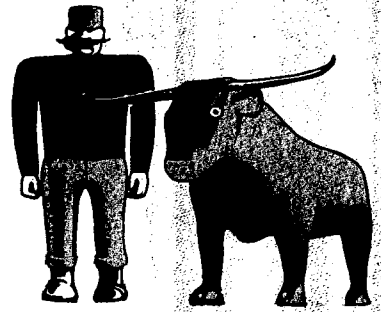


the **OCG**



May 9, 2005

**This Week's Program**  
*Dragon Boat Races – Gary Johnson*  
**Next Week's Program**  
*“Bemidji Leads” – Dave Hengel, HRDC*

**Important Dates to Remember**

Chicago, USA – *Rotary International Conference*  
(Centennial Celebration) – June 18-25, 2005

**Playhouse on Display**

Rotary's Playhouse continues on the fundraising road. In the next few weeks, you can send potential customers to check it out at Marketplace and then Luekens. Additional tickets are available after our weekly meetings.

**Awards**

We can all join in a moment of self-congratulations. Bemidji Noon Rotary received the “Best in District” Award at the recent Rotary District Convention in Thunder Bay.

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Special recognition and gratitude go to Rotarian John Schuiling who was honored with a “Commitment to Service” award at the District Convention. The award states:

***Commitment to Service***  
***John Schuiling***  
***Bemidji Rotary Club***

In recognition of more than 25 years of dedicated Rotary membership, Rotary International recognizes with deep appreciation the outstanding efforts and commitment to service of this Rotarian.

***District Rotary Convention – Thunder Bay***  
***2005***

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With polio teetering on the brink of oblivion, Rotary is poised to reap some recognition for its role in the eradication campaign. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Recently named Rotary

as the recipient of the \$1 million Gates Award for Global Health.

So far, Rotary has raised nearly \$500 million to vaccinate the world's 2 billion children, some of whom were immunized by 1 million Rotary volunteers. And Rotary has now launched a second fundraising drive, hoping to raise \$80 million of an estimated \$275 million new needed to drive the vanishing poliovirus to extinction, according to World Bank estimates. Rotary's Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force will ask the governments of wealthy nations to make up the difference.

Victory is drawing closer. Last year, doctors worldwide reported only 480 polio cases, down from 350,000 in 1988. Polio now circulates in just 10 countries: India, Pakistan, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Niger, Somalia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan and Angola.

**Proposed for Membership**

Todd Moudry – Proposed by Scott Turn

**Vests Available**

Plaid Rotary vests sporting the Rotary emblem are available for sale for \$25. (Bemidji emblem is \$4 extra.) See Ted Will.

**Did You Know?**

***Rotary in Asia***  
Clubs: 8,369      Members: 298,478  
First Club Chartered: Manila, Philippines, 1919

***Fun Facts:*** Four former prime ministers of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) have been members of the Rotary Club of Hanyang – Chang Soon Yoo, Choong Hoon Park, Chung Yu Kim, and Duck Woo Nam.