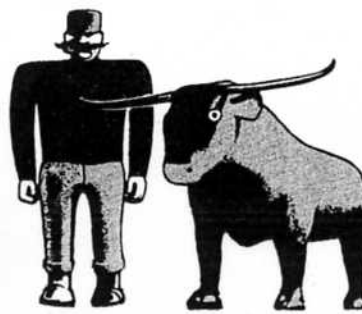
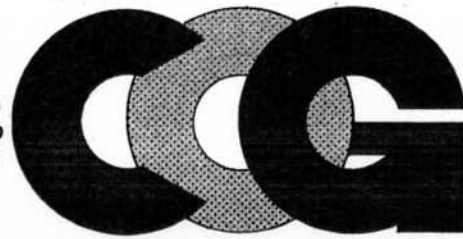




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BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

March 10, 2003

**THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM**  
Junior Achievement – Howard Brockhouse

**NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM**  
Potlatch – Mr. Wagner

**Important Dates to Remember**

*Brisbane, Australia – Rotary International Conference*

June 1-4, 2002

*District Conference – May 1-3, 2003 – Fargo, ND*

**RYLA Leadership Camp**

The RYLA Leadership Camp has been scheduled for July 13-19. All juniors from area high schools are qualified and encouraged to apply. Please see Hank Imsande for applications. Our local Rotary Club will contribute \$400 per camper to pay for this week.

**GSE Group – Denmark**

Mark Shough has reported that the GSE group from Denmark will be in Bemidji April 27<sup>th</sup> through April 30. Rotary will need a coordinator for the group once they arrive and also host families. Please contact Mark for further information.

**4-Way Test**

High school students are invited to submit an article on Rotary's 4 Way Test and how it applies to their life and their own personal situation. John Eggers will be coordinating this contest locally, so please see him for further information and exact prize amounts.

**Rotarian volunteers perform 1,000 eye surgeries in Kenya**

A major effort by Rotarians to combat avoidable blindness is under way in Kenya. Timed to coincide with the 21-23 February RI presidential conference on health and development in Nairobi, Kenya, the "Gift of Sight" project is aimed at providing free cataract surgeries for about 1,000 patients.

A team of about 60 ophthalmologists and other medical professionals from Denmark, India, Kenya, and the United States are volunteering their time and skills to perform the free surgeries. More than US\$31,000 has been raised to finance the travel costs, surgical supplies, and hospitalization expenses for the poor patients.

Since 17 February, the eye surgeons have been fulfilling their mission in the northern Kenyan town of Dol Dol. On 21 February, RI President Bhichai Rattakul will officially launch the ongoing Gift of Sight effort at Kikuyu Hospital where some of the patients will be treated. Another group of cataract sufferers will be operated on at the Lions Hospital. The surgeries will run through 28 February.

The Gift of Sight mission is one of a growing number of educational and humanitarian projects that Rotary is carrying out across Africa. Commenting on Rotary's participation, RI President Bhichai Rattakul says, "Rotary has taken encouraging steps on the continent, from the hundreds of projects that clubs perform there, to massive National Immunization Days throughout the continent, which are eradicating the scourge of polio from Africa. But there is much work to be done, and we must act now."