



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



HAPPY FIFTY!

[Photo courtesy of Ann Hake]

**Ann said this was her cousin's gift to his sister
on her fiftieth birthday. This is certainly a
Mensa-worthy pun!**

Publishing Statement

Central Indiana Mensa, a Local Group of American Mensa, Ltd., publishes *MIND* monthly. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization open to all persons scoring in the 98th percentile on a standardized intelligence test. Mensa neither endorses nor opposes the opinions published in *MIND*, which are those of the individual contributors.

Contribution Guidelines

MIND contributions may be sent to mind.editor@yahoo.com, or Teresa Gregory, 6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, 46219, or delivered to Teresa Gregory or Jan Pfeil Doyle at the monthly meeting. Contributions may be edited for length or to remove offensive material, must be “family friendly”, and may not include personal attacks. No anonymous contributions will be published, but the Editor will withhold the author’s name from the public on request. Contributions should be in hand no later than the monthly meeting preceding the month of publication.

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HAPPY FIFTY!

Keep sharing your special Mensa Memories as we celebrate Volume 50 of MIND all year long. Did you meet someone special at a Mensa gathering? Where did you take your test? Do you have any old photographs? Send in a sentence, a paragraph, or a page.

Look for titles that use **THIS FONT** for more stories.

Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

By the time you read this, I'll wager that most New Year's resolutions have already been abandoned, some with more guilt than others. There's a reason that the first sales of the new year are on vitamins, diet aids, athletic equipment and clothing. I used to have a neighbor who was an aerobics instructor. She hated the month of January because of all the "beginners" who showed up for her classes. By February 1, the numbers were settling back to normal.



Saying you are going to lose weight is too general. Saying you are going to stop doing something cold turkey (smoking, eating fast food lunches, swearing) sets you up for failure. Maybe you don't feel quite as bad because that was pretty extreme and you don't know anyone else who could have done it.

I think the key to making and keeping a resolution is to make it small. Our book club read *The Power of Habit*. It talked about how making one small change can lead to bigger things. I believe that.

I will share with you my two New Year's Resolutions.

The first is to finish a quilt that I started in 1993, and sleep under it on Christmas Eve. I did the appliqué and put it together the first year. After that it's been in and out of the frame, actually several different frames. It has gone untouched for spans of years. It moved to the new house with me. I need to finish it because I need the floor space that the frame is taking up. I am hoping that the move to a smaller house will simplify my life and afford me more time to pursue such things.

The second resolution is one I read about several months ago in my quest for simplification. It is to get rid of one thing a day for a year. Just one thing. It can be something I give away, I discard, I recycle. I have a clothes basket on the closet floor that is the repurpose container. I count an item once it's in the basket. When it is full, I bag it up and distribute it to the appropriate places. I am still getting things out of my old house, but I'm not counting those. I'm counting things that disappear from the new smaller house. I note each one on a small pocket calendar. At the end of one year, I will have shed 365 items.

Since I've started, it's almost become a game. Care to take the pledge and join me?

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Generous Donation - Central Indiana Mensa has received a very generous gift from Carl Levinson. Carl has spoken at our RG and has attended several of our monthly meetings. He's not a Mensa member (yet!) but enjoys Mensa and seems like "one of us." Carl's father, Alan "Buzz" Levinson, recently passed away. One of Buzz's many businesses was creating high-quality T-shirts and sweatshirts and selling them online. Carl has donated over 250 shirts (retail value over \$6000!) to our group. Thank you so much, Carl!!! The eclectic collection of shirt titles includes oxymorons, Issac Newton, John Muir, 1 trillion, Confucius, Voltaire, cats, zillion bugs and many more. Carl selected the titles and sizes especially for Mensa. They are heavy-weight shirts and are printed on the front and back. We will be selling the shirts at a discount at monthly meetings; they will probably be available by mail order, too. The ExCom will be discussing pricing and how we will use the proceeds from the sale of the shirts. Possibilities include having a special event or party, and/or lowering the price of the monthly meeting admission for members, and/or?????. If you have an opinion on how we should spend the money, please let me or another ExCom member know. If you would like to help with the sale of the shirts, please let me know that, too. Please give your thanks to Carl next time you see him!



Regional Gathering - By the time you read this, CIM's RG will be over. As I write this, I'm looking forward to a wonderful weekend with 100 or so of my Mensa friends and acquaintances. I'll write more about it next month.

CultureQuest – If you're interested in participating in Mensa's nation-wide cultural literacy/trivia competition, please let me know. The competition will be on April 27th. Our team's (or teams') application is due March 31st, so if you want to be on a team, be sure to renew on time. More info at <http://www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest/>

**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!
DUE DATE IS MARCH 31st**

HAPPY 50TH CIM!

Steve Merchant

I was invited to join Mensa in December 1980 after submitting prior evidence: the Army IQ test given to me a few days after I was drafted into the Army in 1968, four months after graduating from Purdue. Out of the 231 men in our group, based on my test score, I was one of three men out of the 231 invited to train to be a helicopter pilot after basic training. This opportunity required adding two more years to my military service and I reluctantly said no thanks.

I attended my first Mensa meeting in February 1981 at the Marina Apartments clubhouse, East 21st Street and Mitthoeffer. The LocSec was the late **Phil Dupuis**, who sported a magnificent handlebar mustache. I arrived fully prepared to introduce myself to the group, but suprisingly was never asked to do so. I had to personally introduce myself to Phil.

When I walked into the meeting room for the March 1981 meeting, and extended my hand to a fellow member **Kevin [can't remember]**, a blinding bolt of lightning struck the lake near the clubhouse.

I talked my boss, **Mike Zimmerman**, into joining later in 1981. After one meeting, a group of us went with Mike on a "joy ride." We were all laughing and joking when Mike suddenly stopped the car at some railroad tracks, but NOT at a crossing! Just railroad tracks on a dead end street. How does one manage to do something like this? We were temporarily lost.

After one meeting, many in the joy ride group, including me, came THIS close to flying to Florida on a whim.

Still in 1981, I convinced a co-worker, **Marvin Bechtel**, to join. We both had had quite a bit of wine after the speaker finished –Marvin was driving because my car was in the shop. He drove me home on the far west side and we entered my house. It felt terribly cold, but I thought it was the wine. We then discovered that my now 34-year-old, then a two-year-old, had turned the air conditioning thermostat to 58. Ah, the "terrible twos."

Attendance was usually high at the Marina location. It was a warm, comfortable room. After some meetings, you might be just sitting there relaxing and suddenly start getting a welcome back rub from therapist **Jack Rose**. I also hosted several HypnoSIG (all about hypnotism) meetings in my home, conducted by the late **Ned Hodson**. These were always well-attended.

After one speaker had concluded, I thought Burt Reynolds was actually in attendance. I finally asked the guy if he was Burt, and he said, "No, I'm better looking."

I really miss trying to convince **Howard Magadanz** in those days that if humans' eyes possessed fast enough "shutter speed," they could see people become briefly invisible every once in a while, even if it were for just a Planck Instant.

[Editor's Note: Can anyone help identify "Kevin"??]

Team Mensa on the Go

Alison Brown

In response to my call for a group of active CIMensans to join me at the *5Ks of Christmas* on the Winter Solstice, **Margy Fletcher** and **Ed Chu** joined the team. Ed was planning on bringing his wild beagle, Jackie, along for the run since the event was a benefit for dog shelters and rescue services and many dogs were expected to participate. However the weather was not fit for man or beast, so Jackie stayed home. Ed, who could choose to participate, did anyway which pleased the ladies of the team.

And when I say, not fit for man or beast (or woman, for that matter) it was not so much the chill of winter – quite the contrary, it was unusually mild temperature wise – but the precipitation. It drizzled, it poured, proverbial cats and dogs rained from the skies, and it all collected in pools along the 3.11 mile course. Margy and I had been training together on Saturday mornings at the Monon Community Center where the race took place and we had our pace down pat, only being slowed by smallish rivulets and detours to avoid the deeper waters and we enjoyed our usually rambling chat as we completed the course. Ed we lost sight of immediately after the start – one minute he was retying his shoe at a lamppost then we were swept along with the crowd. Seeing as how he is younger than we, I expected him to leave us in the dust (except it would be mud on this day – a thing we encountered in quantity in both the West and East



side of Central Park). As we sloshed along, rain seeping through our clothing, creeping up pants legs, falling on raised thighs, rising into our shoes, (despite our being dressed for the occasion) I noticed that I was producing so much heat from the exertion that I was not chilly. Even soaked-

through running shoes and socks did not chill my toes, which were pounding the pavement at a brisk clip. Margy listened patiently as I opined that, although the weather was miserable for a race, it would make a good story later. Especially the part where we ventured off the track to avoid a small lake and wound up deep in mud instead! I slogged through the next puddle on purpose to clean my shoes.

According to my stopwatch, Margy and I came in at 51:35; the official record (gun time) shows us with an *ex aequo* finish of 52:10. When I got back into the

Continued on next page

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staging area (a nice warm carpeted room, I looked around for Ed. Eventually he showed up, out of breath, and ready to change into dry garments. His result was 50:17 (apparently he started considerably behind us). The timing person said not to fret about the disappointing results, the conditions made everyone much slower than their normal pace. In all there were 272 hardy finishers, 137 women and 135 men. The dogs were not counted, but I saw at least 10 before the race – all decked out in various festive duds such as red and green bandanas or reindeer antlers!

It is pretty cold out and although there are several races coming up in January and February, I am not inclined to encourage any of my fellow Mensans to take part in them – I certainly am not going out there to freeze my a** off! I will put in an appearance at the Sam Costa Half Marathon on March 22nd, which offers both a half and a quarter Marathon, but probably only to hand out shirts and bib numbers.

Our next scheduled race is the 8 K at the Carmel Marathon, on a hopefully much warmer April 12th - maybe we can double the membership in Team Mensa. And perhaps we can develop a team garment – a shirt or, because we get shirts at our races, an armband or headband/scarf with the Mensa logo. Contact me with ideas for that and for races throughout the summer as May, June, July, August, and September are currently unplanned.

Alison Brown SIGHT@indymensa.org



THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE I'VE EVER BEEN

Teresa Gregory

I always thought the most beautiful place I had ever seen was Lucerne, Switzerland. It was the fall of 1976, with my husband and baby, and we were there for only an hour, but it was a perfect day, sunny and bright. The colors were intense and vibrant: lush green foliage, sparkling crystal water, blue sky.

In May, 2009, I had the opportunity to attend the Calgary Regional Gathering in Banff National Park, Canada. For a girl from the flat mid-west, the mountains were stunning. A lot of people say they love the ocean. I've seen the ocean and it can't hold a candle to those gorgeous mountains. I tried to soak in as much as I could. I didn't want to leave.

The people I met on that trip were wonderful, too, people I still see at gatherings. I never would have had that experience anyplace but in Mensa.

MINDBENDING MEMORY

Judson Horning

Once upon a time, when pigs could talk and nobody had ever heard of bacon, MINDS were folded and stapled in the homes of members who hosted the gatherings.

On one of those occasions, when MIND Bending was in the home of **Russ and Shirley Washburne**, I was riding my bike over to their house and trying to get out of traffic just because I did not want to be roadkill. I crossed over Meridian Street on Kessler Boulevard and tried to turn into the first driveway in order to get up on the sidewalk. I failed to notice that the driveway began with a huge cliff that had to be at least one inch high.

When I began my turn, the cliff caught the front wheel of my bike, causing me to perform a lawn dart maneuver. I landed on both of my hands, but mostly on my left. When I got over to Russ and Shirley's, I participated to some extent in MIND Bending, but it seemed like my wrist was definitely broken. As usual, Shirley fed us well.

Russ drove me over to an emergency care facility, where my wrist was given appropriate immediate care. Over time, and with numerous visits to doctors, with X-rays and other medical things, it was determined that my wrist was crushed and would require surgery. Since Wolverine is one of my heroes, a blade was inserted into my wrist and lies hidden in my forearm.

And that is why there is a scar on the top of my left arm just behind my hand. Just for the heck of it, a carpal tunnel surgery was also done. Shortly after this, I went to a Social Security court, where there was a very interesting judge who entertained the people who came with me, and it was determined that I qualified for Social Security Disability. The judge was impressed not only by my arm in a sling, but also by my history of epilepsy and other stuff.



Nominations Due for MERF Awards

The Mensa Education & Research Foundation is seeking nominations for several awards: the Mensa Distinguished Teacher Award, the Copper Black Award for Creative Achievement, and the Intellectual Benefit to Society Award. Applications are due March 1, 2014. More information and applications may be found at <http://www.us.mensa.org/recognize/foundationawards/>

Welcome New and Returning Members!

Move In	Stephanie Shaia	Kevil	KY
Move In	Michael Davis	Saint Meinrad	IN
Move In	Bruce E Ratcliff	Kingman	IN
New	Jonathan Turpin	Bloomington	IN
Reinstating	Dorothy L Foley	Indianapolis	IN
Reinstating	Jason Gornto	Peru	IN
Reinstating	Anna Mary Shiver	Zionsville	IN
Renewing	Arthur S Bowers PE	Cicero	IN



Come Join Us!

Alison Brown

Ham 'n Eggs got off to a great start on the first Saturday in January at the SoHo Cafe in Carmel. When we reached twelve attendees, the group split into two, one half continuing on the sofa and arm chairs in the picture window and the other gathered around a very long table along the interior wall that a couple of gentlemen vacated for our benefit. Conversation ranged from Food to Politics for more than two hours. I am not sure we solved any of the world's problems, but we had fun trying. Plan to join us on Feb. 1st at 10 am. More info at indymensa.org, www.meetup.com/Central-Indiana-Mensa/ or from me, Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org.



Matt Brennan, Joanna Krause, and Bob Zdanky are ready to greet you!

February 2014 Events - Central Indiana Mensa

Ham 'n' Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) – 1st Saturday from 10:00 am-12:00 noon. Soho Café & Gallery, 620 South Range Line Road, Carmel, IN
Drop in any time for casual conversation, lively discussion, and good food and beverages. Contact: Alison Brown, 317-846-6798, SIGHT@indymensa.org.

Muncie Area Group Meeting – 1st Saturday at 2:00 p.m.
The MTCup, 1610 W. University Ave in Muncie. For those familiar with the Ball State area, it's in the Village. Contact: Jason Smith, munciemensa@gmail.com

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

Book Discussion - Sunday, 2/9 at 2:00 p.m.
We will be discussing *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains* by Nicholas Carr. 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.

ESOTERIC SIG –Wed., Feb. 12, 7-9 p.m., Heartland Screening Room, 1043 Virginia Ave. #2, (movie) *The Citizen*: Yearning to leave behind his life of misfortune in the Middle East, Ibrahim Jarrah wins the U.S. Green Card Lottery for a chance to become an American citizen. He lands in New York City to accept his green card the day before the 9/11 attacks. The events of the September terrorist attacks forever shape the struggles he faces on his journey to attain the American dream. Questions? Petra 786-8665, petraritchie@msn.com

Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday at 7:00 p.m., All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56th St. See last page of MIND for map and directions. Members: \$5.00, Non-Members: \$7.00; Children 6-12: \$3.00, under 6: free
2/14 The speakers are Beth Kloote and Abby Dennis from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc (www.kibi.org). The topic will be "Community Greening: KIB's research-based approach to helping people and nature thrive".

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

February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2	3	4	5 Indy Lunch Bunch
9 Book Discussion	10	11	12 Esoteric SIG
16 Mensans Dining Out	17	18 Paducah Area Group Meeting	19 Indy Lunch Bunch
23	24	25 MINDbending/ ExCom	26
2	3	4	5 Indy Lunch Bunch; W. Lafayette Lunch
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting
6	7	8
13	14 Monthly Gathering; MIND deadline	15 Mensa Test; Calendar Deadline
20	21 Games People Play	22
27	28	1 March Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting
6	7	8

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

February 2014 Events (cont.)

Mensa Test – Saturday, Feb. 15, Registration 10 am Test 11 am.

Wayne Library, 198 South Girls School Road. Contact Steve Merchant at 317-240-3077 or blazingstar32@hotmail.com for more information.

Mensans Dining Out – Sunday, February 16, 5:30 pm. Upland

Restaurant, 820 E. 116th St., Carmel. Contact: Bob Zdanky, 317-503-0091 or Zdanky@gmail.com

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

Anyone in the area is welcome to join fellow Mensans for dinner. For location and more information on this group, contact Charles Rawlings, rawlings@siu.edu

Games People Play – Friday, February 21, Pitch-In Dinner 6:30 pm.,

games begin 7 pm. Bring your favorites, or share those of others. Join Petra and other members of All Souls Unitarian Church at their monthly games night, 5805 E. 56th St. Questions: Petra 786-8665, petraritchie@msn.com

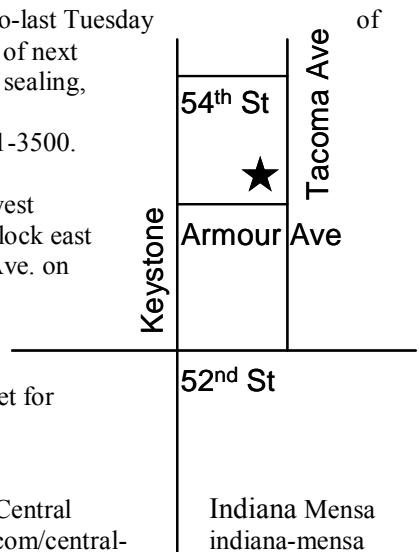
MINDBending/ExCom – Last or next-to-last Tuesday

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

2/25, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 431-3500.

Pizza and soft drinks provided.

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



A **BigThank You** to all the January

MINDBenders and thanks to Midwest Internet for hosting the event.

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

Indiana Mensa
indiana-mensa

March MIND calendar items due 2/15/14 to dbculp@sbcglobal.net.

American Mensa's Strategic Plan

Ellen Voie, RVC 4

You're probably aware that Mensa has a mission and a vision, and you might even know that there is a strategic plan. Have you ever looked at it to determine if it aligns with your view of the organization? You might have joined for one reason but you stayed for another because you found different reasons to renew your membership.



Here's a quick lesson about why Mensa exists. Currently, the **mission** is as follows, *"Identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity by encouraging research in the nature, characteristics and uses of intelligence and by providing a stimulating intellectual and social environment for its members."*

The **vision** is defined as, *"Creating a stimulating intellectual and social environment for the most intelligent people."* That seems pretty simple, and it appears to describe the organization pretty well for most of us.

The vision differs greatly from the mission, which includes the term "research" and includes a goal to "benefit humanity." In fact, the mission might be more relevant to the Mensa Foundation as opposed to the association itself. (Remember, the foundation is a separate legal entity and donations to the foundation are tax-deductible as charitable giving.)

In addition to the vision and the mission, American Mensa has identified a **"Big Goal** *to be widely recognized as the premier community for intelligent people seeking intellectual challenge, respect for intelligence and the opportunity to join with others to benefit humanity."* (There's that word "humanity" again.)

Your American Mensa leadership team reviews the strategic plan and defines and refines the **core values**. There are currently four core values, which are "essential and enduring tenets of the organization."

1. Intelligence benefiting humanity.
2. Valuing ideas and individualism.
3. Intellectual integrity.
4. Connection.

In addition to the core values, the American Mensa Strategic Plan identifies four areas as strategic outcomes (goals). These are:

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1. **Membership:** American Mensa will be a thriving, progressive organization with members who find participation rewarding and valuable.
2. **Leadership:** The association at all levels will be structured, governed and managed efficiently and effectively by leaders who feel confident in their roles.
3. **Public Awareness:** American Mensa will be recognized as an intellectually stimulating organization whose members use their intelligence to better their communities.
4. **Finance:** Sufficient funds will exist for American Mensa to accomplish its goals.

The strategic outcomes are more descriptive in determining how your leaders should be making decisions; however, the mission is the guiding statement in what discussions are occurring at the national level.

As members, we should understand why Mensa exists and how we fit into the overall picture. If you prefer to just pay your dues and allow others to define the association, that's fine too. We appreciate all of our members. We just want you to know how your dues are being spent and what drives these costs.



MENSA MEMORIES

Joanne Ortman

I've been involved in Indy Mensa since the 80s – will try to write a few remarks for your 50 issues article.

First Indy Ms I met were **Bob & Doris Thomas**. At that time Bloomington had its own local. I was not a member yet but came with my ex-husband. Bob & Doris used to drive down for bit more Mensa. For awhile we met in our trailer & I made the popcorn & sometimes boiled eggs. The group was technically dissolved by the late **Harper Fowley** of Louisville. At an RG there I heard him say gleefully "They were nothing but a bunch of unwashed hippies. [not true based on what I observed] " So technically they were now Indy Ms but kept getting together. Bob once got my former husband **Gerald Ortman** to speak at an Indianapolis monthly meeting about Ford's post-Vietnam clemency program which he was involve with as a counselor working under one of his law professors. Wish now I could have gone along. And during that Bloomington period I met **Frank Reid** who became my special friend for more than 10 years leading to many more trips to Central Indiana.

Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title *The Signature of All Things*

Author: Elizabeth Gilbert **Year:** 2013

Book Description: The phrase, “historical fiction at its best,” is an accurate assessment of this novel, but hardly does it justice. This superlative work is a sensual and intellectual treat - replete with interesting characters, natural and cultural details, and philosophical reflections, delivered in lyrical prose with an undercurrent of emotional intensity. The story begins near London in 1760, with the birth of Henry Whittaker, a gardener’s son who, through his keen intelligence, resourcefulness, and tenacity, makes his fortune in herbal pharmaceuticals and immigrates to Philadelphia. From there, the focus shifts to his daughter, Alma, a brilliant and fiercely independent botanist who finds her research into the central mysteries of evolution more rewarding than personal relationships – until she meets and becomes involved with a man who briefly takes her beyond the world of facts to that of possibilities – the metaphysical realm of the spiritual and divine. Disillusionment, tragedy, and two trans-continental voyages follow, and Alma continues her search for truth, self-fulfillment, and love through the final years of the nineteenth century and her own existence.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? I was delighted to acquaint myself with this eminently gifted writer, and to confirm my belief that even such mundane subjects as mosses can be fascinating.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? I highly recommend this book to all botany and history enthusiasts who also enjoy good fiction.

How long might it take to read this book? In my estimation, no more than a week, even with limited leisure time.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote. [Upon discovering a new field of botanical research] “...Alma’s existence at once felt bigger and much, much smaller – but a pleasant sort of smaller. The world had scaled itself down into endless inches of possibility. Her life could be lived in generous miniature. Best of all, Alma realized, she would never learn *everything* about mosses – for she could tell already that there was simply too much of the stuff in the world; they were everywhere, and they were profoundly varied. She would die of old age before she understood even half of what was occurring in this one single boulder field. *Well, huzzah to that!*

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It meant that Alma had work stretched ahead of her for the rest of her life. She need not be idle. She need not be unhappy. Perhaps she need not even be lonely...She had a task...She would learn mosses.”

Additional Remarks: This is the literary equivalent of a luxury cruise. Bon voyage!



Shadow Elite – A Review

Judson Horning

A long, long time ago, I had heard Janine R. Wedel give a TED talk on NPR. At the end of the TED talk, it was mentioned that she had written a book. I was so impressed with the TED talk that I ordered the book. The book arrived, and I took it with me to HalloWeem, where I met a beautiful lady who told me that she knew Janine Wedel.

The book, *Shadow Elite / How the World's new Power Brokers Undermine Democracy, Government, and the Free Market*, closes with mention of Matthew 6:24: "No one can serve serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other." So if you have a clique or tribe of individuals devoted to each other and their group's goals, these individuals will support each other to the detriment of the greater society. The Mafia and the Russian mob support each other in this way, but the book is about cliques from Harvard and other places who operate similarly.

Wedel is an anthropologist who is studying these cliques and tribes in a scientific manner to see how they function outside of the rules of the societies in which they live.

The book asks questions about the loyalty of the players, whether they are loyal to each other or to the offices they hold, what is accountability, to whom is duty owed, and which community the players actually support. When these players hold multiple positions at the same time, can they actually be held responsible for the work they do for any of them? They can always claim that what they do was not for one particular position but for another position that they are holding simultaneously. These players who hold these multiple positions Wedel refers to as "flexians".

My Libertarian brother Andrew had initially said that, while the book sounded like something he would agree with, he was hesitant to read it for fear of being disappointed. When I showed him the book, he saw how well-researched it was and became more interested in actually reading it.

The Old Schoolhouse

Robert O. Adair

Deserted now
with weathered walls
of brick and stone,
it sits on a rise of ground
amidst silent somber gloom.
The old schoolhouse
amidst the empty playground,
unoccupied, decaying
wooden benches.
A scene once so full of life,
where a hundred children
could be seen to play
with lots of noisy fun,
cheers for a home run,
with swings, an old well,
a primitive merry-go-round,
propelled around and around
only by kid power.
A scene once so full of life!
Within, long, silent,
voiceless halls
with dirt and dust
and cobwebs everywhere
in decaying classrooms
where children learned the alphabet,
reading, writing and arithmetic.
A scene once so full of life!



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 11/26/13

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, November 26, 2013.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Members present included: Jan Pfeil Doyle, David Culp, Jean Rodgers, Karen Steilberger, Karen Wilczewski, and Karen Zwick. Absent: Teresa Gregory, Ann Hake, and Bob Zdanky. Guest: Petra Ritchie.

The minutes of the October ExCom meeting were reviewed and corrected.

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Karen Zwick moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected, Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Karen Zwick presented the Treasurer's report and made one correction. David Culp made a motion to accept the corrected report, Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report shows 3 new members, 6 renewing, 2 reinstating, 6 offers of membership, and 32 prospects.

Old Business

WFYI TV20 pledge drive: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that we are set with 8 volunteers for December 2. We have received the Mensa patches for the volunteers to attach to their shirts.

2015 Mind Games: Jan Pfeil Doyle said there are no updates on this yet.

2014 RG: Petra Ritchie said she talked with her contacts about the possibility of holding an improvisational theater production as part of the RG. They would be happy to try to work something out. They have been referred to Teresa Gregory.

New Business

ExCom/MINDBending meeting dates for 2014: Jan Pfeil Doyle presented the proposed dates for the meetings for 2014. The committee discussed the options for two of the months, and decided on the dates.

Communications: Jan Pfeil Doyle said she took part in a Region 4 LocSec conference call in October. One of the ideas that came from that discussion was sending a weekly e-mail to members to highlight upcoming events. Jan may try that here.

Awards: The Mensa Education and Research Foundation (MERF) is seeking nominations for three of its awards. The committee discussed possible nominees from CIM.

RG dates: The Chicago chapter has a gathering of gamers every year on the same weekend as our RG. Jan Pfeil Doyle contacted the person in charge of booking the hotel for that gathering, who may change the dates for 2015. Then more Chicago members may be able to attend our RG.

There being no other business, Karen Wilczewski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Culp seconded the motion. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m

Respectfully submitted, Karen Steilberger

Treasurer's Report

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 12/16/2013)

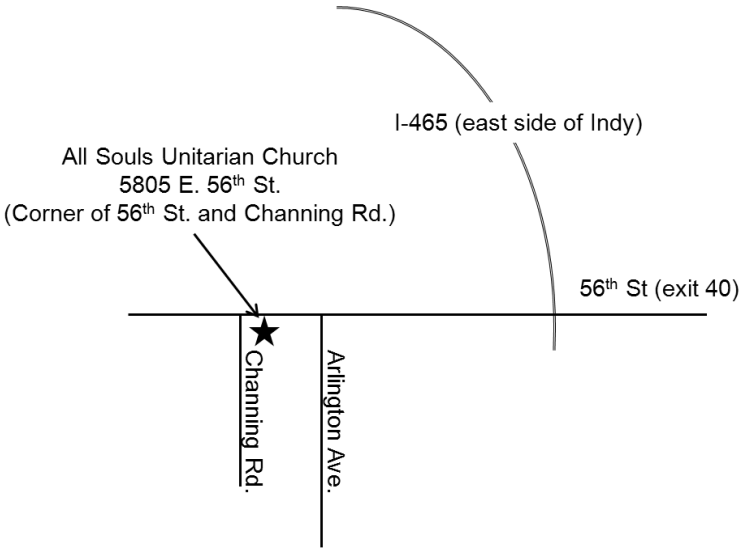
Bank Accounts	12/16/2013	11/25/2013
Checking – Regular	\$7,935.69	\$8,696.97
Checking - Scholarship	374.53	374.53
Checking – Youth Mbrship	1,160.00	1160.00
Gathering Account	7,881.83	7,881.83
Vanguard Account	\$3,739.73	3,739.29
Total Assets	\$21,091.78	\$21,853.06

Profit & Loss Statement (11/26/2013 – 12/16/2013)

Income		
	None reported	0.00
Total Income		\$0.00
Expense		
	501.1 – Monthly Gathering Hospitality	117.96
	501.2 – Monthly Gathering Facility (Jan – Mar 2014)	105.00
	505 – Food for ExCom/MIND	235.36
	505.1 – MIND Printing – December	302.96
Total Expense		\$761.28



February 5 is World Nutella Day! Enjoy!



Mensa Monthly Gathering Location **All Souls Unitarian Church, The Beattie Room,** **5805 E. 56th St., Indianapolis**

- From I-465 on the east side of Indianapolis, take the 56th St exit west (exit 40).
- Turn left on Channing Rd (1.2 miles from the I-465 exit).
- The church parking lot is on your left.
- Go to the Beattie Room.



Region 4 RVC

Ellen Voie RVC4@us.mensa.org,

Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary	Jan Pfeil Doyle, jan@mw.net , (317) 431-3500 PO Box 20158, Indianapolis, 46220
Vice Local Sec	Jean E. Rodgers, jeanerodgers@yahoo.com
Recorder	Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net
Editor	Teresa Gregory, mind.editor@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761 6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219
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Treasurer	Karen Zwick, kzwick@1stclass.com , (317) 626-3789 1634 Mace Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46229
Publicity	Karen Wilczewski, biltmore@topdogcom.com , (317) 849-9022

Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, NanHarvey@gmail.com , (812) 345-9608 708 S Cory Lane, Lot 61, Bloomington, IN 47403
Evansville	Dr. Louis Cady, lcadymd@mac.com , (812) 429-0772
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Lafayette	Joe Stamper, joe_stamper@comcast.net , (765) 474-4759
Muncie	Jason Smith, munciemensa@gmail.com 2601 S. Mitchell Ct., Muncie, IN 47302

Other Volunteers

Esoteric SIG	Petra Ritchie, (317)786-8665, petraritchie@msn.com .
Ham 'n Eggs	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Gifted Children	David Bonner, gcc@kids.indymensa.org , (317) 973-0258 6279 Canterbury Dr, Zionsville, IN 46077
Ass't Gifted Children	Laurel Richardson, Lhabitat@aol.com , (317) 244-0000 654 Phaeton Place, Indianapolis, IN 46227
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Proctor Coordinator	Steve Merchant, blazingstar32@hotmail.com , (317) 240-3077 2234 Fullerton Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46214
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, alan.schmidt@att.net , (317) 695-5741

