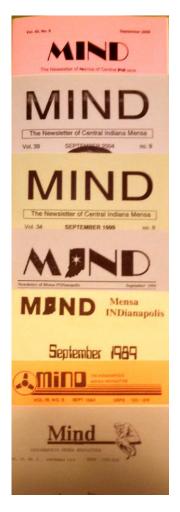


Mensa Newsletter Of Central Indiana



# SEPTEMBER ON MY MIND!

THIS SHOWS SOME OF
THE EVOLUTION OF
MIND'S MASTHEAD IN
FIVE YEAR INCREMENTS
SINCE 1979.

# HAPPY FIFTY!

# 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, 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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> Volume 50, Issue Number 9 September 2014



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← During the August Monthly Gathering, Cletus was put in charge of guarding the cheese and crackers during the candidates' campaign speeches. It seems he did a good job of clearing the platter.

"Cletus contemplates the vastness — of the universe."George Dunn showed the width of the known universe, after

giving us an excursion through various lengths of measurements used on earth going beyond Light Years to gigaparsecs and throwing in the distances to particular features of the universe as we know it



# **Old Dog/New Tricks**

Teresa Gregory, Editor

**VOTE!** Did you hear that? If you are holding a paper issue of MIND in your hand, your ballot is the centerfold this month. Read the instructions carefully and follow them completely so that your vote counts. If you are reading this on your computer or other electronic device, your ballot will come in the mail in an envelope. Again, read the instructions carefully and follow them completely. Every vote counts. In the past, there have been some wins by one or two votes.



We heard our candidates "sell themselves" at the August Monthly Gathering. They did a very good job which only makes the choices harder.

The kittens are now four months old, and there is nowhere they can't go. I was talking on the phone the other night and watched one of them climb the curtains, then walk along the top of the woodwork over the door while sniffing the ceiling. What does the ceiling smell like? I don't know because I haven't been up there. The two places they have not been are the basement and outside. Going to work in the morning has become way more challenging than it should be. As soon as I start through the dining room, they all run and hover by the door, plotting their escape. Fortunately, I haven't lost one yet but it's not because they haven't tried.



[Ed, Note: Shown here is my crack editorial staff hard at work on this month's edition of MIND. You didn't think I did this by myself, did you? Left to right: Twinx, Fuego, and Jinx.]

# LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Please Vote! – Central Indiana Mensa's bi-annual elections are here. The group will elect a Local Secretary and eight additional board members to serve on ExCom for the next two years (aka Executive Committee, the board that conducts the day-to-day business of running CIM). The Nominating Committee, chaired by Marcele Everest, did an outstanding job of recruiting candidates. Thank you all! We have a nice cross section of our membership age-wise, experiencewise, and geography-wise. Candidates' pictures and



campaign statements were in the August MIND. You can send in your ballot or deliver it to the September monthly meeting.

Record(?) Turn Out for Mensans Dining Out – Bob Zdanky has done a wonderful job of finding fun places for us to eat out together. The popularity of the event has grown—we had 26 people show up at Some Guys Pizza and Pasta in July! It's great to have so many people participating, but it does make things a little difficult for Bob to make arrangements with the restaurant when he doesn't know how many to expect. So, due to increased popularity ©, please make the effort to let Bob know you're planning to come by Meet Up, email, or phone. It will make it easier for restaurants to serve us.

**New Members Dinner –** Speaking of **Bob**, he also organizes our quarterly new members dinners. I hope to meet several new members at George's Neighborhood Grill (a new location for us) on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>.

**MMatMM** – Several of us had a nice time at the *Mensa Meetup at the Monon Mixer* at the Monon Water Park in Carmel. Picture a nice water park with no screaming kids—it was an adults-only event. Not that I have anything against children screaming at water parks; that's what kids are supposed to do at water parks and I'm glad they are having fun! But it was pleasant to stroll around the park, looking at the various water-related "opportunities" and enjoying conversation while a mellow live band played in the background. **Alison Brown**, the organizer, arrived early, secured a cabana for us, and provided snacks. There were local wineries and breweries and food trucks there vending their wares. The evening was pleasantly cool for August so we mostly sat in the cabana doing what Mensans like to do: eating, drinking and conversing. We're already planning to go again next year and are hoping for more summery temperatures so we can enjoy the lazy river!

**Don't forget** – To check out the Gen X/Y Cinder SIG . . . . To join the Central Indiana Mensa Facebook group . . . . To sign up for the Central Indiana Mensa Meet Up . . . . To volunteer to help with our Regional Gathering

# **Last Blast of Summer**

#### David Bonner

It was great to see families that have been coming to this event for four or five years, and we got to meet three new families, one of which just joined Mensa a week or two earlier. One of the parents told me that this has been a very meaningful event for her son for many years. Michael Reed was a huge help, and he has offered to help with the Family Program events in the future. He's really good with the kids, and enormously helpful with keeping things running smoothly throughout the weekend. It's great to have him on board!



I got a call from one of the new families Friday afternoon. "We're at Pretty Lake, but we can't find you." After unsuccessfully trying to find a common landmark, I finally asked what the last town they drove through was. Middlebury. Apparently there is another "Pretty Lake" but it's not the same Pretty Lake in Plymouth, Indiana where we've had this event for the past four years. They were less than 10 miles from the Michigan border in an entirely wrong part of the state! Nearly five hours after they left home, a tightly packed small car with three hungry kids, two exhausted parents, and a windsurfing board strapped to the top rolls in. I felt so bad for them, but they made it and ended up having a grand time!

I think the highlight of this year for me was the sailboats. Sailing is such an incredible experience. Clipping through the water at high speeds with just the sound of the wind in your sails and waves lapping against your hull is nothing short of exhilarating! On the open water I feel a connection with sailors from thousands of years ago who only had wind for propulsion. Sailing easy to learn, but it takes years to intimately know and harness the ever-changing forces of nature. It's ok be confident, but you can never let your guard down even for a moment. When I'm out on my own, I feel like I'm with an old friend and foe, the wind. We've always had our little 1970 model Sunfish, but the 43 year old sail fell apart last summer in the high winds. Aside from being ridiculously



expensive, it's nearly impossible to find a replacement sail for a boat this old. Instead, we looked on Craigslist and found a 1980's model 14.2' Catalina Capri racing class boat for an incredible price. It sails like a dream! In the mean time I found a local company that sells sailcloth (Dacron) for around \$10/yard. Six yards was enough to make an entire sail for the Sunfish. I

Continued on next page

#### Continued from previous page

taught myself how to use a sewing machine, and the sail was ready to go in less than a day. One of the families brought their own windsurfing board to add to the excitement. It was tons of fun to have three sailing boats on the lake at the same time.

Another highlight was the midnight swim. The cooler temperatures this summer were just right for camping, and the lake was a perfect temperature. After it got dark, we roasted smores. This is always a gooey endeavor, so we jumped in the lake to wash off. The moon was bright and visibility was excellent. After the kids retired in their tents, many of the adults remained in the lake and talked well into the morning. Everything was so perfect.

This year went really smoothly overall, and we're looking forward to doing it again in 2015. It will probably be held in late July.



# **Welcome New and Returning Members!**

Move In	John Greene Jr	New Lisbon	IN
New	Katie Burks	Evansville	IN
New	Caleb Waddell	West Lafayette	IN
New	Justin Penny	Indianapolis	IN
Reinstating	Glen Dale Bowling	Indianapolis	IN
Reinstating	Cynthia Ellen Byrd	Mayfield	KY
Renewing	Victor Deutchman	Franklin	IN
Renewing	Dale L Dasher	Markleville	IN
Renewing	Donald E Gibbs	Evansville	IN



### Cinder

Ethan Blocher-Smith

As always, thanks to everyone who will have attended the Cinder meeting in August. As a reminder, Cinder will be meeting at 721 E. 55<sup>th</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 for the foreseeable future. This is right by the intersection of 55<sup>th</sup> and College, near the heart of Broad Ripple. If you have a friend, child, or someone interested in Mensa who is a member of Generation X or Y (18+), tell them about our event. As always, any Mensan is free, with non-members paying \$5, or \$1 if they bring a snack to share. Assorted snacks and drinks will be provided.



This month (September) we will look at a range of topics under the broad scope of the nuclear age. This includes nuclear weapons, nuclear power, nuclear medicine, nuclear disarmament, and anything else that reasonably falls under the heading "nuclear." Do we need our >4000 ICBM strong nuclear arsenal? Is nuclear power safe? Is nuclear power better than coal, natural gas, or even solar for power generation? Was Chernobyl a fluke, or an inevitability? These questions and many more are open for discussion, but only if you come and join us. I hope to see you there.

# September 2014 Events - Central Indiana Mensa

**Indy Lunch Bunch –1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 12:00 noon**, Double Eagle Café, 650 N. Meridian (at the Scottish Rite Cathedral), Indianapolis. Contact: Karen Steilberger <a href="mailto:steilberger-steilkr@sbcglobal.net">steilberger steilkr@sbcglobal.net</a>.

**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, <u>SIGHT@indymensa.org</u>.

# Muncie Area Group Meeting – 1st Saturday at 2:00 pm.

The MTCup, 1610 W. University Ave in Muncie. For those familiar with the Ball State area, it's in the Village. Contact: Jason Smith, <a href="munciemensa@gmail.com">munciemensa@gmail.com</a>

**Monthly Gathering** – **2nd Friday at 7:00 pm**, All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56<sup>th</sup> 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 **9/12**: It's election year for Central Indiana Mensa. Come out and cast your vote! If you have already mailed in your ballot, come out for the thrilling announcement of who your new ExCom members are. While the votes are being counted, noted speaker, philanthropist, arts patron, and world traveler Frank Basile will speak on "Personal and Professional Effectiveness"

**Culture Vulture: "Play on!" -- Sunday, 9/14 at 2:00 pm,** Epilogue Players Theatre, 1849 N Alabama St, Indianapolis. This is the hilarious play by Rick Abbott of a theater group trying desperately to put on a murder mystery play in spite of maddening interference from a haughty authoress who keeps revising the script. CIM's own Margy Lancet Fletcher will be performing. (See page 14 for more information.)

**New Member Dinner – Sunday, 9/14 at 6:00 pm,** George's Neighborhood Grill, 6935 Lake Plaza Drive, (71<sup>st</sup> and Binford), Indianapolis. New members eat free, up to \$20. Must contact Bob Zdanky ahead of time for meal ticket. Others, please contact Bob if you plan to go so he can inform the restaurant of the approximate head count. Contact: Bob Zdanky, 317-503-0091, zdanky@gmail.com

Check out our newly updated and active Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/67015884487/

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

# September 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3 Indy Lunch Bunch
7	8	9	10
14 Culture Vulture; New Member Dinner	15	16 Paducah Area Group Meeting	17 Indy Lunch Bunch
21 Mensans Dining Out	22	23 MINDbending/ ExCom	24
28	29	30	1 October Indy Lunch Bunch
5	6	7	8

Social Media – Remember to sign up for Central Indiana Mensa's Facebook and Meet Up groups:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/67015884487/ http://www.meetup.com/Central-Indiana-Mensa/

# **September 2014 (Continued)**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting
11	Monthly Gathering; MIND deadline	13 Calendar Deadline
18	19	20
25	26 Cinder	27
2	3	4 Ham 'n' Eggs; Muncie Meeting
9	10	11

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

# September 2014 Events (cont.)

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

#### Mensans Dining Out -Third Sunday at 6:00pm.

**9/21** Chuy's Restaurant, 14150 Town Center Blvd, Nobleville, IN46060 Tex-Mex. . Please let Bob know if you are coming so he can reserve enough space. contact: Bob Zdanky, 317-503-0091 or Zdanky@gmail.com

MINDBending/ExCom - Last or next-to-last Tuesday of the month. MINDBending is the preparation of next month's 54th St MIND for mailing. Come help with sealing, labeling, and stamping the MINDs. 9/23, 5:30 pm. MINDBending is held at the offices of Midwest Internet, 5348 N. Tacoma Ave., which is 1 block Keystone Armour east and 1 block north of 52<sup>nd</sup> St. and Keystone Ave. on the northeast side of Indianapolis. Pizza and soft drinks provided. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 431-3500. 52nd St A **BigThank You** to all the August MINDbenders and thanks to Midwest Internet for hosting the event. 721 E. 55<sup>th</sup> \*NEW SIG\* Cinder-4th Friday of the month, 7:00pm. at Street, Indianapolis, IN. A SIG for the Gen X – Gen Y crowd. Contact Ethan Blocher-Smith, MensaCinder@gmail.com (For program info, see page 8.)

# **Coming in October**

# Mensa Test Day -- 10/18, Registration 10 am Test 11am.

Wayne Library, 198 South Girls School Road, Indianapolis, Indiana. This is the national testing day for American Mensa. Let your friends and family know about it, or better yet, you can prepay testing for them. What a gift! Contact: Steve Merchant <u>blazingstar32@hotmail.com</u> or 317-431-8645

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

# **How to Engage Your Members at the Local Level** *Ellen Voie. RVC 4*

A majority of Mensa members never attend a meeting, never participate in online forums and never travel to a Regional or Annual Gathering. They might be content to just carry the Mensa card in their wallet.

Maybe they are reading your newsletter and thinking of venturing out to meet other Mensans but they're not sure what to expect. How can you engage them and encourage their participation at the local level?



We are very fortunate in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan to have numerous groups and area coordinators who plan events and coordinate activities. To encourage this, the Executive Committee has approved an annual \$500 fund for each group to use for member events. The goal is to offer as many local activities as possible to reach as many new and current members as we can.

After all, aren't the dues we collect intended to support our members?

John Sheelk is a recently renewed Mensa member who jumped in at the local level and started coordinating a monthly dinner in the Oshkosh area. When John learned about the \$500 available for an activity, he asked the group for suggestions and the outcome is a ride on a paddle wheel boat in Waupaca (Wisconsin) on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The \$500 will cover the cost of the boat rental and some snacks on the cruise.

For those who are interested in attending, please come! The paddle wheel boat is called the Chief Waupaca and it is docked at Clearwater Harbor. The boat leaves at 11:00 a.m. and returns at 1:00 p.m. Check WiscoM or the online calendar for details and fees. John planned the cruise to coincide with peak fall colors, so the view should be amazing.

Jon Kohler is the area coordinator in the northeastern part of Wisconsin. In addition to the "second Thursday" dinners, Jon plans a Team Trivia night at a local restaurant. The Mensa group, known as "Abby Normal," competes as a team for fun, and sometimes places in the top three!

In the past, Jon has coordinated boat rides on the Fox River as well as tours through the botanical gardens and even a sky diving event and, yes, I jumped!

If you are thinking of attending a sporting event, concert or tour and wouldn't *Continued on next page* 

#### Continued from previous page

mind some company, put the event on your local calendar and invite other Mensa members to join you. There may be people in your area who are not interested in sitting in a restaurant for dinner, but would walk through the botanical gardens with you. Maybe your events are always on the same weeknight and some members have a conflict each week. If you move your events around, you might get some new faces at your activities.

Remember to consider those who are uncomfortable attending an event in someone's home. They might be allergic to cats, cigarette smoke or just don't want to walk into a stranger's home. You may think a game night in your home is a great way to meet people, but for others, a nearby restaurant or library would be more amenable.

Not all Mensa members are going to become active and join you, but the more events you offer and the more you move the day and time, the more participation you will have.

It's been proven that an engaged member will be retained longer than an isolated one, so try to get those silent members involved. Expand your idea of a meeting beyond monthly dinners and you may be surprised at the outcome!



# Culture Vulture Play On!

Margy Lancet Fletcher

I am pleased to announce that, once again, I have been cast in an Epilogue Players production. *Play On!* is a deliciously hilarious, eminently entertaining comedy about a community theater group desperately trying to prepare a play while plagued with every conceivable production problem: ego struggles between the actors, set construction mishaps, a sound system gone awry, and – worst of all – a vainglorious local playwright who constantly rewrites her script and interferes with the rehearsal process. A prescription for disaster? You bet – and a guaranteed laugh riot. My character, Louise, is the recalcitrant light, sound, and set technician who can wield a hammer and curse like a fishwife, but has not yet mastered the art of making a good pot of coffee. The cast also includes the director, the stage manager/prompter, the actors (three men and three women), and the playwright – an ensemble of truly delightful characters. I invite all of you to share the mirth; it's just what the doctor ordered in these violent, troubled times.

#### INFORMATION ON THE SHOW

Continued on next page

#### **Production Dates:**

- Friday through Sunday, September 12-14
- Friday through Sunday, September 19-21
- Friday through Sunday, September 26-28

Curtain Times: 7:30 PM Friday and Saturday, 2:00 PM Sunday

<u>Ticket Prices</u>: Adult \$13.00, Epilogue Members and Seniors (age 65+) \$11, Children (12 and

Under) \$9.00. Tickets can be ordered via the reservation line, 317-926-3139, or via e-mail, <a href="mailto:epilogue.players@yahoo.com">epilogue.players@yahoo.com</a>. Phone calls are not returned unless there is a problem with the reservation, but email messages will receive responses.

<u>Venue Location</u>: The Epilogue Theatre is located at the intersection of 19<sup>th</sup> and Alabama Streets in Indianapolis, on the north side of the Hedback Building, which also houses Footlite Musicals. You can park along either of the two streets.

<u>Additional Notes</u>: The house opens 30 minutes prior to the show. Payment for tickets takes place at the door via cash or personal check (no credit or debit cards can be accepted). Seating capacity is limited and the seats are not numbered, so you will want to arrive as soon as possible after the house opens.

I thank you in advance for your support, and hope to see you there!



# Central Indiana Mensa ExCom Minutes 6/24/14

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, June 24, 2014.

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

The committee reviewed the minutes of the May ExCom meeting. Karen Zwick moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, Teresa Gregory seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Karen Zwick presented the Treasurer's report and made one correction. She also presented the profit and loss statement for the RG and the OG, which showed that CIM nearly broke even on the two events combined. The committee discussed using the information as a basis for budgeting in the future. David Culp made a motion to accept the report as corrected, Karen Wilczewski *Continued on next page* 

#### Continued from previous page

seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report shows 0 new, 2 move-in, and 2 reinstating and 7 renewing members, and 20 prospects.

#### **Old Business**

Elections: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that we have a slate of nominees.

Member initiatives: Regarding the proposal from George Dunn to hold a formal group activity at the conclusion of the monthly meeting, Jan Pfeil Doyle said that no information was received in time to be included in the next MIND. Flexibility will be built into the meetings to accommodate the activity.

Buzz Fund event: The subcommittee has not met yet. Karen Zwick will get a meeting scheduled.

RG date change: The committee discussed the possibility of moving the RG to the summer from January. The weather would be better, but it would mean we would not have an OG, and at this time there is no guarantee of the availability of the hotel at a different weekend. Jan Pfeil Doyle suggested that the ExCom discuss this more next February or March. There may be other windows of dates available to us at that time.

#### **New Business**

RG 2015: Jan Pfeil Doyle said that the Chicago Mensa chapter is moving their AGOG (A Gathering of Gamers) event to February. In the past it has conflicted with our RG.

Teresa Gregory said she would like to offer a free admissions test for each non-member who pays for the full weekend. She would like to get this into the Bulletin, which requires 6 weeks' notice. Karen Zwick moved that we try the idea at the next RG, Bob Zdanky seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. Teresa asked for suggestions for a theme to be sent to her within a week. The committee discussed reusing the WTF (Winter Time Fun) theme.

New member dinner: Bob Zdanky asked the committee members to think about an alternate location for future new member dinners. The next one will be the first Sunday in August.

There being no other business, David Culp made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Steilberger

# **Treasurer's Report**

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 07/21/2014)

Bank Accounts	07/21/2014	06/23/2014
Checking – Regular	\$15,283.68	\$15,482.94
Checking – Scholarship	445.53	445.53
Checking – Youth Mbrship	849.00	849.00
Checking – Buzz Fund	520.00	520.00
Vanguard Account	3,740.00	\$3,739.73
Total Assets	\$20,838.21	\$21,037.20

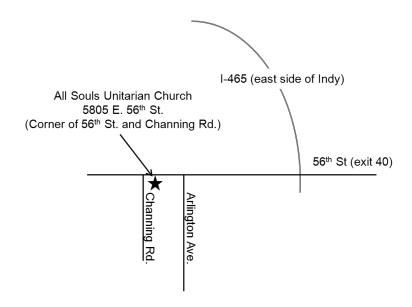
# Profit & Loss Statement (06/24/2014 - 07/21/2014)

Income	
401.1 – Monthly Gathering Income (July)	113.00
402 – National Mensa Inc.	446.98
404 – Interest Income (Vanguard Account)	0.27
Total Income	560.25
Expense	
501.1 – Monthly Gathering Hospitality	24.29
502.1 – RG Hospitality (expenses from 2014 RG)	46.04
505 – Food for ExCom/MIND	69.91
505.1 – MIND Printing	300.61
520 – Miscellaneous (checkbook reconciliation)	318.39
Total Expenses	\$759.24

# The Mensa scholarship application process opens Sept. 15 and closes Jan. 15.

The Mensa Foundation's college scholarship program bases its awards totally on essays written by the applicants. Consideration is not given to grades, academic program or financial need. U.S. applicants need not be Mensa members. However, Mensa members may apply for both these scholarship programs and the additional Mensa Member Award Program.

# Watch for more details next month.



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

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



Region 4 RVC

#### Ellen Voie RVC4@us.mensa.org,

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