



# mind

Mensa Newsletter  
Of Central Indiana



## **Twelve Mensans and One Guest Toured Crown Hill Cemetery in September**

(Left to right) Karen Steilberger, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Alan Schmidt, Margy Fletcher, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Alison Brown, Petra Ritchie, Vicki Adang, Linda Kampe, Kirt Keesling, Becky Keesling, Larry Marcus, and guest Diane Wendel.

## ***Publishing Statement***

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

## ***Contribution Guidelines***

*MIND* contributions may be sent to [mind.editor@yahoo.com](mailto: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, LocSec and Interim Editor*

There's an old saying, "Everything old is new again." This certainly applies to popular culture. I often see it in fashion. I saw some pictures of a royal wedding that took place over the weekend and remembered that my sister had a prom dress in the early 1950s very similar to the bride's gown. I see it in entertainment. The fourth version of the movie "A Star Is Born" is one of the hottest box office tickets now. We see it in television especially. Either they take an old show and recast it with new actors (a reboot) or they take an old show and gather the original cast to pick up where they left off (a revival).



I have returned to the position of Local Secretary (LocSec) that I held from 2006-2012. I guess that makes me a revival. I am a little more "seasoned" than the last time I held this title. The group is also in much better shape than when I was here before. Thanks to Jan Pfeil Doyle for steering this ship we call Central Indiana Mensa along a steady course for the past six years.

Things have happened during that time. We hosted an Annual Gathering, a dream when I was Loc Sec before. We updated our bylaws. We celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a group. We have made new friends and lost some dear ones.

Compared to some other groups, ours is active but we could be more-so. We need to think about adding some activities to our calendar. One thing Jan and I learned from hosting the AG was that there is a lot to do in Indy and the surrounding area. What about people who don't live near Indy? They need to step up and get some things going in their areas. The largest groups of people who don't renew their membership are first timers/new members. They join, don't attend anything, then drop out. We need to find out why they joined and what their expectations were. They might have some really good ideas.

While we are looking to bring in some vital new members, we are also interested in what our long-time members have to say. They are the backbone of the organization.

Nationally, there is a history task force that is going to be collecting American Mensa history. I've wanted to see that done locally for a long time. If anyone has anything they would be willing to share (and would be returned to them) such as old RG programs, alternative publications, directories and yearbooks, etc., please let me know. Share a story or a photo.

Coming up, we will be having a Regional Gathering in January. At this time, we have not finalized the contract, so I don't want to give too much away yet. We will also have an Outdoor Gathering back at Versailles State Park in May. We do have a signed contract for that. If you would like to help with either (or both) of these, please let me know. There are small jobs and larger jobs. There are jobs that need to be done prior to the event and those that will be done during the event. Some can be done without leaving home.

We will also be meeting our new editor next month. I'll leave you guessing until then, but I'm excited.

If you have any issues or concerns, or any suggestions, please let me know.

Having said that, I may not respond as quickly as I would like. I am having carpal tunnel surgery October 22 (right hand) and November 5 (left hand). I am really looking forward to getting this over with.

Look for information in next month's MIND about the annual Holiday Party in December. We have plenty of room so please plan to come. Good food, good friends.

Until then, Happy Thanksgiving to all!



<https://ag.us.mensa.org/>

## **Walking into the Past with the Residents of Crown Hill Cemetery**

*Vicki Adang*

With 550 acres of land and averaging 1,200 burials a year, Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis has enough space to bury the dead for another 200 years.

That mind-boggling statistic was just one of many things 12 Mensans and one guest learned during a tour of Crown Hill on September 22.

The tour started off on a promising note when our tour guide, Tom Davis, asked if it would be all right if the tour ran a little longer than the planned 90 minutes. With our agreement, Tom led us on a tour that ran just over two hours.

Our first stop was the Dillinger family plot. We saw John Dillinger's headstone, which has been replaced at least three times, and Tom told us the story of Dillinger's life and death. We were transported back to 1934 as we imagined the crowd of 5,000 who lined the fence for a glimpse of Dillinger's private service and burial.

Some of the more honorable people buried in Crown Hill include vice presidents Thomas Hendricks, Charles Fairbanks, and Thomas Marshall; 11 Indiana governors, including Oliver P. Morton; and 14 U.S. senators.

Of course, the tour included a stop at the grave of Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd president of the United States. Beautifully landscaped by the Daughters of the American Revolution, the lot includes Harrison's two wives and his son.

We ended the tour at James Whitcomb Riley's final resting place beneath the open-canopied monument on the crown. The cloudy day didn't offer a spectacular view of the downtown skyline, and after nearly two hours in the chilly weather, the group was glad to reach the highlight of the tour and the summit of the cemetery.

Riley's legacy is well known to many Indianapolis residents, but not nearly as many people know the story of how Indiana's beloved poet came to be buried on the most prominent spot in the cemetery. Tom explained that Park Cemetery in Greenfield, Riley's birthplace, wanted to bury Riley at the Mound, the highest point in the cemetery. Members of the Greenfield council argued that his parents and several childhood friends were buried in Park Cemetery, so Riley should be buried there as well.

However, Riley's friends from Indianapolis argued that he wanted to be buried in Crown Hill. After all, he had made his home in Indianapolis for many years and had said that he thought heaven would not be as lovely as Indianapolis. After a year of debate, during which time Riley's body was entombed in the

Gothic Chapel at Crown Hill, Riley was permanently laid to rest at the highest point in Crown Hill Cemetery. Today the location is a beautiful spot from which to view the Indianapolis skyline on a sunny day; the spot in which Riley would have been buried in Park Cemetery overlooks the city's wastewater treatment plant.

After the tour, most of the group enjoyed lunch at Good Morning Mama's on East 54th Street, where we were joined by Greg Crawford. Although the restaurant was noisy, making it difficult to carry on a long conversation, the food was good, and the company was pleasant.



Twelve Mensans and one guest (not pictured) toured Crown Hill Cemetery in September: (left to right) Ethan Blocher-Smith, Karen Steilberger, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Alan Schmidt, Petra Ritchie, Vicki Adang, Alison Brown, Margy Fletcher, Linda Kampe, Larry Marcus, Becky Keesling, and Kirt Keesling.



## Stuff

*Bryan Lundgren, Western Michigan Mensa*

Mom, sister, and me at dawn  
Old toys at flea market booth  
Place to reflect and move on  
Parting with some of our youth

Other families show their stuff  
On tables for us to see  
Walk, look, imagine enough  
The things showed what we could be

Grown now, stepping into past  
Walk failed mall, bushes with thorns  
Dirty gray milk clouded glass  
EAGLE SECURITY warns

FOR LEASE sign signals decay  
I wonder, why did it fail?  
Estate goods FOR SALE today  
Imagine each untold tale

Michigan cutting board, new  
Three owl decoys scare the birds  
Camp green Coleman stove, for you?  
Feel those lives far beyond words

Large framed Ghostbusters! poster  
Quart jars of buttons, for play  
Next to an Elvis coaster  
Who saved them for here today?

Neon BUD sign and mink coat  
Bar top on upturned dinghy  
A lobster trap with its float  
Tractor seat bar stools, springy

Salt and pepper collection  
Antique radio: a fake  
Once items of perfection  
Estate relatives forsake

Depression glass candy dish  
My grandma lived in our home  
Sweets before bedtime: her wish  
Rotted teeth are mine to own

Gram's cane seat chair to remind  
Rusty key ring to open



Memories that were left behind  
Reveal past thoughts unspoken

Grandma's slow mental decline  
Sometimes nice, but often rough  
Avoid her like a landmine  
Encounters made me feel tough

We come and go on this earth  
Leaving a tiny brief trace  
Ghost artifacts others search  
Frozen past, now forlorn space

The poem starts at Muskegon's (Michigan) weekly flea market in 1962 and jumps to 11 Sep 2018 at a largely abandoned, now unnamed, manufacturers' outlet mall on US31 just north of Holland, Michigan. One of the few open stores is Harvest Antiques where estate items in the poem was observed.



## SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!



Cincinnati Area Mensa's 36<sup>th</sup> Regional Gathering

November 30 – December 2, 2018

Doubletree Suites, 6300 East Kemper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241

Hotel Rate: \$99.00/night – rates are guaranteed until November 8, 2018. Reservations can be made by calling

(513) 489-3636 or (800) 222-8733 with group code MSA or online at

[http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CVGKRD-T-MSA-20181129/index.jhtml?WT.mc\\_id=POG](http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CVGKRD-T-MSA-20181129/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG)

Lights, Cameras, and ***You*** one of many stars in our Featured Picture. 2 Speaker Tracks, Gifted Youth Activities, Tournaments and activities galore. The Registration Rate includes a fabulous spread of 2 breakfasts, lunch, 2 buffet dinners and 24 hour snacks at the snack bar!

### Registration Rates are as Follows:

Full Weekend	Day Rates
\$85 Until 11/08/18	Friday Only \$40
\$95 After 11/08/18	Saturday Only \$70
Attendees Ages 12-20 Half of Adult Rate	Saturday After 5:00 pm \$40
\$40 Kids Ages 6-11	Kids Ages 6-11 \$20 per Day
Kids under 6 Free	Attendees Ages 12-20 Half of Adult Rate

See our Facebook Event Page for current information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/810851049106020/>

Make checks payable to Cincinnati Area Mensa RG. Paypal is accepted at [www.cincymensa.org/registration](http://www.cincymensa.org/registration)

Don't Delay – sign up today!

Please note all refunds may have a \$5 service fee.

Mail Forms to: Drew Wagers, 6010 Meadow Spring Court, Liberty Township, OH 45011



## New Members

Noah Burch	Richmond	IN	Joined
Bruce Lee	Indianapolis	IN	MoveIn
Rowan SeRine	Westfield	IN	Joined



## 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.

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



## Petra's Funny Page

*Petra Ritchie*



- On a Plumber's truck: "We repair what your husband fixed.
- On another Plumber's truck: "Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.
- At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee: "Invite us to your next blowout.
- On an Electrician's truck: "Let us remove your shorts.
- In a Non-smoking Area: "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and will take appropriate action.

## November 2018 Events

**Ham 'n' Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads)** – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday from 9:45 a.m. - 12 noon. Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Meridian & 116<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org).

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

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

11/9 - Mensan Greg Wright will present: THE AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL COLLAPSED IN 1300 A.D. - The Southwestern (Anasazi Confederation) and Mississippian (Mound builders) cultures came to an end in 1300 A.D. For those familiar with Cline's book, *1177 B.C. The Year Civilization Collapsed*, the concurrent collapse of two or more civilizations is not that unusual. he has applied recent research to help understand (perhaps) the root cause of these cultural collapses.

**STEM Time with George Dunn** follows the speaker.

**Mensa Admissions Test** — Saturday, 11/10, registration 12 noon. Testing will be conducted on Indy's south side. Contact Karen Zwick at: [karen.zwick@outlook.com](mailto:karen.zwick@outlook.com) to reserve a space. The exact location will be provided when a candidate reserves a space.

**Additional Information:** The \$60 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/](http://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/](http://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.

# November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 Daylight Saving Time Ends	5	6	7 Indy Lunch Bunch
11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14
18 Book Club; Mensans Dining Out	19	20 <i>MIND</i> bending/ ExCom; Paducah Area Group Meeting	21 Indy Lunch Bunch
25	26	27	28

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Cal. Deadline Ham 'n' Eggs
8	9 Monthly Gathering	10 Mensa Admission Test
15	16	17
22 Thanksgiving	23	24
29	30	

If you lose your *MIND* (oh, my!) or want additional information, check [www.indymensa.org](http://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.

## November 2018 Events (cont.)

### Mensa Admissions Test (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** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

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

**11/20**, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-  
Pizza and soft drinks provided.

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

Keystone		Tacoma Ave	
	54 <sup>th</sup> St		<i>MIND</i>
	★		
	Armour	Ave	3500.
			Internet,
	52 <sup>nd</sup> St		the

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

**Paducah Area Group Meeting** – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:rawlings@siu.edu)

**Mensans Dining Out** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6 p.m., **11/18**. Dickey's Barbecue Pit, 8624 Pendleton Pike, Indianapolis, IN 46226. For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

**Book Group** – 2 p.m., Sunday, **11/18**. Come prepared to discuss *Venomous*, by Christie Wilcox. 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](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com) or 317-735-2895 for more details or to RSVP.

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

## Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

### Happenings at National

*Jon Gruebele, RVC4*

Late September, your national Board of Directors (AMC) met for two days in Arlington, TX, the home of American Mensa's office. We started the first day discussing how we as a Board were working together during our 2017-2019 term. We had individually completed a self-assessment, then collectively reviewed the consolidated results. We definitely didn't all agree on the questions, but overall felt we were OK on most dimensions. As there's always room for improvement, we would welcome your suggestions.



As Chair of the Strategy Planning Committee, I facilitated a strategy session for the AMC and national office leadership that afternoon. The prior (2015-2017) Board had defined five critical areas (Governance, Leadership Development, Public Awareness, Finance, and Membership), along with metrics to measure progress. Earlier this year, we found owners for each element and worked with them to establish a baseline and targets. In this session, each team defined which projects were needed to achieve the targets, then the entire AMC multi-voted to establish the highest priorities. This will be used as input during the upcoming budget process and for deployment of national office staff.

Our top priorities included electronic admission testing, national advertising, and e-mail automation. Obviously spending on these projects will need to be balanced with expected revenues. As always, that means we won't be able to do everything we want. We did, however, make clear the AMC's direction on which ideas were most important. More information is available at <https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/planning/>.

The next day, our regular Board meeting dealt with routine items and reports. We also considered four motions on Event Safety; unfortunately, each needed at least some improvement. One was defeated, and the others were committed to the newly formed Event Safety task force for review. I am a member of that team, and we will be recommending necessary bylaws changes or Board motions, hopefully ensuring members can have safe and enjoyable experiences at Mensa events.

The Board was informed regarding the Mensa Foundation's sale of our office building. This building has been owned by the Foundation, and American Mensa rented space there. For the Foundation, this arrangement provided a solid investment and regular income; American Mensa got affordable office space from a friendly landlord. The Foundation accepted a solid offer and the national office staff will be relocating to different offices in the area by year end. Our

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regular Mensa Wired and Mensa Leader communications will provide more details.

The Mensa Foundation announced the topic of the 2019 Colloquium. It's "Privacy in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Mystery or Myth". These are always held the day before the Annual Gathering starts. Next year that will be July 2, 2019 in Phoenix, AZ, with the AG being held from July 3 through 7. I hope to see you

Feedback? Please contact me at [rvc4@us.mensa.org](mailto: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:** *The Genius of Birds*

**Author:** Jennifer Ackerman

**Year:** 2016

**Book Description:** The next time someone accuses me of being "bird-brained," I will respond with a radiant smile and bask in the glow of the unintended compliment. For, as scientific journalist Jennifer Ackerman confirms in her energetic, richly comprehensive oeuvre, *The Genius of Birds*, our feathered friends possess awesome intellectual powers that, in many cases, match or surpass our own.

The book initially summarizes the similarities between bird and human brains, and provides a general description of laboratory cognitive experimentation on birds. It continues with an examination of the size and complexity of the bird's brain and how it evolved from its dinosaurian antecedents, introducing the reader to such terms as pedomorphosis, precocial and altricial nesting, and neurogenesis. The remaining chapters focus on the following remarkable mental capabilities of birds: technical invention and utilization; social awareness and sensitivity; vocal virtuosity, including imitation and communication (one stunning example is contained in the excerpt below); artistic flair and aesthetic appreciation; spatial and temporal expertise (migration routing); and - perhaps most vital to its survival - the superlative ability of synanthropes, such as crows, pigeons, and house sparrows, to adapt to the degraded natural environments





imposed by humans. Ackerman concludes with the warning echoed by countless credible biological accounts: that our current rate of climate change is endangering even the most stalwart and resourceful breeds of birds - and, ultimately, ourselves.

**Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how?** Ever since I was old enough to be aware of the world around me, I have been amazed and fascinated by birds, and have steeped myself in bird lore from childhood onward; one of my all-time favorite Christmas gifts was the juvenile primer on little-known avian facts, *The Amazing Book of Birds* (I cannot recall the author, and it has probably long since fallen out of print, given my advanced age). Thus, my literary peregrinations inevitably lure me back to this “feather-headed” subject matter, and in this respect, I greatly appreciate my readers’ indulgence and patience.

**Who should definitely read this book? Why?** Life science experts and dilettantes, and any reader who prefers systematic and investigative topics to those of a more humanistic nature, will appreciate the factual ornithological details that this fascinating book offers on avian physiology and research. *The Genius of Birds* acquaints the reader with such eminent scientists as McGill University biologist and comparative psychologist Louis Lefebvre, Oxford anthropologist and evolutionary psychologist Robin Dunbar, and University of Oldenburg, Germany, biologist and animal navigation expert Henrik Mouritsen. Regular CIM book club participants will also recognize concepts congruent with those espoused in subjects of past discussions, such as Elizabeth Kolbert’s *The Sixth Extinction*, Richard Prum’s *The Evolution of Beauty*, and Matthew Walker’s *Why We Sleep*. Truly, this book has something to appeal to practically every Mensan.

How long might it take to read this book? The duration of this cognitive “nesting period” should not exceed one week, as each page is replete with astonishing truths that guarantee a riveting read.

**Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote:**

In his poem, “Ode to Bird Watching,” Pablo Neruda asks, “How / out of its throat / smaller than a finger / can there fall the waters / of its song?”

Because of a single invention.

It’s a unique instrument called a syrinx, after the nymph transformed into a reed by Pan, god of fields, flocks, and fertility. Scientists took a long time figuring out its details because the syrinx is buried deep in a bird’s chest, where the trachea splits in two to send air to the bronchi. Only in the past few years did researchers finally produce a stunning high-resolution three-dimensional image of the organ in action, using magnetic resonance imaging and microcomputed tomography.

The high-tech image revealed a remarkable structure. It’s made of delicate cartilage and two membranes that vibrate with airflow at super-fast

speeds - one on each side of the syrinx - to create two independent sources of sound. Gifted songbirds such as the mockingbird and canary can vibrate each of their two membranes independently, producing two different, harmonically unrelated notes at the same time - a low-frequency sound on the left, a high-frequency sound on the right - and shifting the volume and frequency of each with such breathtaking speed as to produce some of the most complex and varied vocal sounds in nature. (This is quite extraordinary. When we talk, all of our pitch, all the harmonics of our vocalizations, move in the same direction.)

All of this is managed by minute but powerful muscles. Certain songbirds, such as European starlings and zebra finches, can contract and relax these tiny vocal muscles with submillisecond precision - more than a hundred times faster than the blink of a human eye. This feat of fast-muscle contraction has shown up in only a handful of animals, including the sound-producing organ of rattlesnakes. The winter wren, a little brown bloom of a bird known for its swift song delivery, sings as many as thirty-six notes per second - far too quick for our ears or brain to perceive or absorb. Some birds can even manipulate the syrinx to mimic human speech.

**Additional Remarks:** As befits the autumn season, change is definitely in the air. As the days shorten and become chillier, the birds that peck at my backyard feeders are storing energy either for upcoming migratory journeys or for lengthy stints of overwintering. For us Americans, midterm elections are forthcoming. Once again, the future of our nation and planet will benefit from intelligent and informed voting decisions, favoring candidates who place a high priority on environmental issues. The rewards will be reaped in the exquisitely lovely birdsong that we and future generations of humans will continue to enjoy.



## **Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 8/21/18**

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, August 21, 2018.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Members present were Jon Applegate, Ethan Blocher-Smith, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Diane O'Brien, Karen Wilczewski, Kurt Williams, and Bob Zdanky.

Absent: Karen Zwick.

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Loretta Levene, Petra Ritchie.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the June 2018 ExCom meeting; the July ExCom meeting was cancelled, as there were no pressing agenda items. Ethan Blocher-Smith moved that the minutes be accepted. Karen Wilczewski seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report, which covers the months of June through August, 2018. The Treasurer was unfortunately not able to attend

the meeting, and there were a few questions regarding some of the line items. Ann Hake moved that the Treasurer's report be tabled until the next meeting. 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 7/31/2018 from American Mensa: 496 members, 8 new, 2 rejoins, and 5 prospects.

### **Old Business**

2018 Annual Gathering: Has come to its triumphant conclusion.

2019 Outdoor Gathering (OG): Back by popular demand, the OG will resume next spring and will take place the weekend of May 17-19, 2019. Our previous location at Versailles State Park in Versailles, IN has been reserved.

2019 Regional Gathering: Teresa and Jan have made contact with the individuals with whom we previously worked at the Clarion Waterfront (which is now under new management and is out of our price range). They are now at the Clarion Airport and are interested in offering a similar package. They can likely accommodate the RG in our previous time (i.e., the weekend before the SuperBowl, January 25-27, 2019). Bob Zdanky moved that we move forward with planning this. Kurt Williams seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

2018 CIM Election: As per our Bylaws, ballots are being sent out in the August MIND; they may be mailed in to the election chair (Marcele Everest) by September 14, or may be brought in person to the Monthly Gathering that same evening, where they will be counted. The Election Committee is composed of Marcelle as well as Alison Brown and Leo Doyle, who replaced Teresa Gregory on the committee after she accepted the nomination for LocSec.

### **New Business**

Applications are being sought for a new MIND editor. Our current editor, Teresa Gregory, is the sole candidate in the election for LocSec; according to the Bylaws, the positions of LocSec and Newsletter editor must be filled by different individuals. Announcements will be made in all relevant media.

A suggestion was made to establish a MensaConnect board for Central Indiana Mensa. After a discussion, it was decided to revisit this after the next ExCom is installed.

Scholarship Fund: Our CIM Scholarship fund needs to be fully replenished to its minimum \$500 balance by September 1; in addition, the name of the Scholarship Committee Chair must be reported to AML by the end of the month. Jan reports that Laurel Richardson has agreed to serve as chair again for the coming year, but would welcome help or would welcome anyone who would also like to take over the role in the future. Kurt Williams moved that we name Laurel as Scholarship Committee Chair and replenish the Scholarship fund to \$500. Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Sad News: Longtime CIM member Joanne Ortman has passed away after a long illness. She will be greatly missed. A donation will be made by CIM.

There being no other business, Kurt Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon Applegate seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Hake, Secretary



## Treasurer's Report

*Karen Zwick, Treasurer*

### Balance Sheet (as of 09/17/2018)

Bank Accounts	08/20/2018	09/17/2018
Checking – Regular	\$3,795.94	\$6,760.02
Checking – Scholarship	386.50	0.00
Checking – Youth Membership (transferred to Regular)	69.34	0.00
Checking – RG/OG Fund	9,056.63	9,056.63
Checking – Youth Activity Fund (transferred all funds to Regular)	464.40	0.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$13,772.81</b>	<b>\$15,846.65</b>

### Profit & Loss Statement (8/21/2018 – 9/17/2018)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc. (Sept)	166.00
	402 – National Mensa – AG hosting stipend	3,000.00
	403 – Donation (for AG expenses)	57.76
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$3,223.76</b>
Expense		
	501.1– MG Hospitality	69.56
	505.1 – MIND Printing	280.36
	505.2 – MIND Postage	300.00
	520 – Miscellaneous – Scholarship check sent to MERF	500.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,149.92</b>

*[Ed. Note: The ExCom approved consolidating several line items into the general fund.]*

## Treasurer's Report (Continued)

### Balance Sheet (as of 08/20/2018)

Bank Accounts	06/18/2018	08/20/2018
Checking – Regular	\$3,382.67	\$3,795.94
Checking – Scholarship	386.50	386.50
Checking – Youth Membership	69.34	69.34
Checking – RG/OG Fund	9,575.23	9,056.63
Checking – Youth Activity Fund	464.40	464.40
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$13,878.14</b>	<b>\$13,772.81</b>

### Profit & Loss Statement (06/19/2018 – 08/20/2018)

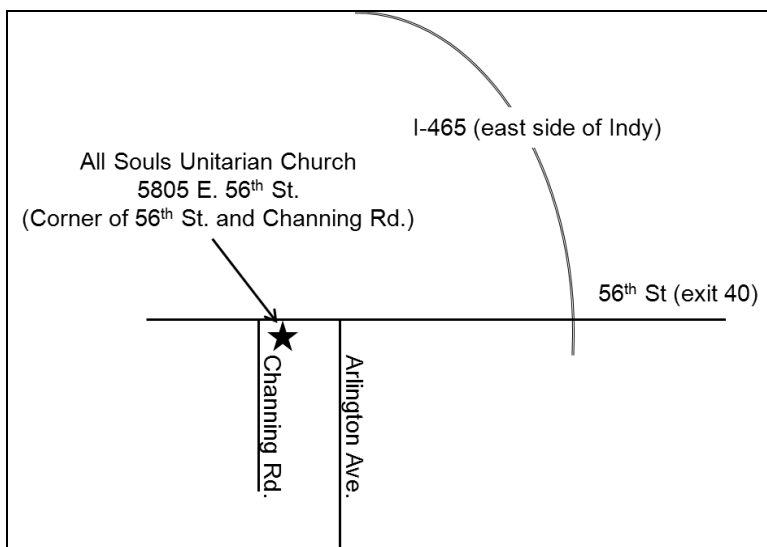
Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc. (Jul & Aug)	260.00
	402 – National Mensa (Jul & Aug members & testing)	1,058.85
	402 – National Mensa – AG expense reimbursement	1,082.94
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,401.79</b>
Expense		
	501.1– MG Hospitality	50.90
	503.2 – OG Facility – rental of Versailles Group Camp	518.60
	505 – Food for ExCom/MINDbending	72.21
	505.1 – MIND Printing (August & September MINDs)	552.02
	507 – Promotional Expenses (Meetup)	89.94
	510.2 – New Member Mailings	82.75
	520 – Miscellaneous – Expenses for AG Suite	1,140.70
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,507.12</b>

*[Ed. Note: due to a canceled ExCom meeting, and some questions about the report, there are several “catch-up” reports.]*

## **Mensa Monthly Gathering Location**

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

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



## Region 4 RVC

Jon Gruebele [RVC4@us.mensa.org](mailto:RVC4@us.mensa.org),

### Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary	Teresa Gregory, <a href="mailto:ag18tg@yahoo.com">ag18tg@yahoo.com</a> , 317-430-1761
Communication Coordinator	Jan Pfeil Doyle, <a href="mailto:jan@mw.net">jan@mw.net</a> , (317) 431-3500
Vice LocSec, Publicity	Kurt Williams, <a href="mailto:Williams.kurt@sbcglobal.net">Williams.kurt@sbcglobal.net</a>
Treasurer, Webmaster	Pat Milligan, <a href="mailto:pat.no.plait@indy.rr.com">pat.no.plait@indy.rr.com</a>
Scribe, Program Chair	Ann Hake, <a href="mailto:amhake@yahoo.com">amhake@yahoo.com</a>
Membership, Volunteers	Bob Zdanky, <a href="mailto:zdanky@gmail.com">zdanky@gmail.com</a> , (317) 219-3773
Testing Coordinator	Karen Wilczewski, <a href="mailto:biltmore@topdogcom.com">biltmore@topdogcom.com</a> , (317) 849-9022

### Area Coordinators

Bloomington	Nan Harvey, <a href="mailto:NanHarvey@gmail.com">NanHarvey@gmail.com</a> , (812) 345-9608
Muncie	Kevin Nemyer, <a href="mailto:knemyer@aol.com">knemyer@aol.com</a> , (765)744-6532

### Other Volunteers

Ham 'n Eggs	Alison Brown, <a href="mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org">SIGHT@indymensa.org</a>
Gifted Children	David Bonner, <a href="mailto:gcc@kids.indymensa.org">gcc@kids.indymensa.org</a> , (317) 973-0258
SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, <a href="mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org">SIGHT@indymensa.org</a>
Ombudsman	Dr. Alan Schmidt, <a href="mailto:alan.schmidt@att.net">alan.schmidt@att.net</a> , (317) 695-5741we33
RG/OG Chair	Teresa Gregory, <a href="mailto:AG18TG@yahoo.com">AG18TG@yahoo.com</a> , (317) 430-1761

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Stamp