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mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Art by Eric Kollenberg. Originally appeared in February 1989 MIND.

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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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Volume 60, Issue Number 2
February 2024



mind

table of contents

Editor's Page	4
Help Wanted	4
LocSection	5
Moving Between Tomorrow	6
New Member Welcome	7
Book Group Reading List	7
Mensa Book Group Book Previews	8
Puzzle Column	9
February 2024 Events	10
OMG! Outdoor Mensa Gathering! LIVE!	11
Calendar	12
RVC4 Column	14
Books On the Runway	15
The Next Pandemic	17
Puzzle Solutions	18
February Theodore Talk	19
In Case You Missed It	20
Ripped From the Pages of MIND!	21
Treasurer's Report	22
Location of CIM Monthly Meeting	23
Contact Information	24

From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor

As I write this, I'm in Florida. Rain is in the forecast, but the temperature should top out around 78 degrees. But hold your envy for a good dose of *schadenfreude*, a German word that means enjoying the miseries of others: this evening, Jackie and I are flying back to Indiana, where the forecast temperature for our arrival is a balmy zero (0) degrees! But our shock won't be worse than the subzero or single-digit horrors you've been experiencing. And we'll be picked up at the airport, and a winter coat will be waiting in the car. Just have to be outside long enough to load the car and we'll be fine.



But enough of my miseries. This month's issue has a number of opportunities to take your mind off winter's harshness. Any number of events are on the calendar, any of which you can attend or Zoom into (if you really don't want to go out). Also, we're leading off with a short poem by CIM Mensan Marilyn Wolf. If this inspires your creative spirit to dash something off and send it to me, I'll be overjoyed to publish it. Let the fires of creativity warm you in this frigid time!

Help Wanted: CIM Needs a Hero!

(Looking for someone who can help set up a Google Drive Account)

Teresa Gregory

Central Indiana Mensa needs a permanent home for its documents, photos, and general history. We have decades of MINDs, programs, directories, and other memorabilia, but no place to store it where it is accessible. I talked to Simone van Egeren who is chair of the AML History Committee and LocSec of San Diego Mensa. She is encouraging local groups to start gathering and preserving their history before it's gone. I asked for suggestions on how to do this, and she recommended Google Drive. A lot of people use it, it's free, and it looks like it's here to stay.

So, this is where YOU come in! CIM needs someone to help set up a Google Drive account. Familiarity with Docs, Photos, and possibly Calendar is highly desirable. I know we have some hot shots in the group who could be our HERO and help us with this endeavor.

If you are the one, please contact Teresa Gregory and let's talk!
ag18tg@yahoo.com or 317-430-1761

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

February Program: Weird Science with Rob Pyatt, PhD – Our guest speaker for February is the always exuberant Rob Pyatt, PhD! Rob is one of our most popular speakers. He LOVES talking about science, the scientific method, and getting his audiences to think about and be critical of research studies. Get ready to be dazzled by Weird Science as he tells us about the latest questionable science research studies.



Happy 60th Birthday to Central Indiana Mensa – We're planning to have a celebration later in the year. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please send them my way (jan@mw.net). **Teresa Gregory** is scouring old newsletters for her column, “**Ripped from the Pages of MIND!**” Check it out.

We Want Your Old (Mensa) Stuff – If anyone is downsizing and runs into any old Mensa stuff they'd like to share, or just let me make a copy, please contact **Teresa Gregory!** (ag18tg@yahoo.com) Any old MINDs, RG and other event programs, faded tattoos, literary journals, t-shirts and tote bags, PHOTOS.

NE Area Coordinator Position Open – If you'd like to meet your fellow Mensa members in the Pendleton/Anderson/Muncie/New Castle, etc area, why not volunteer to be the area coordinator? Your name will be listed as the contact in MIND. The ExCom and others can provide suggestions for events and locations and will help in any way we can. Please contact me if you're interested or have questions.

Scholarship Judging – The Mensa Foundation awards many college scholarships each year. Judges are always needed to read and evaluate applicants' short essays. If you're interested or have questions, please contact **Teresa Gregory** (ag18tg@yahoo.com).

CultureQuest® – If you're interested in participating in Mensa's nationwide cultural literacy/trivia competition, please let me or another ExCom member know. The competition will on April 28th. Our team's or (teams') application is due March 31st, so if you'd like to be on a team, be sure to renew on time (by March 31st). Teams have 4-5 members. More info at www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest/.

Please renew your membership by March 31st!!

Moving Between Tomorrow

Marilyn Wolf



Moving Between Tomorrow
and then the day came
moving between tomorrow
time never lasting

Image by Gordon Johnson from Pixabay.

<https://wolfen25.net/>



Carol Bussell	Indianapolis	IN	Rejoin
David Lips	Indianapolis	IN	Rejoin
Ryan Pickett	Indianapolis	IN	Joined

2024 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

We had a wonderful Bring-A-Book session in November, and are pleased and proud to present our next reading list:

Title	Author(s)	Date
American Cosmic	DW Pasulka	2/18/2024
The Mindful Body	Ellen Langer	3/17/2024
Outlive	Peter Attia	4/21/2024
The Coming Wave	Mustafa Suleyman	5/19/2024
The Matter With Things, Chapter 12	Iain McGilchrist	6/16/2024
The Elegant Defense	Matt Richter	7/21/2024
The Comfort Crisis	Michael Easter	8/18/2024
Black Holes	Brian Cox	9/22/2024
Being Heumann	Jeff Horshaw	10/20/2024
Anaximander	Judith Heumann	11/17/2024
Naked Statistics	Carlo Rovelli	12/15/2024
The Gulf: Making of an American Sea	Charles Wheelen	1/19/2025
	Jack E Davis	

Mensa Book Group Previews

Rich Gibson

THIS MONTH: *American Cosmic: UFOs, Religion, Technology*

American Cosmic: UFOs, Religion, Technology, by D W Pasulka, 304 pages, published in 2019. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, February 18th, 2024, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more info.

Our previous book, *The Flip*, made a case for reality being more than science, religion, philosophy, or all three can explain. It claimed that human experiences of the paranormal point to a possibility that consciousness is universal.

Now, DW Pasulka, a professor of religious studies at the University of North Carolina Wilmington, has written a book about another paranormal human experience: belief in extraterrestrial life. More than half of American adults and more than three quarters of young Americans believe this; a level that rivals belief in God. *American Cosmic* examines this thriving belief system, a system that is changing, perhaps even supplanting traditional religious belief. The author undertook a six-year ethnographic study of these beliefs, and expected that UFO experiences were similar to mystical experiences recorded throughout history. As she did so, she came to recognize there could be an underlying reality to both. The same experience, interpreted as a miracle six or more centuries ago, might be interpreted as extraterrestrial contact today. She argues that widespread belief in aliens is due to a number of factors including modern media like The X-Files or other sci-fi or horror stories and films; scientific studies have shown that the brain can conflate memories of such media with memories of lived experience. Belief in ET is also enhanced by the search for exoplanets that might support life. *American Cosmic* explores the intriguing question of how people interpret unexplainable experiences (note the tie back to *The Flip*) and argues that the media is replacing religion as a cultural authority. Please read the book and attend in person or via Zoom to share your thoughts on this topic. Hope to see you on Sunday, February 18th, at 2:00 PM

NEXT MONTH: *The Mindful Body: Thinking Our Way to Chronic Health*

The Mindful Body: Thinking our Way to Chronic Health, by Ellen J. Langer, 288 pages, published in 2023. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, February 18th, 2024, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more info.

Ellen Langer is a psychology professor at Harvard, where she has her own laboratory; translation: Heavy Hitter. She coined the term “mindfulness.” The title sounds like yet another self-help book; maybe the publisher just wanted to boost sales.

Anyway, Dr. Langer is a *monist*, a philosophy opposed to dualism, which sees mind and body as two separate, coexisting entities. Most world religions are

dualistic, by the way. Some of you might be willing to spend an afternoon or more exploring monism and how it might impact your own personal spiritual beliefs, but this book review is not going down that road. Langer the monist believes that mind and body are one, and that this realization helps us use each one to improve the other. A focus by doctors on the body alone can lead to misguided diagnoses and courses of treatment. The author combines personal anecdotes with research conducted in her laboratory to build a strong case that a monistic approach to health and well-being has immediate and lasting payoffs. Hope this sounds provocative, or at least highly interesting. Please read the book and attend in person or via Zoom to share your thoughts/learn from others on this topic. Hope to see you on Sunday, February 18th, at 2:00 PM

Puzzle Column

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

LOVE WAS ON THE AIR

Find the title of a popular song with *love* in the title. For example, The Shirelles – 1961 is *Will You Still love Me Tomorrow?*

1. Lionel Ritchie and Diana Ross - 1981
2. Queen - 1979
3. 1976 song with a rodent in the title
4. Paul Anka - 1960
5. Soft Cell - 1981
6. Pat Boone - 1961
7. Dolly Parton and Whitney Houston – 19 years apart
8. Stephen Stills song that encourages infidelity
9. The Supremes - 1966
10. Tina Turner - 1984

Solutions on page 18

February 2024 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

2/7, 12:00pm ET - Virtual *Online*

2/21, 12:00pm ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St, Indy
RSVP Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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

2/3, 10:00am - 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 Bridge SIG

2/11, 2:00pm – 4:00pm ET

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

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

2/14, 2:00pm ET - Asian Kitchen and Sushi Bar, 4000 W 106th St #165, Carmel

2/28, 2:00pm Ale Emporium, 8617 Allisonville Rd, Indianapolis

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,

2/9, 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.

The Legendary Rob Pyatt will be blinding us with SCIENCE!

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

2/18, 2:00pm ET

American Cosmic – DW Pasulka

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

LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday

2/18, 6pm ET

The Old Spaghetti Factory, 918 S Rangeline Rd, Carmel **For more information or to RSVP**, contact Bob Zdanky at 317-912-3590.

Mensa Admissions Test

2/11, 2:00pm ET in Carmel. More information is available on [Take the Mensa Admission Test](#) . Contact Alison at SIGHT@indymensa.org to reserve a seat.

OMG! Outdoor Mensa Gathering! LIVE!

May 17, 18, 19, 2024

Versailles State Park, Indiana

Join Central Indiana Mensa for a laidback weekend in the woods. If you're thinking that you aren't the "outdoorsy" type, think again!

Things to know:.

- All meals are provided, along with lodging, scenery, and MENSANS!
- No animals (except the ones who live there!)
- No unaccompanied minors

IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

- **There are no cabins with toilets**
- **We will not be providing alcohol, but please feel free to bring your own. There will be designated refrigerator space. As in the past, we will provide soft drinks, bottled water, and coffee. This keeps the cost down for everyone.**

Fees::

- Adults full weekend is **\$65** per person!
- Saturday only is **\$45**.
- Kids up to age 6 are **\$25**, and ages 6-12 are **\$40**.
- There is also a per-car park entry fee: **\$7** Indiana Resident, **\$9** Visitor

Registration and pay online at: <https://cim-og-2024.eventbrite.com>

Or mail a check to: Teresa Gregory

6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219

**So grab your sleeping bags and towels,
and join us at Versailles State Park.**



February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 *Sunday Social*	5	6	7 *Lunch Bunch*
11 Mensa Testing; Bridge SIG; *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
29		

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

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

The December Board of Directors (AMC) Meeting: Dues and Officer Conduct

Last month I wrote about a proposal to increase annual dues 35% from \$79 to \$107, with multi-year dues increasing proportionally. This passed at the December 9th AMC meeting but must pass again at the March meeting to go into effect. Timely membership renewals for the upcoming year wouldn't be affected, but renewals after April 1st would.

Inflation since the last dues increase would have taken dues to \$99.20. The additional \$7.80 increase was justified by a desire to fund our "business needs". Unfortunately, there are no firm commitments regarding where the additional revenue would be spent, only ideas. Since the proposed increase would happen on April 1st, most renewals would be done at the old \$79 rate; therefore, 2024-25 fiscal year revenues would only be marginally affected. The full impact would be felt in 2025-26, and the budget for that won't be approved until Spring, 2025. We'd have to wait until then to finalize how the additional revenue would be used.

Ideas for funding increases have included:

- Increased Local Group subsidies. This was last changed in 2015 and stands at \$0.85 per member per month.
- Improving service and support to improve the member experience
- Updating our existing technology
- Better funding for marketing to attract new members (Note: the entire 2023-2024 advertising budget was a paltry \$87,000.)
- Improving National Office employee salary competitiveness
- Adding pages to the *Bulletin* to be more in line with past issues
- Additional funding for RVCs who sometimes have expenses they pay out of their own pocket when their budget is insufficient.

And the list goes on.

While I agree that some dues increase is needed, I'm not a fan this proposal's magnitude. I'm concerned we may see significant membership decreases, particularly since we're crossing that psychologically important \$99 threshold. We obviously won't know what will happen to membership until any dues increase goes into effect.

I am also concerned we haven't done our due diligence in reviewing National Office operations to determine where efficiencies could be achieved. Are there tasks that could be outsourced? Our membership has dropped 15% from our peak in 2010. Have we adjusted our staffing and operations accordingly? How could an increased focus on quality reduce rework and pay efficiency dividends? In the end, I voted against the measure in December. Stay tuned for the results of the March vote.

One other action taken at the meeting prohibits AMC members and the National Ombuds from concurrently serving as Local Group LocSec, Treasurer, Editor, RG Chair, local or regional Ombuds, or any other position authorized to sign contracts on behalf of the Local Group. This improves our governance by prohibiting someone from having oversight over their own actions. I voted in favor of this motion.

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>.

Books On The Runway

Margy Fletcher

Author: Barbra Streisand

Title: *My Name Is Barbra*

Publisher: Viking/Penguin Random House LLC

Year: 2023

Has Been Read by: Margy Lancet Fletcher

Book Description: Despite February's typically bitter climate, reflected in our equally brutal political atmosphere, Valentine's Day celebrants exhort us to show our heartfelt devotion to all of the significant people in our lives. In that spirit, I submit that no one person embodies this sentiment more exquisitely than legendary super-celebrity Barbra Streisand. Indeed, readers seeking solace in love themes should take a deep, refreshing dive into her mega-memoir and soak up the life-affirming combination of passion and commitment that has driven her remarkable sixty-plus-year entertainment career.

Composed of fifty-nine chapters, plus a prologue and epilogue, *My Name Is Barbra* is the product of ten years of diligent research - the artist's magnum opus, covering every phase of her evolution into a consummate storyteller. Beginning with her challenging childhood in an impoverished Brooklyn neighborhood, where she struggled to maintain her self-esteem despite a complete lack of parental support, she chronicles in rich detail the vast number of roles she has assumed throughout her life, as performer, creator, project manager, and concerned citizen: vocalist, actress, composer, sound and film editor, film producer and director, costume designer, speechwriter, guest speaker at collegiate and political events, philanthropist, and author. Her many personal and professional relationships are depicted with both candor and respect, and she is similarly forthright about her own strengths and shortcomings.

As stunning as the woman herself, *My Name Is Barbra* is a tribute to the power of faith in oneself - and humanity in general - and the superhuman ability to triumph over seemingly insurmountable cultural obstacles - e.g., her unconventional personal appearance, Jewish heritage, lack of formal education beyond Erasmus Hall High School, and - regarding her frequent assumption of positions of authority within the entertainment industry - gender. "Nothing is

impossible” has been her mantra as she continues to energetically pursue artistic and humanitarian opportunities, in an endless quest to contribute to the happiness and welfare of her vast audience. And in conclusion, she expresses her gratitude for her support network with this comment: “I think I truly am one of the luckiest people in the world.”

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

I have followed the Streisand stardom trajectory since my awestruck, preteen, fan magazine days, when she first achieved prominence in the role of Fanny Brice in the Broadway musical, *Funny Girl*. Over the years, I have admired her chutzpah as she tenaciously followed her own creative instincts irrespective of negative press and the risk of failure (most notably regarding *Yentl*, one of my all-time favorite films). Today, I am delighted that her romantic roller-coaster ride has ended happily with her twenty-five-year marriage to actor James Brolin. Wed fifty-one years myself, I can attest to the benefits of long and fulfilling relationships. L’chaim!

Who should definitely read this book? Why? Now, before you dismiss this book as just another sordid Hollywood kvetch-fest, be aware that Ms. Streisand possesses qualities that Mensans prize: openness to unorthodox ideas, eagerness to acquire new skills and knowledge, self-awareness, a passion for the printed page, and a strong work ethic. She probably has not been officially tested intellectually, but she is gifted with both rational and emotional intelligence, as evidenced by the numerous awards she has earned during her lifetime: besides the show-business trophy quartet - Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony - she has also achieved several Peabody Awards, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Israel Freedom Medal, the ACLU Bill of Rights Award, the National Medal of Arts, and an Honorary Doctorate in Arts and Humanities from Brandeis University, among many others - a true scholar, in my view. As an additional bonus, she enthusiastically shares with her readers everything she has learned from the projects she has undertaken and her personal and professional experiences, positive and negative, along with a vast collection of photographs.

How long might it take to read this book? A prospective reader might be discouraged by the book’s length: 970 pages. The solution is simply to take one’s time; the chapters are reasonably short, and allow plenty of in-between breaks. The writing is fluid, expressive, and insightful, and each story is fascinating. I finished the book in two weeks, but you could take a lot longer. Regardless, you’ll learn a lot about the entertainment industry in the process.

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

[Ms. Streisand recalls a speech she delivered at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government Institute of Politics in 1994. Subject: The Artist as Citizen]

...What is the artist's political role? Why does it make so many people angry when artists speak out? ...Even though, as I admitted, "I guess I can call myself an artist, although after thirty years, the word still feels a bit pretentious. But I am, first and foremost, a citizen: a tax-paying, voting, concerned American citizen who happens to have opinions...a lot of them...which seems to bother some people."

I was still smarting from the way artists were derided not only by the Republicans, but also sometimes by the press. Newt Gingrich, even though he was apparently such a fan, was saying that we needed to balance the budget, and the first thing to go should be the arts programs. But as I pointed out, "The government's contribution to the National Endowment for the Arts and PBS is actually quite meager. To put it in perspective, the entire budget for the NEA is equal to one F-22 fighter jet...and PBS costs each taxpayer less than one dollar a year...

"So maybe it's not about balancing the budget. Maybe it's about shutting the minds and mouths of artists who might have something thought-provoking to say."

That's because of the nature of our work. "We have to walk in other people's shoes and live in other people's skins. This does tend to make us more sympathetic to politics that are more tolerant. In our work, in our preparation, and in our research, we are continuously trying to educate ourselves. And with learning comes compassion. Education is the enemy of bigotry and hate. It's hard to hate someone you truly understand."

The Next Pandemic

Robert Enteen , PhD.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 2:30 PM PT

Please register early. We are limited to 100 seats for this presentation

<http://livepresentation.link/register>

Look for a confirmation email from ZOOM with the link you will need to join.

Treaty negotiations for global "pandemic preparedness" have disappointed. As Covid declines, the public, legislators, and the media are becoming predictably complacent. Concern about the infectious disease threat is waning.

Some of the world's leading infectious disease specialists warn that, unless key improvements are made in national and global surveillance and containment systems, we or our children's generation are virtually certain to experience outbreaks of infectious diseases, possibly deadlier and more socially and economically devastating than COVID.

This presentation will

- Identify the *main factors* to predict future pandemics;

- Explain *why* virulent disease outbreaks and pandemics are increasing in frequency;
- Identify the *most likely regions* for future outbreaks and pandemics;
- Explain why some outbreaks will likely *spread internationally* and become pandemic;
- *Update and critique* treaty negotiations;
- *Recommend* how to improve long-term national/global defenses.

'''

Robert Enteen has 25 years of experience in health research and policy analysis on acute and chronic disease, and disability. He has designed, conducted, and led studies for Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Columbia University, Sanofi-Aventis Pharmaceuticals, the National Institute of Mental Health, and other organizations. For 12 years he served as Director of Health Research & Policy Analysis at the National MS Society. For seven years he hosted a medical talk show broadcast weekly by NPR, university, and community radio stations, as well as radio reading services for the blind and visually impaired. He also served as the first Director of Multimedia Programs at Medscape.com (now WebMD) and CBS Healthwatch.com. The author of more than 60 journal articles, magazine articles, and book chapters, he published "Our Pandemic Future" in 2023. He is currently a researcher on pandemics at the Center for Catastrophic Risk Management at U.C. Berkeley, and a voting member of the Advisory Board of the California Department of Public Health program on Healthcare Acquired Infections. Bob has a Ph.D. in sociology and post-doctoral certificates in psychotherapy, organizational development, and clinical hypnosis.

Solutions to February Puzzle:

1. Lionel Ritchie and Diana Ross – 1981 = Endless Love
2. Queen – 1979 = Crazy Little Thing Called Love
3. 1976 song with a rodent in the title = Muskrat Love
4. Paul Anka – 1960 = Puppy Love
5. Soft Cell – 1981 = Tainted Love
6. Pat Boone – 1961= Love Letters in the Sand
7. Dolly Parton and Whitney Houston – 19 years apart = I Will Always Love You
8. Stephen Stills song that encourages infidelity = Love the One You're With
9. The Supremes – 1966 = You Can't Hurry Love
10. Tina Turner – 1984 = What's Love Got to Do with It

February Theodore Talk

Brad Lucht

To promote attendance to the 2024 AG, the first six talks will address Kansas City's unique attractions. This is the second talk in that series.

The title of the February Theodore Talk is, "**National WWI Museum & Memorial**". This virtual event will take place on Zoom February 25 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 8:30 GMT).

Soon after World War I ended, Kansas City leaders formed the Liberty Memorial Association (LMA) to create a lasting monument to the men and women who had served in the war. In 1919, the LMA and citizens of Kansas City raised more than \$2.5 million in 10 days. The equivalent of more than \$40 million today, this staggering accomplishment reflected the passion of public sentiment for the Great War that had dramatically changed the world. In 1921, more than 100,000 people gathered to see the supreme Allied commanders dedicate the site of the Liberty Memorial. This was the first time in history these five leaders were together in one place. The local veteran chosen to present flags to the commanders was a Kansas City haberdasher, Harry S. Truman.

Construction on the classical Egyptian Revival-style monument was completed in 1926 and the Liberty Memorial was dedicated by President Calvin Coolidge in front of more than 150,000 people.

Approaching its centennial, the National WWI Museum and Memorial is America's leading institution dedicated to remembering, interpreting and understanding the Great War and its enduring impact on the global community. It holds the most comprehensive collection of World War I objects and documents in the world. Visitors are taken on an epic journey through a transformative period through which deeply personal stories of courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice are shared.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/32v8rebn>.

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 are 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*.

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

In Case You Missed It

Dining Out 1/21/2024



[Courtesy Jan Pfeil Doyle]

Ripped From the Pages of MIND!

Teresa Gregory

A Poem from Basil Wentworth, Originally Published in February 1989.

A WINTER'S TAIL

He said, in accents wary,
"These winter winds are scary;
And that is my
Opinion why
They call it Febru-airy."

The wind blows fresh and raw,
The ice forgets to thaw,
The feeble sun
Recalls to one
The meaning of sang-froid.

Each morning, the weather report
Is one of the ugliest sort:
To the last from the first,
February's the worst;
But one thing, at least--it is short.

We remember at this time of year
That George Washington, tall and austere,
Was the one we admire
As his young country's sire--
And his wife was the Martha, we hear.

Abe Lincoln, we might guess,
Was mobile, more or less:
A mid-West lad,
He also had
A Gettysburg address.

* * * * *

February can make us blue
As he says, "Holidays are through,
And instead of May flowers
Or April's warm showers
I only have ice for you."

Treasurer's Report

Kurt Williams

Balance Sheet (as of 12/31/2023)

Bank Accounts	11/30/2023	12/31/2023
Checking – Regular	\$ 2,692.67	\$ 2,244.05
Checking – Scholarship	120.00	120.00
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	2,644.88	2,644.88
CD – First Internet	10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 15,482.55	\$ 15,033.93
Unrealized accrued interest on CD	310.61	353.96
Other Assets		
USPS Stamps Value	\$ 341.00	\$ 341.00
Total Number of USPS Stamps	620	620

Profit & Loss Statement (10/31/2023 – 11/30/2023)

Income		
	Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 20.00
	National Support	390.15
	Testing Support	0
	New Member/Lapsed Member	4.00
Total Income		\$ 515.60
Expense		
	MG Hospitality	\$ 114.69
	MIND Printing	351.61
	Facility Rental (All Souls)	100.00
Total Expenses		\$ 460.85

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

