



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana

**And now, a special message about
renewing your Mensa membership...**

**The Vice President of the
United States, J. Danforth Quayle**



*"What a waste it is to lose one's mind.
Or not to have a mind."*

**Listen to your Vice President.
He knows what he's talking about.
Don't be *MIND*less. Renew your membership!**

Another blast from the past. .Yesterday's Tomorrow's New Leader

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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MIND Staff

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mind

table of contents

Editor's Page	4
LocSection	5
Rural Indiana Verse	6
New Member Welcome	7
Book Group Reading List	7
Mensa Book Group Book Previews	8
Puzzle Column	9
March 2024 Events	10
OMG! Outdoor Mensa Gathering! LIVE!	11
Calendar	12
RVC4 Column	14
Books On the Runway	15
Puzzle Solutions	16
March Theodore Talk	17
My Best Science Fair Entry	18
Eclipse in SIGHT	18
EXCOM Minutes, 12/19/23	20
EXCOM Minutes, 1/16/24	21
Location of CIM Monthly Meeting	23
Contact Information	24

From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor

Wow, it's March already. The vernal equinox, official beginning of **SPRING, WONDERFUL SPRING!**

Excuse me, got carried away there. Totally untrue that a spot of cabin fever has struck me. After all, Jackie and I have been in Florida for much of the winter. We've been popping back into Hoosier Land for the big holidays and any opportunity to be with the granddaughters; but the last time we came back, most of the week was sunny and in the 50's! Almost like **SPRING, WONDERFUL SPRING!** Oops,

sorry. Anyway, we were outside the whole week, chopping back dead plants and carting off the carcasses. Going to do a large mess of mulching soon; most of our plant and seed orders have been made, and green stuff is coming our way. We had so much fun we cancelled our next flight down. It's so close to time to get really busy with spring gardening!

But enough of the gardening way to get through the winter. What have we got for you this month?

- A delightful tautogram from Marilyn Wolf singing about Crawford County (check the article for an explanation of the word tautogram)
 - o Speaking of big words, how many of you know what "crepuscular" means? It has to do with twilight.
- A heads-up from Alison Brown, our **SIGHT** coordinator, warning that Indiana will be inundated with visitors for the April 8 eclipse, many of them Mensans looking for a place to stay.
- And finally, a fair number of the regular Zoom meetings available if you just want to stay in your burrow until **SPRING, WONDERFUL SPRING**—and the **OMG!**—finally comes.

And of course, don't forget to renew your membership. Memberships expire at the end of March



LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

March 8th Program: Everything You Want to Know About the Eclipse – Kurt Williams will be speaking to us about what you need—and would like—to know about the upcoming solar eclipse on April 8th. The eclipse will be total for much of our group's membership area. Kurt is a member of Central Indiana Mensa (CIM). In Person and on Zoom.



Want to Watch the Eclipse Together? –

Speaking of **Kurt**, he organized a bus trip to KY to view the 2017 total eclipse; several members of CIM went. It was fun to be in a group ooh-ing and aah-ing together. If you're interested in watching the eclipse with others, send me an email or text (see back cover). We may gather in a park or someone's backyard—location (and weather) TBD. Just bring your own lawn chair and eclipse viewing glasses.

It's Renewal Time – It's that time of year: membership renewal time. If you're not a life member, your dues are due March 31st. You should have received a bill from the national office recently; you can pay online or by mail. I hope you'll all be renewing!

CultureQuest® – Speaking of March 31st deadlines, that's the deadline for sending in our CultureQuest® teams. CultureQuest® is an international Mensa quiz competition. Questions range from film to politics, from literature to geography, from music to history and farther afield. Teams of up to five people compete at the same time on April 28th at 4pm ET. There's also a "Next Generation" quiz for teams whose members were born on or after May 1, 2006. For the Next Generation team, only the team captain must be a current Mensa member. If you're interested in being on a team, please contact me or another ExCom member (see back cover) well before Mar. 31st and be sure to renew by March 31st. More info at www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest/.

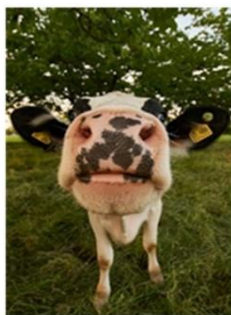
Mark Your Calendars for the Outdoor Mensa Gathering (OMG!) in May – I hope to see many of you at CIM's Outdoor Gathering on May 17-19. It's our annual camping weekend at the Versailles (Indiana) State Park. We rent the group camp and stay in dormitory-style cabins. There's a central building where we hang out, play games, eat, etc. Outdoor activities include hiking and a campfire. It's a wonderful, fun, relaxing weekend! If you can't stay for the whole weekend, come for the day on Saturday.

Please renew your membership by March 31st !!

Rural Indiana Verse

Marilyn Wolf

Rural Indiana Verse
A day in the field



Crawford County:

Cantankerous, creepy caterpillar crawls
cautiously. Contentious, casual children crush
centipedes. Cow chewing crunches common
crustacean carapace cavalierly. Cultivator
caricature contemptuously coughs continuously
causing community censure. Candlelight:
crepuscular conclusion.

Crawford County is the most rural in Indiana,
according to this article: *Most rural counties in
Indiana* | [caledonianrecord.com bit.ly/3UGYIIR](https://caledonianrecord.com/bit.ly/3UGYIIR)

This form is a tautogram: all the words begin
with the same letter. How is this different than
alliteration? With alliteration all the words begin
with the same phonetic sound. A “c” and “k”
have the same sound and could be used in
alliteration.



©2022, Marilyn Wolf
<https://wolfen25.net>



James Byers	Bloomington	IN	Joined
Scott Duncan	Celestine	IN	Rejoin
Zane Graper	Fort Branch	IN	Joined
Andrew Hemphill	Carmel	IN	Moved in
Jerry Richardson	Westfield	IN	Rejoin
Andrew Tellitocci	Indianapolis	IN	Join
Larry Tippin	Roachdale	IN	Rejoin

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
The Mindful Body	Ellen Langer	3/17/2024
Outlive	Peter Attia	4/21/2024
	Mustafa	
The Coming Wave	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
	Brian Cox	
Black Holes	Jeff Horshaw	9/22/2024
Being Heumann	Judith Heumann	10/20/2024
Anaximander	Carlo Rovelli	11/17/2024
Naked Statistics	Charles Wheelen	12/15/2024
The Gulf: Making of an American Sea	Jack E Davis	1/19/2025

Mensa Book Group Previews

Rich Gibson

THIS 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, March 17th, 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, March 17th, at 2:00 PM

NEXT MONTH: *Outlive: The Science and Art of Longevity* by Peter Attia with Bill Gifford

Outlive: The Science and Art of Longevity, by Peter Attia, MD, with Bill Gifford, 425 pages, published in 2023. To be discussed at the MBG meeting on Sunday, April 21st, 2024, at 2:00 PM. See Calendar or Meetup for more info. Peter Attia is a noted researcher on longevity. He decries the current consensus that focuses on quantity (long life) versus quality (good, enjoyable life). I know it’s hard to think about death, but it would do you good to consider what kind of death you might want to have: long and lingering with increasing misery; or a long time feeling great followed by a fast decline? If you think maybe the latter is for you, the longest possible enjoyable life, perhaps this book is for you. Attia takes aim at the four big killers in those of advanced age: heart disease, cancer, Alzheimer’s (or other mental degenerative condition), and diabetes, or general metabolic dysfunction. He decries current processes of not looking for early diagnoses, but making them when it’s almost too late to do anything about the conditions. The treatments can be excruciating to the patient, and uses up quality of life to prolong life that is usually in a state of misery. He reviews

scientific discoveries of these diseases and their treatments, and presents findings and results fairly clearly and simply. He critiques the most common treatments for these killers and presents alternatives. He doesn't present by-the-numbers recipes to deal with these problems, but does a fairly good job describing the factors you need to consider in tailoring your personal approach. He has four specific areas of focus: nutrition, exercise, sleep, and mental health. If any of this sounds interesting to you, why don't you find a copy, go read it, and come via Zoom or in person to our Book Group meeting on April 21st, 2024, at 2:00 PM? We'd love to see you and hear your thoughts!

Puzzle Column

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

PUZZLES FOR PI DAY MONTH

March contains Pi Day within it (3/14). Some words contain PI (consecutively) within them. Find them, based on clues and letter counts. Example: Heckle or Jackle – 6 letters. Answer: MAGPIE.

1. In abundance – 7 letters.
2. Dangerous curve on a road – 7 letters.
3. Bacterium that causes syphilis – 10 letters.
4. Slender rod with tapered ends – 7 letters.
5. Shaping stones and gems – 8 letters.
6. Goal of professional sports teams – 12 letters.
7. Musical word for softest volume – 10 letters.
8. Cease to resist – 10 letters.
9. Based on observation rather than theory -9 letters.
10. Practically falling apart – 8 letters.

Solutions on page 16

March 2024 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

3/6, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

3/20, 12:00 noon 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

3/2, 10:00am - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St, Carmel, IN, (located at IU Health North) RSVP: Alison Brown, 317-846-6798, SIGHT@indymensa.org

LIVE Bridge SIG

3/10, 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

3/13, 2:00pm ET - Yummy Bowl Mongolian BBQ, 11621 Fishers Station Dr

3/27, 2:00pm El Toro Mexican Cuisine, 8840 N Michigan Rd

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,

3/8, 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; Children 6- 18: \$5.00, under 6: free.

The Legendary Kurt Williams will tell us how to not blind ourselves and other stuff about the April 8th Total Eclipse!

***In Person* Games and Conversation Night** – 3rd Saturday, Odd Months

3/16, 6:00pm – 10:30pm ET

Westfield, IN

Join Candis and Robert King for an evening of Games & Conversation. Please

call 630-642-9063 or 630-253-1350 to RSVP and to get the address.

Saint Patrick's day theme. Bring something Green (but not mold)!

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

3/17, 2:00pm ET

The Mindful Body – Ellen Langer

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

3/17, 6pm ET

Upland Brewing on 82nd St, 4939 E 82nd St

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

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.**



March 2024

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

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 Ham'n Eggs
7	8 Monthly Gathering	9
14	15	16 Games and Conversation
21	22	23
28	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. Also, check the weekly CIM ReMINDER every Monday in your email.

Jon's Journal – News for Region 4

Jon Gruebele, RVC4

Decisions, Decisions

Because reasons, American Mensa's fiscal year runs April 1st through March 31st. This means many of our memberships will expire at the end of March. If you're in that situation, you get to decide whether to lapse, renew, or potentially purchase a discounted 3-year, 5-year, or lifetime membership.

The good news is that even if it passes, the dues increase proposal on the agenda for the March board of directors (AMC) meeting won't go into effect until April 1st. Should dues increase to \$107, you can still renew at the current \$79 annual rate through March 31st. That equates to just \$6.58 a month.

Last fiscal year, 88.2% of members renewed. Lapsed member surveys cite issues including a challenging financial situation; not enough value; and a lack of local, regional, or national activities of interest.

Personally, I'm a huge fan of our events – both in-person and virtual. I attended Mind Games® and thirteen other RGs and AGs last year. I had a ball at every one. Post-pandemic, new virtual events have abounded. Check our national events calendar (<https://www.us.mensa.org/attend/calendar/>) for upcoming on-line sessions. If you can't find something you like, consider hosting something you do like!

Some people are located far away from events, may have transportation issues, or be experiencing financial challenges. They may find the monthly dinner at the Olive Garden mundane – despite the unlimited breadsticks. Conversely, some find that just reading the *Bulletin* and local group newsletters is enough. I'm delighted we have these members too, although I wish I could meet them in person someday.

74.0% of our first-year members also renewed. That's pretty good, but this lower renewal rate implies some new members don't find as much value as the rest of us. Maybe – like me – they mistakenly thought a Mensa membership would help their job prospects. Maybe they were looking for deep conversations about existentialism, dark matter, or national fiscal policy – and instead found us pontificating about the latest board games. I suspect many simply didn't attend any events or get involved by volunteering. Surveys show that members who do that are much happier with their membership.

We all have our own reasons for being members. I bought a life membership back when dues were \$45. That was one of my better financial decisions, and I've had the joy of belonging ever since. Even if I had to pay the equivalent of \$6.58 a month, I'd still consider it a bargain.

Finally, please remember that you must renew by March 31st to vote in our upcoming national election. Those of us who are volunteering to serve you on the AMC would appreciate you considering the candidates and casting your vote. There are multiple contested positions, and the winners will lead the organization over the next three years.

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: Todd S. Purdum

Title: *Something Wonderful: Rodgers and Hammerstein's Broadway Revolution*

Publisher: Henry Holt and Company

Year: 2018

Has Been Read by: Margy Lancet Fletcher

Book Description: As the vernal equinox approaches and we (finally) say farewell to winter, those of us that are musically inclined feel the urge to proclaim, "It Might as Well Be Spring." This is just one of the countless memorable tunes fashioned by America's premiere songwriting duo, Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein II. *Something Wonderful*, journalist Todd S. Purdum's dual biography of the two enormously gifted artists, provides an intimate, chronological account of their separate and commingled personal and professional lives, told with a mixture of admiration and candor.

The author commences with a summary of the partners' ground-breaking achievements in the world of musical theater (quite literally, when they incorporated lively, foot-stomping dance numbers into their shows, most notably in *Oklahoma!*). The first two chapters, entitled "The Sentimentalist" and "A Quality of Yearning," recount the separate growth experiences of Oscar and Richard, respectively, up until their first joint project, *Oklahoma!* The ensuing chapters trace the creative processes behind their wildly successful productions (*Carousel*, *South Pacific*, *The King and I*, *The Flower Drum Song*, *The Sound of Music*), as well as their occasional "flops" (*Allegro*, *Me and Juliet*, *Pipe Dream*). Along the way, the author familiarizes the reader with the two musicians' personal attributes and flaws, their very similar backgrounds and contrasting character traits, and their relationships with their wives (both named Dorothy) and with the actors, producers, directors, and other entertainment professionals with whom they worked. The Epilogue, "Bloom and Grow Forever," contains a postscript pertaining to the family business and commentary on the enduring Rodgers and Hammerstein musical legacy.

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

Despite the dissonance of my home environment as I approached maturity, my parents thoughtfully exposed their offspring to eagerly-acquired recordings of Broadway musicals, which provided pleasant background music for our various endeavors. Rogers and Hammerstein songs, especially, became indelibly etched in my brain, and still jog my memory as I review my own theatrical experiences and celebrate the "Hundred Million Miracles" that actually happen every day.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? Musical theater fans, obviously, will appreciate this respectful yet thorough tribute to these renowned musical masters, and will marvel at the “who’s who” of prominent entertainment personalities that were the pair’s friends and coworkers: Mary Martin, Julie Andrews, Stephen Sondheim, Irving Berlin, John Raitt, Yul Brynner, Marlon Brando, Shirley MacLaine, and Jerome Robbins, to cite just a small sample. Both musical historians and psychologists will eagerly absorb the astute character sketches and cultural references that permeate the narrative. “All Kinds of People” - indeed.

How long might it take to read this book? Not excessively lengthy with 320 pages of text, plus an additional 66 pages of notes, bibliography, acknowledgments, permissions acknowledgments, and index, the invested reading time should not exceed 5 to 7 days.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: In their prime, the partners seemed to stand for the best of America: forward-looking, liberal, innovative, internationalist - progressive both artistically and ideologically. One need take only the briefest glances at the conventional Broadway fare that surrounded them at the beginning of their collaboration - and the flock of imitators that sprang up after their success - to recognize the radical nature of their innovations and the reach of their influence. As the decades wore on, and the tumult of the 1960s upended American society, it was a paradox of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s success that the musicals that had once been hailed as pioneering and daring would come to be seen in some critics’ eyes as conventional, conformist, patronizing, paternalistic retrograde. Yet even as a new generation of composers, lyricists, and directors explicitly rejected and moved beyond the well-made formula that Rodgers and Hammerstein had perfected, in favor of “concept” musicals in which plot and character were often secondary to style and theme, such innovations would have been impossible if Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II had not first blazed the trail..

Solutions to March Puzzle:

1. In abundance – 7 letters. COPIOUS
2. Dangerous curve on a road – 7 letters. HAIRPIN
3. Bacterium that causes syphilis – 10 letters. SPIROCHETE
4. Slender rod with tapered ends – 7 letters. SPINDLE
5. Shaping stones and gems – 8 letters. LAPIDARY
6. Goal of professional sports teams – 12 letters. CHAMPIONSHIP
7. Musical word for softest volume – 10 letters. PIANISSIMO
8. Cease to resist – 10 letters. CAPITULATE
9. Based on observation rather than theory -9 letters. EMPIRICAL
10. Practically falling apart – 8 letters. DECREPIT

March Theodore Talk

Brad Lucht

The title of the March Theodore Talk is, "**Give ‘em Hell – The Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum**". This virtual event will take place on Zoom March 24 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 8:30 GMT).

The Harry S. Truman Library, the first Presidential Library to be created under the provisions of the 1955 Presidential Libraries Act, was established to preserve the papers, books, and other historical materials that document Mr. Truman's life and careers as farmer, soldier, businessman, local politician, U.S. Senator, Vice President and President, with an emphasis on his ideals of citizenship, learning, and service.

The Truman Library was dedicated July 6, 1957. In attendance was former President Herbert Hoover (then the only living former president other than President Truman), Chief Justice Earl Warren, and former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Truman established an office in the building and worked there 5-6 days a week. He actively participated in the day-to-day operation of the Library, personally training museum docents and conducting impromptu "press conferences" for visiting school students. He frequently arrived before the staff and would often answer the phone to give directions and answer questions, telling surprised callers that he was the "man himself."

At the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library you will be immersed in some of the most dramatic chapters of world history, from the Great War to WWII and the Cold War, to the creation of the State of Israel, Civil Rights advancements, the extreme makeover of The White House and, of course, Truman's Whistle Stop campaign and 1948 victory.

A visit to the Truman Presidential Library is just one more reason to attend this year's AG in Kansas City.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinurl.com/27tt4pks>.

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. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 Pacific, 8:30 GMT).

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 2024 Theodore Talks begins on p. 20.

My best Science Fair entry



Eclipse in SIGHT

Alison Brown, CIM SIGHT Coordinator

We are expecting a great influx of visitors when the total eclipse of the Sun occurs over Indiana, with a wide band of totality across the area of Central Indiana Mensa. www.eclipse2024.org

While the weather will be a consideration (April showers bring May flowers), April 8, 2023 was sunny and clear here and we might have similar conditions as our climate changes. Along the band of totality any spot might be a good jumping-off spot for guests who rise in the morning, check the skies and head out to find optimal conditions.

Bloomington will have 4 minutes of totality, Vincennes a few seconds more, downtown Indianapolis is about 10 seconds shorter, Carmel gets 3.5 minutes and viewing will be set up on the grounds of the High School. There is longer totality in Speedway and a party will be launched at the race track. Evansville gets 3 minutes. Even Santa Claus gets into the act with just under 2 minutes of totality.

Some places are already receiving SIGHT requests from outside the country. None have arrived in my inbox yet, but in order to be prepared I am writing this now:

Are you willing to open your home to fellow Mensans in any capacity? You may offer a bed, or a couch; you may ask for some compensation for the expenses incurred. You may offer a meal or a meeting to make Mensans coming for the eclipse welcome in Hoosierland.

If you are willing to connect with fellow Mensans in a personal way during this astronomical event, please contact me at SIGHT@indymensa.org and I will put you and your offer on the list.

Ripped From the Pages of MIND!

Teresa Gregory

Candi Bower Lorenzo holds the First Place certificate awarded to CultureQuest team “Indy 5.00” at the 2010 Annual Gathering.

Central Indiana Mensa has made several appearances in the Top 20 Teams list. [Photo originally published in August 2010 MIND]



2023	CIMple Minds	#3
2022	Out of Quaranteam	#6
	CIMple Minds	#13
2021	CIMple Minds	#9
2011	Talk Nerdy to Me	#20
2010	Indy 5.00	#1

2009	Indy 5.00	#9
2000	Indy 5.00	#14

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 12/19/23

Karen Wilczewski, Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

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

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Jon Applegate, Rich Gibson, Pat Milligan

The November minutes were reviewed. Kurt moved the minutes be approved as amended, Ann seconded to approve the November minutes as amended. The motion carried.

The committee reviewed the November 2023 Treasurer's report. Barb moved, Ann seconded the Treasurer's Report be approved as amended and the motion carried.

A membership report was compiled by Jan Doyle based on information available as of 11/30/23 from American Mensa: 458 members, 4 new, 0 move-in, 1 rejoin, 2 move-outs, and 7 prospects.

Old Business

Pat Milligan sent Usage Reports to ExCom members regarding MeetUp activity.

New Business

The Holiday Party showed 30 attendees on December 8, the same as last year's attendance. Question: why do members show up for the Holiday Party and not for other events throughout the year? A comment was made that those who use Zoom don't want to drive to the meeting site or are from out of our area. NOTE: One-third of attendees showed up without RSVPing.

With 2024 representing CIM's 60th anniversary, discussion ensued around conducting a dinner celebration to attract more members. The 50th anniversary dinner was successful and was partially subsidized to help defray cost. In lieu of calling it the 60th anniversary dinner celebration, it could be promoted as a special event and be referred to as a Volunteer Dinner.

Another suggestion was to conduct a picnic. Would members be more likely to attend a picnic, instead of a more formal dinner? The picnic could be scheduled for August and could be an annual event. Or we could conduct the 60th anniversary dinner and wait till 2025 to schedule the picnic.

Ann moved, Kurt seconded that we have a 60th Anniversary celebration, possibly a dinner. The motion passed.

Teresa has agreed to work on a committee to organize the 60th celebration, along with Ann and Jan. The committee will come back with more details related to this event by the next meeting.

In terms of other regular events, the OG is scheduled for May.

Election timeline: According to the bylaws, we need a nominating Committee for the upcoming election by February in time to announce it in the April MIND. The ExCom needs to vote on whether the new ExCom will be 7 or 9 members.

Jan reported attending the memorial service for Paula Ferguson. Paula had even planned Sunday Funday for January 2024. Details will be featured in the January MIND. The ExCom needs to vote to fill Paula's vacancy on the ExCom. Jan will approach a new member to determine interest in serving on the ExCom. Kurt moved and Barb seconded approaching a new member to fill the ExCom's vacant seat, even though elections are coming up in September 2024.

OG: Karen Steilberger will serve as 2024's OG Registrar. Teresa will start promoting the event.

Jon asked if we could promote a discussion group that a proctor from Mid-Michigan is hosting. We can pass along the information and it could be advertised on Mensa Connect. Another possibility is for Jon to attend a meeting. Jon will respond to this request after talking with Jon Greubele to determine if this is appropriate.

Ann worked up a series of questions with board input related to membership participation in CIM events.

Related to the upcoming April 8 Solar Eclipse, we could provide a list of areas where Ms can view it.

There being no other business, Kurt moved to adjourn the meeting. Ann seconded. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 1/16/24

Karen Wilczewski

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

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

Guests: Teresa Gregory, Rich Gibson, Pat Milligan, Jon Applegate

The December and January minutes will be reviewed at February's ExCom meeting.

The committee reviewed the December 2023 Treasurer's report. Bob moved, Karen seconded the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented and the motion carried.

A membership report was compiled by Jan Doyle based on information available as of 12/31/23 from American Mensa: 461 members, 2 new, 0 move-in, 1 rejoin, 1 leaving, and 5 prospects.

Old Business

Jan contacted Judy Weitzman to determine her interest in serving on the ExCom. Judy said yes! Kurt moved, Barb seconded appointing Judy Weitzman to the ExCom. The motion carried.

Jan checked Survey Monkey and determined that we could use their free option to drum up more interest in CIM and our monthly meetings. Judy will work with Ann, Jan, and Karen to get the survey to the members.

Karen Steilberger compiled a promotional page through EventBrite for the OG (May 1-19, Versailles). EventBrite charges extra for more than 25 registrants, so Ms are encouraged to pay by check, allowing others interested to take advantage of the EventBrite sight.

Ann asked about using online voting for the upcoming election of officers to the next ExCom. Ann researched various services and reviewed the Leadership Development Workshop, which used Google Forms. This format is a no-cost option for us. The question arose as to whether members need to have a Google account to electronically vote. A volunteer will be asked to oversee this potential voting process. Ann will start looking into the process.

New Business

Historical archivist. Teresa contacted the historian for American Mensa about scanning old MINDS in anticipation of celebrating our upcoming 60th Anniversary. Archivist Simone van Egeren said we need to scan our MINDS and we can share our link with her. Teresa will look into setting up a Google Drive account for the archives for our local group. We could also explore groups that no longer exist and feature them. Teresa is looking for an M to help with this. She'll be announcing it in an upcoming *MIND* column. She's posing it as, "If you want to be a 'superhero' for our group, volunteer your skills and help with this project." Teresa will write an article about recruiting volunteers for this project. She's interested in not only promoting it as "being a superhero column," but it also clearly identifying it as a volunteers-needed in her monthly column.

Discussion came up regarding the total of members for the upcoming ExCom. Kurt moved, Barb seconded that the upcoming ExCom election will be for 7 members. The motion passed.

There was a question whether the group had received the cash award (\$300) for placing third in the April '23 CultureQuest. Kurt said it had not been deposited recently. Jan said she would check with the national office about it. There being no other business, Kurt moved to adjourn the meeting. Barb seconded. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

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

