



# mind

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.

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## **MIND Staff**

**Editor:** Vonda Heverly, [mind.editor@yahoo.com](mailto:mind.editor@yahoo.com), 250 Anniston Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46227.

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-or- [www.indymensa.org](http://www.indymensa.org)  
MensaPhone: (317) 539-1740**

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April 2022



# mind

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# Loosing My MIND

Vonda Heverly, Editor

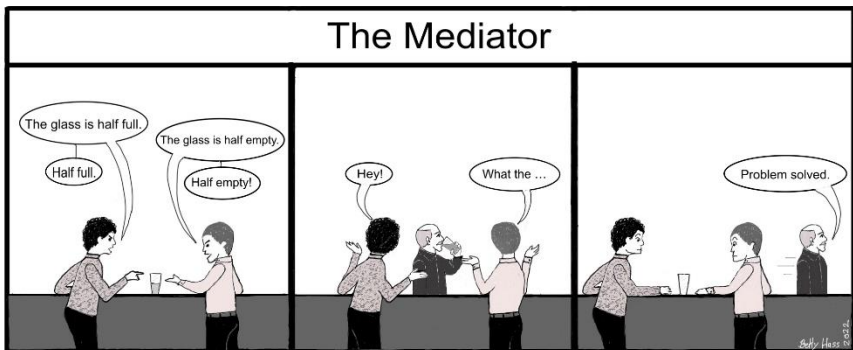
loose (/loo̩s/): v. 1. set free, release. 2. Relax



Welcome, April! In our family, I host everyone over for Easter. We've got a good mix of ages in the kids now, so the Easter egg hunt is a big deal. I always hope for good weather so I can shoo everyone outside of my little house. With it being later this year, we've got a good chance of that!

I'll be heading to warmer climes for spring break. I hope everyone is able to recharge in their own ways and shake the winter blues!

Cheers!



## Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, LocSec

Happy Spring! With the changing seasons, we have some changes here in Central Indiana Mensa. As I always stress, we are still in flux, so please read the weekly CIM ReMINDER for the latest updates.

If Covid numbers stay where they're at, we will probably be going back to All Souls in May for our first in-person meeting in over two years. We still have some details to work out, but here are the changes:



- We will probably be in Harris Hall on the main floor, but we will not have access to the kitchen area. The facility is hosting a Head Start Program during the week, and there are federal guidelines they have to maintain for the food preparation area.
- We will not be serving alcohol. We had few people who drank it anyway.
- We will require proof of vaccination or a recent Covid test This is in line with Mensa guidelines for their national events. We are still working out these details so check next month's MIND.

Also, if Covid numbers stays stable, we will be having the Outdoor Mensa Gathering (OMG!) in Versailles State Park. We have a reservation for May 20-22. We will be putting a cap on attendance, so we are not planning to advertise this nationally. Anyone from CIM may come and we will be notifying the loyal people who have supported this event in the past. Part of the charm of the OMG! is the rustic setting and the small group size. Again, we will be requiring proof of vaccination or a recent Covid test. More on this in the next MIND and keep an eye on the weekly CIM ReMINDER for details.

In April, Ham'n Eggs is back LIVE at the Atrio. See the calendar page. There will be no Zoom component to this.

Book Group, which is a hybrid event is pushed back a week due to Easter. You have an extra week to spend on this month's book!

This month's Mensa Bulletin has a few tasty treats in it. Check out a column by our own CIM member, Jeff Papa, PhD, *Mensa Research Journal* Editor-in-Chief. Then peruse the list of Special Interest Groups.

From the past: Lincoln Rhodes, JSPN, from the Indianapolis Zen Center discussed Buddhism and Zen Practice. [Monthly Gathering 4.12.2013 - Google Photos](#)

Beth Kloote from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. spoke on "Community Greening: KIB's research-based approach to helping people and nature thrive" The meeting was started by Alan Schmidt's nature talk. [Monthly Gathering 4.11.2014 - Google Photos](#)

## Puzzle Column

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

### APRIL HOLIDAY MATH PUZZLES

1. Suppose that Moses knew the following facts before the crossing of the Red Sea:

- The distance across the red Sea is 4000 yards.
- The caravan of Israelites crossing the sea is 800 yards long.
- The Israelites will cross the sea at the rate of 2000 yards per hour.
- Pharaoh and his host are 10,000 yards from the entrance to the red Sea
- Pharaoh and his chariots will go 20,000 yards per hour
- The pillar of fire will be lifted the next morning at exactly 10:00 AM
- A spear is not effective unless it's thrown from less than 200 yards away

Find the exact latest time (hour, minutes, and seconds) the next morning when Moses should start moving the Israelites across the Red Sea in order to get all the people across (with the last Israelite at the edge of the sea) and the first of Pharaoh's chariots 200 yards behind and still in the Red Sea. If the math is done right, none of the Israelites will be killed while Pharaoh and all his host will be drowned when the parting of the Red Sea stops.

2. If a dinner roll has 59 calories and a hot cross bun has 79 calories, what is the maximum total calories from these items that could NOT be eaten by all the dinner guests combined?

See answers on page 13.



### New Members

David Ellis	Franklin	IN	Joined
Alison Porterfield	Carmel	IN	Joined

## **An Important Perspective**

*Dr. Alan D. Schmidt*

“What if there is no tomorrow?” What if two days ago you had some sniffles and dismissed it as just allergies. What if yesterday you realized you definitely had congestion which must be from a cold that you get once in a great while. What if today you have significant congestion, are having trouble breathing, and realize you actually must have potentially deadly Covid-19. You think, “What if there is no tomorrow?” You can have an ambulance take you to find a hospital that still has a hospital bed or stretcher in a hallway available for you. Hospitals have respirators to help you breathe with your COVID-19 infection; it is a medical step that can be taken before you die of COVID-19. There are better treatment procedures in hospitals now for COVID-19 including laying you face down on the bed so the fluid filling your lungs will drain better. Hospitals are becoming overfilled with unvaccinated COVID-19 patients, causing elective surgeries to be delayed such as the elective surgery case of a mastectomy needed for a woman with breast cancer.

Governor Eric Holcomb reported for the week ending December 26, 2021, of the new COVID-19 patients admitted to the hospital 2,124 out of 2,273 were unvaccinated; of the COVID-19 patients admitted to intensive care units (ICU) 317 out of 334 were unvaccinated, and for COVID-19 deaths 364 out of 432 were unvaccinated individuals. It does not take a genius to know which side of those numbers you want to be on. In Oklahoma on January 25, 2022, the news reported patients unvaccinated for COVID-19 in the intensive care unit have a mortality rate up to 50%. Oklahoma only has a 55% COVID-19 vaccination rate. Elderly people that are unvaccinated for COVID-19 are 49 times more likely to need to be hospitalized with COVID-19. We have had effective vaccines for COVID-19 since early 2021. Those in the know have been double vaccinated and boosted by now. Boosted people have ten times the antibody levels to prevent or lessen COVID-19 symptoms. The COVID-19 vaccinations have been very effective and continue to be 90% effective in preventing hospitalization for the recent variants of Delta and Omicron. The COVID-19 vaccinations have been shown to be safe and effective with billions of vaccinated people worldwide.

My information was reported by reputable, national news broadcasts and reports, for a particular time during the progression of the virus. There is dangerous and inaccurate information being circulated among people on the internet concerning treatments and precautions for COVID-19. Stick to reputable news sources and documents for information and treatments, not made up, untested, undocumented alternatives. A reputable source is [ourshot.in.gov](http://ourshot.in.gov). Your life and the lives of those around you depend on accurate COVID-19 information. The COVID-19 virus is rapidly circulating among the world population. In January 2022 all the counties in Indiana were labeled red on the

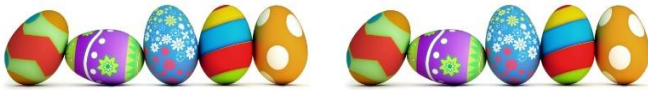
map indicating high rates of COVID-19 transmission; it's better now. I personally know friends and relatives that have died of COVID-19, and friends and relatives of friends that have died of COVID-19, don't make one of them be you. The 19 of COVID-19 comes from it being identified in 2019; this is 2022; let's end this pandemic now.

My life philosophy has been do what you can, while you can, until you can't. Right now, doing what you can is to get vaccinated for COVID-19. The vaccinations are free and now readily available. Early on it took weeks for the most vulnerable people to anxiously wait for an available vaccination appointment. Take further precautions by reducing potential exposures and wearing face coverings in public situations. The mask, preferably now an N95, needs to be worn covering your nose and mouth, it does not work as a chin protector or neck guard. Three free N95 masks became available in January for each person at various locations. You can order four free COVID-19 tests to be delivered to your home at [covidtests.gov](https://covidtests.gov).

Plan on a long life with education, a fulfilling career, opportunities to interact and serve others, the close commitments of a family with a loving spouse, and children, and interactions with extended relatives and friends. Enjoy the wonder, beauty, and extent of the amazing earth we live on. Revel in the interconnected web of life that comprises the natural world we are a part of. Make many positive contributions. There are a multitude of better things to do than filling up our hospitals as a COVID-19 patient.

Do what you can, while you can, until you can't. Right now what you can do is to get vaccinated and boosted for COVID-19 and take precautions to prevent infections by wearing face masks in public situations, so there will be a tomorrow for you.

On January 27, 2022 I gave the previous speech for my Pioneer Toastmaster Club # 17 Dr. Alan D. Schmidt



***“April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.”***  
—William Shakespeare, *Sonnet XCVIII*



# April 2022 Events

## Ham ‘n’ Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) – 1st Saturday

**4/2 - 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon ET** Atrio, 11700 Illinois 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 11 a.m., then lunch starts. Drop in any time for casual conversation, lively discussion, and good food and beverages. RSVP: Alison Brown, 317-846-6798, [SIGHT@indymensa.org](mailto:SIGHT@indymensa.org)

## VIRTUAL \*Indy Lunch Bunch\* - 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday t

**11:30am ET** Bring your own lunch! RSVPs not required but appreciated. Contact: Karen Steilberger, [steilkr@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto:ag18tg@yahoo.com).

## VIRTUAL \*Monthly Gathering\* - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday,

**4/8 - 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.

Mensan Jim Sobek will present, “The Tomahawk Precision Guidance System: DSMAC; Invented Right Here in Central Indiana.”

Watch IndyMensa.org, MeetUp, and/or the Monday “CIM Meeting ReMINDer” for program information. - Contact: Teresa, [ag18tg@yahoo.com](mailto:ag18tg@yahoo.com)

## VIRTUAL and IN PERSON \*Book Group\*

**4/24, 2:00pm ET** ← **Note the date change!**

*Human Errors* – Nathan Lents (2018) 216 pages

Contact Rich Gibson [hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com](mailto:hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com) or 770-548-5217 for more details, to RSVP, or for Zoom link.

## VIRTUAL \*ExCom\*– 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**4/19 - 7:00pm. ET** All active members are welcome to see your board in action. Contact: Teresa, [ag18tg@yahoo.com](mailto:ag18tg@yahoo.com)

# April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
3 *Sunday Social*	4	5	6 *Indy Lunch Bunch*
10 *Sunday Social*	11	12	13
17 EASTER *Sunday Social*	18	19 *Ex-Com*	20 *Indy Lunch Bunch*
24 Book Group; CultureQuest	25	26	27

\*Virtual Zoom Events\*

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Ham'n Eggs
7	8 *Monthly Gathering*	9
14	15	16
20	21	22
28	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.

## Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

### More Complaints

*Jon Gruebele, RVC4*

In my [June, 2019](#) newsletter article, I wrote about people who complain – and why I liked to hear those complaints. People who complain still care about Mensa and want to make it better.

Unfortunately, most complaints come in the form of: “Somebody should do something about this!” “Somebody”, of course, means: “not me”.

There may well be good reasons for this. Some people may not have the time or skills to help.

They may perceive – perhaps incorrectly – that because they're not in a leadership role, they can't make changes. They may have tried to help in the past but were met with resistance. We've all heard the excuses from “We've always done it this way” to “That'll never work” – among many others.

If you have a complaint about Mensa, instead of dashing off a scathing social media post or e-mail, consider:

- Don't like the newsletter? Why not contribute an article, story, puzzle, or picture? Could you be part of the team that works to publish it?
- No activities you want to attend? Establish one. It's pretty easy. Set a time and date, make any needed arrangements with the venue, and ask your editor to include the event in the newsletter. Bonus points are given for advertising it via social media and writing a follow-up newsletter article about how wonderful it was. Maybe people will want to do it again. If it's a flop, try hosting a different event.
- Regional Gathering not exciting enough? Is there a topic you could present, a tournament you could host, or a tour you could lead?

There are many other possibilities, so get creative! To misquote John F. Kennedy, “Ask not what Mensa can do for you; do something for Mensa.” Volunteers are much happier with their Mensa experience – and themselves. Finally, when you see a volunteer, please take a moment to say “thank you”. Toward that end, I'd like to say “thanks” to all our volunteers in Region 4 and specifically to:

- Maggie Brady, Rhonda Peek, and Susan Woodill for feeding us at RGs year after year
- Heather Booton for organizing 'WeeM and finding us all places to meet
- Kevin Borchers and Jim Cundiff-Woods for establishing strategic initiatives for their Local Groups



- Jane Gmur for her work with the Foundation’s scholarship program
- Teresa Gregory, Jan Pfeil Doyle, and Beth Weiss for their leadership as LocSecs and Annual Gathering Chairs
- Albert Lin for keeping Iowa-Illinois Mensa a vibrant Local Group
- And of course, all the board members, editors, proctors, testing coordinators, membership officers, treasurers, secretaries, ombudspeople, webmasters, scholarship chairs, area coordinators, and everyone that helps in other ways.

Sadly, there isn’t enough space to name you all, so if you don’t see your name, please know that I’m grateful for what you do too.

Feedback? Please contact me at [rvc4@us.mensa.org](mailto: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>.

## 2021-2022 Book Group Reading List

*Rich Gibson*

Book Group is meeting 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.

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

**May 15:** *Livewired* by David Eagleman; 227 pages [note change]

**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

### Answers to Puzzle Column on page 6:

1. Moses must start moving the caravan by 8:05:24 AM. Making a diagram and using the distance formula, Moses gets the caravan across in 2.4 hours and Pharaoh gets to within 200 yards in 0.49 hours. Starting at 10:00:00 AM, adding Pharaoh’s time, and subtracting Moses’s time will get the answer.

2. In number theory, when two numbers are relatively prime, the maximum number you can’t get from the sum of each multiplied by another whole number is  $ab - (a+b)$ . Applying it to problem #2,  $(59 \times 79) - (59 + 79) = 4523$ . The formula can be induced with a similar problem with smaller starting numbers, such as 3 points for a field goal and 7 points for a typical touchdown. With these scores, the highest unobtainable score is 11. Using the formula,  $(3 \times 7) - (3+7) = 11$ . Using 3 and 4, you get  $(3 \times 4) - (3+4) = 5$ . Here is a Wikipedia article about this formula: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coin\\_problem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coin_problem) .

## Books on the Runway

Margy Fletcher

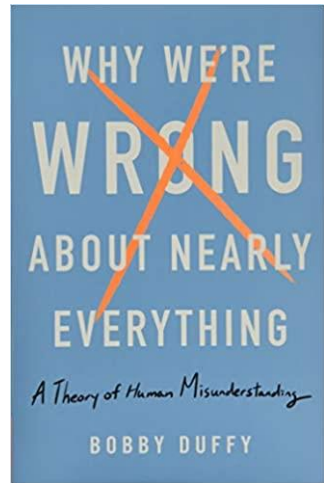
**Author:** Bobby Duffy

**Title:** *Why We're Wrong About Nearly Everything: A Theory of Human Misunderstanding*

**Publisher:** Basic Books

**Year:** 2018

**Book Description:** Those of us who are familiar with the works of eminent social scientists Steven Pinker, the late Hans Rosling, and Steven E. Koonin, are aware that the future of the human race is not as dire as we're led to believe, and that there is - ahem - *rock-solid* evidence of the Fab Four's lyrical assertion that we are "getting better all the time." *Why We're Wrong About Nearly Everything*, London policy professor Bobby Duffy's summary of a decade-long Ipsos MORI research project spanning forty countries, offers a variation on this optimistic theme. But instead of restating the obvious, Duffy delves deeper, exploring the reasons why we stubbornly stick to our long-held beliefs, even when they contradict irrefutable facts.



Duffy begins his analysis of human misperceptions by presenting the types and sources of the delusions that hamper our thinking and lists five major points relative to our intellectual flaws (see excerpt below). The ensuing chapters detail the various subjects on which citizens of the aforementioned forty nations were polled by Ipsos and about which their woeful ignorance was revealed - e.g., percentages of residents in one's country who have diabetes, are happy, believe that homosexuality is immoral, are immigrants, are Muslim, are unemployed, have access to the internet, or live in extreme poverty. Duffy relates these findings to psychological terms that define flaws in human perceptive capacity, such as biases and heuristics, filter bubbles, arbitrary coherence, cognitive consonance and dissonance, confirmation bias, and pluralistic ignorance. He concludes by offering solutions that will aid in both understanding our delusions and overcoming them.

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

This book confirms my long-held suspicion that one's philosophical views and political outlook are inextricably linked with one's personality quirks and emotional proclivities and have little to do with objective reality. As much as I love being right about some issues, I also need the pungent dose of self-

awareness that Duffy’s work provides: I’m just as gullible as the next person, and need to “get over myself” and constantly fact-check in order to be truly well-informed.

**Who should definitely read this book? Why?** Social scientists and political activists at both ends of the ideological spectrum would do well to heed this book’s message that our cognitive foibles and fallibility affect what we accept as truths. Progressives in particular will appreciate the fact that the author presents the Brexit referendum and the 2016 US presidential election as “vital case studies for understanding delusion and how it is driven by our preexisting beliefs and wishful thinking.” For technically oriented readers, this book abounds with effectively formatted, easy-to-read bar graphs. An additional bonus for Anglophiles: This book was originally published in the UK, and the peculiar British spellings and literary *flavour* remain intact.

**How long might it take to read this book?** This book’s clear, direct style of prose and relative brevity (241 pages of actual text) classify it as a “quick read,” requiring an investment of just one or two days - time well spent, in my (biased) opinion.

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

Keep in mind these five points as...we explore our delusions and the reasons behind them:

1. Many of us get a lot of basic social and political facts very wrong.
2. What we get wrong is as much about how we think as what we’re told - which means, as much as we’d like to, we can’t merely blame the media, social media, or politicians for our mistaken beliefs; we need to look at the whole system, including our own faulty thinking.
3. Our delusions are often biased in particular directions, because our emotional responses influence our perceptions of reality. Our delusions therefore provide valuable clues that we shouldn’t just laugh at or ignore.
4. More than this, our delusions can in turn shape social and political realities. They have serious consequences for so many aspects of our lives, from political outcomes, social cohesion, to our own health and finances.
5. Acknowledging the complexity and scale of the problem is our only real chance to deal with our delusions, individually and collectively.

# **Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 2/15/2022**

*Ann Hake, CIM Secretary*

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

LocSec Teresa Gregory called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm.

Members present: Teresa Fisher, Teresa Gregory, Ann Hake, Nan Harvey, Kurt Williams, Bob Zdanky, and Matthew Zwick. Guests: Jon Applegate (Regional Ombudsman), Jan Pfeil Doyle, and Pat Milligan.

The committee reviewed the minutes of the January 2022 ExCom meeting. Kurt Williams moved that the minutes be accepted. Nan Harvey seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report for January 2022. Ann Hake 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 1/31/2022 from American Mensa: 491 members, 2 new, 1 movein, 2 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. Mensans Dining Out and Ham 'n' Eggs will be suspended for now, the Lunch Bunch will meet virtually, and the book group meeting will be hybrid. We are also feeling fortunate over having preemptively cancelled the RG due to the pandemic, since the snowstorm that happened that weekend would have necessitated cancelling it at the last minute otherwise.

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. We will continue to monitor public health conditions to determine whether to move forward with this event.

Registration is open for the 2022 Annual Gathering July 6-10 in Sparks, NV. Registration prices increased on January 3, 2022 (from \$219 to \$244) and will increase further on February 28 (to \$269), and once more on May 31 (to \$299, the onsite registration rate.)

Dayton Area Mensa has announced that their Regional Gathering will be held March 25-27, 2022, at the Miamisburg, OH DoubleTree Suites.

## **New Business**

ExCom elections are due to be held this September; our bylaws mandate that the current ExCom determine whether the next ExCom will comprise 7 or 9 members,



depending on the needs of CIM at the time. Ann Hake moved that the number of ExCom members be kept at 7. Nan Harvey seconded the motion, and the motion was carried. The Nominating Committee and the Election Committee will be appointed at the next ExCom meeting in order to meet the April 1 deadline mandated in the bylaws. The annual financial review mandated by our bylaws is due; this will be completed before the next ExCom meeting.

CultureQuest XXXIII will take place Sunday, April 24; registration is now open and closes on March 31. CIM fielded two teams last year. Kurt Williams moved that we cover the registration fee for as many teams of at least 4 members as would like to participate. Ann Hake seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

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 8:06 pm.

## Treasurer's Report

*Matthew Zwick*

### Balance Sheet (as of 2/28/2022)

<b>Bank Accounts</b>	<b>1/31/2022</b>	<b>2/28/2022</b>
Checking – Regular	\$7,574.31	\$7,549.75
Checking – Scholarship	-	-
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	6,415.04	6,415.04
Checking – USPS Stamps	358.55	358.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$14,372.90</b>	<b>\$14,347.79</b>

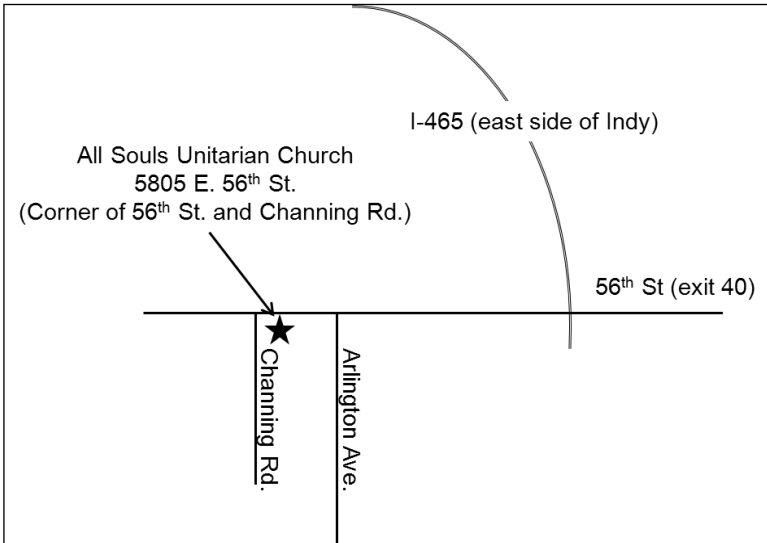
### Profit & Loss Statement (1/31/2022 – 2/28/2022)

<b>Income</b>		
	401.1 – Monthly Gathering Inc.	0.00
	405.1 – National Support	417.35
	405.2 – New Member/Lapsed Member	3.00
	420.2 – Miscellaneous	0.00
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$420.35</b>
<b>Expense</b>		
	501.1 – MG Hospitality	0.00
	505.1 – MIND Printing	444.91
	507 – Stamps	0.55
	508 – Miscellaneous	0.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$445.46</b>

**Mensa Monthly Gathering Location\***  
**All Souls Unitarian Church**  
**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.

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



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