



# mind

Mensa Newsletter  
Of Central Indiana



*Mollie the Mensa Owl, as usual, helping a friend on an important task*

## **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 98<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

## **Reprint Information**

Mensa publications may freely reprint material from *MIND*. If a piece bears an individual copyright, publishers must obtain a release from the author.

## **Advertising**

*MIND* accepts paid advertising. Contact the Editor for current rates.

## **MIND Staff**

**Editor:** Richard Gibson, [mind.editor@yahoo.com](mailto: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, 1315 Brookside Dr., Hurst, TX 76053-3952 Include membership number.



**Website: [centralindiana.us.mensa.org](http://centralindiana.us.mensa.org)  
-or- [www.indymensa.org](http://www.indymensa.org)**

Volume 62, Issue Number 4  
April 2026



# mind

## table of contents

Editor's Page	4
LocSection	5
Poem	6
Book Group Reading List	6
Mensa Book Group Book Previews	7
RVC Thoughts	8
Welcome!	9
April 2026 Events	10
Calendar	12
Puzzle Column	14
In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)	14
OMG! Flyer	15
Books On the Runway	16
Theodore Talks	17
Virtual Presentations from SF Mensa	19
Puzzle Solutions	19
Treasurer's Report	20
Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 2/17/26	20
Discussion Group	22
Location of CIM Monthly Meeting	23
Contact Information	24

## From the Editor's Cubicle

*Rich Gibson, Editor*

*Where's Mollie?* Standard reminder: First, Mollie (*Mensa owl-lie*) will appear on the cover of MIND each month with a person or in a place that is appropriate to that month. Second, if you show up to the Monthly Gathering and provide the right answer, you'll be entered in a drawing for a door prize. Third, these images are generated by AI; the gap between what I want and what it gives me can be huge. So, fourth, you deserve a hint: The tie-in to the month is the line, "On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April in '75..." If this is no help, googling it ought to see you right.



Well, it's mid-March, and we've been back home in Indiana for a month now. The reason we leave Florida in mid-February is, we get just enough good weather to get a jump on spring in preparing our gardens. It mostly worked this year; case in point, we we put in several hours yesterday, Sunday, when the high got up to 71! Jackie weeds and pulls up dead stems and stalks, and bags them. I bundle up the tall stalks and schlep them and her bags off to a dump site. We're out in the fresh air and sunshine and having enormous fun. It was truly great. Of course, a nasty line of thunderstorms blew through last night, and we have freezing temperatures and blowing snow today. March in Indiana—go figure. Good day to look out the window at yesterday's good work, and turn back to tasks like writing my monthly editor's column. That was an ill wind that blew some good, I guess.

You usually get your newsletter just a few days before the end of the month, which makes for a timely reminder to renew your Mensa membership. I love CultureQuest™, so participating forces my hand to renew in a timely fashion. It's coming up in a little over three weeks from the time this gets in your hands—April 24<sup>th</sup>—so please renew!

Also, we're a month closer to the Outdoor Mensa Gathering, the OMG! What a great way to get outside, hang out with other Mensans, and enjoy yourself. We started blowing the horn for it in last month's issue, so don't let it slip past you!

As ever, we have poetry, puzzles, and a host of events for the discriminating taste to partake of, so please dive in and have a ball. But please remember—it's spring! Go outside and get yourself some fresh air and sunshine!

## AND DON'T FORGET TO RENEW!

# LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle

**CultureQuest®** – CultureQuest® is North American Mensa’s quiz competition. Teams of up to five people compete at the same time on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 4pm ET. Questions range from film to politics, literature to geography, music to history and more. If you're interested in being on a team, be sure to **renew by March 31st** and **contact Ann Hake (amhake@yahoo.com) by April 10th**. CIM teams won the competition the last two years, so we have a challenge to keep the streak going! There's also a “Next Generation” quiz for teams whose members were born on or after April 27, 2008. For the Next Generation team, only the team captain must be a current Mensa member. More info at [www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest/](http://www.us.mensa.org/attend/culturequest/).



**April 10th Monthly Gathering: Artificial Intelligence for Beginners (We really mean it this time! This program was postponed from last month.)** – If you’ve ever thought about getting involved with AI or are just AI curious, this program is for you. In a non-technical presentation, **Leo Doyle** will demonstrate different uses for AI, including generating text, pictures, videos, and songs. He does this locally on his laptop, not over the Internet because of privacy concerns, using easily available free software. Come see the fun you can have with AI. He will take audience requests to generate original AI images at the end. Leo is a member of CIM.

**Election Is Coming** – Central Indiana Mensa’s biennial election will be held in September. If you’re interested in running for LocSec (President) or the ExCom (Executive Committee; the board that runs the group), please contact Nominating Committee Chair **Bob Zdanky** (zdanky@gmail.com). Many thanks to **Bob, Larry Marcus, and Sharon Merriman** for serving on the NomCom. If you have questions, feel free to contact Bob or any member of the ExCom. We’d love to have some members from outside the Indianapolis area run for the board—board meetings are held via Zoom.

**CIM’s Outdoor Mensa Gathering (OMG!) Is May 15-17** – This is our annual camping weekend at the Versailles (Indiana) State Park. We rent the group camp and stay in dormitory-style cabins. There's a central building where we hang out, play games, eat, etc. Outdoor activities include hiking and a campfire. It's a wonderful, fun, relaxing weekend! If you can't stay for the whole weekend, come for the day on Saturday. More details elsewhere in MIND.

# Poem—Hamlen Brook

*Richard Wilbur*

At the alder-darkened brink  
Where the stream slows to a lucid jet  
I lean to the water, dinting its top with sweat,  
And see, before I can drink,

A startled inchling trout  
Of spotted near-transparency,  
Trawling a shadow solidier than he.  
He swerves now, darting out

To where, in a flicked slew  
Of sparks and glittreing silt, he weaves  
Through stream-bed rocks, disturbing foundered leaves,  
And butts then out of view

Beneath a sliding glass  
Crazed by the skimming of a brace  
Of burnished dragon-flies across its face,  
In which deep cloudlets pass

And a white precipice  
Of mirrored birch-trees plunges down  
Toward where the azures of the zenith drown.  
How shall I drink all this?

Joy's trick is to supply  
Dry lips with what can cool and slake,  
Leaving them dumbstruck also with an ache  
Nothing can satisfy.

## 2025-26 Book Group Reading List

*Rich Gibson*

Title	Author(s)	Date
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: *An Unfinished Love Story*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin.**

*An Unfinished Love Story*, by Doris Kearns Goodwin; 480 pp, published in 2024. The CIM Book Group will discuss it on Sunday, April 19th, at 2:00 PM. Check the Calendar and Events for more information.

This book is indeed A Personal History of the ‘60’s (which is the book’s subtitle). Doris Kearns, before she became an historian and won a Pulitzer Prize, was a young White House Fellow when she met Richard Goodwin, who had been a speechwriter for Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. They fell in love and married. Years later, they began sifting through their papers from the ‘60’s, over 300 boxes’ worth, and realized they had a valuable time capsule from one of the most significant eras of recent American history. Mr. Goodwin died in 2018. This book is the author’s reminiscence of their lives together, and of their own experiences of that period. It is at once a tender love story and a clear-eyed review of the lives and deeds of such figures as John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Robert F. Kennedy, and Eugene McCarthy.

I was a first-hand observer of this period (albeit a very young one). I anticipate a lot of pleasurable nostalgia reading this book. Whether you were there or not, I’ll bet you’ll enjoy this book too. Why not give it a shot, then come join us on April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM to join the discussion? We’d love to see you!

### **NEXT MONTH: *Rooted--Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit*, by Lyanda Lynn Haupt**

*Rooted: Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit*, by Lyanda Lynn Haupt, 256 pp, published in 2021. The CIM Book Group will discuss it on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM. Check the Calendar and Events for more information.

The history of humanity can tell our changing story of our place in the world. Early religion and philosophy placed our planet at the center of the universe and us as the pinnacle of creation. Over the millennia, our story has evolved to place us within an interconnected network with each other, all other life forms, and the universe itself. We are carbon-based life forms, but the Big Bang gave rise initially only to hydrogen and helium. It took eons for stars to form—to be born

and mature. It took more eons for the incredible temperatures and pressures within star cores for the light elements to fuse into all of the heavier elements. And it took more eons for the stars to go nova, exploding and scattering those heavier elements, including carbon, all over space so that another round of star formations for those new stars to attract great clouds of dust which eventually formed planets full of iron, gold, carbon, and nitrogen. And then, on one such planet, at least one, about 4 Billion years ago, life began. So as Carl Sagan wrote, “We are all star stuff.”

Lyanda Lynn Haupt has written about the story science has helped us discover about our deep and meaningful connections with each other and with nature. She presses on from there to discuss the spiritual rewards of life in nature. Being star stuff, and being creatures of energy whose principle source of energy is the sun, our principal reactions to being alive on Earth should be wonder and gratitude. Having established this framework, she lays out concrete and achievable steps, both mental and physical, to enhance our appreciation of our interconnections with each other and with nature. She calls for realizing and nurturing out *rootedness* in nature.

This book could significantly change the way you see your life and how you carry yourself in the world. Please consider reading it, and coming to Book Group on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 PM, and discussing it with us. We’d love to see you!

## Regional Vice Chair Thoughts

*Beth Weiss*



Spring is bringing both activity and change across our region and at the national level.

The next AMC meeting will take place on March 28. As I write this, the agenda has not yet been made public, but I can say that there are several significant items under discussion. I strongly encourage you to read the mini-minutes when they are published in April. Even if you don’t typically follow national governance closely, this is a good time to stay informed. Transparency matters — and informed members make a stronger Mensa.

Closer to home, I want to once again highlight the **Mad Genius Laboratory Mini-RG** hosted by St. Louis Area Mensa on **April 25, 2026**, at the Brentwood Community Center. This one-day gathering packs a lot into a small footprint: conversation, programming, games, and the kind of spontaneous hallway discussions that often become the highlight of the day.

Registration is **\$60 per person**, and that includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, drinks — and, of course, the fun. If you’ve been looking for a way to reconnect with Mensa friends or meet new ones, this is a fantastic opportunity.

One-day events can be surprisingly energizing, and the St. Louis group puts on a welcoming and well-run program.

Beyond organized gatherings, I want to encourage something simpler but just as meaningful: attend a local event this month. Whether it's a dinner, a game night, a speaker meeting, or calling into a virtual event, showing up strengthens your local group. Winter tends to thin attendance; spring is a great time to rebuild momentum.

And while you're thinking about engagement, consider going one step further. Is there a member you've met at an event and thought, "I'd like to get to know them better"? Reach out. Invite them for coffee. Suggest a walk. Plan a small dinner. Just make a phone call. Some of the most lasting Mensa friendships grow from one-on-one conversations where you have the space to go beyond small talk. Deeper connection happens when we make the effort.

As we head into a season of change and activity, my encouragement this month is threefold: stay informed, show up, and reach out. Read the mini-minutes.

Attend an event. Take the initiative to build one connection more intentionally.

If you have questions, ideas, or just want to talk something through, I'm always glad to hear from you at [rvc4@us.mensa.org](mailto:rvc4@us.mensa.org) or (937) 902-5161.

See you soon — hopefully at an event.



Jerrold Carter	Westfield	IN	MoveIn
Barbara Starks	Bloomington	IN	MoveIn
Kate Tavernier	Bloomington	IN	Joined

# April 2026 Events

**Indy Lunch Bunch** – 1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

4/1, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual \*Online\*

4/15, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery

2370 W. 86th St, Indianapolis,

RSVP Karen Steilberger, [steilkr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steilkr@sbcglobal.net)

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

4/4, 10:00am - 12 noon ET - Atrio, 11700 Illinois St, Carmel, IN, (located at IU Health North) RSVP: Jen Clark [jclark7251@gmail.com](mailto:jclark7251@gmail.com)

**LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch** – 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

4/8, 2:00pmET- Slapfish, 11505 N Illinois St, Suite 110, Carmel (Part of the Market District building.) Lots of parking. Good seafood.

4/22, 2:00pm ET - Upland Brewing Company, 4939 E 82nd St, Indianapolis  
Plenty of parking and good beer.

Late lunch or early dinner? You decide!

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: Jan Pfeil Doyle

[Jan@mw.net](mailto:Jan@mw.net)

**.VIRTUAL and LIVE Monthly Gathering** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday,

4/10, 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.

**Artificial Intelligence for Beginners with Leo Doyle**

If you’ve ever thought about getting involved with AI or are just AI curious, this talk is for you. This will be a non-technical presentation. Leo will demonstrate different uses for AI, including generating text, pictures, videos, and songs. He does this locally on his laptop, not over the Internet because of privacy concerns, using easily available free software. Come see the fun you can have with AI. He will take audience requests to generate original AI images at the end.

**Important Info for In-Person Events: Be Kind!** – 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.

**\*In Person\* Sit-N-Knit**

**4/16, 11:00am ET**

**MOTW Coffee Shop**

12761 Old Meridian St, Carmel, IN

Knitters of all skill levels are welcome, from complete beginners to seasoned experts. We'll spend our time working on current projects, sharing ideas, and discussing what to work on next. Participants are encouraged to bring their own supplies, but yarn and knitting needles will be available for anyone who needs them. The group is also open to other fiber arts, including crochet, cross stitch, and needlepoint.

RSVP Emily Boomershine - [emilyknits@comcast.net](mailto:emilyknits@comcast.net) Come for the knitting, stay for the lively conversation!

**LIVE Games and Conversation Night – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, Even Months**

**Cancelled this month only. See everyone in June!**

**VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group**

**4/19, 2:00pm ET**

*An Unfinished Love Story* - Doris Kearns Goodwin

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

**LIVE Mensans Dining Out - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday**

**4/19, 6:00pm ET**

**El Rodeo**, 14160 Mundy Dr, Noblesville

Good Mexican food. Plenty of parking.

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

**LIVE Mensa Scholarship Rummage Sale**

**4/25 - CANCELLED**

# April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
			1 *Lunch Bunch*
5 *Sunday Social*	6	7	8 Chowhounds
12 *Sunday Social*	13	14	15 Lunch Bunch
19 Book Group; Dining Out	20	21 * ExCom*	22 Chowhounds
26 CultureQuest; *Sunday Social*	27	28	29

## \*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
2	3	4 Ham'n Eggs
9	10 Monthly Gathering	11
16 Sit-N-Knit	17	18
23	24	25
30		

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

## Puzzle Column

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

## BRINGING IN APRIL

Use the clues and letter count(s) to find one or two words (possibly capitalized) where APRIL can be found by shaving off letters. For example, Swiss train (6,7) could be **Alpine railway**.

1. Something under a launched rocket (5,5)
2. Unrefrigerated source of vitamin D (10, 4)
3. A gourmet soda of the Old West (12)
4. More contented minor (7,5)
5. Admirer of a person with mountain goat sign (9,5)
6. Recorded court event (5,5)
7. Master a dentistry kill (5, 8)
8. Ingest certain potato chips (3,8)
9. Very serious risk (5,5)
10. Escort kids (9,8)

Solutions on page 19

## In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)



*Mensans Dining Out, 3/15, Abyssinia Restaurant*

# OMG! OUTDOOR MENSA GATHERING!

## MAY 15-17, 2026

### VERSAILLES STATE PARK, INDIANA

Join Central Indiana Mensa for a laidback weekend in the woods. If you're thinking that you aren't the "outdoorsy" type, think again!

#### Things to know:

---

- All meals provided, along with lodging, scenery, and MENSANS!
  - No animals (except the ones who live there!)
  - No unaccompanied minors
- 

#### IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

---

- There are no cabins with toilets (there's a central bathhouse, and restrooms in the lodge)
  - Alcohol not provided, but please feel free to bring your own. There will be designated refrigerator space.
  - As in the past, we will provide soft drinks, bottled water, and coffee. This keeps the cost down for everyone.
- 

#### Fees:

---

- Adults full weekend is **\$65** per person!
  - Saturday only is **\$45**.
  - Kids up to age 6 are **\$25**, and ages 6-12 are **\$40**.
  - Also a per-car park entry fee: **\$7** Indiana Resident, **\$9** Visitor
- 

To Register Online: <https://cim-og-2026.eventbrite.com>

Or mail a check made out to Central Indiana Mensa to:

Teresa Gregory

6076 Dewey Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219

**So, grab your sleeping bags and towels,  
and join us at Versailles State Park.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Additional names on back)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Local Group \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

---

# Books On the Runway

Rich Gibson

<i>Author:</i>	Thomas Hertog
<i>Title:</i>	On the Origin of Time
<i>Subtitle:</i>	Stephen Hawking's Final Theory
<i>Publisher:</i>	Bantam
<i>Year:</i>	2023
<i>Pages:</i>	266 (text), 313 (total)

*Book description:* Roughly two schools of thought exist on the nature of the universe, and they divide cleanly on the topic of *teleology*: the approach of explaining phenomena in terms of purpose. One school of thought believes that there is no purpose to the universe; the other that there is. Something that complicates life for the meaninglessness adherents is the anthropic principle: the set of hard facts leading to the idea that the universe, from its beginning, seems to have been tuned within extremely narrow tolerances to produce galaxies, stars, heavy elements, planets, and life. Critics of the anthropic universe have proposed the multiverse: if there are infinitely many universes, it's obvious that sheer chance would have produced one that has all the necessary tunings for life to form.

Stephen Hawking was one of the great cosmologists of our time. He broke ground in our understanding of black holes. He wrote two books capturing his evolving ideas on the nature of the universe. His first was the international best-seller *A Brief History of Time*. The second was *The Grand Design*. This book might have been his third, had he lived long enough.

Thomas Hertog was Hawking's last collaborator and was working with him on his efforts to bring clarity to the conditions at the origin of the universe. Hawking was profoundly skeptical of the multiverse concept, as it was basically untestable. Still, he was not ready to accept the anthropic principle on faith alone. This book is Hertog's memoir of his work and friendship with Hawking, and a description of their work and conclusions.

Hawking and Hertog developed a "top-down" view of the universe's foundation based on (buzzword alert!) quantum evolution: The chaotic, anything-can-happen nature of the Big Bang quickly evolved into the type of universe that would allow us (life) to develop. This is a *highly* teleological conclusion; one that took a lot of complex thought to develop, and a very complex conversation between author and reader to comprehend. I must confess, as I write this, that I haven't got it yet. Perhaps with more study...

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

This is a book that requires several re-readings, and possibly even cross-reference to other works on the same subject. This is not a single source you can go to for an authoritative answer that will fully satisfy most folks. At best, you will come away with the feeling that you have received important signs and

portents. This is yet another book telling you, however indirectly, “It’s not the destination, it’s the journey.”

*Who should read this book? Why?*

This book is definitely for those who enjoy stretching their minds. If you’re curious about the origins and history of the universe, as well as current theories, hypotheses, and conjectures, this is an excellent source. It’s an excellent summary of how our cosmological understanding evolved over the last two and a half millennia, up to the end of the 20C. From there on, it’s dizzying leap into Hawking and Hertog’s thinking that requires a well strapped seat belt.

*How long might it take to read the book?*

You can probably complete one read-through in a week; with dedication, you may be able to comprehend it in a month or more

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

The book ends with the memorial service for Hawking after his death, and his parting message: “When we see Earth from space we see ourselves as a whole; we see the unity and not the divisions. It is such a simple image, with a compelling message: one planet, one human race. Our only boundaries are the way we see ourselves. We must become global citizens. Let us work together to make that future a place we want to visit.”



## **Theodore Talk: Language Processing in the Brain Across Diverse Languages and Speakers**

*Brad Lucht*

This virtual event will take place on Zoom April 26 at 3:30 Eastern time.

A staggering 7,000 languages are spoken and signed worldwide, and most people speak two or more. Yet, neuroscience research has largely focused on monolingual speakers of just a few dozen languages, leaving our understanding of the language system incomplete and potentially biased.

In this talk, **Saima Malik-Moraleda**, who received her PhD in Neurobiology and Behavior from Harvard University, will present a more comprehensive view of how the brain processes language by examining both diverse languages and diverse speaker populations using precision fMRI.

Malik-Moraleda will examine whether the core properties of the left-lateralized language network—its anatomical organization, hemispheric bias, selectivity for linguistic input, and strong internal connectivity—generalize beyond English to dozens of typologically diverse natural languages. She will also probe constructed languages (e.g., Esperanto, Klingon, Na'vi, High Valyrian, Dothraki) to ask what makes a language a 'language', and will present data from polyglots (speakers of five or more languages) to examine how multiple languages of varying proficiency engage the language network.

Finally, she will explore how language and executive function tasks are processed in monolingual versus bilingual speakers, highlighting both shared and distinct patterns. Taken together, these findings suggest that the brain's language network is remarkably robust and universal, with activity that varies systematically with proficiency rather than language identity.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinurl.com/bdebzznn>. Even if you can't attend the live Theodore Talk, as long as you register in advance you will receive a link to the Zoom recording. All Theodore Talks have Closed Captioning enabled, and this year we are offering Translated Captions as well.

The Theodore Talk lecture series is made possible by the generous financial support of Life Member Dr. Mark Cohen, Thank you.

A list of future Theodore Talks can be found on the [Mensa National Events Calendar](#) or by visiting the [American Mensa home page](#).

Questions? Contact us at [MensaTheodoreTalks@gmail.com](mailto:MensaTheodoreTalks@gmail.com).

The Theodore Talk lecture series is offered free to all members in an effort to provide more value to their membership.



San Francisco Regional Mensa  
Virtual Presentation Series



## The Role of the Amygdala in Social Thinking Your 'Lizard Brain' Talking

Dr. Rodrigo Braga

Sunday, April 19, 2:30pm PT

More information  
<https://livepresentation.link/info>

## M-Wisely's Cafe

*Bringing thought-provoking presentations to intelligent beings throughout the galaxy*



## Patterns of the Paranormal

Dan Punzak



Saturday, April 11  
2:30 pm PACIFIC TIME

 San Francisco Regional Mensa

## Puzzle Solutions

1. Something under a launched rocket (5,5) = vapor trail
2. Unrefrigerated source of vitamin D (10, 4) = evaporated milk
3. A gourmet soda of the Old West (12) = sarsaparilla
4. More contented minor (7,5) = happier child
5. Admirer of a person with mountain goat sign (9,5) = Capricorn lover
6. Recorded court event (5,5) = taped trial
7. Master a dentistry kill (5, 8) = grasp drilling
8. Ingest certain potato chips (3,8) = eat Pringles
9. Very serious risk (5,5) = major peril
10. Escort kids (9,8) = chaperone children



# Central Indiana Mensa

## Treasurer's Report

2/28/2026

*Emily Boomershine, Treasurer*

### Statement of Assets

Account	Balance
(1) PNC Checking – Regular	\$ 2,832.06
(2) PNC Checking – Scholarships	\$ 237.00
(3) PNC Checking – Events	\$ 3,902.06
(4) MG Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
(5) CD – First Internet	\$ 10,370.81
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 17,366.93</b>

### Statement of Activity

Activity	Amount
<b>Receipts</b>	
Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 45.00
National Support	\$ 410.12
Interest	\$ 32.67
<b>Receipts Total</b>	<b>\$ 487.79</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ (100.00)
MIND Printing	\$ (340.00)
<b>Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$ (440.00)</b>
<b>Net Activity</b>	<b>\$ 47.79</b>

## Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 2/17/26

*Karen Wilczewski*

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:43 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 January meeting minutes were reviewed. Ann moved and Judy seconded that the January minutes be approved as amended.

Ann moved to accept the January Treasurer's Report, Judy seconded. The motion passed.

The January membership report was compiled by Jan based on information available as of 1/31/26 from American Mensa: total members: 425; 2 new, 1 move-in, 1 rejoin, and 6 prospects.

### **Old Business**

Scholarship Fund: As a reminder, the John Matthews Scholarship is CIM's local scholarship to which donations can be made. The funds are managed and distributed by the Mensa Foundation. Any funds collected locally will be forwarded to the Foundation. Funds donated directly to the Foundation are tax deductible. Members donating directly to the Foundation should be sure to specify that their donations are to go to the Central Indiana Mensa John Matthews Scholarship.

OG Update: Due to previous commitments, Teresa and Jan won't be able to attend this year's OG. Teresa has approached the Cincinnati Hell's M's group to see if they would run this year's event. John Masura, Mary Lee, and Virginia have chaired previous AGs and have agreed to do this year's event. Teresa will sign them in on Friday evening and turn all information over to them for the remainder of the weekend. Karen Steilberger will set up the Eventbrite registration component. Teresa is looking for someone at the event to assist with tear down and make sure items are returned to her in Indianapolis.

February's monthly speaker has been confirmed. The topic is origami.

Rummage Sale: Updates include plans to put an announcement in the All Souls Unitarian Church newsletter and publicizing on social media platforms, including Facebook Marketplace, the Devonshire community, Nextdoor, Instagram, neon-colored signs, local coffee shops, Lawrence Central High School, and more. Plus, Candis has a list of area radio stations that could announce our rummage sale, including local high school stations.

Jan offered to create a Facebook page promoting the event and Candis and Judy will collaborate on pricing items before the sale.

### **New Business**

The ExCom then discussed forming a Nominations Committee that will be seeking candidates interested in running for ExCom later this year.

A motion was made to appoint Bob Zdanky as chair, with Larry Marcus and Sharon Merriman as members. Judy motioned and Ann seconded that we accept the NonCom slate. The motion unanimously passed.

Leo will address AI at a future monthly meeting.

Judy correctly identified “Molly” in Punxsutawney for Groundhog Day.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

## **DISCUSSION GROUP - OPEN TO ALL MENSANS**

*Kenneth Lawrence*

We meet Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday (not Thursday) at 2PM ET

Some Mensans enjoy talking about a wide variety of subjects. Others simply enjoy hearing other points of view. We can do that through Zoom. Questions may be directed to [VirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com](mailto:VirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com)

**When: Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturdays (not Thursday) at 2pm ET**

Host Ken Lawrence can be reached at [VirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com](mailto:VirtualDiscussionGroup@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Zoom Info:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86726108623?pwd=cUgyelF2K0ZLQzNWbVByZE9UMXpxdz09>

Meeting ID: 867 2610 8623

Passcode: 1234

# Mensa Monthly Gathering Location

## All Souls Unitarian Church

### 5805 E. 56<sup>th</sup> St., Indianapolis

- From I-465 on the east side of Indianapolis, take the 56<sup>th</sup> 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

