



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Mollie the Mensa Owl hanging out in an appropriate location

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.

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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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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**

Volume 61, Issue Number 7
July 2025



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From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor

Where's Mollie? Introducing a new puzzle: Can you tell what place Mollie is flying over on the cover? If you identify it correctly at the July monthly meeting, you'll be entered in a drawing to win a prize!



So here we are in July. If I'm doing my job, plus all the wonderful people who help me put this newsletter out, then you'll get to see it before you head off to the AG in Chicago, the Windy City, the City of Broad Shoulders. Hope you have a wonderful time! Jackie and I will stay here and try to keep our gardens as beautiful as they've been so far—not that it's been a challenge so far. I'm writing within a week of the summer solstice, and we've had so much rain that we've hardly had to water at all.

But I will miss Chicago. I was a teenager in the 1960's; so like many other young white Americans, it was (a bunch of white Brits; i.e.,) the Beatles, Rolling Stones, and Who, who introduced me to (black American music; i.e.,) Chicago blues, with which I am still deeply in love. Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Sonny Boy Williamson, Buddy Guy, Little Walter, Willie Dixon...I could go on and on. (Well, I will go on, just a little more: We moved to Indianapolis in 2013; we bought a house and thereby inherited its long-term handyman, a gentleman named Ed Kobek. He regaled me with stories of being a session drummer in Chicago. He once played with Hubert Sumlin, Howlin' Wolf's long time guitarist. I asked Ed if I could touch the sleeve of his garment). I see there's a tour scheduled during the AG for one of the better surviving blues clubs. I hope a lot of you attend, and I hope it blows your socks off! (Yes, I'm being a little one-dimensional here: I've completely neglected Motown's string of slick soul hits, as well as the earthquake caused by Aretha's cover of Otis Redding's *Respect*. But still.)

Well, that was quite the extended reminiscence, wasn't it? Back here at home, we're happy for the appearance of the day lilies, some spectacular Japanese irises, the imminent arrival of real lilies, the blooming of the wild and cultivated elderberries, and the gradual appearance of Queen Anne's lace—some think it a roadside weed, but it surely is beautiful, both in its white and pink manifestations.

As usual, we have poetry, puzzles, articles, and Calendar and Events pages chock full of fun and interesting things for you to participate in. Hope you enjoy it. See you next month.

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

Do You Have Things You Don't Need? –

Don't we all? Central Indiana Mensa is planning to have a garage sale in September. We'd love to have your donations of books, small appliances, and more! Proceeds will go to the CIM scholarship fund. Contact Judy Weitzman or Candis King to volunteer to help or to find out how to donate your items. Their contact info is on the last page of *MIND*. Stay tuned for more creative fundraising ideas from this dynamic duo!



ICYMI (in Case You Missed It) – The Dining Out group went to Yak & Yeti Himalayan restaurant in June. They have an interesting menu, a mixture of Indian and Nepali. My favorite dishes so far are the Yak Momo (steamed dumplings) and the Kashmiri Naan (with coconut powder, pistachios, cashews, raisins, and cherries). And the Yak meat is not imported from Asia; it's grown right here in Indiana! Who knew?



As I Write This – I'm camping in western Virginia at the Natural Tunnel State Park. The air conditioning in my RV is out and it's 90 degrees out with a "feels like" temperature of 95. Luckily for me, my sister, her husband, and their daughter are camped in next site and their trailer has a fantastic air conditioner. They're all on their phones, I'm on my laptop, and we're all quite comfortable. We did venture out early in the day to ride the chair lift down to see the eponymous tunnel and then went on to the Daniel Boone Interpretive Center. I've arranged a mobile RV repair service to meet me at tomorrow's campground to see if he can fix it. Fingers crossed! I hope all of you are staying cool!

Natural Tunnel in Virginia

Poetry

Marilyn Wolf

Selling Dreams

I sold my dreams
one piece at a time
to get the life
I thought I wanted.

Then both
the dreams
and
the life
were gone.

Those lessons,
though,
those lessons.

So, here we all are.
Making new dreams,
new lives
until we run out of time.

©2023, Marilyn Wolf



2025-26 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Title	Author(s)	Date
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	6/21/2026
4000 Weeks: Time Management for Mortals	Oliver Berkeman	7/19/2026

Mensa Book Group Previews

Rich Gibson

THIS 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!

NEXT MONTH: *Sleeping Beauties*, by Andreas Wagner

Sleeping Beauties—The Mystery of Dormant Innovation in Nature and Culture, by Andreas Wagner, 238 pp (text), published in 2023, is the topic for discussion at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, August 17th, 2025, at 2:00 PM. See the MIND Calendar and Events for more information.

Andreas Wagner is a professor and chair of the department of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies at the University of Zurich. This is his fourth book on evolutionary innovation.

The “sleeping” part of the title refers to innovations that occur in nature, sometimes hundreds of millions of years before being expressed. The “beauty” part refers to the fact that, once expressed, these innovations can be earthshaking in their effects. How can it be, for instance, that a nothing little mutation, several million years old, can suddenly get expressed by a bacterium and give it immunity against a 21st century antibiotic? Similarly, grasses struggled until the Earth became drier 23 million years ago, from which point they have covered the planet ever since.

Having spent roughly two-thirds of this book making that argument, he goes on to note sleeping beauties that occur in the same way in human culture. Ancient neural pathways that allowed us to recognize landscapes and tools are activated by the act of reading, arguably a natural outgrowth of a trait we've had for several hundreds of thousands of years.

This book has been reviewed as containing lively prose that makes the science of evolutionary biology clear and accessible. It should be a very good read, and should provoke a fascinating discussion. Please give it a shot, and come participate with us on Sunday, August 17th, at 2:00 PM and discuss it. We'd love to see you!



Carol Bussell	Indianapolis	IN	Rejoin
Paul Hodge	Coal City	IN	Joined
Tanner Lemon	Indianapolis	IN	Joined
Brenda Sible	Madison	IN	MoveIn
Luke Thomas	Indianapolis	IN	Joined

Puzzle Column

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

Starting with J

Find words that start with J, based on descriptions and letter counts.
For example, a purplish tropical tree (9 letters) would be jacaranda.

1. Common garb at Pelican Bay (8 letters)
2. Inexperienced ranch hand (8 letters)
3. The theory of law (13 letters)
4. Forming a pair (6 letters)
5. Peccary (8 letters)
6. A narrow vessel (8 letters)
7. Knowledge acquired through meditation (5 letters)
8. A small bus (6 letters)
9. Part of the small intestine (7 letters)
10. A mythical North American animal (9 letters)

Solutions on page 10

Mollie Is Ready for her Selfie with You!



- *Print this out (color version online at indymensa.org/cp4/newsletters) and take a selfie of Mollie perched on your wrist!*

Poetry II

Judy Unger

Dreams

When I'm weak or crying
He reaches out to me
His strong arms wrap around me
As he pulls me to his chest
No words are shared between us
As his strength absorbs my pain
Our love so overwhelming
Becomes all that I can feel
Our world is just the two of us
Yet it feels like we are one.
One soul that rests completed
In a warm and safe cocoon
A bond so strong it can not die

Until I wake again

Puzzle Solutions

1. Common garb at Pelican Bay (8 letters) = jumpsuit
2. Inexperienced ranch hand (8 letters) = jackaroo
3. The theory of law (13 letters) = jurisprudence
4. Forming a pair (6 letters) = jugate
5. Peccary (8 letters) = javelina
6. A narrow vessel (8 letters) = johnboat
7. Knowledge acquired through meditation (5 letters) = jnana
8. A small bus (6 letters) = jitney
9. Part of the small intestine (7 letters) = jejunum
10. A mythical North American animal (9 letters) = jackalope

July 2025 Events

American Mensa Annual Gathering

7/1-7/6 – Chicago, Illinois

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

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

7/16, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery

2370 W. 86th St, Indianapolis

RSVP Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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

7/5, 10:00am - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Carmel, IN, located at IU Health North. Breakfast served till 11:00am, then lunch starts. **RSVP:** Larry Marcus <larryamarcus@yahoo.com>

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

7/9, 2:00pm ET – Flower Child, 1340 E 86th St, Indianapolis, IN 46240

7/23, 2:00pm ET - Kura Revolving Sushi Bar, 11594 Whistle Dr, Fishers, IN

For more information or to RSVP 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

7/11, 5:00pm 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

7/11, 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.

See the CIM Weekly ReMINDer for details

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

7/20, 2:00pm ET

Beyond Genius – Bulent Atalay

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

7/20, 5:00pm ET (note earlier start time)

Santorini Greek Buffet

Biltwell Event Center, 950 S White River Pkwy W Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46221

See the CIM Weekly ReMINDer for details

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

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1	2 *Indy Lunch Bunch *
6	7	8	9 Chowhounds
13 *Sunday Social*	14	15 *ExCom*	16 Indy Lunch Bunch
20 Book Group; Dining Out	21	22	23 Chowhounds
27 *Sunday Social*	28	29	30

Virtual Zoom Events

Important Info for In-Person Events: Be Kind!—As we are entering cold and flu season, if you're not feeling well or have any symptoms such as a fever, cough, runny nose, COVID, etc, PLEASE be courteous to your fellow members and don't attend.

■

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5 Ham'n Eggs;
10	11 Supper Before; Monthly Gathering	12
17	18	19
24	25	26
31		

If you lose your *MIND* (oh, my!) or want additional information, check www.indymensa.org .
 Watch your email on Mondays for the CIM Weekly ReMINDER.

RC4NC (Regional Coordinator 4 North Central)

Beth Weiss

Around the area

My husband Stan and I recently attended the Central Indiana OMG (Outdoor Mensa Gathering) in Versailles, IN. It's always a great event! This year brought back memories—especially the time, years ago, when my then-9-year-old son surprised our whole cabin by bringing breakfast down for everyone. (Then there was the year we forgot towels.) It had been a while since we'd been back; my first OMG was over 20 years ago with the kids. The St. Louis Area's Memorial Day picnic saw a huge turnout—it looked like everyone had a great time. I wish we could have made the trip!



Looking ahead, Chicago Area Mensa's Rainbow SIG has organized a group of 100 members to march in the Chicago Pride Parade on the last Sunday in June. And don't forget the AG (Annual Gathering), which will be in Chicago from July 2–6. If you weren't planning to go, maybe consider stopping by for a day or two! The Region 4 Meet & Greet is Friday at 1:30.

Save the date for **HalloweeM**, Chicago Area Mensa's Regional Gathering, which returns October 30–November 2 in Wheeling, IL. Looking even further ahead, **St. Louis's RG** is set for April 25, 2026—mark your calendars now!

Making the most of being a Mensan

Not everyone lives near an active Local Group. Even in metro areas like Chicago, St. Louis, or Indianapolis, geography can make in-person gatherings difficult for some members. And for those in more remote areas, even organizing something yourself can be a challenge if others are far away. What's the answer to that? Until we get teleportation sorted out, telecommunication is the next best thing!

Several Local Groups in Region 4 offer regular Zoom gatherings. Some are ExComm meetings, but many are social—some with programs, others just for casual conversation. A recurring Zoom event is a great way to include members who can't easily attend in person.

There are also **nationally listed virtual events** each month. Visit us.mensa.org and go to **Attend** → **Events Calendar**. Filter by "Virtual Events"—you'll find four already scheduled for July.

A virtual event can take many forms: presentations, social hours, book clubs, movie nights, and more. If you're interested in starting something in your Local Group, your local leadership can help—or feel free to reach out to me!

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 as well as a Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/americanmensaregion4>.

Theodore Talks

Brad Lucht



July Theodore Talk

The title of the July Theodore Talk is, "**Free Speech Opportunist: Elon Musk's Degradation of the Town Square**". This virtual event will take place on Zoom July 27 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 p.m. Pacific).

ABSTRACT

Social media is often considered to be a democratic space. The platforms make it easy for nearly anyone to say nearly anything to seemingly everyone, and many people hail the results as the purest form of free speech. Elon Musk latched onto that notion as one of the reasons he decided to buy Twitter and promote it as the world's town square. But as the platform faced criticism from users and advertisers, Musk's attempt to enshrine it as a marketplace of ideas has been challenged by the marketplace of commerce. One of his reactions: restrict speech.

Professor Stephen Wolgast, Knight Chair in Audience and Community Engagement for News and professor of the practice of journalism at the University of Kansas, will demonstrate how the man who calls himself a free-speech absolutist places a higher value on the dollar than others' ideas, and show how the notion that X is a town square fails on a number of counts.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/3uecx4mv>.

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.

A list of future Theodore Talks can be found on the [Mensa National Events Calendar](#), by visiting the [American Mensa home page](#), or by viewing the [January issue of the Mensa Bulletin](#). The article on the 2025 Theodore Talks begins on p. 26.

Questions? Contact Brad Lucht at MensaTheodoreTalks@gmail.com



Books On The Runway

Margy Fletcher

Author: David Stuart

Title: The Life and Rhymes of Ogden Nash: A Biography

Publisher: Madison Books

Year: 2000

Has Been Read by: Margy Lancet Fletcher

Book Description: Witnessing our nation's apparent descent into chaos, the pessimists among us see little reason to celebrate America's most prominent patriotic holiday, Independence Day. As a potential antidote to the "red-white-and-blues," I offer a blast from the past, if you will: an elegantly detailed tribute to the iconic and delightfully unique American poet, Ogden Nash. *The Life and Rhymes of Ogden Nash* traces the poet's creative and professional growth from his upper-middle-class childhood to his early employment as an advertising copywriter and publisher's assistant, and then - when his popularity among magazine readers surged - his successful forays into such diverse literary disciplines as publishing, screenwriting, children's literature, and lecture tours. Biographer Stuart attributes Nash's artistic preeminence to his willingness to take liberties with the English language and to immerse himself in popular culture (unlike the more "serious" poets, such as the famously reclusive Emily Dickinson), embracing family life with his wife and daughters and socializing with such notable colleagues as Robert Benchley, Dorothy Parker, Edna Ferber, and S. J. Perelman. Stuart (a.k.a.

Edwin P. Hoyt) delivers his incredible account in a subtly ironic style - with a dash of hauteur - reflective of the general perspectives of Ogden Nash and his literary society (see excerpt below). Arguably one of the most effective - and entertaining - commentators on the human condition that ever waxed poetic, Ogden Nash has earned his place in any celebration of American ingenuity. So, bring on the pyrotechnics and noisemakers, but also take a few quiet moments to wallow in the “life and rhymes” of this remarkable wordsmith.

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

A recent two-month stint in a rehab facility following a severe tibial fracture afforded me plenty of time for reflection, during which I directed my thoughts to the positive aspects of my past - e.g., rewarding reading experiences. The wryly humorous Ogden Nash, a happy memory since his inclusion in my freshman English textbook, immediately burst into my consciousness, motivating me to acquire the best biography and poetry collection I could find on the Amazon website (which I probably use more often than conventional wisdom would dictate - heavy sigh). The search yielded David Stuart’s superb opus, plus *Selected Poetry of Ogden Nash*, published in 1995 by Black Dog and Leventhal /Little, Brown and Company, which contains 681 pages of Nash verses on a variety of topics, and provides an endless source of much-needed levity. Learning about this prolific poet’s life story enhanced my appreciation of Nash’s creative genius and his contribution to American literature.

Who should definitely read this book? Why?

Then again, *The Life and Rhymes of Ogden Nash* was not a perfect choice for a review, inasmuch as Ogden Nash has been deceased for over half a century; the biographer himself passed away in 2005; and the book is out of print. Nevertheless, a limited number of copies and the Kindle version are available via Amazon.com, and ebooks can be accessed through public libraries. And I am happy to lend my personal copy. Seriously, one could do much worse than devote time to exploring the world and words of this American legend. For readers who are too young even to have heard of Ogden Nash, much less to have been exposed to his poetry, I offer this delightful sample, entitled *The Termite*: “*Some primal termite knocked on wood/ And tasted it, and found it good, / And that is why your Cousin May / Fell through the parlor floor today.*”

Or my husband’s favorite, *The Kitten*: “*The trouble with a kitten is THAT / Eventually it becomes a CAT.*” Now, who can argue with that??

How long might it take to read this book?

Candid, colorful, and fascinating, this relatively brief volume (186 pages of text plus a three-page introduction) should require no more than five to seven days of reading time. Eight pages of black-and-white photos, all obtained from the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin, are an added bonus.

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

No, Ogden Nash was not perfect. Sometimes he drank too much, a matter that caused difficulties in his family, as any careful reader of Ogden's will gather. He did have a taste for the unprintable - especially limericks, and he often circulated these privately among his friends. He also wrote in his second book a poem about four prominent bastards, which was about as hairy as you could get in print in the 1930s. He also abandoned an early sense of *ars gratia artis* shortly after he began writing for a living. When he first became a celebrity in 1931 a shoe company offered him money to write a poem commending their shoes. He refused disdainfully. But later, he succumbed to the lure of Hollywood's filthy lucre, and, even later, wrote poems in praise of the Reader's Digest, vermouth, and the New York Stock Exchange.

He was also a very proud man and more than a little resentful that the awarders of prizes in American society never saw fit to give him any. The behavior of the Pulitzer committees, in particular, is inexplicable, since at various times when they wanted to honor someone they simply invented a new category. But never for Ogden Nash.

No, Ogden Nash was not perfect. The above are the worst sins I could find in tracing his history. He was a man, and therefore he was full of foibles. Fortunately for the world, he recognized them better than anyone and wrote about them constantly, to the enrichment of the American language and the betterment of society.

A Boomer Remembers

Teresa Fisher

The Fluoroscope

I was raised by an overprotective mother who wouldn't allow me to sit on the bare ground, go to a public swimming pool, or drink water from my grandmother's well. Yet she thought nothing of letting me stick my feet into a radiation-spewing fluoroscope at the shoe store.

Some time in the 1930s someone thought it would be a good idea to x-ray children's feet to see how their shoes fit. What a great marketing tool! Thousands of the wooden x-ray stands were distributed over the world, but mostly in the U.S. The customers (mainly children) put their feet into the slot at the bottom, and the salesmen and parents looked into the viewing ports to see how the shoes fit. The machines were never inspected or regulated in any way, and the shielding plates were sometimes removed, allowing radiation to leak and scatter.

By 1948 fluoroscopes were a known radiation hazard, but they were still in use until the late 1970s. The shoe industry denied claims of harm, arguing that the devices prevented damage to feet from poorly fitted shoes. Children, who are twice as sensitive to radiation as adults, might not have used them enough to get a dangerous dose, but shoe salesmen

certainly got massive exposure. No studies were ever done to determine the rates of cancer in shoe salesmen, because no records were kept.

Ultimately, I was disappointed in my experiences with fluoroscopes, since due to my short stature, I was never able to look into the viewing port to see my toe bones.



Spy School

Don Grayson

Sunday, July 20, 2025 2:30 PM PACIFIC TIME (5:30 Eastern)

Ever wondered what it's like to be a spy in real life? "Well, James Bond, your job is to go someplace, complete your mission, fade into the woodwork and disappear as if you had never been there." Those were the first words Don heard from his Spy School instructor.

During his 30-year career as an engineer for the Navy, Don was sent on about a dozen classified field missions. His missions ranged from a week to months maintaining a cover story, remaining invisible. No gun chases, poison pens or gimmicked cars and certainly no greeting him and offering him his favorite cocktail. No, it ain't James Bond!

Don Grayson has a BS in Physics '54 and obtained an MS in engineering at Purdue in 1972. He spent 30 years as a civilian engineer for the U.S. Navy in engineering management at Naval Avionics Center Indianapolis. His assignments include U.S. NATO rep to Sweden, classified courier, project manager and technical analysis to various military radar & weapon guidance systems. Don is a sailboat hobbyist.



This is a Zoom meeting. Please register at

<https://livepresentation.link/JULY>

You will receive a confirmation email from Zoom that will contain the link needed to join the presentation.

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 5/20/25

Ann Hake

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

Members present: Ethan Blocher-Smith, Emily Boomershine, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, Judy Weitzman

Member absent: Candis King, Karen Wilczewski

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

The committee reviewed the minutes of the April 2025 meeting. Ann Hake moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Ethan Blocher-Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The committee reviewed the Treasurer's report for April 2025. Ann Hake moved that the report be accepted. Judy Weitzman seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The April membership report was compiled by Jan based on information available as of 4/30/25 from American Mensa: total members: 389; 1 new, 2 rejoin, and 6 prospects. Five candidates were tested this month.

Old Business

OG: The Outdoor Gathering was held at Versailles State Park this past weekend (May 16-18). Approximately 22 people attended for one or more days, and everyone had a good time. The severe weather that affected other parts of Indiana including adjacent counties fortunately did not adversely impact the gathering. Teresa noted that an emergency shelter-in-place plan was prepared in advance in case of severe weather or other emergency but fortunately was not needed. Teresa reported that reservations for the cabins have been secured for next year's OG for the same weekend, May 15-17, 2026.

Fundraising: Judy reported that she is still working on the possibility of holding a CIM garage sale.

Additional fundraising ideas discussed included:

“Smart Recipes” – a self-published cookbook containing recipes contributed by members

“Smarts for Sale” – classes conducted by a CIM member to teach a particular skill or project such as astronomy, knitting, or cooking, for which attendees would pay a nominal contribution to the Mensa Scholarship fund to attend. Discussion was held about possible ways to conduct these, such as in person, on line, or hybrid; and if in person, possible locations where these could be held. An additional possibility could be to host these on a YouTube channel to which people could subscribe, with the subscription fees being donated to the Mensa Scholarship fund.

Proctor training: Jen Clark has completed her first supervised Mensa Qualification test administration as required for her proctor training requirements.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Central Indiana Mensa

Treasurer's Report

5/31/2025

Emily Boomershine, Treasurer

Statement of Assets

Account	Balance
(1) PNC Checking – Regular	\$ 2,319.36
(2) PNC Checking – Scholarships	\$ 217.00
(3) PNC Checking – Events	\$ 3,526.18
(4) MG Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
(5) CD – First Internet	\$ 10,056.64
Total Assets	\$ 16,144.18

Statement of Activity

Activity	Amount
Receipts	
Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 73.00
National Support	\$ 374.56
Interest	\$ 35.07
Receipts Total	\$ 482.63
Expenses	
Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ (100.00)
MIND Printing	\$ (333.51)
Supplies	\$ (12.66)
Expenses Total	\$ (446.17)
Net Activity	\$ 36.46

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

