

October 5, 2009

This Week's Program
BSU Hockey Coaches – Tom Serratore & Steve Sertich
Next Week's Program
Health Care – Dan Olson & Paul Hanson

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

PAUL HARRIS DINNER -

Nov 15, 2009, at Eagles Club

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION –

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

DISTRICT 5580 CONFERENCE –

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

UPCOMING OCT PROGRAMS

Oct 19 BSU Basketball Coaches – Matt
 Bowen & Mike Curfman
Oct 26 Classification Talk

THANKS TO MARTIN

Many thanks go to **Martin Grafe** and his staff for their hospitality during our meeting last Monday at Concordia Language Village. The food was excellent and the presentation informative. Be sure to thank **Martin**.

ROSE SALE SCHEDULED

Thanks to the volunteers who have stepped up to coordinate our annual Rose Sale fundraiser. They are **Dave Lubke, Rob Bollinger, Amy Saeland** and **Tom Welle**. Roses are priced at \$13.00 per dozen, and pick up dates are October 23-24 at both Lueken's locations. If you have not yet picked up your tickets for this major fundraiser, please do so today. The last day to turn in tickets is October 19th.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Our Super Rose Salesman for several years, **Harold Freutel**, will be needing a ride as he makes his sales rounds. If you can do the driving duties, please talk with **Harold**. He may even help you sell your tickets!

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE RECEPTION

On Saturday, October 17th there will be a reception for the GSE team going to Japan this November. It will be held at **John Reff's** house (6420 Birchmont Dr) from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. This invitation is extended to Rotarians and their spouses. It is a potluck so plan to attend and share either an appetizer or dessert. Think Japanese! For questions, contact **John Reff**.

GRANTS APPROVED

Northern Technical College – Scholarship Program
Camp Courage

PAUL HARRIS DINNER

This year's Paul Harris Dinner, which honors our old Paul Harris Fellows and recognizes our new Paul Harris Fellows, will be held Sunday evening, November 15th at the Eagles Club. More information will come.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

With polio, our determination must not waiver.

On 24 October, we mark World Polio Day. It is a time to reflect on the progress we have made and to strengthen our resolve for the work ahead. It is a time to raise awareness of our efforts to eradicate polio, and to help meet Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge.

We have come a long way. We have reduced the number of polio cases by over 99 percent, from more than 350,000 a year in the 1980s to about 1,650 in 2008. We have brought the number of endemic countries from 125 to 4. And we have vaccinated over two billion children.

We are proud of these accomplishments, and we are closer than ever to achieving our goal of worldwide eradication. But we must recognize that our greatest enemy is complacency. We cannot slacken our efforts now, because as long as there is wild poliovirus anywhere, the disease can easily spread again. The number of cases in endemic countries is down this year, but the number of cases in countries where polio has been reintroduced has increased significantly – a reminder of how polio knows no borders, and how vigilant we must remain.

Polio is still endemic in Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan. Difficult terrain, civil unrest, remote settlements, poor sanitation, and terrible poverty are just some of the obstacles to immunization. But we, and our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, are determined to continue our work with persistence and creativity.

I have been inspired by the incredible strides already made this year. In one 10-day period, a total of 222,270,331 children in 22 countries were immunized against polio. The effort and the commitment are phenomenal. This is a testament to the resolve that has brought us this far – and that will soon bring us to our goal of complete eradication.

Glenn E. Estess, Sr., Foundation trustee chair