

February 16, 2009

This Week's Program
Bemidji Public Library – Paul Ericsson
Next Week's Program
Classification Talk - Social

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 MAR PROGRAM

Mar 2	Wellness – CarolAnn Schlemper
Mar 9	Macedonia Literacy Project – John Reff
Mar 16	Colon Cancer Screening – Warren Larson
Mar 23	LARA – Chris Keenan
Mar 30	Classification Talk

RIDES TO ROTARY

Karson Otness has also volunteered to help pick up fellow Rotarians for our Monday noon meetings. If you need a ride for the next meeting, contact Karson a week before to make arrangements for him to pick you up. *Thank you, Karson!*

DISTRICT 5580 CONFERENCE

A block of rooms has been reserved under Bemidji Noon Rotary for the 5580 District Conference. The reservations are for April 22 - April 26 so if you plan to attend, you need to reserve the dates you are interested in before April 8th. The phone number for the Holiday Inn Conference Center is 1-800-468-9968. If you need any further information, contact **Amy Saeland**.

THE SPONSOR OF A NEW MEMBER

The bylaws of Rotary clearly outline the procedure for a prospective member to be proposed for Rotary club membership. The “proposer” is the key person in the growth and advancement of Rotary. Without a sponsor, an individual will never have the opportunity to become a Rotarian.

The task of the proposer should not end merely by submitting a name to the club secretary. Rotary has

not established formal responsibilities for proposers or sponsors; however, by custom and tradition these procedures are recommended in many clubs. The sponsor should:

1. Invite a prospective member to several meetings prior to proposing the individual for membership.
2. Introduce the new member to other club members each week for the first month.
3. Invite the new member to accompany the sponsor to neighboring clubs for the first make-up meeting to learn the process and observe the spirit of fellowship.
4. Encourage the new member to attend the next orientation/informational meeting.
5. Ask the new member and spouse to accompany the sponsor to the club's social activities, dinners or other special occasions.
6. Urge the new member and spouse to attend the district conference with the sponsor.
7. Encourage the new member to get involved on one of the club's committees in his/her area of interest. This develops an active Rotarian.

When the proposer follows these guidelines, Rotary becomes stronger with each new member.

ROTARY AROUND THE WORLD

California, USA: Want to spread the word about The Four-Way Test? Michael Boyer, of the Rotary Club of Pismo Beach (Five Cities), has launched a Web site dedicated to promoting those famous 32 words. Boyer has posted tips for running essay contests and is planning to publish winning student essays from all over the world. Find more at www.thefourwaytest.com.

Ontario, Canada: Eight Toronto teenagers organized a charity event in May to benefit Covenant House, the largest homeless shelter for teens in Canada. The Toronto Trek for Teens, modeled after the television show *The Amazing Race*, got its start at a business-education workshop hosted by the Rotary Club of Etobicoke. Rotarians at Camp Enterprise mentored the students as they planned the event, which included a comedy festival and a battle of the bands and raised nearly US\$5,000.