

September 2025
Volume 61, Number 9



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Mollie the Mensa Owl hanging out with an appropriate person

Publishing Statement

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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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From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor

Where's Mollie? Mollie is hanging out with a character from an older popular TV series. If you can tell where she is, you'll be entered into a drawing for a door prize at the next Monthly Gathering! For extra credit, can you identify who she's with? AI being what it is, the character's face and hair are less than perfect copies. If you can identify her and connect her to September, you'll get bragging rights for the month!



Life is change, isn't it? You see something beautiful, like a hummingbird on a feeder, and it's gone by the time you tell your partner and they turn around to look. Remember last month I was marveling about how little watering I've had to do in the garden? BZZZZT! I've been watering 4-5 days out of every week since then. Yes, the beauties of life are wonderful, yet evanescent. I was watering the yard a few days ago, just before the sun was over the treeline on our east side, when I heard honking. I looked up and two vees of geese, one behind the other, flew out of the west over my head and on into the east. As I noted, the sun wasn't yet over the trees, but the geese were; and each one shone in golden light. It was spectacular, but very short. I've been out at roughly the same hour three more times since then, and there they came—two vees of geese flying by. Somehow, the geometry wasn't quite right, and these three sets of birds didn't shine. But maybe it makes the first time that much more special.

Speaking of the remarkable, have you ever noticed something about the world, but when you bring it up in conversation, people either give you a blank stare or look at you funny? I was confused at a young age, once I learned a tiny bit of Latin, as to why the prefixes of the last four months, ninth to twelfth, are seven, eight, nine, and ten. Wassup wid dat? Why isn't the tenth month (October, "eighth month") called December? Well, it used to be. The legendary first king of Rome, Romulus, established a ten-month calendar some time around 750 BC. Not to get into details, it got reformed many times until the beginnings of the Empire, when two months were added at the front, and eventually the 5th and 6th months were named after Julius and Augustus Caesar. So now you know.

So! Yet another fun-filled issue for you, with poetry, puzzles, book reviews, and news about all kinds of fun things you can do in person or on Zoom. Enjoy!

A note of appreciation: Margy Lancet Fletcher has been contributing a book review a month for the column Books on the Runway for what seems like ages. She just let me know that she is retiring from this volunteer job. I'm sure all readers of MIND, especially all former MIND editors, will join me in thanking her for all of her wonderful contributions over the years. Enjoy your retirement!

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

HalloweenM - Coming up October 30-Nov 2 is HalloweenM, Chicago Area Mensa's Regional Gathering. It's one of the largest RGs, with something for everyone: hospitality, interesting speakers, games, contests, and 500 or so fellow Mensans. The costume contest on Friday night always has lots of 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). We usually have several CIM members attending; Leo and I are planning to go. You can find more details and register at www.chicago.us.mensa.org/weem/



ICYMI (In Case You Missed It) – My Mensa Weekend, Aug 15-17 – I think this must be a record for me: four Mensa events in three days! On Friday, several of us went to "Grad School Sucks!" at the IndyFringe Festival. It was a comedy improv performance co-created by Dr. Rob Pyatt. We had some good laughs! Saturday night was Games & Conversation at the King's. As usual, Candis had lots of goodies for us to snack on while we engaged in interesting conversations. Sunday afternoon was book group at Rich and Jackie Gibson's. We discussed *Sleeping Beauties* by Andreas Wagner (see Rich's article in the August *MIND*). And last Dining Out on Sunday evening with ten of us at Fire by the Monon in Broad Ripple:



Dogs to Vet

Marilyn Wolf

My Dogs Go To the Vet

I took all three dogs to the veterinarian for their annual exams. They range in weight from 45# to 75#. All three on leashes, walking easily together. The girls are friendly and like to interact with people. Digger, the chocolate, needs time to warm up to people and rarely approaches anyone unfamiliar.

Everyone was easy to weigh because they've all been taught to go to the scale and sit. After weighing, we were escorted to the biggest exam room. I let them wander around and drag their leashes. Digger investigated until other people came into the room; then he decided it was safer to lie under the bench behind my legs and watch.

They were all vaccinated, received a physical exam, and a blood draw (in the exam room with me). I was able to coax Digger from under the bench for his exam. All three were uneventful.

As we were walking to the front desk, our vet said, "You have very well-mannered dogs. I think this is the first time I've ever had three big dogs in here and actually been able to do three exams." Way to go, Guys!

©2010, Marilyn Wolf

<http://bit.ly/4fOwLvN>

Puzzle Column

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

Preparing for the next AG - in DALLAS – FORT WORTH

Find 5-letter words that only use the letters in DALLAS and FORT WORTH, based on the crossword-style clues. Example: Up, up, and away is ALOFT.

1. A beginning course
2. It may have root beer
3. Katana, for one

4. Type of drive
5. Choose to lose
6. Karius, for one
7. Type of dodger, once
8. It may go with grapes.
9. Amusingly odd
10. Melursus Ursinus

Solutions on page 10

2025-26 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Title	Author(s)	Date
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: *Underland: A Deep Time Journey*, by Robert MacFarlane

Underland: A Deep Time Journey, by Robert MacFarlane, 425 pp (text), published in 2019, is the topic for discussion at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, September 21st, 2025, at 2:00 PM. See the MIND Calendar and Events for more information.

Robert MacFarlane is a wonderful writer on the topic of nature and of traveling, particularly hiking. Within the last year I finished an earlier work of his, *The Old Ways: A Journey on Foot*. His evocation of place and the associated history worked magic on me. He began in a birch tree a short walk from his home, and gradually spread out to places several days' drive away.

This book takes the reader underground: to the Paris Catacombs; the Karst Plateau in northeast Italy/western Slovenia; to an underground laboratory seeking to detect matter; into the moulin (round, well-like shaft caused by meltwater) of a glacier; and to caves in the UK's Mendip Hills (among others). Along the way, MacFarlane contemplates deep history and the efforts and effects of human activity throughout the last 10,000 or so years that scientists are calling the Anthropocene Era.

Wherever MacFarlane goes, he takes the reader on an illuminating journey that opens up the mind to new ideas and experiences. This is likely going to become one of my all-time favorite books. Although long, it's a quick read.

Hope I've tempted you to check it out of your library and give it a try. If you turn out to like it (or hate it), hope you can come to Casa Gibson on Sunday, September 21st, and join our discussion about it. Hope to see you then!

NEXT MONTH: *Half-Earth: Our Planet's Fight for Life*, by E. O. Wilson

Half-Earth: Our Planet's Fight for Life, by E. O. Wilson, 212 pp (text), published in 2016, will be discussed at the Mensa Book Group meeting on Sunday, October 21st, at 2:00 PM. See the Calendar or Events for more information.

E.O. Wilson is perhaps the most famous biologist alive today. He has written over 30 books on biology and life on Earth, has won a Pulitzer Prize and many other awards for his science and his writing. In this book, he argues that the (mostly human-made) problems confronting us are an existential threat to our species, as well as to many, many other species on Earth. He asserts that the problems are too big to be solved piecemeal, and proposes that fully half of the Earth's land surface be walled off from humanity and given over to nature.

Reviewers claim that his arguments are amply supported by concrete evidence, and that his solution is well thought through and actually achievable. (In 1968, John Brunner won a Hugo award for best science fiction novel with *Stand on Zanzibar*, so titled because at the time the entire population of the planet, if packed together cheek by jowl, would only cover the island of Zanzibar in eastern Africa. Let's call it 1000 square miles to contain 3.5 billion people back then. With today's population of 8 billion, and using Brunner's packing scheme, we'd need roughly 2300 square miles, or 2/3 of the state of Indiana, to hold everybody. So, his plan passes a most basic common-sense test. Another would be to calculate how much area would be needed to accommodate 8 Billion people at the current highest population density in the world: Macau, China, at almost 120,000 people per square mile. That gives us a mere 67,000 square miles, which Indiana and Ohio together could easily cover.)

So mathematically, moving all of humanity out of half the Earth's surface and leaving it to nature seems do-able. But are his arguments really that sound and strong? Is it practical? How do our myriad nations cooperate to make it happen? What level of persuasion or force is required to move people out of their homes in the nature half of the planet? What resources are needed to create new homes for them in the human half? Are we sure this is the best and only solution? What will be the impacts and the timeline if we shrug and do nothing more than what we're doing now?

Those are my questions after 3 minutes of thought. What are yours? Why don't you read the book, think about it, and come to the Book Group meeting on Sunday, October 21st, at 2:00 PM? We'd love to see you!



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Westin Chicago North Shore

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Join us for four days of righteous
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- **Multiple tracks of programs to keep you intellectually stimulated!**
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- **Extend your pinkies during Saturday night's Pretentious Drinking AND Epicurean Experience!**



Only \$140/person if you register by October 17th!

Day rates available. Scan the QR code or visit

<https://chicago.us.mensa.org/weem/register.php>

In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)



Alan Schmidt at the August Monthly Gathering sharing the tall tale he performed in the State Fair Liar's Competition

Puzzle Solutions

1. A beginning course = SALAD
2. It may have root beer = FLOAT
3. Katana, for one = SWORD
4. Type of drive = FLASH
5. Choose to lose = THROW
6. Karius, for one = TROLL
7. Type of dodger, once = DRAFT
8. It may go with grapes = WRATH
9. Amusingly odd = DROLL
10. Melursus Ursinus = SLOTH

September 2025 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

9/3, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

9/17, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St, Indy

RSVP Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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

9/6 10:00am - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St, Carmel, IN, (located at IU Health North) RSVP: Jen Clark jclark7251@gmail.com

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

9/10, 2:00pm ET - Homemade Ice Cream & Bakery Cafe’ Noblesville
13230 Harrell Parkway, Noblesville, IN 46060

9/24, 2:00pm ET The Garden Table Carmel

350 Monon Blvd, Carmel, IN 46032

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

9/12, 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,

9/12, 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.

Ken Koziol will talk about his genealogical search that took him to Poland.

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

9/21, 2:00pm ET

Underland – Robert Macfarlane

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

LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3rd Sunday

9/21, 6pm ET

MashCraft Fishers

11069 Allisonville Rd, Fishers, IN 46038

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

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3 *Indy Lunch Bunch *
7 *Sunday Social*	8	9	10 Chowhounds
14 *Sunday Social*	15	16 * ExCom*	17 Indy Lunch Bunch
21 Book Group; Dining Out	22	23	24 Chowhounds
28 *Sunday Social*	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
4	5	6 Ham'n Eggs
11	12 Monthly Gathering	13
18	19	20
25	26	27

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

The value of being a member of Mensa becomes most apparent when you participate in gatherings—whether local, regional, or national. These events are where connections happen and are an amazing experience to add on to the on-line interaction many of us have.

The Annual Gathering (AG) was a Mensa whirlwind. For many people it was their first ever Mensa event, and it left them excited about Mensa and getting more involved. A Mensa gathering has an energy that is hard to describe. In some ways, it's like walking into a stadium for a sporting event—excitement is in the air, and everybody is primed for a good time (and hopefully a win for their team). With Mensa gatherings, the excitement is the connection with people and everyone's part of the winning team.

While it's always great to see old friends, it's equally rewarding to meet new ones. However, even with all the fun, there's never quite enough time to do it all. At this AG, there were people I was eager to catch up with but couldn't. To those I missed, my sincere apologies, there just aren't enough hours in the day at an AG.

Upcoming Regional and National events

Though the next AG isn't until July 2026 in Ft. Worth, Texas, there are numerous exciting opportunities to connect before then. If you're looking to dive into the regional scene, the Chicago Area Mensa's annual Regional Gathering (RG), HalloweenM, will take place from October 30 to November 2, 2025. It's always a highlight of the year for many, and more information, including registration details, can be found at [Chicago Area Mensa's HalloweenM page](#).

Looking further ahead, don't miss *Mind Games* in the Washington, D.C. area (April 16-19, 2026) a perfect event for anyone interested in games and strategy. Registration isn't open yet but watch your email for announcements.

Heading off to EMAG

The European Mensa Annual Gathering (EMAG) is on the horizon, with this year's event taking place in Cardiff, Wales. This will be our first time attending, and we're excited not only to meet new faces but also to reconnect with familiar ones, including members from Region 4. It's a great chance to experience what Mensa is like elsewhere.

Stay Connected

As always, I want to hear from you—whether it's feedback, an idea, a challenge your group is facing, or you just want to chat. You can reach me directly at rc4@us.mensa.org or via phone/text at +1 937-902-5161.



Let's keep the conversations going—on **Mensa Connect** (search for Region 4's community on us.mensa.org) and in our Region 4 Facebook group: facebook.com/groups/americanmensaregion4.

Theodore Talks

Brad Lucht



Antisemitism: Evolution and Escalation

This virtual event will take place on Zoom September 28 at 2:30 p.m. Central Time (3:30 Eastern, 12:30 p.m. Pacific).

Antisemitism has a long history, well beyond the 20th century. **Dr. Shelly Cline**, Historian and Director of Education at the **Midwest Center for Holocaust Education**, will examine the evolution of antisemitism from religiously motivated antipathy in early modern times to the economic and pseudo-scientific antisemitism of the 19th and 20th centuries, and finally to the politically driven antisemitism of today. This talk will also provide the tools to identify antisemitic tropes and dog whistles that pervade our social media landscape.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/23r8kc7a>.

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.

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

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

Rich Gibson

Author: Rick Atkinson

Title: *The Fate of the Day—The War for America, Fort Ticonderoga to Charleston, 1777-1780*

Publisher: Crown

Year: 2017

Has Been Read by: Rich Gibson

Book Description: This is the second volume of a projected three-volume history of the military side of the American Revolution. Rick Atkinson, the author, won a Pulitzer Prize for *An Army at Dawn*, the first volume of his Liberation Trilogy about the US Army in Europe in WWII. This book covers the battles and maneuvers of the American and British/mercenary armies, as well as the issues in the American Congress and the British Parliament, government, and Crown in supporting and equipping the armies. Of course, events which would prove decisive were also happening in Paris, where the American ambassador Benjamin Franklin waged a long campaign to enlist and increase French support for the rebellion. France, still smarting from their losses in the Seven Years War (known on this continent as the French and Indian Wars) were happy to make life difficult for the British, but Franklin's efforts to bring them on board as full belligerents is a vital part of this tale. The book details the lives and political considerations of the major non-military personalities: George III and his ministers; Louis XIV and his court; John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and the major players in Congress. The period addressed was the long middle slog of the war, in which the American army basically learned how to fight one of the best

armies in the world. Disappointments and setbacks were many, and successes were few—notably the surrender of General Burgoyne’s forces at Saratoga, New York. Atkinson also covers the maturation of George Washington as a war leader who came to realize that the greatest thing he had to protect was the army itself. Midway through the period this book covers, the British forces moved on and took Philadelphia, home of the Continental Congress. Of course Congress picked up and moved out of harm’s way, but Washington did not offer battle to protect the city. Even though the thirteen states were confined to the Eastern seaboard, it was still far too much territory for the British to take and hold. So long as Washington had a credible force in the field, the British could not win. Keeping it together and keeping it credible was an enormous task for Washington, not to mention using it to stymie, harass, and stop the British.

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

I am a big reader of history, especially American and/or military history. This book was catnip. It was a comforting read in some ways, not least because it showed people fighting for their freedoms in much worse conditions than anything we face today. As Americans, both native-born and naturalized, we can rely on a strong, rich tradition of fighting for freedom. (Speaking of immigrants and the American experience, this book offers wonderful vignettes of Lafayette, Baron von Steuben, Theodore Kosciuszko, and others).

Who should definitely read this book? Why?

I must be a senior citizen. The current level of knowledge among Americans about such events as the Revolution and the Civil War seems abysmal to me. I believe any and every American, or resident of any other country, could gain great value from this book. The Revolution from today may look like it was easy-peasy, a foregone conclusion, but at the time it was a very risky venture. When rebels proclaimed they were committing their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor, it wasn’t empty rhetoric. They knew if they lost, they’d be executed, their estates confiscated, and their reputations smeared for the rest of recorded history. That they took the gamble and persevered is wonderful. Besides, this is a great read. Atkinson’s prose is clear, descriptive, and vivid.

How long might it take to read this book?

This book has 618 pages of text, so it’s a protracted campaign in and of itself. I set a goal of reading 75 pages a day, and was able to come very close with just a little dedication...so at least a week.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote:
The following describes the army wintering over 1779-1780 in Germantown, New Jersey:

Nearly five years had passed since Washington had last written in his personal diary, but on January 1 he resumed scribbling with a brief entry: “Clear, cold & freezing with little wind.” This was followed a day

later with “Very cold. About noon it began to snow & continued without intermission through the day & night.” His troops made similar meteorological observations. “The weather was cold enough to cut a man in two,” wrote Private Joseph Plumb Martin. During a snowstorm that lingered for several days, Martin reported that he had nothing to eat “except a little black birch bark which I gnawed off a stick...I saw several of the men roast their old shoes and eat them.” Major James Fairlie, a Steuben aide, wrote a friend on January 12, “Oh, my dear Charles, we have been almost starved...During our hungry time, I eat several meals of dog and it relished very well.”

Not once in January would the temperature rise above freezing. “Continewes exceeding cold, wrote Silvanus Seely, a farmer and militia colonel. An army surveyor told a friend on January 10, “One of my ears froze hard as a pine knot.” Surgeon’s Mate Thatcher noted that some troops were buried “like sheep in the snow,” and Knox’s men had to dig out their heavy guns to prevent ice from corrupting the barrels.

A Boomer Remembers

Teresa Fisher

Highway Safety Films

In the mid-1950s a hanger-on named Richard Wayman at the Mansfield, Ohio police department was allowed, encouraged even, to take photos of horrible car wrecks. He had a better camera than the cops did. Insomnia caused him to be awake at the times when many accidents happened, and he was often first to arrive at the scene. Wayman parlayed this hobby into the business of producing highway safety films for teenagers. Schools would show these gory, disturbing films of the injured, the dying, and the dead, in the hope of making young people better drivers. Also, it filled class time when the teacher was absent.

Thanks to Richard Wayman, The Highway Safety Foundation was created. Under its aegis Wayman built a nice business for himself, producing and directing films with names like *Last Date* (ending with the overdubbed voice of a girl who has supposedly just encountered a windshield, screaming, “My face! My face!”), *Highways of Agony*, *Red Asphalt*, *Wheels of Tragedy*, and *Mechanized Death* (showing the actual corpse of a dead toddler). There was always an element of victim blaming, while disregarding any unavoidable circumstances that might have contributed to the accident. I vaguely recall being shown one of these films where a carful of teens smashes into the side of a rapidly moving train. No one in my class threw up or fainted, as rumor promised might happen. The films were meant to scare teenagers into driving safely, but it doesn’t seem to have worked, since car accidents were then and remain today the number one cause of teen deaths.

Later the Highway Safety Foundation was riddled with scandal due to its branching out to show the harms of public bathroom cruising, a rumored foray into porn, a possibly murdered female photographer, and a completely failed telethon in 1973 hosted by Sammy Davis, Jr. (In case the gore of the traffic safety films isn't enough, research the 1954 car wreck that cost Sammy his left eye.) This delightful topic, including excerpts from highway safety films, can be further explored by watching Hell's Highway: The True Story of the Highway Safety Foundation.



Why the Scopes Trial (1925) is Still Relevant

Eugenie C. Scott

Sunday, September 21, 2025 2:30 PM PACIFIC TIME

The 'Trial of the Century' - Tennessee vs. John T. Scopes, was the first major sally against the teaching of evolution in the US; mostly because of the fictional play and movie '*Inherit the Wind*,' Scopes is wrongly perceived as a victory for evolution over the forces of obscurantism. The full story is much more complex and interesting - involving science, religion, law, education, politics, celebrities, modern communications and the politicization of science.

Dr. Eugenie C. Scott is an expert on the creationism and evolution controversy and science denialism. The former director of the National Center for Science Education, she is the recipient of numerous awards from scientists and educators, and has been awarded ten honorary degrees.

Asteroid 249540 Eugeniesscott was named for her, but she assures us it is not aimed at Earth!



This is a Zoom meeting. Please register at

<https://livepresentation.link/SEP>

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

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 7/15/25

Ann Hake, Acting Scribe

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

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m.

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

Member absent: Karen Wilczewski

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

The committee reviewed the minutes of the June 2025 meeting. Candis King moved that the minutes be approved. Judy Weitzman seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

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

The June membership report was compiled by Jan based on information available as of 6/30/25 from American Mensa: total members: 403; 6 new, 2 rejoin, and 5 prospects.

Old Business

Fundraising: Planning for the CIM garage/rummage sale continues. Details including location and date are still being finalized. With September quickly approaching, a date in the spring is now being targeted.

New Business

Scholarship Committee: It's that time of year again to name a chair of the scholarship committee. Ann Hake moved that Judy Weitzman be appointed. Ethan Blocher-Smith seconded, and the motion was carried. Thank you to Teresa Gregory for serving for the past year.

CultureQuest: Results from CultureQuest XXXVI are in, and Central Indiana Mensa has scored bragging rights once again. Our own Naptown Nerds (team captain Jan Pfeil Doyle, members Ethan Blocher-Smith, Candis King, Ken Koziol, Bob Zdanky, and alternate Karen Steilberger) captured first place and will be awarded \$500. CIMple Minds (team captain Ann Hake, members Emily Boomershine, Rich Gibson, Teresa Gregory, Matt Zwick, and alternate Kurt Williams) came in 3rd place and will receive \$225. The prize money will go to CIM's John Matthews Scholarship Fund.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

Emily Boomershine, Treasurer

Statement of Assets

Account	Balance
(1) PNC Checking – Regular	\$ 2,571.55
(2) PNC Checking – Scholarships	\$ 717.00
(3) PNC Checking – Events	\$ 3,902.06
(4) MG Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
(5) CD – First Internet	\$ 10,126.00
Total Assets	\$ 17,341.61

Statement of Activity

Activity	Amount
Receipts	
Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 92.00
National Support	\$ 500.88
Interest	\$ 35.31
Receipts Total	\$ 628.19
Expenses	
Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ (100.00)
MIND Printing	\$ (333.51)
Expenses Total	\$ (433.51)
Net Activity	\$ 194.68

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

