July 2021 Volume 57, Number 7



Mensa Newsletter Of Central Indiana



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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, 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 MINDbending (usually the second Friday of the month) for the following month's edition.

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## Loosing My MIND

Vonda Heverly, Editor

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



I'm still nurturing the "quiet optimism" that sprouted last month. June's events went off without a hitch. July now holds not one, but two concerts for me!

CIM is also opening up. Check out Teresa's column and the calendar to see what events you can attend in person. I would also point out flyers for two in-person events, one in Pittsburgh and the other just a short drive away in Cincinnati! See pages seven and eight for more info on these.

I've got tomatoes coming on in the garden. A bit later than usual, but I'll enjoy them thoroughly when the time gets here. Have a safe and happy July!

Cheers!



smart Alec	with Sirius & Zany
I'M DRAWING A CARTOON. IT'S ABOUT A BOY WHO TRIP DOG'S TAIL WHILE CARRYING THE BOY FALLS AND THE C. JETTISONED TOWARD THE THE CAT GRABS ON TO THE BUT THEY RIP DOWN AND HE A FISH TANK.	A HIS CAT. AT GETS WINDOW. CURTAINS, E LANDS IN



# Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, LocSec

In my April 2020 column, I wrote that things were shutting down due to COVID 19 and that all CIM meetings and events were cancelled until further notice. Guess what? This is "further notice!" After a lot of discussion, the ExCom agreed it was time to open CIM up again. The July calendar is a combination of both live/in-person/face-to-face events and Zoom meetings. The ExCom agreed that CIM will continue to follow local, CDC, and American Mensa guidelines for public meetings. If there is a shift of any kind, or new regulations are put into place, events may be canceled or moved back to Zoom.



The in-person events are Ham'n Eggs, Lunch Bunch, Book Group, and Mensans Dining Out. (This month, Ham'n Eggs and Dining Out will be at outdoor venues unless it rains.) Please be courteous and RSVP to the individual hosts so they know you are coming. Contact information is included with each event description.

ExCom and the Sunday Social will continue to be on Zoom indefinitely. We learned that we have a lot of interesting members out there who can't always join us in person. We want to keep in touch. (Ham'n Eggs and Book Group will also have a Zoom component for those who cannot attend in person Please contact those hosts for the Zoom link.)

The Monthly Gathering will return as an in-person event but not right away. Our venue, All Souls Unitarian Church, has not opened for services yet. It might be a few months. When it's available, I will let you know.

I will continue the Monday ReMINDer that lists events for the coming week. This will be your best source for any last-minute changes. Also, when you RSVP, you give your host the opportunity to contact you if something changes. Hopefully, none of this will be needed, but it's good to have a plan.

### ଡ଼୶ଡ଼୶ୡଡ଼୶

In sad news, we have lost several of our fellow Mensans this past year. Please see the following page for links to their obituaries. One of them, George Wildman, just passed away recently. His Celebration of Life will be July 17, 2021. Also, a reminder that Charlie Graft's Celebration of Life will be July 10, 2021. If you need more information, let me know. As always, CIM makes a \$50 donation to our scholarship fund in their name.

Have a safe and happy July Fourth!

# **Puzzle Column**

Written by Alan Stillson of Greater Los Angeles Mensa and reprinted with permission of the author (<u>http://stillsonworks.com</u>)

#### Restoration of vandalized signs.

A word puzzle maker has vandalized some two-word store signs by removing two of the same letters and alphabetizing the remaining letters in each word. For example, a SCHOOL SUPPLIES sign was changed into CHLS EILSSU. The stolen letters may or may not be consecutive. Try to restore each of these vandalized signs:

- 1. ACDE DGS (grocery)
- 2. ADEGGIR LST (home improvement)
- 3. CCINS CFNOT (bookstore)
- 4. BDEMR EFINTUU (department store)
- 5. EEGI AEIISTV (auto parts)
- 6. CLSU HIRT (department store)
- 7. AEMNTT AAELR (department store)
- 8. EINPT ACDEGIST (office supplies)
- 9. ALOT AEEIORSSS (office supplies)
- 10. AEHLOOT ELRTSU (candy store)

See answers on page 13.

## In Memoriam

George Wildman (Celebration of Life is July 17, 2021) George Wildman, Jr. Obituary - Indianapolis, IN (dignitymemorial.com)

Franklin Giles https://legcy.co/2DqjXuC

Gary Evans Gary D. Evans (greenfieldreporter.com)

Barbara Purvis Barbara Adoms Purvis Obituary - Visitation & Funeral Information (shirleybrothers.com)

# 2020-2021 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Book Group is currently meeting in person *and* virtually via Zoom. It meets on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. once a month. Check the calendar for exact dates and contact information for Rich Gibson.

Jul 18: Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism by Angus Deaton and Anne Case

**Aug 15:** Bring a Book! Come with your favorite book/books that you think would spark a lively conversation. Be prepared to talk about it and get other folks excited to read it too. We'll build a list for the upcoming year.

# Presented by Western PA Mensa Regather. Rejoin. Return September 3-6, 2021 Pittsburgh Marriott North



Includes meals (except Sunday dinner), tournaments, speakers, games, and in-person connection.

For more information go to <u>http://wpamensa.com/</u> or email Louise Humphreys at wpamrgregistrar@gmail.com

VML Too

(because we can:-)

Very Much Love *again* presented by Virginia and Mary Lee, featuring Vital Meals and Libations. Various Meeting and Leisure activities led by Visionary yet Merry Leaders. Verified Marvelous Lodging. Variable Mental Learnings. Vastly Meaningful Lunacy. And a really big Vat of Maneuverable Liquid outside for Boingy Boingy.



August 13-15. \$95 registration rate. Young Adult, kid, and

daily rates below. Friday 3 PM through Sunday 1 PM. Checkout time is 11 AM.

DoubleTree by Hilton. 6300 E. Kemper Rd. in Sharonville/Blue Ash, Ohio. \$109++/night. 800-222-8733. Reservation code: VML <u>https://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/C/CVGKRDT-VML-20210812/index.jhtml?WT.mc\_id=POG</u>

Make checks payable to Mary Lee Kemper. Mail to 1474 Windward Dr. Mason, OH 45040. Please note VML Too on the Memo line.

Name:				
Email:		\$_		
Address:				
Phone:				
All weekendFri AdultYoung A				
All weekend:	\$95 adult \$75 Young a	adult	\$50 6-12	\$0 <6
Partial weekend:	-			
Adult rates:	\$50 Fri \$75 Saturday	\$40	Sat after 5 l	PM
Young adult rates:	\$40 Fri \$45 Saturday	\$30	Sat after 5 l	PM
Ages 6-12 rates:	\$25 Fri \$35 Saturday	\$20	Sat after 5 l	PM

If you come Friday and decide to stay, we will prorate your Saturday.

If you want to pay as a walk in, please clue us that you are coming as soon as you can so we can count for the catered meal. Please volunteer to make this a better party!

Questions? Email <u>maryleekemper@gmail.com</u> for more info.

# July 2021 Events

<u>Ham'n Eggs</u> (Hamilton County Eggheads) – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday from 10:00am - 12 noon. 7/3 will be a special 10 am in-person meeting outdoors at the home of Mensan Margy Fletcher in Tipton, Indiana. Breakfast will be available (bring your own coffee). There are seats for 10 people on the deck. RSVP for the exact address. Currently there are 5 Ham'n Eggs regulars (all vaccinated) who have said they will attend.

In addition, we will offer the usual Zoom option for those who do not feel comfortable meeting in the flesh. We also request an RSVP for that, so that we know to set up a computer outside.

Contact: Alison Brown, 317-846-6798, SIGHT@indymensa.org.

<u>Indy Lunch Bunch</u> 11:30am, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Shapiro's Delicatessen, 808 S. Meridian St. RSVPs not required but appreciated. Contact: Karen Steilberger, <u>steilkr@sbcglobal.net</u>.

**<u>VIRTUAL \*Sunday Social</u>** \*- Some Sundays (check the calendar) from **7:00pm -8:30pm ET** Drop in any time for casual chat. Contact: Teresa, <u>ag18tg@yahoo.com</u>.

**VIRTUAL \*Monthly Gathering\*** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, **7/9 from 7:30pm – 10:00pm ET.** Our usual format of announcements at 7:45p.m., a short program, then conversation. Watch IndyMensa.org, MeetUp, and/or the Monday "CIM Meeting ReMINDer" for program information. - Contact: Teresa, ag18tg@yahoo.com

<u>Mensans Dining Out</u> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, **7/18 6pm ET**., Upland Brewery, 820 E 116th St, Carmel, IN 46032

Dining will be outdoors unless there is rain. RSVP is appreciated. For more information or to RSVP, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-219-3773.

**Book Group** – at the Gibsons' AND on Zoom. **7/18, 2:00pm ET** *Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism* by Angus Deaton and Anne Case. Come prepared for a lively discussion. We will provide refreshments, but feel free to bring something to share. Our books tend to be non-fiction and do not exceed about 300 pages in length. 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 770-548-5217 for more details, Zoom link, or to RSVP for in-person meeting.

<u>VIRTUAL \*ExCom\*</u>– 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. **7:00pm**. **ET** All active members are welcome to see your board in action. Contact: Teresa, ag18tg@yahoo.com

# July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 *Sunday Social*	5	6	7 Indy Lunch Bunch
11 *Sunday Social*	12	13	14
18 Book Group; Mensans Dining Out	19	20 *ExCom*	21 Indy Lunch Bunch
25 *Sunday Social*	26	27	28

\*Virtual Zoom Events\*

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Ham 'n' Eggs
8	9 *Monthly Gathering*	10
15	16	17
22	23	24
29	30	31

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

### Jon's Journal – News for Region 4 Changing of the Guard

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, a new American Mensa Board of Directors (AMC) will take office. Almost 11% of members voted, which isn't a lot but was up significantly from years past. My heartfelt thanks go to everyone who cast their ballot.

The AMC will have a healthy mix of new faces, incumbents, and several officers who changed roles:

- (5) New to the AMC since last term: Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, RVC1, RVC2, RVC7
- (6) Incumbents reelected: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Treasurer, RVC4, RVC6, RVC8, RVC10
- (1) Incumbent retained (no candidate for the position): RVC5
- (3) Changed offices within the AMC: Secretary, RVC3, RVC9

This will give the AMC an influx of new ideas while still providing some continuity. From a diversity perspective, only one-third of the AMC will be white males.

Within Region 4, our election participation was well above average, with nearly 18% of our members voting. I am honored to have been chosen to represent you for the next term. Thank you for your support!

The referendum to change the AMC's term from two to three years passed with 76.5% voting in favor, exceeding the required two-thirds majority. This reduces how often we must pay to conduct elections and keeps us in synch with International's elections. It also reduces how often new officers must experience a learning curve, hopefully making the AMC more effective.

Every election brings enthusiasm and hope for improvement. We still have big challenges in attracting new members and providing good value. What suggestions do you have?

#### Back to "Normal"? Stuff's Happening!

As I write this, state and local governments are planning a return to something akin to a pre-COVID world. Hopefully enough of us are getting vaccinated to make that sustainable.

In response, Mensa Local Groups are restarting activities that were paused and are also offering some brand-new ones. Check your Local Group's event calendar and join us for something. If you're traveling, you can also join events hosted by other Local Groups. You can find them by reading any newsletter on the National website. Simply navigate to Read -> Local Group Newsletters.



The August 24-29 <u>World Gathering</u> in Houston is going forward with tours, speakers, games, a gala dinner with LeVar Burton as keynote speaker, and much more.

Planning for in-person Regional Gatherings (RGs) is also underway. Chicago's <u>HalloweeM</u> 45 will be held October 28-31 at the <u>Westin Chicago North Shore</u> in Wheeling, IL. As usual, it will feature multiple speaker tracks, 24-hour gaming, tournaments, pretentious drinking, dances, a kid's track, babysitting, and of course the pun-tastic costume contest.

Minnesota Mensa is working towards its RG in Minneapolis next March, and we plan to host our first quarter AMC meeting at that event.

I hope to see you there!

Feedback? Please contact me at <u>rvc4@us.mensa.org</u> or via phone/text at +1 309 693 1359. Region 4's Facebook group is:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/695847670490858.



Answers to Puzzle Column on page 6:

- 1. ACDE DGS = CANNED GOODS
- 2. ADEGGIR LST = GARDENING TOOLS
- 3. CCINS CFNOT = SCIENCE FICTION
- 4. BDEMR EFINTUU = BEDROOM FURNITURE
- 5. EEGI AEIISTV = ENGINE ADDITIVES
- 6. CLSU HIRT = CASUAL SHIRTS
- 7. AEMNTT AAELR = INTIMATE APPAREL
- 8. EINPT ACDEGIST = PRINTER CARTRIDGES
- 9. ALOT AEEIORSSS = LAPTOP ACCESSORIES
- 10. AEHLOOT ELRTSU = CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES



# **New Members**

Tara Behrend	West Lafayette	IN	Joined
Bryan Lenderman	Terre Haute	IN	Joined

## **Books on the Runway**

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Author: Pete Buttigieg

**Title:** *Trust: America's Best Chance* **Publisher:** Liveright Publishing Corporation/W. W. Norton and Company **Year:** 2020

**Book Description:** According to our sacrosanct Independence Day tradition, America's official twohundred-forty-fifth birthday party on July 4 will be accompanied by a frenetic, fervent fanfare of cacophonic pyrotechnics and tuneful parades. But beneath this joyful noise lurks the sobering fact that this celebration is increasingly lacking in substance due to the increasingly precarious state of our democratic government. According to our current Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg, the root cause of this political malaise is our visceral lack of *trust* - in our institutions, in each other, and from other nations. *Trust* is the product of Buttigieg's



ongoing focus on this "essential topic," and reflects his hope that readers will be "motivate[d]...to recognize their own potential roles in replenishing a vital, unseen, powerful, and needed resource."

Chapter One, "The Necessity of Trust," describes instances of implicit trust, and lack thereof, in everyday lives and during our recent social history, and emphasizes the need for trust "in order to negotiate daily life, to participate in an economy, to engage in relationships, and to maintain a democratic society." Chapter Two, "The Loss of Trust," catalogs past betrayals of trust on the part of individual office holders, institutions, and corporate entities, beginning with tobacco companies and Vietnam-era politicians and culminating with the various malevolent actors on our present-day political stage. Chapter Three, "Trust for a Deciding Decade," expounds on the critical role of trust in managing global crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic (see excerpt below), maintaining peaceful foreign relations, and creating, revising, and defending our Constitution. Chapter Four, "Rebuilding Trust," proposes antidotes to our growing infestation of distrust, including volunteering for public service, reforming our current inequitable system of taxation, advocating accountability and transparency in elected officials, and simply finding common interests with our neighbors and building "networks of trust." Buttigieg's basic and brilliant primer on human relations concludes with the pronouncement that "[h]istory and circumstance have placed us at this moment of reckoning. I trust that we can meet that moment, if only because we must."

# Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how?

Pete Buttigieg is indeed a rising star in American politics with extraordinary leadership and writing abilities. As I thoroughly enjoyed his memoir, *The Shortest Way Home*, I expected to be equally impressed with this volume, and was not disappointed. He is highly intelligent without a hint of arrogance, and an empathetic problem solver - qualities I prize in a public servant. I am pleased to make your literary acquaintance, Mayor Pete!

Who should definitely read this book? Why? *Trust* is a must-read for everyone with at least a high school education. The appendix includes "Trust and Distrust in America - A Report of the Pew Research Center," by Lee Rainie, Scott Keeter, and Andrew Perrin (for scientifically-oriented readers) and the "Closing Address of the 2020 Pete Buttigieg Campaign for President" (for personal interest, and because it's awe-inspiring).

**How long might it take to read this book?** Relatively brief in length (a mere 179 pages of text), and both passionate and candid in style, this exquisitely rational lesson in diplomacy can be savored in just a few hours.

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

Every pattern that drives distrust - from resentment toward the establishment to the loss of shared reality, from the legacy and reality of structural racism to the general fashion of American paranoia and even Russian interference - played a role in creating one of the coronavirus's most dangerous collective co-morbidities. Across America, like a compromised immune system, distrust itself proved a dangerous preexisting condition.

Successful, early containment in America, as appeared to have been quickly achieved in places like Taiwan and South Korea, would have required a huge degree of cooperation between and among governing authorities and everyday people. The same was true for any hope for a quick, safe reopening, since this depended not only on the availability of testing and contact tracing, but also on widespread cooperation around mask-wearing and social distancing. But none of this happened in most of the United States in those crucial early months.

Other countries fared far better. From Norway to New Zealand, many leaders implemented plans and policies that effectively suppressed the virus. The European Union, at first a major center of the outbreak, then did a far more effective job of containing it, making it possible to return to some semblance of normalcy by summer. It is worth noting that these countries also had far-right parties. These countries also had intense and sometimes polarizing political debates. But no developed country saw the level of systemic failure that consumed the United States through spring and into the summer. The countries that did best were those that acted quickly and with high levels of cooperation. And notably, based on survey data, many of the countries that did this most effectively are also countries that placed highly in international rankings of high social trust.

## Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 5/18/2021

Ann Hake, CIM Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. LocSec Teresa Gregory called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. Members present: Teresa Fisher, Teresa Gregory, Ann Hake, Nan Harvey, Kurt Williams, Bob Zdanky, and Matthew Zwick. Guests: Jon Applegate (Regional Ombudsman), Pat Milligan, and Jan Pfeil Doyle.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the April 2021 ExCom meeting. Kurt Williams moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. Nan Harvey seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the April 2021 Treasurer's report. Kurt Williams moved that the report be accepted. Teresa Fisher seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

A membership report was compiled by Teresa Gregory based upon the information available as of 4/30/2021 from American Mensa: 444 members, 5 new, 0 moveins, 2 rejoins, and 6 prospects. No candidates were tested due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

#### **Old Business**

In person events – the National Office has published a national policy, but it is out of date with current CDC guidelines. All Souls is not yet allowing meetings inside of the building. Testing may be held in the future at Karen Guse's church, which has a very large area with big tables. American Mensa National and CDC guidelines, as well as state and local regulations, will be followed at in-person events when they resume.

CultureQuest was held virtually on May 2, 2021. CIM registered 2 teams.

### New Business

There being no other business, Ann Hake moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nan Harvey seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.



## **Treasurer's Report**

Matthew Zwick, CIM Treasurer

#### Balance Sheet (as of 05/31/2021)

Bank Accounts	4/30/2021	05/31/2021
Checking – Regular	\$7,849.12	\$7,818.18
Checking – Scholarship	-	-
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	6,415.04	6,415.04
Checking – USPS Stamps	475.15	419.60
Total Assets	\$14,764.31	\$14,677.82

#### Profit & Loss Statement (04/30/2021 – 05/31/2021)

Income	
401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc.	0.00
405.1 – National Support	380.80
405.2 – New Member/Lapsed Member	4.00
420.1 – Miscellaneous	0.0
Total Income	\$384.80
Expense	
501.1– MG Hospitality	0.00
505.1 – MIND Printing	316.80
505.2 – Meetup	98.94
507 – Stamps	55.55
Total Expenses	\$471.29

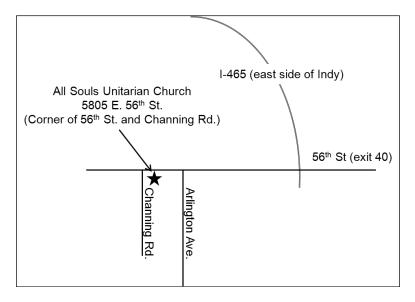
## *"The first duty of a man is to think for himself."* --José Julián Martí Pérez

# Mensa Monthly Gathering Location\* All Souls Unitarian Church 5805 E. 56th 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.

\*In-person meetings are cancelled until further notice.





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