



# mind

Mensa Newsletter  
Of Central Indiana



### *Mensans at the CANDLES Holocaust Museum*

This photo depicts the separation platform at Auschwitz. Left to right: Teresa Gregory, Larry Marcus, Vicki Adang, Diane O'Brien, Sharon Fischer (guest), and Jan Pfeil-Doyle. Not pictured: Nathan Fite and his parents.

## ***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 Vonda Heverly, 250 Anniston Drive, Indianapolis, IN, 46227. 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 submitted no later than the Friday before *MIND*bending (usually the second Friday of the month) for the following month's edition.

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## table of contents

Loosing My MIND	4
Old Dog/New Tricks	5
Eva Moses Kor's Legacy: A Message of Forgiveness	6
Eva's Far-Reaching Impact	8
Moon Landing Contest Winners	9
Hear Tales of Murder, Mayhem, and Mystery	10
September 2019 Events	11
RVC4 Column	15
Petra's Informative Page	16
Faking the Test	16
Books on the Runway	17
Book Group Reading List	20
Welcome New Members	20
ExCom Minutes	21
Treasurer's Report	21
Location of CIM Monthly Meeting	22
Contact Information	23

## Loosing My MIND

Vonda Heverly, Editor

loose (/looos/): v. 1. set free, release. 2. Relax



Welcome to September! Fall is not quite in the air, but there's that feel of winding down, getting the yard and house ready for colder weather. Because of the weird, wet, cold spring, I have yet to see a big tomato from my garden, though the cucumbers and cherry tomatoes grew like crazy. All those summer home improvement projects I had planned are sadly still not completed. It's not too late, I keep telling myself.

In this issue, read about what some Mensans did over the summer in their trip to the CANDLES Museum in Terre Haute. We also have the winners of last month's moon landing contest.

Some upcoming activities to note: "cruise director" Vicki Adang is organizing a ghost walk on September 28<sup>th</sup> (yes, it's that time of year already!). Read about it on page 10; if you are interested, get registered soon as these tours fill up quickly. Also, you can get the early bird registration pricing through October 18<sup>th</sup> for HalloweeM, Chicago Area Mensa's awesome party weekend. See their flyer on page 19.

Cheers!



## Old Dog/New Tricks

*Teresa Gregory, LocSec*

Do you know what a cackleberry is? This is a word I grew up hearing from my parents, but once again, I realize how special my education was. A group of us went to Terre Haute to visit the CANDLES Museum. Some of us arrived early and decided to go somewhere to get breakfast/lunch. There was a security guard there who gave us a couple of dining options. One of them was “Cackleberries”. Everyone thought the name was cute, but when I said, “You know what a cackleberry is, right?” no one knew. (Larry Marcus had heard them called cacklefruit). At the last Monthly Gathering, Vicki asked if anyone knew what a cackleberry was. Again, no. I can’t be the only person who knows that a cackleberry is an egg. Think about it.



Check out Vicki’s article about the visit. She did another great job of coordinating this adventure for us. I have dubbed her CIM’s Cruise Director.

September is the opening of the Mensa Scholarship Season. Besides competing for the national scholarships, CIM has its own John Matthews Scholarship which goes to someone who lives in our geographic region. Scholarships are awarded based only on a short essay. Grade point averages, class rank, and financial need are not a consideration. Any age person may apply as long as they are going to be enrolled in school next year. More information will be available in the next MIND. We would like to get this information out to as many people as possible. If you have suggestions on marketing, please let me know. Laurel Richardson has agreed to be our Scholarship Chair again this year.

This month in Mensa Testing - the National Office is offering practice tests for \$8.99.

Also, you will be receiving an email sometime around September 3 with your Mensa Voucher Program (MVP) code to share with a friend or relative who you think should be in Mensa. Between September 3 and December 31, a non-member may use this code to redeem a voucher for a free test. This voucher is good for 24 months. That’s TWO YEARS! In the past, each member has received a unique code that was usable one time. This year, we have a group code that can be used unlimited times, so if you have two friends you would like to gift, you don’t have to choose. Take a look around at family, friends, coworkers, neighbors. You’re smart. You must know some other smart people. You won’t find a cheaper holiday gift!

And ending on a sad note, I need to announce the passing of of Rachel Chu, daughter of Mensans Kay and Ed Chu. Although she was not a member, Rachel was a presence at many of our functions. Please keep her parents in your thoughts and prayers.

## Eva Moses Kor's Legacy: A Message of Forgiveness

Vicki Adang



*Memorial photo of Eva draped with one of her blue scarves*

Eva Moses was born and grew up in Portz, Romania, a village of 100 Christi families. Hers was the only Jewish one. As news of Hitler's roundups of Jews became more widespread, Eva would ask her parents if Hitler was going to come for them. No, Eva's parents told her. He wouldn't bother coming after one family of six in a small village in a remote area of Romania.

After months of worry, Eva's fears came true when she was just 10. One night her family was taken to a Hungarian ghetto and later endured a days-long transfer by cattle car to Auschwitz.

This astonishing anecdote from Eva Moses Kor's life was one of many that six Mensans and three guests heard during our visit to the CANDLES Holocaust Museum in Terre Haute on August 3.

We were originally supposed to listen to Eva tell her story in person. Regrettably, Eva passed away on July 4 in Krakow, Poland, where she was leading a trip for CANDLES. Instead we viewed a 45-minute video of her talking about her life and answering frequently asked questions.

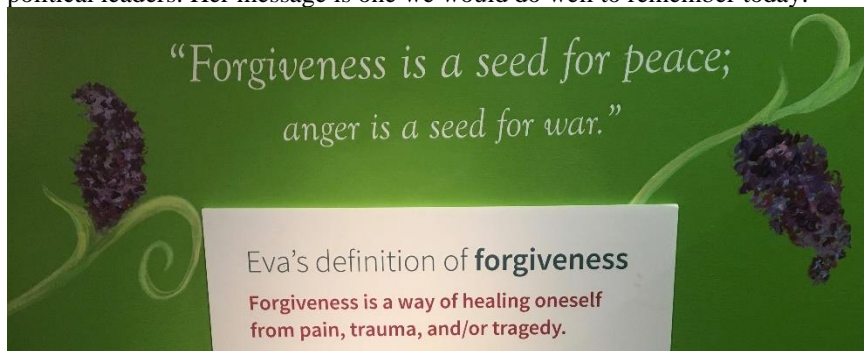
During her presentation, Eva talked about how she and her twin, Miriam, were spotted on the separation platform by a Nazi guard and pulled away from their mother. That's the last time they would see their parents and two older sisters. She described the condition of the barracks the twins lived in and explained that she and Miriam focused on living one day at a time. "Surviving was a full-time job," she said. "Dying was easy."

The museum itself is informative and well designed. Instead of providing a broad understanding of World War II, it focuses mainly on the events of the Holocaust and the details necessary to put Eva's story into context. It includes information about Kristallnacht; the experiments on twins, conducted by Dr. Joseph "The Angel of Death" Mengele, in which Eva and Miriam, were forced to participate; and the liberation of Auschwitz in January 1945.

Visitors can also learn the story of how Eva became a forgiveness advocate and how she founded the museum in 1995 in memory of Miriam, who died a year earlier. A "virtual Eva" answers questions about life in the concentration camp; sings her favorite song, "Dream the Impossible Dream" from *Man of La*

*Mancha*, to the delight of visitors; and spouts irreverent responses to questions she doesn't have an answer for. We witnessed her flippant side when a visitor asked virtual Eva about the parallels between McCarthyism in the 1950s and today's political climate. She "just didn't want to talk about that!"

Eva's ultimate message is, "Anger is a seed for war. Forgiveness is a seed for peace." She said this during her presentations to schoolchildren and the public, in her testimony before the United Nations, and during her meetings with political leaders. Her message is one we would do well to remember today.

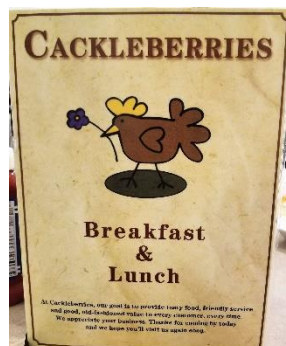


*Eva's definition of forgiveness. Her forgiveness of Dr. Mengele and other Nazis is a controversial topic among the hundreds of twins who underwent his experiments and survived the Holocaust.*

## Where did we eat?

No Mensa outing is complete without food. We ate lunch at Cackleberries, 303 S. 7th St., Terre Haute, on the recommendation of the sheriff's deputy working security at the museum. (Do you know what a Cackleberry is? Out of the six of us who went to lunch there, only two were in the know. A cackleberry is a chicken egg.) The food was tasty. Service was pretty fast and friendly. The portions were sizeable and the prices reasonable. Recommended.

After we wrapped up our museum visit, some of us decided that the perfect end to the field trip would be a stop at a local ice cream shop. Jan Pfeil-Doyle suggested we try the Sweet Science Ice Cream & Yogurt Lab, based on a Google Maps search. Sounded like the ideal place for a group of Mensans to check out, but much to our dismay, Google led us astray. The shop was no longer in business.



Not to be deterred, we headed to Van-Go. They were out of ice cream cones, and the shake machine wasn't working, but the old VW Bus parked outside did, indeed, run (hence, Van-Go). The owner knew his priorities.



## Eva's Far-Reaching Impact

*Nathan Fite*

About five months ago I was watching TV, which I rarely do, and I tuned into PBS, which I rarely do. There was a documentary about Eva Kor. I watched most of it and found it pretty interesting, especially since she lived much of her life in Indiana. At the time my family and I were considering going on a tour of Eastern Europe, including Auschwitz. I added Eva to my list of topics to research further in planning for the trip.

Once our plans for the Eastern European tour were finalized, I decided I would like to visit the CANDLES Museum. Soon after that, I joined Mensa. In one of the first Mensa newsletters I received, I learned about the planned group visit to CANDLES. At this point I recognized what a coincidence this all was.

The third stop on our trip to Europe was Krakow, Poland. We arrived at the Holiday Inn the evening of July 3. Through 23andme I had recently connected with some distant relatives who live almost two hours west, in Rzeszow. We had plans to meet them at the hotel on the evening of July 4. As we were waiting on them in the lobby, I noticed a guy wearing a Purdue shirt and thought how it is such a small world to see a Purdue shirt in Krakow. I wanted to go up to him and say, "Boiler Up!" but he was talking on his cellphone. I then saw someone with a CANDLES shirt talking to him. Today I believe this was Beth Nairn, whom I recognize from one of the documentaries I have since seen. The two of them were obviously deeply saddened and discussing someone who had just passed.

We met up with our distant relatives that evening, which was a great experience. Later that night my sister learned from Facebook that Eva had passed away. She showed me some Facebook pictures of Eva with the same guy from the lobby, who we now knew was Eva's son, Alex. In fact, he was wearing some similar Purdue attire in the pictures.

The next morning as we preparing to leave for Auschwitz, we noticed the CANDLES schedule from July 4 was still posted in the hotel lobby, which included "3:30 p.m.: Tour with Eva to Blocks 10 and 23 – Barbed wire area." All of it was quite a buildup to our tour of Auschwitz. Soon after we arrived, we asked our tour guide if she knew Eva, and she mentioned that Eva had been there the day before. Our tour guide was not aware that Eva had passed away. She was overcome by emotion and mentioned that there are fewer than 300 Auschwitz survivors still alive.

Although I wish I would have been able to meet Eva, I am really glad I visited the CANDLES Museum. I would recommend it to anyone. They have done a great job preserving her legacy with the films and holograms. I have since watched another documentary about Eva on PBS, which was similar to the first one. It did nice job of illustrating how famous she was and how many lives she touched.



## Moon Landing Contest Winners

*Teresa Gregory*

“Where were you when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon? Fact or fiction in 50 words or less.”

That was the question asked at the August Monthly Gathering before Kurt Williams’ presentation on the Apollo moon landing. There were nine entries. Ann Hake and Teresa Gregory read them aloud and the audience voted. Kurt provided the prizes: a wonderful book and some space ice cream. Here are the winners.

**Fact:** By Karen Steilberger

I was at my first major league baseball game. The White Sox’ famous “exploding scoreboard” went off after a single by Walt “No Neck” Williams. Why were there fireworks after just a single and not a home run? The public address announcer explained that the Eagle had just landed.

**Fiction:** By Laura Latimer

My mom shook me awake, whispering, “Laura, you have to see this!” I stumbled into the family room and plopped in front of the our tv. I watched a man bounding around like Tiger did in Winnie the Pooh.

“Who is that?”

“That’s Neil Armstrong, Sweetie. He’s on the moon.”



*Best Stories Contest Winners*

*Karen Steilberger, speaker Kurt Williams, and Laura Latimer*

## Hear Tales of Murder, Mayhem, and Mystery

Vicki Adang, Cruise Director

Spooky season is right around the corner, and Indianapolis has a few haunted neighborhoods. Join your fellow Mensans on a tour of the theater district in downtown Indy. Sign up for the Chilling Chatham Arch Lockerbie Ghost Walk, presented by Unseen Press. From the tour description: Learn of the life and murder of Dr. Helene Knabe, Cockroach Row and Jolly Werner, all of which led to mayhem and eternal life on earth after death.

If the name Dr. Helene Knabe sounds familiar, it's because we heard Nicole Kobrowski, co-owner of Unseen Press, tell her story at a monthly meeting earlier in 2019. Come see the location where her mysterious death took place.

**When:** 7:30 p.m., September 28.

**Cost:** \$18 for anyone over 10; \$15 for those 65 and over. \$1.08 service fee will be added at checkout.

**Where:** Meet the guide at 401 E. Michigan St., outside the YMCA entrance in the Athenaeum Building.

**How:** Sign up at <https://www.unseenpress.com/tours-events>. Click the Book Now button for the Chilling Chatham Arch Lockerbie Ghost Walk. Navigate to September, choose the 7:30 p.m. walk on September 28.

**Hurry!** These tours fill up fast, so book as soon as you decide you want to go.

**Length of tour:** Approximately 2 hours; distance about 1.5 miles.

**Dress:** Tours are held in all weather except severe thunderstorms. Please dress appropriately and wear comfy shoes.

**Parking:** Paid parking on the street or in the Athenaeum parking lot on East Michigan Street, where the fee benefits the Athenaeum Foundation.

**Other:** No bathroom breaks during the tour, so please answer nature's call before departure.

**Lemme know:** If you're going on the walk, please let me know: [vickiadang@yahoo.com](mailto:vickiadang@yahoo.com) or text or call me at 317-549-5176.



*"Ghosts don't haunt us. That's not how it works. They're present among us because we won't let go of them."*

*"I don't believe in ghosts," I said, faintly.*

*"Some people can't see the color red. That doesn't mean it isn't there," she replied.*"—Sue Grafton, *M is for Malice*

## September 2019 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** 11:30am, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Shapiro's Delicatessen, 808 S. Meridian St. Contact: Karen Steilberger, [steilkr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steilkr@sbcglobal.net).

**Mensa Admissions Test** – Sunday, 9/8, 1:00pm with registration before. Please arrive a few minutes early. Testing will be conducted on Indy's South side. Contact Alison Brown [.SIGHT@IndyMensa.org](mailto:.SIGHT@IndyMensa.org) to reserve a spot. The exact location will be provided when a candidate reserves a space.

**Additional Information:** The **\$60.00 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.

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.

**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.

**9/13**– Announcements at 7:45; program at 8:00. Our speaker for September's Monthly Gathering will be Vera Maljkovic, who will speak on the use of digital biomarkers in evaluating neurodegenerative diseases and other conditions. Dr. Maljkovic is a Senior Research Scientist in Cognition and Behavior for Eli Lilly's Translational Technology and Innovation group.

**STEM Time with George Dunn** following the speaker. This month's topic is Heraldic Communication (postponed from last month).

# September 2019

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

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7 Ham 'n' Eggs
12	13 Monthly Gathering	14
19	20	21
26	27	28 Ghost Tour

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.

## September 2019 Events (cont.)

**Mensans Dining Out** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6 p.m., 9/15 — Rathskeller, 401 E.

Michigan St, Indianapolis, IN 46204

For more information, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

**MINDbending/ExCom** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

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

9/, 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-3500.

Pizza and soft drinks provided.

MINDbending is held at the offices of Midwest Internet, 5348 N. Tacoma Ave., which is 1 block east and 1 block north of 52<sup>nd</sup> 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.



**Book Group** – 9/17, 2pm at the Gibsons'. September 22—"Melting Pot or Civil War?" by Reihan Salam. 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

**Ghost Tour** – 9/28, 7:30pm. Are you wondering where all the cool spirits in Indianapolis hang out? Join this tour and you just might see some!

**Cost:** \$18 for anyone over 10; \$15 for those 65 and over. \$1.08 service fee will be added at checkout.

**Where:** Meet the guide at 401 E. Michigan St., outside the YMCA entrance in the Athenaeum Building.

**How:** Sign up at <https://www.unseenpress.com/tours-events>. Click the Book Now button for the Chilling Chatham Arch Lockerbie Ghost Walk. Navigate to September, choose the 7:30 p.m. walk on September 28.

Please let Vicki Adang know: [vickiadang@yahoo.com](mailto:vickiadang@yahoo.com) or text or call 317-549-5176. [See article on page 10 for more information.]

Please send Calendar Items to [MIND.editor@yahoo.com](mailto:MIND.editor@yahoo.com)

## Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

### Report from Phoenix

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

It's always a bit odd writing articles far in advance of their publication. This September column was written in July. For me, the Annual Gathering (AG) was only a few weeks ago. By the time you read this, fall will be on its way. Many will be thinking about attending 'WeeM, A Gathering of Gamers ([AGOG](#)), and Central Indiana's January RG. Will we see you there?

The AG was terrific as always. Is there any better way to spend the 4<sup>th</sup> of July than with 1600+ fellow Mensa members? Yes, Phoenix was hot, but that was easily solved by not leaving the hotel – unless walking across the street for dinner. Speakers included Adam Savage from MythBusters, one of the last surviving Navaho code talkers, and a Hiroshima survivor. As usual, I couldn't get away without buying at least one book from a presenter.

While much of my AG was spent in various business meetings, I did get to attend the Mensa Foundation's Colloquium on Privacy. This event helps raise funds for the Foundation and is highly informative. We were also very proud of Jared Foote from Northeast Indiana Mensa. He won the Mr. Mensa contest and raised around \$17,000 for the Foundation.

The American Mensa Board of Directors (AMC) met during the AG. Meeting results including an audio recording are available [on-line](#). Actions taken include:

- Selecting Baltimore, MD for the 2023 AG. [Note: 2020 will be in Kansas City, 2021 in Houston, and 2022 in Reno.]
- Defeating a motion to remove an RVC from the ExCom
- Postponing a motion to restrict attendance of expelled members from events held in private homes
- Various administrative changes, including how stipends are paid to a Local Group or SIG for hosting an AG, determining who gets comped AG rooms and Special Interest Group (SIG) suites, and improving flexibility for Mind Games Chairs in selecting volunteers
- Allowing the Bylaws Committee Chair to be a member rather than exclusively someone on the AMC
- Lots of appointments to various positions

The [audited financial report](#) was also accepted and later discussed at the Annual Business Meeting. Beyond that, I presented a Leadership Development Workshop on "Being Assertive in Dealing with Problem Members" using some content provided by Heather Booton (thanks Heather!). I also hosted the Region 4 Meet-and-Greet and attended two separate events on how members feel we

*Continued on next page*





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should improve Mensa. Thanks to everyone who attended and contributed their ideas.

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>.

## **Petra's Informative Page**

*Petra Ritchie*

Give a Hoot About Mensa (and Other Owls)  
10 Things You Never Knew About Owls  
(appeared first in *Reader's Digest*)

1. Owls don't have eyeballs, they have eye "tubes".
2. They're food stashers, like squirrels.
3. They swallow their food whole.
4. Some owls have mismatched ears.
5. A group of owls is known as a parliament.
6. They're silent fliers.
7. They can twist their heads 270 degrees.
8. Owls aren't great nest builders.
9. They don't all say "whooooo".
10. You can hang out with owls in Japanese "owl cafes"!



## **Faking the Test**

*Lyan Brundgren*

"I hear that Mensa test takers with regular IQs or LESS than regular IQs are taking the Mensa test and getting in."

My secretive friend replies: "That's true. Do you know any of these folks?"

I shake my head and say, "Shocking! . . . to say the least. I don't personally know any; it was just a rumor going around."

"Yes, this pill taken by regular Joes can make them geniuses for a while."

After the brief conversation, a certain not-to-be-named Indiana member in Homeland Security, passed along this CONFIDENTIAL information:

A new brain drug stolen from an Indiana Military Facility can raise IQ to astounding levels, but only for a few hours.

You read it here first: Mensa is accepting Indiana Joes who Stole the Temp Pill of Dumb.

# Books On The Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

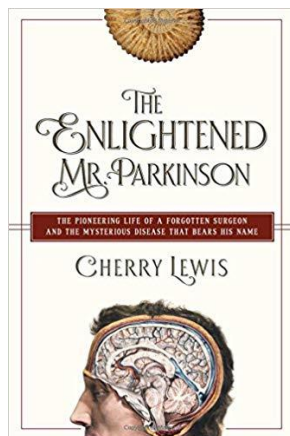
**Author:** Cherry Lewis

**Title:** *The Enlightened Mr. Parkinson: The Pioneering Life of a Forgotten Surgeon and the Mysterious Disease That Bears His Name*

**Publisher:** Pegasus Books

**Year:** 2017

**Book Description:** The ideals of the Enlightenment are emblematic to Mensans who strive to use their superior intellects as problem-solving tools. In that vein, I would be remiss if I failed to recommend Cherry Lewis's sterling biography of one unsung hero of the Age of Reason: the brilliant and passionate early-nineteenth-century English medical researcher and geologist, James Parkinson. An apothecary-surgeon by profession, Parkinson was a revolutionary in many respects. He advocated radical Parliamentary reforms through the initiation of and participation in such organizations as the London Corresponding Society and the Vestry for the Liberation of Hoxton. His observational and research skills aided in finding effective treatments for such diseases as rabies, gout, and typhus. His compassion for victimized citizens inspired his authorship of instructional manuals and books on numerous humanitarian topics, such as the working conditions of children, domestic medicine and good health practices, and the humane treatment of insane asylum patients and prisoners. He helped establish the scientific disciplines of geology and paleontology (which he had named "oryctology") through his massive fossil collection and his three-volume textbook, *Organic Remains of a Former World*. His crowning achievement, of course, is his seminal publication, *An Essay on the Shaking Palsy*, in which he describes in detail and with stunning accuracy the symptoms and progression of what is now known as Parkinson's disease (officially named as such by the French neurologist Jean-Martin Charcot nearly fifty years after James Parkinson's death, thereby paying homage to the latter's groundbreaking research on the disorder). Parkinson accomplished all of these progressive marvels while managing his apothecary practice and fulfilling his duties as parish surgeon, in addition to helping raise seven children, only four of whom survived to adulthood. Lewis, an Honorary Research fellow at the University of Bristol, recounts the life of this forward-thinking multitasker with grace and cultural insight, and includes such bonuses as a Parkinson family tree, vivid black-and-white and color etchings and photos (sadly, no portrait of her subject exists), nineteen pages of notes, and an extensive bibliography. *The Enlightened*  
*Continued on next page*



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*Mr. Parkinson* is an exemplary tribute to a gifted scientist and admirable human being.

**Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how?** In a sense, James Parkinson's story is also my own, as I was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease about a year ago. I feel that anyone who suffers from or seeks a cure for this insidious malady owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Parkinson for his assiduous efforts to bring the "shaking palsy" to the public's attention. I count my blessings that my tremors and motor disability are currently confined to my left (non-dominant) upper limb, and that such medical procedures as deep brain stimulation (described in the books' prologue, and excerpted below) offer hope for the afflicted - although this method of treatment is probably too invasive and expensive an option for an early-stager such as myself. Nevertheless, thanks to Mr. Parkinson, my outlook is more positive than it would have been without his dedication to the welfare of his patients.

**Who should definitely read this book? Why?** Anyone who enjoys biographies and who has at least a passing interest in medicine and/or political science will enjoy this journey into the vibrant, chaotic environment of suburban London during the Industrial Age. This cultural immersion is enhanced by the author's usage of English spellings (e.g., unfavourable, realise) and verbal style - an additional perk for Anglophiles.

**How long might it take to read this book?** Stimulating without overtaxing the brain, *The Enlightened Mr. Parkinson* can be completed in two days or less.

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

Deep brain stimulation...is now widely used to alleviate a variety of movement disorders, although the majority of operations are carried out in patients with advanced Parkinson's disease. The patient needs to be awake to help guide the placement of the electrode to the area that abates the symptoms of Parkinson's disease, as well as to monitor any untoward effects as the probe moves through the brain. "When the probe was passing certain parts of my brain, I saw colours brighter and more intense than ever before. When it moved to the area that controls speech I had to keep talking, so that my team would know instantly if anything was wrong," Mike [Robbins, the patient] explained. "Then the surgeon said there were just a few more millimetres to go, and as soon as he touched the correct spot - an area of the brain about the size of a cashew nut - my right leg and my right arm stopped shaking immediately."

Once the implant has been placed in the brain, a battery-powered neurostimulator is positioned under the skin near the collarbone; it connects to the implant via a lead that lies under the skin of the scalp. The neurostimulator sends a mild electrical current to the tiny device which delivers electrical

stimulation to an area of the brain that controls movement and muscles, known as the subthalamic nucleus. The electrical stimulation modulates the signals that cause many of the symptoms of Parkinson's disease. Mike uses a gadget like a TV remote handset to control his symptoms: when he switches the stimulator off his arms immediately begin to shake so violently that he can hardly get back to the switch to turn it on again. But when he does, the tremors stop instantly. A video of him can be found online; it is very poignant to watch.

**Additional Remarks:** Yes, I have seen the YouTube video, and I found the experience to be both heartrending and engaging. I recommend it to everyone, and it can be accessed through this website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8tWlYv1Ykc>, or (if, like this reviewer, your manual dexterity is somewhat lacking) simply Google "Deep Brain Stimulation - Mike Robbins." Of course, for folks a bit on the squeamish side, reading the book will be a much more rewarding pastime. Both are excellent sources of - well, enlightenment!



HOSTED BY CHICAGO AREA MENSA  
**WESTIN CHICAGO NORTH SHORE**

**601 N. MILWAUKEE, WHEELING, IL 60090**

**JOIN US FOR FOUR DAYS OF FUN!**

- Multiple tracks of programs to keep you intellectually stimulated! I have a good feeling about this!
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- The cantina area has plenty of space to socialize!
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- Lots of scheduled tournaments, including our annual poker tournament and nightly Werewolf! Never tell me the odds!
- Pun-tastic costumes in Friday night's costume parade! Come see your fellow scruffy nerf-herders!
- Extend your pinkies during Saturday night's Pretentious Drinking AND Epicurean Experience! See if the Force is strong with this one!
- Padawan Learner/Kid's Program Track AND Babysitting!

After we've worn you out, relax in our fantastic hotel, featuring an indoor pool and hot tub, rooms with mini-fridge in each, free parking, free in-lobby Wi-Fi, and scenic surroundings.

**Guest room rates are \$117.** At these low rates the hotel is filling up, so make sure to book early!

Registration is **\$85 for four full days** when you register by October 18<sup>th</sup>. For ages 9-20, we have discounted rates of \$55 (by October 18<sup>th</sup>). Ages 8 and under attend for free, but fees of \$15 per child per day apply for use of the Kids' room babysitting services, or \$40 for the three days that babysitting will be available.

**GET MORE DETAILS, BOOK HOTEL, AND REGISTER AT:**

<http://chicago.us.mensa.org/weem/>

## 2019-2020 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Here is the list of books to read for the CIM Book Group. It meets on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. once a month. Check the calendar for exact dates. Call or email Rich Gibson if you have any question or for directions.

September 22--Melting Pot or Civil War? by Reihan Salam  
October 13--Love Your Enemies by Arthur C Brooks  
November 24--Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs by Steven Brusatte  
December 22--Genius of Birds, by Jennifer Ackerman  
January 12--Firefighting, by Bernanke, Geithner and Paulson  
February 23--I Contain Multitudes, by Ed Yong  
March 22--Click Here to Kill Everybody, by Bruce Schneier  
April 26--Why Does the World Exist by Jim Holt  
May 31--American Dialogues by Joseph J Ellis  
June 16--Bring a Book!



***“One must always be careful of books,” said Tessa, “and what is inside them, for words have the power to change us.”***

— Cassandra Clare, *Clockwork Angel*



## New Members

Michael Crespo	Indianapolis	IN	Joined
David Cross	Westfield	IN	Joined
Sven De Jonge	Columbus	IN	Joined
Michael Murphy	Carmel	IN	MoveIn
Ethan Young	Bloomington	IN	Joined

# **Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 6/18/2019**

*Ann Hake, CIM Secretary*

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held at Midwest Internet on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.

LocSec Teresa Gregory called the meeting to order at 6:57 pm. Members present were Vicki Adang, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Teresa Gregory, Ann Hake, Kurt Williams, and Bob Zdanky.

Absent: Pat Milligan.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the May 2019 ExCom meeting. Jan Pfeil Doyle moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. Kurt Williams seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Because of the Treasurer's absence, no report was reviewed at this meeting.

A membership report was compiled by Teresa Gregory based upon the information available as of 5/31/2019 from American Mensa: 473 members, 4 new, 0 movein, 3 rejoins, and 3 prospects.

## **Old Business**

Teresa Gregory had previously spoken with All Souls regarding continuing to meet there for our Monthly Gathering and an agreement had been reached to continue the lease on a month-to-month basis. However, Teresa has done further investigation and has found that there are not currently other prospective locations for the Monthly Gathering that would be as or more suitable, and that the HVAC issues at All Souls are currently manageable. She proposed that we switch back to a yearly lease. Jan Pfeil Doyle moved that we accept this recommendation. Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

## **New Business**

None.

There being no other business, Ann Hake moved that the meeting be adjourned. Kurt Williams seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

## **Treasurer's Report**

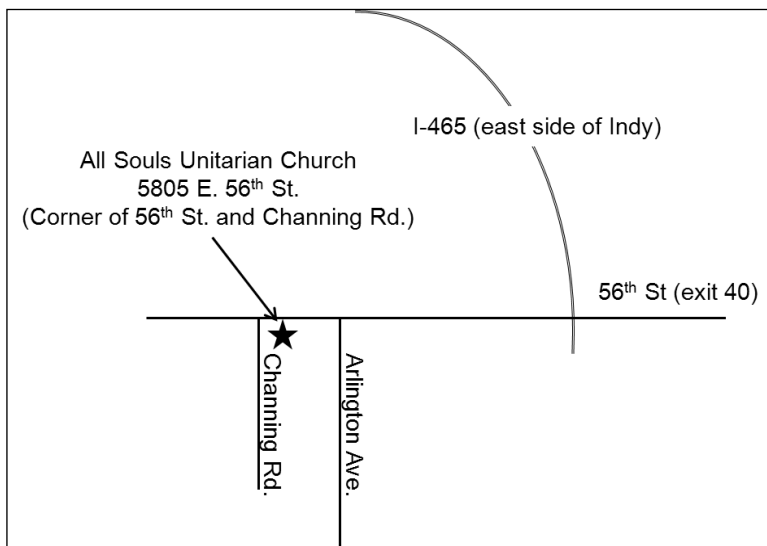
*Pat Milligan, CIM Treasurer*

There is no approved treasurer's report for this month

## **Mensa Monthly Gathering Location**

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

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





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

Stamp