



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Regional Gathering Memories

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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mind

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NEW NIGHT FOR MINDbending!
Now ALWAYS Third Tuesday!

Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

Survey Says - When I polled the ExCom about their New Year's Resolutions, five members said they didn't make them, and two didn't reply. Karen Zwick said, "Yes – to walk 10,000 steps per day at least 5 days a week," while Karen Steilberger promised "Just the usual one: to quit procrastinating. I'll get started on that soon." Good luck to all of them.



Rather than make a resolution, I usually pick a word or phrase that will be my theme for the coming year. Organization is my keyword for 2015. New Year's Day is one of my six work holidays, and it's on Thursday this year, so I am taking a few vacation days during that time. I plan to immerse myself in getting a start on my year of organization. I'm writing this in early December, so I'll let you know how that works out.

How That Works Out – Some time back, I was on my downsize quest, and I mentioned that I didn't know what to do with my wedding dress. I made it myself and it would only fit the 1974 version of me. It wasn't usable for anything else and it wasn't burnable. I decided to bury it. I was going to do it on my wedding anniversary in 2013. I didn't get it done. After that, every time I planned to do it, it rained or snowed. Finally, September 28, 2014, my 40th wedding anniversary, I got the deed done. It was a beautiful evening. After that, I sat and reminisced about that day so long ago, and all that had happened to get me where I am today. It was a good thing.

Looking Ahead – Coming up in January is the annual Central Indiana Regional Gathering. We are putting together an interesting and varied program, and we will be offering the Mensa Test this year for those friends and relatives that you know should be in Mensa. Bring them along!

We are also putting the finishing touches on our 50th Anniversary Party in March. This will include a sit-down dinner that you will have to reserve a seat for. Your cost will be \$15 that must be paid in advance. Registration information will be in the February MIND and on our website, Facebook page, and MeetUp page.

I hope to see you sometime during the coming year.

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Central Indiana Mensa Regional Gathering –

CIM's biggest event of the year, our RG, is this month, January 23-25 at the Clarion Hotel on the west side of Indianapolis. You can come for all or part of the weekend. A registration form and other information about the RG can be found elsewhere in *MIND*. We'll have Mensans from Indiana and most of the surrounding states in attendance. The theme this year is "WTF" aka "Winter Time Fun." Teresa Gregory is once again chairing the event and has been working hard to put together an interesting set of programs and events and some delicious food. Don't miss this chance to learn something new and have some fun socializing with your fellow Mensans! It's a great opportunity for those of you who live too far to come for a one- or two-hour event to come to Indianapolis for the weekend and hang out. I hope to see all of you there!



50th Anniversary Celebration – I hope you all received the “save the date” postcard for our group’s 50th anniversary celebration on Saturday evening, March 7, 2015. We’ll have dinner and a party at the Clarion Hotel, the same hotel where our RG is held. Stay tuned for more information in upcoming *MINDs*. If you’re coming from out of town (and we hope to have many of you here,) you can stay all night at the hotel. When making your reservation, ask for the Mensa rate (\$74, includes continental breakfast).

Sad News – We have found out that the long time host of the Kokomo breakfast and Life Member Kenneth Kleist passed away some time ago. Our belated condolences go out to his family and friends. CIM will make a contribution to the John S Matthews Scholarship Fund in Ken’s memory.

Mensa National Elections – Elections will be held in April/May of 2015 for Mensa’s national governing board, the AMC (American Mensa Committee). For the first time, sending the ballots by email will be the default if you have a valid email address on file with national. Members in good standing as of April 1, 2015 will be sent a ballot. Now would be a good time to be sure your email address and/or mailing address are current. Most offices have several people running and there are a number of proposed amendments to the national bylaws. Information will be published in the national *Bulletin* before the election. In the meantime, here are a couple of links where you can find more information if you’re interested:

www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/elections/proposed-bylaws-amendments/mpedia.dan.info/index.php?title=2015_election_of_American_Mensa

**Central Indiana Mensa Presents
A Regional Gathering**



W.T.F.



(Winter Time Fun)

**Bring a Buddy!
Free Mensa Test for non-members
included with a full paid
weekend admission.**

January 23-25, 2015

What to Pay

~~\$55 until Nov 30, 2014~~

~~\$65 until Dec 31, 2014~~

\$75 from January 1, 2015

Kids:

\$25 – under 6 years old

\$40 – 6 – 12 years old

Day Rates:

\$20 Friday or Sunday Only

\$40 Saturday Only

Whom to Contact

rg.registrar@yahoo.com

Or mail payment to

Teresa Gregory

6076 Dewey Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46219

**Please let us know if you
have a guest who will be
taking the test.**

*Our hotel is fully
handicapped accessible.*

All activities on one floor

Where to Stay

Clarion at the Waterfront

2930 Waterfront Parkway West

Indianapolis, IN 46214

(317) 299-8400

www.ClarionWaterfront.com

\$69 Mensa Rate

Central Hospitality Area

Free Parking

Game Room

More Information on Next Page

W.T.F. (Winter Time Fun)

Yes, it's almost time for the CIM Regional Gathering. It will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center. This is our second century at that hotel. We are fortunate to have a wonderful working relationship with the management and staff. They bend over backwards for us and allow us to do things that a lot of other places would not. We have some of the best room rates of any local RG.

Testing

This year, we are excited to offer something special for our members who know someone who should be a member. Non-member weekend registration will include a ticket to take the Mensa test at no additional charge on Saturday morning. So grab all your friends who would love to have a fun get-away weekend, and bring them with you. (Paid full weekend registration of the guest is required.) If you have some friends who don't want to come for the weekend, they can still come take the test at the usual rate of \$40.

Raffle

Our scholarship coffers are getting pretty low, so we are going to give it boost with a couple of fund-raising activities. We will be selling chances at the door for a free registration to our RG or Outdoor gathering, winner's choice.

Hospitality

We will have plenty of food including the Friday night pizza party, the Saturday night ice cream social, and the hotel-catered brunch on Sunday. Beverages both soft and adult.

Programs

We are still working on our program line up, but there will be something for everyone, a veritable potpourri of possibilities.

One that we are excited about is photography with your Smart Phone. Our instructor has made this science an art and has had gallery showings of his works. We will also get some advice on genealogy research, 21st Century style. We are looking forward to another late-night visit from the Indy Pride Bag Ladies. Thinking about retirement? We have a program for you. And, as always, we have some surprises in store. Can you guess what we will be tasting this year?

So grab your friends and come to a place where it might be cold outside, but it's warm inside, and the indoor pool and hot tub await.

In Case You Missed Him

Our visitor from Florida, Cletus, spent December saying his good-byes as he prepared to return to his home in Florida. In next month's MIND, we'll see some of his final visits with Central Indiana Mensans.



Sidebars from *Lonely Planet*:

Père Lachaise Cemetery

Teresa Fisher

When I travel, I always buy a copy of the *Lonely Planet* guidebook for the area I will be visiting. I'm not really the demographic they're writing for, which seems to be independent travelers with backpacks, but I still find the occasional gem that I might not get from other travel guides.

The sights I'm most interested in are usually described in a sidebar. They're often slightly out-of-the-way attractions that are for the enjoyment of the Few. I am one of those Few.

I recently went to Europe with my daughter and granddaughters, and the day they visited Disney Paris, I went to Père Lachaise Cemetery. I'm very glad I did.

Opened in the early 1800s, Père Lachaise covers 110 acres and is the largest cemetery within the city limits of Paris. There are more than a million people buried there, and quite a few of them are famous. Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be an accurate map accessible to tourists. I bought a map at a newsstand, and it showed only the approximate locations of famous graves, many of them containing the bodies of French people I'd never heard of.

People are still being buried at Père Lachaise, so some grave markers are modern, some are quite old, and a wide variety of styles are represented. There were a lot of tiny buildings just big enough for a mourner to enter, many of them decorated to Victorian excess and containing stained glass windows. Graves not along the paved roads were crammed in wherever they would fit, and some are difficult to get to.

The back of my map had a list of about 240 names of the famous and semi-famous, corresponding to tiny Xs on the map. Scattered among the *hoi polloi* are the graves of Molière; Chopin; Honoré de Balzac; James Rothschild; Sarah Bernhardt; Eugène Delacroix; Yves Montand and Simone Signoret, together; Edith Piaf; Georges Seurat; and Gertrude Stein. Heloise and Abelard were

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

interred there together by Josephine Napoleon, many years after their deaths.

The first grave I looked for, but never found, was that of Emmanuel Grouchy. I had no idea who he was; I just wanted to take a picture of a grave with that name on it. (Thanks to the Internet I later learned that he was a military commander wrongfully blamed for France's defeat at Waterloo, while his many years of excellent service were ignored. Wouldn't you be Grouchy?)

Without even trying I happened upon the modest grave of Marcel Marceau. Not surprisingly, he was silent. The most heavily visited grave is where Jim Morrison, lead singer of the Doors, lies in repose. I was never a fan, but I felt I should make the trek, just because. The day was chilly and the cemetery had few visitors, but there were half a dozen or so people at the grave of The Lizard King. A fence has been erected around it to keep out misbehaving fans, and due to crowded conditions, the fence also closes off the graves of a few ordinary people. I wonder if those people are rotating in their graves, silently screaming, "I didn't sign up for this!"

Until three years ago the large, art deco grave of Oscar Wilde was covered in red lip prints. Somehow it became a tradition for women to put on lipstick and kiss his monument. (Insert your own joke here. He did play for both teams.) In 2011 his heirs paid to have it cleaned, and there is now a glass enclosure around it and a sign requesting visitors to show some respect.



The grave I was most pleased to find was the one I learned about from *Lonely Planet*. It is the final resting place of 22-year-old journalist Victor Noir. He was shot in 1870 by the great-nephew of Napoleon, whose acquittal of the murder outraged the public. Twenty-one years later Noir's body was moved from its original burial place to Père Lachaise, and his grave was marked by a life-sized bronze statue of him. *Lonely Planet* explained that the statue became a talisman, perhaps because sculptor Jules Dalou had given him a considerable bulge in his trousers, which women rub for good luck. I'm glad it hadn't occurred to me to look on the Internet for a picture of Noir's statue, because if I had, I wouldn't have experienced the sudden jolt of surprise when I finally found it. In my mind I had been picturing a statue standing up as statues usually are. To my amazement the sculptor depicted Noir lying dead on his grave, as though he had just fallen there, his hat by his side. The realism was astounding. Noir, who apparently dressed to the left, has a very shiny bulge, all the more startling because it's surrounded by the otherwise dull green verdigris of the bronze. And yes, I did.

Welcome New and Returning Members!

This feature will return next month with all our new and returning members. (The American Mensa website was experiencing technical difficulties while MIND was in production.)

Letter to the Editor



When I first received my “save the date” post card about the 50th Anniversary party in March, I just knew the little clipart owls were sending a secret message. They were holding their tiny wings out at odd angles, and I was certain they were giving us a semaphore message. I Googled semaphore and tried to figure out what they were saying to those of us clever enough to catch on to the trick. As far as I can tell, the letters they’re representing are U, N, and C. The physiognomy of a cartoon owl doesn’t lend itself to the making of unambiguous semaphore letters, so the last letter could possibly be the symbol for [erase] instead of C. But that’s hardly less cryptic. (It didn’t look like the larger owl in the blue hat was participating, so I left him out.)

UNC? Is this part of a contest? Do those letters stand for something? Should we rearrange them? Is there a prize involved? Or is this a message from beyond just for me, from an uncle whom I actually did call Unc? Am I over thinking this?

If there’s no message and the owls are just randomly holding their wings in strange positions, I will be disappointed. What an opportunity you missed.

Teresa Fisher

Letter to the Editor and LocSec

After six years, three at my clubhouse and three at my church, of hosting the Central Indiana Mensa monthly meetings, I have decided that it’s time for a change, both in location and host(ess).

I will continue to volunteer, as I have for the 35 years of my membership, but in another capacity, yet to be determined. I feel very strongly that as an active member of any organization, one should contribute at least a little time and/or effort to “earn one’s keep”. If everyone would do something, few would have to do everything, as they do now.

I will continue my commitment at All Souls until a new venue has been found, within a reasonable period of time. Please let the ExCom know if you are able to secure a new location and be the new host/ess.

Petra Ritchie

January 2015 Events - Central Indiana Mensa

Ham ‘n’ Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) 1st Saturday from 10 a.m. -12 noon. Soho Café & Gallery, 620 South Range Line Road, Carmel, IN. 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, 2 p.m., Contact: Bob Van Buskirk, 317-359-6907 or rvanbuskirk@netdirect.net. Location will change each month.

Indy Lunch Bunch - 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 12 noon, Double Eagle Café, 650 N. Meridian (at the Scottish Rite Cathedral), Indianapolis. Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net. 1420

Muncie Area Group Meeting – 1st Saturday at 2 p.m.
The MTCup, 1610 W. University Ave in Muncie. For those familiar with the Ball State area, it’s in the Village.
Contact: Jason Smith, munciemensa@gmail.com.

Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday at 7 p.m., All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56th St. See last page of MIND for map and directions. Members: \$5.00, Non-Members: \$7.00; Children 6-12: \$3.00, under 6: free.

1/9: This month’s event is games night.

10 Minutes of Math and Science (Every month immediately following the program). Hosted by George Dunn.

Book Discussion –Sunday, 1/18, 2 p.m.

We will discuss Thomas Picketty's *Capital in the 21st Century*. We will be meeting at Rich and Jackie Gibson’s house on the NE side of Indianapolis. Please contact Rich at 317-735-2895 or hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com for more details or to RSVP.

2/22: *In Our Hands* by Charles Murray

3/22 *The Social Conquest* by Edward O Wilson

Mensans Dining Out – 3rd Sunday at 6 p.m.

1/18 – GT South’s Rib House, 5711 E. 71st St. Indianapolis

Contact: Bob Zdanky, 317-503-0091 or Zdanky@gmail.com.

Please let Bob know if you are coming so he can reserve enough space.

[This is not a typo. They are going to the same place as in December.]

(Events are continued on the other side of the calendar.)

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 Bridge Club	5	6	7 Indy Lunch Bunch Muncie Meeting
11	12	13	14
18 Book Discussion; Mensans Dining Out	19	20 MINDbending/ ExCom; Paducah Area Group Meeting	21 Indy Lunch Bunch
25 + 6	26	27	28
February 1 Bridge Club	2	3	4 Indy Lunch Bunch Muncie Meeting

**Social Media – Remember to sign up for Central Indiana
Mensa’s Facebook and Meet Up groups:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/67015884487/>
<http://www.meetup.com/Central-Indiana-Mensa/>

January 2015 (cont.)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 MIND deadline	3 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting; Calendar Deadline
8	9 Monthly Gathering	10
15	16	17
22	23 CIM RG "Winter Time Fun," Cinder	24 CIM RG "Winter Time Fun," Mensa Testing
29	30	31
5	6 MIND deadline	7 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting; Calendar Deadline

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 will get reminders of upcoming events. It's a great way to stay in the loop.

January 2015 Events (cont.)

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.

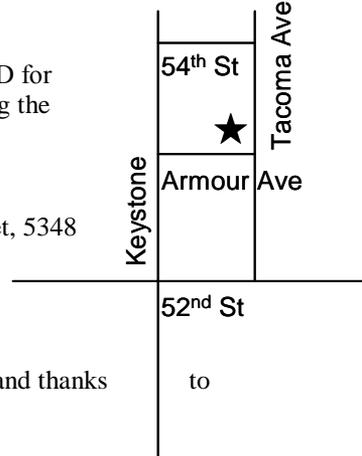
MINDBending/ExCom – 3rd Tuesday of the month.

MINDBending is the preparation of next month's MIND for mailing. Come help with sealing, labeling, and stamping the MINDs.

1/20, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 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 December MINDbenders and thanks Midwest Internet for hosting the event.

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

Central Indiana Mensa Regional Gathering: W.T.F. (Winter Time Fun) — 1/23-25, Clarion at the Waterfront. Features hospitality, programs, raffle, programs, Mensa testing, and more. [See pages 6 & 7 for more information.]

Mensa Test - Saturday, 1/24, Registration 9 a.m. Test 9:30 a.m. Clarion at the Waterfront, 2930 Waterfront Parkway West, Indianapolis, IN 46214
Contact: Teresa Gregory (teresa.gregory@yahoo.com) or 317-430-1761
2/21, Registration 10a.m. Test 11:a.m. Wayne Library, 198 South Girls School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana. Contact Steve Merchant editor32@outlook.com, (317) 240-3077

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

February MIND calendar items due 1/3/15 to biltmore@topdogcom.com.

Review of Chicago's HalloweeM

Ellen Voie, RVC 4

If you've never attended the Chicago Area Mensa's HalloweeM, or "WeeM" as it is called, then mark your calendar for next year's event right now and plan on traveling to Chicago next October 29th through November 1st to spend the weekend with about 500 fellow Mensans from throughout the Midwest.



As the Region 4 Vice Chair, I had the pleasure of attending one of the Mensa's largest Regional Gatherings. This year's theme was WeeMter Wonderland, and the weather cooperated with chilly temperatures and high winds.

Heather Booton was the chair for the 39th Chicago event. Matt Crawford was the program chair. The list of volunteers is long, but a huge thank you is in order for all of them. The event seemed to proceed seamlessly with everything from registration to the lunches and presentations coordinated like a well-oiled machine. The amount of energy behind the scenes was amazing and the smiles on the volunteers' faces made WeeM even more enjoyable.

Presentations ranged from scrapbooking to traveling on a budget to TED talks to scotch tasting. Yes, there was something for everyone. Regardless if you wanted to be entertained or if you preferred to learn and absorb, you had an array of choices during each scheduled tract.

Some popular speakers who challenged our intelligence included Frank Dolinar's "Science Fictional Aspects of Today's Science" to Dr. Alex Cummings' "Adipose Derived Autologous Mesenchymal Stem Cell Clinical Applications" and yes, his alternate title was, "They do WHAT with my fat?" For those who preferred less intellectual topics, Cynthia Clampitt informed Mensans about the history of Rum in, "Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Rum." JC Chupack spoke about her job at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and Mike Wolstein talked about record collecting in "Return of the Vinyl Junkie."

Mensans love games, and the game room was filled with dozens, or maybe hundreds, of board games, puzzles and other boxes filled with fun and challenges. The room seemed to be full at all hours of the day with adults, children and teens interacting with one another.

What's an RG without food? We all know how much Mensans love to eat and to snack on chocolate and salty items. The Chicago area WeeM didn't disappoint

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us in regards to food. There was chocolate in bulk for those who preferred chunks from a slab. The candy bowls were kept filled and whether you prefer licorice or pretzels or both, you could eat your fill of these and more.

After candy, what is the most popular item for consumption? Alcohol! There were three kegs of beer, but the Guinness seemed to run out faster than the others. White wine in the coolers or red wine on the counter added to the bottles of wine coolers and hard drinks available. Don't forget to include the "Pretentious Drinking" event on Saturday night if you like to try new liqueurs. The volunteers were lined up around the room, ready to pour a shot into your plastic cup so you could sample one of the many types of alcohol disguised as a fun and potent thimble of liquid!

Both Friday night and Saturday night ended with dancing. Kenya Hitchens was the DJ on Friday and Clyde Forrester hosted a sing-along on Saturday. Mensans are better dancers than you might imagine!

What Halloween event would be complete without a costume party? WeeM is no exception, and on Friday night the parade of scary, funny and intriguing costumes paraded across the stage. For many, the costume represented a pun and the goal was to guess the pun and perhaps even guess the name of the participant.

If you haven't attended a Regional Gathering, please consider the Chicago Area WeeM event next year. You will have fun! More importantly, you will be able to connect with your peers in both intellectual and entertaining pursuits.



Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: *Authorisms: Words Wrought by Writers*

Author: Paul Dickson

Year: 2014

Book Description: An *authorism*, according to the definition that prefaces this book, is "a word, phrase, or name created by or an existing term given a new meaning by an author or
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journalist; a literary neologism.” *Authorisms* is a compilation of noteworthy neologisms, presented in dictionary form – alphabetically, with a brief definition of each word or phrase and the story behind its “creation.” Vivid photographs of many of the featured authors are interspersed throughout the book. Also included are appended commentaries by the author on the difficulty of promoting the common usage of an original expression (Epilogue – Cold Comfort), and on the ongoing debate over the exact quantity of words and phrases coined by William Shakespeare. Please note per the author’s own caveat that many of the credited coiners did not actually create the words, but rather were the first to use them in print; Dickson makes this distinction for each “authorism” contained in this book.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? My college-educated parents were both avid readers who instilled in their children an intense appreciation of written communication, through books, crossword puzzles, and various verbal games and exercises. Language remains one of my passions, and in that respect, I consider *Authorisms* eminently entertaining.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? Anyone who is verbally oriented will enjoy this treasure trove of linguistic gems. I offer the following sample in the form of a quiz; try to match the words or phrases with their originators. The answers are at the end of this review.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. wunderkind | a. Ruth Glass |
| 2. lost generation | b. William Shakespeare |
| 3. gentrification | c. Ben Jonson |
| 4. co-ed | d. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. |
| 5. salad days | e. George Bernard Shaw |
| 6. platonic | f. Louisa May Alcott |
| 7. billionaire | g. George Eliot |
| 8. chintzy | h. Gertrude Stein |

How long might it take to read this book? A maximum of one or two days. The subject matter is fascinating and the writing style is both expressive and explicit.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: “NEOPHILIAC. A lover of the new, a pejorative term created in 1970 by Christopher Booker, British writer and editor of the satirical magazine *Private Eye*. His book *The Neophiliacs* had a sharp edge and his thesis was that when a society is in a state of disintegration and flux, its members opt for false

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revolutions in style and manner over genuine self-renewal. The dream of a new “fun” England had, in Booker’s view, darkened into a nightmare of drugs, depravity, and anger. Critic Melvin Maddocks, reviewing the book for the *Christian Science Monitor*, summed it up this way: “The Neophiliacs have granted themselves a doubtful gift of freedom without a sense of purpose. They are free to Do Their Thing – if only they could remember what it is they thought they wanted to do.”

Additional Remarks: The answers to the above quiz are as follows: 1-e, 2-h, 3-a, 4-f, 5-b, 6-c, 7-d, 8-g. If at least half of your pairings are correct, consider yourself a bona fide EGGHEAD (introduced into print by Carl Sandburg in 1918)



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 10/28/14

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, October 28, 2014.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. Members present were: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Ann Hake, Diane O’Brien, Karen Steilberger, Karen Wilczewski, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick. Guests: Teresa Gregory, Jud Horning, Margy Lancet-Fletcher, Alan Schmidt.

Jan Pfeil Doyle presented the offices and roles to be filled for the term of the new ExCom. Committee members volunteered for their areas of interest, and discussed rules of order. Karen Wilczewski moved that the slate of offices and roles be accepted, Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. The offices and other roles will be filled as follows:

Vice LocSec – Bob Zdanky
SIGHT Coordinator – Alison Brown
Recording Secretary – Karen Steilberger
Gifted Youth Assistant Coordinator – Diane O’Brien
Treasurer – Karen Zwick
RG Chair and OG Chair – Teresa Gregory
Program Coordinator – Ann Hake
Ombudsman – Alan Schmidt
MIND Editor – Teresa Gregory
Sergeant-at-Arms – Jon Applegate
Calendar Editor – Karen Wilczewski

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Subcommittees will handle publicity and by-laws updates. Publicity will be coordinated by the members who edit/update the Web site, Facebook, Meetup, and MIND. The by-laws will be reviewed by Ethan Blocher-Smith and several others who are interested in being involved.

Karen Zwick will ensure that there are three signatories for the checking account.

Jan Pfeil Doyle led a discussion about the schedule for the ExCom meetings and MINDBending with regard to the ExCom members' schedules. Starting in November, the MINDBending and ExCom meeting will be on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The MIND deadline will be changed to the first Friday of the month. The MIND on-line and the Meetup site will be updated to show the changed date for November.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the September ExCom meeting and made one correction. Karen Zwick moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected, Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Karen Zwick presented the Treasurer's report. She has asked Diane O'Brien to audit our books. Karen will send the money to MERF for the memorial brick for Jean Rodgers when the wording is decided. Ann Hake made a motion to accept the report as presented, Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report shows 2 new, 1 reinstating, 1 renewing, and 2 move-in members; and 14 prospects.

Old Business

Buzz Fund event: Karen Zwick reported that the 50th anniversary celebration dinner will be on March 7 at the Clarion Waterfront. Teresa Gregory has gotten a price from the hotel for rooms for those who wish to stay overnight. This will help encourage attendance of those from out of town. Karen Wilczewski has created a potential save-the-date postcard. Teresa shared the Evansville test notice postcard as an example and offered a couple of suggestions for saving money on the printing. Ann Hake moved that we proceed with the printing and mailing of the postcards, Ethan Blocher-Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. The postcards will be addressed and stamped at the November MIND-Bending.

Mensa testing: Teresa Gregory reported that after the postcard mailing, there were 7 who took the test in Evansville, as well as 12 in Indianapolis. This brought the group more in testing revenue than we spent on the postcards, labels and postage.

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2015 Regional Gathering: Teresa Gregory reported on plans for the RG. Karen Zwick is helping line up speakers, Karen Wilczewski is helping with the programs, and Karen Steilberger volunteered to help with registration. Members will take flyers to the upcoming RGs in Chicago and Cincinnati, and a notice will be included in January edition of the Mensa Bulletin.

New Business

Stipend for event hosts: Teresa Gregory has suggested offering a \$15 stipend for members who host events in their homes. The event must be one to which members are invited and which appears on the CIM calendar. The host needs to request the stipend. Bob Zdanky made a motion to approve this practice, Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Program budget: Teresa Gregory said that there is a yearly budget for the program chair, for equipment, travel, and stipends. The committee discussed posting and passing along such “Actions Still in Effect”, so those who need to know will be aware of them.

Fund-raising and benefits: Teresa Gregory raised the idea of offering free meeting admission for the month of a one’s birthday. Karen Zwick said this would be difficult to track and would decrease revenue on top of the reduction we now have with the incentive to bring food to the meetings.

Scholarship fund: Teresa Gregory brought up the need for additional money for the scholarship fund. She and other ExCom members made several suggestions, including an auction or raffle at the RG. Ideas for the RG should be sent to Teresa.

2018 Annual Gathering: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that the 2018 AG will be in Indianapolis, pending final approval of the hotel contract. The chairs will be appointed by National in 2016.

2015 Admissions Testing: Bob Zdanky asked if the schedule for admissions testing has been set up for 2015. Proctor Coordinator Steve Merchant cannot schedule the dates with the library until January. In the meantime, prospects can contact Steve directly.

There being no other business, Karen Wilczewski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ann Hake seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Steilberger

Treasurer's Report

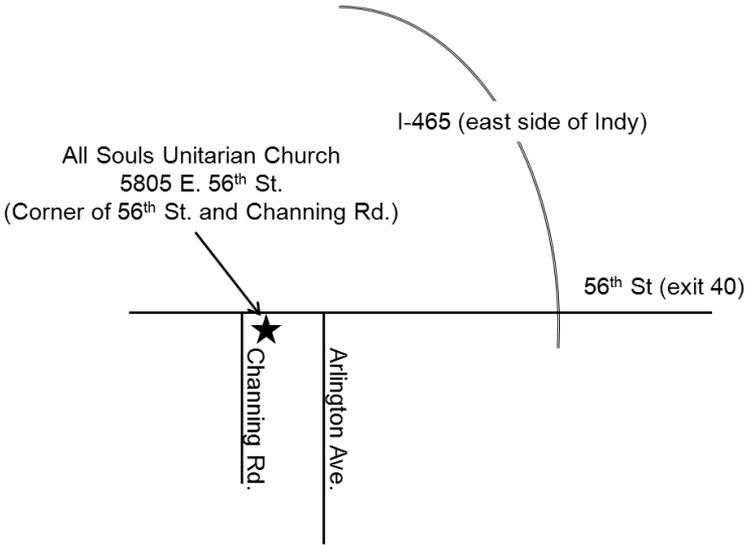
Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 11/17/2014)

Bank Accounts	11/17/2014	10/27/2014
Checking – Regular	\$14,138.05	\$15,050.97
Checking – Scholarship	362.53	297.53
Checking – Youth Mbrship	849.00	849.00
Checking – Buzz Fund	540.00	540.00
Vanguard Account	3,740.09	\$3,740.09
Total Assets	\$19,629.67	\$20,477.59

Profit & Loss Statement (10/28/2014– 11/17/2014)

Income		
	403 – Donations (scholarship donations in memory of Jean Rodgers)	65.00
Total Income		65.00
Expense		
	501.1 – Monthly Gathering Hospitality	161.21
	505 – Food for ExCom/MIND	86.09
	505.1 – MIND Printing	309.74
	507 – Promotional Expenses (stamps for promotional postcard sent to all members to save date of 50 Year Anniversary party)	294.00
	510.2 – New Member Mailings (supplies)	10.88
	520 – Miscellaneous Expenses (stamps for postcards sent to prospective test takers)	49.00
Total Expenses		\$912.92



Mensa Monthly Gathering Location

All Souls Unitarian Church, The Beattie Room, 5805 E. 56th St., Indianapolis

- From I-465 on the east side of Indianapolis, take the 56th St exit west (exit 40).
- Turn left on Channing Rd (1.2 miles from the I-465 exit).
- The church parking lot is on your left.
- Go to the Beattie Room.



Region 4 RVC

Ellen Voie RVC4@us.mensa.org,

Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary	Jan Pfeil Doyle, jan@mw.net , (317) 431-3500 PO Box 20158, Indianapolis, 46220
Parliamentarian	Ethan Blocher-Smith, MensaCinder@gmail.com , (260) 413-0093
Secretary	Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net
Sargent-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
Treasurer	Karen Zwick, kzwick@1stclass.com , (317) 626-3789 1634 Mace Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46229
Calendar Editor	Karen Wilczewski, biltmore@topdogcom.com , (317) 849-9022

Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, NanHarvey@gmail.com , (812) 345-9608 708 S Cory Lane, Lot 61, Bloomington, IN 47403
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 2601 S. Mitchell Ct., Muncie, IN 47302

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 6279 Canterbury Dr, Zionsville, IN 46077
Ass't Gifted Children	Laurel Richardson, Lhabitat@aol.com , (317) 244-0000
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Proctor Coordinator	Steve Merchant, editor32@outlook.com , (317) 240-3077 2234 Fullerton Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46214
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, alan.schmidt@att.net , (317) 695-5741we33
RG/OG Chair	Teresa Gregory, teresa.gregory@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761

