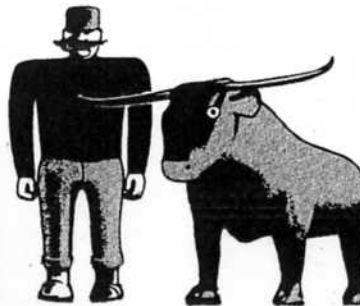
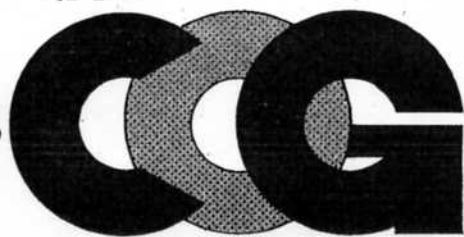




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Club No. 3790

Chartered May 6, 1935

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BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

December 1, 2003

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Classification Talk – Michael Kelsey – “Gems”

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM

BHS Choir Christmas Concert (you're invited to bring a guest)

Important Dates to Remember

Osaka, Japan – Rotary International Conference – May 23-26, 2004.

December Birthdays

James Lowth	December 1
Dan Posner	December 8
James Walker	December 10
Allison Barta	December 16
Sue Doeden	December 16
Kevin Williamson	December 20
Martin Graefe	December 23
Deborah McGregor-Pfleger	December 26

Welcome New Members

Hartvig (Ding) Roholt – proposed by Daryl Knoer

Paula Hanson – proposed by Lori Paris

Donation

Over \$800 was raised by a silent auction at our recent inaugural Paul Harris/Rotary Foundation Banquet. Thanks go to all those who contributed to the auction. The proceeds have been designated for the Rotary PolioPlus Program. Thanks also go to everyone who assisted with this very successful event and especially to Gail Quistgard who chaired it.

Mark Your Calendar

79th International Goodwill meeting
February 20-21, 204
Fort Gary Hotel
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Registration deadline – January 22, 2004

(see president Sue for details.)

Rotary's Polio Plus Benefits from Paul Harris Banquet

(Excerpted from the Bemidji Pioneer article, November 23 by Brad Swenson)

Three children walk for every Rotarian who donates to the Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus campaign, says Tom Thorfinnson.

Rotary Foundation donations help solve worldwide problems one village at a time, one child at a time, Thorfinnson, a former Rotary International district governor from Eden Prairie, Minnesota, said.

Thorfinnson was keynote speaker at the Bemidji Rotary Club's inaugural Rotary Foundation/Paul Harris Banquet, held at the Bemidji Town and Country Club on November 21.

Rotary, founded by Harris in 1905 in Chicago, today encompasses 1.2 million members across the globe. Its Rotary Foundation provides humanitarian aid, mostly through member donations.

When Rotary started its PolioPlus effort in 1986, there were 350,000 reported cases of polio a year. Since then, Rotary has raised \$600 million with a goal to eradicate polio from the face of the Earth. Today, there are about 2,000 cases a year.

“Children today are walking at the rate of three children for every Rotarian because of the PolioPlus campaign,” Thorfinnson said. “You reach out and touch your three children and they can walk. That's what you've done. That's a tremendous investment.”

Transportation Assistance Needed

The Youth Exchange Committee needs some help transporting Pema to a Rotary Youth Exchange function in Long Prairie. We just need transportation to Park Rapids and another Rotary family will transport him from there. He needs to be in Park Rapids later Thursday afternoon and then picked up in the early afternoon on Sunday. If you are able to help, please call his host family, Glen and Vivienne Johnson, 243-2611 for more information.