



Local club honored for charity work

August 06, 2002

BY STEVE JUSSEAUME

HAMPTON - The Hampton Rotary Club has been awarded the Global Quest Award in recognition of its efforts in raising money for charity.

Club President John Adams announced the award at last week's selectmen's meeting, displaying a globe the club received.

"Our club works hard every year," Adams said, relating the local group's support for Rotary International's efforts in eradicating polio by the year 2005. Adams said the goal of the Rotary is to inoculate every child in the world against the disease by the end of this year.

Town Manager James Barrington, also a member of Hampton Rotary, noted that Rotary was founded in 1905 in Chicago. In 1985, Barrington said, a goal was set to rid the world of polio by the club's 100th anniversary. In 1988 350,000 new cases of polio were reported, however in 2001 only 600 cases were reported, mostly in Africa.

"Like (the eradication of) small pox, the dividends back to the world will be immense," Barrington said, noting that in the United States alone some \$10 million might be saved annually on producing serum.

Rotary's goal this year is to raise \$80 million with the local district's goal at \$380,000. The local Rotary, which covered an area from Newburyport, Mass., to central Maine, are selling raffle tickets for a seven-day Caribbean cruise in its fund-raising efforts. Tickets are \$10, three for \$20, and can be purchased from any Rotarian.

The Hampton Rotary has 70 members. The local club was one of only 100 clubs worldwide to receive the Global Quest Award. Worldwide, Rotary includes more than 31,000 individual clubs.

Adams requested that since the club has no headquarters, the globe might be displayed at Town Hall. The Board of Selectmen agreed to put the award on display.