

August 7, 2006

This Week's Program

Mississippi Headwaters Area Dental Health Center – Warren Larson

Next Week's Program

Ivy Hanson, author – "They Used to Call Us Game Wardens"

Important Dates to Remember

District Conference – Cragun's Resort, Brainerd – April 19
– 22, 2007

Rotary International Convention – June 17-20, 2007 –
Salt Lake City, Utah

Playhouse Update

Over \$1,000 tickets for the Playhouse were sold at the County Fair. Thanks to everyone who braved the heat to sell tickets. (Air conditioning next year's house doesn't sound like a bad idea!)

Dragon Boat – Duluth

The Duluth Dragon Boat Festival is scheduled for August 25 and 26. We would like to field a Bemidji Rotary Team for this event. If you'd like to keep those rowing muscles in shape, contact Scott Turn.

Happy Birthday – August

Dennis Doeden	August 1
Dane Jones	August 18
Ron Otterstad	August 22
Hank Imsande	August 23
Eileen Bretschneider	August 24
Jim Ghostly	August 28

Recent Rotarian Visitor

Dr. Stenzel, Riesa-Elbland, Germany

Anniversary Congratulations

Congratulations to Rotarian Daryl Knoer and wife Kay who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August. They were married August 4, 1946.

Rotary Basics

For the benefit of our newest members (and a refresher for some who are not so new), following is basic information about the organization of Rotary:

Rotary is essentially a grassroots organization, with most of its service efforts being carried out at the club level. The district and international structure is designed to support the clubs and help them provide more service in their communities and abroad.

Clubs: Rotarians are members of Rotary clubs, which belong to the global association Rotary International (RI). Each club elects its own officers and enjoys considerable autonomy within the framework of Rotary's constitution and bylaws.

Districts: Clubs are grouped into 530 districts, each led by a district governor, who is an officer of RI. Our district is #5580. The district administration, including assistant governors and various committees, guides and supports the clubs.

RI Board: The 19-member RI Board of Directors, which includes the RI president and president-elect, meets quarterly to establish policies. Traditionally, the RI president, who is elected annually, develops a theme and emphasis for the year.

The Secretariat: Rotary International is headquartered in the Chicago suburb of Evanston, Illinois, USA, with seven international offices in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, India, Japan, Korea, and Switzerland. The RI in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) office, located in England, serves clubs and districts in that region. The Secretariat's active managing officer is the RI general secretary, who heads a 650-member staff working to serve Rotarians worldwide.