) explains: "I think many people want the opportunity for just this sort of intense fellowship. But it would be a mistake to assume that is all they want. No one I know could engage in Colloquia exclusively for very long; and yet this

Many of us want more than the intense fellowship of an RG.

kind of discussion (formal or otherwise) is one of my favorite and most satisfying pastimes. I certainly find the colloquia entirely different from an AG or an RG, but different exactly because they have a different purpose. I don't think there has to be a comparison between them, or a choice of one or the other. The best thing about Mensa is that the structure is so loose, and the people so diverse, that there ends up being something for almost everyone and something for almost every mood."

My favorite comparison came from [The] **Joyce Lundeen** (Bethany, OK): "A kaleidoscope of whirling ideas, changing, eddying, integrating, then swiveling with vertiginous speed, yet held together by the structure

that formed it. This was Colloquium IV. For three days we ruminated, speculated, and deliberated in a talking marathon that left us all breathless. As a veteran of RGs and AGs, and even one other colloquium, I found this gathering fantastic, a different dimension of Mensa. It wasn't better than an AG or an RG - just different. An AG is essentially entertainment, recreation, costumes, and socializing. The Colloquium was learning and thinking. AGs are personal theatre; colloquia are personal deportment. A Colloquium has more substance than sex; but an AG gives us distractions and respite from *egghead* syndrome. In short, an AG [or RG] is bubbly, festive champagne, while a colloquium is rich, smooth brandy. I drink to both."

Why did we attend the Colloquium? For **Chuck Acree** (Facilitator) of San Antonio, "As a relatively new Mensan unattracted by AGs and RGs, I found the colloquium idea appealing from the start. Its intentions and theme seemed to suit the stated purposes of Mensa better than other advertised gatherings."

Kerstin's reasons: "When I first joined Mensa, I did so because I was starved for intellectual conversation. When people explore these kinds of issues, the conversations do become very intimate, whether they involve two people or 20. I find these discussions so good for my soul that it almost doesn't matter what they are about."

For **Debbie Woodworth** (Facilitator) of Pawtucket, RI, "It was the Colloquium title that grabbed my attention. I wouldn't get this opportunity again in the near future."

Marion C. Young (Cincinnati, OH) was on the original Colloquium I Committee. She was delighted: "It was great! In fact, it was fantastic! Being a part of the Colloquium I Committee in the early '80s was the most rewarding experience I had ever had in my 20+ years in Mensa."

Marge O'Connor (Facilitator, Houston) had reservations. "Being one of Texas's famous party people, I just enjoy talking about anything, and seeing old and new friends. Colloquium IV was more enjoyable to me than I think it was supposed to be. My expectations were that it would be boring or frustrating: boring if the topics did not inspire active thought interchange, and frustrating if they did, because everyone would

want to have more input than they could."

Joyce had a lot to say about her expectations, too. "At first, I did not really want to attend the Colloquium. Between the announced topic and the stated rules that sounded more structured than a society matron's undergarments, I was semantically intimidated. I thought it was going to be awful, an assemblage of the intelligentsia's cynosures. Thank goodness it did not meet my expectations! Although the theme could have produced a phlegmatic, dispassionate approach, I was at once immersed in an atmosphere both intimate and intellectual. By the first evening, I had found lots of those surprising 'ah-hah's [of sudden understanding] and made an improbable acquaintance with all manner of particular knowledge."

THE EVENT

The weekend's four guest speakers were there primarily to spark dialogue and discussion, to give us some "expert" viewpoints and information, and to prepare us for the heart of Colloquium IV – the conversation, communication, the interaction among Mensan (and a few other) participants.

The Friday night keynote speaker, Phil Lane, is Associate Professor of Education at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, Canada, and is Coordinator of the Four Worlds Development Project. Phil set the tone for the weekend, as described by Debbie Woodworth:

"The major concept which sparked almost everyone was Phil's holistic perspective – global responsibility beginning with individual responsibility. Regardless of the track, groups uniformly recommended education, responsibility, and informed allocation of resources. Responsibility implies participation."

This theme carried through Saturday morning's first speaker, Dr. Mary Carter, Director of the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. She used a three-dimensional chess board as a model to show the interaction of different aspects involved in ecology.

Father Kevin O'Rourke, Director of the Center for Health Care Ethics at the St. Louis School of Medicine, continued with the Life Sciences, stressing our need for a holistic approach to health care services.

Finally, in technology, Sue Kemnitzer, Executive Director of the Washington, DC-based Task Force on Women, Minorities and the Handicapped in Science and Technology, stressed the need to improve education not just for technology's sake, but to educate the public out of its potentially negative views of science and technology.

Lunch followed the morning speeches. According to MERF trustee **Dorothy Bloom** (Athens, PA), "Most interesting to me was the conversations held at mealtime. People who had not attended the same sessions

were excitedly sharing information and ideas with others. I found that stimulating."

Saturday afternoon was devoted to break-out sessions – small group discussions (about three per track) moderated by trained facilitators and recorders. Some participants chose to change groups during scheduled breaks, but most stayed with their original break-out groups for the duration. Each group set its own goals and agenda, and the resulting exchange was the essence of Colloquium IV.

One of the keys to the success of Colloquium IV was the facilitator/recorder teams in the break-out sessions. Marion put it this way: "The speakers started things off, but the facilitators and recorders were the stars. They helped tremendously and played a most important role. There would have been chaos without them. (Well, you know Mensans.) I can't imagine how they could have been better."

Dorothy also commented: "Being a facilitator is a tough job! It requires skill, diplomacy, knowledge, patience, and an even hand."

These folks came ready ... to talk, learn, listen, teach, experiment, share.

George and Marilyn Dawson (Facilitator/Recorder team, San Antonio): "We can only comment on the people we observed in our group. They came from all across the country, bonded only by test scores, an interest in the subject, and a meeting room in Austin. There was an electric feeling the entire time. These folks came ready: ready to talk, ready to learn, ready to listen; ready to experiment with ideas and feelings, ready to teach, to share personal experiences. And they turned it all loose during several incredible hours. We were astonished, informed, impressed ... and changed."

Faye Parish (Recorder, Orange, TX): "Everyone at the Colloquium had their awareness of the problems facing our world intensified. The group consciousness of world problems was raised. It was wonderful to participate in intelligent conversations about serious topics. My mind was stretched, and my knowledge bank had a large deposit made to it."

Eldon Romney (Facilitator, Salt Lake City, UT) got more than he expected. "It was a real high for me, but I'm biased; I enjoyed being a facilitator. I loved exploring ideas on a deep level and hearing other Ms express their ideas in an atmosphere of mutual respect. I enjoyed trying to get everything involved in the discussion, and hope those in

my group enjoyed it as well. This was my first colloquium. I loved it! I'd do it again in a heartbeat if I could! Much more fulfilling than any AG or RG I've attended."

Saturday, after the banquet, the University of Texas Physics Department presented The Physics Circus – a welcome diversion from the day's intensive interaction. Two professors demonstrated the principles of physics, asking several of our group to sacrifice their bodies for science.

The plenary session on Sunday morning was an overview of the results of the break-out sessions. Lynne Killgore shared with the assemblage some comments from the facilitators, who felt the participants were responsive, passionate, and articulate – but willing to listen. Lynne found that, "What's even more spectacular is, every single session came to some sort of summary with a consensus agreement. I've never heard of that in Mensa!"

Kerstin thinks that "It was a stroke of genius to ask the facilitators to sum up their sessions in the Sunday morning meeting. It gave people a chance to find out what had happened in other workshops, and it gave the Colloquium a sense of closure. It was excellent."

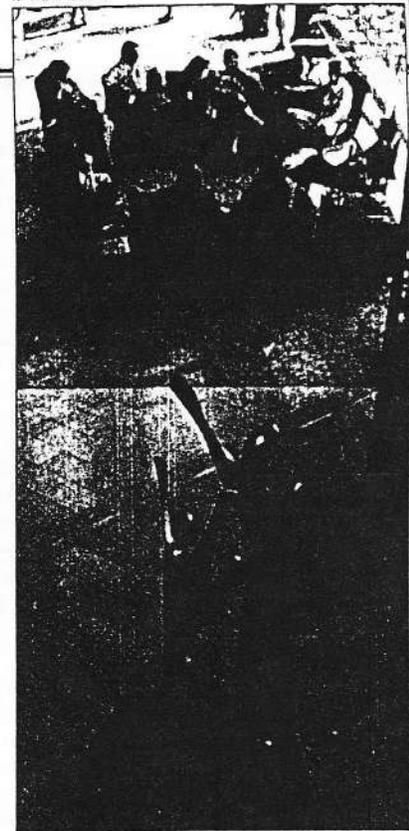
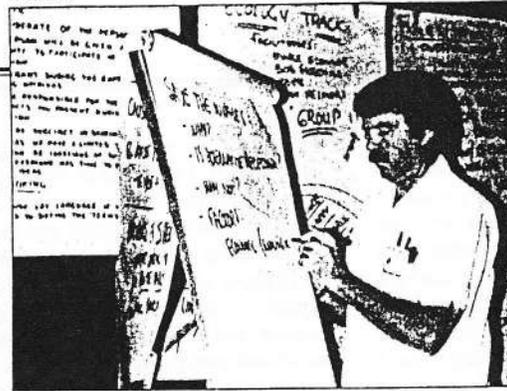
Ecology facilitators chose to summarize their sessions individually. In her summary, Marge explained why: "Even though they had common themes, each group went in different directions." She also shared a finding from their group, that "if all Americans were to operate at their ideal weight, we would consume 25-50 percent less of the world's food supply." **Dale Parish** (Facilitator, Orange, TX) presented a summary of his group's discussion, including the attitude problems (such as our national pride) and our societal myopia.

Waugh Smith's (Los Angeles, CA) group focused on solutions, including: "There must be some way to get all that energy burned in stadiums and coliseums at football games ... make them stay home and repair the house. Set up squirrel cages for joggers and put them to work. Charge 25 cents for junk mail and five cents for first class mail." And, "When you throw away an aluminum can, remember that you're throwing away the same amount of energy that you'd have of gasoline in half of that can."

George was elected speaker for the Life Sciences summary. He shared with us comments of participants in this track, such as, "Why is someone entitled to sequential bypass operations if their lifestyle between operations re-creates the problem and requires another bypass?" and one George says will stay with him for some time, "In these issues, you have to find out where the law begins." They offered as a strong recommendation regarding personal decisions on medical care: "Make your wishes known to



M. PRIOR



as wide a network of family, friends, medical care providers and relatives as possible!" Regarding societal approval or disapproval, the framework was constantly changing. There were no guidelines, and when making decisions about the quality of life, "it's very normal to feel discomfort and guilt, and you simply have to deal with it."

Lynne introduced the speaker for Technology last, at their request, as they felt they had THE ultimate solution. **Elisa Kaplan** (Austin) presented the summary of technology groups, using the "mind maps" created during the break-out sessions, and pointed out the drawing of a brain with a light bulb over its head representing the "ah-hah!" of discovery. Technology groups touched on the "unknown unknowns" and the need for instituting education on ethics in science and technology.

These groups questioned "technology for technology's sake," and the extent of government (Department of Defense, in particular) involvement in technological research. Why are so many inventions created during wartime? To what extent did the introduction of nuclear energy as a horrendous weapon of war, in a climate of fear, negatively impact public attitudes? "We talked about ... mediocrity, which became a really big issue ... the mentality of meeting minimum standards ... and something we called a 'get-by' attitude: Do enough to get by, just enough to get through, just enough on the job. We nuked it! 'Good-bye, Get-by!'"

"One of the most heartening things that came out ... was when one individual, a teacher of elementary school children, said that on Monday, she was going back to her class and try this mind-mapping to get the

kids thinking, and the first thing she was going to put in this was 'this get-by attitude - let's get rid of it!' She got a standing ovation."

Referring to speaker comments on trends and shifts in population and the need to do something about them, Elisa closed, "as Mensans we really do need to take some action, and I would like to present to you *the* final solution: More Mensa Babies!"

In spite of the levity, foremost in this Colloquium was the recurring theme: All solutions begin with the individual assumption of personal responsibility. If we want change, we must first change ourselves. Another recurring theme was commitment: We must make a commitment to change.

Throughout the three tracks, other common ideas and attitudes emerged. Perhaps the most pertinent of these were the tremendous need for education, for setting priorities, and for accepting and working with available resources, whether those resources be natural, financial, or individual.

[Note: There was such a tremendous amount of information presented in the plenary session (let alone the break-out sessions) that there was no way I could do justice to the heart of the Colloquium and its findings in this article. My selections from the plenary session are capricious, but with the intent to show the sharp bite of unexpected insights, the gravity and broad scope of discussion, as well as the humor and sense of the absurd which is always found with quick, creative, vibrant minds. Write to MERF (care of our National Office), with \$5 and your request for the complete, final product they will publish. Send an extra donation while you're at it, as a way of saying "Thanks."]

Gabe Werba brought an end to our voyage of discovery, bringing us back from our intense, compacted explorations by giving us a new challenge, a new goal: Spread the word! He emphasized his belief that "there should be a national Colloquium every year ... there should be regional Colloquia ... there should be local Colloquia. But, more important, we - each of us - should have personal colloquia. By that, I mean we should challenge our own ideas, our own concepts. We should not accept the obvious as dogma. We should ask WHY. We should ask HOW ELSE. We should ask WHY NOT."

"We talk about gifted children. But that is us. Grown-up gifted children. If we have been gifted with intelligence, it is a failure on our part to not use it."

"If we use that intelligence, but just for our own benefit ... if we do not use it for the benefit of others, for the benefit of humanity ... it is a moral failure on our part. We cannot worship at the altar of intelligence alone. Intelligence alone is not enough if it is not in fusion with morality and ethics. The mind cannot stand alone without the heart."

"The Colloquium is over. But it should continue in our hearts. We must - as individuals - continue to explore new concepts. We must - as individuals - continue to reach for new insights. We must - as individuals - continue to seek for answers in a world filled with questions."

"Until then, go forth, enjoy - and think."

REFLECTIONS

Bernie Mayo (Richardson, TX) made a comment heard often during the weekend: "It was what I hoped Mensa would be." He added, "I had a wonderful time listening to,



OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Keynote speaker Phil Lane chats with National Co-Chair M Stuart Friedman and Facilitator Coordinator Lynne Killgore. Facilitators in the break-out sessions guided discussion and noted major points. Between sessions we invaded the lobby for continued conversation. Facilitators and Recorders take a well-deserved break in the sun. ABOVE: The Physics Circus included a demonstration on how to handle a big wheel. Intense dialogue characterized the entire weekend, exemplified by this Ecology break-out session.

and participating in, an incredible day of conversation. Tough, emotional topics were discussed. In many groups, people would have been crying, shouting, name-calling. In this group people explored different points of view. Humor was maintained, and so was respect. There was certainly no shortage of points of view. I had dinner with one man who had come from quite a distance. He had not planned to renew his membership, but the Colloquium has him reconsidering. Me, too."

Jim Anderl, a new Mensan from Perry, IA, found that "the Colloquium (in which I unexpectedly participated as a co-facilitator) was a remarkable experience. Mensans CAN be serious! The topic and components were of a timeless nature. Research and preparation were meticulous. All of the speakers were first-rate, and left us with continuing challenges. Personal interaction with other participants was quite rewarding."

Marion: "Mensa has the potential of being much more than just a social club. My dream is to spread Colloquium around - to get all of Mensa involved."

Kerstin chose the Life Sciences track, and proffered a number of insights. "We decided on several issues to discuss, including transplants, organ donations, abortion, fetal experimentation, AIDS, decision-making for other people (such as elderly parents), the role of government, doctors, and institutions in decision-making, quality of life, and allocation of resources. Many of the issues were discussed within the context of death with dignity. I think more time would have allowed us to either go further and deeper into subjects or go on to others. I would have liked to do either."

"Part of the problem we have in making decisions about many issues is that we consider those issues in their own context. We did this in the workshops, as we do in our lives, and rightfully so. But eventually we need to also consider these separate issues in the greater context into which they fit, and on which they have an effect. For example, I attended a life sciences workshop and **Don McNatt** attended an environmental one. Since then, as we have talked, I realized that issues in life sciences would have an entirely different resolution if viewed exclusively from the environmental point of view."

"Toward the end of the last session, people were really opening up to one another, and I think this would have continued had further sessions been possible. The more time we spent together, the more effective the group was in discussing these issues. Perhaps with more time, we could have come to the decision-making process itself; or perhaps that is something the individual must do for himself after this kind of experience. In either case, the whole experience was fully satisfying, and yet not nearly enough."

Kerstin continued, "As you can see, my expectations were met to a high degree. I certainly learned things, and I feel I had the opportunity to contribute as much as I liked. I found it to be the most successful formal colloquium I have attended. We attend colloquia because it is an extension of what we do here in Atlanta, not because we have to have someone teach us how to think. We engage in this kind of discussion in individually hosted Mensa-sponsored conversation evenings in our own privately run monthly salons, and on a personal basis. I find it not only pleasurable, but a necessary part of life."

Marge: "The Sunday morning overview was fascinating. It was a critical part of the weekend, and I wouldn't give up on it for anything! It was my only opportunity to see how other groups did. An underlying theme I found surprising, on reflection, was the distrust of progress. I also found this very disturbing. It seemed there was a real impulse to solve the problems caused by progress by stepping backwards. It was in driving home Sunday morning and discussing it for several hours in the car with **Gary Lee** and **Richard Jones** that I concluded that the group by and large hated progress! What I got out of Colloquium IV were: insights into fellow Ms; a kick in my complacency about some issues; a feeling that if Ms don't have answers, I can't very well expect some of the people we elect to have any; a further feeling that the best thing any of us can do is start groups, like MADD, because politics is too slow, and as individuals, we don't have power. Finally, a feeling that maybe the problems are not solvable."

Dale: "I think that the majority were there to listen, and soon learned that the others were there for the same thing. Each then was more willing to speak when they felt that the others were listening to them without criticism. I was very pleased that the little disagreement that surfaced was voiced in a very positive manner. None of the participants wanted to turn off another's flow of ideas."

Lieselotte Fajardo (Recorder, Galeta, CA), one of the few who had attended all four colloquia, pointed out: "A certain element of business for the leadership seems required in the AG and RGs. As a result, these officers are not part of the total group. There is also

a we/they separation between the hosting group and general attendees despite all efforts to demonstrate hospitality. At a Colloquium, all present have a common purpose. I like that, as a means for breaking down barriers."

Lieselotte decided that her "principal learning experience came from the training session for facilitators/recorders. This was the highlight of the Colloquium for me. Please extend kudos to Lynne Killgore (facilitator/trainer). Her approaches to role-playing and the mind map will be applied professionally as well as personally, for my course in teaching library research methods."

As Lieselotte mentioned, our AMC and MERF officers usually have so many commitments, we see very little of them at gatherings. Even though they were time-committed, several responded with comments.

Joan Bauman (St. Louis, MO) confessed, "Although as a MERF trustee and Mensa's Director of Science and Education I had been promoting the Colloquium, I went into it with certain mental reservations. My reservations overcome, I am now a Colloquium Convert. I had felt it somewhat arrogant that 200+ Mensans thought that they could solve the world's problems in a weekend. Of course we did not solve the world's problems, but neither was it the general expectation that we would. It was above all an exchange of ideas among equals, a guided forum for discussions that were frustrated only by lack of time to follow an idea through to completeness. The only negative comment that I heard recurrently was that one: Not enough time. If one of the secrets of a successful performance is to always leave the audience wanting more, then Colloquium IV must be reckoned an enormous success."

Dorothy added, "Conversation went on right into the night. The topics were pre-selected, so what might have started as an in-room daytime topic carried into the evening. I wouldn't miss another Colloquium for anything!"

Several attendees commented on their delight in a smaller gathering such as the Colloquium's 245+ registrants. **Al Derr** from Lansdale, PA, agreed. "Although I have attended two AGs, I have not been enamored of the extra-large crowds. I felt very comfortable with the formula of Colloquium IV. I thought it was very effective in that the small breakout sessions gave everyone more opportunity to participate. For this particular event, the subject matter was a deciding factor in my attendance since it related to my background and experience. The speakers were of quality and the volunteers who monitored and recorded the workshops were the key to a successful event. If Mensa is to maintain its prestige as a national organization, I am a firm believer that Mensa needs more cultural and thoughtful events, but blended properly with opportunities for re-

laxation and socializing."

One anonymous-by-request Mensan found that "having finally had the chance to participate in a Colloquium, I came away with the feeling that if I have to make a choice because of time and/or money constraints between a Colloquium and an AG, I'd choose the Colloquium. I realized I enjoy smaller, more serious groups much more. A real insight into myself."

Waugh: "This was my second colloquium; I attended the one in Boston. I thoroughly enjoyed Colloquium IV and believe I've convinced several others they, too, should make these a Mensa must. It is so nice to have about 200 Mensans around. There is a friendlier feeling to a smaller group and the common theme always gives you a subject to start talking. I know this isn't the reason Colloquium instigators want most, but it was real for me and for others I talked with. I really like the atmosphere around a Colloquium."

These comments stress the specific facets of Colloquium IV that made it a very special event for so many of us, and that will make future Colloquia just as special. The best reason, though, for Colloquia to continue is not just in our realization of these facets. Speaker Mary Carter summed it up for us: "It's better to debate an issue without deciding it, than to decide it without debate. But surely, if we have the capacity to create the problems, we have the capacity to advance solutions. The greatest failure of all would be not to try."

AFTERWORD

The exploration was over – at least the logistics of it. The sensations, the thoughts, the "ah-hahs" and memories were all that remained. For many of us, they will remain for a very long time.

It was the hard work of Mensa volunteers that made it all possible. Some have been mentioned throughout this article, but you should know who the rest of these people are:

Austin (Lone Star Mensa) – Mike McCormick, ChairM; Jim Von Wolske, LocSec; Kelly Wagner, Registrar; Lise Waring, Secretary; Enid Meyer, Meals; Sam Waring, Hospitality; David Stringfellow, Hotel Liaison/Program Scheduling; Joan Champie, Assistant Treasurer; Ginny Leininger, Registration Packets; Skip Meyer, Willing Go-fer/Volunteer.

Houston (Gulf Coast Mensa) – Richard Jones, LocSec/Publicity; Gary Lee, Communications/Hotel Liaison; Judy Helmers, Corporate Liaison; Carolyn Barrar, Program Production; Alton Gray, Speakers; John Horrall, Graphics.

San Antonio Mensa – George Dawson, LocSec; Pat Merk, Treasurer/Hotel Liaison/

Meals/Recorders; Penny Smith, Hospitality ChairM; Roy Huff, Program Scheduling; Dave Rolfe, Bid Preparation/Willing Go-fer.

If you think these are the only "jobs" these people did, you've never really been involved in planning a gathering.

Another group of people who deserve credit are the facilitators and recorders: TX – Bob Freehill, Bill Hansen, Steve Harsch, Janice Hee, Elisa Kaplan, Valerie Parker, Kelly Wagner, Austin; Janice Marrou, Beaumont; Bob Gaither, Bellaire; Marge O'Connor, Houston; Dale and Faye Parish, Orange; Chuck Acree, George and Marilyn Dawson, Sue Eastwood, Doug Hall, Mary Prior, San Antonio; Judy Helmers, The Woodlands; CA – Lieselotte H. Werner Fajardo, Galeta; Waugh Smith, Los Angeles; IL – Deborah Michaelson, Richard Seeder, Evanston; IA – Jim Anderl, Perry; RI – Debra Woodworth, Pawtucket; SC – Pat Wood, Columbia; and UT – Eldon Romney, Salt Lake City.

Special thanks are also due to National Committee (NC) Co-ChairM Stuart Friedman, who worked closely with Lynne Killgore in preparing the facilitators/recorders; Kent Van Cleave, NC/Mensa Bulletin Editor, who made room, created copy, and helped in so many ways; Lisa Trombetta, NC/National staff, who worked closely with the Colloquium Committee in getting publicity organized; Henry Noble, NC/MERF Chair, who never hesitated to offer assistance; and Gabe Werba, Co-Chair of the National Committee for the many ways in which he assisted everyone involved with the "birth" of this nine-month miracle.

National Committee Members (not previously mentioned) who also made themselves available for assistance and advice: Dr. Joan Bauman, Robert Beatty, Bob Burgermeister, Rose Lee Crutcher, John Cumming, Linda Kelso, Jane Kwiecinski, Eileen McComb, Don Pendley, Bob Rosenberg, and Ralph Rudolph.

When I agreed to write about the Colloquium, I wanted to give the broadest possible consensus of attendees, not just one person's view. I wrote to a number of people who attended Colloquium IV and would like to thank those who responded: Chuck Acree, Jim Anderl, Ed Ashworth, Joan Bauman, Dorothy Bloom, George and Marilyn Dawson, Al Derr, Kerstin Eriksson and Don McNatt, Lieselotte Fajardo, Linda Kelso, The Joyce Lundeen, Bernie Mayoff, Marge O'Connor, Dale Parish, Faye Parish, Sam Pobanz, Dale Rodgers, Eldon Romney, Waugh Smith, Debra Woodworth, Marion Young, and Jean Zimmerman. They all contributed to my broader understanding of the Colloquium and its effect on the participants.

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