



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Publishing Statement

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

Contribution Guidelines

MIND contributions may be sent to mind.editor@yahoo.com, or 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 following the ExCom meeting (usually the third Friday of the month) for the following month's edition.

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MIND Staff

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mind

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Loosing My MIND

Vonda Heverly, Editor

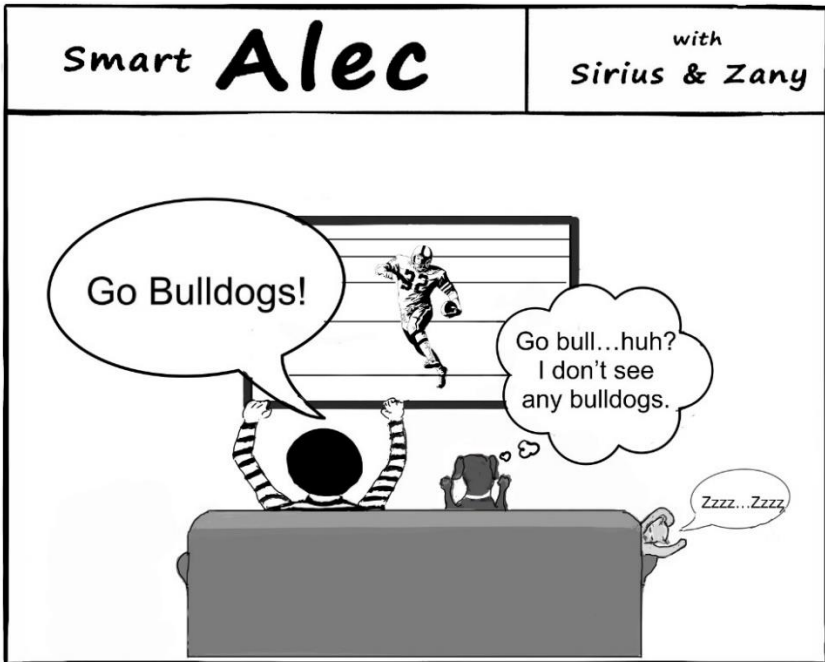
loose (/loo̅s/): v. 1. set free, release. 2. Relax



“You have 365 new blank pages. What will you write on the first blank page?” --Lailah Gifty Akita

I love the fresh start that New Year’s Day gives me. I know I can make a fresh start any time, but the blank page of the new calendar always says to me, “You can do anything you put your mind to this year. What will it be?” Last year I managed to follow my diet for 10 months. Then I realized I was much happier NOT counting calories and ditched it. That was the longest I’ve ever stuck out a resolution, and I learned a lot about myself for doing it. Here’s to seeing what I learn and accomplish this time around.

Cheers!



BettyHass 2021

Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, LocSec

Happy New Year! How many of you made resolutions? If you have been a member very long, you know that Resolutions (with a capital R) are very important to me. I try to keep them simple and do-able, and, apparently, easily forgettable. I also choose a word for the year. It's usually something that has multiple meanings and applications. Last year my word was Moving. I had no idea how perfect that was. I started physical therapy in February and was much more mobile when I stopped in May. During the spring/summer/fall, I spent more time outside in my yard that I have in the eight years I have lived here. Because of this, I was able to take my eight-day train trip in October. I also wanted to move forward mentally. I felt like my brain had been quarantined during the pandemic. I don't know that I limbered it up as much as I should have. But I tried.



I'm still trying to determine my word for this coming year. I think my Resolution is to make it to December 31, 2022, in no worse shape than I am now! How's that for setting the bar low?

The new year sees Central Indiana Mensa without any live meetings, except one: Ham'n Eggs will meet at Atrio in IU Hospital North. And please note that, due to New Year's Day falling on Saturday, they will be meeting one week later than usual. All other meetings will be available on Zoom. Watch for the Monday CIM ReMINDer in your email boxes for up-to-date information and Zoom links.

Central Indiana Mensa lost another member in October, Roger Emge from Evansville. [Roger Emge Obituary - Courier Press](#) As always, a memorial contribution has been made in his memory to the John Matthews Scholarship fund.

Scholarship season is underway. I am looking for some essay readers. It's not hard. They are short (there is a word limit) and the criteria is very well defined. If I get enough readers, you won't have to read as many. It's actually pretty interesting to see the future unfolding in front of us. Please contact me if you are interested. ag18tg@yahoo.com

One of my winter projects is to collect all my digital photos in one place then sort them. I have taken a lot of pictures at various Mensa events throughout the years. I would like to create an archive for these that I could make available to our members. Does anyone have any suggestions on what is a good platform for these? I prefer free. Also, I would like this to be a place where other members could share some of their Mensa photos. (Speaking of pictures, my picture on this page was my eighth and last day on the train.)

Hope to see you in person in 2022!

Puzzle Column

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

ADDING STATES

Each puzzle contains two clues. Each clue leads to a one-word answer. The second answer is formed by adding an official U.S. state abbreviation inside the first answer (never at either end). The shorter word, with its length, is clued first. No state is repeated.

EXAMPLE: Bambi (4)/mile high city = DEER...add NV... = DENVER

1. ease up (6)/pertinent
2. wanted (7)/lost all hope
3. porous device (6)/dirtier
4. occurrence (5)/obvious
5. modestly clothed (6)/dead person
6. valuable (8)/unstable
7. daydreams (8)/economic upturns
8. lure (4)/robber
9. speed (4)/official residence
10. close (4)/pulp and juice

See answers on page 8.



New Members

William Tilford	Lafayette	IN	MoveIn
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January Trivia

Courtesy of FreePubQuiz.co.uk

1. January Jones is an actress best known for portraying Betty Draper in which American TV series?
2. Which astrological sign is between January 21st and February 20th?
3. In Roman mythology, January is named after which god of beginnings and transitions?
4. On the 15th of January 1559 who was crowned monarch of England?
5. What is January's birthstone? (Hint: the name comes from the 14th century English word meaning 'dark red')
6. What is the common name for *Galanthus nivalis*, which flowers between January and April?
7. Which date in January is the traditional date for the feast of Epiphany?
8. January replaced which month as the first month of the Roman year?
9. Which American federal holiday is observed on the third Monday of January each year?
10. Margaret Thatcher Day is the 10th of January in which part of the world?
11. Sometimes known as a gilliflower which flower is a January birth flower?
12. Which British musician, born in 1947, shares his January the 8th birthday with Elvis, Stephen Hawking and dictator Kim Jong-Un?
13. A Burns supper is normally held on the poet's birthday on which date in January?
14. What happened on January 22, 1901?
15. On precisely which date did the Victorians celebrate the start of the twentieth century, the 1st of January 1900, or the 1st of January 1901?
16. Which world city's name means "River of January"?
17. Who stars as Nick Starkey, a smart ex-NYPD detective in the 1989 comedy-thriller film, *The January Man*?
18. On the 17th of January in which year did Captain Robert Falcon Scott reach the South Pole?
19. Who, in January 1649, did the courts deem a "tyrant, traitor, murderer and enemy of the people"?
20. Up Helly Aa is a festival held to mark the end of the yule season on the last Tuesday in January in which Scottish town?
21. What is the month of January in German?



See answers on page 13.

2021-2022 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Book Group is meeting in January 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.

Jan 16: *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster* by Bill Gates 230/262 pages

Feb 20: *Unsettled* by Steven E. Koonin; 255/320 pages

Mar 20: *A Short History of Humanity* by Johannes Krause & Thomas Troppe; 237 pages

Apr 17: *Human Errors* by Nathan Lents; 216 pages (see MIND 1/2021)

May 15: *Incognito* by David Eagleman; 227 pages

Jun 19: *Drug Use for Grown-ups* by Carl Hart; 304 pages

Jul 17: *The Reinvention of Humanity* by Charles King; 345 pages

Aug 21: *Science Fictions* by Stuart Ritchie; 368 pages

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR HAPPY★NEW★YEAR HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

“Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing.” --

Abraham Lincoln

Answers to Puzzle Column on page 6:

1. ease up (6)/pertinent = relent + VA = releVAnt
2. wanted (7)/lost all hope = desired + PA = desPAired
3. porous device (6)/dirtier = filter + HI = filtHIer
4. occurrence (5)/obvious = event + ID = evIDent
5. modestly clothed (6)/dead person = decent + DE = deceDEnt
6. valuable (8)/unstable = precious + AR = precARious
7. daydreams (8)/economic upturns = reveries + CO = reCOOveries
8. lure (4)/robber = bait + ND = baNDit
9. speed (4)/official residence = pace + LA = paLACE
10. close (4)/pulp and juice = near + CT = neCTar

January 2022 Events

VIRTUAL and LIVE *Ham'n Eggs* (Hamilton County Eggheads)

➔ **NOTE DAY CHANGE!** This month only

1/8, 10:00am - 12 noon. ET

Atrio, 11700 N Illinois St, Carmel

We will return to our former home, the Atrio, which now has a very reduced menu, but remains a quiet, spacious place with comfortable seats. Zoom is also available.

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

VIRTUAL *Indy Lunch Bunch* - 1st and 3rd Wednesday t

11:30a.m.. ET Bring your own lunch! Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net.

VIRTUAL *Sunday Social* – Some Sundays (check the calendar) from

7:00pm –8:30pm ET Drop in any time for casual chat. Contact: Teresa, ag18tg@yahoo.com.

VIRTUAL *Monthly Gathering* - 2nd Friday, **7:30pm – 10:00pm ET** Our usual format of announcements at 7:45p.m., a short program, then conversation. Bring your own snacks and beverages.

Watch IndyMensa.org, MeetUp, and/or the Monday “CIM Meeting ReMINDER” for program information. - Contact: Teresa, ag18tg@yahoo.com

Mensans Dining Out

➔ Cancelled until further notice

VIRTUAL *Book Group*

1/16, 2:00pm ET

How to Avoid A Climate Disaster – Bill Gates (2021) 230/262 pages

Please contact Rich at hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com or 770-548-5217 for more details, to RSVP, or for Zoom link.

VIRTUAL *ExCom*– 3rd Tuesday of the month. **7:00pm. ET** All active

members are welcome to see your board in action. Contact: Teresa, ag18tg@yahoo.com

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
2 *Sunday Social*	3	4	5 *Indy Lunch Bunch*
9 *Sunday Social*	10	11	12
16 *Book Group* *Sunday Social*	17	18 *Ex-Com*	19 *Indy Lunch Bunch*
23 *Sunday Social*	24	25	26
30 *Sunday Social*	31		

Virtual Zoom Events

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>
6	7	8 *Ham 'n' Eggs* [Note Day Change]
13	14 *Monthly Gathering*	15
20	21	22
27	28	29

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

Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

Yellow Postcards

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

I have seen many members' comments about Mensa's oral history project. Some were favorable; many were not.

The project was initiated by our national office. American Mensa's former Chair and the History Committee Chair were consulted although didn't make the final decision. I and the other AMC members were not consulted. We were only informed that a third-party company, PCI, would be collecting members' stories. They would sell the compilation to recoup their investment. Mensa would neither pay nor receive money. PCI apparently does this work for many organizations.



Unfortunately, many members were surprised to receive PCI's solicitation. The e-mails and postcards seemed scammy. After the initial outcry, the national office worked with PCI to improve the wording for subsequent communications. Many members felt Mensa ignored their communication preference set on the national website to exclude them from external promotions. Initially, we were told this was a "project" that would benefit members, not an external "promotion". Given that PCI was selling something, that's a distinction without a difference. We should respect members' preferences. Belatedly, a separate preference to opt out of oral history solicitations was added to the website. Here were the early November statistics:

- Total stories collected: 7,809 (our project seems to be performing better than many of the others they've done)
- Data Verification:
 - Emails: 1,429 new/updated
 - Addresses: 597 new/updated
 - Home Phone: 6,911 new/updated
 - Cell Phone: 5,059 added (granted some may use cell phone as home phone)
- 95% of those participating and completing the survey at the end of the call would recommend it to others
- 164 former members rejoined to participate

At the August AMC meeting, our Executive Director expressed his deep regret for how the project was rolled out and apologized for our members' frustration. He worked with Communications Officer Robin Crawford to craft corrective motions for the AMC to consider. Concerns about some wording prompted us to refer them to our Membership Committee. They should submit updated motions for our March meeting. Meanwhile, we have requested external projects be put on hold.

We must still partner with outside organizations to keep dues affordable. If you're over 50, you can join AARP for \$12 yearly. They accomplish that by getting revenue from companies selling everything from life insurance to cruises. We don't want to turn Mensa into the marketing machine that AARP is, but \$12/year dues sounds a lot better than \$79/year. Perhaps there's a happy medium somewhere?

Our other challenge remains – as always – communication. This project was widely advertised through advance e-mails, inclusion in Mensa Wired and Mensa Leader [e-newsletters](#), and even in the Bulletin. Yet people still said they hadn't heard about it when they started getting postcards. I'm not sure there is a solution to that one, but ideas are always welcome.

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

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

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR HAPPY★NEW★YEAR HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Answers to January Trivia on page 7:

1. Mad Men
2. Aquarius
3. Janus
4. Elizabeth I (daughter of Henry VIII and his second wife, Anne Boleyn)
5. Garnet
6. Snowdrop
7. January 6th
8. March
9. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
10. Falkland Islands
11. Carnation
12. David Bowie
13. 25th of January
14. Death of Queen Victoria
15. 1st of January 1901
16. Rio de Janeiro
17. Kevin Kline
18. 1912
19. King Charles I
20. Lerwick (the largest town on the Shetland Islands)
21. Januar (the 'y' drops off)

Books on the Runway

Rich Gibson

Author: Bill Gates

Title: *How to Avoid A Climate Disaster*

Publisher: Knopf

Year: 2021

Book Description: This book seeks to reduce the hysteria around climate change. Mr. Gates is objective about the threats of climate change and is straightforward about the huge scope and scale of the effort needed to mitigate the worst of it. Above all, he is optimistic that we can solve the problems.

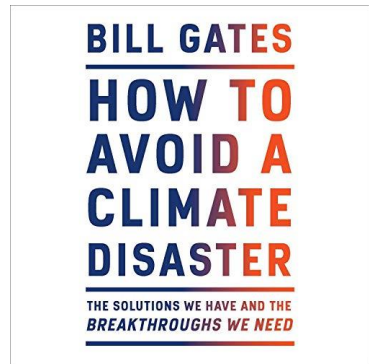
The book begins by setting a goal: Reduce the 51 billion tons of greenhouse gases (GHG) the world produces every year to zero by 2050. It justifies the goal, and next devotes a chapter to each of the five activities that produce GHG: making things, plugging in, growing things, getting around, and staying cool and warm. Each chapter reviews how these activities produce GHG, and what steps are available and possible to eliminate emissions. Mr. Gates is not afraid to get into the science and technology needed to get to zero, but he keeps it general enough to be quite understandable.

The book ends with an end-to-end plan to achieve his goal and breaks it down to specific actions for government at federal, state and local levels, and even down to individual activity. It is frank in its appreciation of the huge (Yuuuuge!) level of effort required but insists that the goal is achievable.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? This book has provided me some badly needed balance for assessing where we are and where we need to be to get out of this mess. I deeply appreciated the lack of hysteria, the calmness with which Mr. Gates discusses the issues and proposes solutions

Who should definitely read this book? Why? Everyone who is aware of the dangers of climate change and wants to know how to address them; especially those who think the only option is to moan and cringe until the destruction of civilization and humanity. About the only folks that will not get anything out of this book are the stalwart deniers that anything is wrong.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: The author presents an admirably concise statement of intent on the back cover: “This book is about what it will take and why I think we can do it.”



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 11/16/2021

Ann Hake, CIM Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, November 16, 2021.

LocSec Teresa Gregory called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.

Members present: Teresa Fisher, Teresa Gregory, Nan Harvey, Ann Hake, Kurt Williams, and Bob Zdanky.

Members absent: Matthew Zwick.

Guests: Jon Applegate (Regional Ombudsman), Pat Milligan, and Jan Pfeil Doyle.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the October 2021 ExCom meeting. Teresa Fisher moved that the minutes be accepted. Nan Harvey seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

Because the Treasurer was unable to attend this month's meeting, a report was not reviewed. The ExCom will plan to review reports for both October and November at the next meeting.

A membership report was compiled by Teresa Gregory based upon the information available as of 10/31/2021 from American Mensa: 484 members, 1 new, 6 movein, 6 rejoins, and 7 prospects. No candidates were tested.

Old Business

Monthly and other Gatherings – All Souls is still not scheduling outside rental groups; we will continue the Monthly Gathering in virtual form for now. Ham 'n' Eggs and the Lunch Bunch will remain virtual, the book group will continue in hybrid format, and Mensans Dining Out will continue to meet in person indoors for individuals vaccinated for COVID-19.

Outdoor Gathering (OG) – is scheduled for May 20-22, 2022, at Versailles State Park; reservations have been made and a deposit has been put down.

New Business

LocSec Teresa Gregory noted that long-time CIM member Greg Crawford has died; a contribution will be made to the Mensa Foundation toward the John Matthews CIM Scholarship fund in his name.

LocSec Teresa Gregory reports that complaints are continuing to accrue over the Mensa Oral History Project; individuals report feeling annoyed over the persistent post cards and emails, and/or feeling deceived by the "bait and switch" sensation of the long interview followed by the hard sell for a very expensive publication. Apparently, the project was approved by the national

office, but the details of how it came to be are unclear. The chair of the Mensa History Committee, who reportedly was not involved in the process for the Oral History Project, would like for each local group to have an official archivist.

Many of the LocSecs are examining ways to expand the MensaCares! program to more opportunities that can be done all through the year.

Registration is open for the 2022 Annual Gathering July 6-10 in Sparks, NV. Registration prices will go up January 3, 2022, and again February 28 (and a third time in May.)

There being no other business, Ann Hake moved that the meeting be adjourned. Teresa Fisher seconded the motion. The motion was carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Treasurer's Reports

Matthew Zwick

Balance Sheet (as of 10/31/2021)

Bank Accounts	9/30/2021	10/31/2021
Checking – Regular	\$7,769.07	\$7,760.17
Checking – Scholarship	-	-
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	6,415.04	6,415.04
Checking – USPS Stamps	417.40	416.30
Total Assets	\$14,626.51	\$14,616.51

Profit & Loss Statement (09/30/2021 – 10/31/2021)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc.	0.00
	405.1 – National Support	411.40
	405.2 – New Member/Lapsed Member	7.00
	420.2 – Miscellaneous	0.00
	Total Income	\$418.40
Expense		
	501.1– MG Hospitality	0.00
	505.1 – MIND Printing	377.30
	507 – Stamps	1.10
	508 – John Matthews Scholarship Fund	50.00
	Total Expenses	\$428.40

Balance Sheet (as of 11/30/2021)

Bank Accounts	10/31/2021	11/30/2021
Checking – Regular	\$7,760.17	\$7,590.01
Checking – Scholarship	-	-
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	6,415.04	6,415.04
Checking – USPS Stamps	416.30	414.65
Total Assets	\$14,616.51	\$14,444.70

Profit & Loss Statement (10/31/2021 – 11/30/2021)

Income		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc.	0.00
	405.1 – National Support	409.70
	405.2 – New Member/Lapsed Member	1.00
	420.2 – Miscellaneous	0.00
Total Income		\$410.70
Expense		
	501.1– MG Hospitality	0.00
	505.1 – MIND Printing	381.92
	507 – Stamps	1.65
	508 – John Matthews Scholarship Fund	100.00
	509 – Meetup	98.94
Total Expenses		\$582.51

*“Be stirring as the time, be fire with fire, threaten the threatener, and outface the brow of bragging horror; so shall inferior eyes, that borrow their behaviours from the great, grow great by your example and put on the dauntless spirit of resolution.” – William Shakespeare, from *The Life and Death of King John*, Act V Scene I*

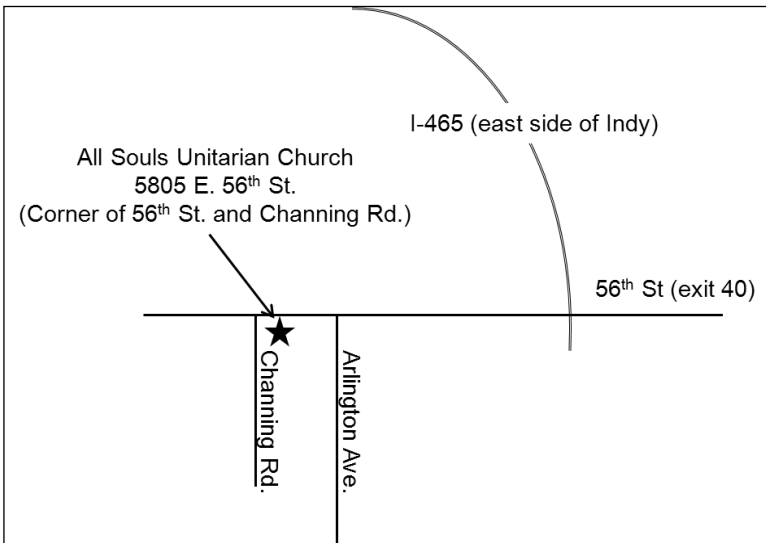
Mensa Monthly Gathering Location*

All Souls Unitarian Church

5805 E. 56th St., Indianapolis

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

*In-person meetings are cancelled until further notice.



Central Indiana Mensa
Teresa Gregory
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