

July 27, 2009

This Week's Program
Dragon Boat Festival Update
Next Week's Program
District Governor – Ajoy Chatterjee

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Dragon Boat Festival - July 30-Aug 1
Bemidji Waterfront

Rotary International Conv. – June 20-23, 2010
Montreal, Quebec

UPCOMING AUGUST PROGRAMS

Aug 10 Ambassadorial Scholar – Tessa
 Haagenson
Aug 17 TBD
Aug 24 Blood Bank - Rachel Henrick
Aug 31 Free Wheelchair Mission – Jim
 Meehan

VISITING ROTARIAN

Steve Dekrey – Hong Kong
Chet Yon – Fountain Hills, AZ

DONATIONS

- North Country Health Services Foundation
- Bemidji State University Foundation

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Kirsten Addison says thanks to those who have connected her with potential host families for our incoming Rotary Youth Exchange students. She is still in need of another family for Quentin from France. **Kirsten** can be contacted at 800-450-2214.

BYLAW CHANGES

Your board of directors are requesting a change in our club's bylaws regarding ARTICLE 11 – Leave of Absence.

CURRENT: Member's Leave of Absence may be granted upon written request for reasons of health, for absence from community, ~~for age and with 20 years of Rotary membership~~, for other good and sufficient reasons.

PROPOSED: Member's Leave of Absence may be granted upon written request for reasons of health, for absence from community, *for age and years of membership combined must be at least 85*, for other good and sufficient reasons.

Our membership will vote on this change during an upcoming meeting.

VOLUNTEER AWARD

Congratulations to Rotarian **Eileen Bretschneider** who was recently awarded a "Someone Special Volunteer" award. The award, sponsored by Paul Bunyan Broadcasting, Ken K. Thompson and the United Way recognize volunteers who have made significant contributions to the community. **Eileen** was recognized for serving as co-chair of the LaVoce Ballo, BHS's all-female show choir program, which took the top spot as grand champions at all three of its recent state competitions.

ROTARACT REQUESTS JAR DONATIONS

The BSU Rotaract Club plans a "Change for the World" Donation program. They ask that you save your empty glass food jars for their use. They will pick up the jars on August 17th.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR DEFINES PRIORITIES

New District 5580 Governor **Ajoy Chatterjee**, has defined the priorities for his term. He writes in the July District newsletter Cross Current:

On the early morning of January 19, 2009 RI Assembly in San Diego RI President John Kenny requested all the District Governors to continue to focus their service effort on water, health and hunger, and literacy – vital issues that clubs have been addressing most effectively in recent years. I am charged with duties to fulfill his command.

Water, health and hunger, and literacy will be our emphasis in the year ahead and accordingly I have set up these cabinets with **Joanne Larson** (Nipigon) as Chair of the Water and Sanitation Committee, **Charlie Christianson** (Grand Forks Noon), Health Chair, **Scott Turn** (Bemidji), Hunger Chair, **Glenice Hansen** (Dickinson) Literacy Co-Chair and **Yovonne Kroll** (Dickinson) Literacy Co-Chair. This year, I ask you, my fellow Rotarians, to continue to work for health and well-being of not only children but their families and people everywhere.

...I am requesting all of you, to focus your efforts on water and sanitation, as the scarcity of clean water is an increasingly serious issue in many parts of the world. Please get in touch with the above mentioned Rotarians and receive details of the district's involvement and how you can make the world a better place to live.

Visit the District Rotary website at www.rotary5580.org

SEE YOU AT THE DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL !!!