



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



**For Valentine's Day,
some cute Mensans' with their Sweeties**

Publishing Statement

Central Indiana Mensa, a Local Group of American Mensa, Ltd., publishes *MIND* monthly. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization open to all persons scoring in the 98th percentile on a standardized intelligence test. Mensa neither endorses nor opposes the opinions published in *MIND*, which are those of the individual contributors.

Contribution Guidelines

MIND contributions may be sent to mind.editor@yahoo.com, or Teresa Gregory, 6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, 46219. Contributions may be edited for length or to remove offensive material, and may not include personal attacks. No anonymous contributions will be published, but the Editor will withhold the author's name from the public on request. Contributions should be in hand no later than the first Friday of the month for the following month's edition.

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Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

It's time to renew memberships. How do I know? I got mine in the mail. I did the three year renewal last time so I wouldn't have to think about it for awhile. Times up! I have to think about it.

I wrote last month about some of the things I will never have or do again now that I have cats. In response to the comment about a crock pot, Charlie Graft, cat owner, sent me a suggestion: "Try a crock pot with a lid that clamps on.

Patricia has one with a Colts motif. If necessary rope it to a solid object." I'm going to try that when I'm home sometime. Remember, these are the cats that got into the freezer on my fridge and ate some chicken while I was at work. (It was cooked.) I think they plot when I'm not home.



In January, I went to a dinner celebrating Sherlock Holmes's Birthday. I live the closest to the venue, so I'm always the last to arrive. I sat at a table with a couple I know and a lovely young woman I did not know. It was before the Big Lottery Drawing, and we were all speculating what we would do with all that money. The young woman said that she would make a large donation to the museum. I asked her where she worked, and she said The Indiana Medical History Museum. I think she was surprised at my reaction. "I love that place!" I said that someone from there was coming to our February Mensa meeting to talk. She said, "That's me." Then I asked if she was one of the volunteers." "No, I'm the director." The table was too small for me to crawl under, but she was very good-natured about it. She said she was looking forward to talking to our group. I am, too. I will be the one wearing a disguise.

On page 16, there is a letter from Teresa Fisher to her friend, Joanne Ortman. As you may remember, long-time member Joanne is hospitalized with Locked-In Syndrome. She can hear and think, but she has very limited ability to respond. Joanne used to call Teresa nearly every day. Teresa thought she could write letters and someone could read them to her. She asked me to publish a letter hoping that others might also write to Joanne.

Happy Valentine's Day! Happy Groundhog Day! Happy President's Day! (And a Happy Birthday to Abe and George.) Happy Marde Gras/Fat Tuesday! And Happy Leap Year Day. This is a day that I like to harass my daughter. Her birthday is February 22, Washington's birthday. She was actually due the first week in March. I so wanted a Leap Year Baby. So every four years I remind her how selfish she was to not wait one more week to be born. However, this year she turns forty. Perhaps I should let it slide this time...

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

CIM RG – As I write this, I'm really looking forward Central Indiana Mensa's Regional Gathering at the end of January. (See the January newsletter for more information about one of my favorite Mensa events.) If you're reading this before Jan. 31st, you still have time to join us. You can register at <http://cim-rg-2016.eventbrite.com>. Hope to see you there!



CultureQuest® – If you're interested in participating in Mensa's nation-wide cultural literacy/trivia competition, please let me know. There are two contests:

- 1) CultureQuest: Classic - open to all members regardless of age; each team member must be a dues-paid Mensa member for the 2016-2017 membership year and
- 2) CultureQuest: The Next Generation – team members must have been born AFTER April 27, 1998; only the team captain must be a current Mensa member.

The competition will be on May 1st. Our team's or (teams') application is due March 31st, so if you want to be on a team, be sure to renew on time. Winners will be announced at the Annual Gathering in July. More info at www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest/

Nominations Due for MERF Awards – The Mensa Education & Research Foundation is seeking nominations for several awards including the Mensa Distinguished Teacher Award, the Copper Black Award for Creative Achievement, and the Intellectual Benefit to Society Award. Applications are due March 1st. More information may be found at www.us.mensa.org/recognize/foundationawards

Proctor(s) Needed – We're still looking for people who are interested in being a proctor to give the Mensa admission test to prospective members. Mensa requires that you have a 4-year degree from an accredited college and complete training. Contact Proctor Coordinator **Teresa Gregory** (teresa.gregory@yahoo.com) if you're interested or have questions.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!
DUE DATE IS MARCH 31ST

Cornered into Perdition

[Fiction – Inspired by actual events]

Dom Jervis

CHAPTER THREE – THE MERCIFUL CONCLUSION

“Thank you for coming.”

They arrived right on time. Terri hugged me as she entered. Robin just glared through me with her huge, ice-blue eyes. They sat on the couch. I sat on the floor (seemed only right) across from them, the wicker coffee table between us.

“Robin, I cannot tell you how sorry I am. Mere words cannot describe how sad I feel and how disappointed I am in myself.”

“That’s nice, Nick. But an explanation would be even better.”

“I’m an only child. When I started school, I’d had little interaction with other kids, especially girls. In eighth grade, they made us slow dance with the girls in gym class. They paired me with a cute, petite brunette, first girl I’d ever touched. I was terrified! I held her as far away from me as I could, and was shaking pretty much the rest of the day. I never spoke to her, before, during or afterward, except for apologizing for the numerous times I stepped on her tiny feet.

“This dearth of social skills followed me throughout my school years and beyond. I never dated in high school, not even the Prom, deathly afraid of asking. One double-date in college was a disaster, but I don’t even count that. As I started my career, I had to gain people skills on the fly, grit my teeth and act the part. Every night after work, I drank excessively, just to decompress, eventually only at home. I quit going to clubs because women would come up to me, say “Come dance with me” and take hold of my wrist. Just by feel, without even looking, I instinctively turned toward their thumb, thus breaking the grip. You should have seen some of the horrible looks I got. But some STILL tried more than once...on the same night! You need to understand that if a Klutz Olympics existed, I’d have more gold than Fort Knox. There were women who dropped hints, some not so subtle, that they wanted me to ask them out. I just brushed off their comments. I wanted to be left alone.

“Robin, you are one of the most beautiful women I’ve ever seen in my life...Hollywood...Playboy...anywhere! When Terri asked me why I hadn’t asked you out, I could not believe what I’d heard! I figured you had a boyfriend, or even more than one. She assured me you were ‘available’ and that there had been some interest in me conveyed.

“Then, I flashed back to my early 20s. When something bad happens that you can do nothing about, one can create a rationalization for it. Pertaining to my barren dating life, mine was: If I ask a woman out, only two things can happen,
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and both are bad. If she says no, I take it personally and feel a pin thrust into my bloated ego. If she says yes, I have to actually go through with the date, and sooner or later I will say or do something disastrous. No woman would ever agree to a second date, not even if I were the last man on Earth. It's best to just not ask in the first place."

"Why would you feel that way?!?"

"I wish I knew. A Psychologist friend called me a Caligynephobe and suggested I try Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. I looked it up, and it sounded scary and complicated. And what if it didn't work? All the money I'd spent on it would have been wasted, and I'd be kicking myself thinking about all the liquor I could have bought instead. It means I will probably spend my life alone. But I'm not so sure that's such a bad thing for me. As much as I drink, I probably won't live that long anyway. But I have no desire to quit. And I'll be doing Society a favor by never taking any of the Social Security money I'd paid in over the years. If there were more guys like me, the System might have a chance of becoming solvent."

"That's morbid, Nick. But that aside, you've always acted just fine in our group."

"Different dynamic, less pressure. That's pretty much it. Robin, I cannot overemphasize that it was not you. It was me...100%"

"You're talking fine now!"

"Because Terri is here. And this is not a date in my mind." (Didn't see any reason to mention the Valium.) "Do either of you have any questions?"

There was a long silence. Then both shook their heads slightly.

Finally, Robin said, "Thank you for your honesty. Terri, maybe we should go now."

I helped them on with their coats. Terri hugged me again. Robin just gently patted my upper arm, no eye contact.

I didn't sleep much that night, but should have. The weight was off my chest, but hours were spent reliving the date, its aftermath, my mistakes and the general stupidity I'd demonstrated.

Terri texted me the next day, asking me to call her.

"Hi, Terri. Did you have a question?!?"

"Robin and I spoke at length. She sincerely appreciated your candor on such a sensitive subject, and thinks that deep down you're really a great guy, MUCH

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better than any of her other boyfriends...ever! Believe it or not, she'd like to see you again. Instead of being out in public, she would cook dinner for you at her place."

The very thought made my tract seize up. What could THAT possibly lead?!

She continued, "I live close by. If you started to feel upset, I would come right over."

Tempting as the offer was, I saw a perilous slippery slope. In the near-zero probability she didn't dump me and we wound up getting serious, she would have that first date misery to hang over my head forever. Who knows if she would bring it up in public if she ever got mad or drunk enough? I just did not feel like I could take that chance.

"Thank you very much, Terri. But I just can't. Please tell Robin I'm very sorry, and tell the pizza and beer group goodbye for me."

Shortly thereafter, I retired, moved from DC to NJ, switched cell phone companies, got a new number and never told either of them.

Safe at last...I hope. To this day, I still jolt when my cell rings.

FIN



Petra's Punny Page

Petra Ritchie

This month's guest punster is David Bonner:

I usually just follow the herd, he said cowardly.

I made the test corrections, she remarked.

When nobody is looking, I make my pancakes really sweet, he said surreptitiously.

Have a really clever pun to contribute? Email: petraritchie@msn.com

Theatrical Event: *At First Sight*

Margy Lancet Fletcher

I am once again involved in a stage production, this time as co-director of *At First Sight*, a wickedly hilarious adult romantic comedy, for Tipton Community Theatre in Tipton, Indiana. The story line revolves around fifty-one-year-old Julia Goldman, the widowed matriarch of a Hollywood Jewish family, who has lived the respectable and predictable existence typical of an affluent, middle-aged housewife, until a chance encounter at a fund-raising event awakens her dormant romantic soul and presents her with a life-altering challenge unanticipated even in her wildest imaginings. Julia is beautifully supported theatrically (and in varying degrees literally) by her devious but sympathetic older sister, her scandalized son and daughter, a dignified but clueless gentleman acquaintance, a fiercely acerbic female senator, and an intrepid reporter.

Intelligently written and chock full of priceless one-liners and zingers, *At First Sight* guarantees a night of uproarious fun.

INFORMATION ON THE SHOW

Production Dates: Friday through Sunday, February 26-28, 2016

Curtain Times: 7:30 PM Friday and Saturday, 2:00 PM Sunday

Ticket Prices: Adults \$10, Seniors (Age 62+) and Students (Age 13-College) \$8, Children (Ages 2-12) \$5. PLEASE NOTE that this show is not recommended for children under 13.

Venue Location:

Tipton High School auditorium,
619 South Main Street (Highway 19), Tipton.

If you are traveling north on Highway 31, turn right onto Highway 28, go about 5 miles into the town of Tipton, follow the sign to Highway 19 South, and turn right onto Highway 19. Go about a half mile over the bridge. The high school is on the left side of the road across from the park. You can also take Highway 19 north from Noblesville.

Additional Notes: The house opens 30 minutes prior to the show. Payment for tickets takes place at the door via cash or personal check (no credit or debit cards can be accepted). The auditorium provides ample seating for a large audience (800+); however, as there is no reserved seating and parking options are limited, you will want to arrive as soon as possible after the house opens.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the theater at 765-675-1682, or me (Margy Lancet Fletcher) at 317-385-0681.

I thank you in advance for your support, and hope to see you there!

Welcome New and Returning Members!

Move In	Jessica Wells	Indianapolis	IN
Move In	Lucas Prescott	Carmel	IN
Move In	Andrew G Celeski	Carmel	IN
Move In	David Lee Trueblood	Kokomo	IN
New	Keri Geiger	Zionsville	IN
New	Heili Eriksson	Indianapolis	IN
New	Ruth Boller	Indianapolis	IN
New	Taylor Mathes	Franklin	IN
New	Eric C Page	Indianapolis	IN
Preferencing	Domenick Jervis	Boonton	NJ
Reinstating	David Pumphrey	Fishers	IN
Reinstating	Cassandra Regas	Indianapolis	IN



“FLIGHT OF FANCY II – ASCENDING,”

Mensa of Wisconsin is hosting its annual Regional Gathering, on April 22-24, 2016 in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin (55 miles north of Milwaukee) at the Osthoff Resort.

Features include:

- *Two* tracks of quality speakers all day Saturday, with one or two more presentations on Sunday morning, as well as one or more field trips.
- Lunch and a formal meal on Saturday with dessert orgy.
- Hospitality suite 24x7 with snacks, hot and cold beverages (including beer and wine) and breakfast fare both mornings.
- A full kitchen, fireplace, upholstered seating, and a view of the lake.
- Artisanal cheese tasting on Friday.
- One of the best game rooms at any RG.
- A 4-star resort for only \$99.00 per night.

All of this and more is included in the registration fee of \$72.00 (\$82.00 after February 1).

Visit <http://www.mensaofwisconsin.org/current-events/2016-rg/> for registration and event news.

Questions ?? Contact RG@wi.us.mensa or registrar@wi.us.mensa.org or call Gene Mezger, Regional Gathering Chair, at (414) 828-4444.

February 2016 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 12:00 noon, Double Eagle Café, 650 N. Meridian (at the Scottish Rite Cathedral), Indianapolis. Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

Ham ‘n’ Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) – 1st Saturday from 9:45 a.m. - 12 noon. NEW LOCATION: Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Meridian & 116th St., Carmel, IN, located at IU Health North). Located just off the atrium on the first floor on the left as you enter the building from the north entrance. Breakfast served till 10 a.m., then lunch starts at 11 a.m. Drop in any time for casual conversation, lively discussion, and good food and beverages. Contact: Alison Brown, 317-846-6798, SIGHT@indymensa.org.

Bridge Club – 1st Sunday of every month, 2PM. Casual, friendly bridge. Contact: Bob Van Buskirk, 317 359-6907 or vnbuskirk@yahoo.com. Location changes each month. Call ahead.

Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday at 7:00 p.m. NOTE THE NEW LOCATION: Quality Inn Castleton on the SW corner of Allisonville Road and I-465 (8380 Kelly Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46250). See last page of *MIND* for map and directions. Members: \$5.00, Non-Members: \$7.00; Children 6-12: \$3.00, under 6: free. **2/12:** Sarah M. Halter, Executive Director of The Indiana Medical History Museum will speak to us. The museum is located on the grounds of the former Central State Hospital on the near west side of Indianapolis. The heart of the museum is the Old Pathology Building, the oldest surviving pathology facility in the nation. The Building is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mensans Dining Out – 6 p.m., February 21, The Blind OWL, 5014 East 62nd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46220. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

Paducah Area Group Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m. Anyone in the area is welcome to join fellow Mensans for dinner. For location and more information on this group, contact Charles Rawlings, rawlings@siu.edu

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3 Indy Lunch Bunch
7 Bridge Club	8	9	10
14 Valentine's Day	15	16 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom Paducah Area Group Meeting	17 Indy Lunch Bunch
21 Mensans Dining Out	22	23	24
28 Book Club	29		

February 2016 (cont.)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 <i>MIND</i> deadline	6 Ham 'n' Eggs (NOTE NEW LOCATION); Cal. Deadline
11	12 Monthly Gathering	13
18	19	20
25	26 Cinder	27

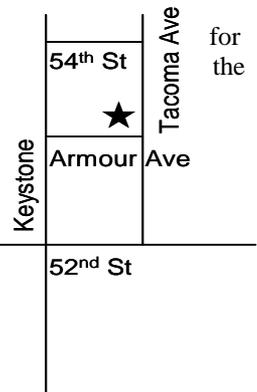
If you lose your *MIND* (oh, my!) or want additional information, check www.indymensa.org or join our Meetup group, <http://www.meetup.com/central-indiana-mensa>. Meetup is free to join and you'll get reminders of upcoming events. It's a great way to stay in the loop.

February 2016 Events (cont.)

MINDBending/ExCom – 3rd Tuesday of the month.
MINDBending is the preparation of next month's *MIND* mailing. Come help with sealing, labeling, and stamping *MINDs*.

2/16, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-3500.
Pizza and soft drinks provided.

MINDBending is held at the offices of Midwest Internet, 5348 N. Tacoma Ave., which is 1 block east and 1 block north of 52nd St. and Keystone Ave. on the northeast side of Indianapolis.



A Big Thank You to all the January *MIND*benders and Midwest Internet for hosting the event.

Cinder – 4th Friday at 7 p.m. at 721 E. 55th St., Indianapolis. A SIG for the Gen X and Gen Y crowd. Contact Ethan Blocker-Smith at MensaCinder@gmail.com.

Book Group – 2 p.m., Sunday, February 28. We will discuss *Our Final Invention: Artificial Intelligence and the End of the Human Era* by James Barrat. We will be meeting at Rich and Jackie Gibson's house on the NE side of Indianapolis. Please contact Rich at hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com or 317-735-2895 for more details or to RSVP.

For last minute changes to events check the Central Indiana Mensa group on Meetup.com. <http://www.meetup.com/central-indiana-mensa>

March 2016 *MIND* calendar items due 2/6/15 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.

Four To The Fore

George Haynes, RVC4

Success. A term bandied about almost every day in every type of aggregation in American culture. Its overuse comes with an assumed definition and hallowed subtext of understanding that is rarely ever analyzed. Upon that uncommon moment where the word success is indeed analyzed, the usual mode of discourse rarely deviates from a few assumed foundational givens: "Are we winning?" "Are we better than others? (a subset of winning)" "Is there a way to make money in our common purpose, and if so are we making all we can?" "Is our decision making data driven?" "Is everyone contributing and giving 110 percent?" "Are my needs being met?" "Am I receiving value with my participation?"



Granted, not every question above applies to every discussion of the word success. The queries listed are also not an attempt to be a comprehensive list. Those foundational "givens" are my attempt to get to the heart of a problem that is systemic in our current American milieu. To be shamelessly overt: BUSINESS is the hallowed model and paradigm which recklessly infiltrates and infects every attempt at defining and codifying success (and failure) in our culture.

Don't hate me yet. I love America AND I believe in good business practices, *for a business*. My wife and I are co-owners of an LLC. I'm even going to strive toward a second Master's Degree in Business and Marketing Education. I am not disparaging responsible capitalism, nor am I on the bandwagon of saying America is bad.

Here is my point: Success and failure have a myriad of ways to be measured and understood....yes even emotionally felt. The business paradigm of bestowing success and failure upon something DOES NOT WORK for everything. Here are a few examples:

A school is NOT, ontologically, first and foremost a business.
A (church/temple/etc.) is NOT, ontologically, first and foremost, a business.
A social club is NOT, ontologically, first and foremost a business.

A business is a business. Period. My family, for example, is not a business. I don't need metrics or data to KNOW that I love my children. I don't need a committee meeting to KNOW that I would die protecting them from harm. There is more than one way of knowing.

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To be sure, there are business ASPECTS which are "necessary evils" in things like schools, churches, and social clubs. However, these assemblages of people do not exist, first and foremost, to obsess over the bottom line and data. They exist for fundamentally different reasons.

Any organization (or informal group of people with a commonality) would do themselves a valuable service by examining their purpose for existing. If their purpose falls within a business paradigm of existence...then indeed please use the business model of success as a worthy model of success or failure. (Here comes my fist gently pounding the lectern....) If their purpose, however, lands within some other paradigm of finding meaning, helping others, or simply feeling good about being together....then they would do well to find a way of knowing and being that fits uniquely who they are and how they determine success or failure.

(This article is NOT a criticism of Mensa. If you feel there are points which apply to Mensa, that is your own personal intuition...which you are entitled to. I have been dealing with these thoughts long before I was in Mensa.)



Letter to Joanne

Teresa Fisher

I used to get a phone call from Joanne Ortman almost every day, but because of her current medical condition, that will no longer be happening. I can still communicate with her, though, and I've decided to write her a monthly letter. I will submit excerpts to MIND. Following are parts of the first letter.

December 2015
Hi Joanne

Well, this is another fine mess you've gotten yourself into. I'm so sorry this happened, and wish for your continued improvement.

I harvested some addresses from old emails you sent me and notified as many people as I could.

Autumn is a bad time for you, isn't it? Your stroke was 18 years ago in autumn, and I think your fall two years ago was in the autumn. Is there something about colored leaves that bothers you?

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Today I got back from a Saturday-only visit to the Cincinnati RG. I spent the night and shared a room with Teresa and Nan. Nothing special happened, but I did finally get to meet Dom Jervis.

I'm currently doing what little I do to get ready for Christmas. I cleaned off the dining room table and put a vase of fake poinsettias and a ceramic Santa on it. I've had an ugly little tree with lights on it for about three years, but I had no good way to display it in the window. I happened to buy a quilt display stand at Goodwill that was the right height, so I got a piece of plywood to make a table top for it, and now the ugly tree shines for all my neighborhood to see.

Rhianna has gotten into cosplay, which is the term nerds use for dressing up as their pop culture heroes. Her current costume is Captain Jack Sparrow, the Johnny Depp character from *Pirates of the Caribbean*. She also plans to create costumes from his other characters, but right now it's just Captain Jack. He wears all sorts of trinkets in his dreadlocks, so she finally found a use for some of the shiny buttons I've collected over the years. Michelle took her and Dani to a comic con (or what I call a nerd fest) in Louisville recently, and she loved it. There's going to be one in Portland, Oregon in February, and since I was already planning to go to Portland so I could see the new granddaughter I will have by then, I decided to take Rhi as her Christmas gift. My son Chris has already agreed to take her to the nerd fest, so I won't have to do that. This is so much more expensive than what I would normally get her for Christmas, it will also be her birthday gift. She will be 13 in January.

I don't know what else I will get Dani, but so far it's looking like there's a theme. I got her a fart piano with six modes, so it can also be a belch and vomit piano. You press a key, and there is a fart (or vomit) sound in the right note. There's only one octave's worth of keys, but really, is anyone going to play a fart concerto? So far her other gift is some brown clay and a mold with which to make... I'll let you guess.

From a recent *USA Today*: according to an Ocean Spray survey of 1,010 adults, more than 7 in 10 prefer cranberry sauce served in the shape of a can. (I have no comment for that. I just thought you'd like to know.)

Last month a book came out titled *Historic Homes of New Albany*, and my house was in it. There's a black and white photo of the house and the story of it being a Sears house and who built it. I can tell approximately when the picture was taken, and it was after I turned the front porch into a chicken coop.

Only one of the four chickens is laying now (one egg every other day), which is plenty for my needs, but since the chickens are all the same age I figure it's just a matter of time until I will be getting no eggs at all. I was looking forward to

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the day when they all passed on to that great chicken coop in the sky and I would be chickenless, but now I'm considering the possibility of getting a couple of chicks in the spring. I'm just CONSIDERING it – I haven't committed to it yet. By committing to it I mean I haven't yet told my granddaughters they can each pick out a chick.

[Here I deleted a couple of stories about family secrets that don't warrant publication.]

I guess that's enough family secrets for now.

Teresa

One of the hardest things in life is having words in your heart that you can't utter.

James Earl Jones



Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

While you are waiting for Margy to return from her co-directing of *At First Sight* in Tipton, check out the books that will be discussed at the upcoming Mensa Book Group. Everyone is welcome!

Feb 28	Our Final Invention	James Barratt
Mar 20	Almost Nearly Perfect People	Michael Booth
Apr 24	Between the World and Me	Ta-Nehisi Coates
May 15	Professor and the Madman	Simon Winchester
Jun 26	Japan 1941	Eri Hotta
Jul 24	Shakespeare Saved My Life	Laura Bates
Aug 28	A Voyage Long and Strange:	Tony Horwitz
	On the Trail of Vikings,	
	Conquistadors, Lost Colonists,	
	And Other Adventurers in	
	Early America	

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 11/17/15

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, November 17, 2015.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Members present included: Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Diane O'Brien, Karen Wilczewski, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick. Absent: Karen Steilberger. Guests: Teresa Gregory, Petra Ritchie, and Nancy White.

The minutes of the October ExCom meeting were reviewed. Ethan moved to approve the minutes as amended; Karen Zwick seconded. The motion was carried.

The ExCom reviewed the Treasurer's report. Ann Hake moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Ethan Blocher-Smith seconded. The motion was carried.

The membership report showed 516 members, including 6 new members, 2 reinstating members, 3 renewing members, 5 move-in members, and 18 prospects.

Old Business

Kokomo members recently assigned to Ft. Wayne have now been returned to the Central Indiana Mensa fold.

Bylaws: The Bylaws Committee is in the process of addressing revisions requested by National and will have feedback to the ExCom before the end of the month. The new bylaws will probably not be in place prior to the 2016 CIM election. Ann and Ethan updated the ExCom on the status of our chapter's bylaws.

Booth at All Souls: Petra Ritchie verified that 15% of our booth contributions for Mensa sweatshirts and T-shirts at the December All Souls Unitarian Church event will go to the church. The event will be conducted on two Sundays. The shirts will also be available for purchase at the upcoming CIM Holiday Party in December.

Monthly meeting site: We will continue to meet at the Quality Inn on Allisonville Road through June 2016 and use both rooms. In the meantime, alternative meeting locations will be explored, including the Unitarian Universalist Church just off of 57th Street and Michigan Road on Indy's West side. This potential new location charges \$50/month and members can stay later

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than they can at the Quality Inn. Jan Pfeil Doyle and Karen Zwick will check out this possible new location.

Website update: Ethan said he will work on the new website during the holiday break. He expects to have it operating in January.

Holiday party: Petra has agreed to handle decorations for the Holiday Party.

RG: The 2016 W.T.F. (Winter Time Fun) RG registration fees are \$70 for the weekend through December 31, 2015 and \$80 from January 1, 2016 till the event. Friday and/or Sunday day rates are \$20 each and Saturday only is \$50.

Karen Zwick has agreed to provide Saturday lunch for the event. Mensa testing will also be available over the weekend. Jan is looking for someone to help with drink responsibilities for the RG. Ethan has offered to assist and Karen Zwick will work with Ethan to procure drinks for the RG. Jan will provide a shopping list of preferred drink choices.

Mensa testing: Teresa Gregory reported that Steve Merchant is retiring from his 13-year role as Mensa test proctor. To cover Steve's responsibilities, Teresa is looking for several people to share this responsibility and train to administer the Mensa test. Unfortunately, no training can be done online. She also mentioned that testing will be available at the January RG.

The requirements to become a Mensa test proctor involve testing every two years and having a minimum of a four-year degree from an accredited college or university. Karen Zwick has expressed interest in becoming a proctor. Teresa mentioned she currently has individuals who can administer the test.

Karen Zwick brought up recognizing Steve Merchant for his role as proctor. She would be glad to research obtaining a plaque to be presented to Steve.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. with a motion from Karen Zwick and Ann Hake seconding.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen E. Wilczewski

Treasurer's Report

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 12/14/2015)

Bank Accounts	11/16/2015	12/14/2015
Checking – Regular	\$9,355.98	\$9,441.82
Checking – Scholarship	325.03	\$383.03
Checking – Youth Membership	427.34	\$427.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	8,447.84	\$8,517.84
Checking – Youth Activity Fund	480.40	\$480.40
Total Assets	\$19,036.59	\$19,250.43

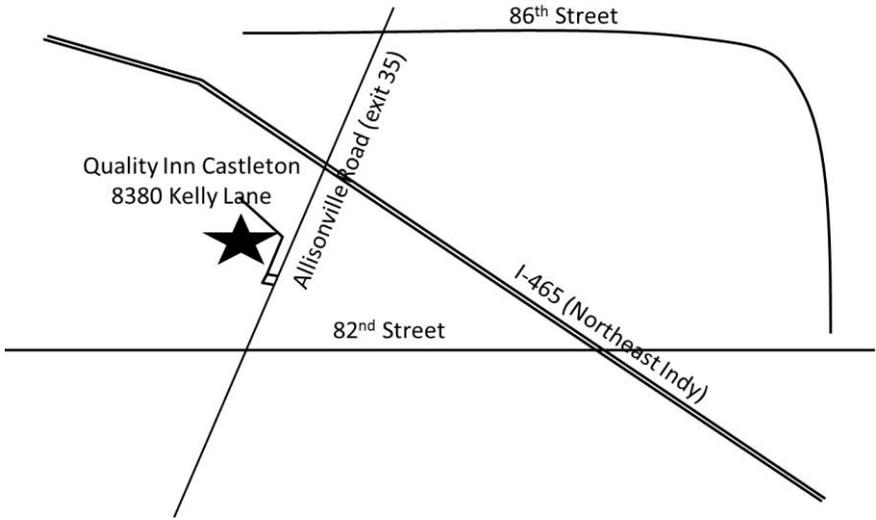
Profit & Loss Statement (11/17/2015 – 12/14/2015)

Income		
	401.2 – RG Registrations	70.00
	402 – National Mensa	612.88
	403 – Donations for Scholarship Fund	58.00
	Total Income	\$740.88
Expense		
	501.1 – Monthly Gathering Hospitality	93.83
	505 – Food for ExCom/MINDBending	75.24
	505.1 – MIND Printing	332.58
	510.1 – New Member Dinners	22.00
	510.2 – New Member Mailings	13.39
	Total Expenses	\$527.04

It's Renewal Time!
Watch your mail or renew online.
us.mensa.org.

NEW MEETING LOCATION

Quality Inn Castleton
8380 Kelly Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46250



Directions from I-465 From I-465 on the NE side of Indianapolis, take Exit 35, Allisonville Rd • Turn south on Allisonville Rd • Take the first right onto Kelly Lane • Follow Kelly Lane around to the Quality Inn.

Directions back to I-465 • Turn right from Kelly Lane onto Allisonville Rd • immediately get into the left turn lane • Make a U- turn at 82nd St to go north on Allisonville Rd • Entrance ramp for I- 465 E/S is on your right • Entrance ramp for I-465 W is on your left.

Directions from Allisonville Rd from the north • Take Allisonville Rd south toward 82nd St • After you cross over I-465, take the first right onto Kelly Lane • Follow Kelly Lane around to the Quality Inn.

Directions back to Allisonville Rd northbound • Turn right from Kelly Lane onto Allisonville Rd • Immediately get into left turn lane • Make a U-turn at 82nd St to go north on Allisonville Rd.

Directions from Allisonville Rd from the south • Take Allisonville Rd north toward 82nd St • After you cross over 82nd St, take the first left onto Kelly Lane • Follow Kelly Lane around to the Quality Inn.

Directions back to Allisonville Rd southbound • Turn right from Kelly Lane onto Allisonville Rd.

Region 4 RVC

George Haynes RVC4@us.mensa.org,

Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary	Jan Pfeil Doyle, jan@mw.net , (317) 431-3500
Parliamentarian	Ethan Blocher-Smith, MensaCinder@gmail.com , (260) 413-0093
Secretary	Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jon Applegate, jkapplegate@bluemarble.net , (517) 896-5022 (812) 825-2080 (answering machine)
Ass't Gifted Children	Diane O'Brien, robrien25@comcast.net , (317) 753-4371
Program Chair	Ann Hake, amhake@yahoo.com
Vice-LocSec & Membership	Bob Zdanky, zdanky@gmail.com , (317) 219-3773 Karen Zwick, kzwick@outlook.com , (317) 626-3789
Treasurer	
Calendar Editor	Karen Wilczewski, biltmore@topdogcom.com , (317) 849-9022

Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, NanHarvey@gmail.com , (812) 345-9608
Evansville	Dr. Louis Cady, lcadymd@mac.com , (812) 429-0772
Kokomo	Vacant
Lafayette	Joe Stamper, joe_stamper@comcast.net , (765) 474-4759
Muncie	Jason Smith, munciemensa@gmail.com

Other Volunteers

Cinder SIG	Ethan Blocher-Smith, MensaCinder@gmail.com
Ham 'n Eggs	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Gifted Children	David Bonner, gcc@kids.indymensa.org , (317) 973-0258
Ass't Gifted Children	Laurel Richardson, Lhabitat@aol.com , (317) 244-0000
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Proctor Coordinator	Teresa Gregory, teresa.gregory@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, alan.schmidt@att.net , (317) 695-5741we33
RG/OG Chair	Teresa Gregory, teresa.gregory@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761