

## From the Editor – After the RG

I am writing on Sunday afternoon, just after the last RG-attendees (or should that be “attenders”?) have departed for western North Dakota and Minnesota. Wish I could bring them back, because this Regional Gathering was one of the best times I have *ever* had.

I will never forget canoeing on the Sheyenne River around Chautauqua Park, with wild roses and waving Mensans on the bank and mysterious little islands and estuaries to explore. It is incredibly peaceful in a canoe, and the world looks greener from there, somehow.

Nor will I forget our party in the screened porch of the President’s House. We sat on white wicker furniture, with beverages and munchies although most of us were too full from the picnic to actually munch, chatting and watching the evening get deeper and lights come on around us. (We had turned off our own lights and lit candles long before.) As it got dark, it began to rain softly.

And who can forget shooting fireworks in the rain? Yes, it is possible, and it is FUN!! Punks tend to need relighting, but the fireworks themselves seem impervious, and even Ann Knudson and Lon Larson (who were clad in shirt and sweatshirt) didn’t get any wetter than if, say, the canoe had tipped over. ☺ Seriously, they didn’t mind it at all; Ann had brought some wonderful fireworks, I had a few left from last year, and we all had a super time.

At the Sunday morning brunch at the Broken Spoke, we decided to do it again next year – same time, same place, since they couldn’t be beat. Most things will be the same: President’s House, picnic, fireworks, canoe, last week in June. Next time, however, we will:

- Begin publicizing it in January, or even sooner. This year, we were too late to get it listed in the *Mensa Bulletin*.
- Publicize the test session in newspapers all over the state. This could bring potential as well as existing members, and the more, the better.
- Start everything on time – but not before! We don’t want people who show up on time to be late.
- Possibly have the potluck in the dining room of the President’s House instead of the park, and possibly make it a dress-up event. We would have to change clothes afterwards for canoeing and fireworks (especially if it rains), so perhaps the dress-up dinner could be a noon luncheon on either the first or second day. Any suggestions?

We have already reserved the President’s House, which sleeps 9 or 10. Send us your reservation now, and make sure one of those lovely rooms is yours!

Have a glorious Fourth, with lots of fireworks!!!