



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



August Monthly Program: Back by popular demand, Rob Pyatt, PhD will be sharing more wacky science with us. One would think that it would be a very serious thing to be an Associate Director of the Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Lab at the Nationwide Children's Hospital as well as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology at the Ohio State University, but it just isn't so. Apparently it's all fun and games until someone loses the long arm of a chromosome.

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, 75 N Whittier Place, Indianapolis, IN, 46219, or delivered to Teresa Gregory or Jan Pfeil Doyle at the monthly meeting. Contributions may be edited for length or to remove offensive material, must be "family friendly", 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 monthly meeting preceding the month of publication.

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MIND Staff

Editor: Teresa Gregory mind.editor@yahoo.com, (317) 430-1761
75 N Whittier Place, Indianapolis, IN 46219

Calendar Editor: David Culp, dbculp@sbcglobal.net

Publisher: Jan Pfeil Doyle

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Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

This month I write about one of the biggest challenges I've faced, one of the hardest things I've had to do, and that is learning to let go.



The first step is to be honest, so here goes: I'm a hoarder. No, I'm not like the people on those reality television shows. I don't have any cats. I don't have "goat trails" (narrow paths through over-crowded rooms). I do sleep in my bed at night. But I have too much stuff.

My parents married in 1935 during the Depression, and I grew up with that Depression-era mentality. Regarding keeping something that might later be useful, one of my mom's favorite sayings was, "You don't have to feed it." I learned to hate waste and to use something until it was used up. Before the terms were coined, my parents were recyclers, repurposers, and preppers.

My biggest challenge is that I don't just have Stuff.; I have a lot of Cherished Possessions (Stuff with memories).

While I love my Cherished Possessions, I envy that strange new breed of people called Minimalists. I read their blogs. I even know a few. Divesting myself of Stuff sometimes feels more like disrespecting or even abandoning a memory. These Cherished Possessions are sometimes a link to a loved one from my past. This is where I have to learn that it's okay to let go.

Downsizing, decluttering, clearing out...whatever you call it, it's challenging to most people, hoarder or not. *US News and World Report Online* had an article a few years ago that listed the top ten "sticky" possessions that people find hard to part with:

1. Family photos	7. Family heirlooms
2. Books	8. Souvenirs and mementos
3. Collections	9. Clothing
4. Antiques and favored furniture	10. Stuff you'd planned to use in the future
5. Symbols of other life stages	
6. <i>National Geographic</i> magazines	

If you think you are immune, look around you. See any of these things?

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

I've talked several times about wonderful volunteers who make Central Indiana Mensa what it is. Petra Ritchie has been contributing her time and efforts, often quietly behind the scenes, to our group for a long time. She was LocSec shortly after I joined in the mid 1980s and has been working for the group ever since. Fast forward to the present century—Petra has been hosting our monthly meetings, first at her condo clubhouse and now at her church, for several years. This is quite a commitment because she either has to be at every monthly meeting or find someone who will stand in for her. She also has been picking up the *MINDs* at the printer and bringing them to *MIND*bending for years—also a firm monthly commitment. Because we changed to a printer who delivers (our previous printer retired and closed his business,) Petra also gets to “retire” from *MIND* schlepping each month! Thank you, Petra, for all you do for our group!



Annual Gathering

We just got back from the Mensa Annual Gathering in Ft. Worth. As usual, we had a great time reconnecting with old friends and making some new ones. The area of downtown Ft. Worth where the AG was held was quite nice. There were a number of restaurants within easy walking distance; we ate good steaks, Cajun, BBQ and German. The AG program committees always seem to find an interesting, eclectic group of speakers. This year one of my favorite talks was “Goldsboro Broken Arrow: When Nukes Fell on the U.S.” The speaker led the weapons disposal team charged with finding two nuclear bombs that had fallen out of an airplane and landed somewhere in North Carolina! I also spent a day at the LocSec Summit where we got to hear great ideas for our local groups, both from presenters and from fellow LocSecs. One of my favorites was the “No Flop Squad” in Tampa. They are a team of five people who guarantee that any new event will be attended! I got to meet our new RVC, Ellen Voie. She lives in Green Bay, WI and is also LocSec for their “local” group, which is most of Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She talked about some great ideas for serving areas outside the main population center of the group, which is a challenge we also have in CIM. Next year's AG: Boston!

Picnic

Mark your calendars for CIM's annual picnic, September 22 at River Heritage Park in Carmel. We have the picnic shelter reserved for the day. There's a nice play area for children and even sand volleyball if you're so inclined. Hope to see you there!

Suggestion

Greg Crawford

For those of you who missed last month's *MIND*, I began a series of rants about what I would do if I were President, dictator or king. This is the second of a yet to be determined number.

As promised, this month's topic is the never-ending Presidential primary season and, secondarily, how those states late in the line-up can regain their voice in the political sweepstakes.

The first step I would take would be to divide the 50 states into four balanced groups. In the first group would be California; the second Illinois; the third Texas; the fourth New York. Each group would have a large population, critical electoral count state.

Each group would be assigned a northwestern, small population state (Wyoming, Idaho, North Dakota, Montana.) Each would be allocated a Rust Belt state (Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania.) The four groups would each get a Southwestern state (Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah.)

When creating these four groups, each would receive a Deep South state (Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, South Carolina.) An Atlantic coast, southern state would be apportioned as well (North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Virginia.) Then add a New England state to each (Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire) plus a plains state (Kansas, South Dakota, Missouri, Iowa.)

Finally, assign each a Mississippi Valley state (Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin) then add one of the dentally challenged, genetically inbred states (West Virginia, Kentucky, Arkansas.) The remainder would be parceled piece meal to create parities.

When all is said and done, each of the four clusters would represent East and West Coast voters plus the Midwest and the South. All four groups would have red states, blue states, big states, little states, manufacturing states and farming states. Balance; balance; balance.

The second portion of this scheme would be to set primaries for the first Tuesdays of March, April, May and June only. One of the four state groups would go to the polls each month. Thus, from the first voter to the last there would be about 94 days total ... quite a shortening from today's drug-out, over long affair.

Candidates would not campaign prior to January for two simple reasons: during

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the holiday season, advert costs would be prohibitive and no one would listen during the holiday time anyway. Net result, from the first of January through the June primary there would be a concise 5 ½ month primary campaign. Late summer party conventions and fall campaigns would follow.

The third element of this proposal would be to rotate the month each grouping of states would go to their primaries. In a musical chairs fashion, the lead off group this session would go to the end of the line for the next. Thus, one of every four Presidential elections, every state would help winnow out the field. This “task/honor” would no longer fall to Iowa and New Hampshire only. As well, every fourth time, each state cluster would have its say in creating momentum and/or clenching the deal; depending on its place in queue.

Aside from shortening the process, since every candidate would be simultaneously campaigning in every corner of the nation and to every constituency, he would not be able to tailor make his spiel to match short term niche markets. No pandering to liberals one day and to conservatives the next. Nor would they be able to saturate key states with campaign dollars while ignoring the others. Balance; balance; balance.

That’s it. Four nationwide primaries; one month apart; every state and every voter gets their turn in the rotation.

Look in these pages next month for one man’s opinion on how we can deal with the burdens of profiteering lawsuits and the societal costs of that litigation. Share your thoughts.

Reaction to Last Month’s Suggestion

Teresa Fisher

When I'm Queen, my first act will be to abolish neckties. (After that, all of my pronouncements will pretty much be self serving.)

Editor’s Note: I tell everyone that when I’m Emperor of the World, I will insist on two things.,

- 1. Every five miles along the interstate, there will be a flag. That way I can tell if it’s windy or my car has developed a steering problem.*
- 2. Every large commercial building will be required to have the address numbers on the uppermost right corner, plainly visible. How many times have you known an address, but you are in a commercial/retail area and there are no address numbers visible on the buildings?*

Books on the Runway

Alison Brown

<i>Author:</i>	Alan Alda
<i>Title:</i>	Things I Overheard while Talking to Myself
<i>Publisher:</i>	Random House Trade Paperback Edition
<i>Year:</i>	2008
<i>Pages:</i>	218
<i>Price:</i>	\$15
<i>ISBN:</i>	978-0-8129-7752-3

Book description (max. 5 sentences): Alda reprints parts of speeches and eulogies he gave in public, embedded in back-story, musings and his philosophy of life as presented by the texts. The title is a joke, because he was never just talking to himself, but rather to a particular audience: college and medical school graduates, scientists, friends of the departed...

Has this book changed the way you think? your attitude towards life? even your life itself? If so, how? Not really, but I notice things in current events that put me in mind of sections of this book.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? People who are fascinated by celebrities – because Alda is one, as were his father, and many of his friends and he questions the whole notion of celebrity. People who were fans of his and have followed his career, especially the fans of *Scientific American Frontiers*.
How long might it take to read the book? Two sittings – it is fun and the type is not too small, with generous spacing.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: p.167 “Many times since then, I’ve wished that I had been able to bridge [C.P.] Snow’s cultural divide in those early days and learn the languages of chemistry and mathematics, which is probably the closest we can come to the language of nature itself. **** ...much of the language and many of the concepts of science were foreign to me, as they are to most of us. Over the centuries, like continental drift, the landmasses of science and the humanities, once united in an Eden called Pangaea, had separated and developed their own intellectual flora and fauna, become home to mutually alien species of thought. Where once those interested in humanity could mix freely with those interested in the *rest* of nature, now an ocean of strangeness separated us.”

Additional remarks: I think the author would qualify as a member of Mensa (a thought I had reading his first book: *Never Have Your Dog Stuffed*, 2006) and, having read this, I wish he were.

The Ancient Castle

Robert O. Adair,

There it stands, silent, brooding,
lying in the chill, white mists,
like a withered, ancient sovereign
fallen from greatness.
Behind the black battlements
of an encircling wall
its top crumbling in places,
rise antique towers
with black, conical roofs
weathered by the
winds and rains of ages.
along side ran a
roaring, mill race river
once used to fill the moat.
cobwebs fill the empty hallways.
Do apparitions of forgotten
Lords and Ladies
tread their midnight paths,
leaving no footprints
in the gathering dust?
Once proud pennants
waved above the ramparts
and the hooves of gallant knights
clattered across the drawbridge.
In the now crumbling chapel
aspiring to knighthood
men spent their lonely vigil
pledging to aid the poor,
the defenseless,
to uphold the Right
at whatever cost!
And lonely wives once
prayed for the safe return
for their valiant husbands.
Oh! The glory that once was!
The grandeur lost
in the sands of time!

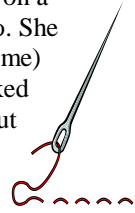
Welcome New Members!

New	Donald Wood	Carmel	IN
New	Gregory Bond	Fishers	IN
New	William I Tandy Jr	Kokomo	IN
Reinstating	Kristopher M Antibus	Indianapolis	IN
Renewing	Victor Deutchman	Franklin	IN

Contemplations on a Needle

Jan Pfeil Doyle

I was at Walmart today and bought some needles and thread to sew on a button. Driving home I recalled a story my mother told me long ago. She grew up during the depression, which profoundly affected her (and me) in more ways than we'll ever know. She was lucky, her father worked for the railroad and had a job. They always had food on the table, but there were those who didn't and those who didn't even have a table. "Hobos" used to come to their door to offer to do some work or to exchange a small item for something to eat (Mom said they had pride and didn't want to beg). One of the things they offered was needles—they were easy to carry and something housewives needed. My grandmother always fed them and, I suspect, collected more needles than she needed. I also suspect there was some kind of marking on their fence (as hobos were known to do) that said a kind lady lives here. My package of needles today cost \$1.37 and was made in China, which is a whole different discussion for another time.



Calling All Southsiders! New Monthly Event

Mensa supper meeting south of Indianapolis. New Mensa supper meeting for the third Wednesday evening of the month at Strange Brew coffee shop. It is on the north side of Smith Valley Road in Greenwood (near Smith Valley) in a strip mall just east of Morgantown Road, 4800 W. Smith Valley Road Suite G, Greenwood. They have two huge aquariums with fish. They have a variety of coffee selections, fruit smoothies, sandwiches, and pastries. Gather starting at 5 pm, may extend to 7 pm, and store closes at 8 pm. Hosts Dr. Alan Schmidt, 317 695-5741, Marian Martin

August 2013 Events - Central Indiana Mensa

Ham 'n' Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) 1st Saturday from 10:00 am-12:00 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.

Muncie Area Group Meeting – 1st Saturday at 2:00 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

Indy Lunch Bunch - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 12:00 noon, Double Eagle Café, 650 N. Meridian (at the Scottish Rite Cathedral), Indianapolis.
Contact: Alan Schmidt, 317-233-5190, alan.schmidt@att.net

Southside Indianapolis Supper Meeting - New event - Mensa supper meeting for the third Wednesday evening of the month at Strange Brew coffee shop. It is on the north side of Smith Valley Road in Greenwood (near Smith Valley) in a strip mall just east of Morgantown Road, 4800 W. Smith Valley Road Suite G, Greenwood. They have two huge aquariums with fish. They have a variety of coffee selections, fruit smoothies, sandwiches, and pastries. Gather starting at 5 pm, may extend to 7 pm, and store closes at 8 pm. Hosts Dr. Alan Schmidt, 317 695-5741, Marian Martin

West Lafayette/Lafayette Lunch – 1st Wednesday, 12:00 noon.
Contact: Joe Stamper, 765-474-4759, jstamper@aii.edu
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ESOTERIC SIG – Sun., Aug. 4th, 2:30 p.m., Buck Creek Playhouse, 11150 Southeastern Ave., “Oklahoma!”, \$25 (fundraiser), pay at the door. Cast comprised of non-actors/singers who have paid, via an auction, for the privilege of a chance to act in a Broadway play. Men can bid for female parts, and women for male parts! Teresa Gregory and I have attended this biannual event twice (“The Sound of Music” and “Annie”) and it's a real hoot to watch these amateurs strut their stuff. Come early (2:15 or so) and I will have some seats saved for our group. We will go to Steak 'n' Shake, 7930 E. Washington St. for dinner afterwards. Questions? Petra 786-8665.

Mensa Test

Saturday, 8/10: Registration: 10 am. Test: 11 am. Wayne Library, 198 South Girls School Road, Indianapolis. Contact Steve Merchant at 317-240-3077 or blazingstar32@hotmail.com for more information.
(Events are continued on the other side of the calendar.)

August 2013

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday	
4 Esoteric SIG	5	6	7 Indy Lunch Bunch; W. Lafayette Lunch		
11	12	13	14		
18 Mensan's Dining Out	19	20 Paducah Area Group Meeting	21 Indy Lunch Bunch; Southside Supper Meeting		
25	26	27 MINDbending/ ExCom	28		
1 (September)	2	3	4 Indy Lunch Bunch; W. Lafayette Lunch		
8	9	10	11		

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting
8	9 Monthly Gathering	10 Kokomo Breakfast; Mensa Test
15	16 MIND deadline	17 Calendar Deadline
22	23	24 Kokomo Breakfast;
29	30	31
5	6	7 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting
12	13 Monthly Gathering	14 Kokomo Breakfast

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.

August 2013 Events (cont.)

Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday at 7:00 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

8/9 Back by popular demand, Rob Pyatt, PhD will be sharing more wacky science with us. One would think that it would be a very serious thing to be an Associate Director of the Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Lab at the Nationwide Children's Hospital as well as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pathology at the Ohio State University, but it just isn't so. Apparently it's all fun and games until someone loses the long arm of a chromosome.

Mensans Dining Out

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

Sunday 8/18 5:30 p.m.: Amber Indian Restaurant, 12510 N. Meridian St., Carmel

Paducah Area Group Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7:00 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

Kokomo Breakfast – 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Richard's Restaurant, east of Highway 31, 2 blocks north of Center

Contact: Patricia Sottong, (765) 457-0754; leave message.

MINDbending/ExCom – Last or next-to-last Tuesday of the month.

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

8/27, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 431-3500.

Pizza and soft drinks provided.

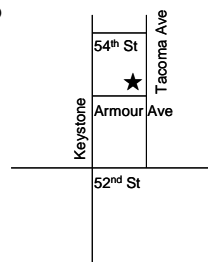
MINDbending is held at the offices of Midwest Internet, 5348 N. Tacoma Ave., which is 1 block east and 1 block north of 52nd St. and Keystone Ave. on the northeast side of Indianapolis.

A **Big Thank You** to all the July *MINDbenders* and thanks to Midwest Internet for hosting the event.

For last minute changes to events check the Central Indiana Mensa group on Meetup.com.

<http://www.meetup.com/central-indiana-mensa>

September *MIND* calendar items due 8/17/13 to dbculp@sbcglobal.net.



Documentary Reviews: *Witch Hunt* and *Capturing the Friedmans*

Teresa Fisher

For anyone too young to remember, in the 1980s there were numerous prosecutions of child abuse “rings” that convicted innocent people. Many of the convictions were overturned once the hysteria had subsided and facts were examined.

Witch Hunt, a 2008 film directed by Dana Nachman and Don Hardy, Jr. and narrated by Sean Penn, follows the child sex ring scandal in Kern County, California that began in 1982. It was the precursor to more than a dozen similar cases across the country. In Kern County at least 36 people were convicted of molesting children, often their own, in eight sex rings, and most spent many years in prison. Thirty-four convictions were overturned on appeal, and two people died in prison while trying to clear their names. John Stoll served the most time, getting out of prison on his 61st birthday after serving twenty years. He filed a federal lawsuit, and Kern County’s Board of Supervisors agreed to settle for \$5.5 million.

Prior to this time child sexual abuse was poorly understood. Sex crime investigators didn’t know how to interrogate children, and used counter-productive techniques in doing so. The children were coached, coerced, threatened, and worn down by hours of interrogation without their parents present. They were encouraged to help convict the bad man. After insisting nothing had happened, some of the children eventually gave up and told the investigators what they wanted to hear. Years later as adults they recanted their stories of implausible sex acts, Satanic rituals, and animal sacrifice. The convictions had been obtained without medical examinations, photos, or corroborating evidence of any kind.

At first it appeared the cases were due to overzealous but well-meaning investigators, but years later, previously withheld evidence revealed that prosecutors, police, and social workers lied. And yet, none of the people who perpetrated this crime on innocent adults and children were ever charged. They are all resolute, or they claim to be, in their belief that the sex crimes occurred, and they did the right thing and brought molesters to justice. Ed Jagels, the Kern County District Attorney in charge of prosecuting the cases, was re-elected six times, retiring from that office in 2009. *Witch Hunt* chronicles a shameful episode in our history.

If any such bizarre set of circumstances can be said to be typical of the child molesting hysteria of the 1980s, the Kern County case was. Completely innocent

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people were convicted and imprisoned. The case of the Friedmans, however, was more complicated.

Capturing the Friedmans, directed by Andrew Jarecki, won several film awards and was nominated for an Oscar in 2004. It told of another molestation frenzy, but in this case, there actually was some sexual abuse.

Arnold Friedman was a highly respected high school teacher, musician, and early adopter of computers. He and his wife Elaine lived in the affluent suburb of Great Neck, New York with their three sons, and Arnold gave music and computer lessons in their basement. All of this fell apart when it was discovered that he had received a child porn magazine from the Netherlands.

The timing of this discovery was very bad for the Friedman family. In a different decade the magazine might have ruined Arnold's career and caused the family some shame, and that would probably have been the extent of it. But 1987 was prime time for ferreting out ritualistic sexual orgies with children, orgies that simply never happened.

One of the things that makes this film so compelling is the family's penchant for taking home movies. We watch happy boys playing, clowning around with their parents, having birthday parties, and growing up. Nothing in the movies portends the family destruction that awaits, and that makes them all the more heartbreaking to watch.

As in similar cases, investigators hammered the boys who had taken computer classes until many of them gave in and agreed that abuse had taken place. Anyone who refused to agree was deemed uncooperative, and dismissed. Eventually investigators decided that Arnold's youngest son, eighteen-year-old Jesse, was the main abuser and a violent monster who controlled his father. People who knew Jesse were unconvinced, since he had always been a meek, unaggressive young man. But the longer the investigation went on, the more bizarre and improbable were the allegations.

The police told the children's parents they knew their sons had been molested, a lie that created panic and hysteria in the community. As in the Kern County cases, the investigators to this day insist the abuse occurred. Jarecki interviews a contemporary police investigator who says care must be taken not to tell the child what you expect him to say. Next we see one of the investigators of the Friedman case who insists you must let the child know what testimony you are looking for. He says the allegation that disturbed him the most was the leap frog game, in which a group of boys was forced to pull down their pants and bend

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over, so Jesse and Arnold could repeatedly leap over and violently rape them. There are many reasons to disbelieve such a story, but the only ones necessary to discredit it are that when parents came to get their sons (sometimes early and unannounced), the boys' clothing was never soiled, they weren't upset, and none of them ever mentioned having been raped. As in similar cases, there was no corroborating evidence. An important charge was that the Friedmans used the abuse sessions to produce massive amounts of salable pornography, but no trace of it was ever found.

The Friedmans continued to film each other as the story played out, and we watch the family fracture. Arnold, out on house arrest, seems confused and unable to look anyone in the eye. The sons are inexplicably hostile to their mother, while expressing extreme reverence toward the father who brought this scandal upon them. David, the eldest son, demands unquestioning loyalty and belief in his father's innocence from Elaine, and is furious when he doesn't get it. He insists she forced Arnold to plead guilty, so this is all her fault.

Arnold pled guilty to the lurid charges in hopes of saving Jesse from prison, while privately admitting that he had in fact molested two boys years before at their summer home. He was sentenced to 10 to 30 years, and committed suicide in prison a few years later. Jesse, facing several consecutive sentences if convicted, pled guilty in the hope of getting a short sentence. The judge gave him the harshest sentence she could, and told Jarecki there was never a doubt in her mind of Jesse's guilt.

In 2001 Jesse was released after serving 13 years in prison, and must register as the most violent level of sex offender. He's in his 40s now and is married, but being on the sex offender registry makes it difficult for him to earn a living or find a place to live. He is still trying to have his conviction overturned, and thanks in part to Capturing the Friedmans and the judge's admitted prejudice, he may be successful. The 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals in New York City found, "a reasonable likelihood that Jesse Freidman was wrongfully convicted." Jesse awaits the verdict of a Review Panel.



Correction To Last Month's Review

Teresa Fisher

I made a mistake in the article I wrote about the planned community of Levittown, New York. Instead of saying the houses had, "asphalt tile floors that rubbed black smudges onto crawling babies' knees," I meant to say the floor tiles were made of asbestos.

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Ah, the fifties. They were such an innocent, trusting time. The people in charge always knew what they were doing, and no one would create a product that might harm us, just to increase their profits. Why would we ever question their knowledge or concern for our welfare?

Did you ever allow a shoe salesman to x-ray your feet with an unregulated, uninspected, radiation-leaking x-ray machine in the shoe store? I did. But it was the fifties, and our parents always knew what was good for us.



The Probing Questions...And Answers!

Teresa Gregory

Last month I posed some questions that I would ask the audience if I were a stand-up comedian. I got a couple of responses! The questions:

What do you have in your pocket, purse, or car right now that most people don't conventionally carry?

What do you have in your pocket, purse, or car that is probably expired?

Who has what they consider an unusual hobby?

Who has a pet with a funny name?

What's the most unusual thing you've ever eaten?

Who has fallen asleep somewhere inappropriate, like a funeral, business meeting, a party, etc?

Teresa Fisher responded:

- 1 seashells
- 2 anything with an expiration date
- 3 I used to sew burial shrouds for dead babies.
- 4 I once had a chihuahua named Lassie.
- 5 sheep guts in Addis Ababa. (It's not a good sign when the waiters are gathered together and looking at you, while laughing behind their hands.)
- 6 on a tour of Berlin, right as we were passing the Brandenburg Gate

And Steve Merchant confessed:

I unknowingly ate chocolate-covered ants in the IPD Academy in 1972, during a surprise lesson on stereotyping.

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 5/28/13

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, May 28, 2013. LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m. Members present included: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Teresa Gregory, Ann Hake, Jean Rodgers, Karen Steilberger, Karen Wilczewski, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick. Absent: David Culp. Guests: Alison Brown, Jud Horning, and Petra Ritchie.

The minutes of the April ExCom meeting were reviewed and corrected. Karen Zwick moved that the corrected minutes be accepted, Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Karen Zwick presented the Treasurer's report. She said that the anonymous \$1000 donation for youth memberships should be enough to cover all the youth. Jan Pfeil Doyle received a letter from MERF in appreciation for the donor's generosity. Ann Hake made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Teresa Gregory seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report shows 4 new members, 5 reinstating members, 0 renewing members, 1 move-in members, 23 prospects.

Old Business

Bookmarks: Jan Pfeil Doyle reported that the bookmarks are still in process pending the resolution of some technical issues.

Family Program: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that David Bonner's concerns about insurance have been resolved. All is fine for the Summer Blast event he hosts at his family's lake home.

Scholarship fund: Jan Pfeil Doyle confirmed that donations have been made in memory of 3 recently-deceased members (Thomas Moriarty, Betty Ann Countryman, and Robert E. Dick).

Sponsorship: Jean Rodgers asked how we are promoting Young M Nick's trip to Europe with the Sound of America Honor Band. We are still waiting on information from Nick and his mother, so it is up to them.

Outdoor Gathering: Teresa Gregory reported that 30 people attended. The final financial reckoning is not complete yet. The site is already reserved for next year. An idea for an activity for the opening evening next year is an outing to a nearby drive-in movie.

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New Business

Meet-Up group: Alison Brown brought up her concern that there were prank signups in the Meet-Up group. The committee discussed the concern. The consensus was that this is not a problem so far, but we will keep an eye on it. Jan Pfeil Doyle reported on Bob Zdanky's e-mail to the committee about the expiration of the 6-month membership period with Meet-Up. Bob moved that we continue the membership for another 6 months, for which the cost is \$72. Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Extra MIND copies: Jan Pfeil Doyle reminded the committee that we had been sending printed MINDs to local members in recent months in an effort to boost attendance. To evaluate the success of this effort, the suggested measure is to compare monthly gathering attendance figures for the first six months of 2012 vs. 2013. Karen Zwick said she would put together a spreadsheet. Teresa Gregory said that the extra printing and postage costs should be considered in the comparison.

Regional Gathering 2014: Jan Pfeil Doyle has not been approached about chairing the next RG. Teresa Gregory said she is willing to do it in the absence of other volunteers. Cyndi Kuyper said at the OG that she would be willing to serve as co-chair. Karen Zwick, Karen Wilczewski, and Jan Pfeil Doyle volunteered to serve on a steering committee. Teresa said some possible themes were discussed at the OG. She wants to promote the RG at the upcoming Annual Gathering.

New member dinner: Bob Zdanky reported that the new member dinner for September will be on Sunday, the 29th, at the TGIF on West 38th St.

CIM Picnic: Jan Pfeil Doyle brought up planning for the annual picnic. The committee discussed possible dates and locations. Sunday, Sept. 22 looks like a good possibility for the date. Teresa Gregory asked if, based on past attendance, we still want to have it. Jan will touch base with members who have volunteered to help in the past.

There being no other business, Ann Hake made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Steilberger

Treasurer's Report

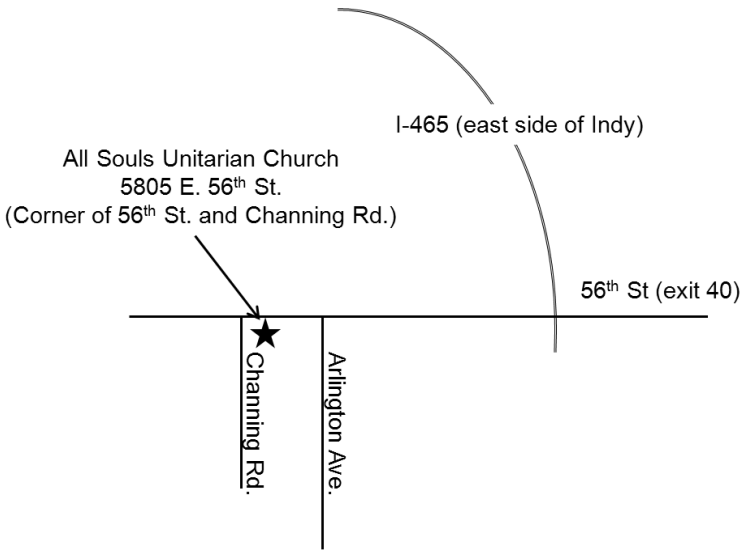
Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 06/24/2013)

Bank Accounts	06/24/2013	05/27/2013
Checking – Regular	\$8,620.08	\$8,835.78
Checking - Scholarship	344.00	344.00
Checking – Youth Mbrship	1,110.00	1110.00
Gathering Account	7,881.83	7,881.83
Vanguard Account	\$3,739.19	3,739.19
Total Assets	\$21,695.10	\$21,910.80

Profit & Loss Statement (05/28/2013 – 06/24/2013)

Income		
	401.1 - Monthly Gathering Inc <i>(11 Mensans @ \$5, 6 non Ms @ \$7, 10 food, one speaker, one new M)</i>	86.00
	402 - National Mensa Inc <i>(510 M@0.82; 1 New M@1.00; 2 Rein@1.00; 1 Newsletter)</i>	421.85
	Total Income	\$507.85
Expense		
	501.1 - Monthly Gathering Hospitality	10.25
	504.1 - MIND Printing	374.50
	504.2 – MIND Postage	138.00
	505 - Food for ExCom/MIND	96.71
	506.2 - New Member Expenses (office supplies)	32.09
	510 – Miscellaneous Expenses <i>(six month membership to MeetUp)</i>	72.00
	Total Expense	\$723.55



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
Vice LoclSec	Jean E. Rodgers, jeanerodgers@yahoo.com
Recorder	Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net
Editor	Teresa Gregory, mind.editor@yahoo.com, (317) 430-1761 75 N Whittier Place, Indianapolis, IN 46219
Calendar Editor	David Culp, dbculp@sbcglobal.net
Program Coordinator	Ann Hake, amhake@yahoo.com
Membership	Bob Zdanky, zdanky@gmail.com, (317) 503-0091
Treasurer	Karen Zwick, kzwick@1stclass.com, (317) 626-3789 1634 Mace Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46229
Publicity	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, lcadynd@mac.com, (812) 429-0772
Kokomo	Ken Kleist, (765) 457-6975, POB 88 Kokomo, IN 46903
Lafayette	Joe Stamper, joe_stamper@comcast.net, (765) 474-4759
Muncie	Jason Smith, munciemensagmail.com 2601 S. Mitchell Ct., Muncie, IN 47302

Other Volunteers

Esoteric SIG	Petra Ritchie, (317)786-8665, petraritchie@msn.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 654 Phaeton Place, Indianapolis, IN 46227
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Proctor Coordinator	Steve Merchant, blazingstar32@hotmail.com, (317) 240-3077 2234 Fullerton Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46214
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, alan.schmidt@att.net, (317) 695-5741

