

June 2025
Volume 61, Number 6



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Mollie the Mensa Owl looking for a little downtime after the OMG!

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

Editor: Richard Gibson, mind.editor@yahoo.com, 5726 Toad Hollow Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46220

Publisher: Central Indiana Mensa

MIND is published monthly by Central Indiana Mensa.

Subscriptions are \$12 annually for those not members of CIM.

Postmaster: address changes to *MIND*, c/o American Mensa, Ltd, 1229 Corporate Drive West, Arlington, TX 76006-6103. Include membership number.



**Website: centralindiana.us.mensa.org
-or- www.indymensa.org**

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From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor

Well, happy June! I write this at the end of May, a pretty strange month weather-wise, if you ask me. We had a few wonderful sunny days in the 80's, but now we're going through a period, maybe a week or ten days so far, with temps in the 60's and one or two inches of rain every week. I guess you shrug and say, "Spring, huh?" The plants love it, though.

The roses have just come out all at once and are spectacular. Many peonies are still hanging on. The clematis made an early statement and are just staying gorgeous. We have a small group of black locust trees, and their white flowers appeared, stunned us into silence, and then left in about 3 days. The alliums are turning heads, both the star and fireworks guys. Irises in yellow, white, peach, purple and blue are heartbreaking.

This is truly our favorite time of the year, when something new and breathtaking shows up every day. Sometimes, what takes your breath is pollen, which is not so good, but still...Right now I think the cottonwood trees are blasting out their seeds. The southwesterners who named it must have thought the floating seeds looked like tiny cotton balls; those from farther north could have made a stronger argument for snowflakes. We have drifts of cottonwood snowflakes in our yard, on the patio, pretty much everywhere.

Well, we've just finished the Outdoor Mensa Gathering and the CultureQuest™ competition. The Indy 500 will be complete by the time you read this, and the Annual Gathering will be next month, so June will be kind of a lull. That's why Mollie the Mensa owl is chilling in a hammock—or as close as it can get, anyway. It seems to have as much trouble with lying down as it did last month with trying to grasp a hiking stick. Oh well, maybe these things take time...

By the way, Mollie (**Mensa OwL-lie**) is getting to be a fixture, but I'm not sure it's got the right name. If you want to suggest a name for the little guy, please shoot me an email at mind.editor@yahoo.com. Note: "Owlie McOwlface" has already been thought up and rejected, so fahgeddabaddit (forget about it).

It's a beautiful world out there, so hope you get outside and enjoy it! As usual, this issue has a ton of social opportunities, a poem, a puzzle, and a few other things worth your consideration. Have a great June!



LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Are You a Millenial or Gen Z Member? –

Have you come to a Mensa event, looked around and didn't see many people in your age group? Are you over 18 but under 40ish? Central Indiana Mensa has over 70 members in that age group—wouldn't you like to get to know some of your fellow Mensans? We're looking for a “Young Adult Mensans/Millenial/Gen Z/Another Name You Choose” Coordinator. Your responsibilities can be whatever you'd like for them to be, from as little as just being listed as a contact in the local newsletter, to as much as planning and hosting activities, eg, an escape room or lunch or? The ExCom will help with ideas and support, so you won't be on your own. If you're interested or have questions, please contact me at 317-431-3500 (text or voice) or jan@mw.net.



ICYMI (in Case You Missed It) – We had great weather for the OMG!

(Outdoor Mensan Gathering). Granted, it was a little tense Friday evening, but the storms passed around us and Saturday and Sunday were perfect. We had people from Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana—it was great to see new friends and old. **Teresa Gregory** planned wonderful meals and people pitched in to help prepare them. **Alan Schmidt** led several hikes and a profound thoughts discussion. **Alan** and **John Massura** from Chicago Mensa built our campfire (can you say “S'Mores”?). **Bill Kuyper** helped with the final clean up. And many thanks to our registrar, **Karen Steilberger**. Several of us renewed a tradition of stopping for lunch at Crossroads restaurant in Versailles on our way out of town. Mark your calendars for **May 15-17, 2026** for next year's OMG.

Annual Gathering July 2-6 in Chicago – Speaking of gatherings, the Annual Gathering (U.S. Mensa's national convention) will be July 2-6, 2025 in Chicago. If you haven't been to one, this would be a good one to try—it won't be this close to us again for a long time. The theme is “All Fired Up!” The AG Committee has some great programs lined up: “From groundbreaking work in science, media, and the arts, to firsthand accounts from the ‘Playboy Advisor’ and a war-zone journalist, this year's AG programming will take audiences from the depths of the Titanic and the mysteries of ancient tombs to the edges of the universe and the untold stories of women warriors, mob legacies, and evolutionary marvels.” You can see more speaker highlights here: <https://tinyurl.com/2ev7w8ep>. Many of us consider the AG to be the ultimate Mensa experience—several speaker tracks, 24-hr games and hospitality rooms, SIGs, Meet-and-Greets, tours, 1,800 or so fellow Mensans, and more—the AG has it all! Several members of CIM will be there. You can find more information and register at www.ag.us.mensa.org.

Poetry

Judy Unger

My friend

Friend,
To share my joy
To share your joy
To share my pain
To share your pain
To share my hopes
To share your hopes
To share my despair
To share your despair
To share my innermost feelings
To share your innermost feelings
To share my deepest sorrow
To share your deepest sorrow

Friend,
To listen
To hear
To understand
Each other

Friend,
A shoulder to cry on
A head to support
A hand to hold
A soul to hug

But now my friend it is you I cry for
But now my friend you are no longer here
No one left to share my sorrow
No one to help me through the dark
So I hold you in my heart
I hold you in my memories
You will always be there

2025-26 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Title	Author(s)	Date
A Fever in the Heartland	Timothy Egan	6/15/2025
Beyond Genius	Bulent Atalay	7/20/2025
Sleeping Beauties	Andreas Wagner	8/17/2025
Underland	Robert Macfarlane	9/21/2025
Half Earth	E O Wilson	10/19/2025
Revenge of the Tipping Point	Malcolm Gladwell	11/16/2025
The Anxious Generation	Jonathan Haidt	12/21/2025
Boys and Men	Richard Reeves	1/18/2026
Blind Spots	Marty Makary	2/15/2026
The Singularity is Nearer	Ray Kurzweil	3/15/2026
An Unfinished Love Story	Doris Kearns Goodwin	4/19/2026
Rooted: Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit	Lyanda Lynn Haupt	5/17/2026
Aging as a Spiritual Practice	Lewis Richmond	6/15/2026
4000 Weeks: Time Management for Mortals	Oliver Berkeman	7/20/2026

Mensa Book Group Previews

Rich Gibson

THIS MONTH: *A Fever In the Heartland*, by Timothy Egan

Fever In the Heartland, by Timothy Egan, 354 pp (text), published in 2023, is the topic for discussion at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, Jun 15th, 2025, at 2:00 PM. See the MIND Calendar and Events for more information. Indiana is the not-so-proud place where the 20th Century's version of the Ku Klux Klan had its strongest, widest growth and power; and where it met its most crushing defeat. Expert opinion states that radical movements expand until their excesses disgust and repel the overwhelming majority of their supporters. This is certainly the case for the Indiana Klan, which at its apex counted the governor, most of the state legislature, and many of its federal representatives and senators as members; also countless civic and county officials and police. I will not mention the particular excess that led to the fall of the Klan, but it was horrendous. All the same, it took a handful of courageous Hoosiers to see

justice done. The author eloquently describes the rise, plateau, and overthrow of this group.

It's a gripping read. If you try it and agree or disagree, we'd love to see you on Sunday, June 15th, at 2:00 PM and discuss it. Please give it a try!

NEXT MONTH: *Beyond Genius*, by Bulent Atalay

Beyond Genius, by Bulent Atalay, 434 pp (text), published in 2023, is the topic for discussion at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, July 20th, 2025, at 2:00 PM. See the MIND Calendar and Events for more information.

Bulent Atalay is a scholar, educator, scientist, and artist. He has been a professor of physics at the U of Mary Washington, an adjunct professor at the U of Virginia, and a member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. His book is about five geniuses: DaVinci, Shakespeare, Newton, Beethoven, and Einstein. He calls these five transformative" geniuses, as they had a level of genius beyond (hence the title) "ordinary" genius. DaVinci: producer of magnificent art; endlessly inventive. Shakespeare: greatest English language poet ever. Newton: Unified heavens and earth with physical laws that applied in both places. Beethoven: revolutionized European music. Einstein: Took a step beyond Newton that transformed our grasp of the universe.

Why were these geniuses so transformative? What characteristics, if any, did they have in common? Atalay analyses each life and output with rigor and detail, and presents some answers that may be enlightening, and possibly even inspiring.

It's an exciting and stimulating read. If you try it and agree or disagree, we'd love to see you on Sunday, July 20th, at 2:00 PM and discuss it. Please give it a try!

2025 Annual Gathering in Chicago will be here before we know it!

Mark your calendars for July 2 - 6 at the Chicago Hilton, 720 S Michigan Ave. Get ready for an unforgettable experience at the 2025 Annual Gathering (AG) in Chicago! We've got an exciting schedule lined up, and you shouldn't miss it.

Hotel Details:

The Hilton Chicago is our host hotel, offering an incredible rate of just \$139 per night – that's not a typo! The hotel is conveniently located near some of Chicago's best attractions, including the Museum Campus (Shedd Aquarium, Field Museum, Adler Planetarium), the lakefront, and Buckingham Fountain.



Your Registration Includes:

- Four breakfasts, three lunches, and plenty of snacks throughout the event.
- Access to exciting programs, including Chicago-centric sessions, Improv, Mensa Cares interactives, and many more!

We're also bringing the best of Chicago Mensa gaming culture to you, with tournaments and fan favorites from **WeeM** (Chicago's annual RG in October) like Human Hungry Hungry

Hippos, Amazing Race, and Logic Problems.

Don't forget our **After Dark Series** for 18+ attendees! Join us for, among others, Drag Queen Bingo on Friday night and a local Improv Group on Saturday night.

For Extra Fun:

Explore Chicago's vibrant Blues music scene with the Blues Heaven Foundation Tour, where you'll dive into the musical roots of legends like Etta James, Chuck Berry, and Muddy Waters. Sign up on the AG webpage at ag.us.mensa.org/essentials/tours

Important Notes reminder:

- Be sure to register for the AG first at ag.us.mensa.org . **The hotel booking link will be included in your confirmation email.**
- Rooms are available before and after the event, but not at our Mensa rate, so book early!

We can't wait to see you in Chicago – Daisy and the 2025 AG Team

Puzzle Column

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

Taking CARE

Find words or names that contain the letters C-A-R-E in that order, based on descriptions and letter counts. For example, having 2 legislative chambers (9 letters) would be biCAmeREl.

1. Al Pacino movie title (8 letters)
2. Impulsive change of mind (7 letters)
3. OPEC, for one (6 letters)
4. Born again (13 letters)
5. The residence of an Anglican clergyperson (8 letters)
6. Type of witness (9 letters)

- 7. Commedia del Arte star (11 letters)
- 8. Kander and Ebb work (7 letters)
- 9. A red wine (6 letters)
- 10. Type of sentence (11 letters)

Solutions on page 17



Sandra Althouse	Indianapolis	IN	Rejoin
Dale Brubaker	Avon	IN	Joined
Julianna Maki	Franklin	IN	Rejoin

In Case You Missed It, I



- Notables and regulars at OMG! 2025

June 2025 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

6/4, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

6/18, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St, Indy

Contact: Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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

6/7 10:00am - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St, Carmel, IN, (located at

IU Health North) **RSVP:** June 7, 2025 Jen Clark [<jclark7251@gmail.com>](mailto:ajclark7251@gmail.com)

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

6/11, 2:00pm ET - Caplinger's Fresh Catch Seafood Market,

7460 N. Shadeland Avenue,

6/25, 2:00pm ET - Bub's Burgers and Ice Cream, 210 W Main St, Carmel,

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.

LIVE Supper Before the Meeting - 2nd Friday

6/13, 5:00pm - 7:00pm ET

The Burger Joint, 5450 E Fall Creek Pkwy N Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46226

RSVP Jan Pfeil Doyle, 317-431-3500 (voice or text) or jan@mw.net

VIRTUAL and LIVE Monthly Gathering - 2nd Friday,

6/13, 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.

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group DATE CHANGE!

6/15, 2:00pm ET

A Fever In The Heartland – Timothy Egan

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

LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday

6/15, 6:00pm ET

Yak & Yeti Himalayan Cuisine, 11561 Geist Pavilion Dr #103, Fishers

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

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

6/21, 7:00pm – 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 indicate you will be there and to get the address.

June 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	31	

Virtual Zoom Events

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7 Ham'n Eggs
12	13 Monthly Gathering	14
19	20	21
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.

RC4NC (Regional Coordinator 4 North Central)

Beth Weiss

Recall election thoughts

By now you will have received a ballot regarding the recall of Chair Lori Norris. I'm strongly opposed to the effort to recall Chair Lori Norris, and I hope you'll join me in voting *no* on what I believe is an unwarranted action. Lori has my full support. In every interaction I've had with her, she's been supportive, professional, ethical, and extremely capable. She's consistently acted in Mensa's best interest.

This recall effort seems to be rooted in frustration over Lori's commitment to upholding the organization's rules. She stood firm when others tried to bend those rules for personal gain. The censure she received in December was unfair and clearly intended to punish her for doing the right thing. When 10 AMC members tried to violate the Bylaws in September, Lori held her ground. In December, she again refused to help them sidestep their responsibilities. Now, those same 10 individuals are leading the push for this recall because they don't want to face the consequences of their actions. It's upsetting to see Lori being blamed for the Hearings Committee's decisions, especially since she isn't part of that committee and has no role in its rulings.

What's more troubling is that the Hearings Committee's confidential report was made public through a lawsuit brought by those sanctioned members. That move further highlights their disregard for proper process. This recall isn't about improving Mensa—it's about retaliation. It's an attempt to discredit someone who's been a strong, principled leader. I also want to say that I think Jon is a great person and would be a strong Chair in the future—but this vote is not between these two individuals as candidates. Lori is the elected chair and should serve out her term.

Please vote no on the recall. Let's stand together and support the integrity, fairness, and values that matter most to us in Mensa.

Envelopes must be received no later than 11:59 p.m.

Central time on June 19, 2025.

Around the area

By the time you've read this, the Central Indiana OMG (Outdoor Mensa Gathering) will have taken place in Versailles, IN. The AG is in Chicago July 2-6; if you haven't already registered today is a great day to do so at ag.us.mensa.org. Registration has opened for HalloweeM, which is Chicago Area Mensa's Regional Gathering, held October 30 – November 2 in Wheeling, IL.

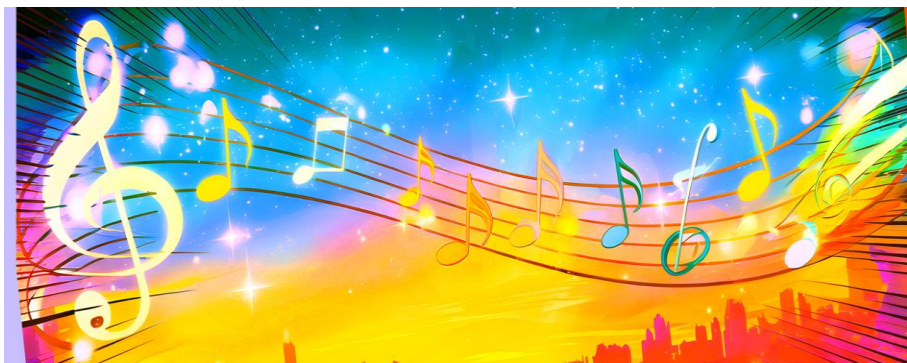
Not so local

If you're able to go further afield for a Mensa event, EMAG (European Mensa Annual Gathering) is being held August 6-10 in Cardiff, Wales. We've already got plane tickets and are looking forward to meeting more Ms and seeing some of our American friends who will be attending.



Get in touch

Do you have feedback or something to discuss? Please contact me at rc4@us.mensa.org or via phone/text at +1 937-902-5161. Region 4 has a Mensa Connect Community on [us.mensa.org](https://www.facebook.com/groups/americanmensaregion4) as well as a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/americanmensaregion4>.



The Evolution of Audacity From Bach to Gershwin

Judy Unger

Sunday, June 15, 2025, 2:30 PM Pacific, 5:30 Eastern

This lecture proposes an engaging exploration of the groundbreaking experiments in music composition from the Baroque period to the early 20th century. It aims to celebrate the centenary of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" by tracing the lineage of musical innovation that led to its creation. Through a lively narrative and live keyboard accompaniment, this presentation will offer a fresh perspective on the history of classical music, illustrating how yesterday's audacious experiments have become today's classical masterpieces.

Maria Miller blends her career in actuarial consulting with a deep passion for music. A lifelong piano player, she also ventures into the realm of theremins, crafting them herself. Her artistic pursuits don't end there; she sings, composes, and arranges music. Maria's creativity flows into theater, design, and art, showcasing her as a multifaceted talent and an engaging speaker across disciplines.

This is a Zoom meeting. Please register at <https://livepresentation.link/JUN>. You'll receive a confirmation email from Zoom that will contain the link to join the presentation.



The presentation is open to everyone. Please invite your non-Mensa friends and share on social media.

Theodore Talks

Brad Lucht



The title of the June Theodore Talk is, "**How Corn Changed Itself and Then Changed Everything Else: The Role Agriculture Played in the Early Days of Chicago**". This virtual event will take place on Zoom June 22, 2:30 p.m. Central (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 p.m. Pacific, 8:30 GMT)

About 10,000 years ago, a weedy grass growing in Mexico possessed of a strange trait, known as a “jumping gene”, transformed itself into a larger and more useful grass—the cereal grass that we would come to know as maize and then corn. Nurtured by Native Americans, this grain would transform the Americas even before First Contact. After First Contact, it spanned the globe, but it also drove westward expansion in North America, building cities and inspiring innovators and entrepreneurs.



Thanks to corn, the Midwest was settled faster than any other region in history, and Chicago became immensely influential. From the Chicago Stock Yards to the Chicago Board of Trade, the city changed the way the world did business. However, vampires, whiskey, Henry Ford, time zones, Fritos, and the Chicago Bears are also part of this remarkable story. As Margaret Visser noted in *Much Depends on Dinner*, “Without corn, North America—and

most particularly modern, technological North America—is inconceivable.”

Cynthia Clampitt, author of *Midwest Maize: How Corn Shaped the U.S. Heartland*, will present what may be the corniest Theodore Talk ever!

[Editor's note: the buildings in the picture may puzzle those who lack intimate knowledge of Chicago. The complex is called Marina City and has been likened to corn cobs.]

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/th68mxcv>.

- Won't be able to attend the talk? Go ahead and register anyway; a link to the recording will be sent to you once the talk is over. All Theodore Talks have Closed Captioning enabled.

Questions? Contact Brad Lucht at MensaTheodoreTalks@gmail.com

Solutions to June Puzzle:

Solutions:

1. Al Pacino movie title (8 letters) = Scarface
2. Impulsive change of mind (7 letters) = caprice
3. OPEC, for one (6 letters) = cartel
4. Born again (13 letters) = reincarnated
5. The residence of an Anglican clergyperson (8 letters) = vicarage
6. Type of witness (9 letters) = character
7. Commedia del Arte star (11 letters) = Scaramouche
8. Kander and Ebb work (7 letters) = Cabaret
9. A red wine (6 letters) = claret
10. Type of sentence (11 letters) = declarative

Books On The Runway

Rich Gibson

Author: Richard Holmes

Title: The Age of Wonder

Publisher: Vintage Books

Year: 2008

Has Been Read by: Rich Gibson

Book Description: This is a history of British science during the Romantic Era (terminology check: The Enlightenment, immediately preceding, was a philosophical and intellectual revolution whose basic theme was that human intelligence needed to free itself from superstition and traditional ways of thought. Great minds such as Newton, Hume, Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and a host of others set forth such ideas as the basic rights of the individual and the superiority of democracy over monarchy. The Romantics have been thought of as a correction that emphasized human emotion and passion). Great science was accomplished in the Romantic Era, although much

more intertwined with art and poetry than we could consider today. One of the great classical books, *De Rerum Naturae* by Lucretius, is a wonderful poem that presents all the science known in that day; Romantic scientists and poets of the late 18th century—early 19th century were similarly inclined to put science in their poems and poetry in their science.

The author presents this history through the lives of the great scientists that populated this time. He begins with Joseph Banks, who as a young man traveled with Captain Cook on the first British ship that arrived in Tahiti. Considering himself a naturalist, Banks spent enormous time gathering samples of and categorizing the numerous plants and animals which Europeans had rarely if ever seen before. However, he also became one of the first anthropologists, as he wrote extensively about Tahitian culture and customs. On his return to England, he eventually became president of the Royal Society, and thereby interacted strongly with the remaining characters in this book, who include William Herschel, Humphrey Davy, and Michael Faraday. Impressively, these men frequently were friends and acquaintances with the great poets of the day, including Coleridge, Wordsworth, Shelley, and Keats

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

I had thought of the Romantic Era as a period long on flower-gazing and soul-searching and fervent declamations, but short on intellectual rigor and achievement. This opened my eyes to the long, long way science had to travel from Newton (1687) to Einstein (1905), and the incredible accomplishments of the people who put in the work. Herschel, for example, had to make his own telescopes, which turned out larger and better than anyone, anywhere else. With his largest one, he discovered the planet Uranus—the first planet discovered in about four millennia! Davy did the first electrolysis of compounds, and isolated and discovered a number of elements thereby. This was a time of heroic individual accomplishment—people making earth-shaking discoveries, primarily by building their own tools to do so.

Who should definitely read this book? Why?

Anyone with an interest in history, science, and the history of science should read this book. While focusing on the science, it gives a wonderful, well-rounded perspective on this entire era: the ideas, the people having the ideas, and the people in entirely different disciplines with whom they interfaced and bounced their ideas off each other.

How long might it take to read this book?

This is a surprisingly easy read, although at about 468 pages of text, it'll take a while. If you're dedicated, but not obsessive, you can probably wade through it in a couple of weeks.

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

[Herschel has discovered the planet Uranus, in 1781.]

One of the best of the new wave of popular astronomy books was John Bonnycastle's *Introduction to Astronomy in Letters to his Pupil*...[He] gave the discovery of Uranus its own chapter...[his] book was a thoroughly Romantic production, which included a good deal of 'illustrative' cosmological poetry from Milton, Dryden, and Young. It also sported an engraved frontispiece by Henry Fuseli. This showed the goddess of astronomy, Urania, in a diaphanous observation-dress, pointing seductively to her new star while instructing a youthful male pupil. The publisher was...also the publisher of William Blake, William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft; and later of Wordsworth and Coleridge.

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 4/15/25

Karen Wilczewski, Secretary

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Members present: Ethan Blocher-Smith, Emily Boomershine, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Candis King, Judy Weitzman, and Karen Wilczewski

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

The March meeting minutes were approved as amended. Judy moved, Candis seconded. The motion passed.

The March Treasurer's Report were accepted as amended. Ann moved, Judy seconded. The motion passed.

The March membership report was compiled by Jan based on information available as of 3/31/25 from American Mensa: total members: 448; 8 new, 3 move-in, 2 rejoin, and 8 prospects. We had 70 lapsed members as of March 31. We didn't test any candidates in March, but have candidates scheduled for May 18. Jen Clark is a proctor-in-training and soon will be ready to become a full-fledged proctor.

Old Business

Fundraising: Judy and Candis met to discuss fundraising options.

Ideas included charging \$1 extra at monthly meetings, with that \$1 going to the Mensa scholarship fund and restarting a monthly book sale where you donate books for purchase, with proceeds going to the Mensa scholarship fund. Also, a surprise pop-up book sale could be periodically conducted; e.g., quarterly.

Also, CIM could hold an inaugural auction/garage sale, which includes identifying a location and holding an online option. Ann suggested an evening silent auction event, which could be promoted in local publications, such as *Current*. A place to gather/house items for the silent auction and the garage sale need to be identified. September can be a potential timeframe for the event. Proceeds would benefit the Mensa scholarship fund.

Considerations include when and where can we conduct the event, then allow three months in advance to promote it. A “Coming Soon” Mensa garage sale announcement can be placed in the May *MIND*, asking for someone to host the event. It will be an in-person event with lucrative items and people participating who have means. Another possibility is partnering/piggybacking with All Souls when they conduct their auction.

Fundraising: The goal is to raise funds for scholarships. Judy offered to use her fundraising skills to help with this.

Judy moved increase the annual scholarship to \$2,500. Ann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Judy and Candis will present ways to raise such funds by the next ExCom Meeting.

OG: Teresa has been getting interest from other Mensa groups about advertising our upcoming OG in their publications. The last count for OG registrants was 13. This was before the announcement went on the National website. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.



Treasurer's Report

Emily Boomershine, Treasurer

Statement of Assets

Account	Balance
(1) PNC Checking – Regular	\$ 2,317.97
(2) PNC Checking – Scholarships	\$ 217.00
(3) PNC Checking – Events	\$ 3,526.18
(4) MG Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
(5) CD – First Internet	\$ 10,000.00
Total Assets	\$ 16,086.15

Other Assets

Unrealized Accrued Interest on First Internet CD	\$ 21.57
USPS Stamps	\$ 227.70
Memo: Total in PNC Checking (1)+(2)+(3)	\$ 6,061.15

Statement of Activity

Activity	Amount
Receipts	
Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 35.00
National Support	\$ 509.04
Receipts Total	\$ 544.04
Expenses	
Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ (100.00)
MIND Printing	\$ (336.72)
Supplies	\$ (73.10)
Culture Quest	\$ (50.00)
Expenses Total	\$ (559.82)
Net Activity	\$ (15.78)

In Case You Missed It, II



CIM and other notable at OMG! 2025



Usual suspects and others at Dining Out, Brockway Pub 05/25

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

