RVC COLUMN FOR JULY, 2023

This column is several days late, because I have been without Internet for several days now. My apologies to the Editors, who have been waiting patiently to wrap up their July issues. I’m in Canada now after weeks visiting America’s National Parks, including Arches, Denali, Bryce Canyon, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Zion, and of course, Yellowstone. Did you know that Old Faithful is not the largest geyser in Yellowstone? Or the only one? There are literally dozens of geysers there. Soon, scientists say, the entire caldera will blow, and what a spectacle that will be!

I’ve been on an extended trip West with a friend, and have seen and photographed at least a dozen black bears, one grizzly bear, several moose, many deer, one pica, ground squirrels, a marmot, etc. Even the flowers and birds are different here. We visited Skagway, an old Gold Rush town in Alaska, which remains almost as it was in the nineteenth century. The mountains are spectacular, the plains extensive, everything is bigger than life. Good heavens, in Alaska the sun did not go down until midnight, to rise again a couple of hours later. We are on our way back home now, and will arrive in plenty of time for the Annual Gathering (AG).

During the next few months I will be travelling to the local groups in Alabama and Tennessee. I also plan to locate and appoint a Regional Gifted Youth Coordinator, to service those groups who do not have a GYC. Every group has Youth members, though some don’t even know it. The Regional GYC will help get activities for the youth going in every group.

American Mensa’s next Annual Gathering (AG) will be in Baltimore, MD at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor Hotel, from July 5 to 9, 2023. Visit AG.us.mensa.org for more information. Don’t forget to sign up for the Colloquium, too, while you are there! This year’s Colloquium will be titled “The Talent and Potential of Neurodiversity.”

Mensa in Georgia has scheduled an RG October 6-8, 2023 in Roswell, GA. MiG has held RGs for years now, and it is always a pleasure to atte nd them For more information go to  [https://sites.google.com/view/PeachtreatRG2023/home](https://sites.google.com/view/peachtreatrg2023/home)

And in November, there will be a Regional Gathering in Charlotte, NC from November 3 to 5. The RG will take place at the Fairfield Inn and Suites in Uptown Charlotte. To get the group rate you must book by October 12, 2023. All the information is at <https://cbrmensa.org/sweet-carolina-rg-2023/> I hope to see you there.

Piedmont Area Mensa has scheduled an RG for March 8 through 10, 2024 at the Drury Hotel. More information on that later…

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