



# mind

Mensa Newsletter  
Of Central Indiana



**Our good friend, Dr. Rob Pyatt, was in town for our September meeting. As always, he brought some interesting, but questionable, research studies for us to analyze and discuss. Afterward, he cordially chatted with some of our members.**

## ***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.

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## Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

This month, we have Mensans appearing in other publication. Our own favorite book reviewer, **Margy Lancet Fletcher**, had one of her Books on the Runway columns published in the September issue of *Graffiti*, the newsletter for Cleveland Area Mensa. The editor was looking for a way to stimulate the members to submit articles and he was especially looking for book reviews. He thought that her column might “prime the pump.” We know her columns are wonderful. Now people in Cleveland will, too.



Check your October *Bulletin* for some familiar names. In a special section on MERF (Mensa Educational and Research Foundation), there is a photo and nice interview on page 43 with our old friend, **Kishor Kulkarni**. Even though he now lives in Florida, he mentions his 25 years as a member in Indiana and the friendships he made here. Kishor was a regular at the Ham ‘n’ Eggs meetings.

Also, at the bottom of page 16, in the “Page Turners” column, there is a review of **Teresa Fisher’s** recently published book, *Under the Bell Curve: Random Essays from a Mensa Member*. The reviewer liked it very much. For another original essay from Teresa, look no further than page 7 of this issue of MIND.

I hope that some of you sent **Dom Jervis** suggestions on how to spend his money. (The deadline is/was September 30.) I’m curious to know what suggestion he will choose. Hopefully we will have that answer in the next issue of MIND.

Don’t forget that Mensa Test Month is in October. We are still finalizing testing locations. Check the extremely confusing and poorly organized calendar on the national website, [www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testing-calendar/](http://www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testing-calendar/) or keep an eye on our much easier to read local website calendar at [www.indymensa.org](http://www.indymensa.org). (Did that sound like an editorial comment? It was meant to!)

On a personal note, October is a month that I set aside time to pick up strangers at the Indianapolis International Airport. Yes, that means it’s time for the Heartland Film Festival. I am a volunteer airport greeter. It’s a lot of fun (the greeting and the festival) so consider coming out and seeing one or ten of the great offerings.

Have a safe and happy Halloween!

## LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

**Young Mensans Meeting** – We had gathering of young Mensans before the September monthly meeting. Several young Ms enjoyed pizza and a rousing game of Apples to Apples while their parents learned more about Mensa and exchanged ideas at the “adult” table. Most stayed for Rob Pyatt’s presentation and contributed by asking questions and demonstrating skipping and hopping!



**Wacky Science, Version 6.0** – Over fifty members and guests were on hand to hear **Rob Pyatt**’s dynamic presentation at the September monthly gathering. He talked about several peer-reviewed scientific studies (violence in cartoons, the number of emergency tent visits at different rock groups’ concerts, munchie intake vs. TV programming, and skipping and hopping), and challenged the group to answer whether they were good science and how they might have been done better. Rob also had us fill out a survey about various bathroom habits. He’ll feed the data he collected from our group into the data he collects over the next year and report the results to us when he next speaks to our group. Rob has spoken to our group several times and is always a big hit!

**Half Price Mensa Testing** - October is National Testing Month. This year, the price for testing has been reduced to \$20 for the month. If you know someone who’s interested in or might like Mensa, encourage them to take the test! CIM will be giving the test in Indianapolis on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>; details in the calendar. We may offer the test in a few other locations, too. If you know of people in your area who would like to take the test, let Testing Coordinator **Teresa Gregory** know. And if you have friends or family in other areas of the country who might want to take the test, have them check out the national testing calendar at [www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testing-calendar/](http://www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testing-calendar/). Thanks to our Testing Coordinator and the rest of our CIM proctors who volunteer their time to administer tests to prospective members.

**Mensa Scholarships** – MERF (Mensa Educational and Research Foundation) awards nearly \$85,000 in scholarships every year. Scholarships are awarded solely on the basis of an essay written by the applicant, who does not need to be a Mensa member. Applications are accepted online only from September 15 to January 15. CIM awards the John S Matthews scholarship (\$500) every year. Find out more at [www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/](http://www.mensafoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/). 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!

## **Casting Call: *The Taming of IQ* – Second Notice!**

*Alison Brown, Thespian*

One of the funniest, punniest things I saw at the Unbridled Spirit AG this year was a Shakespeare parody presented by Tidewater Mensa's Pungo Players. I snagged the author and was given permission to put the show on at our RG at the end of January. The script, including song lyrics runs a mere 40 pages, the show just a bit over an hour. But, of course, I cannot do it all by myself. The cast I saw consisted of 12 players. Let us see how we put this together, together.

We need at least 5 men for the Protagonist, the Count (father of the daughters), the two servants and the Pirate. We need 3 women for the young daughter, the older daughter and the hot handmaiden. We need people to play the announcer, the barkeeper, the author, the suitor and two nuns (with no lines). Some actors can do double duty as long as their characters are not on stage at the same time (there is such a thing as too much suspension of disbelief).

Some singing will be involved, but the tunes are familiar and very little singing is solo – the author knew his ensemble. The accompaniment was sent with the script and can be adjusted to the range of the ensemble. Someone who knows something about that will be needed to run the computer during the show and that person, in so far as they are not also on-stage, could also be the prompter.

Then, of course, we need people who run the lights (such as they will be) organize props and improvise a set (does not need to be much, back in Shakespeare's day they did with very little) and rustle up some costumes.

Finally, our repayment to John Treffeisen for his generosity in letting us do his play is to send him a video recording of our effort. Thus we need a camera and someone who knows how to run that, too.

The Pungo Players started rehearsing 6 months before their RG, we will have less than that, so it behooves us to get our act together for an audition cum first reading by the end of September. The date can be set at the Monthly Gathering on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>.

Margy Lancet-Fletcher, a maven of community theater, has agreed to be part of the show as has Toastmaster Alan Schmidt, so we are off to a good start, but all those people who stepped up for the Talent show in past years are called on to show off your talents again at the RG on Saturday night.

Contact me at [SIGHT@indymensa.org](mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org) to express your interest and commitment as soon as you finish reading MIND.

# Music You've Never Heard Of, Part II

Teresa Fisher

*The Devil and Daniel Johnston*

Directed by Jeff Feuerzeig

Winner of the Directors Award at Sundance 2005

I've never been more aware of how out of step I am with contemporary culture than I was after watching *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*. I understand we can't all like the same music (or the same documentaries), but I marveled at the people who called Daniel Johnston a musical genius or the best singer-songwriter of our time, and who compare him favorably to the Beatles, Bob Dylan, and Brian Wilson. I would like to explain to them that despite the existence of many mad geniuses, being insane doesn't automatically make you a genius.

Even as a young boy Daniel Johnston lived to create. He wrote and performed music, drew cartoons, and made home movies of himself portraying his mother as a controlling shrew. Luckily for the director of this documentary, much of Johnston's boyhood work survives. By early adulthood he played his music on a chord organ and recorded it on a cheap, monaural boombox, creating cassette tape albums that he handed out to anyone who would take them. When he didn't have the ability to dub, he would re-perform the entire album from scratch on each cassette. Some people loved his music, and his underground popularity grew.

But Daniel Johnston had a darkness in his mind that got worse over time. A severe manic-depressive, he has been on various medications and in and out of mental institutions most of his life. His mental illness made him a difficult person to be around, and his parents, while seemingly bewildered by his success, lovingly cared for him and tried to satisfy his constant demands. Even when medicated Johnston is aggressive, needy, and obnoxious.

In 1986 after Johnston inexplicably switched from the piano, which he had a minimal ability to play, to the guitar, which he didn't, he was named Songwriter of the Year and Best Folk Act in Austin, Texas. This honor angered musicians in Austin who could actually play guitar and write songs. In late 1986 Johnston began taking a lot of LSD, attacked his manager, and broke his brother's rib at the family Christmas gathering.

In 1989 Johnston, then living with his parents in West Virginia, had a psychotic episode and broke into an old woman's house, causing her to jump out an upper-story window and break both ankles. But his best-known lapse of judgment came in 1990 when his father, a pilot with a small private plane, took him to

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perform at the SXSW music festival in Austin. Johnston would often stop taking his medication several days before a concert, and this time it was almost disastrous. On the way home he thought he was Casper the Friendly Ghost, and he took the key out of the plane's ignition and threw it out the window. Wrestling control from his father, Daniel took the plane straight up and then straight down. His dad regained control just in time to fly the plane into some trees, which saved their lives but destroyed the plane. Daniel spent the next five months in a mental hospital.

In 1991 Kurt Cobain wore a t-shirt with one of Daniel's cartoons on it on the MTV Music Awards. It was great publicity, particularly after Cobain wore the same shirt in every photo taken of him for months. Three years later a record label bidding war erupted between Elektra and Atlantic during a time that Daniel was once again in an institution. Daniel, who is extremely religious, feared that Elektra's band Metallica was satanic and might kill him, so he dumped his loyal, long-suffering manager and signed with Atlantic. His sales were poor, and Atlantic dropped him two years later.

Against all odds Johnston regained his momentum, and his songs have been recorded by more than 150 artists around the world, some of whom I've actually heard of. His song *Speeding Motorcycle* was featured in a Target commercial.

Daniel Johnston also drew cartoons, developing a repetitive repertoire of frog-like characters, superheroes, people with the tops of their skulls neatly cut off, headless and limbless torsos, and winged eyeballs. Lots of winged eyeballs. His former manager, whom Daniel once attacked with a pipe, collects his artwork. It has been shown in galleries around the world and reviewed in art magazines. In the documentary an unidentified collector bought 98% of a show before it started. (What was wrong with the 2% he didn't buy?) Daniel scotch-taped his work to the gallery wall. To me his artwork looks like what you would see on notebook covers in any middle school.

Daniel Johnston's songs are simplistic and childish, usually lack meter and rhyme, and often sound alike. His voice is high-pitched and unpleasant. (Listen to him sing his song *Devil Town* on YouTube.) He did learn a few chords on the guitar, but he never learned to play to a beat. And yet he is hailed as an artistic genius. I enjoyed the documentary, but I must confess I don't understand the popularity of Daniel Johnston's music and artwork.

"Whatever one's opinion of Johnston's art, this is documentary filmmaking at its finest."

Kirk Honeycutt in *The Hollywood Reporter*



## **What I Learned at the Annual Gathering**

*Teresa Gregory, Editor*

After the AML quarterly business meeting that was held in Indiana polis in March, I received an email from Roger Durham, outgoing RVC6 and candidate for Treasurer, who asked me if I would be on a discussion panel at the AG. The topic would be how to spend group money on the members. A lot of groups have a healthy bank account. How much to keep? How much to spend?

Our group doesn't spend a lot beyond what comes in regularly. We have plentiful reserves. I wasn't sure what I could contribute to this talk, so I polled people on the LocSec mail list. There were some very interesting and intriguing suggestions. I took those with me to the AG.

Roger had a family emergency and could not attend, so Rob Salkin, the newly elected Treasurer filled in his spot. Also on the panel was newly elected RVC6 Taz Criss, and LaRae Bakerink, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair. RVC1 Lisa Maxwell and RVC9 Dez Sagray were in the audience and offered suggestions, too.

An annual party, last Feb. we hired a DJ / trivia MC and held the event in a hotel's banquet room.

We give our games night host a budget of \$200 annually to buy new games that the group then owns.

We've used it to hire vans for a trip up the Eastern Shore, discounted the price of the tickets for a vintage steam-train ride, and likewise for a cruise along the oceanfront.

We do 2 New & Used Member Picnics and we cover the cost of Halloween and New Years parties each year.

We'll be holding a member appreciation day August 1st at the hotel where we're holding our RG.

Meeting of the Wines - We've rented out a private winery in town. Attendees get to go to a class on wine making, take a tour of the winery and actually bottle and label a batch of wine that the group purchases for the RG. Attendees also get their first glass of wine on us. Charge is \$15 a head, which usually covers one-third to one-half of the cost of the event.

Night at the Museum - We rented a room for a cocktail party and brought in our own food and alcohol, but paid a bartender. Then took the whole group to see Body Worlds, King Tut, and Darwin exhibit (three separate events)

The Local Group subsidized the cost for the cocktail party so we only charged attendees for the actual tickets into the exhibit.

Annual Holiday Party: The Local Group subsidizes the cost for this event. We charge attendees only \$10 but it is all you can eat holiday meal including turkey, ham, stuffing, etc. The only reason we charge is to make sure we have RSVPs since the hotel provides food.

One LocSec said to spend money on quality events and experiences so that the members feel like they are getting a good value for their dues. Do you have any suggestions? Let someone on ExCom know!

## Welcome New and Returning Members!

New	Allen J Zhang	Zionsville	IN
Reinstating	Judith S Delaney	Carmel	IN
Renewing	Sandra Roberts	Indianapolis	IN
Renewing	Larry Tippin	Roachdale	IN



### A Word of Caution

*Teresa Gregory, Editor*

I get a lot of Spam in the Editor's email box every month. A lot of it is humorous, some outrageous, and a lot of it is repetitious. Most goes into the Spam folder before I even see it, but recently I have gotten a number of emails, primarily job offers and notices that there is a problem with the email box itself. These get past the Spam filter. Why? Because they use stolen email addresses. Here is an example:

Dear User,

Due to Safety protocol you have reached a storage limit E-mail Update is required

Please visit the following link to your e-mail access restore. **UPDATE NOW**

YAHOO!

The sender was "Email Services" but when I hovered over it, the address was "wyattpiano@aol.com." I received three such messages that day. They all came from different AOL accounts. Until a significant number of those are marked as Spam, the filter will let them go through because they are someone's email address.

Be very careful what you open and what you respond to. The MIND editor's account gets notices that it's Wells Fargo account needs updating or it's Yahoo mailbox is going to be shut down. Some of them look legitimate. Be sure to check before you click through on anything like that.

Also, if you have an AOL account, they must be very easy to hack. You might not even know it's happened. Change your password frequently. Yes, it's a pain. I'll bet kidchrstms and hawaiirow wish they had changed theirs.

## October 2015 Events

**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)

**Ham ‘n’ Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads)** – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday from 9:45 a.m. - 12 noon. NEW LOCATION: 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).

**Bridge Club** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month, 2 p.m., Contact: Bob Van Buskirk, 317-359-6907 or [rvanbuskirk@netdirect.net](mailto:rvanbuskirk@netdirect.net). Location will change each month.

**Monthly Gathering – 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**10/9:** Our speaker is our very own member, Marion Harcourt, MSW, who will share her experiences as a mental health volunteer for 9/11. She says, “When I retired, I wanted to volunteer my Social Work skills and I became a Disaster Mental Health Worker with the Red Cross. I was in Manhattan after 9/11. I have responded to local fires, floods, and tornadoes as well as out of state hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods.” Marion was named the Indiana Social Worker of the Year in 2008.

**Mensans Dining Out** – 6 p.m., October 18, Milano Inn, 231 South College Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46202. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

**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)

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

## October 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 Bridge Club	5	6	7 Indy Lunch Bunch
11	12	13	14
18 Mensans Dining Out	19	20 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom Paducah Area Group Meeting	21 Indy Lunch Bunch
25 Book Club	26	27	28

## October 2015 (Cont.)

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <i>MIND</i> deadline	3 Ham 'n' Eggs (NOTE NEW LOCATION); Cal. Deadline
8	9 Monthly Gathering	10
15	16	17 Mensa Test (Note location change)
22	23 Cinder	24
29 Chicago Area Mensa HalloweeM	30 Chicago Area Mensa HalloweeM	31 Chicago Area Mensa HalloweeM

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.

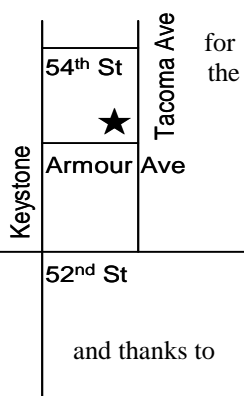
## October 2015 Events (cont.)

**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 *MIND*s.

**10/20, 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 Ave. on the northeast side of Indianapolis.



**A Big Thank You** to all the September *MINDbenders* Midwest Internet for hosting the event.

**Mensa Test** – October is Mensa Membership Month. It's an excellent time to have friends/family take the Mensa test. The test will be offered on Saturday, October 17, Haughville Library, 2121 West Michigan Street., Indianapolis, IN. Registration 10 a.m., Test 11 a.m. Contact Steve Merchant at: [editor32@outlook.com](mailto:editor32@outlook.com) or 317-431-8645 for more information.

**Cinder** – 4<sup>th</sup> Friday at 7 p.m. at 721 E. 55<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis. A SIG for the Gen X and Gen Y crowd. Contact Ethan Blocker-Smith at [MensaCinder@gmail.com](mailto:MensaCinder@gmail.com).

**Book Group** – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, October 25, 2 p.m. We will discuss *Six Amendments: How and Why We Should Change the Constitution* by John Paul Stevens. 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](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com) or 317-735-2895 for more details or to RSVP.

**HalloweeM** – Chicago Area Mensa is hosting HalloweeM 4D: Time Travel October 29 - November 1. For more information, contact: WeeM-Registrar@chicago.us.mensa.org.

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

November *MIND* calendar items due 10/3/15 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.

## Four To The Fore

*George Haynes, RVC4*

One of my goals as the Regional Vice Chair of Region 4 is to personally visit every local group within our region, at least once before my term ends in 2017 (ideally more than once). I believe that this is the heart of what an RVC should be doing: Being present and available to the members.

To be sure, most of my presence and availability is virtual: telephone, email, texting, instant messaging, this column, etc. I will not minimize or undermine the importance of the many and varied means of communication we have. Face to face communication is usually the best. That is why I place a high value on personal local group visits as RVC4.



I have already received the warm hospitality of the following local groups when I attended one of their events:

- Sangamon Valley Mensa (a dinner event)
- Central Indiana Mensa (a monthly gathering)
- St. Louis area Mensa (a game SIG and monthly gathering)

I have plans to attend a Local Gathering (aka mini RG) in Wisconsin Dells on September 26th. HalloweenM in Chicago is also on my agenda for October. After Chicago, I will be proactively looking at local group calendars and my own calendar to see what the next place is the road takes me. Hopefully, the winter weather will not be too much of a hindrance in early 2016. See you soon!



## Petra's Punny Page

*Petra Ritchie*

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.  
In democracy, your vote counts. In feudalism, your count votes.  
She was engaged to a boyfriend with a wooden leg, but broke it off.  
A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.  
If you don't pay your exorcist, you get repossessed.

*Have a really clever pun to contribute? Email: [petraritchie@msn.com](mailto:petraritchie@msn.com)*

## Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

**Title:** *The Cause of All Nations: An International History of the American Civil War*

**Author:** Don H. Doyle

**Year:** 2015



*[Ed Note: This was the August book selection of the CIM book group. If you find this interesting, check the other titles that the group will be reading throughout the year.]*

**Book Description:** Whenever we Americans are asked to summarize the Civil War, our conditioned response is that the North defeated the South, thereby abolishing slavery and restoring the Union. But according to Don H. Doyle's scholarly tour de force, *The Cause of All Nations*, the conflict reached far beyond our borders and ignited political passions around the globe. The American Civil War was, in reality, an international campaign pitting the conservatives (Catholic, monarchist, pro-slavery, authoritarian) against the liberals (Protestant, republican, prohibitionist, democratic). In this sense, the author maintains, the Civil War was a sequel to the American and European revolutions of the late eighteenth and mid-nineteenth centuries. Doyle meticulously recounts the cataclysmic sequence of worldwide events related to the American Civil War, from the concerted efforts of the Union and Confederate agents to curry favor with the European power brokers, to the aftershocks of the war's conclusion in the form of toppled regimes and continued struggles for independence and emancipation. The major players in this global contest are vividly profiled via biographical sketches and photographs interspersed throughout the narrative. As an added bonus, an itemized time line of key events precedes the introductory chapter.

**Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself?** Like most of my contemporaries, my high school Civil War instruction was limited to battles waged on American soil. This book was quite a revelation, bringing to light many unorthodox partnerships – e.g., Judah Benjamin and the Confederacy (a descendant of Sephardic Jews upholding an elitist philosophy that Adolph Hitler would later praise); Karl Marx and the Union (a socialist paying homage to the American bourgeoisie), and one pair of particularly strange (literal) bedfellows: German translator Otilie Assing and a certain prominent African-American abolitionist (Wow, who knew?). I also gained considerably more respect for Abraham Lincoln's leadership skills, and considerably less for the modern-day defenders of the Confederate flag – a symbol of white supremacy, then and now.

**Who should definitely read this book? Why?** *The Cause of All Nations* is essential reading for history students and Civil War enthusiasts seeking a more

*Continued on next page*



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comprehensive education than is typically provided below the Masters level.

**How long might it take to read this book?** Given the book's size (312 pages, not counting the appendices) and my severely limited leisure time, this was a week-long project for me. Readers with a less demanding (or nonexistent) work schedule can finish much more quickly. However, be aware that this book is intellectually challenging (not exactly light reading); thus, I recommend a peaceful and quiet atmosphere conducive to intense study. Your efforts will be richly rewarded.

**Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote:** "While Union and Confederate agents set out to tell the world their versions of the cause and purpose of the war, foreigners began answering these questions for themselves. Foreign politicians, journalists, reformers, and intellectuals joined a lively debate on what they called the American question and what it meant to them. Both liberals and conservatives began framing the American conflict as part of a much larger social and ideological struggle that went back to the American and French Revolutions. The American contest, in this rendering, was a decisive showdown between the forces of popular versus hereditary sovereignty, democracy versus aristocracy, free versus slave labor, all rolled into one grand epic battle taking place in the distant American arena. It was the final test of what both sides referred to as the republican experiment."

**Additional Remarks:** We Americans owe a huge debt of gratitude to the foreign citizens who championed the cause of democracy and the immigrant soldiers who fought for the Union during the Civil War. The political state of our nation, had the Confederacy and Napoleon III's Tripartite Alliance achieved victory, is too horrific to contemplate. To the "huddled masses" still "yearning to breathe free," this book is a testament to the power of public opinion – a true "beacon-hand" of hope.



**Central Indiana Mensa Presents  
A Regional Gathering  
W.T.F.  
(Winter Time Fun)  
January 29 – 31, 2016**

**Bring a Buddy!  
Free Mensa Test for non-members included with a full  
weekend admission  
\$60 until October 31.**

Register and pay online at: <http://cim-rg-2016.eventbrite.com>  
Or... mail a completed form and your check to the Registrar.  
See Indymensa.org for more information



**Cincinnati Area Mensa 33<sup>rd</sup> Regional Gathering**  
**December 4–6, 2015**

[Doubletree Suites by Hilton](#),

6300 East Kemper Road, Cincinnati, 45241

(513) 489-3636

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# **Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 7/21/15**

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

Loc Sec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Members present were: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Jon Applegate, Diane O'Brien, Karen Zwick and Bob Zdanky. Absent: Ethan Blocher-Smith, Ann Hake, Karen Steilberger and Karen Wilczewski. Guests: Dave Appel, Jud Horning, Petra Ritchie, and Nancy White.

Jan Pfeil Doyle distributed the minutes of the June ExCom meeting provided by Karen Steilberger, who was unable to attend the meeting. Karen Zwick moved that minutes be approved as presented. Bob Zdanky seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

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

The membership report shows 2 reinstating, 3 renewing, and 1 move-in members; and thirteen prospects.

## **Old Business**

By-laws: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that the proposed by-laws will be sent to the National by-laws chair and the RVC-4 before submitting a draft to members.

EventBrite: As planned, Karen Steilberger, with assistance from Karen Zwick, set up EventBrite so that attendees at the AG could register for the upcoming RG and OG. It was suggested that it could be set up for Mensa Youth as well so that they would not pay a fee and Karen Steilberger and Karen Zwick will do so.

## **New Business:**

Bequest: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that former CIM member, Dom Jervis, has been working on his will and has decided to leave at least \$5000 to CIM. As noted on page 6 of the August MIND, he has asked CIM members to send suggestions for spending the money to his e-mail address, with prizes from the Mensa Boutique for the best three suggestions.

Monthly meeting place: Jan Pfeil Doyle was contacted by Marian Harcourt, who lives at Marquette Manor, about using their facility for our monthly meeting. It has been noted by several members that our current location is probably too small for our needs. The facility at Marquette Manor could be used for no monthly fee, and would be set up for us each month (with additional set-up

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necessary only occasionally). It has a P.A. system with a screen and we would need to bring a computer. The only disadvantage is parking, which is quite a distance from the meeting room. There is some parking closer to the room, which could possibly be used as handicapped parking. After Marian gets approval for our use of the room, Jan Pfeil Doyle asked that Diane O'Brien and Karen Steilberger tour the facility, as well as Teresa Gregory. If we decide to move to this location, it will be put in MIND immediately to allow two months' advance notice to members.

Lapsed members: Jan Pfeil Doyle asked members if they thought a phone call should be made to lapsed members, along with a letter. It was suggested that a phone call could be perceived as "too much pressure", even if delivered in a scripted, welcoming tone. Nancy White mentioned a meeting in the past, where lapsed members were invited to the meeting without a fee and were asked their reasons for not keeping their membership active. It was decided to continue to send only letters.

Jewel awards: Jan Pfeil Doyle mentioned the Jewel awards which are awarded at each year's AG. She wasn't sure whether or not we received one this year, but suggested several ways we could participate, such as most members who renew early, number of lapsed members who renew, newsletter, most number of new members, etc.

Russ Bakke: Nancy White mentioned that Russ Bakke, former chair of Mensa, was still in a Louisville hospital, after being taken there during the AG. It was suggested that a get well card be signed by CIM members at the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

There being no other business, Karen Zwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bob Zdanky seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by Diane O'Brien

# Treasurer's Report

*Karen Zwick, Treasurer*

## Balance Sheet (as of 08/17/2015)

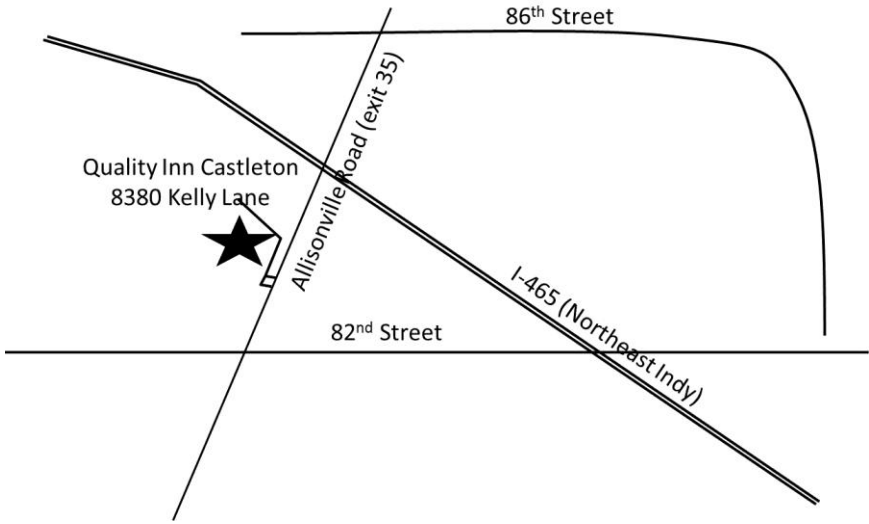
Bank Accounts	07/20/2015	08/17/2015
Checking – Regular	\$7,522.57	\$10,358.94
Checking – Scholarship	\$531.53	\$540.53
Checking – Youth Membership	\$427.34	\$427.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	\$8,447.84	\$8,447.84
Vanguard Account * (Account closed and money transferred to Checking)	\$3,740.41	\$0.00
Total Assets	\$20,669.69	\$19,774.65

## Profit & Loss Statement (07/21/2015 – 08/17/2015)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering	144.00
	403 – Donations for Scholarship Fund	9.00
	404 – Interest Income (Vanguard Account)	0.04
	406 – Income for Buzz Fund	23.00
Total Income		\$176.04
Expense		
	501.1 – Monthly Gathering Hospitality	13.41
	505 – Food for ExCom/MINDBending	14.71
	505.1 – MIND Printing (July/August)	600.22
	505.2 – MIND Postage	245.00
	507 – Promotional Expenses (MeetUp quarterly subscription)	89.94
	510.2 – New Member Mailings – stamps	70.00
	520 – Miscellaneous Expenses (cart for hauling beverages to gatherings)	37.80
Total Expenses		\$1,071.08

## 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 82<sup>nd</sup> 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 82<sup>nd</sup> 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 82<sup>nd</sup> St to go north on Allisonville Rd.

**Directions from Allisonville Rd from the south** • Take Allisonville Rd north toward 82<sup>nd</sup> St • After you cross over 82<sup>nd</sup> 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](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
Secretary	Karen Steilberger, <a href="mailto:steilkr@sbcglobal.net">steilkr@sbcglobal.net</a>
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jon Applegate, <a href="mailto:jkapplegate@bluemarble.net">jkapplegate@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>
Vice-LocSec & Membership	Bob Zdanky, <a href="mailto:zdanky@gmail.com">zdanky@gmail.com</a> , (317) 219-3773 Karen Zwick, <a href="mailto:kzwick@outlook.com">kzwick@outlook.com</a> , (317) 626-3789
Treasurer	
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	Joe Stamper, <a href="mailto:joestamper@comcast.net">joestamper@comcast.net</a> , (765) 474-4759
Muncie	Jason Smith, <a href="mailto:munciemensa@gmail.com">munciemensa@gmail.com</a>

### 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	Laurel Richardson, <a href="mailto:Lhabitat@aol.com">Lhabitat@aol.com</a> , (317) 244-0000
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Proctor Coordinator	Teresa Gregory, <a href="mailto:teresa.gregory@yahoo.com">teresa.gregory@yahoo.com</a> , (317) 430-1761
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