



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Dr. Schmidt keeping audience spellbound about flying with sandhill cranes despite freak indoor windstorm

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 Richard Gibson, 5726 Toad Hollow Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46220. 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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The Old Dog Is Gone...and Replaced by a Different Old Dog

Rich Gibson, Brand “New” Editor



Well, howdy. I may look like a new dog to you, but I assure you this is not my first rodeo. Jackie and I moved to Indianapolis about 10 ½ years ago from north Georgia. (I almost wrote “the Greater Atlanta Metropolitan Area,” but it was Carrollton, just far enough outside the GAMA bedroom community area to take pride in being a real, authentic, stand-alone place.) While there, I was editor of the Mensa in Georgia newsletter, MOTS, for a few years (the name’s origin is shrouded in legend, but it may stand for Mensa Of The South). So editing isn’t new for me. Don’t expect any rookie mistakes; I only make mistakes that take a lot of experience and, ahem, inattention. Harrumph.

As an old dog, not a new one full of fresh ideas, I can assure you that the MIND in your hands is going to look a lot like the previous ones. Having so much content to pick and choose from, my priority is to get pertinent and timely information to you about what’s going on in our region and online. Notifications the ExCom wants put in; photos and reports of past activities; puzzles, games, and cartoons are roughly the order of other stuff to, ahem, stuff into these pages. Of course, we welcome your contributions also! If you have something you’d like to share, whether your own creativity or an activity you want to publicize and share, I’ll wedge them in, sooner or later.

Other than that, I’d like to give HUGE thanks to Teresa for making this handoff incredibly smooth and uneventful, and for keeping to herself the tedious task of keeping the calendar up to date; to Jan for taking on all the publishing headaches (which I had to do with MOTS, and do not remember fondly); to all the past, present, and future contributors to MIND—and believe me, to an editor, content is OXYGEN—and to you, the reader. Hope you like it!

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

MensaCares© Volunteering Opportunity –

We'll be volunteering for the Indiana Women's Half Marathon & 5K in Carmel on Oct. 20th. The race benefits the Indiana Women in Need (IWIN) Foundation www.iwinfoundation.org/. More info and details for signing up later in MIND.



CIM Reimbursement Policy – The ExCom voted to require that all receipts for group expenses be given to the treasurer within 90 days of the expense. You can send them by snail mail, scan and email them, or hand them to the treasurer.

You Won't Want to Miss Sunday FunDay –

Lunch at Cammack Station in Muncie on September 10th, 2 pm



Why is it called “Cammack” Station? Even though it has a Muncie address, Cammack Station is actually located right in the heart of Cammack, IN, a quaint historic town residing just outside of Muncie and Yorktown. The historic building was built in 1931. Much of the building's history is preserved and represented in various antiques, pictures, and stories on the walls. More details on this and other upcoming events in the calendar.

Recycling the (Normally) Unrecyclable – I'm a recycler. If you're one, too, check out Terracycle (www.terracycle.com). You collect empty containers and the manufacturer pays the postage to ship them back to them for recycling. The program includes Solo Cups (plus any #6 plastics,) Brita water filters, Kroger brands flexible plastic, Burt's Bees, Taco Bell sauce packets, and many more items. I'm excited that we can now recycle the red cups from our monthly meetings! Just look for the yellow basket.

MensaCares© Opportunity

Alison Brown

Join us as we volunteer for the 2023 Indiana Women's Half Marathon & 5K in Carmel. No running or walking is required. We hope to get a team of 10 volunteers together to assist the race by handing out bibs, packets, and beautiful race shirts on Friday, October 20th. There are two shifts, 3-6 pm and 5-9 pm. I am already signed up for it, so only 9 more Mensans would complete the group of volunteers, which, as a reward for our effort, gets a \$150 donation to our group or a charity of our choosing. If Friday is not an option, there is also a need for people to do what is called "Packet Stuffing" on Thursday Oct. 19th. (I volunteer for that as well and would love to have a few Mensa friends gather around the table to work!)

The race itself has an Official Charity, the Indiana Women in Need (IWIN) Foundation. IWIN Foundation supports individuals statewide receiving treatment for breast cancer by relieving emotional, physical, and financial burdens. Visit <http://www.iwinfoundation.org/> to learn more. Volunteering for the race not only helps IWIN and CIM but it is a lot of fun, a collegial way to spend a few hours among friends, and you will make new ones in the process.

Since I will not be around, Jan is gathering names (jan@mw.net or 317-431-3500). But I am eager to answer any questions for perspective Mensa volunteers of all ages! Contact me at SIGHT@indymensaorg

2022-2023 Book Group Reading List/Call for More

Rich Gibson

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

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

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

December: Bring a book! The November selection marks the end of our last compilation. Please come to our December meeting and bring 1, 2, or many books you've recently read that you'd like to discuss with others. We'll compile a new list for next year.

- *See book reviews below*

Mensa Book Group Book Reviews

Rich Gibson

THIS MONTH: ***The WEIRDest People in the World: How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous***

The WEIRDest People in the World: How the West Became Psychologically Peculiar and Particularly Prosperous, by Joseph Henrich, 489 pages (plus appendices, notes, and index), published in 2020. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, September 21st, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more information.

REASSURANCE! Please do not be put off by the page length! We have compiled an excerpt of the book that gives you 99% of its import, in only 275 pages. This is so important not to scare you off, that I'm listing the pages to read right here and now. I'll tell you about the book after. Please read at least the following pages:

- 3-58
- 85-86
- 121-122
- 151-159
- 233-237
- 252-283
- 320-489

WEIRD stands for Western, Educated, Industrialized, Rich, and Democratic. WEIRD people tend to live in Western Europe, North America, Australia, South Africa, and New Zealand. Hard psychological fact about WEIRD people: They (OK, we) are different from everyone else in the world, and from almost everyone else who ever lived. We are the outliers of the world. We are highly individualistic, self-obsessed, control-oriented, and nonconformist. We rely on impersonal trust more than family ties. The general psychology of the average human being, found in textbooks worldwide, is actually the psychology of a WEIRD person. Western psychologists have studied WEIRD people, especially the undergraduate psychology students who volunteer for psychology studies, to a fare-thee-well, and assumed that everyone else was like them. However: Nobody else, anywhere else in the world, is like them (us).

In the MBG August book selection (*The Verge*) we learned about the Great Divergence of the early 16th Century, when Western Europe suddenly accelerated its development and soon dominated the world in science, technology, industry, and military power. This month's book delves into the psychological uniqueness of what made it happen. The answer lies in the unique cultural evolution of the Western world, beginning as far back as the 4th Century CE, when the (then) monolithic Christian church decreed that marriage between cousins was forbidden. The church had its reasons for this, basically to loosen family ties and give the church room to establish itself as a social force; but the

effect was profound and long-lasting. Even today, you can correlate the level of WEIRDness in a country to how long ago Christianity was introduced there. Even more important to WEIRD psychology is reading. Reading induces large and significant changes to our neurology, biology and psychology without changing our genetic code. Historically, one of the largest spurs to literacy was the European Reformation, in which belief and trust in priests as intermediaries between God and humanity was replaced by a belief that each human must find God themselves through intense Bible study. You can't study the Bible without being able to read, now, can you? The initial spread of the Reformation was to several north German principalities. Today, you can correlate the level of WEIRDness in Europe to the distance from those first Protestant municipalities.

Final nuggets: a) Owing to the loosening of family ties in WEIRD psychology, we WEIRD people are much more open to contracts and trusting relative strangers. This was a factor in the growth of long-distance financial instruments in 16th Century Western Europe that led to the explosive growth in voyages of discovery and large-scale war that we read about in *The Verge* last month. b) In the WEIRD world, hiring your nephew is frowned on; everywhere else, it's the most natural and expected thing in the world.

This book has received rave reviews from such public intellectuals as Francis Fukuyama, Daniel Dennett, Cass Sunstein, and a host of others. Joseph Henrich has been called perhaps the dominant social scientist of the first half of the 21st Century. This is an important book, and you'll be entertained and educated by it. Please read it and come in person or by Zoom to discuss it with other Mensans on Sunday, September 21st, at 2:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

NEXT MONTH: *The Sweet Spot: The Pleasures of Suffering and the Search for Meaning*

The Sweet Spot: The Pleasures of Suffering and the Search for Meaning, by Paul Bloom, 304 pages (including appendices, notes, and index), published in 2021. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, October 15th, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more information.

Paul Bloom is Professor of Psychology at University of Toronto and the Brooks and Suzanne Ragen Professor Emeritus of Psychology at Yale University. This book argues that the right kind of pain and suffering can actually contribute to human happiness and meaning. The obvious question is, what is the "right kind" of suffering? Bloom distinguishes between chosen and unchosen suffering; suffering that you choose, that you decide to undergo in pursuit of a goal, either personal or societal (losing weight, volunteering, learning to play a musical instrument) can have personal, social, and even moral benefits. Such suffering can deepen your happiness and life satisfaction. It can reduce anxiety. Of course, the book title suggests that too much of anything can be bad for you. Too little suffering can be harmful, but so can too much. Putting too much value in suffering, or overindulging in suffering, can be horrible. I'm sure we've all known people who seem to walk around splashing gasoline on themselves and asking who's got a match. Such behavior is unhealthy.

Dr Bloom has pulled together the latest psychological and neurological research, and has brought in lessons from art, literature, history and religion. The book is written in a clear and engaging style, with examples and anecdotes from his own life and elsewhere. The book aims to provide a new perspective on happiness and meaning, and to show how suffering can be a source of both.

This is an important book, and you'll be entertained and educated by it. Please read it and come in person or by Zoom to discuss it with other Mensans on Sunday, October 15th, at 2:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

Puzzle Column

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

WORDLE IN 3

Many word game lovers play this on-line game. If it's not familiar, there is a Wikipedia article about it. For this column, to avoid colors, *rr* signifies the right letter in right position, *rw* signifies the right letter in wrong position, and *w* signifies wrong letter. Find the correct 5-letter word based on the results of the first two test words. All answers can be found in the 6th edition of the Official SCRABBLE Players Dictionary.

Example: S(w) T(rw) A(rr) R(rw) E(w) and T(rr) R(rr) A(rr) C(rr) K(w) = TRACT.

1. B(rr) O(rw) N(rr) E(w) D(w) and B(rr) I(w) N(rr) G (w) O(rr)
2. S (w) P (rw) A (rw) R (rw) E (w) and T(w) R(rw) I(w) C(w) K(rw)
3. R(w) A(rw) T(rw) E(w) D(w) and A(rw) B(w) O(rr) U(rw) T(rw)
4. B(w) R(w) A(rr) I(w) D(w) and P(w) Y(w) L(w) O(rr) N(w)
5. S(rw) N(rw) O(rw) R(rw) E(w) and H(w) O(rr) R(rw) N(rw) S(rw)
6. C(rw) R(w) O(w) N(rw) E(w) and M(w) A((rr) N(rr) L(w) Y(w)
7. R(rw) O(w) U(w) T(rw) E(w) and T(rr) R(rr) A(w) I(w) L(w)
8. M(rw) I(rw) N(w) E(w) R(w) and A(rr) B(w) H(w) O(rr) R(w)
9. S(w) L(rw) A(rw) T(rr) E(w) and R(w) A (rr) L(rr) L(w) Y(w)
10. L(rw) E(rr) A(rw) R(rw) N(w) and C(w) L(rw) E(rw) A(rr) R(rw)

September 2023 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

9/6, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

9/20, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St

RSVPs not required but appreciated.

Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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

9/2, 10:00pm - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Carmel, IN, located at IU Health North). Breakfast served till 11 a.m., then lunch starts..

RSVP: Larry Marcus (317-842-6658) or larryamarcus@yahoo.com

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

9/13, 2:00pm ET The Garage Food Hall in the Bottleworks District

906 Carrollton Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Park in Lot 4 west of the food hall. Parking is \$2 from 9 am - 5 pm

9/27, 2:00pm ET Al Basha 11321 Village Square Ln, Fishers, IN 46038

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,

9/8, 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;

Our speaker will be the always popular Rob Pyatt who will tell us the latest in questionable research. [Watch the Weekly CIM ReMINDER for details.]

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

9/17, 2:00pm ET

The Weirdest People in the World – Joseph Henrich (2020) 275 pages

RSVP - Rich Gibson hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com or 770-548-5217

LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday

9/17, 6pm ET

Arni's 4705 E 96th St, Indianapolis, IN 46240

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

LIVE Sunday Fun Day – BONUS EVENT!!!

9/10, 2:00pm ET

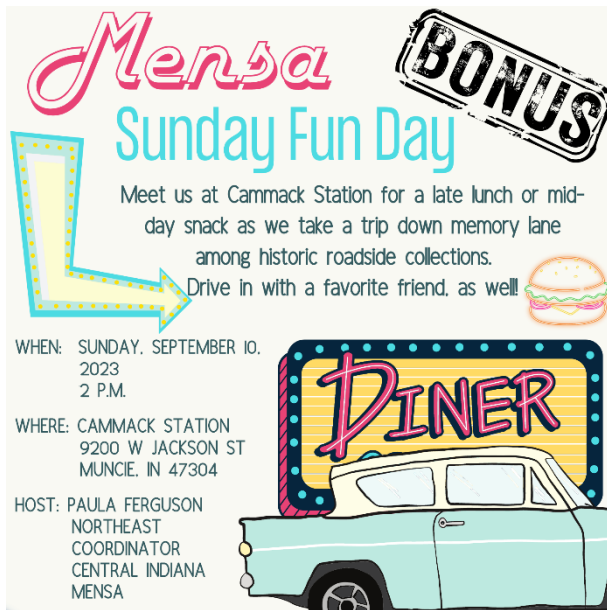
Cammack Station 9200 W Jackson St, Muncie, IN 47304

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

LIVE Bridge SIG – NEW

9/10, 2:00pm – 4:00pm ET

RSVP either Judy at bridgejudy@aol.com, or Candis at 630-642-9063



Everything You Wanted To Know About Sex and Gender

Melody Lowman, M.A., AASECT -

ADULTS ONLY

Sunday, September 17, 2:30 pm PT

Sex and gender are in the news, in the family, and on the ballot. What does it all mean?

Cis gender? Transgender? What IS gender-affirming care?

My niece says they are using a surrogate, how does that work? Ultrasound for ED? Why call my daughter “they”?

Sex and reproduction expert and longtime Mensa member Melody Lowman, M.A., AASECT Certified Sex Educator and Therapist for over 40 years, will present and answer questions. Send her questions on any areas you'd like to discuss: melodymlowmanma@gmail.com

Attendees can now register

directly:<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9687111111?pwd=ZUJkdGrrdDkvGdbO4OYA8sResKXlXfP1V4TM>

Membership will be verified by entering their Mensa membership number.

September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
3 *Sunday Social*	4	5	6 *Lunch Bunch*
10 Sunday Fun Day; Bridge; *Sunday Social*	11	12	13 Chowhounds
17 Book Group; Dining Out	18	19 * ExCom*	20 *Lunch Bunch*
24 *Sunday Social*	25	26	27 Chowhounds

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Ham'n Eggs
7	8 Monthly Gathering	9
14	15	16
21	22	23
28	29	30

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.

Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

How'm I doin'?

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

Former New York City Mayor Ed Koch was famous for asking anybody and everybody to give him feedback. Periodically, we also ask Mensa members how we're doing. In February, we sent a survey to members who had e-mails on file with us and whose contact preferences allowed it.

The results were shared with the Board of Directors (AMC) at our July meeting at the Annual Gathering in Baltimore. Here are some highlights:

- We got 4,613 valid responses representing 9.6% of the membership and 11.9% of those who were sent the survey. All Local Groups were represented with at least 3 responses.
- Females responded in numbers greater than their percentage of our membership, and the respondents were also somewhat older.
- Subtracting out life members, 79% said they were likely to renew; 2% said they would not. The remainder were unsure.
- 63% followed Mensa on one of our social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, or Instagram)
- Members who replied were more dissatisfied than not with Mensa Connect, with 459 unfavorable and 330 favorable responses. With only 1,141 responses, many didn't comment on this question.
- Most respondents didn't belong to Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Some weren't even sure what they were.
- About a third of members have volunteered to do something locally or nationally.
- At 7, our Net Promoter Score showed that we have more members likely to recommend Mensa to friends than not. Of course, our first hurdle is to find members willing to admit they belong.

The report is available on our National website by navigating to Lead -> Board of Directors (AMC) -> Meeting reports -> 2003-07-06 Baltimore, MD -> Membership Survey Results. I sent the local response data to each of our Region's LocSecs for their review.

Regarding SIGs, if you haven't looked at the available SIG offerings lately, maybe it's time. On the website, see Connect -> Special Interest Groups. While not all SIGs are active, we have over 100. Many offer a rich experience that can add to your membership's value.

On the website, SIGs are nicely categorized into Active & Outdoors, Advocacy, Altruism, Arts & Entertainment, Digital, Discussion & Lifestyle, Games, Hobbies & Crafts, Investing & Finance, Language, Literature & Writing, Music, Professional, Religion & Spirituality, Science, Social, and Support. If you can't find something to like, you could always apply to start your own.

I belong to several SIGs, including HELL's M's. While it may sound like a motorcycle gang that goes around auditing people's taxes, it's really Mensa's party SIG. Any party is a HELL's M's party if everyone participating or affected by it has good memories the next day. They have a website, cool t-shirts, and even coordinate trips including an upcoming Baltic cruise. This is just one of many you might consider joining!

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/americanmensaregion4>.



Benjamin Breaux	Carmel	IN	Joined
Judith Delaney	Carmel	IN	Rejoined
Nicholas Fullmer	Noblesville	IN	Joined

Books On the Runway

Margy Lancet Fletcher

Title: *Etta Lemon: The Woman Who Saved the Birds*

Author: Tessa Boase

Publisher: Aurum Press / Quarto Publishing (London, United Kingdom)

Year: 2021

Book Description: One assumption that typically drives twenty-first century liberal thinkers is that the enfranchisement of women and nature conservation are two compatible ingredients within the complete progressive ideological belief system. However, according to the British political and arts journalist Tessa Boase, this has not always been the case. In fact, as the author vividly recounts in *Etta Lemon: The Woman Who Saved the Birds*, in the United Kingdom during the late Victorian and Edwardian eras, the female advocates of avian protection and those who fought for women's suffrage were not exactly...well, birds of a feather. Incredibly, representatives of these two movements clashed as stridently - and at times as violently - as today's ultra-Liberal and arch-Conservative tribes.

Etta Lemon is actually a dual biography of the bird-loving Ms. Lemon and the much more prominent feminist Emmeline Pankhurst, as well as an in-depth examination of the causes to which each devoted her life. In addition to describing the personal and professional journeys of each woman, Boase familiarizes her readers with a bevy of supporting characters allied with these

dedicated activists, including bird conservationists Queen Alexandra, W. H. Hudson, and Winnifred, Duchess of Portland; and suffragists Millicent Fawcett, Christabel and Sylvia Pankhurst (Emmeline's daughters), and author Virginia Woolf. Boase also paints a poignant portrait of the various classes of British society, from the landed gentry to the slum-dwelling feather workers, effectively linking their intimate, everyday lives to the political machinations of each of the aforementioned factions. The author concludes that, in spite of their contrasting beliefs, Ms. Pankhurst and Ms. Lemon had in common a characteristic for which women have been denigrated throughout history: "compassion," and "the alleviation of cruelty and injustice" (see excerpt below).

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

As both an ornithophile and Anglophile, I savored this brief, exquisite peek at two of the most earth-shaking aspects of British (and by extension, world) history. I was shocked to learn of the extent to which the millinery industry of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries wantonly slaughtered and endangered many species of birds - a quantity that dwarfs the avian destruction by feral cats and windows today. Tessa Boase's fascinating narrative convinced me that I owe a debt of gratitude to both of the women profiled in her book: for my ability to vote, and for the dazzling sight of egrets seeking food in a nearby reservoir every summer, rather than as corpses appended to "fashionable" headgear. Hats off!

Who should definitely read this book? Why? This book provides a variety of intellectual sustenance for British history, social science, and nature enthusiasts. Mystery buffs will appreciate its intense, dramatic style.

How long might it take to read this book? A relatively modest 289 pages in length, this captivating, eloquent volume will be a rapid read, the pages seemingly flying. Two to three days should suffice.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: In bird-watching terms, Emmeline Pankhurst is the 'charismatic species': plumed, elegantly attired, silver-tongued. She was a genius at self-publicity, a theatrical revolutionary who grasped brilliantly how to use the media. Next to this splendid bird-of-paradise, Mrs Lemon fades into obscurity. She is the uncharismatic species: the quacking female mallard or scurrying grey-brown rock pipit. Teetotal, evangelical, conservative, anti-suffrage... I have, at times, found Etta Lemon a hard woman to love. But the absolute selflessness at her core redeems her. She believed in a campaign far greater than herself, and this fervent belief expressed itself in the natural world - a delight so many of us now share.

Etta Lemon sought no glory in the public sphere. She was the agent, not the subject. Her modesty is the most attractive thing about her - but, in the end, it has not served her. While the suffrage story has found its place in history, the tale of Mrs Lemon and her Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has been left largely untold, right to the present day.

You might not realise it, but you experience her legacy - a direct link between those 'redoubtable' Victorian ladies and you, now - whenever you see a bird twisting frantically in a tiny cage, or a great, dusty stuffed eagle in a provincial museum, or even those sensual, extraordinary dresses made entirely of feathers at the Alexander McQueen exhibition at London's V & A in 2015. The shock you might feel, the horror, or even just a feeling of sadness, is ultimately down to the efforts of Mrs Lemon and her band of women

Early Americans

Matt Brennan

Eskimo

The name, Eskimo, is no longer in vogue. These special people, late arrivals in the Arctic and Sub-Arctic regions of Greenland, Canada, Alaska, and Siberia, are named **Aleut, Yupik, Inuit, and Inupiat**. They are not usually identified as American Indians. Besides their cultural innovations such as superb clothing, dog sleds, and igloos, nature has gifted them with a slightly different physiology.

Epicanthic folds insulate the eyes and sinuses. A proportionately long trunk aids in heat retention. Stubbiness of all protruding appendages, like fingers, arms, legs, etc. protects those appendages from frostbite and aids heat retention. A unique physiological adaptation includes the ability to consume a high fat diet while maintaining a low LDL cholesterol level. The said fat provides insulation. Metabolizing it yields slightly higher body temperatures that help protect internal organs in conditions of extreme cold.

A HISTORICAL FACT

Lewis Henry Morgan (1818-1881) was an American anthropologist who developed theories of social and cultural evolution based on his studies of the Iroquois. Morgan's works greatly influenced the writings of Karl Marx (**Manifesto**, etc.) and his collaborator, Frederic Engels (**The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State**).

So, Lewis Henry Morgan gave Karl Marx and Frederic Engels a gift. We know how that turned out.

In Case You Missed It

Aug 9 Chowhounds at Pho Saigon.



August Sunday Fun Day



[Courtesy
Jan Pfeil Doyle]

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 7/18/23

Karen Wilczewski, CIM Secretary

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

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm.

Members present: Jon Applegate, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Paula Ferguson, Barb George, Ann Hake, Karen Wilczewski, Kurt Williams, and Bob Zdanky
Guests: Teresa Gregory, Pat Milligan

The June minutes were reviewed. Kurt moved and Barb seconded to approve the June minutes as amended. The motion carried.

The committee reviewed the June 2023 Treasurer's report. Ann moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved. Bob moved and Paula seconded, and the motion carried.

A membership report was compiled by Jan Doyle based upon the information available as of 6/30/2023 from American Mensa: 442 members, 4 new, 1 move-in, 2 rejoin, and 6 prospects.

Old Business

Scholarship: Jan contacted Jon Gruebele and mentioned the issues with scholarship chairs and software usage. Jon informed Jan that if we want to pursue the software issues, select American Mensa staff should be contacted. program and resume later. If not, can we use a past system that has been manageable and doable. If it can be paused with no implications, then we'll implement a workaround. If we want to continue honoring John Matthews, we would have to reach out to local schools to recruit scholarship submissions. Ann and Teresa are willing to serve as scholarship chair and assistant, respectively. Jan will share the outcome at the next ExCom Meeting.

New Business

Ann and her Culture Quest team won 3rd place (\$300).

Teresa reported on the AG; she attended programs, particularly one on marketing. A local member who planned to attend the AG participated in the marketing meeting. New members on the Marketing Team had fresh ideas. They acknowledged the challenge is trying to get potential younger people to attend/join Mensa. These team leaders are interested in assisting local groups ramp up their marketing/recruiting efforts. It would behoove us to connect with them to attract younger generations. Based on their experience, prior evidence testing from outside groups and from Mensa testing with proctors are the best ways to attract potential new members.

July 31 is the deadline for lapsed members rejoining without penalties. Barb will reach out to lapsed members to determine their interest in returning to Mensa.

There being no other business, Kurt moved to adjourn the meeting. Barb seconded. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Wilczewski, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Kurt Williams

Balance Sheet (as of 07/31/2023)

Bank Accounts	06/30/2023	07/31/2023
Checking – Regular	\$ 2,243.84	\$ 2,329.42
Checking – Scholarship	120.00	120.00
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	2,666.02	2,644.88
CD – First Internet	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 15,054.86	\$ 15,119.30
Unrealized accrued interest on CD		141.76
Other Assets		
USPS Stamps Value	\$ 350.90	\$ 345.95
Total Number of USPS Stamps	638	629

Profit & Loss Statement (06/30/2023 – 07/31/2023)

Income		
	Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 44.00
	National Support	373.15
	Testing Support	0
	New Member/Lapsed Member	6.00
Total Income		\$ 423.15
Expense		
	MG Hospitality	\$ 14.53
	MIND Printing	341.76
	Testing expenses	20.31
	OG Expenses	21.14
	Facility Rental (All Souls)	100.00
Total Expenses		\$ 497.74

Solutions to the September puzzles:

1. B(rr) O(rw) N(rr) E(w) D(w) and B(rr) I(w) N(rr) G (w) O(rr) = BANJO
2. S (w) P (rw) A (rw) R (rw) E (w) and T(w) R(rw) I(w) C(w) K(rw) = PARKA
3. R(w) A(rw) T(rw) E(w) D(w) and A(rw) B(w) O(rr) U(rw) T(rw) = QUOTA
4. B(w) R(w) A(rr) I(w) D(w) and P(w) Y(w) L(w) O(rr) N(w) = CHAOS
5. S(rw) N(rw) O(rw) R(rw) E(w) and H(w) O(rr) R(rw) N(rw) S(rw) = ROSIN
6. C(rw) R(w) O(w) N(rw) E(w) and M(w) A((rr) N(rr) L(w) Y(w) = PANIC
7. R(rw) O(w) U(w) T(rw) E(w) and T(rr) R(rr) A(w) I(w) L(w) = TRYST
8. M(rw) I(rw) N(w) E(w) R(w) and A(rr) B(w) H(w) O(rr) R(w) = AXIOM
9. S(w) L(rw) A(rw) T(rr) E(w) and R(w) A (rr) L(rr) L(w) Y(w) = WALTZ
10. L(rw) E(rr) A(rw) R(rw) N(w) and C(w) L(rw) E(rw) A(rr) R(rw) = FERAL

September Theodore Talk--Citizen Science with SciStarter: People-Powered Science

Brad Lucht

This virtual event will take place on Zoom September 24 at 3:30 EasternTime

ABSTRACT: Can everyone be involved in scientific research? Should everyone be involved in real research? Citizen science, community science, neighborhood science, participatory science; these terms all mean the same thing: a collaboration between scientists and those of us who are curious, concerned, and motivated to make a difference. It is a method of community engagement that furthers our understanding of our world and the power of diverse and crowdsourced data. SciStarter.org is a digital gateway to a database of citizen science projects that connects and disseminates otherwise siloed citizen science activities and makes engagement trajectories explicitly visible in service to the public, organizers, and researchers.

Emma Giles, Manager of Public Outreach and Programs for SciStarter, will share with us the benefits of citizen science, dive deeper into a citizen science project that accelerates Alzheimer's research, and show how you can be involved in science that matters.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/5fdkpvdz>.

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>.

Even if you can't attend the live Theodore Talk, as long as you register in advance you will receive a link to the Zoom recording of the event. All Theodore Talks have Closed Captioning enabled.

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](https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/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/b31f233c57e663919d0e24eaf61c9f62f52e902.pdf>

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

Interfaith Book Study

Judy Weitzman

Several Indianapolis churches and synagogues are sponsoring a group study and discussion of *Poverty, By America*, by Matthew Desmond.

“Sociologist Matthew Desmond’s new book explains why poverty persists despite—and because of—the things we do... In this new book, Desmond examines the intricate web of visible and invisible forces that keep so many Americans poor...It will take faith to work toward something presently unimaginable, hope to know that it is possible, and love—that irrational emotion that leads us to sacrifice when there is nothing for us to gain, when there’s even something for us to lose.” ~ Review by Tony Tian-Ren Lin

Schedule for September:

Sunday, September 10, 7-8:30 p.m. Prologue and Chapters 1-3

Meridian Street UMC, 5500 N. Meridian Street, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 19, 7-8:30 p.m. Chapters 4-6

Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, 6501 N. Meridian St., Chapel

Tuesday, September 26, 7-8:30 p.m. Chapters 7-9 and Epilogue

St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, 100 W. 86th Street, Fellowship Hall

To register for any or all sessions: <https://tinyurl.com/htc9mfefz>

Free childcare for infants – 3rd grade; sign up when registering by Sept 24.

Live-streamed and recorded.

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

