

April 9, 2007

This Week's Program

Minnesota Responds – Carol Sele, North Country Health Services

Next Week's Program

LARA (Latin America Rotary Aid) – Chris Keenan

Important Dates to Remember

District Conference

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

Rotary International Convention

June 17-20, 2007 Salt Lake City, Utah

Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival

August 3-4, 2007, Bemidji Waterfront

Upcoming March Programs

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

April 30th – **GSE (Group Study Exchange)**

May 7th – **Habitat for Humanity** – Ray Blackwood

Note the Date in your Calendar

Paul Harris Dinner

May 6 – Country Club

Silent Auction – If you or your business has an item for the Silent Auction, please let either Cathy Schultz or Kathleen Solberg know about it.

Playhouse Wows Home, Sport & Travel Show

Over \$3,200 in raffle tickets were sold on the Playhouse at the recent Home, Sport & Travel Show, up from around \$2,500 the previous year. Lots of special recognition is due the crew members who are responsible for the design and construction of this year's playhouse. Also thanks to those who sold raffle tickets at the weekend event. Tickets are now available for sale, so plan to pick yours up soon. If we all pitch in, we can make this the biggest Playhouse success ever.

GSE Picnic is Scheduled

May 1st is the date for this year's Group Study Exchange Potluck Picnic. The event will honor this year's GSE team and their families, and all Rotarians and their guests are invited to attend. The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the State Park. Arrangements to pay for parking are being made. See Amy Saeland for details.

Rotary at a Glance

ROTARY AND POLIO

Global Polio Eradication Initiative

- Unique international public health initiative, spearheaded in 1988 by Rotary International, World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Rotary

- Launched PolioPlus program in 1985
- Has contributed more than US\$600 million to fight polio worldwide
- Provides armies of volunteers to assist in immunizations, vaccine delivery, and social mobilization
- Has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute more than US\$2.6 billion to polio eradication.

Results

- 2 billion children immunized in 122 countries
- Polio cases slashed by 99 percent
- Five million cases of paralysis prevented; 250,000 pediatric deaths averted
- Polio-endemic countries now down to four

Quotables

Thank you, Rotary, for recognizing that a world without polio is possible. You have been the catalyst for the world to accept and carry out the challenge of eradicating polio from the earth."

Bill Gates, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

"Long ago, you created awareness, and took action. If I could, I would give each of you who have been involved in this monumental campaign a Champion award. You who believe in, and continue to strive to save the world's children from the ravages of polio, are most definitely champions."

Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director General, World Health Organization