

We Meet at Noon on Thursday, June 26, 2008

In the Great Hall/Radisson Hotel



President Larry Fortner



Bonita Nelson  
President-Elect

### "Changing of the Guard"

On this last day of our Rotary year, Larry Fortner will step down as our president after doing an exemplary job, and Bonita Nelson takes office as our 97th president.

Chairperson of the Day: Larry Fortner  
Fellowship Reporter of the Day: Jim Grant

Please join us to thank and recognize the outgoing club leadership and welcome the new club officers and directors.

The Gimlet, the Newsletter of Club 25 - vol. 92, no. 52 - June 24, 2008

## Dates to Remember

- Fri., June 27th—Fellowship Breakfast—7:30 a.m.—Northland Country Club  
Thurs., July 17th—An Evening at the Duluth Playhouse—"My Fair Lady" (replaces our noon meeting)  
Thurs., July 24th—District Governor's Visit

## Committee Meetings

- Tues., June 24th—2008-09 Rotaract—Noon—5th Ave.  
Tues., June 24th—2008-09 Membership Development—Noon—Viking Room  
Wed., June 25th—2008-09 Grants—Noon—5th Ave.  
Tues., July 1st—2008-09 Rose—Noon—Forest Suite  
Tues., July 8th—2008-09 Environment—Noon—Duluth  
Tues., July 15th—2008-09 Ways & Means—Noon—Missabe  
Wed., July 16th—2008-09 International Service—Noon—Missabe  
Tues., July 22nd—2008-09 Youth and Community—Noon—Great Hall II

## Happy Birthday & Years of Service

- Dr. Bob Johnson—June 22nd—67 yrs.  
Phil Strom—June 25th—27 yrs.  
Paula Reed—June 26th—6 yrs.  
John Stromquist—June 27th—72 yrs.  
Jay Stoffel—June 27th—12 yrs.  
Jeff Lisakka—June 27th—6 yrs.

## Fellowship Breakfasts

Our next Fellowship Breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, June 27, at Northland Country Club. Our Fellowship Breakfasts—always on the last Friday of the month—are wonderful, low-key gatherings in a beautiful setting, and they qualify for attendance credit, too. Double your pleasure by bringing a guest.

## Thursday at Rotary

by Bill Zimbinski

As members entered the Great Hall and sat for dinner they spotted a "first ever CLUB 25 ANNUAL REPORT" provided by outgoing Pres Larry. **Dan Mundt** reminded us that "Peace" was the word for the day and that we should all be peacemakers as we follow the four way test.

**Bob Poulter** presented the fellowship report with his usual good humor and twinkle in the eye. **Tom Wheeler** was dragged forward again to pay for daughter Kara who was featured in an article in the Woman Today magazine. Kara is a World Class Runner and an Olympic Hopeful. **Rachel Martin** was quoted in the same magazine about the history of the Kitchi Gammi Club, and Jane Casperson, wife of **Dean** was pictured in an article about peace in life and work. **Lisa Augustine** and **Renee Mattson** were quoted in an article in the DNT about plans for Spirit Mountain to become a 4 seasons resort. **Tom Homan** had an article on the Opinion page of the DNT on the topic of peace and reconcili-



ation in the Middle East. His wife Cheryl refused to pay, so Tom dug into his wallet for the fine. **Richard Quigley** and **Dick Fischer** came forward and paid for their fine work at Woodland Hills. **Dean Popoola** announced that the new Islamic Center in Woodland is well received by its neighbors. **Raija Macheledt** is the treasurer of Finnfest and will be rubbing shoulders with the president of Finland when she visits Duluth this summer. **Dave Holappa** paid for his joy ride in an

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Fellow Club 25ers,

As the end of my term as president nears, I find myself dealing with an interesting range of emotions – from astonishment that the year has gone so fast, to gratification that we accomplished so much, to just a twinge of mild frustration that we left some things on the table yet to be accomplished, and to, I'll admit, a vast sense of relief. I am pleased to be able to step down from the head table and turn over the affairs of this incredible organization to an amazingly gifted and competent set of new leaders.

I can't tell you how proud (and stunned) I was a couple of years ago when **Past Prez Bill Zimbinski** told me that the Nominating Committee agreed to ask me to serve as president of Club 25, and I'll carry that feeling of pride (and amazement) with me for the rest of my days.

I knew I was in for a lot of hard work, and I have not been disappointed in that regard. But I also knew that this club is blessed with a wealth of incredibly bright and talented members who love Rotary and love what a solid Rotary club means to its community. Thanks to those people – and that is *you* – we have had a year that would be the envy of any club in Rotary.

We have accomplished much, and we still have much to accomplish. The needs of the underserved in our community are growing. The need to continue pursuing international peace and understanding is more critical now than ever. The need for a strong and vital Club 25 is greater now than ever, too, as is the need to constantly reinvent and re-energize ourselves so that we are always in exactly the right position to respond to the needs of our community and to the needs of our members as our society and our club change with the times.

Thank you for an awesome year, and please join me in welcoming **Bonita** and **Ken** to their new roles in their vitally important leadership positions with our club.

Yours,

Larry Fortner, President, 2007-2008

## Next Week's Program

Mississippi River Challenge – 5 decades ago. Share some tales (and lies) about three fellows, one being our very own **Dave Rutherford**, would be Huck Finns who floated the mighty Mississippi in 1955.

**Phil Strom** will be Chair of the Day.

F-16, but said he was not allowed to land it.

Pres Larry announced a new District program which provides "Shelter Boxes" for the victims of natural disasters, and asked members to contribute \$5 each. A total of \$730 was collected. **Chana Stocke** announced that she is still searching for host families for our 2008-09 youth exchange students. **Carlene Sippola** announced the Playhouse event on July 17 to see "My Fair Lady". **Paul "Count" Vesterstein** was presented a cake by Pres Larry in celebration of his Life Member Certificate on his 80th birthday. Secretary to be Jeff Fifield read several thank you notes as a warm up to the new Club 25 year.

#### FROM PRISON TO CONSULTANT;

Chair of the Day **Dan Berglund** introduced Lyle Wildes a motivational speaker and employee of Men as Peacemakers. Although his life story is complex and shocking, his message was simple and inspirational. After being convicted and sentenced to prison for drug offenses, Lyle concluded that the only way he could survive 22 years in prison was to "get my life in order". His first step was to take a course in positive thinking and eventually became the instructor. He referred to the Rotary Four Way Test as one of his guides in changing his attitude. As he gained control of his mind, he began reading many, many non fiction books to further change his attitude and strengthen his discipline. He feels that people are born with altruistic attitudes which should be nurtured rather than killed, and healthy people need to be connected to positive core values and "something bigger out there". A number of thoughtful questions were asked before the time ran out.

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#### Ambassadors Extraordinary

Henry Roberts—Calif. (2)  
Allen Anway—Cloquet (6/17)  
Patrick Maloney—Skyline (6/12)  
Michelle Buria, Paul Loraas, Lisa Heyesen—eClub

#### Weekly E-Mail

Would you prefer to receive your "Gimlet" by e-mail instead of the printed version? "The Gimlet" is e-mailed on the Friday or Monday before the weekly meeting. You would receive it earlier than through the mail. Just e-mail [patty@duluthrotary.org](mailto:patty@duluthrotary.org) and she will put you on the list.

#### Sincere Sympathies

Club members extend their sincere sympathy to **Jim Landwehr** and his family on the loss of his father, Ralph Landwehr.

## Welcome new Members! And Thank You Proposers!

The Membership Development Committee thanks all members who have sponsored new members during the 2007-08 Rotary year. We welcome the 28 new members and say thanks to their proposers.

New Member	Proposer(s)
Scott Sinnott	Dave Allison/Steve Allison
Cheryl Stephens	Melinda Machones
Jeff Leusman	Ken Schoen
Natalie Zeleznikar	Sheryl W. Homan/Larry Fortner
Brian Liberty	Jay Stoffel/Tom Bell
Bob Sherman	Sheryl W. Homan/Tom Homan
John Hippchen	Sheryl W. Homan/Russ Betts
Paul Leisner	Lisa Augustine/Louise Russell
Randy Hyman	Neale Roth/Ken Schoen
Jennifer Hawkins	Lisa Heyesen/Dan Markham
John Gasele	Paul Loraas/David Pollard
Laura Zahn	Renee Mattson/Ann Glumac
Dave Orman	Mike Orman/Ed Orman
Eric Grott	Dave McMillan
Shawn Helmer	John Baumgarten/Craig Fellman
Kenneth Udoibok	Melanie Ford/Richard Quigley
Steve Wallin	Jay Ott/Sandy Hoff
Gordon Ramsay	Deen Popoola/John Moir
Steve McLister	Larry Fortner/Ralph Doty
Brandon Robinson	Betty George/Henry Roberts
Darlene Anderson	Dave Holappa/Barb Perrella
John Foucault	Al Makynen/Jay Stoffel
Erik Torch	Dan Mundt/Steve Mangan
Laura Sieger	Ann Glumac/Jack Bowman
Patrick Maloney	Sheryl Homan/Paula Reed
Susan Ginder	Ann Glumac/Dave McLean/ Tom Clure
Robert Hofmann	Jack Bowman/Henry Roberts
David Frings	Gary Bubalo/Dale Johnson

## The Rotary Club of Duluth, Club 25 Annual Report

### June 2008

This club's Long Range Planning Committee directed the president last year to prepare an annual report to the club at or near the end of his/her term. I am pleased to do so with this summary of some of the highlights of the 2007-2008 Rotary year.

- We launched an era of change with the creation of our Long Range Planning Committee, which has led to, among other things, literally transforming the way we prepare our club's budget and conduct our local grant-making process. If we accomplished nothing else in 2007-2008, these would stand as stunning achievements.
- In another administrative move, our board, with an assist from PastPrez/Gov Dave Vose, has prepared by-laws updates that will be presented to the club soon.
- Our Dragon Boat team scored first last summer among all other service club entrants, and we could not have had a better time doing it.
- Along with our very own Melissa Swor, we won a Beringer Guiding Light Award from Woodland Hills in recognition of our "unflinching dedication to the youth of Woodland Hills."
- We got the highest marks from the district governor on D.C. Jim Ozbun's visit.

- Our attendance philosophy, while staying true to our club's excellent attendance record, began to shift from keeping score to finding new and creative ways to encourage participation while building both attendance and fellowship.
- For the first time, we seriously explored the origins of the flowers we petal (pun intended; sorry) during our annual rose sale, assuring ourselves and our customers that we are buying our flowers from credible and responsible sources. In the process, under the leadership of Rose Chair Ken Newman, we also bit the bullet on a price increase and still had an entirely successful rose sale with a substantial increase in revenue.
- We enjoyed some delightful fellowship activities, including our annual Bob James Memorial Fish and Game Dinner, with a most entertaining speaker, storyteller Hollie Collins. Other notable fellowship events were our evening at the opera at UMD, our train ride to Two Harbors (and back) and a skiing-optional evening at Spirit Mountain.
- Our Centennial Committee is now making concrete, and exciting plans, for a bang-up event in 2011. Stay tuned.
- We created a new Rotaract committee and, led and inspired by the energy of an exciting band of students and faculty at the College of St. Scholastica, launched a new Rotaract club there.
- We set a record of \$12,000-plus in our annual Carlie Heimbach Campship Drive, making it possible for dozens of disadvantaged young people to go to summer camp. That set the stage for yet more record-breaking fundraisers: \$13,712 in the trip raffle; \$64,055 in the rose sale; \$6,000 in the coupon book; and \$19,325 in the auction.
- We broke new ground in membership development with our first-ever Rotary After Hours event, at the Northland Country Club. (Look around; you'll see some new members who joined us after that event.) I am most pleased to report that our membership grew from 265 on July 1, 2007, to 276 on June 30, 2008. The numbers tell us that important people in this town want to be members of Club 25.
- And to cap the year, Mary Jo Jauert and a very special Special Events Committee pulled off a magnificent President's Night Party, on June 12, at Spirit Mountain. Your president could not have felt more honored, nor could he and Jerilyn have had a better time. Ohmigosh, what a wonderful night.

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A glance around the Great Hall at lunch every Thursday tells another special story: We're seeing younger faces, and more female faces, at our meetings, and that is a most welcome and exhilarating sight. Club 25 is on the road toward becoming a more accurate reflection of Duluth's professional community.

It is imperative now that we actively embrace our new members and help them get engaged in our good works. It also is imperative that we renew our efforts to make sure all members are engaged in the work of this organization, new and old alike. Our numbers are up, our spirits are high, and – with all 276 of our members actively engaged – we have an awesome potential to do powerful good work.

I think this first-ever Annual Report is an exciting document. With all your energies behind the leadership of President Bonita and Vice President Ken, next year's report should be downright exhilarating. Thanks to all for a great year for Club 25.

Respectfully submitted by  
Larry Fortner, president, June 2008