



**July 2013 RVC Column
by new RVC Greg Kontz**

Hi Region#7 –

Greg Kontz here - your new RVC7, taking over for Peggy Pannke-Smith.

I just got back from the AG in Ft. Worth and my initial Board meetings, seminars, presentations, etc. Suffice it to say, my head's still spinning. I'm at a point now where I'm starting to make some plans, now that I've got somewhat of a 'lay of the land'. There's a lot of land to get the 'lay' of - and I'm sitting on the north end of it all. Region 7 is a huge area, with a lot of spread out concentrations of Mensa members - rather like North Dakota. A little about me, and what my motivations and intentions are:

*** Motivation:** I believe in the concept of Mensa. The idea that 'light' is preferable to 'heat'. The idea that you don't need to 'win' a conversation. The idea that good and sincere people can disagree. The idea that the world would be a better place if people would just give things a little more thought. The idea that a diversity of opinion is not a dangerous thing. Those kinds of ideas. I think that Mensa is a premier organization for promoting those ideals, and I enjoy the company of fellow Mensans a great deal. Mensa conversations are not about 'winning' or even 'keeping score'. Mensa conversations are about expanding your understanding of things, not pushing an agenda. I think that promoting those ideals is a worthwhile endeavor.

*** Intention:** To visit the groups over the next 2 years. Continue Peggy's RVC column for the newsletters. Participate in some Leadership Development Workshops. Participate in some Regional Gatherings. Participate in some plain old visiting. Answer questions when I'm asked. Share information regarding the Region and the Groups. Help LocSecs (I'm one) make things happen for their groups. Promote the ideals of Mensa. If I'm lucky, I'll be able to 'pay forward' some of what Peggy did for me - enhancing the Mensa experience for others.

Since I'm a 'newbie', the main thing I hope to do initially is learn. Learn about the local Groups, the Region in general, and the officers in both. I'm looking forward to the adventure, and I'm looking forward to meeting the new friends I hope to make.

Thanks, guys -

Greg Kontz

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PS: I live in Dickinson, North Dakota. Below is a link to "livability.com" - we just got ranked #1 in the nation for "Best Small Towns" - come visit sometime!

<http://livability.com/top-10/top-10-best-small-towns-2013/dickinson/nd>

WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE!

Log onto your Facebook page and search for “Mensa Region 7” to share ideas, events, etc. or just click on <http://www.facebook.com/groups/HeartlandMensaRegion7>.

Please send your announcements and photos of Region 7 happenings to mensa@pegmadsen.com

OUR REGION 7 WEBSITE IS AT:

<http://www.region7.us.mensa.org/>