

March 19, 2007

This Week's Program

Bemidji Leads! – Chairman Jim Bensen & Dave Hengel, HRDC

Next Week's Program

Teen Suicide Prevention in Beltrami County – Rebecca Snyder

Important Dates to Remember

Home, Sport & Travel Show – Bemidji

March 30 – April 1, 2007

District Conference

April 19-22, 2007 Cragun's Resort, Brainerd

Rotary International Convention

June 17-20, 2007 Salt Lake City, Utah

Upcoming March Programs

April 2nd – **Beltrami Co Recreation Programs & Plans** – *Bob Milne & John Winter*

April 9th – **Minnesota Responds** – *Carol Sele, NCHS*

April 16th – **LARA (Latin America Rotary Aid)** – *Chris Keenan*

April 23rd – **Diamond Point Park Project** – *Rita Albright*

April 30th – **GSE**

Dragon Boat Planning Kick Off

A Dragon Boat Kick Off meeting is scheduled at Paul Bunyan Telephone on Friday, March 23, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Anyone who is interested in the planning process for the festival is invited. Lunch will be served. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Gary Johnson at 444-1128 or gjohnson@paulbunyan.net.

Today's Sign Up Opportunity

You can sign up today to sell chances for the Playhouse at the Home, Sport & Travel Show scheduled for March 30 – April. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Quotable

"I would be proud and enthusiastic to be associated with Rotary in any way."

Ted Turner, former head of Turner Broadcasting

Rotary's 18th Outreach Trip to Central America Featured

In its March 11th issue, The Bemidji Pioneer featured the recent Rotary District 5580 humanitarian trip to Santa Barbara, Honduras. It was a great two-page article written by participant Polly Keith Scotland with many heart-warming photos. If you missed it, you can pick up the back issue at the Pioneer or try the Pioneer website at bemidjipioneer.com/archives.

The following is an excerpt from that article explaining the origin of this expedition, which celebrated its 18th anniversary in 2007.

"In 1990, Dr Ted Will of Bemidji made a trip to Santa Barbara, Honduras, with the International Health Service. He met Dr. Abel Ponce, a local doctor and fellow Rotarian. At the request of Ponce, a working relationship between Rotary districts 5580 and 4250 was created. Using the International Four-Way Test of Rotary, (Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Is it beneficial? Does it build goodwill?) the 18th LARA trip was made in February 2007."

More Quotables

"The volunteerism exemplified by Rotary International is an engine for renewal and change in every society—and it is that same volunteer spirit, rooted in compassion and a profound sense of responsibility to our fellow human beings, that offer so much hope for the future, beginning with children."

Carol Bellamy, Executive, UNICEF

"{Rotary has} proven how much can be accomplished when a group selflessly uses every ounce of the political capital it has to help the world's most disenfranchised children."

William H. Gates Sr., Co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation