



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Chowhounds, Farmhouse Restaurant 8/14/24

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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From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor



My principle activities for Central Indiana Mensa being MIND Editor and Book Group co-host, I suppose it's unavoidable that one should occasionally bleed into the other. The book we read this month, *The Comfort Crisis* by Michael Easter, had such an impact on me that I think I must share some of its lessons with you.

First, comfort is seductive and pleasurable and nice, but *Comfort Is Not Your Friend*. From hunter-gatherers, to farmers, to factory workers, to knowledge workers, we have slowly but irreversibly used science and technology to make our lives easier, yet still full of stress. Our bodies and minds were optimized to be stressed by and effectively respond to natural disasters, wild beasts, and so on; yet we get stressed out worrying if the person the next cubicle over has a higher salary than we do. This is actually two problems: stress energizes us to respond with physical activity, which we usually don't do (the guy DOES have a higher salary? Let's beat him up!); and the stress we do experience is not nearly over a life-or-death situation. Our bodies are awash in cortisol and other stress-induced chemicals, without proper outlet or release.

That's only part of the problem. Our bodies are way too soft. The average American spends most of their life in bed or sitting down, whether at a table or desk, or in a car, or on a chair or sofa.

What does Easter recommend? He has a wide menu of options. On the low end, he recommends getting outside and into nature (a park will do, or your back yard. Immerse yourself in some greenness) for twenty minutes, three times a week. On the high end, he recommends doing a *misogi* every six months or so. This he defines as a task that is physically and mentally challenging, with only two rules: 1) you must have about a 50/50 chance of success, and 2) it won't kill you. The framework of this book is his personal *misogi*, 33 days in the Alaskan Arctic wilderness with two companions, hunting caribou. If successful, they must butcher the animal on-site, and then each must pack out roughly over 100 pounds of meat several miles back to their camp.

So it's a wide spectrum of activity to regain sanity and fitness. I enjoyed the book immensely, and picked up a number of tips I plan on applying immediately. Strongly recommend you check out the book.

In the meantime, enjoy the September issue! We have the usual range of poetry, puzzles, information, and lists of events and meetings you can go to or Zoom in on.

All the best!

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Your New ExCom – The ExCom (Executive Committee) is the board that conducts the business of Central Indiana Mensa. We are excited to have three new members joining the ExCom on October 1st: **Ethan Blocher-Smith, Emily Boomershine, and Candis King**. Continuing on the board are **Ann Hake, Judy Weitzman, Karen Wilczewski**, and me. Many, many thanks to those retiring from the board: **Barb George, Kurt Williams** and **Bob Zdanky**. Members are always welcome at our ExCom meetings on Zoom, 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm ET.



ICYMI (In Case You Missed It) - THE LUME/Dalí Alive – We had a nice turnout for the Dalí multimedia exhibit at Newfields. The Spanish tapas lunch was interesting. The presentation was a sensory overload, as it was meant to be. Multiple images were projected onto the walls, ceilings, and floors—you couldn't see it all.

Volunteer Spotlight – In any group there are volunteers in the background who don't tend to get much recognition, but who are essential to the group's success.

- **Treasurer Kurt Williams** has faithfully paid our bills and kept the membership informed about our financial affairs. He's retiring at the end of September. **Thank you so much, Kurt!**
- **Webmaster Pat Milligan** keeps our website safe and running smoothly; he also updates and maintains the online calendar. **Thank you so much, Pat!**
- **Membership Coordinator Bob Zdanky** has sent hundreds! (maybe thousands!) of letters to prospective and new members for the past several years. Bob also helps with drinks and ice for the monthly meetings. **Thank you so much, Bob!**

Please thank them yourself when you see them, or even shoot them an email.

HalloweeM - Coming up October 31-Nov 3 is HalloweeM, Chicago Area Mensa's Regional Gathering. We usually have several CIM members attending; Leo and I are planning to go. Their costume contest on Friday night always has creative entries. Many winners are plays on words. One of my favorites was three people walking together in a row. The outer two had on lion costumes. The person in the middle was reading a book. Their costume was "reading between the lions." Some other favorites: Lard of the Dance, Pair-a-dice lost, 'Fro-Zen'. **Matt Zwick** won a prize a few years ago dressed as "Goth Brooks" (a goth guy with a guitar). They always have several tracks of interesting speakers and a wonderful hospitality suite. You can find more details or register at www.chicago.us.mensa.org/weem/

Meet the New ExCom

Last month, you met Emily Boomershine, Candis King, and Judy Weitzman. Meet the remaining four Members of the New ExCom taking office in October.

Jan Pfeil Doyle - LocSec



I'm Jan Pfeil Doyle. I live in NE Indianapolis with my fellow Mensan husband, Leo Doyle. I'm retired from Lilly, where I was a chemist and worked on new drug submissions. I first joined Mensa almost 40 years ago and since then have been more or less active, serving as Loc Sec, Program Chair, Vice Loc Sec, RG Committee and Chair, etc., and many terms on ExCom. I've enjoyed helping lead our group and look forward to working with the new ExCom to continue to improve Central Indiana Mensa.

Ethan Blocher-Smith



I am a physician with IU health in Fishers. I've served on the executive committee before prior to temporarily moving away for Residency. My wife is a pain psychologist and I have two sons. Both of them will probably qualify to join MENSA at some point. Core interests would be boardgames, puzzles, and space exploration, though I dabble in other items. I look forward to once again serving effectively on the ExCom!

Karen Wilczewski



As a CIM member since the late 1980s, I have served as recording secretary and OGRG registrar for many years, some consecutive terms. Since campaigning isn't my thing, I'm delighted to have been elected to serve for another two-year term on the upcoming ExCom :-). And, while I'm sad to no longer be working with Bob Zdanky on the ExCom, I look forward to seeing him as a guest at our Zoom meetings.

Ann Hake



I first joined Mensa as a teenager at my dad's encouragement (he was so pumped to be able to drive around with a Mensa bumper sticker!) As with many people, life then ensued and kept me away from Mensa for the next several years. Once things were more settled, I was so happy to discover the active, interesting, and welcoming local group here in Central Indiana, and I soon became a Life Member. I am grateful for this group, and to have the opportunity to contribute on the ExCom. I'm looking forward to

continuing to find ways to take advantage of technology that helps us keep in touch with each other.

Puzzle Column

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

Words and names with swing states.

Find words or names that contain the postal code of a swing state from this list: (PA, GA, WI, MI, AZ, NV, or NC) within them.

Example: Type of oven (10 letters) = co**NV**ection

1. Where a GI can shop on base (9 letters)
2. Notorious tourist island in San Francisco Bay (8 letters)
3. Co-panelist with Cerf, Francis, and Block (9 letters)
4. Hans Christian Anderson's math song (8 letters)
5. Discombobulated (8 letters)
6. A purveyor of teas (8 letters)
7. Come together (8 letters)
8. Popular Cuban meat pie (8 letters)
9. Hoagy of Jazz (10 letters)
10. A common pulmonary disease (10 letters)

Solutions on page 17

Poetry Break

Marilyn Wolf

Swim into the Darkness
an ekphrastic etheree

a
good day
to swim calm
water and skin
tingles to start long
strokes skin salty gliding
farther out swimming deeper
water cooler Darkness surrounds
it bids Come With Me sensuous thought
falling away I become water I
surrender Darkness takes my arms legs to
smooth sinuous lines I'm following
the green eel into the Darkness
no longer holding my breath
the sea holds me deeper
we swim into the
Darkness we are
at home here
in the
end

©2022, Marilyn J Wolf

Swim into the Darkness

This poem was written in response to the photo by Darrell Staggs. The poem and photo were on display at the Lost Dog Gallery in Indianapolis.

Ekphrastic: poems written about works of art or music.

Etheree: Syllable counts per line: 1-10 or 10-1. This is a double by going both ways.



2024 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Title	Author(s)	Date
	Brian Cox	
Black Holes	Jeff Horshaw	9/22/2024
Being Heumann	Judith Heumann	10/20/2024
Anaximander	Carlo Rovelli	11/17/2024
Naked Statistics The Gulf:	Charles Wheelen	12/15/2024
Making of an American Sea	Jack E Davis	1/19/2025
Bring a Book!		2/23/2025

Mensa Book Group Previews

Rich Gibson

THIS MONTH: *Black Holes, by Brian Cox and Jeff Horshaw*

Black Holes, by Brian Cox and Jeff Horshaw, 288 pp, published in 2023, will be discussed at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, September 15, 2024, at 2:00 PM. See the MIND Calendar and Events for more details.

Brian Cox is perhaps the best-known science popularizer in the UK. He has the credentials to back him up, too; he's worked at all the major particle laboratories in the western world, and is professor of particle physics at the University of Manchester. Jeff Horshaw, his collaborator, is just as accomplished.

Possibly the most intriguing objects in the universe are black holes. Possibly the biggest challenge in science is how to resolve the differences between general relativity, which describes the universe at human scale and above; and quantum theory, which describes the universe below the atomic level. Applying the techniques of both to the same phenomena leads to wildly different answers. Cox and Horshaw tackle both of these topics, with a lively introduction to the reality and mystery of black holes. They raise a number of questions about black holes, and use the best science available to discuss the likely answers. Their concluding question is this one about relativity and quantum theory reconciliation: Both seem to be tangled together within a black hole. Can we figure out what's going on? Can we reconcile the two greatest theories of the 20th Century? The authors suggest that we may only be able to answer either of them if we can answer both.

I haven't read the book yet, and have cobbled this one together by digesting several I've found on-line. Many of the reader reviews present the same picture: if you really love science, you can probably finish and digest this book.

Tackling it may not be for the faint of heart.

Regardless, the Book Group is going to strap this one on. Hope you decide to give it a shot too, then come to Book Group on Sunday, September 15th, at 2:00 to discuss it. Love to see you!

NEXT MONTH— *Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist*, by Judith Heumann and Kristen Joiner

Being Heumann, by Judith Heumann and Kristen Joiner, 234 pp, published in 2020, will be discussed at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, October 20, 2024, at 2:00 PM. See the MIND Calendar and Events for more details.

Judith Heumann was stricken by polio at the age of 18 months. Her parents had to fight to get a school to admit her; they and she had to fight to get her into college; she had to fight to be allowed to teach. One objection to her getting educated and becoming a teacher was that, in her wheelchair, she was a fire hazard. Having been raised to fight, and having to fight all her life, it was perhaps inevitable that she should become a disability rights activist: she co-led what is still the largest sit-in at a government building to demand enactment of a piece of legislation that would deny federal funding to any educational facility that discriminated against the disabled. She led further activities that led to the Americans with Disabilities Act, and eventually was assistant secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in Clinton’s Department of Education. She also served in the World Bank as its first Advisor on Disability and Development, and later President Obama’s Special Advisor on International Disability Rights. She died last year at the age of 75.

This book is both a memoir of Heumann’s life and times, and a history of the struggle for disability rights in the 20th Century. Many have called it an inspiring and necessary book for both abled and disabled people to read. We hope you’ll read it and join us on Sunday, October 20th, to discuss it with other Mensans. We’d love to see you.



Brooke Macnamara	West Lafayette	IN	MoveIn
Timothy Putnam	Bloomington	IN	MoveIn
Jeremy Risner	Fishers	IN	Joined

September 2024 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

9/4, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

9/18, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St, Indianapolis

RSVPs not required but appreciated.

Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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

9/7, 10:00pm - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Carmel, IN, located at IU Health NorthBreakfast served till 11 a.m., then lunch starts.

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

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

9/11, 2:00pm ET - Juniper on Main (southern coastal fare)

110 E Main St, Carmel, IN 46032

9/25, 2:00pm ET - His Place (chicken & waffles, soul food)

1411 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN 46260

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,

9/13, 7:00pm – 11:00pm ET

All Souls Unitarian Church, 5805 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226. See last page of MIND for map and directions. Members: \$7.00, Non-Members: \$10.00; Children 6- 18: \$5.00, under 6: free. Proof of vaccination or recent test required.

Games and Conversation

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

9/15, 2:00pm ET

Black Holes – Brian Cox and Jeff Horshaw

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

LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday

9/15, 6:00pm ET

Manee Thai - 2274 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN 46260

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

LIVE Games and Conversation Night – Hosted by Candis King

9/21, 6:00pm – 10:00pm ET

Join us for an evening of Games & Conversation. Bring a game you enjoy or use one of ours. We'll provide tables, you provide the conversation. **Please call 630-642-9063 or 630-253-1350** to indicate you will be there and to get the address.

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1	2	3	4 * Lunch Bunch*
8 *Sunday Social*	9	10	11 Chowhounds
15 Book Group; Dining Out	16	17 * ExCom*	18 Lunch Bunch
22 *Sunday Social*	23	24	25 Chowhounds
29 *Sunday Social*	30		

Virtual Zoom Events

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Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7 Ham'n Eggs
12	13 Monthly Gathering	14
19	20	21 Games Night
26	27	28

If you lose your *MIND* (oh, my!) or want additional information, check www.indymensa.org or the weekly CIM ReMINDER in your Monday email.

Matt's Musings – News for Region 4

Matt Crawford, RVC4



Forward, Four

August's column was about local social matters; this month I turn to national business. Now that I've got *one whole* AMC meeting under my belt, I can undertake to explain certain perceptions about those meetings.

As a long-time follower of the AMC, I had found that substantive discussion of motions during an AMC meeting was rare and usually brief. This turns out to be a natural, if unsought, consequence of trying to do the organization's business in an efficient way. AMC members discuss most motions online before they go onto the agenda and perhaps after the agenda is published as well. This has two effects on the meeting: first, there is more likely to be consensus through ironing out flaws or points of disagreement in advance; and second, debate is often perfunctory even when there is disagreement, since arguments have already been made and answered. The first of these may lead to a perception of groupthink or conformity if the advance discussion led to consensus, and the second might seem like a lack of engagement.

There are exceptional circumstances, though, and one of those is when members have given well-reasoned input on agenda items. Agendas are published only a few weeks before meetings, so if you give your representatives new information or fresh arguments, the debate might be more substantive and an outcome may be changed.

Now, I won't fault any member for not following AMC meetings; that isn't the sort of entertainment most of us are here for. But I am gratified that some do. To them, my advice is to look for the agenda two to three weeks before the meeting, on the AML web site under Lead > Board of Directors > Meeting Reports. The first week of September should be a good time to look. Then, please do send words of opposition or support to your elected representatives.

I don't wish to brush off executive sessions any more than I must, so I will just say that sometimes "personnel matters" are as simple as committee appointments, and that there was nothing in July's executive session that I thought should not have been.

Elsewhere in national news, there are some changes to how the scholarship program is administered. This is in the bailiwick of the Mensa Foundation rather than American Mensa, and the information has been sent out. For the general member the main points to know are that if you volunteer to judge essays, they may come from any part of the country even though scholarships earmarked for recipients in your local area will still go to someone in that area; and if you have a scholarship fund that you have been administering locally, the Foundation is willing to be a conduit for the money, while still respecting eligibility conditions. This may enable donors to take tax deductions that they previously could not.

You can reach Matt through rv4@us.mensa.org or by text or call to +1 630-336-8733. You can find Region 4 information in Mensa Connect's Region 4 Member Community and the Facebook group American Mensa - Region 4./

Books On The Runway

Margy Fletcher

Author: Timothy Egan

Title: *A Fever in the Heartland: The Ku Klux Klan's Plot to Take Over America, and the Woman Who Stopped Them*

Publisher: Viking/Penguin Random House LLC

Year: 2023

Has Been Read by: Margy Lancet Fletcher

Book Description: Turning the clock back two decades prior to the Third Reich's drug-fueled military debacle described in Norman Ohler's *Blitzed*, I hereby recommend diverting our focus to America's infamous "Empire of Hate" that inspired Hitler's genocidal ambitions: the Ku Klux Klan. The all-too-human tendency to seek simple solutions to complex problems as a response to stressful conditions, and to thereby render ourselves vulnerable to smooth-talking, sociopathic would-be dictators, is further explored in *A Fever in the Heartland*, Timothy Egan's captivating and disturbing chronicle of the Klan's domination of American culture and politics during the post-WW I era, particularly in our beloved Hoosier State. I suspect that many Indiana

citizens are unaware that their home state exceeded all other American states in total Klan membership one century ago, and that the leader of the local branch of the ultra-racist organization was a mendacious, misogynistic, alcoholic, uneducated drifter named D. C. Stephenson.

Egan traces the history of the Ku Klux Klan from its inception following the Civil War to its decline after President Ulysses S. Grant personally outlawed it shortly thereafter, and its resurgence after World War I. The life and death of this reconstituted - and immensely popular - Klan is recounted through one significant event: the arrest of Grand Dragon Stephenson for the brutal murder of Madge Oberholtzer, a young educator who had visited Stephenson, her close neighbor, for employment assistance, only to be viciously and mercilessly mauled, bitten, and raped. The book offers a detailed, distinct view of the events leading up to the “Indiana Trial of the Century,” the various testimonies supporting both sides, the summations by the prosecuting and defense attorneys, the verdict, the resultant humiliation and dissolution of the Invisible Empire, and the end of its insidious stranglehold on the public and private lives of Indiana residents. The book’s Epilogue, in addition to detailing the post-trial fates of the major players, adds a caveat about a possible revival in the modern age because of lingering negative sentiments constantly bubbling beneath the surface (see excerpt below).

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

This authentic Middle-American tale of terror hits home on many levels. My feminist instincts condemn D. C. Stephenson’s sadistic treatment of, and casual disregard for, the many women he encountered over the years, and praise the incredible courage of the one woman who dared reveal the true nature of his crimes even in the face of death. As a native-born Hoosier, I am all too familiar with the Indiana cities involved in this horrific event: Indianapolis, the site of the grand Dragon’s headquarters, Madge Oberholtzer’s home, and my own formative years; Muncie, the venue for many Klan parades, home of crusading opposition reporter George Dale, and location of Ball State University, where my husband and I earned Bachelor’s degrees; and Noblesville, where Stephenson’s murder trial took place, and the former residence of the Fletchers. More disturbing is the revelation that the majority of Indiana’s legislators and law enforcement officers were Klan members or supporters, and even churches (including the Disciples of Christ, my current faith) were not immune to Klan influence. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Madge Oberholtzer and Will Remy, her tenacious lawyer, and their success in bringing a dangerous criminal to justice, thus enabling good to triumph over evil, albeit temporarily.

Who should definitely read this book? Why? As the author intimates throughout his narrative, this cautionary tale of the Racist Roaring Twenties should be

absorbed and heeded by the reading public, as various forms of the KKK are on the rise once again (think MAGA and Christian Nationalism). *Fever in the Heartland* features dramatic, colorful prose that is easily understood by readers at high-school level and above (be warned, though – it’s graphic at times). The more scholarly among us will be impressed by the author’s meticulous research, evidenced by the 31 pages of appended notes.

How long might it take to read this book? This proposed, undoubtedly productively-spent time should amount to no more than three to five days, as this book is a veritable page-turner.

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

... What if the leaders of the 1920s Klan didn’t drive public sentiment, but rode it? A vein of hatred was always there for the tapping. It’s there still, and explains much of the madness threatening American life a hundred years after [Grand Dragon D. C.] Stephenson made a mockery of the moral principles of the heartland. The Grand Dragon was a symptom, not a cause, of an age that has been mischaracterized as one of Gatsby frivolity and the mayhem of modernism. It’s entirely possible that the Klan fell apart not just because of scandals and high-level hypocrisy, but also because it had achieved all of its major goals - Prohibition, disenfranchisement of African Americans, slamming the door on immigrants whose religion or skin color didn’t match that of the majority. Long after Stephenson was put away, the ideas that his followers promoted while marching in masks behind a flaming cross prevailed as the law of the land.

Solutions to September Puzzle:

1. Where a GI can shop on base (9 letters) = co**MI**ssary
2. Notorious tourist island in San Francisco Bay (8 letters) = Alcatr**AZ**
3. Co-panelist with Cerf, Francis, and Block (9 letters) = Kil**G**Allen
4. Hans Christian Anderson’s math song (8 letters) = IN**Ch**worm
5. Discombobulated (8 letters) = Fr**AZ**zled
6. A purveyor of teas (8 letters) = **TW**Inings
7. Come together (8 letters) = Co**N**verge
8. Popular Cuban meat pie (8 letters) = Em**PA**nada
9. Hoagy of Jazz (10 letters) = Car**MI**chael
10. A common pulmonary disease (10 letters) = Bro**N**Chitis

September Theodore Talk

Brad Lucht

Several years ago, a retiring US Indo-PACOM commander boldly stated that he believed China was increasingly inclined to invade Taiwan, notably in 2027 or earlier. Those kinds of statements, with that kind of specificity, are rare in Washington circles, so it gained a lot of attention. There has also been much talk about a couple of concepts that always seem to surround discussions about Taiwan and the larger Sino-America competition.

1. The two sides are destined for conflict, as captured in the term “Thucydides Trap,” advanced by Graham Allison. As the logic goes, this so-called “Thucydides Trap” will inevitably ensnare the two powers and global war will ensue, just as was the case with Athens and Sparta long ago. Of course, Allison himself insists that while the historical record is full of instances where similar situations arose and ended in conflict, there is nothing necessarily “inevitable” about war between Beijing and Washington.
2. “Peak China” which asserts China’s economic and military power is, or will soon be, at its apogee. That being the case, the argument is that China, seeing the writing on the wall, will be compelled to act before the correlation of forces begins to swing against it.

But, as former Secretary of Defense and Director of the CIA, Robert Gates, argues, neither theory is particularly convincing. First, there was nothing inevitable about WWI (the analogy most often invoked when referring to the current clash between the Chinese and Americans). Second, the Chinese military is, according to many in the know, far from ready for a major conflict. Thus, a direct Chinese attack on Taiwan, if it happens at all, is some years in the future, outside the 2027 timeframe. Unless Xi miscalculates—again.

Dr. John H. Modinger served in the USAF for 25.5 years, flying the KC-135 Stratotanker (aerial refueler) and C-130 Hercules (intra-theater airlift) for the 1st half of his career. The 2nd half was largely spent in academia, more the result of a convenient and beneficial accident than by any design. His last active-duty assignment was as a Permanent Professor at the US Air Force Academy. He currently is an Associate Professor at the US Army’s Command and General Staff College, where he has served for the past eight years.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/nrh76cu9>.

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 you will receive a link to a recording of the event. All Theodore Talks have Closed Captioning enabled.

Remember, Theodore Talks are free to all members, in an effort to provide value to your membership.

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, 7:30 GMT).

A list of future Theodore Talks can be found on the [Mensa National Event 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 2024 Theodore Talks begins on p. 20.

<https://cdn.coverstand.com/28885/810386/52bd7388a991243b221e51103d0e71c592ea9c57.pdf>

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

Your Intelligent Brain

September 15, 2024 02:30 PM PACIFIC TIME (5:30 PM Eastern)

Presented by San Francisco Regional Mensa Speaker Series

To be intellectually gifted is a gift, but IQ isn't the only aspect of smart brains that is supercharged or unique. This lively talk merges stories with research as we dig into the cognitive science and behavioral science behind strange things your mind is doing right now. Throughout this talk you'll say, "So that's why I do that!" and will look at your thoughts and behavior in a whole new way. With an enhanced understanding of what drives your quirks and makes you unique, you'll leave this talk even smarter than before. doing right now. Throughout this talk you'll say, "So that's why I do that!" and will look at your thoughts and behavior in a whole new way. With an enhanced understanding of what drives your quirks and makes you unique, you'll leave this talk even smarter than before. Dr. Jenny Grant Rankin has two doctorates (a Ph.D. and L.H.D) and is a

Fulbright Specialist for the U.S. Department of State. She has lectured at such institutions as the University of Cambridge (teaching the PostDoc Masterclass), the University of Oxford (St. Anne's College), and most recently Ivy League at Columbia University (teaching a class for its SAFE Lab research initiative). She delivers keynote/plenary presentations at conferences and teaches workshops for researchers, educators, federal agents, and others on the brain, data, and the best ways to share information. She also speaks at non-academic venues (such as TED), has authored 14 nonfiction books, and writes an ongoing blog column for Psychology Today. Dr. Rankin was honored multiple times by the U.S. White House, and the American flag was once flown over the White House (Capitol Building) in honor of Dr. Rankin. Her media appearances include the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), HuffPost, The Los Angeles Times, National Public Radio (NPR), NBC News, Newsweek, The New York Times, O: The Oprah Magazine, Reader's Digest, The Sun, U.S. News & World Report, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and congressional testimonies to inform legislation. She also volunteers for Mensa, of which she is a lifetime member. Visit <https://jennyrankin.com/bio> for her full bio More information :<https://livepresentation.link/info>
To register: <https://livepresentation.link/SignUp>

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 7/16/24

Karen Wilczewski, Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, July 16, 2024.
LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.
Members present: Jan Pfeil Doyle, Barb George, Ann Hake, Karen Wilczewski, Judy Weitzman, and Kurt Williams, Bob Zdanky
Guests: Teresa Gregory, Jon Applegate, Pat Milligan

The June meeting minutes were approved as amended. Kurt moved and Barb seconded. The motion passed.
Ann moved to approve the June Treasurer's report as amended, Judy seconded. The motion passed.
Jan compiled a membership report based on information available as of 6/30/24 from American Mensa: 406 members, 1 new, 0 move-in, 2 rejoin, 8 prospects.

Old Business

Now that prices have been raised even higher on MeetUp, Jan did not purchase the additional 2 months and will let the membership lapse. She inquired in her column and did not hear from any members who wanted to continue on Meetup.

New Business

No additional nominations to ExCom were submitted as of July 1.

Bob Zdanky asked to have his name withdrawn from the slate of candidates for the upcoming ExCom election. Since our slate of officers now consists of the exact number of open positions, according to our bylaws, there is no need to have an election. The candidates will be declared elected without balloting. The RVC will be notified. Bob said he is willing to continue as Membership Officer.

David Culp, the Election Committee Chair, will ask the incoming ExCom members to send a brief statement about themselves to the *MIND* Editor by July 23 for publication in the August *MIND*.

We have until the end of the month to send out letters to the lapsed members to see if they want to re-join. Jan said she could send those emails out.

Teresa attended the AG's Scholarship Committee Meeting. Due to the number of scholarship entries growing exponentially, the Foundation (MERF) is changing the way scholarship applications will be handled. There is new software and applications will be judged in one round at the national level. Judges will read around 50 applications. Scholarships will be awarded regionally, not locally, as they were before. Our local John Matthews scholarship can still be administered within the new system.

There was a discussion about funding the Matthews scholarship. We currently have \$717 of our local funds designated for the John Matthews scholarship. We need to have at least \$500 on deposit with MERF to award the scholarship. Kurt moved that we send enough money to the Foundation to bring our Matthews Fund in care of MERF up to \$500. Ann seconded. The motion passed.

Kurt moved that Teresa be appointed Scholarship Chair, Ann seconded. The motion passed.

Teresa will check with the Foundation to find out how much money we have there and will let Kurt know how much to send to the Foundation for the Matthews scholarship.

Donations to MERF, including donations to the Matthews scholarship, are tax-deductible. Members donating to the Matthews fund should clearly mark their checks as such.

We will have a new "Meet the ExCom" and a games night at the September monthly gathering.

Kurt moved that we adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.; Barb seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Kurt Williams

Balance Sheet (as of 7/31/2024)

Bank Accounts	6/30/2024	7/31/2024
Checking – Regular	\$ 1,520.83	\$ 1,447.97
Checking – Scholarship	717.90	717.90
Checking – MG Cash	25.00	25.00
Checking – Events Checking	3,992.07	3,516.61
CD – First Internet	10,000.00	10,000.00
CD interest payment		
Total Assets	\$ 16,255.80	\$ 15,707.48
Unrealized accrued interest on CD	113.73	158.14
Other Assets		
USPS Stamps Value	\$ 241.45	\$ 231.00
Total Number of USPS Stamps	439	420

Profit & Loss Statement (7/1/2024 – 7/31/2024)

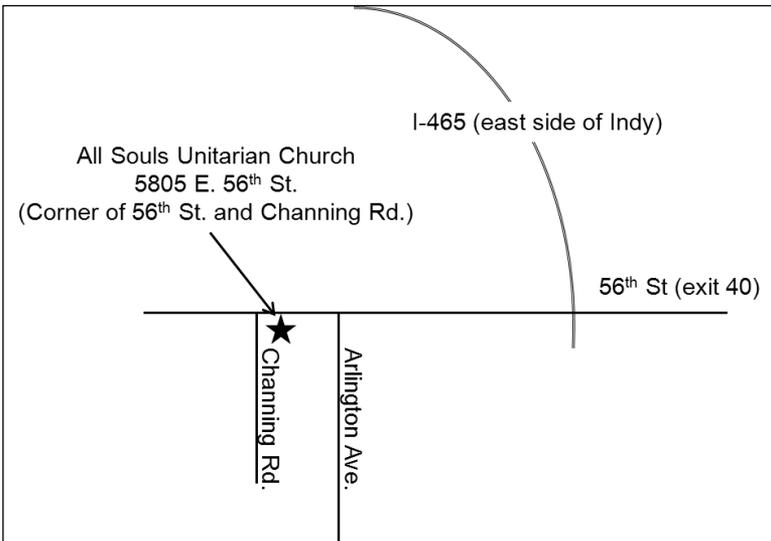
Income		
	Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 44.00
	OG Income	0
	National Support	387.84
	Testing Support	40.00
	New Member/Lapsed Member	4.00
	Total Income	\$ 475.84
Expense		
	MG Hospitality	\$ 475.84
	CultureQuest entry	\$ 475.84
	New member dinner	\$ 475.84
	MIND Printing	\$ 475.84
	Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ 475.84
	Total Expenses	\$ 433.33

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



Region 4 RVC

Matt Crawford RVC4@us.mensa.org

2022-2024 Central Indiana Mensa Executive Committee (ExCom)

Local Secretary	Jan Pfeil Doyle, jan@mw.net , (317) 431-3500
Vice LocSec, Treasurer	Kurt Williams, williams.kurt@sbcglobal.net
Scribe	Karen Wilczewski; biltmore@topdogcom.com
Program Coordinator	Ann Hake, amhake@yahoo.com
Membership Coordinator	Bob Zdanky, zdanky@gmail.com , (317) 912-3590
Outreach Coordinator	Barb George; barbarageorge.indy@gmail.com , (317) 291-0109
	Judy Weitzman, bridgejudy@aol.com

Area Contacts

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Muncie Coordinator	Kevin Nemyer, knemyer@aol.com , (765) 744-6532
SW Area Coordinator	Nan Harvey, NanHarvey@gmail.com , (812)345-9608

Other Volunteers

MIND editor	Richard Gibson, mind.editor@yahoo.com (770)548-5217
RG/OG Chair; also Scholarship Chair	Teresa Gregory, AG18TG@yahoo.com , (317) 430-1761
Testing Coordinator, SIGHT Coordinator	Alison Brown, SIGHT@indymensa.org
Communications Coordinator	Jan Pfeil Doyle, jan@mw.net , (317) 431-3500
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