

August 24, 2009

This Week's Program
Blood Bank – Rachel Henrick
Next Week's Program
Free Wheelchair Mission – Jim Meehan

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION –

June 20-23, 2010 **Montreal, Quebec**

DISTRICT 5580 CONFERENCE –

May 13-16, 2010 **Winnipeg, Canada**

UPCOMING SEPT PROGRAMS

Sept 7 LABOR DAY – NO MEETING

Sept 14 Kinship North – Sarah Kuesel

Sept 21 Classification Talk

Sept 28 Concordia Language Village

VISITING ROTARIAN

Brenda Finkenbinder, University Seattle

GOLFING INVITATIONS

15th Annual Park Rapids Rotary Golf Benefit

Headwaters Country Club, Park Rapids, MN

1:00 p.m. August 26, 2009

Contact: Gary Johnson for further information

East Range Rotary

7th Annual District Golf Tournament

Monday, September 7, 2009 (Labor Day)

Quarry Golf Course, Giants Ridge Golf & Ski

Resort, Biwabik, MN

7:00 a.m. Registration and continental breakfast

8:30 a.m. Shotgun start. Scramble format

2:00 p.m. Lunch, social, raffle prizes and awards

Contact: Steve Bradach – 218-780-2021

steve@classicwoodworks.us

ROTARY'S TOP GOAL – END POLIO NOW

POLIO PLUS

The PolioPlus program provides funding for mass immunization campaigns as well as support for social mobilization, surveillance, and laboratories to help carry out the final stages of global polio eradication. Rotarians have raised funds that will amount to more than \$1.2 billion in support by the time polio is eradicated and have provided hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours. Rotary is a spearheading partner with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the initiative to

eradicate polio worldwide. As a result of their efforts, two billion children under age five have received the polio vaccine, five million people who might otherwise be paralyzed are walking today, 500, 000 new cases of polio are prevented each year, and the number of polio cases has declined by 99 percent worldwide.

ROTARY'S US\$200 MILLION CHALLENGE

Rotary's leadership in the polio eradication effort was recognized in 2009 with a \$225 million challenge grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The new funds come in addition to the \$100 million challenge grant received from the Gates Foundation in 2007. The first grant was spent during the 2008 calendar year on immunization and other polio eradication activities, and the second grant must be spent in the same way in 2009. Rotary must raise \$100 million to match each grant for a total of \$200 million by 30 June 2012. This fundraising effort is called Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge. Every Rotary club in the world is being asked to help meet the challenge by organizing a public fundraising event annually for the next three years. The \$555 million generated by the grant and match will be a vital catalyst to help achieve Rotary's top goal of ending polio worldwide.

ROTARY AROUND THE WORLD

USA – Seeing people in their community struggling with energy costs, members of the Rotary Club of Marblehead Harbor, Mass., had a bright idea. Through their club's Light the Way project, they visited senior citizens to replace energy-guzzling incandescent light bulbs with more efficient compact fluorescents. The Rotarians focused on stairwells, basements, and other areas that were difficult or dangerous for seniors to reach. The Marblehead Municipal Light Department donated 500 light bulbs toward the effort.

“Anyone who checks his thoughts, his words and deeds against the Four-Way Test is almost certain to do the right thing.” *Herbert Taylor*