

## BEMIDJI ROTARY HISTORY 1985 – 1995

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During the years since the observance of the Golden Anniversary of the club in 1985, there have been several significant events and developments in Bemidji Rotary. Women have been admitted to membership adding diverse talents and experience to carry on the program and activities. Already Emily Lahti has held the office of president and others are active on committees and projects.

In 1989-90 John Schuiling became the first Bemidji Rotarian to serve as Governor of District 5580. He continues his involvement in District affairs as a member of the Governor's Council. In 1988 the club hosted a highly successful District Conference. Several club members assisted in the formation of the Bemidji Sunrise Club.

Membership has increased from 108 in 1985 to 140 in 1995. The number of Paul Harris Fellows has grown substantially. The membership and business records of the club have been computerized recently. A District award has been received by the COG, edited by Al Nohner.

The expansion of international service has been notable in recent years. Bemidji Rotary has been involved in projects from Senegal to Honduras, Guatemala, Peru and the Cook Islands. The Honduras Project, sponsored by the club, is the collection of used medical and hospital equipment for shipment to Santa Barbara. The equipment is obtained locally with additional supplies from other clubs in District 5580. This is an on-going program. In the other areas, Bemidji Rotarians have worked on projects for community improvements and betterments sponsored by the club in the District. Ted Will received a District award for his leadership on the Honduras project and along with Duane Christensen received plaques for their international service.

Participation in the foreign student exchange and the group of study exchange programs has also been a part of the international avenue of service in the recent past.

In 1993, the club received an award from Rotary International for achievements in all four avenues of service. We may believe that the record of the past ten years augurs well for the future of Club 3790.