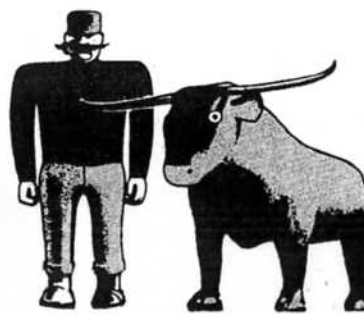
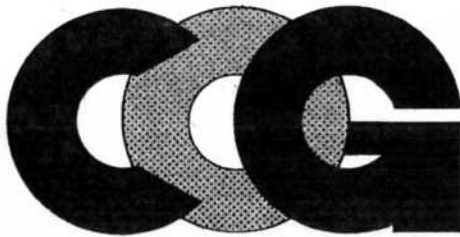




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Club No. 3790

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BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

March 17, 2003

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Potlatch – Mr. Wagner

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

To Be Announced

Important Dates to Remember

Brisbane, Australia – Rotary International Conference

June 1-4, 2002

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

Visiting Rotarians

Tamara Pederson, Walker, MN
Howard Brockhouse, Thief River Falls, MN
Tom Miller, Park Rapids, MN
Gene Krekelberg, Virginia, MN
Dr. Albert Watrel, Bismarck, ND
Pat Kastning, Walker
Sue Tomte, Park Rapids, MN
Derrick Jones, Breckenridge
Andy Bednarczyk, Walker, MN
Dale Maunu, Grand Rapids, MN
Stephen Wilson, Grand Rapids, MN
Sherry Frick, Grand Rapids, MN
Pam Nelson, Walker, MN
Claudette Holly, Walker, MN

Reminders from last week . . .

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 27th through April 30. Rotary will need a coordinator for the group once they arrive and also host families. Please contact Mark for further information.

Rotaractors celebrate World Rotaract Week, 35th anniversary

Rotaract clubs across the world have been busy hosting special events and activities this week to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the first Rotaract club charter on 13 March 1968. From established Rotaract clubs, such as those in France, to clubs just being formed, like the one on Northwestern University's campus in Evanston, Illinois, USA — Rotaractors took this opportunity to spread the word about their clubs.

World Rotaract Week is held each year during the second week of March to commemorate the club's first charter in North Carolina, USA. The goals of this weeklong celebration are to strengthen ties with the sponsoring club, promote membership growth in Rotaract and increase awareness of Rotaract's service activities in the community.

"Celebrating the 35th year of Rotaract demonstrates the quality of our organization," says Hervé Piglowski, Rotaract club member of Montpellier, France, and communication and information manager for the French Rotaract Multidistrict Information Organization. "We have realized many important actions in the world; we have showed many times that we are partners with Rotary."

Today, there are more than 7,300 Rotaract clubs in 151 countries with membership exceeding 169,000. Like the Rotary clubs that sponsor them, Rotaract clubs offer men and women ages 18-30 an opportunity for service, camaraderie, and professional development.

In France, where Rotaract clubs have been in existence since 1968, the Rotaract Club of Lyon International will host its third national meeting. Guest speakers include representatives from Handicap International, co-founder of the International Campaign to Ban Anti-personnel Landmines, which will run a conference on landmines, and Laurent Dareau who created a comic strip about Paul Harris's life. In addition, Pierre Girardier, from the World Bank, will discuss a project being developed between Rotaract France and the World Bank in Paris.

Seeking to form Northwestern University's (NU) first university-based Rotaract club, an NU administrator and two students are beginning the application process. Seniors Kyle Weaver and Kiran Varma worked with William Banis, NU's vice president for student affairs and a member of the Rotary Club of Evanston, Illinois, USA, to gain support from the local Rotary club.

"We think Rotaract is a perfect fit for Northwestern University students who are very community-oriented, but who are also looking for an outlet to develop professionally," says Varma.

As part of World Rotaract Week, the students and their faculty advisor visited RI World Headquarters on 12 March 2003. During their visit, they toured the facilities and met with RI staff members as they worked toward becoming Rotary's newest Rotaract club.