

**December 8, 2008**

**This Week's Program**  
*BHS Choir – Chris Fetting*  
**Next Week's Program**  
*Bemidji Public Library*

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**Important Dates to Remember**

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

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

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

**Upcoming Dec-Jan Programs**

Dec 22 Meritcare - Meet the New Surgeons

Dec 29 Club Assembly

Jan 5 Wellness – **Carol Ann Russell-**  
**Schlemper**

**PROPOSED FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**MIKE FISKE**, Director of the Kabekona Bible Church  
– proposed by **Wayne Hoff** and **Gayle Quistgard**  
**ERIN JALLOH**, Executive Director of Boy Scouts of  
America Voyageurs Area – proposed by **Ben Stowe**

**RECENT ROTARY VISITORS**

**Jeff Isakka**, Duluth #25

**Kurt Linberg**, Minneapolis #9

**SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS**

Rotary's annual bell ringing for the Salvation Army is scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>. The location is inside the Mall in front of K-Mart. If you can volunteer for a two-hour shift, contact **Ryan Baer**. **Ryan** suggests you wear some item showing a Rotary emblem if possible.

**EXCHANGE OF CLUB BANNERS**

If you're planning to be a snowbird or do some holiday traveling and will include a Rotary Club visit in your travels, check with President **Gayle** to pick up our club banner. It displays Paul Bunyan and Babe and should be a good conversation starter. Here's some information about the practice of Club banner exchange:

The exchange of small banners, flags or pennants is a colorful tradition of many Rotary clubs. Rotarians traveling to distant locations often take banners to exchange at “make-up” meetings as a token of friendship. Many clubs use the decorative banners they have received for attractive displays at club meetings and district events.

The Rotary International board recognized the growing popularity of the banner exchange back in 1959. Those clubs that participate in such exchanges

have given careful thought to the design of their banners in order that they be distinctive and expressive of the community and country of which the club is a part. They may include pictures, slogans or designs that portray the territorial area of the club.

The board was also mindful of the financial burden such exchanges may impose upon some clubs, especially in popular areas where many visitors make up and request to exchange. In all instances, clubs are cautioned to exercise discretion and moderation in the exchange of banners in order that the financial obligations do not interfere with the basic service activities of the club.

Exchanging club banners is a very pleasant custom, especially when a creative and artistic banner tells an interesting story of community pride. The exchange of banners is a significant tradition of Rotary and serves as a tangible symbol of our international fellowship.

**NEW LAW AUTHORIZES VETERANS' SALUTES DURING NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Washington (Oct. 30, 2008) Veterans and active duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect this month.

“The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation's armed forces.,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. “This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation's flag.”

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The most recent change was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran and was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>.

The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect Jan. 28, 2008.

*Welcome to Rotary Family members and other visitors for today's program. Happy Holidays to all!*