

October 2026
Volume 62, Number 10



mind

Mensa Newsletter
Of Central Indiana



Mollie the Mensa Owl heading to a party with a friend

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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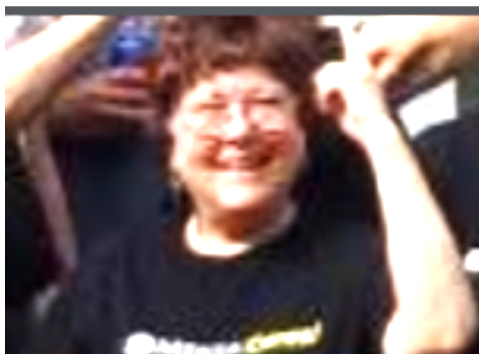
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From the Editor's Cubicle

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 or three: Johnny Depp movie from 1999. Disney cartoon that showed every Halloween on TV, way back when. Famous Washington Irving story, but not about Rip Van Winkle. Fourth, Alison Brown successfully identified that Mollie was at the Indiana State Fair on last month's cover! Congratulations, Alison!



Well, summer's on its way out as I write this, and gone when you read it. Better batten down the hatches, and be prepared for your eyes to get knocked out by all the lavish and spectacular colors of autumn. The maples are magnificent, but I have a particular fondness for the burning bushes. We didn't have them in Georgia, and when we moved up here thirteen years ago I was gobsmacked when the up-to-then innocuous shrubbery in folks' yards suddenly exploded in red. I still love them. Summer's leaving with a last breathless gasp of temps in the high 80's and 90's, so I'm sure we all cannot wait for cooler temperatures. Opening a window? Walking outside in the afternoon? Sweater weather? The autumn leaves drift by the window, the autumn leaves of red and gold...

Well, enough of that. Puzzles, poetry, and events, both Zoom and in person, await you in these pages. Enjoy!

Old Dog/New Tricks

Teresa Gregory, LocSec

It started in October 2006. I attended the Mensa Diamond Celebration in England and stayed for another week. I left London on Monday, got home on Tuesday, heard on Wednesday from the RVC that I was the new LocSec, then went back to work on Thursday where my boss announced the company was closing and I was losing my job. Few weeks have been so momentous.



My mother used to say a bad penny always comes back. In May 2026, the US stopped minting pennies, yet here I am.

We are excited to welcome two new members to the ExCom this term, bumping our number up to nine. The only ExCommer not moving forward is Jan Pfeil Doyle who will be taking a much-deserved break. Quoting my last LocSec column in 2022: *Who else can I text at 3am and know she's still up? My friend, Jan Pfeil Doyle. I have bounced so many ideas off her, unleashed so many rants that I can't unleash on anyone else. I trust her judgement implicitly. **CIM would not be what it is without her.***

I stand by that statement. Thank you, Jan, for keeping this ship afloat and headed in the right direction. And don't think you're off the hook for 3am texts.

I'll have more news next month after our first ExCom meeting. Just because they no longer mint pennies doesn't mean I won't give you my two-cents worth.

Looking ahead to the new year, would anyone be interested in an in-person or online writing group? I would like to write memoir-type stories for my children, but I need a nudge (or a swift kick in the pants) to get it done. How about an online gardening club? I watch a lot of YouTube videos with gardening advice, but I'd love to chat with people in my growing zone about what's working for them and what's not. This year, there are more checkmarks in the "what's not" column than I would like. What about a photography group? Most people have cameras in their pockets, but do they know how to take pictures that people would like to see? Does anyone else have an activity or hobby they would like to share with others in the group or something new they would like to learn? Please let me know if you have any suggestions and we'll see if there are others who share a similar interest either as a one-time thing or a recurring activity.

Happy Halloween!

2026-27 Book Group Reading List

Rich Gibson

Title	Author(s)	Date
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
If Anyone Builds It, Everyone Dies	Eliezer 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: *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.

NEXT MONTH: *Galileo's Error*, by Philip Goff

Galileo's Error; Foundations for a New Science of Consciousness, by Philip Goff, 256 pages, published 2019. Vintage/Knopf Doubleday. The Mensa Book Group will meet at 2:00 PM Eastern time on Sunday, November 15th. The Events and Calendar will have more information.

One of Galileo's famous sayings is not actually his (so I'll paraphrase): Measure everything that is measurable, and make measurable what isn't. This is the spirit (har!) of the error this book addresses. While this point of view enabled enormous progress in physics, the implicit converse—if it can't be measured, it's somewhere in between irrelevant and non-existent—means that modern science is unable to get a grip on the fundamental nature of our existence: the fact that we are alive and conscious. Rene Descartes' famous dictum, *I think, therefore I am*, was the basis of his entire philosophy, and restates this point with emphasis.

Philip Goff is a philosopher who asserts that we are overdue for addressing this gap in our worldview. He follows a trail trod by such 20C scientific and intellectual giants as Planck, Heisenberg, Eddington, and Russell: *Panpsychism*, the concept that consciousness is a fundamental part of reality. Consciousness pervades reality; the real world is immersed in consciousness; however you want to express it, even the tiniest slice of reality and capital-R Reality as a whole is conscious.

Pretty wild idea, isn't it? The Mensa Book Group is going to convene in person and on Zoom to beat this concept around. I suspect the discussion will be animated (har!), spirited (hardy-har!), and a whole mess of fun. Why don't you find a copy, read it, and come throw in your two cents? We'd love to see you!

Regional Vice Chair Thoughts

Beth Weiss

One of the projects I'm most excited about right now is the **Local Group Toolkit**—and I've realized that many Mensa volunteers still don't know it exists. You can find it at **wiki.us.mensa.org**—use your American Mensa website credentials to log in.



The Toolkit is intended to be a practical, easy-to-use resource for Local Group volunteers. Rather than expecting each new officer to figure out a role from scratch—or hoping that someone in the group remembers how things have always been done—we're bringing together information, ideas, examples, and resources that can help volunteers get started and be successful.

The Task Force started with the **Membership Officer** role, but there's already material in the Toolkit that can be useful to volunteers in many different roles. You'll find resources on communicating with members, welcoming and engaging new members, serving members who live farther from the geographic center of a Local Group, writing up activities for your Local Group's communication channels, planning a mix of activities, renewals and retention, and more.

Take a look at wiki.us.mensa.org. Even if you aren't a Membership Officer, there may be something there you can use.

And Membership Officer was only the beginning. We're now tackling **LocSec and Treasurer**, with the goal of continuing to expand the Toolkit to support more of the people who make our Local Groups work.

We also want your help.

This isn't intended to be a static handbook handed down. We want it to be a resource that reflects what volunteers actually need. If something is missing, unclear, difficult to find, or simply not useful, we want to know. And if you have

a resource, idea, or practice that has worked particularly well in your Local Group, we want to know that, too.

The goal is simple: **make the Toolkit as useful as possible to as many Mensa volunteers as we can.** I'm excited about putting this tool in people's hands and seeing where we can take it next.

On a more personal note, Stan and I had a wonderful time with Heart of Illinois Mensa at their lunch and wine tasting. The restaurant was great, and the wine tasting was paired with some truly amazing chocolates. Even better, of course, was the company.

Mensa means a great deal to me, and I'm always happy to spend time with people who value Mensa, too. One of the best parts of being RVC is getting opportunities to visit Local Groups and spend time with Mensans throughout Region 4.

Puzzle Column

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

Words that contain a 3-letter word inside them.

Find words that contain an unrelated 3-letter word inside them, based on clues and letter counts.

Example: extended a subscription (7) – female ovine = **renewed**.

1. Careless (6 letters) – cut off
2. Doing a background check (7 letters) – a metal
3. Unnecessary (11 letters) – a disease
4. Poorly suited (11 letters) – young guy
5. Test for likeness (10 letters) – adequate
6. Choice of instrumentation (11 letters) – precious mineral
7. Result of proper digestion (10 letters) – bar bill
8. A verbal action (11 letters) – container for liquids
9. Egg choice (9 letters) – male ovine
10. Bornean or Sumatran ape (9 letters) – sought office

Solutions on page 19

October 2026 Events

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

10/3, 10:00am - 12 noon ET

Atrio, 11700 Illinois St. (Carmel, IN, located at IU Health. Located just off the atrium on the first floor on the left as you enter the building from the north entrance.

Breakfast served till 11 a.m., then lunch starts. Drop in any time for casual conversation, lively discussion, and good food and beverages. Contact: Jen Clark <jclark7251@gmail.com>

Indy Lunch Bunch – 1st and 3rd Wednesday

10/7, 12:00 noon ET - Virtual *Online*

10/21, 12:00 noon ET - MCL Restaurant and Bakery, 2370 W. 86th St, Indianapolis

RSVP Karen Steilberger, steilkr@sbcglobal.net

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 and VIRTUAL Monthly Gathering - 2nd Friday,

10/9, 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.

We will be upstairs in the Beattie Room. Please do not arrive before 7:00pm.

James Lowery will be presenting: Constructed Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment: A Nontechnical Overview

This presentation explains an alternative wastewater treatment system that uses plants to naturally clean wastewater such as domestic (homesite) wastewater, industrial wastewater, business buildings discharges, stormwater, etc. It will explain how plants clean wastewater and the different types of constructed wetlands.

James Lowery is former Director of Management Support Services, University of Birmingham

LIVE Sit-N-Knit – 2nd Saturday

10/10, 11:00am ET

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

RSVP Emily Boomersshine - emilyknits@comcast.net

LIVE Mensa Chowhounds Lunch – 2nd and 4th Wednesday

10/14, 2:00pm ET

Mill Tavern

226 W 161st St, Westfield, IN 46074

Recommended by Alison Brown

10/28, 2:00pm ET

Big Woods

1002 Main St, Speedway, IN

Recommended by Larry Marcus

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

LIVE Games and Conversation Night – 3rd Saturday, Even Months

10/17, 7:00pm – 10:30pm ET

Westfield, IN

Join Candis and Robert King for an evening of Games & Conversation. **Please call 630-642-9063 or 630-253-1350** to indicate you will be there and to get the address.

VIRTUAL and LIVE Book Group

10/18, 2:00pm ET

The Science of Magic by Dean Radin

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

10/18, 6pm ET

Yak & Yeti

11561 103 Geist Pavilion Dr, Fishers, IN

Repeat -- It was enjoyed by all at our previous visit.

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

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
4 *Sunday Social*	5	6	7 *Lunch Bunch*
11 *Sunday Social*	12	13	14 Chowhounds
18 Book Group; Dining Out	19	20 * ExCom*	21 Lunch Bunch
25 *Sunday Social*	26	27	28 Chowhounds

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
1	2	3 Ham'n Eggs
8	9 Monthly Gathering	10 Sit-N-Knit
15	16	17 Games & Conversation
22	23	24
29	30	31

If you lose your *MIND* (oh, my!) or want additional information, check www.indymensa.org
 Also watch for the CIM Meeting ReMINDER in your email every Monday.



Connor Evans	Greenfield	IN	Joined
William Witters	Bloomington	IN	Joined

By-Laws Petitions

Alison Brown

Everyday, ordinary Mensans have submitted two Bylaws petitions. One proposes to bring more transparency to the actions of the Hearings Committee, while the other changes the composition of the Hearings Committee itself.

If 250 signatures are collected, this will allow the proposed changes to appear on the next election ballot. The deadline to meet the signature requirement has been moved up to **October 5**. *[Editor's note: usually, MIND will hit your mailbox a day or two before the first of the month. If you want to sign either of these petitions, you have about a week]*

View the two petitions here:

<https://www.us.mensa.org/lead/amc/election/referendum-petitions/>

One can sign to have the amendment put on the ballot and then vote against it when it appears on the ballot after it has been published in the Bulletin with statements both pro and contra to deepen your understanding of the issue.

[Editor's note: I am publishing this without favoring or opposing these petitions. I present it solely to give you, the everyday Mensan, insight into what is going on in the wider Mensa community. If these petitions provoke your ire or your enthusiasm and you want to share your feelings with all of CIM, by all

means drop me a line at mind.editor@yahoo.com. If it meets my not-very-stringent standards for acceptability, I may well publish it. Cheers]

Song for Autumn

Mary Oliver

Don't you imagine the leaves dream now
how comfortable it will be to touch
the earth instead of the
nothingness of air and the endless
freshets of wind? And don't you think
the trees, especially those with
mossy hollows, are beginning to look for

the birds that will come—six, a dozen—to sleep
inside their bodies? And don't you hear
the goldenrod whispering goodbye,
the everlasting being crowned with the first
tuffets of snow? The pond
stiffens and the white field over which the fox runs so quickly brings out
its long blue shadows. The wind wags
its many tails. And in the evening
the piled firewood shifts a little,
longing to be on its way.

Books On the Runway

Rich Gibson

<i>Author:</i>	Christopher L Beckwith
<i>Title:</i>	The Scythian Empire
<i>Subtitle:</i>	Central Eurasia and the Birth of the Classical Age from Persia to China
<i>Publisher:</i>	Princeton University Press
<i>Year:</i>	2023
<i>Pages:</i>	267 (text), 379 (total)

Book description: This book is an excellent complement to *The Horse, The Wheel, and Language* by David W. Anthony, which described the central Eurasian nomads who stretched from the European plains to western China and spoke the language we now know as Proto-Indo-European. They thrived in the Bronze Age—before and up to the time of the Mycenaean Greeks—up to two thousand years before the Scythians, who likewise dominated in the first millennium BC. As Anthony's book built its case on archaeological evidence, even so this one uses linguistics, tracing ancient Scythian through various evolutions of the Chinese and Iranic languages. Basically, its argument is that Scythian culture, society, language, and styles of governing significantly influenced the formation of both the Persian and Chinese empires. Rather than Scythians being a bunch of bothersome barbarians, as both the academic and popular opinion (whenever popular opinion ever thinks of Scythians, which is admittedly seldom) tend to treat them, they were actually a sophisticated and powerful polity just when the ancient age transitioned to the classical. The Persian Empire left its mark on western culture mainly through ending the Babylonian Captivity, and letting the Jews return to Jerusalem; and through threatening the Greek city-states, culminating in the battles of Marathon, Thermopylae, and Salamis. However, their weapons and military formations, and the very structure of their empire, were distinctly Scythian. The first Chinese empire, founded in the 3rd Century BCE by Qin Shih Huang, also had its roots deeply embedded in the Scythian empire. The very words the Chinese use for themselves evolved from the Scythian language. The term "Aryan," which has enchanted and perplexed budding nationalists from Germany to India and China, is a Scythian word.

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

I like to learn about the structures of history; how we got to where we are. I like to trace culture back through time and see where things came from and what influenced them. This book was catnip to me. It ties seemingly unrelated times and events together in a way I found fascinating.

Who should read this book? Why?

Anyone likewise interested in cultural and societal origins and evolution will enjoy this book. As in Anthony's book, which spent many pages detailing the archaeological evidence, this book's amount of linguistic evidence is purposely detailed, oceanic, and overwhelming. Those who are not professional linguists may wish to skim large parts of the book.

How long might it take to read the book?

This book comprises slightly less than 300 pages of text, but the presentation is dense at times. On the other hand, you may be happy to skip some of the more arcane tracing of ancient Scythian through Old Iranic and Late Old Chinese and

Old Tibetan to Median and Persian and Chinese; in that case, you might finish this book off in a week, perhaps two.

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

About 2,700 years ago, mounted Scythian warriors raced across the steppe zone of ancient Central Eurasia, southeast to the Yellow River and the region that became Chao in North China, southwest into Central Asia and Media, and west to the Danube and Central Europe. They created the world's first huge empire. Though their feat was largely duplicated by the Hun Empire of Late Antiquity, the Turk Empire of the early Middle Ages, and the Mongol Empire of the Central Middle Ages, the Scythians did it first.



Theodore Talk: Saving the World with Cheap, Generic Toys

Brad Lucht/Shirley Mouer

NOTE: This is the **final** Theodore Talk for 2026. The complete 2027 schedule will appear in the January issue of the *Mensa Bulletin* and on the [National Events Calendar](#).

This virtual event will take place on Zoom October 25 at 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time

For his *War-Toys* photo series, photographer Brian McCarty has spent years sourcing toy-props in war zones. After finding the exact same inexpensive toys

everywhere from Beirut to Baltimore, he discovered that there are just a handful of factories churning out these cheap toys for the entire global market. With support from Fulbright, the US Department of State, and PolyU Design Hong Kong, Brian conducted research on these factories and developed a simple strategy for improving the play and developmental value of these extremely-low-cost toys: give manufacturers better designs and subsidize their startup production costs.

The **War Toys®** organization is working to positively influence children's play on a global scale by partnering with generic toy makers; developing new, extremely-low-cost toy lines; and allowing factories to keep all of the revenue. In exchange, War Toys is harnessing existing markets to impact millions upon millions of children for relatively little cost. As pilot and proof of concept, they've started with the ubiquitous army man and are fostering a small-but-important addition to sets of plastic soldiers still being sold worldwide – photojournalists, aid workers, and frontline rescuers. The presence of these "humanitarian heroes" changes the inherent play pattern of the toys, giving children more options than "us versus them," while quietly promoting more peaceful ideals, somewhat ironically, to kids playing war. There are endless opportunities to foster similar changes to enduringly popular, generic toy lines. War Toys will bridge the play gap for disadvantaged children and create ripple effects that will span generations. After all, at this level of the market, the same toy designs are sold for decades.

Register for this presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/yvpe9myp>

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 also offer Translated Captions.

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

1. Careless (6 letters) – cut off = **sloppy**
2. Doing a background check (7 letters) – a metal = **vetting**
3. Unnecessary (11 letters) – a disease = **superfluous**
4. Poorly suited (11 letters) – young guy = **maladjusted**
5. Test for likeness (10 letters) – adequate = **comparison**
6. Choice of instrumentation (11 letters) – precious mineral = **arrangement**
7. Result of proper digestion (10 letters) – bar bill = **metabolism**
8. A verbal action (11 letters) – container for liquids = **conjugation**
9. Egg choice (9 letters) – male ovine = **scrambled**
10. Bornean or Sumatran ape (9 letters) – sought office = **orangutan**

How I Spend My Time

Teresa Fisher

When traveling I enjoy visiting unusual “attractions.” I’ve seen dead rats in the window of the pest control business in Paris that appeared in the movie *Ratatouille*; long-dead philosopher Jeremy Bentham who requested that his remains be displayed at University College of London; and I took my children to Three Mile Island. But sometimes, just looking this stuff up on Google Maps is

good enough. If a news story provides an address, I will see the property where the serial killer buried his victims. (Doesn't everybody do this?).

Shortly after WWII the Indiana Limestone Company decided to celebrate its centennial by commissioning a statue of comic book boxer Joe Palooka. Why commemorate a fictional character who had no connection to the area? Sadly, we don't have the minutes of the meeting where that was decided. And what were the artistic credentials of the men chosen to create the statue? They had built limestone buildings. In the summer of 1948, their 9-foot rendering of Joe Palooka was unveiled near Bedford, Indiana before a crowd of 4500. (There wasn't much on television in 1948.) Did onlookers ooh and ah? Or was there a collective gasp and murmurs of, "What's wrong with him?"

For some reason, the sculptors depicted Joe with round holes for eyes. Not the featureless orbs of classical Greek statues, but creepy, deep holes that seem to stare without seeing. When you tear your gaze away from the horrible eyes and look down, instead of the muscular, robust body of a boxer, you will see the prominent rib cage of a starvation victim. In place of the expected six-pack, there is a fourteen-pack of rib bones. Perhaps an artist should have been consulted. One sculptor's daughter claimed her father was unhappy about the choice of Joe Palooka as the subject. Was the resultant statue his revenge?

My late husband Bill was at the statue's unveiling when he was a teenager, but he never saw it again after that. He told me about it, and said it was huge. He went on and on about its size until I thought it must be bigger than the Jesus statue in Rio de Janeiro, blocking out the sun. When we found out where it was and went to see the grand colossus, Bill was surprised and embarrassed to discover that it was actually not much bigger than life size.

Over the years Joe was vandalized and moved several times, and now he has obvious facial repairs and is standing at 109 Main Street in Oolitic, Indiana.



Central Indiana Mensa

Treasurer's Report

8/31/2026

Emily Boomershine, Treasurer

Statement of Assets

Account	Balance
(1) PNC Checking – Regular	\$ 3,040.95
(2) PNC Checking – Scholarships	\$ 1,158.20
(3) PNC Checking – Events	\$ 3,236.28
(4) MG Petty Cash	\$ 25.00
(5) CD – First Internet	\$ 10,140.70
Total Assets	\$ 17,601.13

Statement of Activity

Activity	Amount
Receipts	
Monthly Gathering Income	\$ 80.00
National Support	\$ 784.20
Interest	\$ 31.00
Receipts Total	\$ 895.20
Expenses	
Facility Rental (All Souls)	\$ (100.00)
MIND Printing	\$ (344.83)
Scholarship fund transfer to MERF	\$ (50.00)
Expenses Total	\$ (494.83)
Net Activity	\$ 400.37

Central Indiana Mensa ExCom 8/18/26

Ann Hake

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Indiana Mensa ExCom was held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, August 18, 2026. LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Members present: Emily Boomershine, Jan Pfeil Doyle, Ann Hake, and Judy Weitzman

Absent: Ethan Blocher-Smith, Candis King, and Karen Wilczewski

Guests: Jon Applegate (RVC4 ombudsman), Rich Gibson (MIND editor), Teresa Gregory (Calendar editor, RG and OG chair), Pat Milligan (website administrator)

The July meeting minutes were reviewed. Judy Weitzman moved and Emily Boomershine seconded that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion passed.

The July Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Emily Boomershine. Ann Hake moved and Judy Weitzman seconded that the report be accepted as amended. The motion passed.

The July membership report was compiled by LocSec Jan Pfeil Doyle based on information available as of 7/31/26 from American Mensa: total members, 396; 2 new, 3 move-in, 1 rejoin, and 4 prospects.

Old Business

Lapsed members outreach: Judy Weitzman has sent letters to approximately 57 lapsed members in early August. We can reassess the response next month to see if a followup email needs to be sent.

New Business

Scholarship committee: Judy Weitzman confirmed that she is willing to continue as the Scholarship chair. It is also confirmed that there will be sufficient funds in the Mensa Foundation account to cover the 2027 John Matthews Scholarship.

Sit'n Knit: Emily Boomershine reports that two new members joined the Sit 'n Knit group in August. The group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 11:00 am at the MOTW Coffee Shop in Carmel

"Where's Mollie?": Ethan Blocher-Smith was the winner of the August Where's Mollie contest. Mollie was enjoying the Indiana State Fair. Congratulations, Ethan!

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

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

