

September 2026
Volume 62, Number 9



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Mollie the Mensa Owl in mourning

Publishing Statement

Central Indiana Mensa, a Local Group of American Mensa, Ltd., publishes *MIND* monthly. Mensa is a not-for-profit organization open to all persons scoring in the 98th percentile on a standardized intelligence test. Mensa neither endorses nor opposes the opinions published in *MIND*, which are those of the individual contributors.

Contribution Guidelines

MIND contributions may be sent to mind.editor@yahoo.com, or Richard Gibson, 5726 Toad Hollow Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46220. Contributions may be edited for length or to remove offensive material and may not include personal attacks. No anonymous contributions will be published, but the Editor will withhold the author's name from the public on request. Contributions should be submitted no later than the Friday following the ExCom meeting (usually the third Friday of the month) for the following month's edition.

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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, 1315 Brookside Dr., Hurst, TX 76053-3952 Include membership number.



Website: centralindiana.us.mensa.org

or- www.indymensa.org

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From the Editor's Cubicle

Rich Gibson, Editor

Where's Mollie? Standard reminder: First, Mollie (*Mensa owl-lie*) appears on the cover of MIND with a person or in a place appropriate to that month. Second, if you provide the right answer at the Monthly Gathering, you'll be entered in a drawing for a door prize. Third, these are AI images; the gap between what I want and what it gives me can be huge. So, you deserve a hint: It happened 25 years ago this month. ***Fourth, a photo of last month's winner is on page 22.***



I was a few months shy of my 30th year in, and mandatory retirement from, the Air Force. I was one day away from flying to Germany to celebrate a reunion of the tactical reconnaissance wing I had flown with out of tiny Zweibrücken Air Base. I expected a vacation full of good friends, good times, touring, schnitzel, and beer. At that morning's staff meeting, we were interrupted by news of an airplane crashing into the World Trade Center. What a tragedy! Now, where were we? Seventeen minutes later, we learned a second airliner had hit the other tower. We all immediately knew something extremely bad was happening.

Shortly after, the base commander sent everyone home. Orders came from on high that all stateside military bases were to be evacuated of all nonessential personnel. It smarted, badly, to be labeled *nonessential* in a national emergency. But if you weren't in security or intelligence or part of the ground-to-cockpit command and control system that could vector a fighter to intercept an intruder, that's what you were.

"Oh well," I thought. "At least I can demonstrate my solidarity with America while I'm in Germany." Then they grounded all air traffic, indefinitely. I have never felt so helpless, and angry, and empty, in my life. I so badly wanted to do something, to be part of an effort to strike back, and make them pay. Whoever they were. But the powers that be told me I was of most use by staying out of the way...

Sorry. Not your standard editor's opinion piece, but I wanted to share, and what better time? Enjoy this issue, the month, and the rest of your life. But take time, every now and then, to reflect on how precarious and how precious our lives are.

LocSection

Jan Pfeil Doyle



HalloweeM - Coming up October 29-Nov 1 is HalloweeM, Chicago Area Mensa's Regional Gathering. It's one of the largest RGs, with something for everyone: hospitality, interesting speakers, games, contests, and hundreds of fellow Mensans. The costume contest on Friday night always has creative entries. Many winners are plays on words. One of my favorites was three people walking together in a row. The outer two had on lion costumes. The person in the middle was reading a book. Their costume was "reading between the lions." 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/



Enjoying the Santorini Greek Buffet

2026-27 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Title	Author(s)	Date
Tuesdays with Morrie	Mitch Albom	9/20/2026
The Science of Magic	Dean Radin	10/18/2026
Galileo's Error	Philip Goff	11/15/2026
A World Appears	Michael Pollan	12/20/2026
An Immense World	Ed Yong	1/17/2027
The Power of Life	Jessica Riskin	2/21/2027
Otherlands	Thomas Halliday	3/21/2027
Humble Pi	Matt Parker	4/18/2027
Blueprints	Marcus DeSatuoy	5/16/2027
Secondhand	Adam Minter	6/20/2027
	Eliezer	
If Anyone Builds It, Everyone Dies	Yudkowsky	7/18/2027
We Are As Gods	Peter Diamandis	8/15/2027
Strong Towns	Charles Marohn	9/19/2027
The Revenge of Geography	Robert D. Kaplan	10/17/2027
The End of Everything	Katie Mack	11-21/2027

Mensa Book Group Previews

Rich Gibson

THIS MONTH: *Tuesdays With Morrie*, by Mitch Albom

Tuesdays With Morrie: An Old Man, A Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson, by Mitch Albom, 192 pp, published 2002, Crown Publishing. The Mensa Book Group will meet at 2:00 PM Eastern time on Sunday, September 20. The Events and Calendar have more information.

Mitch Albom was a sports writer for the *Detroit Free Press* in the 1990s when he learned his old Brandeis sociology professor, Morrie Schwartz, was dying. The disease left his mind fairly intact while it ravaged the body inexorably and irreversibly. A newspaper strike gave Albom a lot of free time, so he reconnected with Morrie and visited him every Tuesday for 14 weeks. This book is classified as a memoir. It addresses Albom's time as a student and his career as a sportswriter, but it mostly covers his visits with Schwartz, Schwartz' decline, and the life lessons he taught Albom.

This book may have important lessons to teach or reinforce. It's been around for 25 years; your library certainly has a copy. Why not pick it up and give it a try? You may want to join us on Sunday, September 20th, at 2:00 PM to discuss it. We'd love to see you!

NEXT MONTH: *The Science of Magic*, by Dean Radin

The Science of Magic: How the Mind Weaves the Fabric of Reality, by Dean Radin, 192 pp, published 2025, Harmony Books (Penguin Random House).. The Mensa Book Group will meet at 2:00 PM Eastern time on Sunday, October 18th. The Events and Calendar have more information.

Psi is the term scientists use when they prefer not to use *magic*. Both terms are little used by most self-respecting scientists, though there have been scientific studies for decades that show some human beings have a statistically significant ability to demonstrate psi powers. Admittedly, you won't see psi adepts levitating tall buildings or correctly predicting every local and national election. All the same, something isn't nothing. Humans have demonstrated the ability to predict and influence future outcomes, describe scenes that are distant in space and time, and show abilities that are not explicable by physical effects alone.

Today, science is dominated by a materialist philosophy—that everything is reducible to physical phenomena. That materialism does not explain consciousness is, forgive the pun, immaterial to its adherents. They hold confidence that brain mapping will, some day soon, trace each individual thought to neuronal activity; but they seem unable to admit that correlation is not causation.

This book is crucial for its discussion of consciousness and psi, and the scientific evidence showing that there's more to life than materialism can account for. It gets classified as a self-help book, for it ends with a few tests and exercises that might help you cultivate and grow your psi abilities. To see it only as such is a grave underestimation of what this book is about. Give it a try. If it pushes you one way or another, why don't you participate in the Book Group discussion of it at 2:00 PM Eastern on Sunday, October 18th? We'd love to see you.

Regional Vice Chair Thoughts

Beth Weiss



As summer winds down, I've enjoyed seeing photos and hearing stories from Local Group picnics, outdoor gatherings, game days, and other activities throughout Region 4. One of the great strengths of Mensa is that there isn't just one way to participate. Whether your group hosted a large event or a handful of members met for lunch, every opportunity for members to connect helps strengthen our community.

As your Regional Vice Chair, I've been thinking about my own priorities for Region 4. My goal is simple: help our Local Groups, volunteers, and members succeed. That means helping volunteers succeed, encouraging Local Groups to learn from one another, improving communication across the region, and fostering connections that make Mensa a more rewarding experience for everyone. Those priorities also guide much of my work at the national level, because strengthening Local Groups ultimately strengthens American Mensa as a whole.

While the strategic pillars provide national direction, my focus is on what they mean here in Region 4—helping our Local Groups succeed and ensuring our members have the best possible Mensa experience.

At the American Mensa level, the Board continues to focus on the five strategic pillars adopted earlier this year. These pillars represent areas where we believe focused effort can make the greatest difference for the future of our organization. Together, they reflect our commitment to addressing member concerns about membership growth, volunteer support, and creating a better experience for both new and longtime members.

Looking ahead, HalloweeM will take place October 30–November 1 in the Chicago area. If you've been thinking about attending a Regional Gathering—or introducing a friend to one—this is a terrific opportunity. **Registration is open, and I encourage you to sign up early.**

There will be proctored testing on Saturday morning at **9:00 a.m.**, so encourage your guest to test. I'll also be presenting two Leadership Development Workshops on Saturday afternoon. One will introduce the Local Group Toolkit (wiki.us.mensa.org) and how it is being developed to help Local Groups and their volunteers. The other will be a Leadership Roundtable where we'll share questions, ideas, and opinions—recognizing that if you have five Mensans, you'll get at least six opinions.

Most importantly, I'd love to hear from you. Tell me what's working in your Local Group, what challenges you're facing, or what ideas you have for making Mensa an even better organization. Your feedback helps me represent Region 4 more effectively, and I always enjoy hearing from members across the region.

937-902-5161 rvc4@us.mensa.org



Ralph Buratto	Indianapolis	IN	Joined
Steven Erlandson	Anderson	IN	Rejoin
Janet Fowler	Newburgh	IN	MoveIn
Royce Hawes	Carmel	IN	Joined
Melissa Jackson	Indianapolis	IN	MoveIn
Colin Niemiec	Attica	IN	MoveIn

Puzzle Column

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

3-STATE WORDS

Find words that contain 3 state abbreviations, based on the descriptions and letter counts.

Example: Popular stadium event – 8 letters – could be B AL L GA ME.

1. Esoteric – 6 letters.
2. A bandit's place of refuge – 7 letters
3. A traveling begging cleric – 9 letters
4. Possible seating option – 7 letters
5. Peace companion – 7 letters
6. Dopamine, for one – 7 letters
7. Doris Day's Jane – 8 letters
8. It may come from interest – 6 letters
9. Exacerbate – 7 letters
10. Told – 8 letters

Solutions on page 18

September 2026 Events

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

9/2, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

9/16, 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

9/5, 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:** Alison Brown, 317-846-6798, SIGHT@indymensa.org

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

9/9, 2:00pm ET King Dough Pizzas, 12505 Old Meridian, Carmel

9/23, 2:00pm ET - Cheeky Bastards, 11320 Fall Creek Rd, Indianapolis, 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.

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

VIRTUAL and LIVE Monthly Gathering – 2nd Friday

9/11, 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

LIVE Sit-N-Knit – 2nd Saturday

9/12, 11:00am ET

MOTW Coffee Shop, 12761 Old Meridian St, Carmel, IN

RSVP Emily Boomershine - emilyknits@comcast.net

LIVE Culture Vulture

9/18, 7:30 PM

Tipton High School Auditorium, 619 S. Main St, Tipton, IN 46072

"Almost, Maine" a 2004 American play written by John Cariani, comprising nine short plays that explore love and loss in a remote, mythical almost-town called Almost, Maine. Adults \$12, Seniors (62+) and Students (13-College) \$10. If there is interest we can meet in Tipton for dinner before the show.

RSVP Alison Brown SIGHT@indymensa.org

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

9/20, 2:00pm ET

Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom

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

9/20, 6:00pm ET

Convivio, 5986 Midland Pointe Blvd, Noblesville, IN

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

LIVE Fifth Wednesday – Something Special When There Is An Extra
Wednesday

9/30, 2:00pm ET

The Garage Food Hall in the Bottleworks District, 906 Carrollton Avenue

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

September 2026

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 Fifth Wednesday

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 Monthly Gathering	12 Sit-N-Knit
17	18 Culture Vulture	19
24	25	26

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.

The Spark You Might Not Know About

Molly Bundschuh

One of my favorite parts of Mensa's Annual Gathering is one that many attendees never see. While the rest of the AG is in full swing, several dozen Young Mensans are gathered in their own space, spending three days learning, creating, making friends, and embracing the things most of us love about Mensa. It's called Spark!, and for many families, it's the highlight of the AG. Spark! is more than just a place for kids to spend time while their parents attend the AG. It's an opportunity to meet others who share their interests and excitement about learning. It's a place where asking weird questions is encouraged, where being passionate about a niche topic is celebrated, and where kids can discover they aren't the only ones who think the way they do. We keep a packed schedule. This year's participants explored aviation, wildlife, art, robotics, biology, chemistry, environmental science, and problem-solving through activities led by organizations including the Frontiers of Flight Museum, Wildlife on the Move, Crayola Imagine Arts Academy, Snapology, Mad Science of DFW, the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, Blackland Prairie Raptor Center, Dallas Arboretum, Challenge Island, and more. Mensa members shared their own passions, too, leading sessions on everything from music and wordplay to mathematics and pirates. One of our own Young Mensans, 12-year-old Tanvi G. from Northern New Jersey Mensa, led three talks about quantum physics and presented like a seasoned pro. In between workshops, presentations, crafts, and games, Young Mensans discover that here at Mensa, they're surrounded by peers who share their enthusiasm. They don't have to apologize for knowing too much or getting excited about topics other kids might not understand. They can just be themselves. Friendships form quickly. Kids who arrive a little shy leave asking how many days remain until next year's AG. Parents exchange phone numbers. Families reconnect with friends they've made over the years. For many, Spark! is what turns the AG from a one-time excursion into an yearly reunion. That sense of connection is reflected in the numbers, too. This year, Spark! welcomed its largest group of participants in over a decade. We cap the program at around 65 children each year so that every child has the opportunity to participate, make connections, and feel like part of the group. Every spot represents a family making Spark! part of their AG experience and a child getting the chance to find their people. If you've got a Young Mensan aged 4–12, I hope your family will consider joining us for Spark! at next year's AG in Atlanta, June 30–July 4. Be on the

lookout for registration this fall! And if you don't have a Young Mensan, I hope you'll remember Spark! anyway. Our youngest members aren't just the future of American Mensa - they're an important part of our community today. Lots of Mensans join because they want more opportunities to meet people who operate on their level. Spark! is a reminder that the experience of finding people who understand you isn't unique to adulthood. Our youngest members deserve those opportunities, too. A game day, a science activity, a family meetup, or simply giving a Young Mensan a chance to share something they love can be enough to get started. If you're looking for ways to support youth members in your Local Group, I'd love to help! You can reach me at mollyb@americanmensa.org

Books On the Runway

Rich Gibson

<i>Author:</i>	Andrea Wulf
<i>Title:</i>	<i>Chasing Venus</i>
<i>Subtitle:</i>	<i>The Race to Measure the Heavens</i>
<i>Publisher:</i>	Alfred A. Knopf
<i>Year:</i>	2012
<i>Pages:</i>	206 (text), 307 (total)

Book description: By the mid-18C, knowledge of the heavens was on a good footing yet had a long way to go. Copernicus had set the Sun at the center of the solar system two centuries before; about half a century before, Newton had described how gravity was the same force that keeps your feet on the ground and keeps Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn in orbit. Telescopes were improving and were bringing more of the planets and their moons close enough for examination. Geometry was helping us understand the relative shape of the solar system; Jupiter is about five times farther from the Sun than we are on Earth.

But how far is the Earth from the Sun? No-one knew, until Edmund Halley (Astronomer Royal of the UK; the comet is named after him) proposed a way in 1716. He calculated that the planet Venus would cross in front of the Sun in 1761 and again in 1769. Even though he knew he wouldn't live long enough to participate in the effort, he proposed an international scientific effort to measure these transits of Venus. The math is basic geometry: measuring the times that Venus entered and left the Sun's circumference, from as many widely separated points on Earth as possible, would allow measurement of the angle of *parallax* (hold your thumb out in front of you at arm's length. The amount the background shifts when you look through only one eye, then the other, is

parallax) between Sun and Earth. Given the angle of parallax, computing the distance is fairly trivial...but tedious without an electronic calculator!

The international community came together in the late 1750's to organize expeditions to far corners of the Earth. It was led by the French and the British scientific communities, even though France and the UK were engaged in the Seven Years' War at the time. Through their efforts at both transits, they came up with an extremely accurate measurement.

This effort was the first international scientific project, and set the precedent for science transcending politics. As well, the expeditions made enormous advances in our knowledge of our own world. You can't set up an astronomical observatory in Tahiti without a) discovering Tahiti and b) exploring it to find the best location. Famous names are scattered through this story, including Voltaire, Benjamin Franklin, Mason and Dixon (who went from their work on the 1761 transit to mark out the border between Pennsylvania and Maryland), and Captain Cook (who on his voyage discovered Australia and established that observatory in Tahiti)

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

This was an extremely enjoyable and informative read by one of my favorite authors, Andrea Wulf. She has written one outstanding, superb book, *The Invention of Nature*, about Alexander Humboldt; this is a worthy addition to her body of work. But life-changing? Afraid not..

Who should read this book? Why?

Anyone interested in the history of science, the story of how we learned our place in the solar system and the universe, should enjoy this book

How long might it take to read the book?

I try to read seventy-five (75) pages a day, so it took me three days. At just a hair over 200 pages, it can be done in a week, easily.

Provide a short characteristic section, an awesome sentence, or an inspiring quote: From the introduction. Doesn't it make you want to keep reading?

The scientists, who were to leave their observatories in the learned centers of Europe to view Venus from remote outposts of the known world, made for strange adventurers too. At first sight they may not have looked like adventurous explorers, but as they chased Venus across the globe they did so with extraordinary intrepidity, bravery, and ingenuity. On 6 June 1761 and again on 3 June 1769, several astronomers all over the world pointed their telescopes towards the sky to see Venus travel across the sun. They ignored religious, national and economic differences to unite in what was the first global scientific project. This is their story.



Theodore Talk: Born Smart or Built Smart? The Truth About Intelligence and Effort

Brad Lucht/Shirley Mouer

This virtual event will take place on Zoom September 27 at 3:30 p.m. Eastern time.

In our highly polarized societies, chances are good that you have run across someone who disagrees with you. Whether you just want increased harmony or you want to get your views across despite the hostile terrain, both can be achieved with key communication strategies. Even people who are highly resistant to you and your ideas can lower their guard and embrace your information if you (a) identify which of the prevailing cognitive obstacles is behind an audience's resistance to your facts and (b) communicate in a way that targets the underlying reasons for the resistance (which are often not the same reasons your audience thinks are driving his/her/their resistance). This presentation will help you understand what is happening in the brain of someone who disagrees with you and will arm you with surprising (yet practical) strategies for persuading even the most averse audience and achieving better discussions and relations in the process.

Mensan Jenny Grant Rankin, PhD, has taught these strategies at Columbia University and the University of Cambridge, as well as in her books and Psychology Today online column, and while training federal agents, researchers, business executives, educators, and others on the best ways to share information. This engaging presentation, based on Dr. Rankin's upcoming book, *Data & Goliath's Armor: How to Communicate Data in a Fact-Resistant World*, will

merge rich storytelling with comprehensive research to surprise you, delight you, and inform you along the way. You surely have a wealth of knowledge to share as a Mensan, and this Theodore Talk will help your brilliant ideas gain a more brilliant reception, no matter your audience's initial opposition.

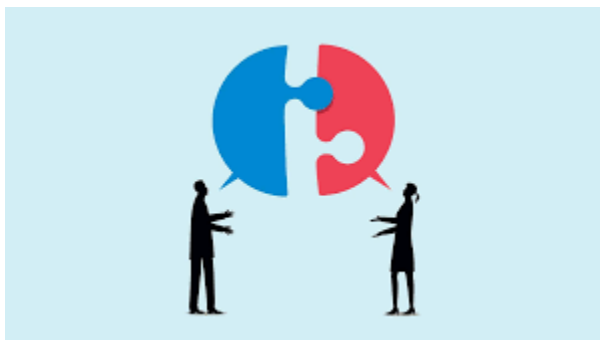
Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/ypyp84x>

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.

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.



Puzzle Solutions

Solutions:

1. Esoteric – 6 letters = **AR CA NE**
2. A bandit's place of refuge – 7 letters = **HI DE O UT**
3. A traveling begging cleric – 9 letters = **ME ND I CA NT**
4. Possible seating option – 7 letters = **B AL CO NY**
5. Peace companion – 7 letters = **H AR MO NY**
6. Dopamine, for one – 7 letters = **H OR MO NE**
7. Doris Day's Jane – 8 letters = **CA LA MI TY**
8. It may come from interest – 6 letters = **IN CO ME**
9. Exacerbate – 7 letters = **IN FL A ME**

10. Told – 8 letters = **IN F O R M E D**

M-Wisely's Cafe

Join us for thought-provoking discussions with intelligent beings throughout the galaxy

**Now open every
Saturday - 2:30 pm
PACIFIC TIME**

<https://space-talk.link/cafe>

 San Francisco Regional Mensa

M-Wisely's Cafe

Judy Unger, San Francisco Regional Mensa

M-Wisely's Cafe is being true to its name by opening for chat/coffee/happy hour. We will be open every Saturday at 2:30 pm PST (5:30 Eastern). Please feel free to drop in any time to relax and just talk. We will at least start with a sci-fi, space or speculative science topic and may even have a speaker.

Join us on Zoom: <https://space-talk.link/cafe>

Central Indiana Mensa **Treasurer's Report**

7/31/2026

Emily Boomershine, Treasurer

Statement of Assets

Account	Balance
(1) PNC Checking – Regular	\$ 2,671.58
(2) PNC Checking – Scholarships	\$ 1,158.20
(3) PNC Checking – Events	\$ 3,236.28
(4) MG Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
(5) CD – First Internet	\$ 10,109.70
Total Assets	\$ 17,200.76

Statement of Activity

Activity	Amount
Receipts	
National Support	\$ 374.44
Interest	\$ 30.90
Scholarship Support	\$ 500.00
Receipts Total	\$ 905.34
Transfers	
Annual Outdoor Gathering	\$ (500.00)
Transfers Total	\$ (500.00)
Expenses	
Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ (100.00)
MIND Printing	\$ (339.08)
Culture Quest	\$ (50.00)
Annual Outdoor Gathering Costs	\$ (835.08)
Scholarship fund transfer to MERF	\$ (50.00)
Expenses Total	\$ (1,374.16)
Net Activity	\$ (968.82)

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 7/21/26

Karen Wilczeski, Ann Hake

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, July 21, 2026.

LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

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

Absent: Candis King

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

The June meeting minutes were reviewed. Judy moved and Ann seconded the June minutes be approved as amended. The motion passed.

Ann moved to accept the June Treasurer's Report as presented, Ethan seconded. The motion passed.

The June membership report was compiled by Jan based on information available as of 6/30/26 from American Mensa: total members: 392; 0 new, 1 move-in, 1 rejoin, and 6 prospects.

Old Business

We did not receive any petitions to run for the upcoming ExCom by the July 1 deadline. As a result, the slate of 9 candidates is considered elected by acclamation. The new ExCom members – Teresa Gregory (LocSec), Ethan Blocher-Smith, Emily Boomershine, Len Farber, Ann Hake, Candis King, Catherine Knox, Judy Weitzman, and Karen Wilczewski – will take office October 1, 2026.

In terms of lapsed members, Judy has offered to reach out to see if they would like to rejoin. She will send an email, then for those who don't respond, she will send a snail mail invite to rejoin. The cost of snail mail would be \$0.84 per first-class piece with potential reimbursement of \$0.50 per returning member. The snail mail letters need to be postmarked by July 31. There could be up to 60-70 recipients.

New Business

CIMple Minds won CultureQuest® this year! Congratulations to the team: Captain Ann Hake, with Jon Applegate, Emily Boomershine, Rich Gibson, and Ken Koziol.

Also representing CIM was the The Naptown Nerds team, consisting of Captain Teresa Gregory, with Ethan Blocher-Smith, Candis King, Larry Marcus, and Kurt Williams.

Naptown Nerds won CultureQuest® last year; between the two teams, CIM accomplished a CultureQuest® 3-peat® this year!

Longtime CIM member Laurel Richardson let us know that her husband, Lew Richardson, also a longtime member, has passed away. A celebration of life/memorial service will be held on Monday, August 10, 2026. Local group members are invited. In addition, a \$50 donation will be made to the John Matthews Scholarship Fund in his memory and Jan will write a condolence letter to Laurel.

Bill Tilford contacted Judy about a potential veterinary anesthesia museum event in Rossville. The museum is open Saturdays and Sundays from 12-6 p.m. and is

located near West Lafayette. Once Bill chooses a date and time, the information will be shared with the members.

Rich will post in MIND the new slate of ExCom officers starting on October 1, based on election by acclamation. Teresa will help Rich with appropriate verbiage. Plus, brief bios of the two newest ExCom members, Len Farber, and Catherine Knox, will be featured in the August MIND.

The next Sit 'n Knit is set for Saturday, August 8, the day after the monthly meeting.

Alan Schmidt was the winner of last month's Where's Molly contest. Molly was in Philadelphia. Congratulations, Alan!

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



*Ethan Blocher-Smith correctly places Mollie at the State Fair!
Congratulations!*

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

