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BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

March 20, 2006

### This Week's Program

Ready to Learn Program – Ann Marie Ward

### Next Week's Program

Classification Talks – Leonore Potter, Rick Siebels

### Important Dates to Remember



Cabin Fever Reliever Dinner

April 4

District 5580 Conference

Williston, North Dakota

April 27-30 2006

Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival

August 4 & 5

Check out the new website for the Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival

[www.bemidjdragonboat.com](http://www.bemidjdragonboat.com)

### Babe is Saved!

Thanks to the hard work of the Save Babe committee and a grant from Scenic By-ways, Babe will be getting a new look and many more years standing next to Paul. Congratulations BABE!

### From Swaziland.....

To Armenia, to the mountains of Honduras.... Bemidji Rotarians are impacting the world! Whether it's walking to Williston, rowing a dragon boat, building a playhouse, planting trees or serving up fine island cuisine.....We are involved! Thank you Rotarians! Pat yourselves on the back for a job well done in the many venues of service to community, nation and world! Visit our website for a complete list of our many projects: [www.bemidjirotary.org](http://www.bemidjirotary.org)

### LARA MEDICAL BRIGADE 2006

On April 3, Evonne McKinzie and Alice Thompson will be putting together a formal presentation on our 2006 LARA trip. Until then, Ted Will shared some update highlights.

*The only word to describe the trip would be "AWESOME." - Ted Will*

Aside from the luggage dilemma at the airport our trip was a great success.

Dr. Labadie from MeritCare Urology was able to perform 25 prostate surgeries during his 10 days in the hospital. Most of the men had catheters for 1+

years. Dr. Labadie's hospital team wouldn't have happened without the help of Evonne & Jane Hagen. Many days they were gone by 7:30 a.m. and returned only for dinner before going on rounds in the evening.

The mountain medical team consisted of Dr. Ted Will, Dr. Steve Rith-Najarian, Dr. Ron Bergom and a local Doc, Dr. Lucila. The efficiency of the medical team is greatly attributed to the triage team made up of three very excellent nurses, Alice Thompson, Carol Eberhart and Judy Ducharme, along with our crowd control expert John Reff. Without the efficient patient flow we wouldn't have been able to accomplish what we did. In the seven working days we saw 926 patients and filled 1791 prescriptions. Pharmacy was hopping! Mike Berg (Minot Rotary) assisted by Tessa Reff and Amy Saeland got to practice a little Spanish.....*Sentar se alli por favor* (Please wait over there). Although many of the children probably thought we were evil for making them chew the adult parasite pill, they still left with a smile!

We didn't have dentists this year yet we were still able to provide a much-needed service. Under the direction of Peg Mulder (Michigan Rotary), the dental team, including our very own Kevin Williamson, was able to apply sealants to the children's teeth. This is the first time our dental team was able to provide preventative care. Along with sealants, the dental team educated the children on proper brushing and gave out toothbrushes.

The construction team was busy as usual. Chris Keenan, Wayne Cease, Phyllis Gaspers, Mel & Lourdes Tangen, Lary Kemp, Tom Will, and Randy Mulder repaired many school roofs and continued their efforts to provide safe clean water in the mountain villages. They even had time for a coffee break or two! Rain or shine (mostly rain) they worked long days.

Our trip was a great success because of our relationship with the Santa Barbara Rotary and the help of the Peace Corp volunteers. In the words of Ted "These outstanding young adults are the best export the U.S. has ever had."