



Mensa Newsletter  
Of Central Indiana

## Mensa Family Group Visits Indy Catacombs! One Explorer's Mother Shares His Experience

"I asked Josh what he liked about the tour and he said the following:

"He enjoyed learning the history of the area and the city market building. He was excited to learn that the building was open in



1886. This was very exciting to him as one of his favorite presidents, Grover Cleveland, was serving his first term when the building opened!

"He also liked exploring the catacombs and was particularly interested in the arches, columns, and small stalactites that we saw. There were also a couple unknown items hanging from the wall and he said it was interesting to try to figure out what they were and if they were alive "

*[See related story on page 9]*

## **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 98<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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**

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## **MIND Staff**

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

**Calendar Editor:** Karen Wilczewski, [biltmore@topdogcom.com](mailto:biltmore@topdogcom.com)

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**-or-** [www.indymensa.org](http://www.indymensa.org)  
**MensaPhone:** (317) 539-1740

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# mind

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## **Old Dog/New Tricks**

*Teresa Gregory, Editor*

The calendar says we only have two months until the AG. That can't be right. The AG starts on hot muggy July 4th. I have been watching it snow today. My son came to town for a brief visit. He walked off the airplane wearing a windbreaker, appropriate for Los Angeles. I was holding his old corduroy coat that I still keep. I think he was as happy to see it as he was to see me. After all, it was 34 degrees.



Last week, Jan Pfeil Doyle and I were downtown taking pictures for our last Bulletin ad promoting the AG. It will appear on the back cover of the June issue. Yes, it is closing in.

We have some wonderful programs lined up. Holy Moly. With six speaker tracks, there must be something of interest to everyone. We have some exciting tours planned, too. If you have never attended an AG before, you won't have a better opportunity. While we would like to see everyone come for the entire event, you can just come for the day.

I feel like I should have a moment of silence for the Outdoor Gathering that we won't be having this May.

On the local scene, our good friend, Dr Rob Pyatt, will be our speaker at the Monthly Gathering in May. He used to drive over from his home in Columbus Ohio, but now he is flying in from South Dakota. That deserves a big turn-out. (He will also be presenting at the AG.)

Also, please see the Carmel Picnic info on the calendar and event pages. Alison Brown is hosting a party at her home so that a visiting Mensan can meet some local folks. Please consider coming so that our guest can go home with some wonderful CIM memories.

Happy Memorial Day!

## LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

**It's Election Time, cont.** – Central Indiana Mensa's biennial election will be held in September. If you're interested in running for LocSec (President) or the ExCom (Executive Committee; the board that runs the group), please contact Nominating Committee Chair **Barbara George** at [barbarageorge.indy@gmail.com](mailto:barbarageorge.indy@gmail.com). Many thanks to Barb and her committee members **Karen Steilberger** and **Leo Doyle** for serving on the nominating committee. If you have questions about serving, feel free to contact Barb or any member of the ExCom. **Our bylaws have been updated to allow for remote electronic attendance at the board meetings (which are typically held in Indianapolis).** **We'd love to have some members from outside the central Indiana area run for the board!** The nominating committee's slate will be published in the June *MIND*, so you'll need to get in touch with the nominating committee in early May to be considered for slating. Alternatively, you may run as a petition candidate with the signatures of 10 members. Petitions are due to the Election Committee Chair Marcele Everest ([marcele.everest@gmail.com](mailto:marcele.everest@gmail.com)) by July 1st. The final ballot will be published in the August *MIND*. Ballots must be delivered to the Election Committee Chair by Sept. 14th. More details in upcoming *MINDs*.



**Annual Gathering 2018 Updates** – Continuing the countdown of “Top Ten Reasons to Come to the AG in Indy” - Reason #1: It's an AG! Come spend time with other monumentally mindbending Mensans of all ages. Hear awesome speakers, play games, attend amazing programs, hang out with friends old and new, take tours of uniquely Hoosier locations, and make the summer of 2018 one of your best memories ever.

For more info about the AG, check out the FAQs at [ag.us.mensa.org/pages/faq/](http://ag.us.mensa.org/pages/faq/). We plan to have the full schedule of events and speakers online within the next week or two. **For now, you can see a preview at** [ag.us.mensa.org/pages/programming/sessions/](http://ag.us.mensa.org/pages/programming/sessions/)

You may register at [ag.us.mensa.org](http://ag.us.mensa.org) or call the national office at 1-800-66-MENSA (adult member rate for the full gathering is \$229 until June 15<sup>th</sup>, then \$259 at the door). The adult day rate is \$86. Hotel reservations (\$134 to \$154+tax) are through the AG website link or by calling 866-704-6162; reference American Mensa Annual Gathering. See an article on page in *MIND* about volunteering at the AG.

## Mensa Admission Testing for 2018

We currently have eight test sessions planned for the following dates in May through November 2018. Please contact Testing Coordinator Karen Zwick at [karen.zwick@outlook.com](mailto:karen.zwick@outlook.com) to reserve a space. The exact testing location will be provided when a candidate reserves a space.

Month	Date	Start Time	General Location
May	Sunday, May 13, 2018	1:00 P.M.	Carmel, IN
June	Saturday, June 16, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side
July	Wednesday, July 4, 2018 Saturday, July 7, 2018	TBD P.M. TBD A.M.	Annual Gathering at JW Marriott, Indpls, IN
September	Saturday, September 15, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side
October	Sunday, October 7, 2018	1:00 P.M.	Carmel, IN
October	Saturday, October 20, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side
November	Saturday, November 10, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side

The fee of \$60 is payable by cash, check, or any major credit card. You can also purchase a voucher for the fee ahead of time at [www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testingvoucher/](http://www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testingvoucher/). Candidates between 14-17 years old are required to have one of their parents also sign the registration form in my presence at the testing site. We are not permitted to test candidates under 14 years old. Candidates under 14 will need to apply to the American Mensa, Ltd. national office in Arlington, Texas using approved prior testing evidence. A partial list of accepted tests and scores is available at: [www.us.mensa.org/join/testscores/qualifyingscores/](http://www.us.mensa.org/join/testscores/qualifyingscores/). Further questions about prior evidence admission to Mensa may be answered by calling Mensa's national office at 817-607-0060.

No smoking, calculators, or scratch paper are allowed. Candidates are permitted  
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to take each of the two tests comprising the Mensa Admissions Test battery only once in their lives. Candidates who qualify on either test will be invited to become a member. Please bring a photo ID and one or two #2 pencils. I also have plenty of extras.

The information above refers to the regular Mensa Admission Test. Please contact the Testing Coordinator if you are interested in taking the Culture Fair test.

Karen Zwick  
Testing Coordinator – Central Indiana Mensa  
[karen.zwick@outlook.com](mailto:karen.zwick@outlook.com)



## **Petra's Funny Page**

*Petra Ritchie*

- 1- Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal?  
His goal: transcend dental medication.
- 2-When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.
- 3- A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."
- 4- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it, too.
- 5-Tell that Moroccan who stole my hat to fez up.

Have some clever puns to contribute? Email: [petraritchie@msn.com](mailto:petraritchie@msn.com)

# 2018-19 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Here is the list of books to read for the CIM Book Group. It meets in Sunday afternoons once a month. Check the calendar for exact dates. Call or email Rich Gibson if you have any question or for directions.

May 20: *Time Detectives* by Brian Fagan

Jun 17: *Why We Sleep* by Matthew Walker

Jul 22: *Evolution of Beauty* by Richard Prum

Aug 19: Lewis and Clark. Read one of these (or another book on the topic) and come prepared to discuss it!

- *From Sea to Shining Sea*, by James Alexander Thom
- *Undaunted Courage* by Stephen Ambrose
- *The Journals of Lewis and Clark*

Sep 23: *Without You There Is No Us* by Suki Kim

Oct 28: *Reality is Not What It Seems* by Carlo Rovelli

Nov 18: *Venomous* by Christie Wilcox

Dec 16: *Dialogues: Conversations on the Nature of the Universe* by Clifford Johnson

Jan 20, 2019: *Hidden Life of Trees* by Hans Wohlleben Feb 17: *I Was Told to Come Alone* by Souad Mekhennet

Mar 17: *The Year of Lear* by James Shapiro

Apr 21: *Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers* by Robert Sapolsky



## June Book Group Preview

Richard Gibson

**Title:** *Why We Sleep—Unlocking the Power of Sleep and Dreams*

**Author:** Matthew Walker, PhD

Has a book ever changed your life? This one changed mine! Dr. Walker has chosen sleep as his life's work, and has written an engaging, highly readable, short book about what he's learned. This book is packed with facts, insights and practical advice you can use to improve your sleep.

Many of us have been exposed to truth, rumor and myth about sleep and dreaming. Some of the truths seem like the nagging you'd get from your mother: you need 7-8 hours of sleep a night; don't drink too much before going to sleep; don't stare at computer screens just before going to bed; yada yada yada; yes, Mom, I'll do better, I promise. What the author does that grabbed my attention and didn't let go was lay out the results of many studies documenting the many, very bad things that will happen if you don't get enough sleep: it knocks your

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hormones out of whack; raises the risk of heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's and cancer; shortens your lifespan and speeds up aging; and severely degrades your efficiency and productivity.

He explodes a few myths that badly need it. For instance, the one that you need less sleep as you get older. The truth is, it's *harder* to get enough sleep as you age—but you *still* need 7-8 hours every night. Or rapid-eye movement (REM) sleep and dreaming: it doesn't have anything to do with predicting your future, but it is of immense benefit in retaining things you've just learned, and in forging connections across unrelated things that boost your imagination and innovation.

At the end of the book is a short appendix listing twelve steps you can follow to greatly improve your sleeping habits. By the time I got there, I was sold, and eager to incorporate them. I have done so, and my sleep—and my life—are much better as a result.

*The Mensa Book Group will meet to discuss this book on Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. See the calendar for more information. Hope to see you there!*



## **City Catacombs Tour!**

*Diane O'Brien*

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, fifteen Mensa Youth and their families joined me for a tour of the City Market Catacombs. We were fortunate to have a former history major as our guide, and his story-telling ability added to the amazing information he shared with us. The catacombs, a “Roman-looking expanse of brick arches”, are what remains of Tomlinson Hall, a massive structure which seated up to 3500 people. It burned in January 1958 and only one part of the structure remains above-ground at the corner of Market and Delaware. The pictures we were shown, along with descriptions of what life was like for Indianapolis residents at the time, were fascinating and enlightening. To see the catacombs in person is thrilling and we were told that there have been sightings of ghosts and apparitions over the years! Weddings and parties have been held in the catacombs, but this has been discontinued by order of the fire department.

The catacombs have regular public tours during the summer and if you haven't visited them, you should put it on your calendar.



## New Members

Garrett Cockrum	Fishers	IN	Joined
Lawrence Des Jardines	Indianapolis	IN	Joined
Catherine Jones	Zionsville	IN	Joined
Anthony Joseph	Indianapolis	IN	Joined
Gary Mills	Spencer	IN	Joined



## Lessons Learned From MG Speaker

*Alison Brown*

At the April Monthly Gathering, Greg Wright gave an enlightening talk, one of many he gives around the Midwest, about fraud, identity theft and what one steps one should take to prevent it. He has generously offered to share his list with members of our group. He is also available to help with some of the things suggested, as that is his profession.

### Summary of Prevention Measures against Electronic Home Invasion

1. Find out if someone else is using your Social Security Number
2. Monitoring service
3. VPN (never public Wi Fi)
4. Password Manager
5. Local or online backup – ransomware protection
6. Lock your Social Security Account Number
7. Freeze your credit
8. Request copies of your Medical Insurance Bureau file
9. Follow serious money security advice

**Greg Wright** MBA, CFE, CFP®, CLU, ChFC

Greg's website: [www.CFEgreg.com](http://www.CFEgreg.com) \* Identity Theft Avoidance & Remediation

# May 2018 Events

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

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

**Monthly Gathering** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 7p.m. – 12 Midnight. **All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226.** See last page of *MIND* for map and directions. NOTE NEW FEE: **Members: \$7.00, Non-Members: \$10.00; Children 6-18: \$5.00, under 6: free**  
5/11 - Dr Rob Pyatt, returns to tell us more about wacky science.  
**STEM Time with George Dunn** (formerly **10 Minutes of Math and Science**) following the speaker.

**Mensa Admissions Test** - Sunday, 5/13, 1 p.m. registration. Testing will be conducted in Carmel. Contact: Karen Zwick at: [karen.zwick@outlook.com](mailto:karen.zwick@outlook.com) to reserve a space. The exact location will be provided when a candidate reserves a space.

**Additional Information:** The \$60 testing fee is payable by cash, check, or any major credit card. You can purchase a voucher for the fee ahead of time at [www.mensa.org/join/testing/testingvoucher/](http://www.mensa.org/join/testing/testingvoucher/). Candidates between 14 and 17 years of age are required to have one of their parents also sign the registration form in the presence of the testing coordinator at the testing site. We are not permitted to test candidates under age 14. Candidates under 14 will need to apply to the American Mensa Ltd. national office in Arlington, Texas, using approved prior testing evidence. A partial list of accepted tests and scores is available at: [www.u.s.mensa.org/join/testscores/qualifyingscores/](http://www.u.s.mensa.org/join/testscores/qualifyingscores/). Further questions about prior evidence admission to Mensa may be answered by calling Mensa's national office at 817-607-0060.

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# May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1	2 Indy Lunch Bunch
6	7	8	9
13 Mother's Day; Mensa Admission Test	14	15 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom; Paducah Area Group Meeting	16 Indy Lunch Bunch
20 Mensans' Dining Out; Book Club	21	22	23
27	28 Memorial Day	29	30

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5 Ham 'n' Eggs; Cal. Deadline
10	11 Monthly Gathering	12
17	18	19
24	25	26 Cook Out in Carmel
31		

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

# May 2018 Events (cont.)

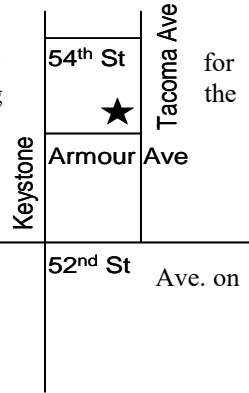
**MINDBending/ExCom** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

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

**5/15, 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 52<sup>nd</sup> St. and Keystone the northeast side of Indianapolis.

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



**Paducah Area Group Meeting** – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:rawlings@siu.edu)

**Book Group** – 2 p.m., Sunday, **5/20**. We will discuss *Time Detectives* by Brian Fagan. The group will meet at Rich and Jackie Gibson's house on the NE side of Indianapolis. Please contact Rich at [hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com) or 317-735-2895 for more details or to RSVP.

**Mensans Dining Out** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6 p.m., **5/20**. Havana Café, 3839 Moller Road, Indianapolis, In. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

**SIGHT Cookout in Carmel** Saturday, **5/26**, 2-6 pm

Central Indiana has a visitor from Romania! Victor Rad is a software engineer with a passion for motorsports. Naturally the Indy 500 is on his bucket list and he is in town for the race. But he is also in town to meet some Mensans, so Alison Brown is throwing a pitch-in cookout for at her house in the woods on May 26th before the big day.

Bring what you think is traditional for such occasions and let her know by May 23rd what it will be, so she can fill in the blanks. Details will follow when you RSVP to [SIGHT@indymensa.org](mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org) or 317-846-6798.

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

June 2018 *MIND* calendar items due 5/5/18 to: [biltmore@topdogcom.com](mailto:biltmore@topdogcom.com).

# Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

By Jon Gruebele, RVC4

## Board of Directors (AMC) Update

During the March AMC meeting in Denver, a variety of important issues were decided:

- The budget for fiscal year 2018-2019 starting April 1<sup>st</sup> was approved. It anticipates a modest surplus of revenues over expenses without imposing another dues increase.
- Dr. Abbie Salny, former Supervising Psychologist of American Mensa – along with a wide variety of other contributions – was awarded her second Margot award. The Margot is American Mensa's highest award and isn't granted every year. After earning her first Margot, Abbie continued to make significant contributions to Mensa, including at the International level.
- A motion to implement guest memberships for international members was defeated. Guest memberships are allowed by the International constitution for members who want to officially belong to more than one national Mensa. British Mensa implemented these years ago to accommodate members who retired to places such as Spain but who still wanted a connection back home. Since then, the International constitution changed to allow members to belong not only to the country where they reside, but alternatively the country where they are citizens or subjects. As a result, recently the UK only had 39 guest members. Most national Mensa organizations (including ours) unofficially offer full access to their websites and social media without the associated bureaucracy of guest memberships. While we incur some overhead vetting international memberships, American Mensa has far more members than any other national Mensa. As a result, our members have more to lose if every national Mensa started requiring guest memberships to access their groups. Leading by example, the AMC declined to start down this path.
- Authorized a Strategy Planning Committee, chaired by me. I gave a brief presentation outlining our goals, which will help focus the AMC on accomplishing our most important strategic objectives. Our current five-year plan is available on-line here:  
<https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/planning/strategic-plan-pdf/>.



Reviewed the results of our annual membership survey. Results were in line with previous surveys, although when later reviewing the raw data I saw many more concerns about the cost of annual dues. Most people

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- were very likely to recommend Mensa to someone they knew would qualify. Members let friends and family know they belonged to Mensa, but it was much less likely for them to tell their coworkers or put it on their résumé. The complete presentation is on-line under Lead -> Board of Directors (AMC) -> Meeting Reports -> 2018-03-03 – Denver, CO.
- Denied an application for an European-American M's SIG.

Finally, it's not too late to make plans to join us at the Annual Gathering in Indianapolis. Whether you've never attended a Mensa event or attend regularly, it's one of the best thing we do as an organization. Please come; Indianapolis is conveniently close to us!

As always, I welcome your feedback. Please contact me at [rvc4@us.mensa.org](mailto:rvc4@us.mensa.org), via phone or text at +1 309 693 1359, or join us in our Region 4 Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/695847670490858>.



## **Books On The Runway**

*Margy Lancet Fletcher*

**Title:** *Rain: A Natural and Cultural History*

**Author:** Cynthia Barnett

**Year:** 2015

**Book Description:** *Rain*, environmental journalist Cynthia Barnett's paean to our planet's most vital natural phenomenon, may be considered as a companion volume to Charles Fishman's *The Big Thirst*, the subject of a previous MIND review. This book, though, expands on the theme of the terrestrial water supply by focusing on its original source and the influence of this extraordinary, heaven-sent moisture on all facets of human existence. The author prologues her work with the ever-fascinating story of the origins of our solar system, and the reasons why our planet alone developed an atmosphere conducive to continuous live-giving rainfall cycles. Part I, Elemental Rain, expounds on the effects of rain on the evolution of the human physique, the link between rainfall and episodes of disease and famine, and the role of rain in the development of religious belief systems. Part II, Chance of Rain, explores the scientific aspects of rain: theoretical (the history of meteorology), and practical (the development of rain-proof products such as Mackintosh raincoats and windshield wipers). Part III, American Rain, is a chapter of U.S. history covering early forecasters such as Thomas Jefferson and the pioneers of the

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American West, the often-catastrophic consequences of Great Plains settlement, and attempts to artificially create rainfall (e.g., sky bombing and cloud seeding). Part IV, Capturing the Rain, describes human efforts to artistically conceptualize rain, to replicate its essence in perfume products, and to channel and decontaminate its residue in urban areas. Part V, Mercurial Rain, recounts bizarre and tragic episodes of unusual precipitation (e.g., frogs falling from the sky and acid rain), and discusses the causal relationship between climate change and rainfall extremes (a recurring theme in modern literature but nonetheless a critical issue). Barnett appropriately concludes her book with an account of her personal visit to the Indian State of Maghalaya, the reputed “wettest place on earth,” where, tragically, the monsoon seasons have become fewer and farther between in recent years.

**Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how?** As I pen this review, and a thunderstorm rages outside, I cannot help but feel that this book is perfect for rainy-day reading. Its lyrical and celebratory tone enlightens the mind, lifts the spirit, and enhances the reader’s understanding and appreciation of the awesome, cleansing power of rain. Ironically, *Rain* is a ray of sunshine in our increasingly darkening political atmosphere.

**Who should definitely read this book? Why?** *Rain* is awash with information on a wide diversity of subject matter, so it is indubitably safe to say that this book offers “something for everyone.” So open the door and drench yourself!

**How long might it take to read this book?** The reader can easily tailor his/her personal monsoon season to specific time constraints, as each chapter contains short segments. My best forecast is five to seven days.

**Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote:** “We misunderstand rain at the most basic level - what it looks like. We imagine that a raindrop falls in the same shape as a drop of water hanging from a faucet, with a pointed top and a fat, rounded bottom. That picture is upside down. In fact, raindrops fall from the clouds in the shape of tiny parachutes, their tops rounded because of air pressure from below... Our largest and most complex human systems often have the rain wrong, too. In the wettest parts of the United States, we construct homes and businesses in floodplains, then lament our misfortune when the floods arrive. In the driest regions, we whisk scant rainfall away from cities desperate for freshwater. Amid the worst drought in California history, the enormous concrete storm gutters of Los Angeles still shunt an estimated 520,000 acre-feet of rainfall to the Pacific Ocean each year - enough to supply water to half a million families... These paradoxes could not be more urgent today, as we figure out how to adapt to the aberrant rainfall and storm patterns, increasingly severe flooding, and more-extreme droughts wrought by climate change. Globally, the continents recently drew the two

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heaviest years of rainfall since record-keeping began. Scientists are bewildered by the controversy over whether human-caused greenhouse gas emissions are to blame for the precipitation extremes. Increased greenhouse gases push temperatures higher. Higher temperatures cause greater evaporation - and therefore greater rainfall - where water exists. They make it hotter and drier where it does not.”

**Additional Remarks:** I wish everyone a lush and vibrant spring.



## **Mensa Cares!**

*Alison Brown*



Central Indiana Mensa cared about childhood cancer research and supported member Alison Brown as a St. Baldrick's Foundation shavee on March 23, 2018. The fundraising was accomplished primarily through donations from about 16 Mensans (out of \$450 only about \$60 were from non-members). Alison was the *very* last to be shaved, basically alone on stage. She became a "Squire of Honor" for having completed 3 shaves. (Actually four, since her first shave was in 2015 and for that she was featured on the cover of the April MIND!) Three more she will be knighted [sic]!

Here is hoping that the members of Central Indiana Mensa continue to care in the coming years for the great cause of research into childhood cancers, in particular, research that is proceeding at Indiana University on hematopoietic stem cells and pathogenesis of hematological malignancies.

*[Thanks, Alison!]*

## Volunteer to Help at the Annual Gathering!

An AG is run in large part by members who volunteer while attending the AG (and those of us who volunteer ahead of time ☺). There are many ways to get involved and have fun with fellow attendees from around the country while you're helping the convention run smoothly. We'll have a webpage up soon where you can sign up for one or more 2-hour time slots--we'll post the website address on the Facebook Event page:

[www.facebook.com/events/234054937121565/](http://www.facebook.com/events/234054937121565/) (or search for Mensa Annual Gathering 2018) and in the June *MIND*.

Following are some positions where we'll need a lot of volunteers but check out all the positions when you go to the website.

- Welcome/Information Desk - Volunteers will have information about local restaurants, things to do, places to visit, where things are in the hotel, etc. This is a prime opportunity for local members to show off their city.
- Speaker Shepherd - Meet a speaker you choose in the Green Room before their talk. Escort him/her to their room and introduce them if they want you to.
- Green Room Host - Hosts will welcome speakers to the AG. Explain that their shepherd will be meeting them there about 30 min before their talk.
- Hospitality Greeter - Circulate around Hospitality welcoming people to the AG; ask if they have any questions. Can sit part of the time at a designated Welcome Table.
- Hospitality Door Monitor - Check that everyone entering Hospitality has a valid badge and that closed doors stay closed.
- Registration - Duties consist of sitting and some standing at Registration Desk, handing out packets and badge holders.



## Want to Carpool to the AG?

If you're local and will be attending the AG on one or more days, you might want to carpool with other attendees. Downtown parking can be expensive--you can see some parking options at [ag.us.mensa.org/pages/essentials/event-parking/](http://ag.us.mensa.org/pages/essentials/event-parking/). **Larry Marcus** ([larryamarcus@yahoo.com](mailto:larryamarcus@yahoo.com)) has volunteered to organize those who'd like to share rides from the NE side/Fishers area. If you'll be driving from another side of town and would like to organize a ride share, please let Teresa or me know.

## **Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 2/20/2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Members present were Jon Applegate, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Diane O'Brien, Karen Wilczewski, Kurt Williams, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick.

Absent: Ethan Blocher-Smith.

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Petra Ritchie.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the December 2017 ExCom meeting (no meeting was held in January 2018). Kurt Williams moved that the minutes be accepted. Jon Applegate seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report. Reports for both December and January 2018 were provided by the Treasurer. Kurt Williams moved that the Treasurer's reports be accepted as presented. Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

A membership report was compiled by Jan Pfeil Doyle based upon the information available as of 1/31/2018 from American Mensa (2 months' data): 527 members, 3 new, 4 rejoins, 1 movein, and 33 prospects.

### **Old Business**

2018 Annual Gathering: Planning continues steadily. The tour registration is now available, and early bird registration is available through February 28.

The Gifted Family program's trip to the downtown catacombs is scheduled for Saturday, March 17 at 10:00 am.

The increase in entry fees for the Monthly Gathering will start for the March meeting.

### **New Business**

The Clarion Waterfront Hotel is now under new management, and room rates have increased greatly. The committee is looking at other possible locations.

Culture Quest will take place Sunday, April 29, 2018. The registration deadline is March 31, and team members are limited to Mensa members (youth teams require only the team captain to be a member).

ExCom elections will take place this year. A Nominating Committee will be appointed by April 1 in accordance with the Bylaws.

There being no other business, Karen Zwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ann Hake seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Hake, Secretary

# Treasurer's Reports

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

## Balance Sheet (as of 03/19/2018)

<b>Bank Accounts</b>	<b>02/19/2018</b>	<b>03/19/2018</b>
Checking – Regular	\$4,224.81	\$4,464.94
Checking – Scholarship	386.50	386.50
Checking – Youth Membership	69.34	69.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	9,575.23	9,575.23
Checking – Youth Activity Fund	464.40	464.40
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$14,720.28</b>	<b>\$14,960.41</b>

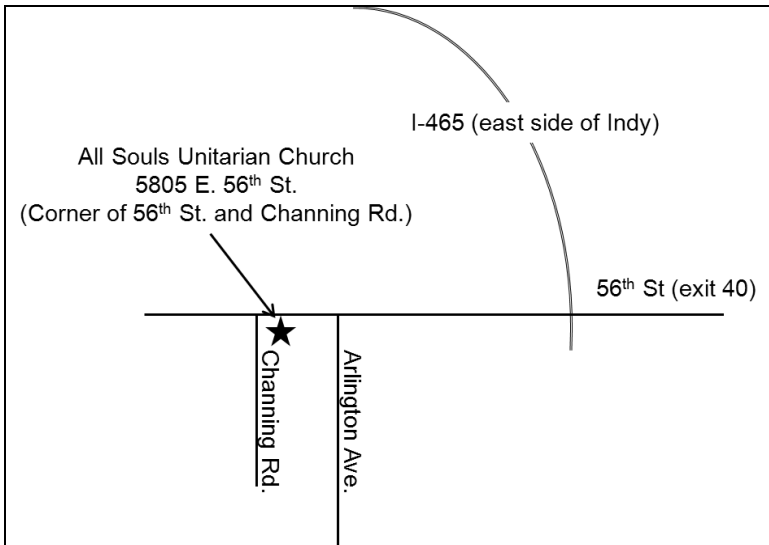
## Profit & Loss Statement (02/20/2018 – 03/19/2018)

<b>Income</b>		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc. (Jan & March)	\$133.00
	402 – National Mensa Income (March)	505.10
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$638.10</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
	501.1– MG Hospitality	\$18.52
	505 – Food for ExCom/MINDbending	69.17
	505.1 – MIND Printing	310.28
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$397.97</b>

## Mensa Monthly Gathering Location

### All Souls Unitarian Church, The Beattie Room, 5805 E. 56<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis

- From I-465 on the east side of Indianapolis, take the 56<sup>th</sup> 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

Jon Gruebele [RVC4@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC4@us.mensa.org),

### Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

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

### Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, <a href="mailto:NanHarvey@gmail.com">NanHarvey@gmail.com</a> , (812) 345-9608
Evansville	Dr. Louis Cady, <a href="mailto:lcadymd@mac.com">lcadymd@mac.com</a> , (812) 429-0772
Kokomo	Vacant
Lafayette	Vacant
Muncie	Kevin Nemyer, <a href="mailto:knemyer@aol.com">knemyer@aol.com</a> , (765) 744-6532

### Other Volunteers

Cinder SIG	Ethan Blocher-Smith, <a href="mailto:MensaCinder@gmail.com">MensaCinder@gmail.com</a>
Ham 'n Eggs	Alison Brown, <a href="mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org">SIGHT@indymensa.org</a>
Gifted Children	David Bonner, <a href="mailto:gcc@kids.indymensa.org">gcc@kids.indymensa.org</a> , (317) 973-0258
Ass't Gifted Children	Diane O'Brien, <a href="mailto:robrien25@comcast.net">robrien25@comcast.net</a> , (317) 753-4371
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, <a href="mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org">SIGHT@indymensa.org</a>
Proctor Coordinator	Karen Zwick, <a href="mailto:karen.zwick@outlook.com">karen.zwick@outlook.com</a> , (317) 626-3789
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, <a href="mailto:alan.schmidt@att.net">alan.schmidt@att.net</a> , (317) 695-5741we33
RG/OG Chair	Teresa Gregory, <a href="mailto:teresa.gregory@yahoo.com">teresa.gregory@yahoo.com</a> , (317) 430-1761

Central Indiana Mensa  
Teresa Gregory, Editor  
6076 Dewey Avenue  
Indianapolis. IN 46219

Stamp