

Excerpts from the November 1998 MIND

The Newsletter of

[Central Indiana Mensa](#)

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PUBLISHING STATEMENT

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MY PIECE OF MIND

GEORGE DUNN

Incoming LocSec Greg Crawford has lived up to his "bias for action" billing, laying about him with a mighty hand. As part of the new regime, I naturally reviewed my "Editor's Handbook," to see if I was still kosher.

I discovered that by the lights of the AMC, I've been doing a few things wrong. (Perhaps this explains MIND's lack of awards?) Oh, mostly I've been pretty good about not plagiarizing, defaming, quashing or blaspheming, but that's really the easy stuff to avoid.

My foibles lie more along the aspect plane, where my most glaring fault is chiding people for not writing, responding, MINDBending and attending. I'm also not a very "low profile" Editor, and I do run some officially boring stuff (Editor's page, LocSection) in the front part of the newsletter.

The Proper Attitude for a Local Group Newsletter, I may as well let you know, is Persistently Upbeat. Other than some gentlemanly controversy, nothing should alert the reader to friction, faction or failure.

I want you to know that I gave this some thought, and I do see some wisdom in it. As the Preacher said, a dead fly stinks up a jar of sweet ointment, and a sour remark can color an impression out of all proportion.

However, I don't think readers are, on the whole, deceived by the continuous call of "All Is Well." We know that life has ups and downs and I believe that reporting on the occasional down improves the credibility of the accounts of ups.

* * *

Speaking of ups, we have a fine response to the "If I Won the Lottery" theme, with a common thread of doing things for other people. It may or may not be significant that, even in fantasy, most were not able to ignore the taxes.

* * *

Another thing that seems to have gone over well is these little story puzzles, so I'll try to dig up some more.

* * *

Good news for those contributors who have trouble holding their output to 500 words (1,000 for a two-page spread): our Website will have room for your entire article, extraneous thoughts and all. In consequence, I get to be a little more aggressive about trimming stuff, knowing I'm not costing people their only chance at recognition.

Oh, this only affects the volume stricture; you still can't call people names in a

Mensa publication.

* * *

I believe we will have a plebiscite on contributions in this issue; look for it.

* * *

Please read the LocSection this month. Not that you should skip it in other months, but you will find some information there that affects you if you attend Monthly Meetings.

* * *

MINDBending turnout has been up enough recently that we are looking away from having its functions performed - at extra cost - by the printers. Special thanks for this to our recent Hosts: Alison Brown, Greg Crawford and Treva Marks.

* * *

Unity Commitment Purpose

**LOCSECTION
GREG CRAWFORD**

Read this column, 'cause great things are happening! Our last Monthly Meeting had its best turnout in over a year, and, for those who were not there, wine and sweets -- boy, do I love those Entenmann's -- have been added to the bill of fare. Meanwhile, Rhoda Israelov has put together a dynamic slate of Meeting speakers, including next month's feature, the commander of IPD's Vice Unit, a former prostitute decoy. Zow... beer, wine, pop, veggies, sweets and top-notch programs. What a bargain for five little dollars.

What? You didn't know the door charge is now five bucks? You didn't really think that two dollars, two hundred measly pennies, would get all this forever, did you? Okay, then, let's make a deal. The new rate won't go into effect until the January Meeting. Then it's a done deal.

So is our new second Friday of the month Meeting date. No more Saturday screw-ups, thank you. Count on it; Friday Meetings only.

Seriously, the cost of the food and libations (not to mention the site rental) necessitates this first door charge increase in over ten years. We just could not go on losing \$100 every month.

As for less somber stuff, Treva Marks put together an Outdoor Gathering which was picture perfect. Even with its best attendance in years, there was still plenty of fine eats and a casually slow pace that was just what the doctor ordered. Truly, not one discouraging word was said or thought; the OG was just that good. Mark your calendar for the first weekend of next October. That's when we'll do it again.

And we may even be able to get the Cincy and Louisville Local Groups to co-sponsor. You know what they say, two's company and three's a crowd. Yeah!

Next, look for all of 1999's calendar to be on our website along with photos, news flashes and all of the MIND. Webmaster Dave A. should have those on-line by the time you are reading this. Soon thereafter, the website will also have a direct link to Amazon books, featuring the world's largest book selection plus a 15% rebate to Mensa when you hotlink from our site. Bucks in the bank and books in the hand. I can deal with that. Good job, Dave.

Other bits of interest include almost 100 sign-ups at Penrod and over 2500 Mensa brochures distributed around Indianapolis and its suburbs. Both these projects should help us get on the grow again. Likewise, the 31 volunteer officers listed in the back of this issue are poised to make things happen.

Great things are going on. Better programs. Bigger events. Capable planning and caring officers. All for you. Best of all, there is plenty of room for go-tetter, team players. Got ideas? Got energy? Got a good looking sister? Give me a call.

LET'S DO IT!

Helen Schmill

If I Won the Lottery

If I won the \$100,000,000, I'd pay off the IRS and give my brainchild, SUPERMOM, enough money to make her "America's Teacher" in fact. I'd try to make the next generation as smart as our World War II generation with audiotape, videotape and computer software. As "Starla," the cowboy-grandmother, I would use my copyrighted catalogue of original and classic material and start with a store on the Internet. This would give Casper [Wyoming] a much-needed industry.

Sarah Leatherbury

If I Had \$100 Million

If I had \$100 million I believe there are many things I would do with this money. First I would take \$100,000 and put it in my sister's account for the college of her dreams. Then, I would put the same amount in my account for my college. After this, I would send \$49 million to a fund for cancer research. Then, I would take \$800,000 and buy my parents lakeside property and two boats, plus an indoor pool, jacuzzi, sauna, and whatever other things they want

\$2 million would go to a stock broker to invest. \$4 million would go to a CD account for each individual so my sister, my parents, and I will not have to worry about losing our retirement funds.

For some fun I would buy myself a jet-black Hummer, my sister a 1972 Mercedes Goldwing, and my father a Lamborgini and a five carat diamond ring for my mother. My last \$20 million would go to buying a movie studio for my sister and my cousin to be co-presidents in and direct the movies they want to.

MINDBENDING HONOR ROLL

[H = Host]	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Dave A.	♥	♥	♥	
Alison Brown			♥H	♥H
Greg Crawford	♥H	♥	♥	♥
George Dunn	♥	♥	♥	♥
Carol Gould				♥

Jud Horning			♥	♥
Jerry Hunter	♥	♥	♥	
Rhoda Israelov			♥	♥
Treva Marks	♥	♥	♥	♥
Jean Miller	♥	♥	♥	
Joseph Spearing			♥	
Russ Washburne			♥	
Nancy White	♥	♥	♥	♥

W.R. Mossner

\$100 Million

If I were to win \$100 mil,
 Not that I really think I will,
 But if I were blessed with all those bucks,
 I'd respond to reporters saying, "Golly, shucks,
 "I've found pennies and nickels as I've wandered life's trail.
 "The difference is only a matter of scale."

When reporters had gone, I'd give serious thought
 On just how to handle the fortune life brought.
 What would I do with everyone's dream?
 I could buy a big part of an NFL team.

I could charter a ship, taking friends for a cruise
 After writing a check for life Mensa dues.
 I could set up a fund, making sure it endures,
 For start-up ventures by entrepreneurs.
 I could market the book that I wrote years ago.
 When folks heard of me, they would buy it, I know.

I could purchase a congressman, or possibly two,
 But that is something I don't care to do.
 The type of activity more likely to please
 Is sponsoring research on Alzheimer's disease.

Speculation is fun; there are lots of great dreams,
 But it's end of the month, and it currently seems
 That if I were to win that great deal of dough,
 I'd pay off the bills, as far as it would go.

Nancy White

If I Won the Lottery

Locally and immediately, I'd buy a HUGE white elephant of an old house and start remodeling. There would be a large kitchen with a multitude of cabinets, cupboards and other storage (including a pantry), a dining room table to seat about two dozen, a living room that would hold even more and several bedrooms and bedroom/sitting room suites, each with a private bath.

Special wiring would be put in for an office with several computers and desks with all the usual office equipment. A large yard would be fenced in with an area for dogs, a garden with herbs and flowers and several reading bowers and an area for games like croquet and badminton, etc. There would be lots of trees, a pool and hot tub, and swings and gliders and lawn furniture everywhere.

As the remodeling proceeded, I'd start taking applications from Mensans to share the joys of living in this Mensa house. All would contribute to living here,

though no one would be turned away due to poverty or disability.

That taken care of, I'd turn my thoughts to a really BIG project - a Mensa retirement community somewhere that's warm but is not desert, swamp, or a hurricane area. It would be large and sprawling, offering several different housing arrangements, everything from assisted living to areas for those raising children late in life to a clothing-optional area near a woods. Costs would be sliding-scale according to financial levels.

The central clubhouse would have a fully equipped exercise area, an on-duty doctor running a clinic, a library, pool, hot tub, game room and an area for hospitality and meetings sufficient to house an RG. Jitneys would be available to take people to town 24 hours a day. A dining hall would be available for those not wishing to cook.

Service shops of all sorts would be available: mini-market, dry cleaners, postal sub-station, hair-dressers, drugstore, travel agency, etc.

A golf course and a woods with hiking trails, a stable with private and group horses, tennis, volleyball and shuffleboard courts, and whatever else the residents want, would complete the package.

Finally, a nursing home and hospice would be available so that the very infirm and the dying wouldn't be isolated from their friends.

In such a place the "golden years" would be 24 karat.

Mensa's "Orphans" Thanksgiving Holiday's Excellent Repast (M.O.T.H.E.R.) will be held at the Ramada Inn, junction of I-465, Pendleton Pike and East 42nd St. They have a lovely, moderately-priced buffet.

Please call me (Nancy White) at xxx-xxxx **no later than noon, November 24** to reserve. (VoiceMail clicks on after the tenth ring, so be patient).

After dinner, diners and others are invited to Greg Crawford's for games and conversation into the evening.

Whether you spend the holiday with your traditional or your Mensa family, Happy Thanksgiving!

Alison Brown

If I Won the Lottery

It would have to be a real jackpot; a mere million would probably not cover it. I have always wished to buy or build a large residence with a concert stage and many guest rooms. Originally it was to be a Swiss chalet, but I have gotten over my infatuation with Switzerland. In this complex I would house writers, actors, musicians and other participants on the arts and we would create, recreate and perform to our heart's content. This is based a bit on Glyndebourne, where a magnate built an opera house and mounted productions for his internationally renowned singer wife and a bit less on the McDowell colony, of which I learned only after I started dreaming. I would hire a staff to keep the place maintained: gardeners, cleaners, electricians and carpenters would be on hand to care for the stage and cooks would care for all of us with creative dishes. I have quite a circle of acquaintances to fill the guest rooms or suites. I suppose I would add a recording studio to make CDs of the productions, something that was not in the first version of my fantasy. Back then the performances were to be ephemeral, satisfying our desire to do roles and play works that were not, or not yet, commercial and still allow us to

have food and shelter. My dream of "art for art's sake" is faded now. Taxes would eat away my lottery winnings and I have come to realize that the usual personality conflicts and power struggles among creative individuals would turn this palace into psychological hell. But in an ideal world what fun it would be!

Robert O. Adair

If I Won the Lottery

I would establish a foundation, the Adair Education Fund. I would find one of the less populous counties of Indiana with a large church-going element. I would fund the Christian private schools so that by lowering their tuition and providing scholarships for needy people, the entire population of the county could dispense with the public school. In this imaginary scenario the public schools would have started with 1,000 pupils when I set this up, a figure which was down considerably due to abortion, private schools and home schooling. In a year's time school enrollment would have dropped to one school with 10 pupils, the children of militant atheist families.

Ten years later there would still be 10 public school children but the cost of maintaining the school would have tripled. This would be partly because only one school building would still be in use and they were busing 9 of the children to it. Then the governor of Indiana, Birch Bayh III, would have established "The Public Schools Emergency Fund." Two of his favorite sayings would be "We must save our fine public school system" and "My mail is running a thousand to one against it but I'm doing it anyway."

M.J. Tala

If I Won a Really Big Lottery

Boy o boy, give a shopaholic \$100,000,000 and there will be rejoicing in the malls and on the Internet, believe me. As a dedicated consumer of all things great and small, I have come up with far too many ideas to fit in the confines of a column, but I'll try to winnow it down.

Taxes and Investments

First and foremost, kiss thirty-five mil good-bye to the IRS. Down to a mere sixty-five million. Then I hire a very good investment counselor, one who is also a tax lawyer, and ten million is in some kind of investment right away, so I can live on the income if I blow all the rest.

Girlfriends and Hairdresser

That's it for the real world stuff. Now for the fun parts. All my family members, my hairdresser (who came up with this idea originally), and my three good girlfriends (Deb Dimond, who you know, and Myth and Dana, who you don't) get all of their bills, mortgages or credit cards or whatever, paid off *in toto*. The girls also get \$10,000 accounts with the Home Shopping Network and \$100,000 of carte blanche at the next Gem & Jewelry Show. This can be carried over to subsequent shows as needed. John, my hairdresser, gets a new Harley.

Family

My three nephews get trust funds assuring their tuition at the college or

university of their choice, on a few conditions: 1) No trouble with the law; 2) Decent grades (to be defined by their parents); 3) All-around good behavior (again, mom & dad's call).

My parents get any damned thing they want, and then some.

(I wish I could say I'd buy the Cubs some middle-relief pitching, but I'm not sure the team would be the same without the constant mantra of, "Wait 'till next year.")

Dwellings

I live in a tiny studio skybox, which I genuinely love. I don't want to move, so I'll buy the two adjoining units, giving me three balconies, lots of room, and three parking spaces. But I also want a greenhouse, and it'd be tough to hang one on a twenty-first floor balcony, so I guess I need a house. One of the painted-lady Victorians up on the North Shore would do me fine. The greenhouse I can add, along with a two-car, two-motorcycle garage. The house will have a fully-equipped workout area with Stairmaster, stationary bike, free weights and Nautilus machines. All beds will be king-sized with baffle-box stitched featherbeds and Porthault sheets, 330 thread count Egyptian cotton at the very least. I'm still undecided about the pool. I'm not a big swimmer type, but it would be a cool place for summer parties, so it's on the "Maybe" list. The gorgeous stud personal trainer is NOT optional.

Bodywork

The personal physical plant gets a bit of overhaul as well. Photo-radial Keratotomy immediately, at the Kraff Eye Institute (best in the biz), as I would like to have 20-20 vision just to see (literally) what it's like. The vein explosion happening in my left leg will be banished, and, when and if needed, select body parts will be nipped, tucked, acid-peeled and perfected. Vanity is a fairly expensive hobby.

Travel

I also will be buying a LARGE residence (that's what the ads call 'em) on the *Fantasea*. Maybe you've heard of it -- it's a big ol' luxury liner with condo-type units that you can buy and live in on a permanent or sometime basis. They plan to head for Sydney for the Olympic Games, Rio for Carnival, N'awlins for Mardi Gras, and whatever else seems like a Good Idea. I envision a kind of floating, revolving RG. The boat must have a heli-pad, at the very least for medical emergencies, so I'll need a helicopter to get me and my guests on and off at will. Don't worry, a real pilot will be doing those honors. I stick with earthbound vehicles.

Machines

I'm not a big car person, but I want some kind of convertible. Sporty, six cylinder, either teal or "ticket-me-I'm-speeding" red. And I do want a Harley, of course. The retro-looking Heritage Softtail Classic, in aqua and cream, with chrome on every available surface where there isn't fringed leather. I also lust after the Honda Shadow, but I want that in turquoise and black. Again, lots of chrome and fringe. The requisite custom-made riding leathers and boots are also in the package. I'm thinking the leathers will match the bike I'm riding, but the boots will be biker black. Maybe I'll put the Hell's M's owl on the jacket.

Self-Improvement

I haven't really made a dent in the sizable fortune, but I suppose that several politically incorrect fur coats (one in coyote, one in blush mink, for starters) will help. And travel, travel, travel. I'd also go back to school, somewhere I could never afford in real life, like the University of Chicago, to study things far less practical than accounting -- maybe literature or art or music. I'd love to learn flower arranging, and you can never take too many dance classes.

Shopping

I don't think that even a hundred million dollars could deep-six my love of thrift stores, off-price shopping and the thrill of the hunt that IS shopping. Shopping, after all, is more than just BUYING. Given my love of bargains and sales, I'd be rich for a long, long time. But I'd get to shop a lot more often.

Charity

Not to worry -- I'll likely do some noble thing with some of the money. Probably in between trips, classes, workout sessions and surgeries. But, while I'm signing the trust paper, I'll be well-rested, well-dressed and know how to do a mean Argentine tango.

MENSA NATIONAL TESTING DAY

On Saturday, November 14, Central Indiana Mensa will host a testing session as part of a nationwide testing day. Testing offers a means of entrance into Mensa, as well as an opportunity for people to satisfy their curiosity and have fun.

Our session will be at the Haughville Public Library, 3815 West Michigan Street, starting promptly at 2:00 p.m. Reservations are recommended but not necessary. To reserve, call Russ Washburne at (317) 839-9282.

There are two tests, and a score in the upper 2% on either one will qualify for Mensa. The testing fee is \$25.00 and the tests require about an hour and a half.

Primer for the December Topic:

"A Season Of Peace"

To most of us, peace is sort of a relative condition; if you're in a shooting war, then peace is simply that ending, but if life is a bit more stable, then peace requires elements of harmony, non-rivalry and ultimately, inner serenity.

Now, here's a conflict: from a governmental perspective, peace consists of nobody trying to upset the status quo, while many subject to that government find the status quo anything but peaceful.

Consider the extreme case: slavery. No invasions, no uprisings, that's peace to the slaveholders. That same situation is whippings, brandings, chainings, forced labor, drafty quarters, broken families and early death to the slaves.

Every country has some folks yearning to change their status and some other folks who've made sure that they have no peaceful way to do that. Peace (i.e., non-war) is therefore a frozen relationship of oppressed and oppressors.

Experience teaches that those willing to fight have an advantage over those not so willing. The party that perceives that it can gain more by force is never deterred by the thought of the abstract damage that would do to "peace," only by the fear of evoking counter-force. In this way, readiness for war provides the best assurance of peace.

Thus "Peace" is always defined as "nonhostile conditions in which we get our own way" while "war" has two interpretations, depending on perspective: "justifiable conflict to redress intolerable wrongs" or "justifiable conflict to resist savage attacks."

Once, I suppose, peoples like the Pawnee or the Celts or the Huns defined war somewhat more honestly as "taking good stuff away from other people." Today we would call this "crime," and no longer find it acceptable public rationale.

So what can we look forward to in the next millennium? Will peace continue to be the reward for those who won the last war, or are we about to change the definition.

The First Breakthrough for the Theory of Momentum

by Herman F. Hagemier

The pulls in the positive direction are stronger than those in the negative, if the crystal has any momentum. The inverse square law says that in a bonding wave, moving at the speed of light, a shorter wave is stronger. If the length of the wave moving in the direction of motion is $C+V$, the distance that the wave travels to the rear will be $C-V$.

The strength of pull varies inversely with the square of the distance a wave travels. The speed of the crystal is V and the speed of the bonds is C . The speed, V , is always a fraction of the speed of light, C , and that could be V/C .

We should calculate the pull from the front and the pull from the rear and subtract the latter from the former. A Table will be worked out for ten values of V/C , starting with $V/C = 0.0001$ and for another ten values of V/C , starting with $V/C = 0.1$. The pull represents the amount of energy that would be needed to create the speed from scratch. Remember that these are only proportions.

In order that there will be no doubt as to the method of calculating the proportions, the first value for V/C will be worked out in detail. Starting with $V/C = 0.0001$, we proceed as follows. A pocket calculator is sufficient.

$$1 - V/C = 1 - 0.0001 = 9.999; 1 + V/C = 1 + 0.0001 = 1.0001$$

$$1 / (0.999)^2 - 1 / (1.0001)^2 = 1/0.9998 - 1 / 1.0002 = 1.0002 - 0.9998 = 0.0004 = \text{pull at speed, } (V/C = 0.0001).$$

$V/C = 0.0001$ 0.0004	$V/C = 0.1$ 0.408121
$V/C = 0.0002$ 0.0008	$V/C = 0.2$ 0.868055
$V/C = 0.0003$ 0.0012	$V/C = 0.3$ 1.449100
$V/C = 0.0004$ 0.0016	$V/C = 0.4$ 2.2675773
$V/C = 0.0005$ 0.0020	$V/C = 0.5$ 3.5555556
$V/C = 0.0006$ 0.0024	$V/C = 0.6$ 5.859375

V/C = 0.0007 0.0028	V/C = 0.7 10.76509
V/C = 0.0008 0.0032	V/C = 0.8 24.691358
V/C = 0.0009 0.0036	V/C = 0.9 99.722992
V/C = 0.0010 0.0040	V/C = 0.99 9999.7475
V/C = 0.01 0.04008	V/C = 0.999 999999

The formula, used above, to find the amount of energy needed to create the stated speeds, is $1 / (1 - V/C)^2 - 1 / (1 + V/C)^2$

The formula used in relativity theory to determine what they call an increase in weight, or mass, is $1 / (1 - V^2/C^2)^{1/2}$.

The energy needed to create a comparable amount of speed, at the higher speeds, becomes much less in relativity theory, as can be shown by the following table:

V/C = 0.001 1.0000005	V/C= 0.9	.... 2.2294
V/C = 0.002 1.000002	V/C= 0.99	.... 7.0881
V/C = 0.003 1.0000045	V/C= 0.999	.... 22.3662
V/C = 0.004 1.000008	V/C= 0.9999	.... 70.7124
V/C = 0.005 1.0000125	V/C= 0.99999	.... 223.6073
V/C = 0.006 1.000018	V/C= 0.999999	.... 707.1067
V/C = 0.007 1.0000245	V/C= 0.9999999	.... 2236.068
V/C = 0.008 1.000032	V/C= 0.99999999	.... 7072
V/C = 0.009 1.0000405	V/C= 0.999999999	.... 22360
V/C = 0.010 1.00005	V/C= 0.999999999+	.... 40000

The last figure, showing the mass increasing 40,000 times, is taken from the well-known book by Martin Gardner, Relativity for the Millions. The indefinite "+" was used by Gardner, page 69.

There are ways to estimate the input of energy into an accelerator. From that, relativity theory can use a chart, such as the one above, to estimate the amount of speed achieved. The (C-V) and (C+V) theory of the relativity theory, either one could supply the great increase in resistance to acceleration which has been observed in accelerator experiments. Note that the table for the mass increase given by Einstein's theory does not show the mass increasing in proportion to the speed. In the table using (C-V) and (C+V), the proportion is very faithful until the speeds approach the speed of light.

A mass increase at high speeds has long been cited as a major support for relativity theory. The increasing resistance to acceleration gives stronger support to a (C-V) and (C+V) theory and does so without logic-defying postulates such as flexible time and bent space. This theory of momentum requires no additional postulates of any kind. Newton's inverse-square law as adapted by Maxwell to electromagnetic radiation is the only support needed. The rest is the result of following mathematical and geometrical relationships and common assumptions of electron activity.

Alfred North Whitehead seemed to believe that the first law of motion, as created by Galileo, was one of the great advances in science and was more than a mere statement of belief. Newton is quoted as saying that, "Every body continues in its state of rest or of uniform motion in a straight line except so far as it is compelled by

impressed force to change that state."

Whitehead explained that they had been looking for 2000 years for the cause of momentum. This search had blocked the progress of science for all that time. He said that we now knew that it was just the natural state of matter. The theory in this book seems to be committing the crime of rewriting Galileo's first law of motion as well as putting time of travel into Newton's inverse-square law.

There is a historical precedent for a theory which would put the energy of momentum in the ether. In 1893, Sir J.J. Thomson proposed that the ether was a storehouse for the energy of momentum. Also, there is experimental proof that magnetic waves can carry momentum. The proof lies as close as the nearest bar magnet. The waves from a bar magnet can impart momentum to a piece of iron.

B _____
A _____
S _____
I _____
L _____
by Basil Wentworth

139 SHOW BIZ

If he'd worked to a different plan,
C. de Bergerac's author (Rostand)
 Could have portrayed the sights
 Of Wuthering Heights
And still called his lady Rocks Anne.

 In "Swan Lake", the usual thing
 For the four little swans is to cling
 To each other in line;
 But a different design
 Could have made of them a cygnet ring.

The director said, "I strongly feel
That verismo gives movies appeal.
 Verismo gives strength."
(But it could limit length:
Overdone, it could make them two-reel.)

 While the actor was formally known
 As "Basil", his villainous tone,
 Expressions ironic,
 And comments sardonic
 Would tickle your basic wrath bone.

Had the Preincess been somewhat less grand
With the pea that she just couldn't stand --
 Had she found in her bed
 Grains of beach sand instead,
She'd have pailasse and merely sand.

* * * * *

 If the play's backer tells jokes to you
 And (in spite of the fact you feel blue)
 His demeanor suggests
 You should laugh at his jests,
 I would strongly advise you do.

Well, I hope those of you who are eligible to do so go and cast an informed vote in the biennial elections. If that leaves you in the mood, here comes another chance to participate in the decisions that affect you.

Inasmuch as the ExCom and the Editor aspire to nothing finer than giving you the Local Group and the newsletter you prefer, please take a few minutes to give your thoughts on the MIND content.

To achieve some control over the process, I ask you to 1) **sign your name** to your vote (I won't reveal it if you prefer) and 2) **actually mail it** in to POB 50946, Indianapolis, 46250 (the \$0.32 screens out the idlers).

Essay-type comments are fine, but because we're a society trained to fill in the blocks, you may also assign letter grades (A, B, C, D or F) to such elements as you please. To further assist you, here follows a list of current and recent offerings.

Archives
Basil
Bulletin Board
Challenges
Herman Hagemier
In Case You Missed It
Janette Greene Dollar
Later, the Tuscarora
Letters page
MIND Stretchers
Random Sample (Julie)
Robert O. Adair
Roy Olsen
Second Sight
Theme Primer
To Keep in MIND
Will Steinke

Or, you may wish to offer your own ideas about things we ought to have. While we can't promise that just because somebody asks for, oh, say, a horoscope or a gardening column we'll produce one, all suggestions will be considered.

Of course, those who not only suggest the feature, but offer to write it can expect a certain favoritism.

Dave A.

New Web Pages

Central Indiana Mensa has a web-site at www.a1.com/indymensa/. Although our group is responsible for the content, the hosting of the site has been donated by IndyNet.

I have volunteered to put new information on our web pages and keep it up-to-date. I hope to build on the foundation that the previous webmaster, Dale Legendre, created.

There are three items to which I hope to give priority: 1) email addresses (and/or phone numbers) of persons to contact, 2) the calendar, 3) the newsletter.

1) People. We can list Excom members, volunteers and coordinators on the web pages. Because the web pages are open to the world and not just our little group, I don't want to list your name, phone number, and/or email without your consent. Please email me at indymensa@yahoo.com or call me at 309-6283 with your wishes of how, or whether, you want to be listed on-line. Or hand me a note at the monthly meeting.

2) Calendar. I hope to receive information from the calendar editor at about the time the calendar is delivered for printing in the newsletter. Since the lead time for making changes on the web pages is much less than the printed newsletter, don't be afraid to contact me directly with changes for an event for which you are responsible. I don't wish to become the calendar editor, so if you give me information, please give the information to the calendar editor also.

3) Newsletter. Our current newsletter publishing system is not conducive to electronic communication. I plan on scanning future newsletters and converting them to text for inclusion in the web pages. If you have a favorite article from a past issue that you want to see on-line, please email it to me or submit it on a floppy in a plain text format.

I place emphasis on making the on-line version of the newsletter as true a representation of the printed newsletter as conveniently possible. Therefore, if our editor makes changes or deletions to your article/letter that you disagree with, I would expect to post the printed version of the article/letter on the newsletter web pages.

The web site is not as constrained as the newsletter in regards to space. Therefore, I am willing to consider posting your unedited article on a separate, but linked, section of our web site so that the world may see your unadulterated wit and wisdom (or lack thereof). Please send such material via email or submit on floppy in a plain text format. But I will defer to our editor and/or ExCom what should or should not be published on the web site under the aegis of Central Indiana Mensa. We must also conform to the terms and conditions that dictate the use of IndyNet's services.

After the above three priorities are met, there are many possibilities of what we can do with the web pages. I would like to include links to members' web pages. (Member Roy Olsen has a fantastic web site.) We currently have a "guestbook" feature, where people can post their own comments from their web browser (without having to use email). Such comments can be immediately viewed by others visiting the web site. I'd appreciate any electronic submissions, but I'd especially like members to design and submit graphics, as that is my weak area.

MIND STRETCHERS

We've had a pretty good response to these things, so here's another: [Note: this is similar to "Murder At The Bridge" which appeared in October's MIND, but has its own character]

Lady Eleanor loved Sir Pureheart, handsomest and most upright knight of the realm, and he loved her. Unfortunately, Lady Eleanor was held prisoner in a tower by a dreadful ogre. One day, a group of knights, including Sir Pureheart, passed within earshot of the tower.

"Oh, save me!" cried Lady Eleanor. "Slay the ogre and rescue me."

Sir Pureheart, noting the size of the ogre's club, said, "Let's not be hasty, lads;

this may be a job for the archers," but Sir Hardlance immediately called out, "I'll save you, Lady; but I want a little something for my trouble, if you take my meaning."

Unaware of Sir Pureheart's presence or his plans, Lady Eleanor reluctantly pledged her favors to her rescuer, and Sir Hardlance, in desperate battle, at last overcame the ogre.

As Sir Hardlance leaned panting against the tower, the knights, led by Sir Pureheart, rode up and Lady Eleanor, recognizing him, leapt into his arms.

"Do not forget your pledge, my Lady," wheezed Sir Hardlance.

"What's this?" inquired Sir Pureheart, and Lady Eleanor dutifully told him of her obligation.

Surely you don't mean to honor such a pledge!" exclaimed the silver-clad knight. "See here, Hardlance, I'll give you a fine pair of stirrups to forget this silly idea. The Lady Eleanor is to wed me."

"I've got stirrups, pal; what I want is the sweet favors I was promised. Anyway, just one night and she's all yours, so what's the big deal?" (Sir Hardlance did not have the best courtly vocabulary, but he did have a redoubtable reputation for splitting shields and cutting off limbs.)

"Darling," implored the Lady Eleanor, "I must honor my pledge."

"Honor?" exploded Sir Pureheart, "I could never take to wife any trollop who would so dishonor her maidenhood."

Well, to sum things a bit, no protest from Pureheart would turn Eleanor from her promise, nor would any bribe persuade Hardlance to overlook it. To his credit, Sir Pureheart even offered to meet Sir Hardlance in the lists, but the rough knight pointed out that the time to show his mettle would have been with the ogre.

At length, Lady Eleanor redeemed her pledge and granted Sir Hardlance his desire, and Sir Pureheart, true to his principles, spurned her. Sir Hardlance, sated, rode off with his fuming but uncompromising comrade.

One member of the party, however, remained behind to comfort the rescued but abandoned Lady Eleanor. This was Sir Purfluous, a rather undistinguished knight in either grace or arms.

Before long, however, the kindness of this homely and awkward knight won the affections of the Lady, and he, well aware of both her deeds and the reasons therefor, married her.

Question: Who was the noblest knight of them all? Who was the worst? And did Lady Eleanor behave in a seemly fashion?

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SECOND SIGHT

Both **Basil Wentworth's** *What's in a Name?* and **Teresa Fisher's** *The Dancing Outlaw* appeared in the October/November issue of the *G'raffiti*, newsletter of the Camelopard Society, Maggie Sinram, Editor-in-chief.

LATER, THE TUSCARORA

George Dunn

Reply to Dom Jervis

Readers might guess that a column named for the cadet branch of the Iroquois would take exception to some of Dom Jervis' views of the American Indians.

It is well for us "Injun-lovers" to avoid over-romanticizing the Noble Red Man as a prelapsarian Adam. Of course, the Native Nations of America practiced all of the vices common to humankind. Neither did the appearance of Europeans create a pan-Indian community. To use contemporary political lingo, many tribes were quite willing to "play the white card" against their traditional enemies. The Iroquois used their British allies to slaughter the Hurons and the Tuscarora eventually sided with the Colonies against the rest of the League.

Dom's case, however, simplifies one assertion into a major error: he claims that those aboriginals who signed on with "us" (meaning the federal government) received our friendship and "prospered."

The shame of the federals is not that they struck down their enemies in war, but that they slaughtered the people who submitted to their protection!

Accounts of atrocities visited on the native peoples are not "biased," nor are they matters of "perception" in contrast to "reality." The events of the various Trails of Tears, the Sand Creek Massacre and the "Battle" of Wounded Knee are documented. The programs against the Indians were as real as the Nazi Holocaust and differ from it principally in the technology used.

It does not particularly matter that Indians murdered whites, or that they were often sadistic to each other or that they worshipped strange gods, or ate dogs, or kept slaves, or turned their old people out to die. The point is that white officials - not all, but far too many - persistently violated their **own** sacred standards of conduct, broke their solemn oaths and repaid trust with treachery.

If there's a mental aberration to this decade, it's the belief that we can "cancel out" our own sins with those of others. On second thought, there's nothing particularly modern about that ailment: the Romans stage-managed the Carthaginians into a treaty violation so they could launch a war of obliteration, all the while nattering about "Punic faith" (meaning that the Carthaginians were treacherous). The victorious George Washington was known as Town Destroyer among the Iroquois for the punitive expeditions against the erstwhile British allies scant years after the Declaration of Independence accused George III of stirring up the "merciless Indian savages."

Occasional convergences of personal ethics sometimes confused whites who

wanted to dichotomize the Indians into "civilized" and "savage." The Pawnee Petalsharo, honored in the East for his melodramatic rescue of a Comanche woman from a human sacrifice, shocked his admirers by revealing that he enjoyed a good raid now and then.

Dom's impression of the beneficence of the government surely stems in part from the crafty public rationales presented for various travesties of due process. Our \$20 president, Andrew Jackson, claimed the eviction of the Cherokee was his way of "protecting" them from white incursions onto their mineral-rich lands.

BULLETIN BOARD

Teresa Fisher: In early September Joanne Ortman had a stroke. She is currently in a rehab hospital and would greatly appreciate cards, letters, visits and phone calls. Her phone number is **(312) 908-1150**, and her address is: **R.I.C., Room 420, Bed 2; 345 East Superior; Chicago, IL 60611**

Positive Change Network: Fourth Tuesdays 6:15 - 8:45 at Library Services Center, 2450 N. Meridian. Information: 925-9297.

SPAN Program: Earn college credit while still attending High School. 10th, 11th and 12th graders who have SAT of 1010 and complete IUPUI placement test may take 100 and 200 level classwork. Info: (317) 274-2660.

Women of Vision Network: 5:30 every Wednesday at Cynergi Bookstore, 6358 Guilford. (Broad Ripple) 841-3912.

PFLAG (Parents, Family/Friends of Lesbians and Gays) a group for support and education. Second Sundays, 2:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Methodist Church. 86th Street, near Meridian.

Teresa Fisher: Bring back the Mensa Register! This invaluable member-to-member document hasn't been reprinted for six years! Restore this gem to the membership before the AMC spends any more money on monuments to itself in Texas.

David Schulman [from June '98 Bulletin]: I strongly advocate that the [MERF-owned office building] be suitably named in Dave [Remine's] honor. I would be proud to address future correspondence to "American Mensa at Dave Remine's House."

Friends of Jung: First Thursdays. Information: 466-9214.

Holistic Health Care Practitioners: Monthly meetings at First Congregational Church, 7171 North Pennsylvania. Dorothea Mueller Goold, 581-0535, for info.

Nancy White: Our annual Mensa THANKSGIVING DINNER will be held this year, but "where?" has yet to be determined. If no one has a better idea, it will be at the Ramada at Pendleton Pike, 42nd & I-465. If you have an alternate suggestion, call me at xxx-xxxx and offer it for discussion.

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