June 9, 2008

This Week's Program

Paul Bunyan Playhouse Season Preview – Zak Curtis, Artistic Director

Next Week's Program

Exchange Student – Fena, Chile

Important Dates to Remember

Rotary International Convention
June 15-18, 2008, Los Angeles, CA
Dragon Boat Festival
August 1-2, 2008

Upcoming June/July Programs

June 23	Opera: Men with High Voices – Dr Pat Riley
June 30	Club Assembly – Passing the Gavel / Year in Review – **Gary Johnson / Gayle Quistgard**
July 7	Ms. Senior America - Linda Wagner
July 14	Disaster Response - **Manfred Tatzmann**

RECENT ROTARIAN VISITORS

Brenda Finkenbinder - University Dist, Seattle, WA
Nancy Bittner, University Sunrise, Seattle, WA

ROTARY IDOL UPDATE

The Rotary Idol weekly and grand winners will receive more than just accolades from their fellow Rotarians. Each weekly winner will receive a donation to The Rotary Foundation / Paul Harris Fellow in their name of $50 from the club. The grand winner, selected on June 30th, will receive an additional $200 donation from the club.

The money raised during June for the Rotary Idol contest will go to the Bemidji Community Art Center toward a recently awarded grant.

Rotary Idol contestants performing on June 2 were **Harold Freutel, Jill Naylor-Yarger, Chris Keenan** and **Carol Nelson**. The first week winner is **Carol Nelson.**

DRAGON BOAT DEADLINE

July 1 is the deadline to enter your team in this year's Dragon Boat Festival. See President **Gary** for details.

BUSINESS GIVES REPORT

Chamber of Commerce Director **Lori Paris** announced that a large majority of the business recognized recently by the Governor for their financial contributions to local charitable causes are headed by Rotarians.

PLAYHOUSE UPDATE

Keep those playhouse ticket sales going! The goal is to have every member sell at least two books, and that would make us exceed every other year's total for this important fundraiser. The playhouse is now on display at MarketPlace Foods. If you need more tickets, see **Amy Saeland.** For accounting purposes, **Amy** would also appreciate it if you would turn in sold books of tickets.

BSU ROTARACT

The BSU Rotaract is a very new organization, but in its first year, has an impressive list of activities. They include:

Participation in the Rose Sale, A Pottery Night, Pumpkin Decorating Project with the Boys & Girls Club, Valentines Dance, a volleyball tournament, a BBQ at Diamond Point Park, plus planning activities. Kudos to the organization for doing a first rate job of promoting Rotary on the local campus. Rotarian **Evonne McKinzie** is the club's Advisor.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

Rotarian **Kirsten Addison**, who directs the Rotary Youth Exchange Program, asks that anyone interested in being a Home Stay Parent for an incoming male student from Germany contact her. Two host families are now needed.

Kirsten also urges anyone who knows of a local student who would be a good candidate for outbound Youth Exchange, to contact her. Following is information on this very valuable program:

Rotary Youth Exchange is for high school aged students who are interested in living and studying abroad for one year. Its goal is to promote the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace at the person to person level.

QUICK OVERVIEW…

It is not a vacation… instead it's a cultural and academic exchange that lasts a full school year (11-12 months). While on exchange you will have the opportunity to learn the language and culture of your host country.

While in your host country you will attend school, be hosted by families (normally 3-4) and be supported by your Rotary club and Rotary counselor (as well as Rotarians here in the USA/Canada.)