

Mensa Newsletter Of Central **Ind**iana



Jan Pfeil Doyle in downtown Indy posing for pictures to promote the Monumentally Mindbending! AG.

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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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Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

I had planned to go visit my son back in May. I had my train ticket in hand. Then I came down with strep throat. The plus was that I got sick before I left and not while I was on the train. It took three different antibiotics over six weeks to finally kill that evil bug. I took my last dose the day before I left for Florida and the AG.

Well, the trip is back on! Instead of training out to California and flying back, I'll be flying out and training back. I think this is a better



plan. I'm excited. So if you see me wearing a mask and latex gloves, wave from a distance. I can't get sick again before I go.

Before that, I am one of several Mensans who will be taking a bus to Hopkinsville, Kentucky, to see the Total Eclipse. This is sponsored by the Link Observatory, and fellow Mensan Kurt Williams is heading up this expedition. This reminds me that I talked to a gentleman at the AG in Florida who was about my age. He lives in San Francisco and said he would be going to visit friends who lived on a farm right in the path. He was lamenting that looking through a pinhole camera or some other device was seeing an image of the eclipse, but it wasn't truly seeing the eclipse. He was pondering the fact that this will be his last chance to see a total eclipse, and at his age, was it worth losing an eye over. He would cover one so that he would only be partially blind. I thought, "Oy, only a Mensan would think of that." I hope he has a ride home.

Jan Pfeil Doyle and I are hard at work with the 2018 AG. In some ways, it seems like a long way off, and in other ways, it's just around the corner. We hope to have a good turnout of our local members as guests and volunteers.

Jan and I see each other at least once a week and often more than that. This week, Ann Hake will be joining us when we visit local tour companies to see what kind of fun places we can line up for people to see when they are in Indy. We are also preparing for our "site visit" to the hotel in September. This is where several people go to visit the facility and meet with the staff to fine tune the arrangements. Registration for the AG and reservations for the hotel block both open November 1.

Yes, it is getting closer!

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

August Monthly Gathering Speaker – Our August speaker was Ann Hedderick, Volunteer Coordinator for the Exotic Feline Rescue Center in Center Point, Indiana. The EFCR is one of the largest rescue centers in the US. It was founded in 1991 with 3 exotic felines; it now serves as home to approximately 200 big cats from 9 different species on a 108-acre haven. In addition to providing homes for large cats that have nowhere else to go, the center also collaborates with the University of Illinois on



large cat research. People were quite interested in what Ann had to say—she had a hard time getting through her talk because of all the questions! Fun fact: lions roar when they hear the sound of Harley motorcycle engines revving. Other makes of motorcycles don't have that effect. No one knows why. CIM member (and acoustic engineer) **Larry Marcus** speculated it might be infrasound waves. The center is open for tours—we may organize a group visit in the future, so keep an eye on the calendar if you'd like to join us. You can find out more about the EFCR at www.exoticfelinerescuecenter.org. Many thanks to our program chair, **Ann Hake**, for arranging this program--and all the others for the past several years:-). If you have program suggestions, please send them to Ann.



Annual Gathering 2018 Update — Continuing the countdown of "Top Ten Reasons to Come to the AG in Indy" - Reason #8: Family Fun! The Indianapolis Children's Museum, the largest in the world, has something for everyone. Conner Prairie Interactive History Park, a Smithsonian affiliate, invites guests to step back into 1836. The Indianapolis Zoo signature exhibits range from the International Orangutan Center to the

world's largest shark touch tank and Dolphin Dome. Or you can enroll the kids in the age-appropriate Mensa programs at the AG. (Stay tuned for the rest).

Half Price Mensa Testing in October – October is Mensa's annual testing month. (We give tests throughout the year, but emphasize testing in October.) If you know someone you think should take the Mensa test, let them know that the price in October will be just \$30. Testing Coordinator Karen Zwick is working on getting test sessions set up in several locations—check the October *MIND* for details. If you know people in your area who would like to take the test, let Karen know and she'll see if we can give a test close to them.

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 group

Meeting of Minds in Ohio

Alison Brown

Two Central Indiana Mensans met some members of East Central Ohio Mensa for a quick lunch at Jake's and a lot of chat before going to see *The HMS Pinafore* at the Ohio Light Opera in Wooster, OH. The picture was taken by our waitress, since not one of these Mensans has a smart phone!

Who wants to join us in 2018?



CIM in the back row: Margy Fletcher and Alison Brown ECOM in the front row Karen and John Schmid, Jeanne Ebie

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Thanks, Dad

Fiction by Dom Jervis

Christmas 2000. The dawn of a new millennium approaches. But I will be left behind, my dream of having a career I seem born to do, gone.

I'd considered research in advanced differential equations, actuarial science, maybe even trying a couple of Claymath's Millennium Problems. But the day I realized I could calculate bond prices in my head, the die was cast.

Along with several classmates, I'd been offered a position with one of the world's top traders. But unlike them, they wanted to hand me a five-year guaranteed contract and a six-figure signing bonus, unheard of in the business for a newbie. None of them can even work a slide rule, but they are bound for Utopia, while I'm heading for the lowest terrace of Purgatory.

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The only condition to this Offer that Dreams are made of is that I can't take any time off my first year, no big deal.

But, I should have known it all along. Dad is getting up in years. He can't put in the long hours anymore, and his mind is going, a recipe for disaster for a small accounting firm. He'd built it himself, and it had become his obsession, that and arm-twisting me in, to hand me the keys. I wanted to peg trends of derivatives and arbitrage, not do bookkeeping and taxes for farmers teetering on the brink of paying for services with chickens or cranberries.

I had always spent the Holiday Season reflecting on the year: new friends and contacts; others to whom I'd had to say good-bye; good deeds done; lessons learned from mistakes made; major accomplishments toward long-term goals; setting the course for overcoming setbacks, and being thankful for each New Day, for I knew too many who didn't make it to my age. Yet the future, once so filled with Promise and Hope, now holds FAR less than I'd envisioned. This is a watershed Christmas, one in which I will remember having come to a fork in the road, and not being allowed to decide my Path for myself. The effect of this, only time will tell. But it looks like no way but down.

Feeling sorry for myself isn't doing any good. But it's still tough to not do so. All I ever wanted was a genuine opportunity to pursue my dream. But evidently, that was too much to ask. It is over...ALL Over.

Enough already. Write the letter. Decline the offer. Forget about ever having the world at my feet, literally. There will be no office from which I can look for miles in all directions, with the belief that it can all be mine. Accept your Fate. Put the letter in the mail and turn the page.

Pick up the pen, though it carries the weight of all those born with a one-inmillion Gift, but were shackled for Life due to no fault of his/her own, just for having been born into the wrong nook of the Realm.

Here we go. Start writing, and don't stop until it's done.

"Dear Cantor Fitzgerald..."

[Author's note: Every employee of Cantor Fitzgerald, located in the World Trade Center, died on September 11, 2001.]



New Members and Move-Ins

There were no new members this month.



Petra's Funny Page

Petra Ritchie

- 1 What kind of coffee does a T. Rex drink? Jurassic Perk
- 2 Why did the cookie visit the doctor? He felt crummy.
- 3 Computer gossip: chat rumors
- :4 Western hero created in a science lab: The Clone Ranger
- 5 Bad breath is created by eating junk food.

If you want to be spared these groaners, email: petraritchie@msn.com



Recent News from American Mensa

Save on office supplies – Mensa has partnered with one of the world's largest office-products distributors to save money at Office Depot. Mensans receive a 10-percent discount on purchases and can save up to 25 percent on printing (with a few exceptions): https://www.us.mensa.org/shop/benefits-and-services/office-depot/

Get compensated for your opinions – Rated M — The Mensa Marketing Research Panel, where you choose how you participate in select surveys: https://research.infocusmarketing.com/go/rated-m-the-mensa-marketing-research-panel#!/auth/welcome

September 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, <u>steilkr@sbcglobal.net</u>

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

Monthly Gathering - 2nd Friday, 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. Doors open at 7:00pm; announcements begin at 7:45pm followed by the program. After the program will be "Ten Minutes of Math and Science" with George Dunn.

9/8 – It's Games Night! Pack up grandma and the kids and come on over to play your favorite games. If you have a favorite, bring it along. Meet some new friends. Learn some new strategies. Have a great time.

Mensa Admissions Test - 9/10. 1 p.m. registration. Testing begins at 1:30 p.m. Location is in the area of 116th St. 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 candi-dates. 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.

September 2017

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
|-------------------------------|--------|---|---------------------------|
| | | | |
| 3 Bridge Club | 4 | 5 | 6 Indy Lunch Bunch |
| 10 Mensa Admission Test | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 17 Mensans Dining Out | 18 | 19 MINDbending/ ExCom; Paducah Area Group Meeting | 20 Indy Lunch Bunch |
| 24 Book Club | 25 | 26 | 27 |

September 2017 (cont.)

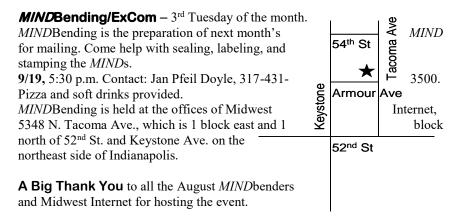
| Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 Ham 'n' Eggs; Cal. Deadline |
| 7 | 8 Monthly Gathering | 9 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 21 | 22 Cinder | 23 |
| 28 | 28 | 30 |

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.

September 2017 Events (cont.)

Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday, 6 p.m., 9/17, WB Pizza, 6165 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46220. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

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



Book Group – 2 p.m., Sunday, **9/24**. We will discuss *The Curse of Cash* by Kenneth Rogoff. 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.

Cinder– 4th Friday, 7 p.m., 721 East 55th Street, 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

October 2017 MIND calendar items due 9/2/17 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.

Jon's Journal - News for Region 4

By Jon Gruebele, RVC4

If you haven't already, please consider searching for the American Mensa Region 4 Facebook group and join us there for news and conversation about our region and our Local Groups.

On the national front, we held the first American Mensa Board of Directors (AMC) meeting of the 2017-2019 term at the Annual Gathering in Hollywood, FL. In short, we:



- Concurred with the recommendations of the Hearings Committee to expel a member for acts inimical to Mensa including filing suit against us before exhausting internal avenues of redress.
- Changed the way a vacant Regional Vice Chair (RVC) position would be handled. Rather than splitting the duties amongst the remaining RVCs, a non-voting Regional Coordinator would be appointed to manage those responsibilities until the next election.
- Clarified roles of regional appointees and how they will be selected.
- Granted one Local Group a temporary exception to our Minimum Standard Bylaws while they adjust their bylaws. This allows them to participate remotely at their leadership meetings.
- Filled a wide variety of appointed and committee positions.
- We also held our members' Annual Business Meeting in Hollywood.
 We heard reports about the past year's results and indefinitely tabled a proposed bylaws amendment.

If anyone would like more details, Mini-Minutes and an audio recording of the AMC meeting are available on the American Mensa website under Lead -> Board of Directors (AMC) -> Meeting Reports. Under "Select Meeting", choose "2017-07-06 – Hollywood, FL". The Audited Financial Statements are available under Lead -> Financials by selecting the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

I would also like to thank the wonderful people who have volunteered to be appointed to these Region 4 roles:

Assistant Regional Vice Chair Jeudi Juetten, Chicago Area MensaRegional Ombudsman Mark Pennow, Mensa of WisconsinRegional Scholarship Chair Jane Gmur, Minnesota MensaRegional Webmaster George Haynes, St. Louis Area Mensa

Finally, I hope to see you at one of these upcoming regional events:

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RG-Lite, October 14, West Allis, WI. http://wi.us.mensa.org/rg.htm

HalloweeM, October 26 – 29, Wheeling, IL, the largest Regional Gathering in the U.S. http://chicago.us.mensa.org/weem/index.php

Thoughts? Please e-mail me at <u>rvc4@us.mensa.org</u> or call/text me at +1 309 693 1359.



Books On The Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: The Making of Donald Trump

Author: David Cay Johnston **Publisher:** Melville House

Year: 2016

Book Description: Ladies and gentleman, step right up and witness a monumental hoax that would make Phineas Taylor Barnum envious: one of the nation's



most notorious con artists has just been transformed by millions of credulous voters into the leader of the free world! He has even managed to earn the respect of the eminent psychologist Daniel J. Levitin, Ph. D., who stated in his book, The Organized Mind: "Donald Trump...is a controversial figure, but he has demonstrated resilience and has never let business failures reduce his selfconfidence." But according to Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist David Cay Johnston, who has tenaciously followed Donald Trump for nearly three decades, Trump's business-magnate facade is just that: a mask to disguise his paranoia and insecurity. The Making of Donald Trump initially chronicles the less-thanethical behavior of Donald's forebears (draft-dodging, illicit business dealings, graft), which set the pattern for Donald's own predatory management style. The remainder of the book is a blow-by-blow (literal and figurative) account of Trump's activities over the years; his mistreatment of family members; his association with crooked lawyers, drug traffickers, and other organized crime figures; his use and abuse of immigrant construction workers; his circumvention of government regulations and bribery of officials; his numerous tax evasion strategies; his refusal to take responsibility or compensate investors and contractors for his frequent business failures; and his blatantly self-aggrandizing fabrications and "selective memory." Tabloid-worthy, but factual, as the author's forty-plus pages of notes attest. This is not fake news, folks - the man behind the curtain truly is a humbug, and Johnston's book is indisputable proof.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? The Making of Donald Trump has validated my

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lack of faith in Trump's moral character, an appraisal gleaned decades ago from reports of his unprofessional and misogynistic behavior when Trump first caught the public's attention.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? Readers on both sides of the political spectrum would benefit from a greater understanding of the man who now holds the nation's highest office. Love or loathe Donald Trump, this book should serve as a lesson on making educated election choices: know your candidate before entering the ballot booth. Plus, this morbidly fascinating character study is, quite frankly, first-rate entertainment. The only minor irritant is the author's occasional praise of his own accomplishments, but please take that with a grain of salt - he's earned it.

How long might it take to read this book? The writing style, like the design of the book itself, is dramatically understated, presenting the plain, simple, unembellished, horrific truth. This engrossing page-turner should take a day or less to complete.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: "Many of the things Trump says he would do if elected are not within the limited powers we grant presidents. Presidents cannot unilaterally spend taxpayer money, cannot impose tariffs on foreign goods, and cannot dictate to corporations where they will invest. They also cannot expect soldiers to follow illegal orders, as Trump has said he would demand, from the use of torture prohibited by our Constitution and the treaties that are the law of the land - to the killing of innocent civilians, notably the children of terrorists he describes as Islamic (terrorists whom I consider Muslim apostates who describe themselves in their own publications as apocalyptic believers expecting the world to end soon)... Businessmen can, as Trump often does, dismiss people and move on. Presidents do not enjoy that luxury. They must contend with ever-present forces that are not subject to their control. A president cannot dismiss a troublemaking foreign head of state, cannot order Congress to pass laws, and cannot disobey the rulings of judges - not if we are to be a free people, living subject to the rule of law that protects our individual liberties.

Yet Trump makes clear that he would do all these things. His vision is, in many ways, not that of a president but of a dictator, as many others have observed in both political parties and beyond America's borders."

Additional Remarks: *The Making of Donald Trump* was published in the summer of 2016, and was primarily aimed at participants in the 2016 national elections. Still, the book's observations are worth noting even after the fact, and the more perspicacious among us can use this knowledge to ensure that Donald Trump's "greatest show on earth," his political career, becomes as extinct as the recently-terminated Barnum and Bailey circus.



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 6/20/17

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, June 20, 2017.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. Members present were Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Diane O'Brien, Karen Wilczewski, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick.

Member absent: Kurt Williams

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Jon Gruebele

The committee reviewed the minutes of the March ExCom meeting. Karen Zwick moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected. Diane O'Brien seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report. Ann Hake moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Ethan Blocher-Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

membership report was compiled by Jan Pfeil Doyle based upon the information available as of 5/31/2017 from American Mensa: 494 members, 4 new, 2 move-ins, 4 rejoins, and 3 prospects.

Old Business

Outdoor Gathering: was well attended and a good time was had by all.

2018 Annual Gathering: Planning continues steadily. Laurel Richardson, who submitted the idea of the "LOVE" painting for the theme, has been named the winner of the naming/theme contest.

New Business

The Mensa Gifted Family Program will be taking a tour of Lucas Oil Stadium on Friday.

There being no other business, Ann Hake made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Hake, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 07/17/2017)

| Bank Accounts | 06/19/2017 | 07/17/2017 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Checking – Regular | \$5,073.09 | \$4,663.94 |
| Checking – Scholarship | 906.50 | 936.50 |
| Checking – Youth Membership | 69.34 | 69.34 |
| Checking – RG/OG Fund | 9,813.99 | 9,575.23 |
| Checking – Youth Activity Fund | 489.40 | 489.40 |
| Total Assets | \$16,352.32 | \$15,734.41 |

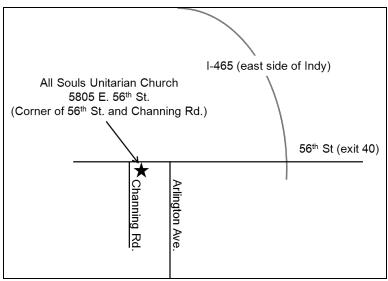
Profit & Loss Statement (06/20/2017 – 07/17/2017)

| Income | | | | |
|---------|---|----------|--|--|
| | 401.1 – Monthly Gathering Income | 94.00 | | |
| | 403 – Donations (book sales for scholarship fund) | 30.00 | | |
| | Total Income | \$124.00 | | |
| Expense | | | | |
| | 503.1– OG Hospitality | 238.76 | | |
| | 505 – Food for ExCom/MIND Bending | 59.33 | | |
| | 505.1 – MIND Printing | 289.07 | | |
| | 520 – Miscellaneous Expenses (Mensa Cares T- | 154.75 | | |
| | Shirts, postage for mailing tests to National) | | | |
| | Total Expenses | \$741.91 | | |

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

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Kokomo Vacant

Lafayette Vacant

Muncie Vacant

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