



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



**[Picture taken from the parking garage at
Indianapolis International Airport.]**
I was leaving and noticed how beautiful the sky was.
As I was snapping pictures a plane took off.
You can see it to the left of the tower.
Wistfully, I watched it fly away.

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Contribution Guidelines

MIND contributions may be sent to mind.editor@yahoo.com, or Teresa Gregory, 6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, 46219. Contributions may be edited for length or to remove offensive material, and may not include personal attacks. No anonymous contributions will be published, but the Editor will withhold the author's name from the public on request. Contributions should be in hand no later than the first Friday of the month for the following month's edition.

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Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

Thank you, John Blankenship, for making my life so much more interesting. I remember the day when you looked me in the eyes and asked if I would go to the airport with you and help you pick up strangers. You were in charge of the airport greeters for Heartland Film Festival, and you had volunteer slots to fill. I succumbed to your charms and said, “Yes.”



Nine or ten years later (I'm not sure what year I started but I think it was 2005), I'm still making my annual October trek to the airport. A lot of things have changed. John is no longer involved. His successor has moved on. I've been with Chair number three for several years. The old airport terminal closed and we moved into the new one. I like to tell visitors that it was the first terminal designed after 9/11 and point out some of its features.

My job is to greet people who are involved in the festival in some way. They might be film makers, actors, producers, even the subject of the film. Last year I picked up a woman on Sunday who had just been told Friday that she was going. She worked for a company that distributed films and she was there to buy.

There are feature length films, documentaries, and a lot of shorts. In this category are the high school students. This is a juried competition so they have to be invited to show their film here. Just being selected is an honor.

We greet our guests at the airport gate and take them to get their checked luggage, call for a car to take them to headquarters downtown, and send them on their way.

Most of these folks are independent film makers. I met a young woman today who is showing her first film that she actually had a crew to help her. She had come from Australia with a two hour layover in Dallas. She was delighted to be a part of this event.

My most interesting adventure occurred Saturday night. We had a last minute add-on that afternoon. I had met midnight planes two nights in a row, so an 8:00pm flight was no big deal. The flight from Los Angeles was delayed about 30 minutes, so when I called for the car service, the reservation had been canceled and the driver was gone. My Heartland liaison asked if there were any other car services. Only a bus was available. I asked if I could just take him downtown myself, something I had never done before. He was game. So off we went. He had never been to Indiana polis, so I told him a bit about the place. He was very funny and good natured about having a crazy old lady in a 16 year old car drive him downtown. After I got home, I was curious to see if he had ever made any movies I had heard of, so I went to the trusty IMDB.com. Mr. Craig Perry's movie company has grossed \$1.9 Billion. Yes, I had heard of the “American Pie” and “Final Destination” movies among others. I love it. I just never know who might be on that next plane.

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Holiday Party – I hope some of you who don't live close to Indianapolis will be able to attend our annual holiday party on December 11th. You could come for the party and stay overnight at the very nice Quality Inn Castleton, where the party will be held. (Our monthly gatherings are held there, too.) And you can use the Mensa discount to save on the room rate. The holiday party is a pitch-in dinner and "Gimmee Grabbee" gift exchange (more details in the December *MIND*).



The hotel is convenient to the Castleton Square and Keystone at the Crossing malls, so you could also do some holiday shopping while you're here.

Congratulations – To **Joanne Ortman, Petra Ritchie, Laurie Bowles, and Teresa Gregory** for submitting the ideas **Dom Jervis** liked best for how CIM will spend his bequest. [Look for Dom's article immediately following this one.] Thanks to everyone who submitted ideas—there were some great ones! We'll keep the list and discuss which ones we might implement in the nearer future.

Don't Forget – Mensa scholarship applications are due Jan. 15th. Applicants don't have to be Mensa members. Applicants apply online by going to www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/. Also, if you would like to help judge the applications for CIM, please contact our Scholarship Chair, **Laurel Richardson**. Special thanks are due to Laurel for her many years of service as our scholarship chair!

9/11 Revisited – Central Indiana Mensa member **Marion Harcourt, LCSW, MSW**, talked at our October monthly gathering about her mental health volunteer work with the Red Cross in New York City after 9/11. Marion spent two weeks there helping people who had lost loved ones, people who had lost their jobs and people who had nowhere to live. She also accompanied families who were visiting Ground Zero for the first time to see where their loved ones had died. It was a very difficult time for her but, as she said, "I was where I needed to be, doing what was needed. What more can you ask." I thought it was interesting to observe the mood of the group after Marion's talk. Frequently, after the speaker is finished, the room becomes quite animated and even noisy. However, after Marion, the room seemed somber and almost hushed. I suspect most of us were remembering what we were feeling, where we were, and what we were doing during that time now fourteen (!) years ago. Marion has been a longtime Red Cross volunteer who has worked at many other disasters, large and small. As I told her after her talk, I hope that if I'm ever in a situation where I need help, there's someone like her there to talk to.

Drum Roll Please?

Dom Jervis

I want to thank everyone who submitted ideas on how to spend CIM's gift. My time in Indy has BY FAR been the highlight of my nearly 20 years as an M, and I feel very fortunate and blessed to be able show my appreciation to such great people.

The Winners and their ideas:

Joanne Ortman – Food for games night. Seems I should have thought of this one myself, but didn't. I'm lucky someone has my back. BTW, the games night does not need to be in Indy.

Petra Ritchie – Reimbursement for teachers of Gifted Students for supplies. I've heard anecdotal evidence from several sources that teachers often have to pay out of their own pockets so their students can have enough of what they need in the classroom. For what my opinion matters, this is just plain WRONG!

Laurie Bowles – In July 2001 I was fortunate to have an article published in MIND titled "Is There Anybody Out There?" This piece stated that numerous cities and towns outside of Indy had enough members to seat a majority if not a full ExCom. And yet, NONE of them even had an Area Coordinator!

A special mailing could be sent to each person in cities/towns with more than eight or ten members (that number is flexible, and can be determined by majority vote of the ExCom) asking them to contact each other to get together for a meal. Mailing addresses and/or email addresses for each member in that place would be included so they could coordinate that meeting. The cost of the mailing and the first meal would be covered. Tough to believe that an M would turn down a free meal for such an occasion. It could even evolve into a regular event, such as happened in Kokomo.

Teresa Gregory – No way I'd have EVER come up with this on my own, a weekend in the French Lick/West Baden area hosted by Michael Koryta, author of "So Cold the River." This could also include a speech by him on the history of the area and maybe even a tour of the region. She mentioned that golf and gambling are also available there. Since I'm not into either of those, each member would be on their own for expenses commensurate with those activities. Besides, we want the \$ to stretch as much as possible, and I hear those two diversions can be quite expensive.

Each winner will receive a \$50 gift card to WalMart.

Requests for activities to be paid for by the gift would need to be submitted to and approved by a majority of the ExCom members beforehand.

I will be at the Cincinnati RG in December, and I'm planning to attend Indy's in January. Hope to see you there, and again THANK YOU VERY MUCH for all of your suggestions!

Music You've Never Heard Of, Part III

Teresa Fisher

Jandek on Corwood, a documentary

Directed by Chad Freidrichs, 2003

In 1978 an album titled *Ready for the House* was released. It featured vocals and acoustic guitar and was the first of many albums released by Jandek on Corwood. His subsequent albums, usually two a year to the present, make him one of the most prolific artists in contemporary music. Yet you probably don't know his work.

A few music critics, record store owners, DJs, music magazine editors, and others likely to be interested in alternative music received copies of records by Jandek from an otherwise unknown company called Corwood Industries of Houston, Texas. Surely many of those albums were discarded, but some people who listened liked what they heard. It sounded like the noises made by a child who knows nothing about the guitar and can only pluck or strum out-of-tune strings at random. The atonal, rambling vocals were a perfect match for the music. Eventually he added piano to the mix, which also sounded like it was being plunked by a child with no musical training. In eight years Jandek sold 150 copies of his albums.

Other than a P.O. Box in Houston, there was no information on the album covers about Corwood Industries. Was it a recording studio? Was it a factory where records were pressed? Was Jandek an employee who pressed his own records when he was off the clock? The inscrutability of Jandek on Corwood added to his mystique. Every few months another Jandek album would be released, each one similar to and as strange as the previous ones.

The album covers only added to the mystery. There was no attempt at artistry. There were charmless photos of houses and buildings, and partial views of someone's living room. Sometimes there would be a picture of a red-headed man who looked like Opie might have looked when he grew up. Over the years one could watch him age. Was that Jandek himself? No one knew.

In 1985 musician and writer John Trubee interviewed Jandek by phone for an article in *Spin Magazine*. That remains the only genuine interview Jandek has ever given. He has spoken to other journalists, but refuses to discuss his work. Jandek allowed excerpts from the Trubee interview to be used in the documentary, but other than that and the photos from the albums, which he now admits are of him, he doesn't appear in the film.

What did the critics have to say about Jandek's music? "stream of

Continued on next page

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consciousness,” “its appeal is that it’s unappealing,” “sounds like he’s singing to the wall,” “He’s not untalented.” (If you feel the need to say that, maybe he is.) “Totally incomprehensible and grating on the nerves. Who says art has to be pretty anyway?” “Eric Clapton wouldn’t know how to do that. I love Eric Clapton, but he’s no Jandek.” One critic said, “May he never tune his guitar,” but Jandek insists that his guitar is tuned. “I tune regularly, so it’s the way I want it to sound. I don’t tune it according to scales or anything.” Dr. Demento, who played Jandek songs a few times on his show, said, “It’s not the sort of thing the average consumer would describe as music.”

The dearth of information about Jandek has led to a lot of mythology and speculation about the recluse. He still releases no information, but perhaps encouraged by the documentary he has played several live shows around the country and the world, some of which are available on You Tube. He became even more prolific, and has released 79 albums to date.

I continue to be amazed at what passes for art among critics. This documentary is a good example of what puzzles and amazes me, but I would have enjoyed the film more had I not had to listen to the musical stylings of Jandek in the background.

This essay ends my trilogy of Music You’ve Never Heard Of. I’ve suffered enough.



British Writer and BBC Broadcaster Fraser McAlpine to Speak in Indianapolis

Kimberly Bright

British native, lead writer for BBC America’s Anglophenia website, and BBC broadcaster Fraser McAlpine will visit the Indianapolis area in early November to celebrate the publication of his book *Stuff Brits Like: A Guide to What’s Great About Great Britain*.

McAlpine set out to do for his countrymen what *Stuff Parisians Like* did for their neighbors across the channel—offering a guide to their particular tastes and eccentricities with all the cheeky wit you might expect from the people who gave you Noël Coward and Eddie Izzard. Why can’t Brits resist a pun? When is it appropriate to bloody swear? What’s the deal with Marmite? Why are they so good at standing in an orderly line? Why do they love the Shipping Forecast?

Fraser McAlpine was raised in Oxfordshire by English parents from Grimsby
Continued on next page

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and Scottish grandparents from Paisley, works in London and lives in Cornwall, which is the Florida of the British Isles, except it's far wetter and there's no Disneyworld. Originally a music journalist for the BBC's *Top of the Pops* website, the *NME*, and BBC Radio 1, and Radio 2, he is now lead writer for the BBC Anglophilia blog, and consequently spends a good deal of his working life arguing about the finer points of *Doctor Who*, *Sherlock*, *Downton Abbey* and anything containing Tom Hiddleston.

Visit www.stuffbritslike.com and follow him on Twitter @csi_popmusic and Facebook www.facebook.com/britslike

Fraser McAlpine's *Stuff Brits Like* Schedule of appearances

Tuesday, November 3rd:

5:30 pm WFYI-FM, live interview with Jill Ditmire

6:00 pm British Telly Club meet and greet, WFYI studios, Indianapolis. (More here: <http://www.wfyi.org/rsvp-meet-the-author-of-stuff-brits-like>)

9:00 pm (doors 8:00 pm) *Stuff Brits Like* launch party and book reading, the Melody Inn, 3836 N. Illinois Street, Indianapolis. Special guest: The Brixtons. Suggested donation: \$5

Wednesday, November 4th:

1:00 pm Westfield Washington Public Library, 333 W. Hoover Dr., Westfield. Book Club, reading and Q&A

3:00 pm Westfield Washington Public Library, Teen Group, Q&A

Thursday, November 5th:

10:30 am WFIU, Bloomington, Indiana. Live interview.

7:00 pm Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 14790 Greyhound Plaza, Carmel. Book signing and Bonfire Night celebration. Door prizes.

www.stuffbritslike.com

www.facebook.com/britslike

Petra's Punny Page

Petra Ritchie

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.

You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

Local Area Network in Australia – the LAN down under.

Every calendar's days are numbered.

(...and so is this column's if I don't get some submissions!)

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

Welcome New and Returning Members!

New	Patrick O'Brien	Indianapolis	IN
New	Gregory Cohoat	Indianapolis	IN
New	Michelle Giansante	Ellettsville	IN
New	Lisa Romer	Newburgh	IN
New	Jonathan A Drummond	Shoals	IN
Reinstating	Vicki S Barbera	Zionsville	IN
Renewing	Mark McCain	Indianapolis	IN
Renewing	Jeffrey Robert Batson	Shelbyville	IN



A Song at Twilight

Robert O. Adair

Strolling down the road at evening,
amid fading twilight and rising of the Moon,
I heard a beautiful woman singing
an old,romantic, forgotten tune
like a Pre-Raphaelite painting
golden tresses soft and glistening
flowing o'er her slender, graceful figure
eyes, precious emeralds, smile like dawn breaking
I stood enraptured by her voice so rich and pure
it flowed forth as sweet as honey
rising in long reaches of glorious peaks of melody
recalling days of chivalry daring deeds of nobility,
the long lost unbought grace of life, a lamenting threnidy.

November 2015 Events

Bridge Club – 1st Sunday of every month, 2 p.m., Contact: Bob Van Buskirk, 317-359-6907 or rvanbuskirk@netdirect.net. Location will change each month.

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

Ham ‘n’ Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) – 1st Saturday from 9:45 a.m. - 12 noon. NEW LOCATION: Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Meridian & 116th 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.

Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday at 7:00 p.m. NOTE THE NEW LOCATION: Quality Inn Castleton on the SW corner of Allisonville Road and I-465 (8380 Kelly Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46250). See last page of *MIND* for map and directions. Members: \$5.00, Non-Members: \$7.00; Children 6-12: \$3.00, under 6: free.

11/13: Jon Applegate joined the Navy the summer he graduated high school and through sheer dumb luck became an Aviation Anti Submarine Warfare Technician. This assignment pretty much determined that the course of his professional life would involve airplanes.

After the Navy, Jon earned his degree from Indiana State, became a commercial pilot specializing in corporate flying, was offered a position in the Federal Aviation Administration air traffic control system and spent the rest of his career in various capacities within that system. Additionally, in his spare time, he spent sixteen of those years as a flight instructor with the Aviation Department of Lansing Community College.

The Real Hunt for Red October recounts his experience hunting submarines, primarily Soviet, during the Cold War.

Mensans Dining Out – 6 p.m., November 15, Jockamo Upper Crust, 5646 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46219. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

Paducah Area Group Meeting – 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7 p.m. Anyone in the area is welcome to join fellow Mensans for dinner. For location and more information on this group, contact Charles Rawlings, rawlings@siu.edu

November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 Bridge Club	2	3	4 Indy Lunch Bunch
8	9	10	11
15 Mensans Dining Out	16	17 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom Paducah Area Group Meeting	18 Indy Lunch Bunch
22 Book Club	23	24	25
29	30		

November 2015

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6 <i>MIND</i> deadline	7 Ham 'n' Eggs (NOTE NEW LOCATION); Cal. Deadline
12	13 Monthly Gathering	14
19	20	21
26 Happy Thanksgiving	27 Cinder	28

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

November 2015 Events (cont.)

MINDBending/ExCom – 3rd Tuesday of the month.

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

11/17, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-3500. Pizza and soft drinks provided.

*MIND*Bending 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.

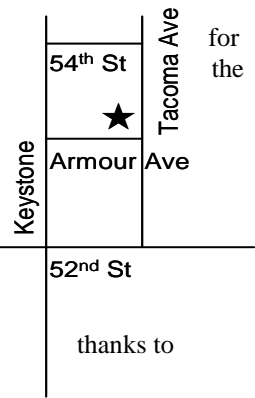
A Big Thank You to all the October *MIND*benders and Midwest Internet for hosting the event.

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

Book Group – 2 p.m., Sunday, November 22. We will discuss *David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants* by Malcolm Gladwell. We will be meeting at Rich and Jackie Gibson's house on the NE side of Indianapolis. Please contact Rich at hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com or 317-735-2895 for more details or to RSVP.

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

December *MIND* calendar items due 11/7/15 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.



Four To The Fore

George Haynes, RVC4

"What does an RVC do?" If you've asked this very valid question, I have two examples to share which will hopefully shed some light. To begin, as a reminder, RVC stands for Regional Vice Chair. There are ten RVCs elected to the American Mensa Committee (AMC): Mensa's national governing board of directors. I am the RVC of Region 4....the region in which you and your local group reside. Below are the two examples which I believe encapsulate the role and tasks of an RVC:



1. Voting at the AMC Meetings

In September there was a meeting of the American Mensa Committee. This is the second convening of this particular board. I am exceedingly pleased with the spirit of respect and collegiality which permeates the interactions of this AMC. We had several complex and multifaceted issues to discuss and deliberate over. To be sure, there were distinct and obvious disagreements at times. The tenor of the discussion never deviated from measured self control and respect for others. I served as one vote on all the issues up for a vote on the agenda. I am proud to work and serve with each member of this American Mensa Committee.

2. Visiting and Assisting Local Groups

While voting at board meetings is indeed the official legal duty of a board member, I firmly believe that visiting and interacting with local groups is the heart and soul of an RVC's job. I recently attended a Local Gathering (mini RG) in Wisconsin Dells, organized by Mensa of Wisconsin/Upper Michigan. While there I did more than my fair share of simply socializing and enjoying the company of other Mensans. I also had occasion to discuss practical issues of Mensa business relevant to that particular local group. Kudos to this group for all their hard work and hospitality.

I am always available to address any Mensa-related questions or concerns you may have. If I don't know the answer immediately, I will find out in a timely fashion. Sending an email is the quickest and most efficient way to communicate with me.

George Haynes: haygeomensa@gmail.com

Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: *Hissing Cousins: The Untold Story of Eleanor*

Roosevelt and Alice Roosevelt Longworth

Author: Marc Peyser and Timothy Dwyer

Publisher: Nan A. Talese / Doubleday

Year: 2015



Book Description: Rarely is a rivalry between two women accorded historical significance, much less explored in such lavish detail, as is brilliantly accomplished in *Hissing Cousins*, Marc Peyser and Timothy Dwyer's dual biography of noteworthy first cousins Eleanor Roosevelt and Alice Roosevelt Longworth. The authors' ingeniously unique approach – chronologically juxtaposing the lives of the two women – reveals the complexity of their relationship, elevating it far above the stereotypical “cat fight.” The story of the female Roosevelts – authenticated through painstaking research – commences with the bifurcation of the original Dutch-American family early in the eighteenth century, when Johannes's progeny migrated to Long Island's Oyster Bay, and Jacobus's offspring settled in Hyde Park on the Hudson. Ultimately, politics put a finer point on the familial division: the Oyster Bay Republicans versus the Hyde Park Democrats. Alice and Eleanor were bonded from the start by their birth - just eight months apart - into the Republican dynasty, but their destinies lay in different orbits, their common center of gravity being the indomitable Theodore Roosevelt – Alice's father and Eleanor's uncle. Each woman co-opted a different aspect of TR's legacy, as Alice became a standard-bearer for the conservative Republicans, and Eleanor (along with her spouse, Franklin) perpetuated TR's crusade for populist causes. *Hissing Cousins* is a captivating, practically minute-by-minute chronicle of the lives of two extraordinarily influential twentieth-century women, and the ways in which their separate public and personal endeavors complemented and conflicted with each other – told with equal parts candor, irony, and admiration.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? Occasional ideological differences notwithstanding, I have always considered Eleanor Roosevelt a positive role model due to her intelligence, self-discipline, courage, and unwavering devotion to her causes. As children, we were both censured for our lack of conventional beauty, and each of us was rescued from an emotional abyss by a dedicated teacher. Alice, on the other hand, was an unknown quantity to me, aside from the fact that she lost her mother only two days after her birth, and was alternately raised by her aunt, father, and stepmother. Because Alice was best known as a behind-the-scenes political advisor cum manipulator, her image is not as indelibly etched in the popular collective memory as is her Liberal activist cousin's; consequently,

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much less has been written about Alice. I was delighted to further acquaint myself with two fascinating women: polar opposites in temperament and inclination, whose actions were nevertheless often unpredictable.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? This cornucopia of revealing personal tidbits should whet the appetites of scholars, skeptics, and scandalmongers alike. The authors lay bare the women's various strengths and weaknesses, with which readers of all socioeconomic backgrounds can identify. One example: both Eleanor and Alice were lousy mothers but wonderful grandmothers – strongly reminiscent of my own maternal grandparents.

How long might it take to read this book? This volume is hardly a quick read at 286 pages, but its intimate style and wealth of provocative revelations should ensure a rapid and exhilarating reading experience, completed in three days or less.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: "...Mrs. Democrat and Mrs. Republican, as they were called in a Press Club comedy sketch in 1933, spend half a century engaged in an epic political battle while locked in familial embrace... Their sparring could get painfully personal, given that both women staked a claim to the extraordinary, complicated, and sometimes contradictory legacy of Theodore Roosevelt... But this was much more than a family feud. As the twentieth century became the American Century, Alice and Eleanor became vocal symbols of the country's great debates. What was the right role for America on the world stage? To address the gap between rich and poor? For that matter, what was the role of government – to shape society or get out of the way? Eleanor and Alice represented opposing sides on just about every one of those issues, and they fought for their beliefs – and against each other – as fiercely as any passionate partisan around. Typically, even their means of engagement were radically different. Eleanor was the dutiful but stubborn wife who used her First Lady status to fight for her beliefs in public, and even harder in private. Alice was more comfortable behind the scenes, wielding a whisper rather than a megaphone. But a few well-chosen, carefully placed words from Mrs. L. could torpedo a campaign or give new hope to an underdog... For all their differences, the cousins share a part of at least one important legacy: they short-circuited the twentieth century's rules of gender. Their roles as power players are all the more impressive given that they didn't even have the right to vote until they were thirty-six."

Additional Remarks: What a wonderful theatrical production this story would make – a two-woman dialogue featuring several strong supporting characters. I may prevail upon my playwright friend to take up the project, or perhaps attempt it myself post-retirement. Meanwhile, I encourage you to claim your literary front-row seat and enjoy the drama.

...<Sigh>...

Fiction by Dom Jervis

“Whew! Glad the haircut is finished. Now the rest of my day belongs to me. Ah, I LOVE my simple, easy life.”

After grabbing my jacket, I walked by my stylist’s station. Her next customer was already in the chair, a pretty brunette in her late 20s or early 30s. Little if any make-up was on her face, but it worked for her. Maybe she’s a librarian. There were no rings on her left hand. I know, it’s a Guy Thing.

She said to the stylist, “I don’t want much cut off. The main reason I’m here is I want to try some highlights. I’ve never done that before, so I was wondering what you think.”

She then looked at me. A moment later, the stylist looked at me. Suddenly, synapses fired en masse:

“I see you part your hair slightly to the left of center. More hair to your right makes it your dominant side. May I borrow your pinkie? I promise I’ll be gentle...thanks. I believe one highlight right about here, about an inch back, would look nice. Now to accentuate your recessive left side, how about two thinner highlights, one-half to three-quarters of an inch back, and the other one about three-quarters of an inch behind that? The double-highlights on your recessive side would draw attention to it, balancing the single highlight on your dominant side. I believe that would frame your face very nicely.

“I...um...was wondering if you have any plans. The rest of my day is free. I could go to the nearby Barnes & Noble and browse while you’re here. I could come back in an hour or so and take care of your tab. You can tip her whatever you wish. That’s between you and her. Also, I was wondering if I could please have the pleasure of your company for lunch. If you like Mexican food, there’s a Don Pablo within walking distance that has excellent food. If not, there’s an All-American place called Hop’s, also close to here. I’ve never eaten there, but I’m guessing they do a thriving business judging by its nearly full parking lot that I’ve seen numerous times So I’m surmising their food is good, as well. Would you be interested?”

One small problem...it never happened. The words went from my brain to my throat and became stuck there. I couldn’t get one word out. My facial expression probably resembled that of Animal House’s “Flounder” when Dean Wermer told him he was not only kicked out of school, but probably on his way to a rice paddy halfway around the world. At least I didn’t act like South Park’s Stan Marsh when Wendy Testerberger first tried to talk to him.

Maybe it’s just my long-held demon that, if I ask a woman out, only two things can happen, and both have bad results. If she says no, I take it personally and feel as if a pin has been stuck in my bloated ego, not to mention the fact that

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numerous people might find out that I'm a loser who can't even get a woman to go on a date with him. If she says yes, I have to go through with the date, and sooner or later I will say or do something wrong. She will not agree to a second date, not even if I were the last man on Earth, and people will find that out, too. It's best if I never ask in the first place."

Maybe this is why I'm 57, have never been married, and the number of dates I've had total a one-digit number. Perhaps this is why my few friends call me "Jeffty," from Harlan Ellison's "Shatterday" anthology.

...<Sigh>...



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 8/18/15

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, August 18, 2015.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Members present were: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Ann Hake, Diane O'Brien, Karen Steilberger, Karen Wilczewski, and Bob Zdanky. Absent: Karen Zwick. Guests: Teresa Gregory, Jud Horning, Larry Marcus, and Petra Ritchie.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the July ExCom meeting. Ann Hake moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Jan Pfeil Doyle distributed the Treasurer's report provided by Karen Zwick, who was unable to attend the meeting. It showed that the Vanguard account has been closed. Ethan Blocher-Smith moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as amended. Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report shows 3 new, 1 reinstating, and 5 renewing members; 1 offer of membership; and 20 prospects.

Old Business

Bequest: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that former CIM member Dom Jervis is still looking for ideas for ways for the group to spend the bequest he plans to leave in his will. Jan would like for every ExCom member to submit an idea.

Monthly meeting place: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that we are still waiting to get the word from Marion Harcourt about possibly meeting at Marquette. They may require a fee for set-up and clean-up.

Lapsed members: Bob Zdanky sent letters to the lapsed members and got 3 or 4 back. Jan Pfeil Doyle heard from one lapsed member whose reasons for leaving were financial, and the member hopes to be able to rejoin in the future.

Web site: Jan Pfeil Doyle sent an e-mail to David Bonner about the Web site. He agreed to let the volunteers from the ExCom (Ann Hake and Ethan Blocher-Smith)

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take it over. It will still be hosted at Midwest Internet.

New Business

Gifted youth programming: Diane O'Brien said that the outing to the alpaca farm has to be rescheduled, possibly to October. The calendar shows that the first pre-meeting meeting for youth will be at 6:00 p.m. on September 11. Diane reported that we will have a booth at the Perry Township fair, which is for parents of second-graders who may enter the Perry Township schools' gifted and talented programs. She also said that David Bonner thought there was some money left over from the youth program funds. Jan Pfeil Doyle said Karen

Zwick said it would be hard to verify the amount and suggested allocating a set amount for their use. Bob Zdanky made a motion that we seed a separate account with \$500 for gifted youth program expenses. Diane O'Brien seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. If additional money is needed in the future, we can address it then.

Jan Pfeil Doyle has confirmed that we have the room across the hall from the monthly gathering meeting room reserved for the youth meeting. She said Teresa Gregory suggested getting a larger meeting room for September, as Rob Pyatt is the speaker and the young Mensans may come after their meeting. Ann Hake moved that we spend \$50 to reserve the larger room, Ethan Blocher-Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Teresa Gregory asked about the details of charging the youth and their parents for the pre-meeting meeting pizza and for admission to the regular meeting. The committee discussed the options and decided that the parents would pay the regular price for admission to the regular meeting, and the kids would be admitted for free. The gifted youth coordinators will decide how to charge for the pizza gathering.

Saving and spending money: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that Karen Zwick would like for the ExCom to think of low-risk ideas for our checking account, which now has the extra money from the closed Vanguard account. Committee members should e-mail their ideas to Karen. Teresa Gregory told the committee about a panel discussion she attended at the AG. The topic was how to spend money on the members, and she shared some ideas on what other chapters are doing. She challenged the ExCom to think of ways to spend money on our members rather than focus on saving money.

Admissions testing: Teresa Gregory said this year's national testing day in October will not be limited to just one day. This year tests will be offered for just \$20. She said that sending postcards was effective in Evansville last year. She would like money for a similar effort for this year. Ann Hake moved that we reimburse reasonable expenses incurred by the proctor coordinator. Jon Applegate seconded the motion, and it was carried.

Awards: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that our chapter won the Sapphire Award again this year, which was the highest award given to chapters in our size class this year.

Mind Games: Jan Pfeil Doyle said she has received a solicitation for a bid for the

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2017 Mind Games. Discussion was tabled to a future meeting.

There being no other business, Jon Applegate made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ann Hake seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Steilberger

Treasurer's Report

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 09/14/2015)

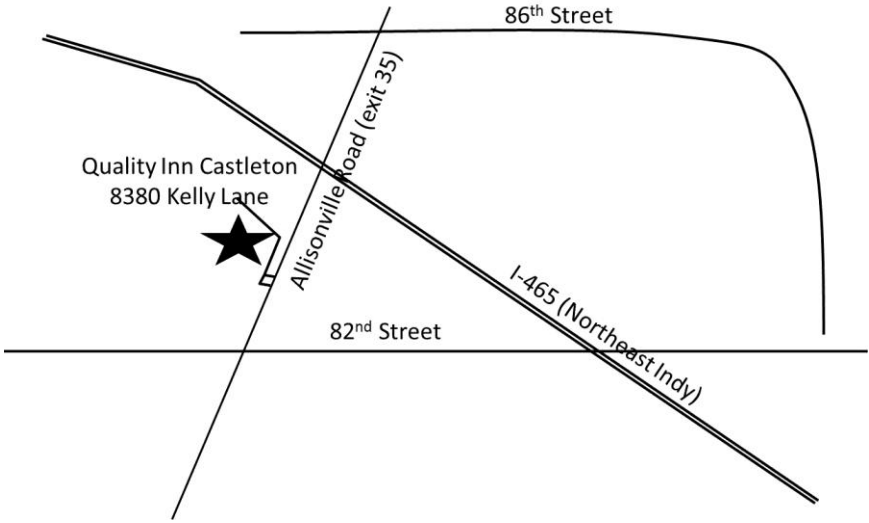
Bank Accounts	08/17/2015	09/14/2015
Checking – Regular	\$10,358.94	\$10,044.90
Checking – Scholarship	\$540.53	\$297.53
Checking – Youth Membership	\$427.34	\$427.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	\$8,447.84	\$8,447.84
Total Assets	\$19,774.65	\$19,217.61

Profit & Loss Statement (08/18/2015 – 09/14/2015)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering	121.00
	402 – National Mensa Inc	551.54
	403 – Donations for Scholarship Fund	7.00
Total Income		\$679.54
Expense		
	501.2 – Monthly Gathering Facility – Quality Inn (Sep-Nov)	225.00
	505 – Food for ExCom/MINDBending	73.75
	505.1 – MIND Printing (July/August)	295.83
	505.2 – MIND Postage	392.00
	507 – Promotional Expenses (MeetUp semiannual subscription)	89.94
	520 – Miscellaneous Expenses (scholarship funds sent to MERF)	250.00
Total Expenses		\$1,236.58

NEW MEETING LOCATION

Quality Inn Castleton
8380 Kelly Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46250



Directions from I-465 From I-465 on the NE side of Indianapolis, take Exit 35, Allisonville Rd • Turn south on Allisonville Rd • Take the first right onto Kelly Lane • Follow Kelly Lane around to the Quality Inn.

Directions back to I-465 • Turn right from Kelly Lane onto Allisonville Rd • immediately get into the left turn lane • Make a U- turn at 82nd St to go north on Allisonville Rd • Entrance ramp for I- 465 E/S is on your right • Entrance ramp for I-465 W is on your left.

Directions from Allisonville Rd from the north • Take Allisonville Rd south toward 82nd St • After you cross over I-465, take the first right onto Kelly Lane • Follow Kelly Lane around to the Quality Inn.

Directions back to Allisonville Rd northbound • Turn right from Kelly Lane onto Allisonville Rd • Immediately get into left turn lane • Make a U-turn at 82nd St to go north on Allisonville Rd.

Directions from Allisonville Rd from the south • Take Allisonville Rd north toward 82nd St • After you cross over 82nd St, take the first left onto Kelly Lane • Follow Kelly Lane around to the Quality Inn.

Directions back to Allisonville Rd southbound • Turn right from Kelly Lane onto Allisonville Rd.

Region 4 RVC

George Haynes RVC4@us.mensa.org,

Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

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

Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, NanHarvey@gmail.com , (812) 345-9608
Evansville	Dr. Louis Cady, lcadymd@mac.com , (812) 429-0772
Kokomo	Vacant
Lafayette	Joe Stamper, joe_stamper@comcast.net , (765) 474-4759
Muncie	Jason Smith, munciemensa@gmail.com

Other Volunteers

Cinder SIG	Ethan Blocher-Smith, MensaCinder@gmail.com
Ham 'n Eggs	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Gifted Children	David Bonner, gcc@kids.indymensa.org , (317) 973-0258
Ass't Gifted Children	Laurel Richardson, Lhabitat@aol.com , (317) 244-0000
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Proctor Coordinator	Teresa Gregory, teresa.gregory@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, alan.schmidt@att.net , (317) 695-5741we33
RG/OG Chair	Teresa Gregory, teresa.gregory@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761