



Heartland Mensa Region 7



RVC Greg Kontz

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Hi Guys—

I apologize for this one being so late. Been a lot of "life" stuff going on—I just got behind on everything. We're having our first RG in Dickinson, ND (hometown)—there's a lot of details to attend to, etc. We needed to find new renters for the house. Susan and I are adjusting to an "empty nest" again. Susan changed jobs after 30 years. Things have been hectic at work. I was starting to feel stressed out and getting to feel kinda overwhelmed. Then—last weekend we got a call that put things back into perspective. Our daughter, 100 miles away, went into early labor. At 5 months = doesn't work. So we had a mad dash to the hospital in Bismarck and some real anxious times. They got the labor stopped, and she's on bed rest in the hospital. Now it's a waiting game, with no news = good news for the next month or so. We'll be making lots of trips and saying lots of prayers for a while. Susan and I appreciate whatever any of you send for good thoughts our way.

The good part: feeling stressed out about the RG, Mensa in general, work, the rental house, etc., etc.—*that's* gone. The RG will take place, the house will get rented, work will be what it will be, etc. It seems like, every once in a while, life raps you upside the head and says "Pay Attention!" There are things you take for granted that you should be so grateful for. But you get your head full of day to day "stuff" and forget that nothing is guaranteed, and you should pay attention to the people (not things/tasks) in your life. I remember reading a saying years ago: "Most people are standing knee-deep in a running brook, dying of thirst". It's my intention to lean over and drink a little more. I was getting kinda thirsty.

See ya in Boston—

PS: Susan's and my grand daughter, Chloe, was born alive two days after I sent this to the R7 editors. She weighed 1 lb, 3oz—22 weeks. We were told right before her birth that there was a 5-10% chance of her surviving if the birth happened in the next day or so. It's now about 10 days later and she's in the NICU at St. Alexius in Bismarck—in critical but (now) stable condition. She's the youngest "micro preemie" they've had—but they have had smaller. While there have been some anxious times, as of right now, she's doing OK. She'll be in NICU for quite a while. Every day that she hangs in there the odds get better. While it has been a challenging time, we're very thankful that she's still with us, and we want you to know that we appreciate the prayers and good thoughts that have been sent our way.

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