

January 7, 2008

This Week's Program

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) – Katie Reise & Stephanie Marsh

Next Week's Program

Grow Bemidji – Larry Young

Important Dates to Remember

Goodwill Conference 2008

February 15-16, 2008, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

District 5580 Conference

May 1-4, 2008, Dickinson, ND

Rotary International Convention

June 15-18, 2008, Los Angeles, CA

Dragon Boat Festival

August 1-2, 2008

Upcoming January/February Programs

Jan 21 Club Assembly – **Gary Johnson**

Jan 28 Classification Talks

Feb 4 Waterfront Park Project – **Scott Turn**

Proposed for Membership

Jill Naylor-Yarger – Director of the Drug Free Coalition of North Central Minnesota, Proposed by **Becky Nahvi**

January Birthdays

Al Bontrager	Jan 4
Mark Dickinson	Jan 5
Shelly Geerdes	Jan 5
Terry Matson	Jan 12
Penny Echternach	Jan 17
Gayle Quistgard	Jan 17
Sandy Bensen	Jan 19
Greg Negard	Jan 19
Al Schmidt	Jan 20
Mike Kelsey	Jan 25
Cyril Murphy	Jan 27

Winnipeg Goodwill Conference is Approaching

You don't have to be a curler to participate on the curling team at the Winnipeg Goodwill Conference coming up on February 15-16. Needed are curlers, cheerleaders, Rotarians and spouses or significant others. We will travel on a bus starting at Brainerd on Thursday, Feb 14. Passports are not needed. Contact Terry Matson at 751-1510 as soon as possible for room reservations at Fort Gary. *It will be a full weekend of fun!*

Dragon Boat Festival - 2008

Planning for the third annual Dragon Boat Festival is underway. Dates for the big event are August 1 and 2, 2008 and entry registrations are now being accepted. If you would like to join the planning committees, see **President Gary**.

Congratulations to District 5580

A Public Relations grant of \$4,500 has been awarded to District 5580 for television PSA's. More than half of all Rotary districts applied for the 2007-2008 PR Grants, with a total district and in-kind contributions representing more than US\$4 million in PR outreach. Thanks go to the District PR committee, including our own committee member, **Amy Saeland** for this grant.

GSE 2008 Team Readies for International Travel

On Nov 10, the GSE2008 team gathered at the home of Rotarian Mark Erickson, Harbortown, for an orientation meeting.

Conducting the meeting were members of the GSE2000 team, whose goal was to help the team begin planning their program, aid in building the connections necessary to have a successful trip, and understand a bit about where they are going.

Topics included practical information on international travel, Rotary's expectations both during the trip and upon return, and an introduction into the Rotary Foundation.

The GSE2008 team was treated to a home-cooked Swedish feast of pea soup, open-faced salmon sandwiches, glogg (a mulled wine), Swedish pancakes with lingonberries herring, flatbread and assorted other treats.

Team members were provided formal presentations reflective of their destinations, and Rotary specific information intended to remind them of their obligations to Rotary throughout this experience. Attending the meeting were all members of the 2008 team, including the alternate team leader (**Evonne McKinzie**, Bemidji) and members of the GSE2000 team including **Gary Johnson**, Bemidji. From *5580 Mule Times* – January, 2008