

November 24, 2008

This Week's Program
Welcome District 5580 Governor – Tully Chambers
Next Week's Program
Bemidji Skate Board Park

Important Dates to Remember

Goodwill Meeting - Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada –
February 20-21, 2009

“Discover the Magic” – District 5580 Conf – Minot,
ND - April 23-26, 2009

Rotary International Convention –
Birmingham, England - June 21-24, 2009

Upcoming December Programs

Dec 8	BHS Choir at the Eagles Club
Dec 15	Bemidji Public Library
Dec 22	Meritcare Changes in Building Use
Dec 29	Classification Talk

RIDE SHARE PROGRAM

A new program is being launched to help bring Rotarians who need rides to meetings. If you would be willing to Share a Ride, let **John Reff** know.

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS RECOGNIZED

Ryan Baer	Mark Dickinson	PHF+1
Jeremy Fayette	Dick Haugo	PHF+1
Bob Fitzgerald	Tom Reise	PHF+1
Phil Olson	John Reff	PHF+2
Nancy Smith	Ted Will	PHF+4

Scott Turn

Ardis Gillett sponsored by **Ted Gillett**
Elizabeth Horlick sponsored by **Tom Welle**
Paula Van Brunt sponsored by **Bill Howe**
Mary Jo Vorgert sponsored by **Dennis Vorgert**

YEARS OF SERVICE ROTARIANS

5 Years +

Ryan Baer	Scott Kurtzweg
Karl Blesser	Terry Matson
Eileen Bretschneider	Sonja McCollum
Dennis Doeden	Evonne McKinzie
Penny Echternach	Sandy Nelson
Kevin Erpelding	Dan Posner
Bob Fitzgerald	Jon Quistgard
Shelly Geerdes	Hartvig “Ding” Roholt
Rick Goeb	Amy Saeland
James Hess	Bill Sanford
Wayne Hoff	Rick Siebels
William Howe	Nancy Smith
Gary Johnson	Scott Turn
Michael Kelsey	Cliff Tweedale
Sue Kringen	

10 Years

Jim Benson **Warren Larson**

Jeremy Fayette	Steve Rith-Najarian
Eric Hucke	Joanne Torfin
Dane Jones	

15 Years

Jim Benson	Lowell Pierce
Myrle Olson	

25 Years

Kevin Cease	John Lueth
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30 Years

Hank Imsande	Ralph Zachman
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Cyril Murphy

35 Years

Wayne Dondelinger

45 Years

Harold Freutel	Jim Ghostley
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Congratulations to all the Rotarians honored at last night's Paul Harris Dinner.

Thank you for your dedication!

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S BEGINNING

November is Rotary Foundation Month, and looking back proves that some magnificent projects grow from very small seeds. The Rotary Foundation had that sort of modest beginning.

In 1917 RI President Arch Klumph told the delegates at the Atlanta Convention, that “it seems eminently proper that we should accept endowments for the purpose of doing good in the world.” The response was polite and favorable, but the fund was slow to materialize. A year later the “Rotary Endowment Fund”, as it was first labeled, received its first contribution of US\$26.50 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri, U.S.A., which was the balance of the Kansas City Convention account following the 1918 annual meeting. Additional small amounts were annually contributed, but after six years it is reported that the endowment fund had only reached US\$700. A decade later, The Rotary Foundation was formally established at the 1928 Minneapolis Convention. In the next four years the Foundation fund grew to US\$50,000. In 1937 a US\$2 million goal was announced for the Rotary Foundation, but these plans were cut short and abandoned with the outbreak of World War II.

In 1947, upon the death of Paul Harris, a new era opened for The Rotary Foundation as memorial gifts poured in to honor the founder of Rotary. From that time, The Rotary Foundation has been achieving its noble objective of furthering “understanding and friendly relations between peoples of different nations.” By 1954 the Foundation received for the first time a half million dollars in contributions in a single year, and in 1965 a million dollars was received.

It is staggering to imagine that from those humble beginnings, The Rotary Foundation is now receiving more than US\$65 million each year for educational and humanitarian work around the world.