



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



 The Central Indiana Mensa
Family Program Presents

THE 9TH ANNUAL SUMMER BLAST!

July 20-21, 2018
Only \$25/person

Relax with us on a private beach in Plymouth, IN as we enjoy the last days of summer before school starts. Activities include sailing lessons, canoeing, rowboat, swimming, fishing, nature hikes, games, and hanging out with fun, smart people. Friday dinner, Friday night s'mores, Saturday breakfast & lunch provided. Arrive as early as 4pm on Friday and stay until Saturday afternoon.



Visit kids.indymensa.org to learn more and sign up

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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mind

table of contents

Old Dog/New Tricks	4
LocSection	5
Mensa Admission Test Schedule	6
Mensa Test at the AG	7
Petra's Funny Page	7
Regs and Rules for CIM Elections	8
<i>Evolution of Beauty: A Review</i>	9
In Case You Missed It	9
Welcome New Members	10
Book Group Reading List	10
July 2018 Events	11
RVC4 Column	15
Books on the Runway	16
Carpool To The AG?	19
Volunteer For The AG	19
ExCom Minutes	20
Treasurer's Report	21
Location of CIM Monthly Meeting	22
Contact Information	23

Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, Editor

I am writing this mere days away from the start of the AG. Like a found baby bird that has fallen from its nest, it requires constant attention, but soon, it will be big enough to set loose to live its own life. Then, in an instant, it will be gone. We will just have the memories. Two years of work will fly by in less than a week.



We were six months into planning the AG when I retired from a paying job. In some ways I feel like I haven't retired yet, I just took a big pay cut and continued working in a different location. Maybe I'll try retiring again and see if I can be more successful at it.

One thing I've learned during this process is all the really cool things that are going on in Indianapolis all the time. Jan and I have attended some wonderful programs and events while searching for potential presenters at the AG. Just last week, I took a trolley tour of Indianapolis (downtown and Speedway). The driver never stopped talking during the 75-minute trip. As a life-long resident of Indianapolis, I was amazed at the things I learned from him about my home town.

Jan and I knew Indy had hidden gems. Now we know how to find them. We regularly search Eventbrite, Evensi (this is a newer one), the public library website, local colleges and universities, and many more. So many of the options are free or a minimal cost. There's no reason to stay home unless you want to.

But sometimes we need to slow down and live in the moment even though outside influences conspire to push us forward. Has anyone else noticed the tv and online ads from IKEA for back-to-school dorm room furnishings? Didn't those kiddoes just get home?

Happy July Fourth. Be safe!

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

The Annual Gathering Is Almost Here! – As I

write this we're at 17 days and counting until the AG. Since the MIND will be out before the AG starts, I will say it one last time: I hope all of you will take advantage of Mensa's national convention being held in Indianapolis from July 4-8. If you can't attend the entire event, pick a day or two! The AG won't be this close again for a long time, if ever. The full schedule of events and speakers is online at <http://ag.us.mensa.org/>; at the top of the page, click on Programming, then Session Schedule. There is also a great phone app; search for Mensa AG 2018 in the App Store or Google Play. There are over 300 events scheduled—something for everyone! Pre-registration for the AG has ended but you can register on site. See the webpage for details. Your registration



includes speakers (6+ concurrent tracks from 9 am – 10:30 pm); 24-hr games; tournaments; SIG M&Gs (Special Interest Group Meet and Greets); breakfast and lunch most days; and snacks, soft drinks, and beer and wine in hospitality. You won't find a better deal anywhere! Find out more about AGs at <https://ag.us.mensa.org/pages/faq/>. If you're on Facebook, keep up to date at the AG event page: www.facebook.com/events/234054937121565/ (or search for Mensa Annual Gathering 2018).

Thank you – To scholarship chair **Laurel Richardson** for once again managing the scholarship application judging for Central Indiana Mensa. Thanks, too, to judges **Karen Zwick**, **Charles Rawlings**, and **Elise Davidson**.

Congratulations – To **Mackenzie Castellanos** from Bargersville who won the John Matthews Scholarship and **Alicia Bostwick** from Zionsville who was awarded one of the Karen Cooper Scholarships.

CIM Family Program 9th Annual Summer Blast - Back by popular demand, and better than ever, it's the Summer Blast on July 20-21! Join us on a private family beach in Plymouth, IN as we camp in tents on the scenic bank of Pretty Lake. (Yes, that's the real name of the lake--it truly is a pretty, clear-water lake with a sandy bottom!) More details and registration at kids.indymensa.org

Mensa Admission Testing for 2018

We currently have eight test sessions planned for the following dates in May through November 2018. Please contact Testing Coordinator Karen Zwick at karen.zwick@outlook.com to reserve a space. The exact testing location will be provided when a candidate reserves a space.

Month	Date	Start Time	General Location
July** (See Pg 7)	Wednesday, July 4, 2018	4:00 P.M.	Annual Gathering at JW Marriott, Indpls, IN
	Saturday, July 7, 2018	9:00 A.M.	
September	Saturday, September 15, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side
October	Sunday, October 7, 2018	1:00 P.M.	Carmel, IN
October	Saturday, October 20, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side
November	Saturday, November 10, 2018	12:00 P.M.	Indianapolis south side

The fee of \$60 is payable by cash, check, or any major credit card. You can also purchase a voucher for the fee ahead of time at www.us.mensa.org/join/testing/testingvoucher/. Candidates between 14-17 years old are required to have one of their parents also sign the registration form in my presence at the testing site. We are not permitted to test candidates under 14 years old. Candidates under 14 will need to apply to the American Mensa, Ltd. national office in Arlington, Texas using approved prior testing evidence. A partial list of accepted tests and scores is available at: www.us.mensa.org/join/testscores/qualifyingscores/. Further questions about prior evidence admission to Mensa may be answered by calling Mensa's national office at 817-607-0060.

No smoking, calculators, or scratch paper are allowed. Candidates are permitted to take each of the two tests comprising the Mensa Admissions Test battery only once in their lives. Candidates who qualify on either test will be invited to become a member. Please bring a photo ID and one or two #2 pencils. I also have plenty of extras.

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The information above refers to the regular Mensa Admission Test. Please contact the Testing Coordinator if you are interested in taking the Culture Fair test.

Karen Zwick
Testing Coordinator – Central Indiana Mensa
karen.zwick@outlook.com

**** Mensa Testing at the Indianapolis AG**

We are offering testing at the Annual Gathering in Indianapolis. If you know someone who should be in Mensa, and they are within driving distance, don't let them miss this opportunity.

The usual testing fee is \$60, but only at the AG, the fee has been slashed to not \$50, not \$40, but \$30! Yes, that's right. It's half-price.

But, wait! There's more! Anyone who takes the test is also invited to attend the AG for a day. That's an additional savings of \$96.

Two tests will be given:

- Wednesday, July 4, 4:00pm registration/4:30 test.
- Saturday, July 7, 9:00am registration/9:30am test.

Anyone testing on Wednesday may choose which full day to attend. Those who test on Saturday may stay the rest of the day.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Gregory at ag18tg@yahoo.com.



Petra's Funny Page

Petra Ritchie



Daffynitions:

1. Coffee, n. The person upon whom one coughs.
2. Flabbergasted, adj. Appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained.
3. Abdicate, v. To give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. Esplanade, v. To attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. Willy-nilly, adj. Impotent.

Have some clever puns to contribute?

Email: petraritchie@msn.com

Rules & Regulations for the 2018 Election of the Executive Committee of CIM

An election is held each even numbered year so the term of each Executive Committee (ExCom) is two years.

The following is verbatim from CIM's Bylaws:

V.5 The names of the nominees for the final ballot shall be submitted to the Editor no later than the submission deadline for the August newsletter. Ballots shall contain the names of all nominated candidates in random order, whether nominated by the Nominating Committee or by petition. Ballots shall be printed in the August issue of the newsletter including in the electronic version of the newsletter if such is available, or mailed by post or electronically to all members of the local group, but in any case posted no later than August 1st. Ballots may be returned to the Election Committee chair by mail, electronically if such option is available, or in person; but all members must be allowed to participate by postal mail at all stages of the election process if they so choose. Ballots must be received by the Election Committee chair no later than the date of the September Monthly Gathering to be valid; in the event that there is no September Monthly Gathering, ballots must be received by September 15th to be valid. The Election Committee shall meet in public at the September Monthly Gathering to count the ballots; in the event that there is no September Monthly Gathering, the Election Committee shall meet in public no later than September 30th to count the ballots. If a voter does not follow the rules for submitting ballots in such a way as to compromise confidentiality, but the ballot is otherwise acceptable, the ballot shall be accepted and the voter shall be deemed to have waived confidentiality. A plurality of valid votes cast for each ExCom position shall constitute election. Votes that are tied shall be determined by the Election Committee chair by a flip of a coin. The Election Committee chair shall certify the results of the election to the LocSec and shall have the election results published in the next feasible issue of the newsletter. The Election Committee chair shall preserve the ballots for inspection by any member of CIM until January 1st following the election.

V.7 Any challenges to the election must be made in writing to the Election Committee chair and received by October 15th following the election. Any such challenges must be ruled on by October 31st following the election. Any actions by the ExCom while a challenge is pending are not affected by the outcome of any such challenge.

Election Committee chair, Marcele Everest, 765-221-9477,
meebusn@gmail.com

The Evolution of Beauty:

A Review of the July Book Group Selection

Rich Gibson

We will meet to discuss *The Evolution of Beauty*, by Richard O Prum. This book was one of the NY Times' Ten Best Books of 2017, and also judged one of the year's best by Smithsonian and the Wall Street Journal. It describes one of the biggest arguments in evolution science today: on what basis do animals, from birds to apes to humans, choose their mates with which to have offspring?

The traditional camp, using Darwin's *Origin of Species* as a foundation, claim that "fitness" (whatever that means) drives all mate choice. The other, ironically enough drawing on another of Darwin's books, the *Descent of Man*, argues that aesthetics is driving the decisions. Male bowerbirds build elaborate seduction chambers, ornamented with colorful pebbles and such--even bottlecaps!--to attract females. Male Irish elk (now extinct) grew huge racks of antlers to attract females, to the extent that some mature males couldn't lift their heads!

Prum builds a convincing argument that aesthetics drive mate choice, and explains the logical knots that traditionalists tie themselves into to claim no, it's fitness. From that, he explores some fascinating implications of aesthetics, or beauty, as an evolutionary force--(ahem, thus the name of the book). For one: appreciation of beauty means non-human animals have much higher levels of cognition than we may have been willing to admit. For another: females make the mate choices among bonobos and chimpanzees, our closest cousins. It is likely that the genetic disposition of *homo sapiens* is the same; however, culture can override genetic tendencies. Many human cultures have wrenched mate choice away from females and arrogated it to males.

So. There's plenty of opportunity for spirited discussions on Sunday, July 22nd! Please consider reading some or all of the book and showing up. Rich and Jackie will be happy to provide directions if you've never been there before; and they always appreciate an RSVP. Hope to see you there!

[This book was also a 2018 Pulitzer Prize Finalist in General Nonfiction!]



In Case You Missed It?

In the May/June issue of *The Bulletin*, there is an article on page 32 by our own Central Indiana Mensan, Nick Elam. "B-BALL You Can Be - An elegant solution to eject bad endings from basketball games: stop the tick-tock." Come see his presentation at the AG entitled, 'The Only Constant Is Change; Sports Rule Changes Through the Years.'



New Member

Jon Barnes	Brazil	IN	MoveIn
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2018-19 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Here is the list of books to read for the CIM Book Group. It meets in Sunday afternoons once a month. Check the calendar for exact dates. Call or email Rich Gibson if you have any question or for directions.

Jul 22: *Evolution of Beauty* by Richard Prum [See Page 9 for review.]

Aug 19: Lewis and Clark. Read one of these (or another book on the topic) and come prepared to discuss it!

- *From Sea to Shining Sea*, by James Alexander Thom
- *Undaunted Courage* by Stephen Ambrose
- *The Journals of Lewis and Clark*

Sep 23: *Without You There Is No Us* by Suki Kim

Oct 28: *Reality is Not What It Seems* by Carlo Rovelli

Nov 18: *Venomous* by Christie Wilcox

Dec 16: *Dialogues: Conversations on the Nature of the Universe* by Clifford Johnson

Jan 20, 2019: *Hidden Life of Trees* by Hans Wohlleben

Feb 17: *I Was Told to Come Alone* by Souad Mekhennet

Mar 17: *The Year of Lear* by James Shapiro

Apr 21: *Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers* by Robert Sapolsky

July 2018 Events

Ham 'n' Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) – NOTE: due to the AG, Ham 'n' Eggs will meet on the 2nd 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.

Indy Lunch Bunch – NOTE: due to the AG, for the month of July, Indy Lunch Bunch will only meet on the 3rd Wednesday at 12:00 noon, Double Eagle Café, 650 N. Meridian (at the Scottish Rite Cathedral), Indianapolis. Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net.

Mensa Annual Gathering (AG) Monumental Mindbending!, Indianapolis, July 4-8. CIM is chairing this year's event, which offers speakers, tours, 24/7 hospitality and more. **For more information:** <https://ag.us.mensa.org/>.

Monthly Gathering - 2nd Friday, 7 p.m. – 11 p.m. All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226. See last page of *MIND* for map and directions. NOTE NEW FEE: **Members: \$7.00, Non-Members: \$10.00; Children 6-18: \$5.00, under 6: free.**

7/13 –VPN Malware and Other Dangers: Keeping Safe in a Digital World presented by Leo Doyle.

STEM Time with George Dunn (formerly 10 Minutes of Math and Science) following the speaker.

Mensa Admissions Test – Wednesday, July 4 in the afternoon and Saturday, July 7 in the morning at the Annual Gathering at the JW Marriott, downtown Indianapolis. Contact: Karen Zwick at: karen.zwick@outlook.com to reserve a space.

Additional Information: The \$30 special testing fee is payable by cash, check, or any major credit card. You can purchase a voucher for the fee ahead of time at www.mensa.org/join/testing/testingvoucher/. Candidates between 14 and 17 years of age are required to have one of their parents also sign the registration form in the presence of the testing coordinator at the testing site. We are not permitted to test candidates under age 14. Candidates under 14 will need to apply to the American Mensa Ltd. national office in Arlington, Texas, using approved prior testing evidence. A partial list of accepted tests and scores is available at: www.u.s.mensa.org/join/testscores/qualifyingscores/. For further questions about prior evidence admission to Mensa, call Mensa's national office at 817-607-0060.

July 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1	2	3	4 Mensa AG; Mensa Admission Test
8 Mensa AG	9	10	11
15 Mensans Dining Out	16	17 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom; Paducah Area Group Meeting	18 Indy Lunch Bunch
22 Book Club	23	24	25
29	30	31	

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Mensa AG	6 Mensa AG	7 Cal. Deadline; Mensa AG; Mensa Admission Test
12	13 Monthly Gathering	14 Ham 'n' Eggs
19	20	21
26	27	28

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.

July 2018 Events (cont.)

Mensa Admissions Test: Additional Information (cont.)

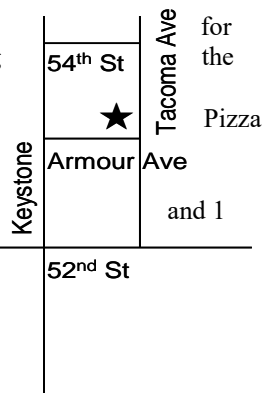
No smoking, calculators, or scratch paper are allowed. Candidates are permitted to take each of the two tests comprising the Mensa Admissions Test battery only once in their lives. Candidates who qualify on either test will be invited to become a member. Please bring photo ID and one or two #2 pencils.

MINDBending/ExCom – 3rd Tuesday of the month.

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

7/17, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-3500. and soft drinks provided.

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



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

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

Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday, 6 p.m., 7/15. Saigon Restaurant, 4760 W. 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46254. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

Book Group – 2 p.m., Sunday, 7/22. We will discuss *Evolution of Beauty* by Richard Prum. The group will meet 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. [See page 9 for a review of the book.]

For last minute changes to events check the Central Indiana Mensa group on Meetup.com. <http://www.meetup.com/central-indiana-mensa>
August 2018 *MIND* calendar items due 7/6/18 to: biltmore@topdogcom.com.

Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

By Jon Gruebele, RVC4

Annual Gatherings Near and Far

Hopefully I'll see you at the Annual Gathering (AG) in Indianapolis this month. We'll have loads of speakers, games, tours, a gala dinner, and lots more. It's bound to be terrific! Even driving in for one day can be fun.

If you're there, you are cordially invited to attend the events I'll be leading:

Region 4 Meet & Greet, a discussion of Mensa at the regional and national level (Friday at 1:30)

Leadership Development – Strategic Planning, Succession Planning (Saturday at 3:00)

As you might imagine, other countries do their AGs differently. In April, I attended my fourth German AG, this time in Aachen. They had somewhere around 800 attendees.

Registration for their AG is only €15 (about \$18.50), but all you get for that is a badge and a regional bus pass. Everything else is extra. They have no Hospitality, but you can always buy a beer in the main hotel bar. Want to attend a presentation? It's \$2.50. Have a nice dinner? It's \$17, or \$94 for the Gala dinner. Go on a tour? Depends on the tour. I went to a local optical research center for \$5, and for \$13.50 we visited a very nice energy museum at the site of coal mining and coke production operations active from the 12th century to the 1990s.

Not much happens at the main hotel other than the presentations. Everything else is somewhere in the surrounding area (hence the bus pass with your main registration). Including a few repeated sessions, they had 20 presentations, 32 tours (city tours, museums, archives, buildings, etc.), 8 dinners, a reception with the mayor, 11 cultural events (including absinth tasting), 6 company visits, 4 workshops, 13 sport & fun events (laser tag, escape rooms, bicycle trips, etc.), and 4 miscellaneous events.

For what I wanted to do, I paid about what the mostly inclusive U.S. AG registration costs. The main benefit of their approach is that people can tailor their AG experience to their budget. On the downside, you must decide what you want to do far in advance, and there's significant administrative overhead. You get printed admission tickets for each event, and someone must collect them. Finding restaurants that will simultaneously accommodate hundreds of people is nearly impossible, so organized meals are typically split across several separate venues.



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I enjoy both the way we do it and the way they do it, although I particularly missed having the social meeting place our Hospitality room provides. In any case, the world of Mensa extends well beyond our Local Groups. Mensa has fun things happening across the country and around the world. If you have the opportunity, check them out!

As always, I welcome your feedback. Please contact me at rvc4@us.mensa.org, via phone or text at +1 309 693 1359. Region 4's Facebook group is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/695847670490858>.



Books On The Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: It's Even Worse Than You Think: What the Trump Administration Is Doing to America

Author: David Cay Johnston

Year: 2018

Book Description: An alternate title for David Cay Johnston's latest Donald Trump exposé might be *The Making of Donald Trump - the Sequel*. Whereas the first book's focus was on Trump's fitness (or lack thereof) as a presidential candidate, this follow-up volume thoroughly documents the myriad ways in which Trump, since taking office, has displayed his ignorance of governmental matters and his utter lack of concern for the economically disadvantaged "forgotten Americans" he has relentlessly claimed to support. At the outset, Johnston establishes his main premise: the basic factor that differentiates Trump from his forty-four presidential predecessors is Trump's motivation to personally benefit from his position of power, the general American populace be damned. After accurately labeling the Trump administration a kleptocracy ("government by those who seek chiefly status and personal gain at the expense of the governed," per Merriam-Webster), the author catalogues in horrific detail the aspects of American politics in which Trump and his allies have repeatedly reneged on their promises to "make America great again": employment, taxes, the environment, global affairs, education, law enforcement, race relations, and immigration. In the process, asserts the author, Trump has maintained his domestic and foreign business ties at the taxpayer's expense, has supported legislation that favors predatory businesses and reduces budgets for - or eliminates - programs vital to the health and well-being of low- and mid-income citizens, and has filled key cabinet posts with super-wealthy cronies with no background in or knowledge of the disciplines they were hired to direct. In sum,

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Johnston says, “the Trump administration [has] deposited political termites throughout the structure of our government” for the purpose of weakening it to favor the best-off over the less fortunate, and to promulgate the far-right mythical vision of a stratified, white, ultra-conservative, oligarchic America devoid of critical thinking and intolerant of opposition to the point of unrestrained violence. He concludes with a challenge to all of us to decide our future, the two alternatives being “a slide toward autocracy in this and future administrations” or a political atmosphere “that frees the human spirit even more.”

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? It is not my normal practice to review two books identical in subject matter and authorship in fairly rapid succession, and please forgive me if I seem redundant. However, because of the vital points the author makes and the wealth of supporting and verifiable data that he presents (his appended list of sources spans twenty-three pages), I deem this book worthy of attention. Even during my Cold War, horror-movie-obsessed childhood, I could never have imagined a scarier scenario than the one in which we Americans are currently living. This book provides plenty of intellectual weapons for fighting the administrative vermin and preserving the dignity and compassion to which every citizen is entitled.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? I strongly recommend this book to everyone old enough to vote, regardless of political persuasion. It is hoped that Johnston’s work persuades current Trump supporters to dismiss the man as the bait-and-switch con artist that he is, strengthens the convictions of the more liberal among us, and aids all of us in making intelligent and informed ballot selections this November.

How long might it take to read this book? The revelations contained in *It’s Even Worse Than You Think* truly live up to the titular assessment (investigative journalism at its best), ensuring a riveting, if not totally surprising, reading experience. Two to three days should suffice.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: “Trump’s success in reaching the White House and his continued diehard support among a third of the adult population reveals a much more serious problem than a crazy man being president... Donald Trump is not the political disease afflicting America, he is a symptom... That millions of people voted for a narcissistic, know-nothing con artist who has spent his entire life swindling others while repeatedly urging followers to commit criminal acts of violence against his critics reveals more about America than about Trump... During the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was supposedly asked, ‘What have we got, a republic or a monarchy?’ to which he replied, ‘A republic - if you can keep it.’... Franklin’s point was that self-governance requires people to

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accept the burdens as well as the benefits of freedom. It means they are responsible for their fate and cannot just blame a crazy king or an uncaring despot or anyone else. They must, to be free, take personal responsibility and be actively engaged in shaping the policies that will affect not only their lives, but those of generations to come... If the United States of America is to endure, it must be with the recognition that compromise, cooperation, and caring about the interests of those you dislike are the basic ingredients of success... What we have seen since Watergate, unfortunately, is a widening chasm between the incentives of office seekers and the interests of the American people, a political divide that Trump recognized and brilliantly exploited. And now he uses his office to profiteer and to denigrate those who disagree with him, just as dictators and would-be dictators have always done... Under our Constitution we determine our political fate. If we wish to turn in our citizenship responsibilities and outsource the work to power mongers, we can do so... Democracies do not die dramatically. They slowly fade away.”

Additional Remarks: According to journalists Tom Jacobs of the Pacific Standard and William Faulk, Editor-in-Chief of The Week, as well as Colin Woodward, author of American Nations, we cannot hope to restore our democracy unless we can somehow overcome the prevalent Us versus Them, white-identity, culture-warrior mentality brought about by perceived loss of political power and fear of change. Be that as it may, it behooves the more sensitive and sensible among us, as we celebrate Independence Day, to pause between fireworks displays, reflect on the personal freedoms and benefits that we still enjoy, and resolve to keep up the fight to preserve them. And allow David Cay Johnston to guide our voting behavior this fall. Let’s stop the insanity!

=====.
Ed. Note: Regarding last month’s submission, a review of Kill Abby White! Now!, I received a nice note from the author:

Hi Teresa,

Thanks for publishing the well-done review of my book in this month's MIND. And thanks to Alison for getting my book to Margy Fletcher.

Regards, C. Bernard Huesing

Then in another message from Karen Steilberger, she noted:

I also had a comment on the "Books on the Runway" feature from the June MIND: I was happy to see a review of C.B. Huesing's book, and it's great that the reviewer noted that Mr. Huesing is a Hoosier author. But I was surprised that she did not mention that not only is he a Hoosier author, but he is a CIM member! That's another good reason to support his literary endeavors.

Thanks, again, to Margy who does such a wonderful job with this column.

Volunteer at the Annual Gathering!

An AG is run in large part by members who volunteer while attending the AG (and by those of us who volunteer ahead of time ☺). There are many ways to get involved and have fun with fellow Mensans from around the country while you're helping the convention run smoothly. You do need to be registered for the AG; you can sign up at for one or more 2-hour shifts at <http://aml.ivolunteer.com/annualgathering2018>.

Following are some positions where we'll need a lot of volunteers, but check out all the positions when you go to the website.

- **Welcome/Information Desk** - Volunteers will have information about local restaurants, things to do, places to visit, where things are in the hotel, etc. This is a prime opportunity for local members to show off their city.
- **Speaker Shepherd** - Meet a speaker you choose in the Green Room before their talk. Escort him/her to their room and introduce them if they want you to.
- **Green Room Host** - Hosts will welcome speakers to the AG. Explain that their shepherd will be meeting them there about 30 min before their talk.
- **Hospitality Greeter** - Circulate around Hospitality welcoming people to the AG; ask if they have any questions. Can sit part of the time at a designated Welcome Table.
- **Hospitality Door Monitor** - Check that everyone entering Hospitality has a valid badge and that closed doors stay closed.
- **Registration** - Duties consist of sitting and some standing at Registration Desk, handing out packets and badge holders.

Want to Carpool to the AG?

If you're local and will be attending the AG on one or more days, you might want to carpool with other attendees. Downtown parking can be expensive--you can see some parking options at ag.us.mensa.org/pages/essentials/event-parking/. **Larry Marcus** (larryamarcus@yahoo.com) has volunteered to organize those who'd like to share rides from the NE side/Fishers area. If you'll be driving from another side of town and would like to organize a ride share, please let Teresa or me know.

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 4/17/18

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 6:53 pm. Members present were Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Diane O'Brien, Karen Wilczewski, Kurt Williams, Bob Zdanky, and Karen Zwick.

Absent: none.

Guests: none.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the March 2018 ExCom meeting. Diane O'Brien moved that the minutes be accepted. Karen Wilczewski 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. Kurt Williams seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

A membership report was compiled by Jan Pfeil Doyle based upon the information available as of 4/17/2018 from American Mensa: 458 members, 5 new, 4 rejoins, and 8 prospects. It was noted that the membership number typically drops at this time of year since March 31 is the deadline for membership renewal each year.

Old Business

2018 Annual Gathering: Planning continues steadily. Speaker previews are highlighted on the website, and the full speaker schedule is nearly complete.

The increase in entry fees for the Monthly Gathering was implemented smoothly beginning with the March meeting.

ExCom elections will take place this year. The Nominating Committee has been formed and a slate is being developed. The Election Committee has also been formed, as outlined in the Minutes from the March ExCom meeting.

New Business

The lease agreement with All Souls for the Monthly Gathering is coming due for renewal. Jan Pfeil Doyle will check into modifying the starting and finishing times to 7 pm and 11 pm, respectively.

There being no other business, Karen Zwick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Hake, Secretary

Treasurer's Reports

Karen Zwick, Treasurer

Balance Sheet (as of 04/16/2018)

Bank Accounts	03/19/2018	04/16/2018
Checking – Regular	\$4,464.94	\$4,023.58
Checking – Scholarship	386.50	386.50
Checking – Youth Membership	69.34	69.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	9,575.23	9,575.23
Checking – Youth Activity Fund	464.40	464.40
Total Assets	\$14,960.41	\$14,519.05

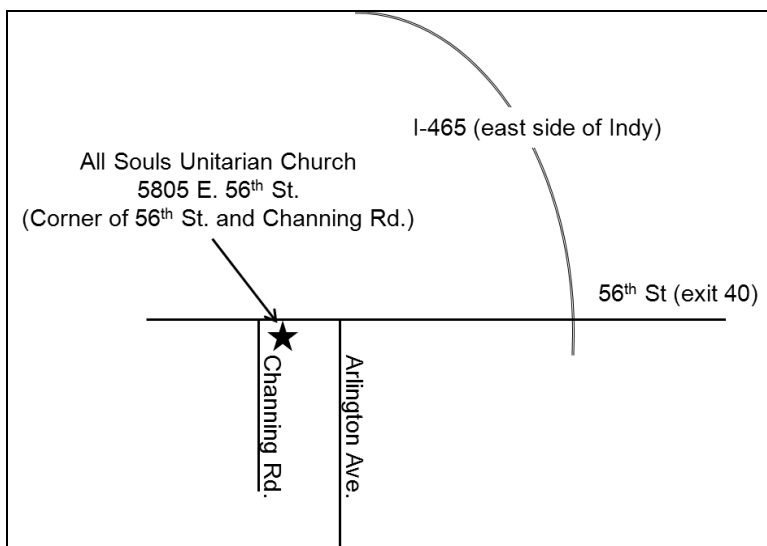
Profit & Loss Statement (03/20/2018 – 04/16/2018)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc. (April)	104.00
Total Income		104.00
Expense		
	501.1– MG Hospitality	43.14
	505 – Food for ExCom/MINDbending – 2 months	146.07
	505.1 – MIND Printing	305.80
	510.1 – New Member Dinners	24.00
	510.2 – New Member Mailing Supplies	28.35
Total Expenses		\$545.36

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

Jon Gruebele 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	Kevin Nemyer, knemyer@aol.com , (765) 744-6532

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

Central Indiana Mensa
Teresa Gregory, Editor
6076 Dewey Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Stamp