



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana

YOU COULD BE THE



NEXT EDITOR!

(See Jan's Column on Page 5)

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 Teresa Gregory, 6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219. Contributions may be edited for length or to remove offensive material and may not include personal attacks. No anonymous contributions will be published, but the Editor will withhold the author's name from the public on request. Contributions should be 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

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Thank You!



Gratitude beyond measure to **Vonda Heverly** who has guided this publication for five-plus years. With little instruction, she took it on and polished it up, making it the publication we look forward to each month. For many of our members, MIND is their only connection to the local group, and this was particularly true during the Pandemic lockdown. Thank You and enjoy your next adventure!

The Old Dog Is Back

Teresa Gregory, "Just Fillin' In" Editor

I am temporarily back as we search for a new editor. This is one of the most important jobs in a local group. If you would like more information or you think you know someone who would be a good fit, please let me know.



This past weekend was the OMG! (Outdoor Mensa Gathering!) We were blessed with excellent weather. We had rain on Friday night after everyone was bunked down. Several people said the sound of the rain contributed to their wonderful sleep. It was a good weekend to disconnect and reset. If you missed it, mark your calendars for next year, May 17-19.

In a world that seems to have gotten meaner, it can be difficult to see the good that's all around us. I learned that the members of All Souls Unitarian Church, where we hold our Monthly Gatherings, had been tasked with reading Ross Gay's book, *The Book of Delights: Essays*. His personal reflections are described as "...a record of the small joys we often overlook in our busy lives." The harder it is to see these, the more we need to look. Joy is easier to see when we are thankful. I recently took another 8-day Amtrak trip, and I was truly overwhelmed by the kindness I experienced.

To this end, it was suggested by our own Ann Hake that we have a regular feature in MIND that highlights the kindness of our fellow Mensans. Please send any thoughts to mind.editor@yahoo.com for inclusion in the next issue. If you would like to remain anonymous, just make note of this. The editor can keep a secret!

I C U – Recognizing Good Deeds

✓From Ann Hake: Thank you to **Jan [Pfeil Doyle]** for saving the day at the May monthly gathering, by bringing not only a microphone but also the cord adapter we didn't realize we needed to connect the speaker's MacBook to the monitor. ♥

✓From Teresa Gregory: Thank you to all who helped make the OMG! another memorable weekend. **Karen Steilberger** again was our Registrar Extraordinaire. Special thanks to **Jan Pfeil Doyle, Mack Earnhardt, and John Massura** (Chicago Mensa) who went above and beyond helping a camper in need.

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

You Won't Want to Miss –

- Sunday Fun Day #3 on June 11. The theme is prized possessions.
- Games, Conversation, and a Cookout at the Kings on June 24th

More details on these and other upcoming events in the calendar.

Help Wanted: MIND Editor – Prior experience is not required. We have past editors who are willing to help you learn the ropes. The editor does not need to live in the Indianapolis area and does not need to be a member of ExCom. The minimum technical requirements are a computer with email, Internet access, and the ability to create a PDF file to email to the printer. You must also be willing to meet the monthly deadlines. A normal month might run three to six hours, which includes checking email throughout the month. Many thanks to **Teresa Gregory** who has volunteered to be interim editor until we find a new one. Email any questions or your application with qualifications to Teresa, ag18tg@yahoo.com.



Sad News – We have learned that long time Central Indiana Mensa member **Larry Card** passed away in April. He was 82.

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It) – We had a nice turnout for our May Monthly Gathering. Author and CIM member **Duane Nickell**, PhD, spoke about Albert Einstein's life, using the places he lived in Europe and the US as a framework. You can read all about it in Dr. Nickell's new book, *Einstein Lived Here: A Travel Guide to the Places He Lived, Worked, and Played*.

ICYMI 2 – We had beautiful weather for the Outdoor Mensa Gathering. People enjoyed hiking, canoeing, running, and hanging out with fellow Mensans from Regions 3 and 4. Kudos to Gatherings Chair **Teresa Gregory** for planning and running yet another successful event! Thanks also go to **Karen Steilberger** for serving as registrar.



Dining Out in May at A Taste of Dubai

Puzzle Column

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

SINGABLE SOLUTIONS

All clue answers start with a note: *do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, or ti.*

Then, sing the notes and you'll get the start of a well-known song. Then, identify the well-known song.

Example: Ask for earnestly, type of tangelo, awkward verse, birth assistant, type of panel, museum volunteer

Clue answers: Solicit, Minneola, doggerel, midwife, solar, docent.

Notes: sol mi do mi sol do = ***The Star-Spangled Banner***

1. unity, manufacturing plant, coinage place, OfficeJet Pro mode, builder of fist Temple, Atlanta footballer, submissive

2. loser in 1996, Kong Game, Robert Vaughn role, peddled, not religious, FBI Headquarters, Superman's fortress

3. the explorer, house, a retriever, a Wiccan celebration, ape, a chemical state, born 1981 to 1996, type of electromagnet, a first amendment right

4. lie, popular fifties sedative, type of puzzle, lower a risk, Pharaoh's concern, attach metals, former's opposite, rant, fit together closely, fifties singing style, easily combustible material, tear roughly, environment

5. serious, a room exposed to the sun, ten to the sixth, hater of all, warrior, able to pay, sleep state, Virginia dance

See answers on page 18.

2022-2023 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

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

June: *Genetic Lottery* by Kathryn Paige Harden, 256 pages

July: *The Verge* by Patrick Wyman, 343 pages

August: *A Book Forged in Hell* by Steven Nadler, 300 pages

September: *The WEIRDEST People in the World* by Joseph Henrich, 275 pages*

October: *The Sweet Spot* by Paul Bloom, 304 pages **NOTE CHANGE*

November: *Power and Liberty* by Gordon S. Wood, 188 pages

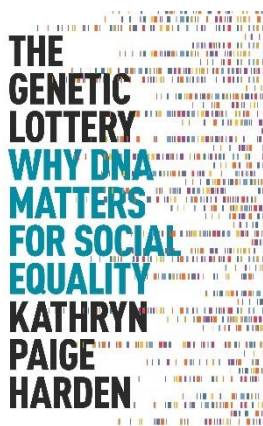
*Book is much longer; we'll furnish a reading guide to get it down to a friendlier length.

Mensa Book Group Book Reviews

Rich Gibson

THIS MONTH: *The Genetic Lottery—Why DNA Matters for Social Equality*, by Kathryn Paige Harden; 312 pages, published in 2021. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, June 18th, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more information.

This is an extremely controversial book. Admittedly, the author walks out into a minefield and calmly states that she can strongly correlate certain groups of DNA with high salaries and excellent performance in education; so you'd expect a little excitement, good and bad, from every point on the political spectrum. The interesting thing is that this good and bad excitement is happening inside the scientific community as well.



At the heart of this book and its controversy is the term Genome-Wide Association Study, or GWAS. It describes an intensive, data-driven study of a group of people that seeks to find associations, or correlations, between the life outcomes of those people and their genomes. Harden claims to have found such associations, and argues that successful life outcomes are, to some extent, a matter of genetic “luck” (hence the book’s title). She goes further to propose that this realization must be accounted for in social science, if finding a path toward a just, equal society is to be achievable.

As noted, reaction has been mixed. Several publications have published reviews; the ones I’ve seen, the reviewers were all part of the scientific community. Several liked the book immensely, while others claimed that, despite her insistence that this realization destroys concepts of racial superiority, the book does quite the opposite; or at least gives ammunition to those willing to misinterpret the results. Other reviews lie in between. A common observation among these reviewers is that, while the author’s intentions were laudable and admirable, she failed to make her case.

Whether Ball is correct or not; whether the prospect excites you or appalls you is something you’ll have to judge for yourself. Read the book and attend in-person or via Zoom on Sunday, June 18th at 2:00, and join the discussion. Hope to see you there!

(For more background, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Genetic_Lottery)

Continued on next page

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NEXT MONTH: *The Verge: Reformation, Renaissance, and Forty Years That Shook the World*

The Verge: Reformation, Renaissance, and Forty Years That Shook the World, by Patrick Wyman, 416 pages, published in 2021. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, July 16th, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more information.

Something happened to the world right around 1500 AD: Western Europe, which had been a backwater on the periphery of civilization for thousands of years, suddenly took off in exploration, science, finance, philosophy, education, technology and engineering. The West came to dominate the world. Why and how this happened has been a topic of great discussion for decades (my personal experience), and probably longer. This book explores the beginning of this period, namely the four decades between 1490 and 1530. The author pinpoints a number of developments that led to this dominance, including printing—or mass media; early nation-states—France, England, and Spain, able to impose large tax burdens on their subjects; a large area, Europe, both separated by geography and power, yet bound together by language (Latin was ubiquitous among the elite) and religion (for a while, anyway; gunpowder; exploitative exploration—colonization; and humanism. Large-scale religious schism also occurred in this period, leading to horrible war in the next century. The story is told through the lives of ten people, both famous (Columbus, Fugger, Luther), and not-so-famous. The period is fascinating and this book tells it extremely well.

Patrick Wyman is an historian who also podcasts (Tides of History, Fall of Rome). Podcasting seems to have given wings to his narrative skills—he tells a great story. This book is full of illuminating anecdotes that make this fascinating history quite easy to read. Please read the book, and attend in-person or via Zoom on Sunday, June 18th at 2:00, and join the discussion. Hope to see you there!



**What is one thing on your bucket list
that you can do this month?**

Early Americans

Matt Brennan

Native American Migrations at Contact

Two major migrations were in effect at contact. The first was expansion of Carib tribes into Caribbean territories occupied by Arawak tribes. The Arawak and Carib had co-existed in the Orinoco Basin region of northern South America for centuries, but the island Caribs were another matter altogether. They were in the process of conquering Arawak Caribbean Sea islands.

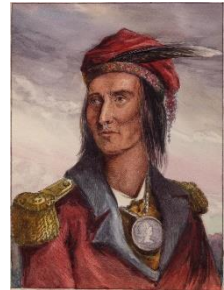
Caribs traveled in long dugout canoes and specialized in lightning raids to seize captives for sacrifice, slavery, or food. No distinction was made between white, black, or non-Carib people. The word, cannibal, derives from the Spanish name for Carib – Canibal. Caribbean is derived from Carib.

Meanwhile, in the American Southwest and northern Mexico, Athabascan-speaking tribes, originally dwelling in the Pacific Northwest, were gradually expanding southward into what is now western Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and northern Mexico. Major tribes involved were the Comanche, Apache, and Navaho. Athabascan migrations brought them into contact with Spanish missions which, in turn, led to the reintroduction of horses. Horses had gone extinct in North America 11,500 years before, the victims of climate change and human hunting.

The expansion of Athabascan peoples, particularly the Navajo, came at the expense of pueblo cultures such as Zuni and Hopi, which were cultural descendants of the mesa and cliff-dwelling Anasazi (100-1600 A.D.). Pueblo cliff and ledge dwellings, and mesa settlements, were being systematically destroyed by other native peoples when the Spanish ended the practice. The relationships between the various cultures in the American southwest are still being hammered out. Two of the questions being asked are ... What impact did Meso-American cultures have on the region, and What caused the degradation and disappearance of the Anasazi.

“Where today are the Narragansett, the Mohican, the Pokanoket, and many other once powerful tribes of our people? They have vanished before the avarice and the oppression of the white man, as snow before a summer sun.”

The above is a quote from philosopher and chief Tecumseh (1768-1813). Aboriginal nations had disappeared by then. The Mississippian tradition was everywhere withered or extinct. County histories sometimes start with entries like, “The last Indians in the county were living in ‘this cave,’ or ‘that hollow.’” The fate of the last Indians is seldom recorded.



June 2023 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

6/7, 11:30am ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St, Indianapolis

6/21, 11:30am ET - Virtual *Online*

RSVPs not required but appreciated.

Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

LIVE Ham 'n' Eggs (Hamilton County Eggheads) – 1st Saturday

6/3, 10:00pm - 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..

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

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

6/14, 2:30pm ET - Saraga International Grocery,

8448 Center Run Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46250

6/28, 2:30pm ET Ali'i Poke, 8989 E 116th St Fishers, IN 46038

Late lunch or early dinner? You decide!

For more information or to RSVP, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-912-3590

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 and LIVE Monthly Gathering - 2nd Friday,

6/9, 7:00pm – 11:00pm ET

All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56th 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. Proof of vaccination or recent test required.

Our speaker will be CIM member Teresa Gregory who will regale you with tales from the rails, her Amtrak adventures. [Watch the Weekly CIM ReMINDER for details.]

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

6/18, 2:00pm ET

Genetic Lottery – Kathryn Page Harden (2021) 256 pages

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

LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday

6/18, 6pm ET

Abyssinian, 5352 W 38th St, Indianapolis, IN 46254

For more information or to RSVP, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-912-3590.

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***In Person* Sunday Fun Day**

6/11, 2:00pm ET

Pendleton Community Library, 595 E. Water St, Pendleton, IN 46064

Join Central Indiana Mensa members for congenial company and casual talk as we discuss our precious possessions, Join us for an intellectually stimulating discussion like no other. Feel free to bring a prized person as well!

Contact Paula Ferguson robert.v.ferguson@att.net

***In Person* Games and Conversation Night AND Cook Out**– Hosted by Candis King [Watch for more info in the weekly ReMINDER]

6/24, 5:00pm – 11:00pm ET

Candis and Robert are firing up the grill. Bring your own meat/protein to add, and they will provide the side dishes. Please RSVP so they can plan.

If you just want to come for games, join them at 7:00pm for an evening of Games & Conversation. Bring a game you enjoy or use one of ours. We'll provide tables, you provide the conversation. **Please call 630-642-9063 (Candis) or 630-253-1350 (Robert)** to indicate you will be there and to get the address. Proof of vaccination required. No Smoking.



The poster is framed by decorative scrollwork in the corners. At the top, the text "Join Us" is written in a cursive script. Below it, a gold ribbon banner contains the text "MENSA SUNDAY FUN DAY" in bold, black, serif capital letters. The main text of the poster reads: "JOIN CENTRAL INDIANA MENSA MEMBERS FOR CONGENIAL COMPANY AND CASUAL TALK AS WE DISCUSS OUR PRECIOUS POSSESSIONS AND JOIN US FOR AN INTELLECTUALLY STIMULATING DISCUSSION LIKE NO OTHER. FEEL FREE TO BRING A PRIZED PERSON, AS WELL!". Below this text are four illustrations: a pocket watch, a gold trophy, a pile of gold coins, and two Polaroid photos of people. At the bottom, the date and time are given as "SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023 2 P.M." with a calendar icon and a clock icon. Below that, the location is listed: "PENDLETON COMMUNITY LIBRARY SYCAMORE ROOM 595 E. WATER ST. PENDLETON, IN 46064", preceded by a location pin icon.

Join Us

**MENSA SUNDAY
FUN DAY**

JOIN CENTRAL INDIANA MENSA MEMBERS FOR
CONGENIAL COMPANY AND CASUAL TALK AS WE DISCUSS OUR
PRECIOUS POSSESSIONS AND JOIN US FOR AN INTELLECTUALLY
STIMULATING DISCUSSION LIKE NO OTHER.
FEEL FREE TO BRING A PRIZED PERSON, AS WELL!

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023 2 P.M.

PENDLETON COMMUNITY LIBRARY
SYCAMORE ROOM
595 E. WATER ST.
PENDLETON, IN 46064

June 2023

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

Virtual Zoom Events

Important Info for In-Person Events: Be Kind!—As we are entering cold and flu season, if you're not feeling well or have any symptoms such as a fever, cough, runny nose, COVID, etc, PLEASE be courteous to your fellow members and don't attend.

■

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

If you lose your *MIND* (oh, my!) or want additional information, check www.indymensa.org or join our Meet Up group, <http://www.meetup.com/central-indiana-mensa>. Meet Up 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

Sacred Cows

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

At our March Board of Directors (AMC) meeting, we briefly discussed American Mensa's governance, and we expect more discussion at upcoming meetings. It remains to be seen what may come of this, but I've often wondered about how we do things.

There's a long list of things that could potentially be considered, including:

Our web sites lists 29 committees. Are these the right ones? Are they sufficient to realize our strategic ambitions to get more members, make current members happier, and find revenues from sources other than dues?

What's the proper role of our paid National Office staff? Which functions should be delegated to them, and which should be done by volunteers – or not at all?

Today, AMC members not only do the jobs as described in the bylaws, but also take on other tasks including chairing committees, being committee members, working on task forces, chairing RGs or even AGs, and volunteering for Local Group roles. Personally, I chair one committee, belong to two more, am a board liaison for the national testing team, have co-chaired RGs, and am a long-time Proctor. Should outside committee and volunteer work be limited so we can better focus on our Board role?

Regional Vice Chairs (RVCs) help administer Local Groups and represent their interests on the AMC. Being RVC is also a good way to gain experience before filling a nationally elected office such as Chair. Our bylaws – which of course could be changed – require between 5 and 10 RVCs on the AMC. On the other hand, AMC meetings are very large. We have 21 people attending including 5 nationally elected officers, 10 RVCs, 4 appointed officers, our Executive Director, and the National Ombuds. Could the Local Group administration function be accomplished some other way that wouldn't require 10 voting RVCs on the AMC? I realize that could put me out of a job, but should we consider this?

What's the proper role for the National Ombuds? Some feel this job should be to help resolve conflicts between members or between members and our leadership. Others feel this should be someone who oversees the Board. Should it be one, the other, both, or neither? Today, appointed Local Group Ombuds elect the National Ombuds. Is that the best way to do it, or should members have more of a voice?

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I could go on, but you get the picture. Just because it's been done one way for a while doesn't make it right for the future. As I write this, I don't know where our governance discussions will lead us, or even if any of the questions posed above will be considered. I am nevertheless happy that we're taking a step back to revisit the status quo. There just may be a better way to do things.

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>.



Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Author: Susan Denham Wade

Title: *A History of Seeing in Eleven Inventions*

Publisher: Flint / The History Press

Year: 2021

Book Description: Appearances matter. As shallow and painfully cruel as this modern-day motto may seem to those of us with unconventional physical and philosophical identities, it succinctly expresses our inescapable reliance on our sense of sight in the course of our evolution as a species. *A History of Seeing* is award-winning British journalist Susan Denham Wade's astonishing, prodigiously researched exploration of vision as a survival and cognitive tool that, in conjunction with the brain's prefrontal cortex, has motivated and facilitated human technical progress over the centuries.



Following a brief explanation of the nature and function of vision, Denham Wade's captivating time travelogue commences with the original development of eyes 500 million years ago, and guides the reader through the visually oriented, titular eleven inventions that radically transformed human existence, in chronological order: firelight, art, mirrors, writing, spectacles, the printing press, the telescope, industrialized light, photography, moving images (filmed entertainment), and finally, smartphones. Along the way, the author introduces us to a fascinatingly diverse cast of

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characters representing a variety of disciplines, among whom are cave explorer Jean-Marie Chauvet, British East India Company Army lieutenant Henry Rawlinson, printing press inventor Johannes Gutenberg, Florentine mathematics professor Galileo Galilei, artist and theater designer Louis Daguerre, and the infamously racist filmmakers D.W. Griffith and Leni Riefenstahl. The book concludes with the author's astute commentary on the dominance of sight in our lives at the near-exclusion of the other senses, and the effects of this current trend on our physical and mental health.

Has this book changed the way you think, your attitude toward life, or even your life itself? If so, how? Those of us in our advanced years remember when our lives were less visual and more personal, and are acutely aware of our limitations due to deteriorating vision. Nevertheless, we recognize the benefits of technology (e.g., texting easily reaches multiple parties simultaneously), and often disregard its negative effects (e.g., lack of human contact and the attendant feelings of alienation). I found this book absorbing and instructive - the ultimate *sound* investment. Particularly relevant to the book reviewing task I am currently executing is the chapter on writing (see excerpt below).

Who should definitely read this book? Why? *A History of Seeing* seamlessly blends scientific and historical perspectives, with the added flair of adept storytelling. In other words, this book should please just about every literary palate. For the linguists among us, the inclusion of numerous word origins is a delectable bonus.

How long might it take to read this book? *A History of Seeing* contains 362 pages of text, 34 pages of notes, and a 25-page bibliography. Evocatively articulate and not overly abstruse, his book can easily be perused in a week or less.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: The written alphabet translates the aural, invisible elements of language into graphic, visible signs. But writing involves more than just the visual capture of language. It is a new form of expression of human thought. Writing makes possible levels of abstraction and complexity that would be impossible without it. A writer has the opportunity to organise thoughts and find ways to convey them to a reader that almost nobody could do verbally, unless performing a rehearsed text. In a very real and practical sense, writing expands the potential of the human brain...

But reading and writing are not natural; they are man-made inventions. While most children will naturally learn to speak without active teaching, reading and writing must be taught and learned formally. We are hard wired for oral communication, but we must programme in its visual representation.

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But what an invention! What a liberation from the limitations of our brains! In its first incarnation in Mesopotamia, writing was an information storage and retrieval system. It allowed scribes to tally up offerings to gods and goddesses, and later homages and taxes. Without such a system of capturing and storing information - far beyond the capacity of any human brain - the early cities could not have grown and prospered, nor built the fabulous monuments to their kings and gods that they did, nor raised armies and conquered their neighbors, nor established vast empires across the lands between Europe and Asia. This was writing as additional storage space for the brain - not particularly exciting in itself, but extremely useful to those in whose service it was deployed, and a great, if subtle, enabler of change.

Greetings from Port Charlotte, Florida

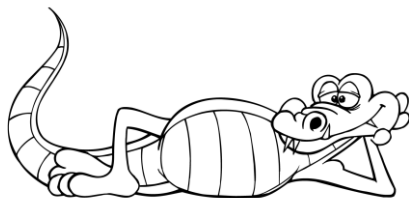
Teresa Fisher

After a rocky start (cheated by the moving company, expensive glitches in selling my old house, and then enduring a Category 5 hurricane), I have settled into a nice, quiet life in the tropics.

While looking online at houses for sale, I was mindful of Florida being a habitat for alligators. (Did you know that Florida is the only place in the world where alligators and crocodiles both live? We don't have many crocs, but they do exist here.) We are warned never to enter any body of water that isn't a swimming pool or ocean, and not to walk your small dog near the edge of any water. The Florida Wildlife Commission has a Nuisance Alligator Hotline. But for the most part, everyone tries to stay out of everyone else's way. Your chances of an unwanted visitor increase greatly if you own a swimming pool, and I don't.

There are lots of canals in Port Charlotte, and I rejected houses that were on or near a canal. (And canal-side houses cost extra. I'd have paid extra to avoid canals.) The closest canal to my new house is two blocks away, parallel to my street. I felt like I had done everything I could to decrease the chances of an unpleasant encounter. I'm hoping the four rows of houses between me and the canal are an effective alligator filter.

Some of the larger canals have names, and most or all of the waterways are interconnected. One day I was looking at Google Maps to see where "my" canal ended up, and was surprised to see that about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from me, it flows into Little Alligator Creek.



At least they're little.

WATER



Linda Kampe	West Lafayette	IN	Rejoin
Kaylie Lockner	Brownsburg	IN	Rejoin

??

Answers to Puzzle Column on page 6:

Solutions to the June puzzles:

- unity, manufacturing plant, coinage place, OfficeJet Pro mode, builder of fist Temple, Atlanta footballer, submissive = **solidarity, factory, mint, fax, Solomon Falcon, docile = Alfie**
- loser in 1996, Kong Game, Robert Vaughn role, peddled, not religious, FBI Headquarters, Superman's fortress = **Dole, donkey, Solo, sold, laic, Langley, solitude = Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.**
- the explorer, house, a retriever, a Wiccan celebration, ape, a chemical state, born 1981 to 1996, type of electromagnet, a first amendment right = **Dora, domicile, Labrador, solstice, millennial, solenoid, redress = Take Me Out to the Ballgame.**
- lie, popular fifties sedative, type of puzzle, lower a risk, Pharaoh's concern, attach metals, former's opposite, rant, fit together closely, fifties singing style, easily combustible material, tear roughly, environment = **Fabricate, Miltown, rebus, mitigate, famine, solder, latter, tirade, dovetail, doowop, tinder, lacerate, milieu = All My Loving.**
- serious, a room exposed to the sun, ten to the sixth, hater of all, warrior, able to pay, sleep state, Virginia dance = **solemn, solarium, million, misanthrope, soldier, solvent, rem, reel = America the Beautiful.**

In Case You Missed It In Pictures



[Courtesy David Bonner]

Comings and goings at the Outdoor Gathering



Dr. Duane Nickell at the Monthly Gathering



[Courtesy Jan Pfeil Doyle]

Theodore Talks

Brad Lucht

The title of the June Theodore Talk is, "**The SS Aufseherin and the Gendered Perpetration of the Holocaust**". This virtual event will take place on Zoom June 25 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 7:30 GMT).

ABSTRACT

Throughout WWII some 3500 women served as guards in the Nazi concentration camp system. Though their work and responsibilities were the same as their male colleagues, their experience was not. As a female minority these women were often discriminated against, and they were expected to adhere to a male, military code of behavior exhibited by their colleagues. These factors ultimately greatly impacted the lives of prisoners.

Dr. Shelly Cline, Director of Education & Historian at the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, will examine the experience of these women and how their gender impacted their work and the suffering of prisoners within the camps.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/2p827n98>.

You must register for each lecture with an email address associated with your Zoom account. If you don't have one, you can sign up for a free Zoom account at <https://zoom.us/signup>.

Theodore Talks take place on Zoom the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. CT.

A list of future Theodore Talks can be found on the Mensa National Events Calendar at <https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/>, or by viewing the January issue of the Mensa Bulletin. The article on the 2023 Theodore Talks begins on p. 26. The PDF for the magazine can be found here:

<https://cdn.coverstand.com/28885/770839/b31f233c57e663919d0e24eaaf61c9f62f52e902.pdf>

Questions? Contact Brad Lucht at TheodoreTalks@MAMensa.org.



Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 4/18/2023

Karen Wilczewski, CIM Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Members present: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Paula Ferguson, Barb George, Ann Hake, Karen Wilczewski, Kurt Williams, and Bob Zdanky

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Pat Milligan.

The February and March minutes were reviewed. Kurt moved and Ann seconded the February minutes be approved as amended. The motion passed. Kurt moved and Ann seconded the March minutes be approved as amended. The motion passed.

The committee reviewed the March 2023 Treasurer's report. Ann moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as amended. Paula seconded, and the motion passed.

A membership report was compiled by Jan Doyle based upon the information available as of 3/31/2023 from American Mensa: 481 members, 4 new, 1 move-in, 0 rejoin, and 2 prospects.

Old Business

We used bulk mailing for the April MIND. The newsletter took maybe one day longer for members to receive, because it was sent in an envelope. Will discuss with the publisher if the return address can include: Teresa Gregory, CIM MIND, or MIND Publisher, to assure members open the envelope.

Culture Quest teams: Jan reports we have 2 teams.

OG: To date, we have 3 registrants. To help promote the OG, event announcements have been posted weekly. Will contact past attendees to generate interest, post announcements on some Facebook pages, and post on Region 3 and Region 4 Facebook pages. Teresa will need seed money of \$1,000 from Kurt for supplies and to reserve next year's spot at the park. Kurt moved to reserve the OG weekend for Versailles for next year. Barb seconded. The motion passed. Jan has offered to help with posting the event on certain Facebook pages.

New Business

Bob mentioned that half-price Mensa testing will be offered in July. For information on exact pricing, those interested in taking the test will be encouraged to check the National website for promotions and special pricing.

There being no other business, Kurt moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ann seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Kurt Williams

Balance Sheet (as of 04/30/2023)

Bank Accounts	03/31/2023	04/30/2023
Checking – Regular	\$ 8,170.58	\$ 2,007.71
Checking – Scholarship	20.00	20.00
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	6,674.74	2,674.74
CD – First Internet	N/A	10,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 14,845.32	\$ 14,727.45

Other Assets		
USPS Stamps Value	\$ 364.10	\$ 360.25
Total Number of USPS Stamps	662	655

Profit & Loss Statement (02/28/2023 – 03/31/2023)

Income		
	Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 0
	National Support	412.25
	New Member/Lapsed Member	6.00
	Scholarship Fund donation	0
	National Testing Support	0
Total Income		\$ 418.25
Expense		
	MG Hospitality	\$ 8.36
	Meetup	0
	MIND Printing	336.12
	Facility Rental (All Souls)	100.00
Total Expenses		\$ 444.48

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, meeting in Beattie Room

