Rotary International District 7780

District Beacon

Michael K. McGovern, District Governor, 1999-2000

APRIL 2000

ROTARY MAGAZINE MONTH

Mark Your Calendars!

Apr. District Assembly 12 Yoken's, Portsmouth, NH Apr. Presidential Citation Forms Due World Community Service Apr. Committee Meeting, 6 p.m. Panda Garden, Portland GSE Outbound Team Apr. 23 Departs for Brazil Deadline for Council on Apr. 30 Legislation Nominations

May Brunswick 75th 12 Anniversary, Knie

Anniversary, Knights of Columbus Hall

May Camp Sebago 13 Spring Clean-up

May District

18-21 Conference 2000

June Rotary International 4-7 Convention, Buenos Aires

June RYLA

23-27 Camp Hinds

June District Governor 30 Nominations Due

Conference 2000 to Welcome RI President Nominee Richard D. King

District Governor Michael McGovern invites you to attend Conference 2000 at the South Portland Marriott on May 18-21. The conference will be a celebration not only of the district's accomplishments this year but also of the past decade as we mark our 10th anniversary. A special reunion banquet on Thursday evening honoring past club presidents and district governors will feature acclaimed speaker Richard King, RI President-Nominee.

Throughout the year DG Mike has spoken of the importance of Building Community. Plenary sessions at the conference will focus on this theme, along with "Ethics in Today's World" and "The Future of Children."

Golfers should plan to set aside Thursday afternoon for the golf tournament at Sable Oaks. Leisure activities scheduled for Saturday afternoon include a tennis tournament, a tour of historic homes including the Victoria Mansion, and a lighthouse tour. Transportation will also be provided for Rotarians and guests to shop at the Maine Mall, the Old Port or the Portland Public Market.

International Night will be observed on Friday evening with our exchange students and Foundation scholars. The conference will be capped off with a gala reception at the Portland Museum of Art on Saturday evening, followed by a banquet at the Eastland Park Hotel honoring current and incoming club presidents.

Come see old friends, make new ones, and learn from one another. We hope that you will join us May 18-21 as we Celebrate the Last Decade of One Millennium and the Beginning of the Next.

Don't Miss Rotary University 2000! Wednesday, April 12, 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Yoken's Restaurant & Conference Center, Portsmouth

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District Governor 2001-2002

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Message from Mike:

Seventy-Five. What do you think of when you hear the number 75? Perhaps it is the year you graduated from high school. Perhaps it is your age. Maybe you think in historical terms and recall that April of 75 was when Paul Revere took his famous ride. The number 75 is in my thoughts as we start the month of April 2000.



We are now 75% through the Rotary year. It is not time to slow down; it is time to accelerate as we look towards the home stretch. As I travel up and down the Interstate, I note that many vehicles are going at least 75 mph. While I do not wish to encourage speeding, there is still some distance to travel before we reach 100%.

A number of clubs had monthly attendance below 75% during the past month. With so many opportunities for make-ups and with the ability of clubs' boards to have community service projects as make-ups, all clubs should strive to exceed 75% in the months ahead.

The membership goal for the year was to not have a single club have a net loss of members. While this goal appears unattainable, we still have it within our reach to have a District gain of 75 members this year. It could be done with all clubs having a membership gain of one and a few clubs having a membership gain of two. If 75% of the clubs obtained a net gain of two members from this point on, we would easily make the goal.

There is a lag in receiving Rotary Foundation contribution information from Rotary International, but we have now passed \$75,000, which is half of our total goal of \$150,000. If every Rotarian gave \$75.00, our goal would be easily surpassed.

Finally, congratulations to the latest 75th Anniversary clubs, Rumford and Kennebunk, both chartered in March 1925! Both celebrated with festive evenings with great musical entertainment.

Speaking of Speakers

For those of you program chairs who are always on the lookout for a new and interesting speaker, the University of Southern Maine (USM) has published a Guide to Speakers and Specialists. The 72-page book contains over 230 speakers who are available to speak on more than 400 topics such as Holistic Health, the Battle of Iwo Jima, Gene Therapy, Rare Maps, Urban Sprawl and Horror Films. You may obtain this booklet by contacting the USM Office of Media and Community Relations at 207-780-4200. Other colleges and universities in southern Maine, New Hampshire and Northern Massachusetts are also an excellent resource – just give their media relations office a call.

As always, we encourage program chairs who have had a particularly good speaker at their club to share this information with other clubs – email makes it so easy to do these days! (If you need email addresses for other clubs, please contact the newsletter editor.)

Focus on our Foundation

Your Change Can Make a Difference!

"As you know, I have been saving my quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies for a little over a year to give to the Rotary Foundation. I have found that this was much more meaningful than I would ever have anticipated. Every time I emptied the change into the jar (and eventually into the "Foundation drawer"), I thought about what those coins could mean to someone whose name I will never know and whose face I will never see. When a cashier handed me a couple of quarters and a penny or two, I couldn't forget that someone somewhere would consider that a day's wage. The bits and pieces of money that, quite frankly, I haven't missed at all in balancing my budget, would be a treasure to someone else. When I sat down a couple of different times to roll the coins, I envisioned the "stack houses" which Rotary has built for families who had lived in boxes. Those stacks of penny rolls inched another family closer to shelter. How many dimes or quarters would ensure that a community would never have a polio epidemic?

"We take so much for granted in our society. I take so much for granted. There are thousands upon thousands of children who live on the scraps left behind by others. All piled together, the change (scraps that most of us would never miss) could change an entire community's life.

I am conscious of the fact that there are those who can – and do – give significantly more money than I will ever see in my life. I am not wealthy. I'm not even sure I'm middle class.

I just wonder how much money Rotary Foundation would have to spend if every Rotarian in our District set aside their change for even a month. We could have a coin-rolling party – a celebration for the change that will change lives!" - Author Unknown

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Rx - Humor for Hope and Healing

The Brunswick Rotary club will be presenting the "real" Patch Adams in a symposium at Merrill Auditorium, Portland, Maine on Monday, April 10.

Proceeds will be used to bring basic healthcare to rural communities in Rio Grande do Norte in Northeast Brazil, Maine's sister state.

Dr. Patch Adams is an internationally recognized physician, lecturer, author, healer and clown. He will speak about the mind/body connection, how humor enhances the immune system and acts as a stress reducer, and the role of humor/play in the development of trusting relationships between provider and client. Registration for the daylong event is \$89. To register or for more information call PortTix at 207-842-0800.

Spring and GSE Arrive

by Janet McLaughlin, GSE Committee

Sure signs of spring in District 7780: robins, mud, outdoor community service projects, and the incoming GSE team. The team from District 4580 in Brazil will arrive on Sunday, May 3, to join us for spring in New England.

This year there are four non-Rotarian team members and the Rotary leader. They are:

Leader Fernando de Castro Moraes Filho, a pediatrician, Rotary Club of Uba;

Emilia Castro Montesano Goulart, 39, who teaches English and handicapped children; Fernando Ribeiro Queiroz, 26, a production engineer; Juliana Nogueira Salume, 25, a systems analyst; and Lena Rubia Borgo Bezerra, 37, an English teacher.

If you've already signed up to be a host family – thank you. If you haven't, please consider doing so, or agreeing to be a back-up. You can also be involved by volunteering to help transport team members, arrange a vocational experience for one of them, or inviting them to join you for a meal. Your positive, generous attitude will make this an experience of a lifetime for our visitors – and will bring a springtime smile to your Rotary soul!



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Spotlight on . . The Portland Suburbs

This month we visit some of the clubs in and around Portland. Westbrook-Gorham was chartered by Portland in 1926; they in turn sponsored Windham in 1983. South Portland-Cape Elizabeth is also an offspring of Portland, chartered in 1962. They shared their territory with Casco Bay Sunrise in 1988. Like Windham, Freeport was founded in 1983, a descendant of the Brunswick club.

Westbrook-Gorkam

For the second year, Westbrook-Gorham held a shoe drive this winter to benefit the Latvian Connection, an organization devoted to the care and aid of children in Latvian orphanages. The club became aware of the organization when member Frank Emery adopted two Latvian children. Each member was asked to bring in at least one new pair of shoes as well as to spread the word in the community. The club also contributed funds to purchase shoes.

All of the clubs featured this month (as well as the Bath and Brunswick clubs, Yarmouth & Portland) assisted in some way in welcoming the Friends Forever group from Ballymena, W-G took them for a Haunted Hayride and

had a marvelous time. The experience was so rewarding that the club would like to increase their involvement with Friends Forever in the future.

Most recently the club has been raising money, like many other clubs in the district, through sales of citrus fruit; the club sold over 600 cases of fruit this year.

Westbrook-Gorham deserves an award for persistence for their golf tournament. Last September they were rained out not once but twice; fortunately the third time was a charm.

Casco Bay Surrise

Casco Bay Sunrise also has a golf tournament - this year on June 19. Part of the proceeds go to the club's "Turning Point" Fund. The brainchild of member John Doyon, the fund provides small gifts (usually around \$200) to people in crisis or with urgent needs that cannot be met through other means. A recent example is a gift of \$100 to a star athlete high school student so that she could buy running shoes. Occasionally the recipients are able to repay the donation to help replenish the fund. Grants made by the fund often provide the turning point between despair and hope and through them the club has made a difference in people's lives.

The club is really on a high these days, flushed with the success of their wine-tasting fundraiser for the Maine Children's Cancer Program. Past President Tim Placey inaugurated the event last year and President Dave Parsons expanded the event this year by inviting the neighboring clubs of Yarmouth, Windham and South Portland-Cape Elizabeth. Ticket sales and a silent auction raised over \$15,000 – a six-

fold increase over the first year! Judging from the picture of District Governor Mike (displaying a raffle prize),



the event was also a lot of fun!

Windham

Many clubs in the district are known for a particular fundraiser, service project or some other unique feature. Windham is probably best known for the personalities of its presidents (e.g. George Bartlett, Jack Schraeter, Jeff Martin). This year is no exception; Don Drew is one of the nicest people you would ever want to meet. Don loves to volunteer and recently received an award from Gov. King for his volunteer work. Following Don's retirement on September 1, 2005 (but he's not counting!) he plans to volunteer fulltime for Rotary.

The past presidents mentioned above have not been put out to pasture yet. With PP George Bartlett as adviser, Windham has a very active Interact club which has been renovating a community center (see November Beacon) and brings pleasure to residents of a local nursing home through their weekly visits. Thanks to PP Jack Schraeter, Windham has been very active with youth exchange and this year they have sponsored Irmak Bozkurt from

Turkey. Jack has also influenced the club's impressive history of world community service; most recently the club sent over \$700,000 worth of

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medical equipment to Romania.



Conference 2000

Rotary International District 7780

Conference Registration Form

(Each Rotarian registrant must complete this form)



Rotanan's Name:											
Street or P.O. Address:											
City. State & ZIP:											
Partner's Name (if registering):											
Guests' Names:											
Meal Packages Available (Includes Coffee Breaks and other amenities): Full Conference Package (8 Meals, Thursday Dinner through Sunday Brunch) \$179.50 Five Meal Package (Friday Dinner through Sunday Brunch) \$119.50 Three Meal Package (Choices Below) \$79.50 Three Meal Package # 1. Thursday Dinner, Friday Breakfast, Friday Lunch Three Meal Package # 2. Friday Dinner, Saturday Breakfast, Saturday Lunch Three Meal Package # 3. Saturday Lunch, Saturday Dinner, Sunday Brunch											
Side No.											

OUESTIONS? - Call Bob Carson at 207-774-5541

Registrations will be accepted by postmark date. All registrations must be received on or before May 10, 2000



CONFERENCE 2000

"Celebrating the Last Decade of One Millennium and the Beginning of the Next"

ROTARY 2000: ACT WITH CONSISTENCY CREDIBILITY CONTINUITY

May 18 - 21, 2000

Portland Marriott Hotel, South Portland, Maine

The 10th Anniversary Conference of District 7780

Tentative Program

Thursday, May 18:

- → District Golf Tournament, Sable Oaks

 Country Club
- Governors' Council meeting
- Reunion Reception and Banquet, with featured speaker, Richard D. King, RI President-Nominee - a "Don't Miss" event
- * Headline entertainment

Friday, May 19:

- → Plenary Session, featuring "Building Community" with interesting speakers from government and private agencies
- Luncheon Speaker, The Honorable Kermit Lipez, Judge, First Circuit Court of Appeals
- Plenary Session "Ethics in Today's World"
- International Night, with our Youth Exchange Students and Foundation Scholars as special guests

Saturday, May 20:

- District Business meeting and election
 Plenary Session, featuring "The Future of Children" with interesting speakers confronting issues of interest to all clubs
 Afternoon free Tennis, Tours, Shopping
- Gala Reception at Portland Museum of Art and Governor's Banquet at the Eastland Park Hotel honoring club presidents and incoming presidents another "Don't Miss" event

Sunday, May 21:

- * Memorial and Interfaith Service
- * Closing Plenary Session

Highlights of Conference 2000

Two "Don't Miss" Events -

ራሴሴሴ the Reunion Banquet on Thursday evening provides the opportunity for District 7780 Rotarians to recall the spectacular service provided by clubs during the past ten years, while honoring those who have served as club president and district governor during the last decade of the Millennium

AAAAA the Gala Reception at the Portland Museum of Art and the Governor's Banquet at the State of Maine Ballroom of the Eastland Park Hotel will shine the spotlight on the current club presidents and the incoming club presidents, as district Rotarians look ahead to the new Millennium

Tours Galore -

♦♦♦♦ District Governor Mike's famous "Lighthouse Tour", featuring Mike's personal thoughts about the historic monuments of South Portland's and Cape Elizabeth's history ♦♦♦♦ Historic homes escorted tour of Stroudwater and the Victorian Mansion

Shopping:

***Transportation provided to shopping in the Old Port Exchange, Portland Public Market and at the Maine Mall

Activities and Sports:

- → Tennis Tournament at the Racquet and Fitness Club
- ➡ Golf Tournament at the famed Sable Oaks Country Club

Most of All: Good friends and a learning experience

PP Jeff Martin set up the club's website at www.geocities.com/
Heartland/Prairie/6638/index.html and has graciously posted the district newsletter on the club's website each month.

The club's fundraisers include an auction which netted them \$12,000 last September, Casino Night on March 25 and the sale of Christmas trees.

Freeport

Freeport's president is also distinctive: a real clown, in fact – literally! Will Bennett is also a Shriner and can be seen riding his unicycle at the circus. He also uses his clowning abilities to bring cheer to children suffering from burns.

Freeport has a strong emphasis on youth. They have been a big supporter of Youth Exchange through student sponsorship (Wesley Marstaller is currently in Romania) and through past and present representation on the District committee (Bobbi Byrd and Tom Wilbur).

They also have three student visitors who are virtually members of the club; they regularly attend meetings and have their own badges. Camille Trubey and Eric Pelton of Pine Tree Academy and Emily Peterson of Freeport High School feel that involvement with Rotary is an excellent way for them to meet people in the community. They feel that this experience has increased the possibility that they will become Rotarians in the future. Emily even started an Interact club at Freeport HS.

The fourth student you are likely to see at Freeport meetings is their



inbound exchange student Alejandro Sorondo from Argentina. Ale takes his Rotary commitment very seriously – in fact he sold more than

anyone else at the club's Christmas tree sale. Ale graduated from high school at home and finished one semester of college courses in engineering before coming to Maine. He was very active in Interact at home and was twice president of the club. Bridget Burns writes on page 6 about participating in Rotaplast as part of the traveling team. Ale has experienced Rotaplast on the other side – his club helped a visiting Rotaplast team with translation, paperwork and other hosting duties.

of president knowing that she could always count on her club.

The club meets for dinner, which makes it easy to plan special meetings and invite spouses and guests. For example the first meeting in January was a Millennium Party, complete with champagne and millennial predictions. In March the club invited their spouses and the Scarborough club to "Murphy Night," so dubbed in recognition of both clubs' presidents having the same last name. Another special evening this year was Alumni Night, a celebration of the club's history to which all former members were invited.



South Portland-Cape Elizabeth

South Portland-Cape Elizabeth raises funds primarily by selling Christmas trees – a LOT of Christmas trees. The club has sold just under 2,000 trees for the past few years, netting \$20,000-25,000. This endeavor is very laborintensive and requires participation of every member of the club. In fact new members are told when they join that they will be expected to work at least 3 shifts of 3 hours each. The tree sale generates a lot of publicity for the club and generates a tremendous sense of



camaraderie. The President-Elect is in charge of the tree sale each year and this experience allowed President Adrienne Murphy to step into the role

District Governor Nominations

Clubs are encouraged to submit nominations for District Governor 2002-2003 and a member of the Budget Committee for 2001-2004.

Qualifications for District Governor can be found in the Manual of Procedure and include membership in a Rotary club for at least seven years prior to taking office, serving a full term as Club president, and being willing and physically able to carry out the duties of District Governor.

The Budget Committee member must be a Past President of a club in Oxford or York county.

Nominations must be forwarded to DG Mike prior to June 30, 1999. Interested Rotarians are encouraged to call Mike for more details.

IMAGINE

(Editor's Note: Journalist Berri Kramer and District Rotaplast Chair Bridget Burns both sent many very poignant stories of the recent Rotaplast mission to Bolivia. Although Bridget requested that I print one of Berri's stories, I have chosen to print one of hers instead. Bridget's letters reflected her deep emotional attachment to the Rotaplast program, especially in light of the death of her father just days before the mission departed. Our condolences to Bridget and congratulations on her bravery in going through with the mission at such a difficult time.)

Cochabamba is a city that lies nestled in between huge mountains of the Andes. Some are very green and some are snowcapped. It is an awesome sight seeing a snow-capped mountain in the background and seeing a palm tree outside your window. When we pulled up outside of the Rotary House where the clinic was to be held there had to be 300 - 400 parents with children just standing and waiting for their shot at a miracle. As we wove our way through the people a hand would reach out and touch my cheek or a woman would hold out a child for me to touch. Some had been waiting on the street for days.

Then as I was making my way through the crowd this little set of eyes caught mine. By looking at this child you did not know what her disfigurement was but I prayed that if she was here for surgery she would be given a GREEN Dot (means yes to Surgery). Blue means maybe and red means NO – God, I hated those Red Dots. Part of my job was to go through the files with the red stickers. As I sat there

reading through each one with tears welling up in my eyes I just barely hung on. Some of these people had spent their last Boliviano to take a bus to Cochabamba; some traveled for up to 12 hours, some not even having enough to go home again. Some were so malnourished that you knew they would be dead by the time we came next year. Some were just sick with a stupid cold. Imagine the bad timing of a stupid cold. You need to live with that cleft lip for another year, maybe even a lifetime, all because you had a cold on a day when you may just have been lucky enough to be granted a miracle.

I learned that the little girl I had noticed in the crowd – Veronica – had been given a green dot. In a sea of so many it still amazes me how one can become so emotionally attached to someone you just met and who doesn't speak your language, but to me it was an answered prayer that this little girl be given a chance. On the night before her surgery I gave her a Panda Beanie baby that some students from the Wells Elementary school had sent for

the children. She sailed with flying colors through surgery. I knew that she would now get better nourishment and that she would have the quality of life she deserved. I know there are many more Veronicas out there. I know that I will go back to Cochabamba, and I also know that I will be forever changed in how I look at life from now on. I only wish that my Dad had lived so that I could share my stories with him and tell him all about the trip. We have now raised over \$7000 for Rotaplast in his memory.

Being a part of a Rotaplast team has allowed me to be a part of something that makes such a difference in so many lives, and is so much bigger than anything I had ever dreamed of being a part of. Imagine if I had not gone to the District Conference at Sunday River and I had not heard of Rotaplast. Imagine.

(Bridget also extends a big THANK YOU to all of the clubs that have become Sustaining Partners. If you are interested in having a presentation on Rotaplast at your club, please contact her (work) at 207-985-6501 or (home) at 207-985-6845.)

CPR OUTREACH

by Sue Czarnionka, CPR Training Coordinator

The CPR Outreach, originally scheduled for March of this year, will have to be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts with the American Heart Association. The goal of the CPR Outreach is to coordinate a day in which CPR will be taught by qualified AHA instructors in our individual communities, sponsored by Rotary. The ultimate goal is to reduce the death toll from heart disease.

We are in hopes of coordinating with AHA and possibly co-sponsoring a CPR Day in the future. Please contact me (home phone 207-363-0831 or t-rex@cybertours.com) if you are interested in helping to organize this effort. Thanks!

DG-Elect Elias

President-elect Frank Devlyn has called for 20 Task Forces to be organized throughout the Rotary world, to serve as resources for all Rotarians. All of them fall under the theme which Frank Devlyn has chosen for the year 2000-2001: Create Awareness... Take Action.



When Jane and I attended the Rotary International Assembly, we were impressed by the display of the past twenty years of "theme" banners. As we looked around the room, we remembered some of the older themes, and most of the more recent themes: Be a Friend; Show Rotary Cares; Enjoy Rotary; Follow Your Rotary Dream; Act with Consistency, Credibility and Continuity. Upon reflection, one can not help but find the common thread which is woven through these themes, and through the very fabric which IS Rotary - SERVICE ABOVE SELF.

This is who we are and work together, shoulder Club, or District to District able goals. We work with with victims of disasters; millions of children housing and we drill safe



this is what we do. We to shoulder, Club to and accomplish remarkchildren and the elderly; we help immunize against Polio; we build water wells; we pick up

the pieces where other organizations or governmental bodies can not put them together; and we facilitate and implement, where no others have succeeded in the past. We Create Awareness and Take Action.

Please join me at the District Assembly on Wednesday, April 12th, at Yoken's in Portsmouth, and learn how as individuals and Clubs, you and your fellow Rotarians can have a greater impact for a greater number of people. Let's not "hide our light under a bushel", but rather, let's make Rotary shine like a beacon of hope throughout the world.





Rotary International President-Elect Frank and Gloria Rita Devlyn and District Governor-Elect Elias and Jane Thomas

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FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE

An	ENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	FOUNDATION GIVING*	ATTENL	DANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	FOUNDATION GIVING*
Ватн	80.0	61	+7	40.74	OGUNQUIT	85.0	34	-8	11.90
BATH SUNRISE	82.8	18	-2	5.00	OXFORD HILLS	86.0	61	+1	33.33
BETHEL	81.3	35	+5	33.33	PORTLAND	62.5	195	-1	44.90
BIDDEFORD-SACO	67.9	64	0	31.25	PORTSMOUTH	76.2	252	0	36.51
BOOTHBAY HARBOR	73.0	53	+2	168.63	PORTSMOUTH SUNRISE	N/R	31	+3	33.33
BRIDGTON-LAKE REGION	82.0	21	-5	0.00	ROCHESTER	65.4	77	+4	39.04
BRUNSWICK	75.5	119	-5	56.10	RUMFORD	N/R	38	-1	25.64
BRUNSWICK COASTAL	58.0	16	+1	117.86	SACO BAY	91.8	66	-3	38.41
CASCO BAY SUNRISE	N/R	30	+2	38.57	SANFORD-SPRINGVALE	70.2	61	+3	2.16
DAMARISCOTTA-NEWCAST	LE 69.3	43	-1	22.98	SCARBOROUGH	76.0	28	+3	28.24
DOVER	68.0	80	+2	0.00	SEABROOK-H. FALLS	N/R	20	+2	55.56
DURHAM-GREAT BAY	78.9	54	+1	13.21	SOMERSWORTH	N/R	24	+6	40.91
EXETER	75.5	44	-3	21.28	SOUTH BERWICK	N/R	43	+2	60.37
FREEPORT	76.0	32	+4	3.04	SO. PTLD-CAPE ELIZ.	70.9	47	+5	316.78
FRYEBURG AREA	78.5	27	-1	54.46	WELLS	70.0	49	-2	19.61
HAMPTON	76.8	59	+2	20.18	WESTBROOK-GORHAM	N/R	38	-4	13.69
KENNEBUNK	81.5	88	-5	25.00	WINDHAM	N/R	35	+6	0.00
KENNEBUNK PORTSIDE	83.0	38	-3	4.27	YARMOUTH	62.0	37	-3	41.50
KITTERY	79.0	26	+2	399.20	YORK	75.3	65	+7	0.00
NEWBURYPORT	N/R	74	+3	0.95					

*PER CAPITA AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 2000

N/R= NO REPORT

Michael K. McGovern Governor, District 7780 High View Road Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107



Marie Williams Past District Governor PO Box 142 Kittery Point, ME 03905

