

May 2017
Volume 53, Number 5



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



**There's still time to register for this year's
Annual Gathering
in Hollywood, Florida.**

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. 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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MIND Staff

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

Calendar Editor: Karen Wilczewski, biltmore@topdogcom.com

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MensaPhone: (317) 539-1740

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Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

May is here! Flowers are blooming, grass needs mowing, and things are happening in Central Indiana Mensa.

OMG! We have an Outdoor Mensa

Gathering this month! As always, it's at Versailles State Park down along the Ohio border. It's \$55 to register. This fee includes your lodging, meals, and fun with fellow Mensans (or you can stay holed up in your cabin if you choose) for the weekend. You can't afford to stay home for that price! There is a park entry fee per car (it's under \$10 for Indiana residents and around \$10 for non-residents), so load up all your family and friends and come on down.



Help is needed for the Outdoor Gathering. The stars lined up, serendipity was in the air, and I was presented with an opportunity to go to visit my son in California. My trip is the week of the OMG. I usually spend most of that week checking recipes, and making lists, and gathering foods and supplies, and shopping. I won't be here. What we need are people who will do the shopping and help with the transporting down to Versailles. I will still do the recipes and the shopping lists before I leave, or you can choose your own recipes and make your own list. Then you just buy what's on your list and bring it with you. Turn in your receipts when you arrive. As always, I will be at the OMG, and there are a lot of people who are available to help. I just won't be able to do the week-prior prep. Please contact me with any questions. If enough people help, no one will be overwhelmed.

We have a Mensa Admission Test scheduled for May. Please be aware that the cost of testing is \$40. In July we will have a test with a discounted cost of \$30. After that, the price will increase to \$60. If you know anyone who you think should be one of us, let them know about this testing cost increase. See the calendar for more details.

I hope to see some of you at the Annual Gathering in Hollywood, Florida this July. I have heard that the hotel is gorgeous. We have some great programs scheduled. It's not too late to make your reservations.

See you in May at the OG or some other event this month!!!

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Update on MensaCares! Service Project on April 29th -

After the April *MIND*s were printed, we decided at the ExCom (board) meeting to clean up the Link Observatory in Martinsville, IN as our service project. Those of you who read *MIND* electronically saw the details in my updated column. For those of you who read the paper *MIND* and are reading this before April 29th, here are the details in case you'd like to participate: We'll be cleaning the interior of the historic Link Observatory located 4.5 miles south of Mooresville, IN. We'll be meeting at the observatory at 2 pm on Saturday, April 29th for an introduction to the observatory by Kurt Williams. We'll begin cleaning (supplies provided) around 3 pm. We'll finish between 5 and 6 and head to the famous Gray Brothers Cafeteria in Mooresville for dinner (at your own expense). After dinner, weather permitting, we'll head back to the observatory for some evening stargazing. Please email me at jan@mw.net if you'd like to join in the fun! Please put MensaCares in the subject line. The Link Observatory address: 8403 Observatory Rd, Martinsville, IN 46151 www.linkobservatory.org/observatory_map.html.



Future Service Projects – The response to the MensaCares! service project was so heartening (27 so far, including several young people from the Mensa Family Program), we're considering scheduling some more days of service later in the year. Please send me any suggestions you might have. For now, we'll stick with a project that can be accomplished in a day or part of a day.

Outdoor Gathering – As I said last month, I hope to see many of you at Central Indiana Mensa's Outdoor Gathering May 19-21. It's our annual camping weekend at Versailles (Indiana) State Park. We rent the group camp and stay in dormitory-style cabins. There's a central building where we hang out, play games, eat, etc. The OG is a wonderful, fun, relaxing weekend and you can't beat the price of \$55 that includes food and lodging! If you can't stay for the whole weekend, come for the day on Saturday. If you'd like to help with the preparations (plan, shop, transport, etc.), please let me know. You can register online at <http://cim-og-2017.eventbrite.com>.

Adding My Thanks – Many thanks to our long time Scholarship Chair **Laurel Richardson** for organizing and leading the review of scholarship essays for our group. Thanks, too, to the **Charles Rawlings Thomas Miller, Marcelle Everest, Lewis Richardson** and **Laurel** for reviewing applicants' essays to help decide which applications to send on to the regional level.

Living Better With Less

Part 4: Strategies For Decluttering

Hi, I'm Karen Zwick and in the past years, I've gotten rid of at least 75% of my possessions. The decluttering process has brought me so many benefits. I love helping others seeking help in this area.

If you haven't read Parts 1 – 3 of my “Living Better with Less” series, refer to the February, March, and April editions of MIND (<http://indymensa.org/newsletters/>). In Part 1 of this series, I covered the benefits of decluttering and symptoms that you might have a problem of too much stuff. In Part 2, I covered guidelines for determining the “right” amount of stuff for you and your home. In Part 3, I covered the process of establishing your clear vision of a decluttered space. In this article, I will cover some strategies for decluttering that have worked well for me.

Strategy 1: Declutter by category in a five-step sequence

Declutter one category of stuff at a time. Examples of categories include: shirts, pants, CDs, kitchen gadgets.

You want to declutter in short sprints of time, preferably less than 30 – 60 minutes per sprint. It should not be overwhelming to declutter all of your shirts/tops in one sprint.

If you struggle with the sentimental attachment you have with things, consider decluttering in a specific sequence that saves the most sentimental items to last. That way you can build decluttering momentum on the stuff that tends to have the least emotions involved. Marie Kondo, one of my favorite decluttering experts recommends the following sequence:

- Clothes – you may want to further divide these into subcategories of tops, bottoms, underwear, etc.
- Books
- Papers
- Miscellaneous items (declutter each type of item one at a time) – CDs, DVDs, bed linens, towels, cosmetics, medicine, kitchen, tools, etc.)
- Sentimental items

Strategy 2: Follow a decluttering process

I'll use one category, shirts/tops, as my example category to explain the decluttering process.

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Process Steps	Description
Step 1 – Determine the “right” number of items you will keep within one category.	<p>In Part 2 of this series, I covered guidelines for determining the right amount of stuff. For shirts/tops the “right” amount may be influenced by how often you do laundry, how much closet space you have, etc.</p> <p>For me, I determined the right number of shirts/tops was 21 for warm weather and 21 for colder weather. Therefore, I applied this decluttering process twice, first for the warm weather tops and next for the colder weather tops.</p>
Step 2 – What is my vision for this category?	<p>In Part 3, I covered the process of establishing your vision of a decluttered space. For example, my vision of my clothes closet was the following: All clothes for the current season will fit in one space. All clothes fit and look good on me. All clothes are organized so that I can quickly locate the right outfit for the activity I am doing at the time.</p>
Step 3 – Collect every single item you currently have from this category.	<p>For example, I gathered all of my warm weather tops in one place.</p>
Step 4– Perform a rapid sort.	<p>To perform a rapid sort, take every single item and quickly place it in one of three piles. Keep – the stuff you actually use and love Remove – the stuff you can easily get rid of Sort – the stuff you have to sort through (see Step 5)</p> <p>Take no more than 5 - 10 minutes for this first and rapid sort. If in doubt about an item, put it in the Sort pile.</p>
Step 5 – Work through the Sort pile.	<p>Now comes the hardest work – working through the sort pile. Ask these questions as you consider what to keep or remove. Do I love this item and does it fit my vision? Does this item “spark joy”? Do I actually use/wear this item?</p> <p>Using these questions, I selected no more than 21 tops that fit, looked good on me, and that I loved the most.</p>

Process Steps	Description
Step 6 – Repeat Steps 1 – 5 for each category of stuff.	<p>Repeat this same process for each category of stuff.</p> <p>Consider working through all of the categories contained within one room before moving to another room. For example, consider completely decluttering your bedroom before moving on to another room.</p> <p>This approach gives you a completely decluttered space to inspire and keep you going.</p>

Next month, we'll discuss additional decluttering techniques and ways to keep a decluttered space from getting cluttered again.



Living Better With Less: A Decluttering Story Sent To Me By Dom Jervis

Note from Karen Zwick: Dom Jervis attended two decluttering presentations I gave at the Central Indiana Mensa Regional Gathering in 2016 and 2017. Dom must have “caught” the decluttering bug. The following decluttering “confession” was shared through several emails from Dom.

Well, yet another Man who claimed that I could NEVER 'get to him' has indeed Bitten the Proverbial Dust. They all do you know, sooner or later...

Heard from Dom Jervis. Told me he's taken what was once a more than six-inch high pile of paper and read, filed, shredded, recycled, pitched and otherwise reduced it to LESS THAN ONE INCH HIGH! About half of that is a 'Study' folder containing items he wants to read...and re-read...and re-re-read...until they are burned into his memory. He said it's perfect material for a Doc's waiting room, airport, train station, etc.

Then, Dom took a cold, hard look at his Library, to see which books he would never read again but thought someone else might enjoy. Some of you may recall that he nearly incited a riot at the 2016 RG when he called me out during my decluttering workshop for having the Audacity to suggest that Mensans should EVER actually get rid of ANY books. He has done so to the effect that he now possesses fewer than 100 for the first time (his words) 'in years if not decades.' He said he did 'pull back' three from the Donation Pile. But they are all puzzle books, none of which have as much as a single pen or pencil mark in them. I suppose I can give him a Pass on that, long as his count stayed under the Century Mark. He assured me that this is in fact the case, easily so.

THEN...

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After returning from a two-week trip to North Carolina during which time he had limited internet access, his email Inbox had swelled to more than 100 missives. He told me that number is now down to SINGLE DIGITS!

Good Notre Dame Man that I know him to be, he obviously believes that "Confession is good for the Soul."

His "coming clean" now makes me believe, more strongly than ever, the adage: "Where there is Life, there is Hope."

But please DO NOT think for even one picosecond that I'm not going to let him have it for his past transgressions (as noted above). And what better place than in front of a few hundred of his Fellow Ms at next year's AG? He told me it'll be his first. And after I get through with him, I GUARANTEE it will be one he will NEVER forget!

Yes indeed...the bigger they are...the harder they fall...



Letter To The Editor

Ms. Gregory,

Being a Mensa member in south central Indiana, and not being a native Hoosier, has made me feel as "a stranger in a strange land." However, I would like to comment on your article about warts. When I was about a dozen years of age or so, I read an article that stated clearly that warts were highly susceptible to mental control. Having been "blessed" with about six or eight (or somewhere in-between) warts on my left thumb, I found the item highly informative. I then determined to concentrate on one particularly large fellow and several times a day I would rub his head and chant "You're going away." Lo and behold (do people actually say that anymore?), he evidently felt insulted enough that he did, in fact, leave. So, what to do? I moved to his next smaller brethren and started the same process over, and again, that particular "varmint" also disappeared. This went on until the thumb was once again pristine and, it is to be noted, that the growths did absent themselves in the order of attention. As a footnote, several years later I had one appear on the middle finger of my left hand, which was not particularly annoying, but when I explained to a friend what had happened to the original colony, he was somewhat skeptical. I started the process over again and within a week or so, it too was gone. I'm not sure that having the great mental powers expected of a Mensan were necessary for this feat, in fact on those rare occasions when my Mensa membership has come up I usually tell people that Mensa was desperate for recruits that month.

James (Jimm) Walters
Holland, Indiana.



New Members

Noah Dunaway	Murray	KY
Isaiah Gray	Plainfield	IN
Linda Kampe	West Lafayette	IN
Tanay Thakore	Newburgh	IN
Brian Truskey	White Plains	KY
Caleb Wiles	Indianapolis	IN

Move-In Members

Kenneth Adlum	Mayfield	KY
Judith Bland	Bloomington	IN
Clarence Brooks	Ingalls	IN
Ben Cundiff	Cadiz	KY
Steve Fishman	Stanford	IN
Robert Galbraith	Fort Campbell	KY
Sandra Gustin	Pendleton	IN
C Huesing	Zionsville	IN
Sean Mead	Bloomington	IN
Anand Patel	Carmel	IN
William Tanoos	Terre Haute	IN

[Ed. Note: after several months of waiting, we finally have new member reports. Welcome! If anyone is a new member or a new move-in and is not included in this list, please let me know.]

May 2017 Events

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

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

Bridge Club – Join Bob Van Buskirk for casual, friendly bridge on the 1st Sunday of every month, 2 p.m., Contact: Bob Van Buskirk, 317-359-6907 or vnbuskirk@yahoo.com. Location will change each month. Call ahead.

Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday at 7:00 p.m. – 12 Midnight. **All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226**. See last page of *MIND* for map and directions. Members: \$5.00, Non-Members: \$7.00; Children 6-12: \$3.00, under 6: free.

Our speaker for the May Monthly Gathering will be Chris LaFave, the Curator of the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library in Indianapolis. Chris, who has been a fan of Vonnegut's since he was a student at Ball State University, received his Masters in Library Science at Indiana University. He is also a passionate fan of music, as a performer, a listener, and a critic for the Indianapolis Recorder.

Mensa Admissions Test – 5/14. 1 p.m. registration. Testing begins at 1:30 p.m. Location is in the area of 116th Street and Rangeline Road in Carmel. (Registrants will receive exact location information). Contact: Alison Brown (317) 846-6798, SIGHT@indymensa.org.

Additional Information: There are 12 spaces available for Mensa candidates. We will fill out forms starting at 1 p.m. and testing will begin at 1:30 p.m. If only the usual battery of tests is given (Wonderlic and RAIT), we should be done by 3:30 p.m. If some candidates wish to take the Culture Fair test instead of the RAIT, it will be given after the RAIT and Wonderlic have been administered. Be sure to bring #2 pencils with erasers, a photo ID, and your testing fee in the form of a voucher, check, credit/debit card, or cash.

Mensans Dining Out – 6 p.m., May 21, **Yats**, 1420 West 86th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46260. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3 Indy Lunch Bunch
7 Bridge Club	8	9	10
14 Mensa Admission Test	15	16 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom; Paducah Area Group Meeting	17 Indy Lunch Bunch
21 Mensans Dining Out; OMG; Book Club	22	23	24
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 <i>MIND</i> deadline	6 Ham 'n' Eggs; Cal. Deadline
11	12 Monthly Gathering	13
18	19 Outdoor Mensa Gathering (OMG)	20 OMG
25	26 Cinder	27

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

May 2017 Events (cont.)

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

OMG! Outdoor Mensa Gathering! May 19-21. Join Central Indiana Mensa for a laidback weekend in the woods. You get food, lodging, scenery, and more for only \$55 per person. Kids up to age 6 are \$20, and ages 6-12 are \$35. Saturday-only is \$35. There is a per-car park entry fee. So, grab your sleeping bag and towels and join us at Versailles State Park. Register online at cim-og-2017.eventbrite.com.

Book Group – 2 p.m., Sunday, May 21. We will discuss *The Science of Liberty* by Timothy Ferris. We will be meeting at Rich and Jackie Gibson's house on the NE side of Indianapolis. Please contact Rich at hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com or 317-735-2895 for more details or to RSVP.

MINDBending/ExCom – 3rd Tuesday of the month.
MINDBending is the preparation of next month's *MIND* mailing. Come help with sealing, labeling, and stamping *MIND*s.

5/16, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-3500.
Pizza and soft drinks provided.

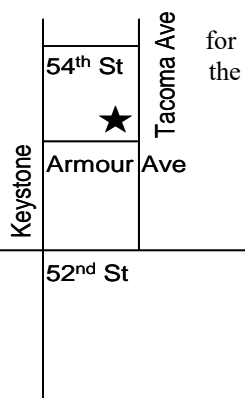
MINDBending is held at the offices of Midwest Internet, 5348 N. Tacoma Ave., which is 1 block east and 1 block north of 52nd St. and Keystone Ave. on the northeast side of Indianapolis.

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

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

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

June 2017 *MIND* calendar items due 5/5/17 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.



Four To The Fore

George Haynes, RVC4

Let's continue reflecting about what makes someone a true nerd. If you're unfamiliar with what I'm referencing, the October 2016 edition of this column explains. It all began in response to Wil Wheaton's awesome keynote address at the 2016 Mensa Annual Gathering. These reflections have two goals in mind: To edify and to entertain. Let's celebrate nerdhood and have a few laughs in the process.

I coined the term "Old Nerd" to reference a set of characteristics and life experiences which one can possess in varying degrees. There are ten items in my original list. The closer to ten you are, the more you can rightly call yourself an "Old Nerd", i.e. a true nerd. I scored an 8 out of 10.



This month's column seeks to expand upon item four:

4. I was in high school band and/or I still play an instrument (voice is an instrument).

The parenthetical comment gives a nod to high school choir, mainly because of the cognitive benefits of music education. Studying music in any form is one of the best things you can do for brain development. But back to band... Current band kids are usually a mixture of all social castes in public high schools. This is a positive trend. However, I still posit that, even now, the majority of any high school band's makeup is going to be the traditional Old Nerds: The types of kids who were ridiculed and harassed in the 80s before anti-bullying measures ruled the day. The types of kids who are usually very intelligent and would easily qualify for Mensa. The types of kids a great many of us were, back in the day.

In the 80s, the term "band nerd" or "band geek" was not a positive thing. It carried the very clear social stigma of "one who is not one of the popular people." In spite of this Scarlet B, we carried on. We persevered. We lugged our cumbersome instrument cases onto the narrow aisles of school busses. We worked our tails off in marching band to create halftime shows that most in attendance at the football games didn't give a whit about. We sold candy bars and worthless trinkets, door to door, to raise money for our band trips. We made the band wing of the school our home. We made the other band kids our tribe. We made band our world. Somehow it didn't matter that others in our greater sphere of peers thought we were the misfits of the school. We had a safe abode with music and the culture of band.

I realize that not everyone reading this had the same awesome band experience I had, but I believe that a great many did. Where would I be now, if not for my high school band experience? I shudder to think about it.

This column deserves a part 2. Be on the lookout.

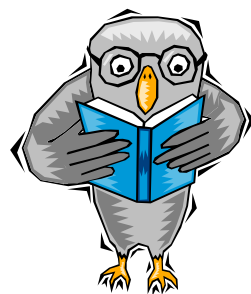
Books On The Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: The Brain: The Story of You

Author: David Eagleman

Year: 2015



Book Description: In recent history, popular wisdom has categorized the following three realms as our “final frontier”: inner earth, the oceans, and outer space. Ah, but a much greater source of adventure and discovery is the infinitely complex network of cells inside one’s cranium, according to neuroscientist David Eagleman.

In *The Brain: The Story of You*, Eagleman commences his fantastic voyage with the growth and development of our brains from birth to late adulthood, then moves on to explain how the brain converts energy and matter into personal experience; how competing networks of desires within the brain shape our decision-making skills; and how dependent our brains are on the presence of other people. He concludes with a dazzling look into a future in which the human brain transcends its physical limitations and redefines human existence.

To enhance the reader’s understanding of the brain’s major functions, the author uses analogous concepts (see the excerpt below) and vivid accounts of individuals adjusting to various types of mental impairment. Without resorting to a plethora of technical terminology, the author manages to remain true to his science - and to entertain and enlighten the non-scientists among us.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? We Mensans are justifiably proud of our superior intellects, but we often take our well-developed minds for granted. Reading *The Brain* increased my appreciation of the power and flexibility of our brains, and of people as individuals, each with a unique sense of reality - as well as my awareness of how reliant we are on those around us to validate that reality. I also learned that, in addition to being a Mensan “two-percenter,” I’m a synesthetic “three-percenter.” My association of vowel sounds with colors (e.g., long “e” is white and long “i” is bright red) isn’t so weird after all. Whew!

Who should definitely read this book? Why? Anyone with an interest in understanding human behavior, and in resolving conflict through knowledge rather than confrontation, will appreciate this book’s insightful observations. *The Brain* should be required reading for all high school and college introductory science courses, inasmuch as the first step toward comprehending the world around us is familiarizing ourselves with the vital organ that defines us and enables all of our learning processes.

How long might it take to read this book? No longer than a day or two. Fascinating and perceptive, but never excessively didactic, *The Brain* is - well,

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food for thought, easily and quickly devoured by any reader blessed with a robust intellectual appetite.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: “THE BRAIN IS LIKE A CITY. Just like a city, the brain’s overall operation emerges from the network interaction of its innumerable parts. There is often a temptation to assign a function to each region of the brain, in the form of ‘this part does that.’ But despite a long history of attempts, brain function cannot be understood as the sum of activity in a collection of well-defined modules... Instead, think of the brain as a city. If you were to look out over a city and ask ‘where is the economy located?’ you’d see there’s no good answer to the question. Instead, the economy emerges from the interaction of all the elements - from the stores and the banks to the merchants and the customers... And so it is with the brain’s operation: it doesn’t happen in one spot. Just as in a city, no neighborhood of the brain operates in isolation. In brains and in cities, everything emerges from the interaction between residents, at all scales, locally and distantly. Just as trains bring materials and textiles into a city, which become processed into the economy, so the raw electrochemical signals from sensory organs are transported along superhighways of neurons. There the signals undergo processing and transformation into our conscious reality.”

Additional Remarks: Spring has sprung - and what better way to celebrate the renewal of life than to salute the marvelous cerebral apparatus that makes our lives possible? And as a special Memorial Day tribute to the author’s family members (and all others) who perished in the Holocaust: “L’Chaim!”



The Harbor Lights

Teresa Fisher

In the spring of 1997 my husband Bill and I saw an article in the paper about a group of men in their 70s and 80s who had formed a “big band” that performed songs of the 1940s. They were looking for additional members, so we tried out. Bill had his own band in the 1960s that played big band music, and I had always liked music of that era. We became members of The Harbor Lights, with me as the vocalist and Bill on guitar and vocals.

Most of the men had played music professionally or at least been in a band, even if it was many years ago. The one exception was the band leader. Joe had always wanted to be a musician, and now he considered himself to be one. He owned a clarinet. (In the beginning he occasionally played tenor sax, but his long-

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suffering wife suggested he stop. Please just stop. He was only marginally better on the clarinet.)

The Harbor Lights performed at nursing homes, hospitals, assisted living facilities, and any place where old people are collected and stored. When we joined they played mostly hymns. Joe used to tell audiences they were listening to us rehearse, because the only time we played together was at gigs, and if he admitted it they might not expect much out of us. I recall one occasion when they played “How Great Thou Art” horribly. It was long, slow, and almost painful to hear. As soon as it was over, before anyone had a chance to breathe a sigh of relief, Joe said, “That wasn’t very good. Let’s try it again.” And they did. The sad old faces in the audience looked even sadder during a Harbor Lights performance.

Bill began the process of upgrading the band. He suggested lively songs from the big band era, and he and I sang them. I began to notice audience members nodding in time to the music and smiling. The improvement was good for everyone but Joe. He had painstakingly memorized the notes to a few hymns, and was unable to quickly add to his repertoire.

There were some memorable moments from our year in the band. I recall one time when the musicians were awaiting, with instruments ready, the leader’s signal to start a song. Instead of the expected, “Ah one, ah two, ah one, two three four,” Joe simply said, “Let ’er rip!” That didn’t help. At my first performance, just after I opened with “The Tennessee Waltz,” one resident began yelling, “Get out of here! All of you! Get out!” before someone quickly wheeled him out of the room. That was my debut. Another time a man in a wheelchair took my hand at the end of the show and tried very hard to tell me how much he enjoyed it, but only noises came out. It was clear what he wanted to say, though.

My experience with The Harbor Lights taught me that the size of your amp is limited by how much weight you can carry.

After we had been in the band a year, Joe asked Bill to meet with him and another member. He told Bill we were destroying his life-long dream of being a bandleader, and he fired us. So that’s how we came to be fired from one of the worst bands in the history of music. The last song I sang with them had been dedicated to Roy Rogers, shortly after his passing. Guess what it was?

Not long after Bill died I got a surprise when I took someone to visit his grave. Just a few feet away was the grave of Fred, our sax player in The Harbor Lights. I hadn’t known he had passed, much less that he was interred so near to our plot. Someday at least three band members will get together again.

Petra's Punny Page

Petra Ritchie

1. Reveal: Make veal again.
2. Pointless: Refrain from indicating things with finger.
3. Crooked: Thief named Ed.
4. Forebear: Intended to belong to a grizzly.

Bossy: Chief Executive body of water



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 2/21/17

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:52 pm. Members present were Jon Applegate, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Ann Hake, Karen Wilczewski, Kurt Williams, and Bob Zdanky.

Members absent: Diane O'Brien, Karen Zwick

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Petra Ritchie.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the January ExCom meeting. Ethan Blocher-Smith moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. Jon Applegate seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report. Kurt Williams moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The membership report is still not available while the National computers are being revamped.

Old Business

Regional Gathering: Attendance was a little bit down from last year (total of 63); there was some difficulty in getting the event advertised in the Mensa Bulletin. Total Income was \$3,223.75. Total Expenses were \$4,110.69 (hospitality, \$2,316.11; facility \$1,210.08; presenters, \$350.00; program, \$69.40; equipment, \$165.10).

2018 AG: Planning continues steadily. The naming contest is open through February 28, 2017. A committee consisting of Jan Pfeil Doyle, Teresa Gregory, Ann Hake, Kurt Williams, and Karen Wilczewski will choose from amongst the entries to determine the AG name and theme; the person submitting the winning name will be awarded a free registration and a T-shirt.

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Jan obtained additional information on rental rates for Northwood Christian Church; at present, there is no heat or A/C available in the building and the rental rates for the large room, the parlor, and the library are quite a bit higher than what we are paying now. The rate for David's classroom is within a similar range as our rate at All Souls, so this may be an option to consider in the future for periodic games nights or Young Ms meetings once the heating and A/C is repaired. Jon Applegate moved that our lease at All Souls be continued as is. Kurt Williams seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

New Business

Five testing dates have been set for the coming year so far. Additional dates will be set as other sites are identified.

Culture Quest team deadline is March 31.

Several individuals expressed interest in playing games more often, both at the Games Night in January and after the speakers at the February Monthly Gathering. Since we are able to stay in the meeting space until midnight at the Monthly Gathering, it was suggested that games could be played after the speakers at the Monthly Gathering. Attendees will be invited to bring along games to the Monthly Gathering in the MIND.

There being no other business, Bob Zdanky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon Applegate seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Hake, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 03/20/2017)

Bank Accounts	02/20/2017	03/20/2017
Checking – Regular	\$6,825.70	\$7,205.21
Checking – Scholarship	906.50	906.50
Checking – Youth Membership	69.34	69.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	9,324.47	9,379.47
Checking – Youth Activity Fund	489.40	489.40
Total Assets	\$17,615.41	\$18,049.92

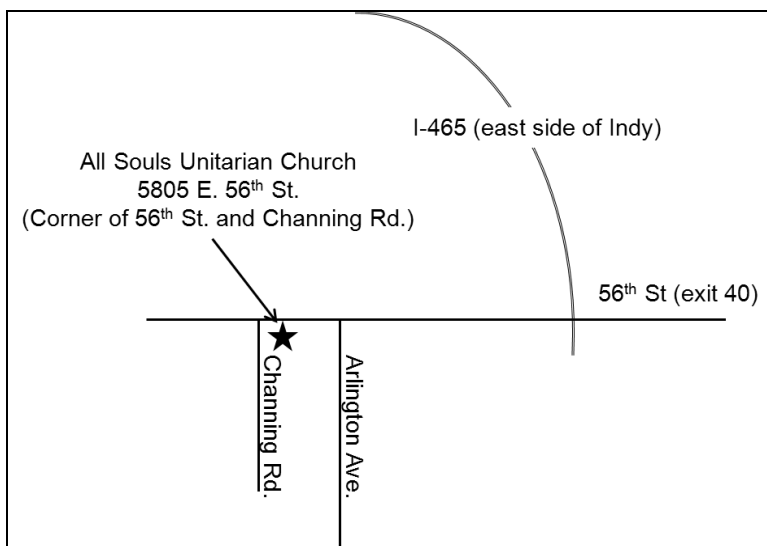
Profit & Loss Statement (02/21/2017 – 03/20/2017)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering	134.00
	401.3 – OG Income	55.00
	402 – National Mensa, Inc. (Mar)	571.35
Total Income		\$760.35
Expense		
	505.1 – MIND Printing (Mar)	325.84
Total Expenses		\$325.84

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

George Haynes RVC4@us.mensa.org,

Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

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

Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, NanHarvey@gmail.com , (812) 345-9608
Evansville	Dr. Louis Cady, lcadymd@mac.com , (812) 429-0772
Kokomo	Vacant
Lafayette	Vacant
Muncie	Vacant

Other Volunteers

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