

May 21, 2007

This Week's Program
Classification Talk – Ben Stowe
Next Week's Program
NO MEETING – MEMORIAL DAY

Important Dates to Remember

Rotary International Convention

June 17-20, 2007 Salt Lake City, Utah

Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival

August 3-4, 2007, Bemidji Waterfront

Upcoming Programs

June 4th – **4-Way Test Essay Winner**

June 11th – **Paul Bunyan Playhouse**

New Member Proposal

Karson Otness

April Perfect Attendance

Kirsten Addison

Kristi Booth

Eileen Bretschneider

Duane Christensen

Mark Dickinson

Sue Doeden

Harold Fruetel

Shelly Geerdes

Jim Ghostley

Helen Gill

Dick Haugo

Paul Hunt

Gary Johnson

Chris Keenan

Pat Kelly

Daryl Knoer

Curt Lundquist

Kirk Malkowski

Terry Matson

Evonne McKinzie

Greg Negard

John Ostrem

Wendy Otness

Lori Paris

Gayle Quistgard

John Reff

Steve Rith-Najarian

Ding Roholt

Amy Saeland

Martin Sathre

Cathy Schultz

Mark Shough

Nancy Smith

Kathleen Solberg

Alice Thompson

Joanne Torfin

Scott Turn

Dennis Vorgert

Jim Walker

George Welte

Ted Will

Kevin Williamson

Larry Young

So, what's going on with the waterfront geese?

Previous years, we have been overrun with geese on the lake front by the Chamber building. This problem has escalated and prevented our community from utilizing one of our most valuable resources. Ever since Scott was featured on the front page of the Pioneer combing the area with a John Deere, he has been elected president of geese patrol for the waterfront. I asked Scott to fill us in on what is going on with the geese situation. The committee includes Gayle Quistgard, Lori Paris, Gary

Johnson, the Mayor, & members of the Parks Department & DNR. They have worked to find a cost effective and animal friendly plan to control the issue. A fence will detour the geese from landing on the beach area and in addition the grass will be sprayed with a non-toxic spray preventing them from feeding in the area. The intentions of the combined effort will change the habitat patterns of the geese. By June we should see results. In addition they have worked out a long-term plan to improve the look of the waterfront, through paving stones, a trail system through Library Park, and a retaining wall on the bank. If you are interested in more information or would like to get involved contact Scott Turn.

Let's Go Fishing Rotarians!

Let's Go Fishing is hosting a Rotarian Day on June 26. Rotarians 55 and older are welcome to join Terry Matson and the Let's Go Fishing guides on June 26. Don't worry if you're 53, they won't card you and if you're 33 you'll probably be put to work, or so I've been told. If you are interested, sign up with Terry Matson 444-1579.

If you would like to go fishing any other time, Let's Go Fishing has weekly trips this summer, contact 766-0881.

Rotary News

I was thumbing through the webpage of our Rotary District 5580 and came across the link for the Rotary District Alumni Newsletter. I was very impressed with the *reconnections* publication featuring articles on *Fanning the winds of peace in Iraq*, *A 'plus' for the world's health* (PolioPlus update), *New hope shines in Honduras*, and featured on the fourth page was our very own Gary Johnson! Headlined, *GSE team at home on international stage*, the newsletter discusses the recruitment potential of the GSE program. The article features Gary's Sweden GSE team that traveled in 2000. Of the four team members, three have since joined Rotary and the fourth has graduated as a Rotary World Peace Fellow.

"GSE introduced me to what Rotary is all about," says Johnson. "Rotary to me is now about international compassion, enthusiasm, global friendship...." Thanks to GSE, Rotary is the one thing I can say for sure I will be doing for the rest of my life."

Gary Johnson Reconnections May 2007