





mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana






 The Central Indiana Mensa
Family Program Presents

THE 6TH ANNUAL SUMMER BLAST!

July 17-18, 2015
Only \$20/person

Relax with us on a private beach in Plymouth, IN as we enjoy the last days of summer before school starts. Activities include sailing lessons, canoeing, rowboat, swimming, fishing, nature hikes, games, and hanging out with fun, smart people. Friday dinner, Friday night s'mores, Saturday breakfast & lunch provided. Arrive as early as 2pm on Friday and stay until Saturday afternoon.



Visit kids.indymensa.org to learn more and sign up

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.

Reprint Information

Mensa publications may freely reprint material from *MIND*. If a piece bears an individual copyright, publishers must obtain a release from the author.

Advertising

MIND accepts paid advertising. Contact the Editor for current rates.

MIND Staff

Editor: Teresa Gregory, mind.editor@yahoo.com, (317) 430-1761
6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219

Calendar Editor: Karen Wilczewski, biltmore@topdogcom.com

Publisher: Jan Pfeil Doyle

MIND is published monthly by Central Indiana Mensa.

Subscriptions are \$12 annually for those not members of CIM.

Postmaster: address changes to *MIND*, c/o American Mensa, Ltd, 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103. Include membership number.



Website: centralindiana.us.mensa.org
-or- www.indymensa.org
MensaPhone: (317) 539-1740

Volume 51, Issue Number 7
July 2015



mind

table of contents

Old Dog/New Tricks	4
Petra's Punny Page	5
LocSection	6
Action Park	7
June Round-Up	9
Welcome New Members	10
Mensa Sports SIG	10
July 2015 Events	11
RVC4 Column (Ellen Voie)	15
RVC4 Column (George Haynes)	16
Books on the Runway	17
Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes	19
Treasurer's Report	21
Location of CIM Monthly Meeting	22
Contact Information	23

The newly elected officers of American Mensa take office July 1. This issue has two RVC4 columns: a farewell from Ellen Voie (thanks, Ellen, for your service) and an introduction by George Haynes (welcome!).

Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

This column started out talking about new things I had tried or learned. This month, I have been trying different uses for Apple Cider Vinegar. Now, let me be clear, there is apple cider vinegar and Apple Cider Vinegar (ACV). What's the difference? The price. Lower case acv is what you find next to the white vinegar at Kroger. ACV is what you find in the organic, health food section. It's cloudy and contains Mother. I'm not even going into that.



I have used white (distilled) vinegar for years as a cleaning product, to clear clogged drains (with baking soda), to disinfect cutting boards, as a substitute for fabric softener in the wash, as a hair rinse, to remove hard water build-up, etc. Now it seems ACV is the new craze. I had a jug of it that had just passed the expiration date. (What happens when it expires? How can you tell?) So rather than toss it, I decided to try out some of these new uses.

Weed Killer: I read that if I sprayed it on the broad leaf weeds, the acid would kill the leaves in a matter of hours. It wouldn't kill the roots, but it would kill the leaves. I certainly had weeds to spare, so I liberally doused some of them to see. It was a sunny day. I went out the next day to find bright and shiny weeds, looking healthier than the day before. They smiled at me as if to say, "May we have another dose?" Score: 0/5.

Bathroom Cleaner: I have used distilled vinegar for years in the bathroom. The house I live in has especially hard water. I still had that bottle of "weed killer," so I just sprayed the tub and sink liberally with it. Distilled vinegar is pungent, but this stuff was beyond that. As soon as I had sprayed, I left the room with watery eyes. When I went back about 15 minutes later and scrubbed the sink, I thought, "Hmm, maybe there is something to this." I had a strange sense of being watched. I looked around. No cats in sight. The smell had driven them to the basement. But what I did see were fruit flies. Everywhere. They had all left Club Black Banana in the kitchen when they got a whiff of the acv. Fortunately, after the acv dried, the smell dissipated and they returned to their old haunt. Score: 4/5. Faucets were shiny, sink was clean. Smell was a little much.

Anti-Aging Skin Softener: For this application, I did use the organic version of ACV that was not past dated. The recipe is half ACV and half water applied to the skin at bedtime. (Note: my eyes had stopped watering by morning.) At the time of application, my skin did feel softer, not that it was sandpaperish before,

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

but I did feel a difference. After about a week of use, I started noticing a more youthful appearance in the form of pimples. There weren't a lot, but a few was too many. Score: 0

Cough Suppressant: I have seasonal allergies that cause me to have an asthmatic bronchitis. People are always offering me suggestions. This one came from Mensan Ann Hake:

Sore Throat Tea

Hot tea (green, chamomile, or other)
ginger 1/4 tsp
apple cider vinegar 1-2 Tbsp
lemon juice 2 Tbsp
cayenne pepper - pinch (1/16 tsp)
cloves - pinch
cinnamon - dash (1/8 tsp)
raw honey to taste (will need a lot)
alcohol optional

One night, I was desperate enough to try it. (I had not tried it sooner because I didn't have a couple of the ingredients.) I wanted to get some sleep, so I left the alcohol out. I only used 1 Tbsp of the ACV. I ended up adding 3 Tbsp honey. I don't usually drink hot beverages, so getting it down took a while. I was feeling warm and cozy and thought I would get some sleep. I can't put a finger on exactly what caused it, but once this got into my system, I was bouncing off the walls. No sleep for me...but I wasn't coughing. Score: 4/5. Got results. Unexpected side effect.

I will continue in my investigation of the wonderful uses of ACV. Has anyone seen a use they would like me to try? Let me know. I've still got a lot of this stuff left.



Petra's Punny Page

Petra Ritchie

Don't let statistics do a number on you.
Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.
A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
Dijon vu – the same mustard as before.
Practice safe eating – always use condiments.

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

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

[Jan was called out of town on family business, so here are some excerpts from her previous LocSection Columns.]

My leadership philosophy is essentially the same as John's [Blankenship] although my style will be different, I'm sure. I'd like to continue to help guide Indianapolis Mensa to be what its members want it to be. I truly feel the more people that get involved, the better the group will be. Watch in MIND for ways you can be more active. Please feel free to share with me any thoughts you have for improving the group! ...If there's something you'd like to see changed or added to the local group, please let us know! Give us a chance to fix it rather than leaving in silence. After all, our group is what we, the members, make it.
[First column as LocSec after succeeding John Blankenship. We were still Indianapolis Mensa in February 1990.]



Thanks—to John R. Berger, editor of Ft. Wayne's newsletter, the *Hoosier M*, for his suggested solution to long-windedness at ExCom meetings: require each speaker to stand on one foot while talking! As soon as the other foot hits the floor (even in the middle of a sentence), the speaker has to stop talking. I can picture it now...
[Should this be brought to the attention of the bylaws committee? September 1990]

Mug night was a success! People brought some great mugs for the mug contest at the April monthly meeting. In addition to learning about the Indianapolis Clean City Committee and local recycling, we voted for our favorite mugs by donating to the scholarship fund. Petra Ritchie's "trash can" mug – very appropriate for the recycling night – was the winner.
[This idea makes as much sense now as it did in May 1991]

The Yankees aren't in danger of being displaced but we had fun! Those of us who gathered in the 90+-degree heat to play softball last Saturday were mostly short on talent but were long on...uh...(let's see, I can't say intelligence because we were out there in the heat)...uh, long on (I can't honestly say desire, either), uh, long on...that's it...missed balls! Well, anyway, we had a good time.
[Please tell me someone has pictures! July 1990]

Action Park

Teresa Fisher

A few years ago, thanks to *Mental_Floss Magazine*, I learned about northern New Jersey's legendary Action Park. Consisting primarily of water features, the amusement park was in operation from 1978 until 1996, had more than a million visitors a year, and gave area kids great childhood memories. Recently I wanted to read about it again, but couldn't recall the park's name. Google easily came up with numerous links after I typed in 'park,' 'New Jersey,' and 'dangerous.'

Action Park was fondly nicknamed Accident Park, Traction Park, and Class Action Park. Many of its 75 rides and attractions were ill conceived, badly thought out, poorly maintained, and were operated by intoxicated, inattentive teenagers. It was a lawless place, and a kid's paradise.

Severe injuries were a daily occurrence at the park, and over the course of its existence six people died. (Only six?) Injuries so taxed the ambulances in Vernon Township that the park bought some and donated them to the town. The ambulances often made several runs a day to the park on summer weekends, and were jokingly called the Action Park Express.

A common injury was to have large swaths of one's skin exfoliated on the Alpine Slide. The slide was a long chute made of concrete, and the rider drove a tiny sled whose usually malfunctioning hand brake caused it to go either very slow or very fast. Slow riders were often slammed in the back by fast ones, sleds flew into the air, and everyone went scraping the rest of the way down the slide. The Alpine Slide caused the park's first fatality when it had been open only two years.

People with no training in engineering dreamed up rides, and then were hired to build them without consideration for safety or the principles of physics. The Cannonball Loop was an enclosed water slide constructed of a large metal tube. Riders slid down at an angle of approximately 38°, and at the bottom they had to execute a complete vertical loop before being squirted out onto the ground. So few people completed the loop unscathed that the ride was only open sporadically.

People who were lined up for the Tarzan Swing could watch others swing out and drop into a creek-fed pool. It was traditional for swingers to shout profanity and expose their body parts before they let go of the rope. One man apparently didn't know the water in the Tarzan pool was much colder than the water in the other pools, and he died of a heart attack after getting the surprise of his life.

The Kayak Experience seemed safe enough. Riders floated in kayaks in a pool of water that was agitated by underwater fans. What could go wrong?

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Unfortunately, the kayaks often got stuck, and riders had to get out into the water to make them go again. One man who did this was electrocuted by the fans' wiring.

The badly designed and sloppily executed skateboard park caused so many injuries it lasted only one season. But you could still joust, cliff dive, or ride a Go-Kart jerry-rigged by employees to override its speed governor.

Wave Pools are inherently dangerous even when designed with safety in mind. Artificial waves are generated for about ten minutes out of every hour in an otherwise normal pool. Action Park's Wave Pool (nicknamed The Grave Pool) was so deep and its waves so high, it was responsible for three, or half, of the park's fatalities. (I once visited a presumably safer wave pool in Decatur, Alabama, and wondered why they didn't drown numerous people every hour.) A dozen lifeguards were kept busy rescuing as many as fifteen people per day. Lifeguards got much more practical experience in one day at Action Park than they would have gotten in an entire season at a regular pool.

By now you must be wondering what visionary dreamed up and built Action Park. His name was Eugene Mulvihill, and his children were some of the teenagers who operated the park. And how did he manage to get insurance? When acquiring insurance became difficult, Mr. Mulvihill created a self-insurance scheme based in the Cayman Islands. He eventually pled guilty to five charges of insurance fraud. The last few years it was open Action Park operated without insurance. Lawsuits, insurance woes, and a bad economy finally took their toll, and Action Park closed in 1996. Mountain Creek Water Park and Ski Resort operated at the location until recently.

Where were the regulatory agencies that should have been concerned with underage operators (you were supposed to be at least 16, but many weren't), massive amounts of underage drinking, disregard for the park's own lax rules, and lack of enforcement of the most minimal safety regulations? They were in New Jersey, that's where. Draw your own conclusions.

Despite the fractured limbs, broken noses, knocked out teeth, and lacerations, Eugene Mulvihill's grown son claims no one ever tells him about the injuries they received. All he ever hears about are the good times and wonderful memories of people who visited Action Park as kids.

I did learn one surprising new fact. Last year the Mulvihill family regained control of the property and re-opened Action Park. Road trip, anyone?

June Round-Up (Things You Might Have Missed)

Alison Brown writes: We missed Cletus so Margy [Fletcher] acquired a snowy owl to sit at the Ham'n Eggs table during our meetings there. At the time we decided on a name, but now I have forgotten it. It should acquire the Mensa logo on its chest to proudly state it is the mascot of a Mensa event.



Bylaws: The bylaws committee is wrapping up their work. Thanks to Chair Marcele Everest, note-taker Ann Hake, second pair of eyes proofer Petra Ritchie, and the rest of the committee (Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Leo Doyle, and Teresa Gregory) for giving up a few Saturday afternoons hammering out the new, updated, and compliant bylaws for Central Indiana Mensa. After final discussions, they will be sent off to the national bylaws guru for review. Stay tuned for more info.

RG/OG: It's not too early to start blocking out the dates for the Regional Gathering (January 29-31, 2016) and the Outdoor Gathering (May 20-22, 2016). Contacts are signed, planning is starting. If you would like to help with that, please let Teresa Gregory know. Ideas? Suggestions? Requests? All will be accepted.

MG: June was the first monthly meeting in the new location, the Quality Inn in Castleton. We saw some faces we haven't seen for a while. Because this is a new venue for us, there are a few bugs we will be working out. One thing to remember is that this is a hotel meeting room. We do not have the kitchen facilitates that we have been used to. If you bring something to eat, please make sure that it is ready to serve and that you bring the appropriate serving utensils. There should be more table space at the next meeting.

Gifted Youth Program: The annual planning meeting for the CIM Family Program was in June at David Bonner's home. Good things will be happening, so watch for more info in the coming months.

Book Group: If you haven't been part of the book group before, now is the time to start. We are having the semi-annual meeting where it's Show and Tell. Each person brings a book or two that they want to share with the group. This is where the group finds books to read for the rest of the year. If you have read a non-fiction book that you really liked, come on by and tell us about it. See the calendar for time and location.

Welcome New and Returning Members!

Move In	Justin A Richardson	Carmel	IN
Move In	Robert L Bennett	Chrisney	IN
New	Corinna Cohn	Indianapolis	IN
Reinstating	Matthew Tandy	Indianapolis	IN
Reinstating	Donna Jean Stock	Lafayette	IN
Renewing	Barry Larson	Bloomington	IN
Renewing	Timothy R Burnett	Muncie	IN
Renewing	Justin Penny	Indianapolis	IN
Renewing	Dorothy L Foley	Indianapolis	IN
Renewing	Curtis L Coonrod	Indianapolis	IN
Renewing	William I Westphal	Avon	IN
Renewing	Edward Michael Clouse	Henderson	KY
Renewing	Kimberly Gustin Bright	Westfield	IN
Renewing	Mary Sue Avery McFarland	Beech Grove	IN
Renewing	William Richard Jones CCP	Indianapolis	IN



Mensa Sports SIG, Anyone?

Nick Elam

I will serve as the Coordinator of a soon-to-be-introduced Mensa SIG focusing on sports. It will provide an opportunity for sports-crazed Mensans to network, discuss innovations and analytics advances in sports, compete (for pride only) in fantasy leagues and prediction pools, and otherwise engage in sophisticated water-cooler talk about sports.

I'm curious if anyone in Central Indiana Mensa would be interested in joining such a group. They are welcome to contact me anytime at n.elam@sportsdataresearch.com!

July 2015 Events

Mensa Annual Gathering, Louisville KY

Wednesday, July 1 - Sunday, July 5

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 10:00 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.

***NOTE: Due to the holiday, this is moved back ONE WEEK.**

***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.

***NOTE: Due to the holiday, this is moved back ONE WEEK.**

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.

7/10: Speaker: Gerard Magliocca, the Samuel R. Rosen Professor at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. Professor Magliocca, a constitutional law scholar, will discuss the Bill of Rights in honor of the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta.

Mensans Dining Out – 6 p.m., July 19, Georgia Reese’s Southern Table & Bar, 3454 West 86th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Contact Bob Zdanky.

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

July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 Indy Lunch Bunch Mensa AG, Louisville, KY
5 Mensa AG, Louisville, KY	6	7	8
12 Bridge Club*	13	14	15 Indy Lunch Bunch
19 Mensans Dining Out	20	21 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom Paducah Area Group Meeting	22
26 Book Club	27	28	29

July 2015 (Continued)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Mensa AG, Louisville, KY	3 <i>MIND</i> deadline Mensa AG, Louisville, KY	4 Calendar Deadline Mensa AG, Louisville, KY
9	10 Monthly Gathering* NOTE NEW LOCATION	11 Ham 'n' Eggs*
16	17 Summer Blast!	18 Summer Blast!
23	24 Cinder	25
30	31	

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.

July 2015 Events (cont.)

Summer Blast! – July 17-18. One of our longest-running events is Summer Blast! School is about to start, but you want one last blast of FUN in a seriously smart way. We have the perfect getaway for your bright friends and family! Join us on a private family beach in Plymouth, IN as we camp in tents on the scenic bank of Pretty Lake. (Yes, that's the real name of the lake!) \$20 per person covers Friday dinner, Friday s'mores, Saturday breakfast and lunch. (See cover) Contact David Bonner.

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

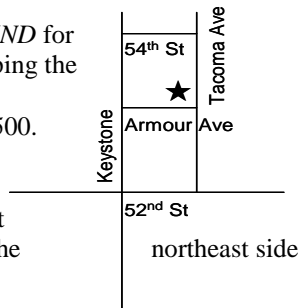
MINDBending/ExCom – 3rd Tuesday of the month.

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

6/16, 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 June *MIND*benders and thanks to 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 Blocker-Smith at MensaCinder@gmail.com.

Book Group – 2 p.m., Sunday, July 26. Bring a Book. Attendees should bring a book they enjoyed and pitch it for everyone to read at future book groups. The session should produce at least a six month schedule of books and dates. 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>

August *MIND* calendar items due 7/4/15 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.

Dependency

Ellen Voie, RVC4

One of the definitions of “dependent” is, “relying on or requiring the aid or support of another.” As I write this my left leg is encased in a cast and I am sitting at a computer with it propped up on a pillow.

I am dependent.

I broke my ankle in two places when I twisted it on some soft gravel in my driveway. The surgeon put two pins in it to make sure the bones heal correctly, but in the mean time, I have become dependent.



For those of you who know me, that’s not something I find easy to do; be dependent on others. I need someone to chauffeur me around until I can drive. I need someone to mow my lawn, get my mail and drag the trash can to the end of the driveway.

Fortunately for me, I have family members and friends nearby who are willing to assist as needed. I have never been more aware of the value of these volunteers.

As I write this last RVC 4 column to you, our members in region four, it makes me think about how Mensa could not function without the assistance of our volunteers. There are very few paid staff members who make sure this 55,000 member organization supports the mission and provides value to its members. Without proctors, we wouldn’t be able to test potential members. Without local leadership we wouldn’t have active groups who work alongside each other to make their members’ experience a positive one. Without newsletter editors, one of the most important member benefits would cease to exist. Without area coordinators there would be no local events and without national officers, there would be no leadership team to represent you.

Each person in Mensa has some talent or interest that could be used to make the national, state or local group even better. Of course I realize time is a factor. My dad sat through my ankle surgery and waited for me in the recovery room to give me a ride home. He spent nearly nine hours nearby as I went through the medical procedure. My brothers work full time, so I wouldn’t ask them to sit around, but they are great when it comes to picking up my mail, getting groceries or just taking me out for dinner. My son lives nearby and is mowing my lawn for me, and my daughter checks on me daily.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

They are all supporting me to ensure I my ankle heals properly and I'll be back on my feet soon.

You are all important parts of Mensa. Maybe you don't have a lot of time to volunteer, but you have a talent or skill that is needed by your group. Consider being part of a team or overseeing a project. Offer to accept a duty for a limited time or partner with someone to co-coordinate an event or activity.

American Mensa and your local Mensa group are dependent on you. We are "relying on or requiring the aid or support," of our members. This means you. Don't find yourself with a broken group before you realize how much you're needed.

This is my last RVC Column, as my term expires at the end of June. I have been honored to serve as RVC4 for the past two years and I wish my replacement the best. This region is filled with amazing members!



Four To The Fore

George Haynes, RVC4

As I write this column, it was a mere 3 days ago I found out that I would be serving as your Region 4 Regional Vice Chair. My name is George Haynes and I am honored to serve you in this elected capacity within American Mensa. My sincerest thanks to all of you who voted for me. Even if you didn't vote for me, but you still participated in the election....kudos to you. I encourage all of who did not participate in this election to make early plans to vote in the 2017 election.



At risk of being a bit pedantic, here are a few important items as a starting point for this column:

1. American Mensa is divided into regions. Your local group is within Region 4.
2. The groups which comprise Region 4 are as follows:
 - Group 461 - Central Indiana Mensa
 - Group 463 - Chicago Area Mensa
 - Group 467 - Fort Wayne Mensa
 - Group 520 - Iowa-Illinois Mensa
 - Group 530 - Mensa of Wisconsin
 - Group 550 - Minnesota Mensa

Group 615 - Heart of Illinois Mensa
Group 620 - St Louis Area Mensa
Group 627 - Sangamon Valley Mensa

3. My position is often abbreviated as RVC4. This stands for Regional Vice Chair of Region 4.

4. In the words of the RVC Handbook, here is a brief description of what I do: *"An RVC in American Mensa fills a dual role. Not only is the RVC the representative to the American Mensa Committee from the region and the Local Groups within that region, the RVC also fills a national role and often must view the issues from a national perspective as well. The RVC is the primary source of information and assistance for Local Groups and local officers. At times, what seems to be the best decision for a region may conflict with the best decision for the organization. The RVCs are the primary agents to explain such decisions to their regions."*

5. I will submit a column every month to the newsletter editors of Region 4. Depending on the unique and specific needs of each local group, each editor may or may not publish the column on a given month.

6. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions you may have about Mensa at a regional or national level. I will do my best to answer you as quickly as possible. If I don't know an answer to a question, I will ask the right people and find out. My email address is **haygeomensa@gmail.com**.

My goal is to travel to local groups one weekend every month (plans are held loosely). I plan to sit face to face with many of you over the next two years. Sometimes we'll be discussing important Mensa business, while other times we'll just be enjoying one another's company. I hope to see you soon.



Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: *Latin for Bird Lovers*

Author: Roger Lederer and Carol Burr

Publisher: Timber Press **Year:** 2014

Book Description: *Latin for Bird Lovers* is a reference manual that transcends the average field guide by paying tribute to the human scientific mind that, throughout history, has studied and categorized these beguiling creatures. This
Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

dictionary/encyclopedia hybrid contains a treasure trove of avian facts and ornithological history, presented alphabetically via the following features: (1) a list of ornithological terms (either genus or species), with a pronunciation guide, the language of origin, the literal meaning, and a specific example; (2) genus profile pages containing in-depth examinations of particularly intriguing bird genera (see the quote below); (3) “Latin in Action” boxes linking the history of scientific names to individual birds or groups of birds; (4) portraits of famous birders (NOTE: Birding icons John James Audubon and Roger Tory Peterson are only mentioned in passing, but the lesser-known men and women who are profiled have contributed significantly to our understanding and appreciation of birds); and (5) articles highlighting unique physical attributes and behaviors of birds – e.g., bird beaks, feathers, migration – and correlating these traits with their scientific names. This impressive compilation of data is prefaced by a guide to the usage of the book, a short history of binomials, and an examination of the linguistic origins of the various scientific classifications (in actuality, equal parts Latin, ancient Greek, and a smattering of international languages and names of famous people). All of the above written messages are enhanced by exquisitely vivid artwork that graces each page.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? Prior to my freshman year in high school, my father persuaded me to enroll in a first-year Latin course, the major attraction being greater knowledge of my two main childhood passions, dinosaurs and birds (years later, I was delighted to learn of the theoretical close relationship of these two creatures – but that’s another story). I’ve never outgrown my twin obsessions, and have developed an affinity for languages along the way. This book has been an enjoyable flight along the skyways of fond memories and current fascination.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? My fellow “bird nerds” and linguists, both amateur and professional, will share my enthusiasm for this eminently engrossing book.

How long might it take to read this book? My recommended method of consumption is to start with the featured articles, profiles, and biographical sketches, which can be read in a day or two. Perusing the entire collection of scientific terminology (over 3,000 bird names, according to the book’s subtitle) would prove tedious to most people; thus, these tidbits should probably be devoured in the manner of our fabled (if not factual) feathered friends – slowly, and in small bites.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: “CORVUS: The genus of about 40 species of birds commonly known as
Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

crows or ravens, *Corvus* (*Kor-vus*) is Latin for “crow.” Found almost all over the world except the polar continents and South America, the members of this genus are very adaptable and successful and perhaps the most intelligent of all birds... Crows, ravens, and their relatives in the family Corvidae have gained the deserved reputation of being the smartest of the bird world. They make tools, play games, speak human words, find hidden objects, drop walnuts into road traffic so that cars expose the nuts’ innards, bait fish with bread crumbs, and even recognize individual human faces. The New Caledonian Crow, *C. moneduloides*, the most intelligent of any bird, uses tools and can make a hook (for hooking insects, fruits, or nuts from crevices), something even our nearest relatives, the chimpanzees, cannot do... Another reason for their success is their diet. They will eat almost anything, animal or vegetable, alive or dead. This foraging habit is called euryphagy (wide diet). They also have a high tolerance for human activity and are occasionally crop pests, a habit that stimulated the invention of the scarecrow some 3,000 years ago...”

Additional Remarks: Whatever is retained in our collective memory and our recorded history, be it ancient languages or extinct birds, has never truly died, but continues to inform our species – if we’re willing to listen and learn. This volume can be considered a migratory voyage toward that state of enlightenment. Enjoy your flight!



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 4/21/15

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m. Members present were: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Diane O’Brien, Karen Steilberger, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick. Absent: Ann Hake, Karen Wilczewski.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the March ExCom meeting. Ethan Blocher-Smith moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, Karen Zwick seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Karen Zwick presented the Treasurer’s report. She has transferred the remainder of the Buzz Fund account to the regular account. She submitted the annual report to the National Office. She would like to close the Vanguard account and open one with PNC, where the main account is. She moved that we close the Vanguard account and investigate safe options for that money. Jon Applegate
Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. Diane O'Brien moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Bob Zdanky seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report shows 12 reinstating, 2 move-in, 1 "preferencing" and 6 new members.

Old Business

Credit card/PayPal payments: Karen Zwick has set up Eventbrite for event registrations.

Culture Quest: Jan Pfeil Doyle said we have two teams, one headed by George Dunn and one by Pat Milligan.

AMC meeting: Jan Pfeil Doyle gave a recap on the AMC meeting held in Indianapolis on March 20-22. About half of the committee members came to our hospitality room. Jan and Teresa Gregory gave a presentation on Indianapolis as the 2018 AG site. The meeting itself was a combination of education and business.

New Business

Recently deceased members: Jan Pfeil Doyle said 3 members passed away in the past month: Joseph Spearing, Robert Adair, and Gary Parker. She has sent the information to National.

Web site: Jan Pfeil Doyle said Marcele Everest has requested that the by-laws be put online, so Jan will get someone to do that. The testing schedule also needs to be online.

Outdoor Gathering: Karen Zwick will be preparing the lunch on Saturday. Teresa Gregory will do the other meals. Greg Crawford has volunteered to bring craft beers. Stan Ward will bring one and a half kegs left over from the Dayton RG.

MeetUp: Bob Zdanky said MeetUp is going to a tiered fee structure. Fees for groups with more than 40 members, like ours, will rise significantly. Karen Zwick suggested discussing it at a future meeting.

There being no other business, Karen Zwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Diane O'Brien seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Steilberger

Treasurer's Report

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 05/18/2015)

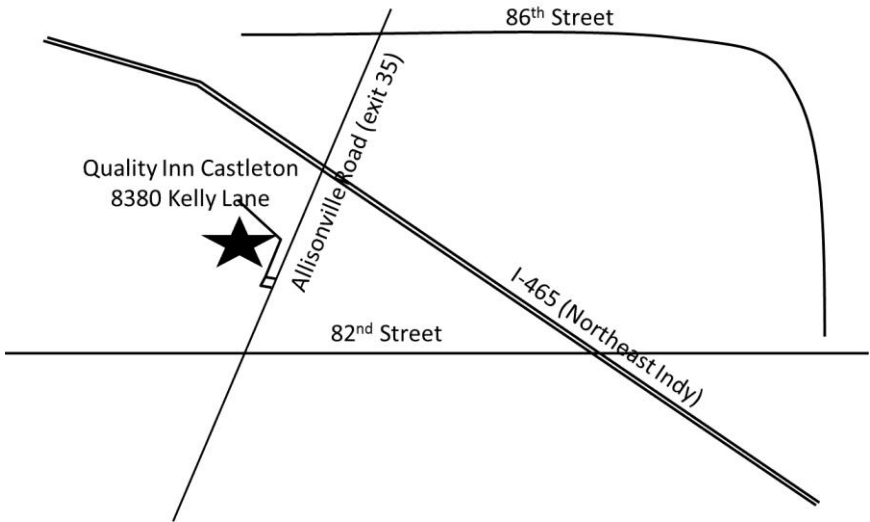
Bank Accounts	04/20/2015	05/18/2015
Checking – Regular	\$7,315.20	\$7,093.92
Checking – Scholarship	\$531.53	\$531.53
Checking – Youth Membership	\$427.34	\$427.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	\$8,604.66	\$8,360.57
Vanguard Account	\$3,740.27	\$3,740.27
Total Assets	\$20,619.00	\$20,153.63

Profit & Loss Statement (04/21/2015 – 05/18/2015)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering income	102.00
	401.3 – Outdoor Gathering Income	200.00
	402 – National Mensa Income	460.08
Total Income		\$762.08
Expense		
	501.1 – Monthly Gathering Hospitality	1.99
	503.1 – Outdoor Gathering Hospitality	444.09
	505 – Food for ExCom/MIND	76.44
	505.1 – MIND Printing	340.76
	505.2 – MIND Postage	245.00
	510.2 – New Member Mailings – postage	70.00
	520 – Miscellaneous – flowers sent for member funeral	49.17
Total Expenses		\$1,227.45

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

Ellen Voie 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
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 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