

# District Beacon



Michael K. McGovern, District Governor, 1999-2000

JUNE 2000

## **The Goal is In Reach (With Your Help)**

An ambitious Rotary Foundation annual giving goal of \$150,000 is in reach with \$135,000 already received by the Foundation or by notice to Annual Giving Chair and PDG Marie Williams.

The goal represents \$67.50 per capita from either individual or club contributions. Check the attendance report in this newsletter to see if your club has met the goal.

DG Mike appreciates everyone's support for our Foundation and knows that many young people and others in need will benefit from our generosity.

If you have not given yet, please send your check or transfer some stock today to our Rotary Foundation.

Forms for giving may be downloaded at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) or just mail the check to DG Mike made payable to the Rotary Foundation. Remember, the deadline to meet the goal for this Rotary year is June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Welcoming New Members**

### ***Acting with Consistency, Credibility and Continuity***

As the Rotary year ends, it appears that District 7780 will have an increase in the total number of Rotarians. If this does occur, we can all be proud that we worked together to grow Rotary. There is nothing more important we can do in Rotary than to ensure its growth in the year ahead. We accomplish so much as we build both our local and world communities, as we seek a better future for children and as we promote the highest ethical standards, but we need more members to continue the great work that Rotarians do. Serving as district governor has given me a unique opportunity to observe membership trends in clubs and to note those factors that might be influencing membership growth and retention. The following are some of those observations:

- New members need to be warmly greeted and be exposed to Rotary beyond one club.
- Attendance does matter. Clubs with low attendance tend to lose members.
- Clubs need to have service projects that involve opportunities for fellowship.
- Most, but not all, luncheon clubs need to consider if breakfast would be a better option for the future.
- Meaningful and diverse programs at Rotary meetings are crucial.
- It is every Rotarian's responsibility to invite new members to join.
- Clubs need to focus on members' views about their club.

Membership growth will occur if Rotary is fun, meaningful and service oriented. Good luck to 2000-2001 Governor Elias Thomas III and the Take Action Team as you work with all of us to grow Rotary.



## **Rotary International Awards**

Rotary Foundation  
Distinguished Service Award  
*Daniel W. Mooers*

Rotary International Service  
Above Self Award  
*Brenda Thibodeau*

Rotary International Public  
Relations Award  
*Rotary Club of Bethel*

Rotary International  
Significant Achievement  
Award  
*Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor*

Major Donor Recognition  
*Marie and Bruce Williams*

## **1999-2000 Presidential Citation Recipients**

Bath  
Bath Sunrise  
Bethel  
Boothbay Harbor  
Brunswick  
Damariscotta-Newcastle  
Durham-Great Bay  
Exeter  
Fryeburg Area  
Hampton  
Kennebunk  
Kennebunk Portside  
Kittery  
Ogunquit  
Oxford Hills  
Portland  
Portsmouth  
Portsmouth Sunrise  
Rochester  
Rumford  
Saco Bay  
Scarborough  
Somersworth  
South Portland-Cape  
Elizabeth  
Wells  
Westbrook-Gorham  
Windham  
Yarmouth

## **Message from Mike:**

Celebrating the End of One Rotary Year and the  
Beginning of the Next



"Rotary 2000, Act with Consistency, Credibility and Continuity" As we move towards the end of the Rotary year, I am struck by how much we have honored this year's Rotary theme. We have consistently focused on membership, fellowship, building community, the future for children and support for our Rotary Foundation. We see significant growth in a number of clubs and increases in most. Rotarians have had fun working together in fundraising, at hands on community projects, at social events, and at the District Conference. Young people have been helped through Rotaplast, IMEC, Polioplus, Youth Exchange, Friends Forever, encouragement of Interact, RYLA, scholarships and support of many other activities. And, we have raised a record annual giving amount for the Foundation as we near our goal of \$150,000.

Giving all of these efforts credibility have been Rotarians throughout the District. I am particularly indebted to the Assistant District Governors, all the club presidents, district officers, our committee chairs and past district governors for their support and for carrying out Rotary service on their own as the year has progressed. One of our returning GSE team members enthusiastically told me at the airport upon his return, "Until now, I never understood the power of Rotary." The power of Rotary is in the hearts and hands of all of you.

On a personal note, I wish to thank the members of the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth for all that they have done for the district and for me. The recent district conference under the leadership of Past Director Dan Mooers is but one example of their help throughout the year. Forty-seven members of the SP-CE Rotary assisted at the conference, which is five more than the entire membership of the club at the beginning of the year. Thank you, Adrienne, for your leadership of the club, and Dan, for your leadership of the conference. Thank you also to the Cape Elizabeth Town Council, Town staff and the citizens of Cape Elizabeth, for permitting me to serve as district governor and for your understanding over the last 18 months.

On July 1st, Elias Thomas III becomes district governor and Peter Johnson governor-elect. I have thoroughly enjoyed the last year, but I will be relieved and pleased to turn the responsibilities of DG over to a very capable governor and a good friend. Good luck, Elias, as you create awareness and take action.

Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote, "I am part of all that I have met." I have enjoyed meeting all of you and serving with you and the memories of this year will always be part of me.





# District Awards - Congratulations to All!

## Governor's Award For Foundation Support

Rotary Club of Boothbay  
Harbor  
Rotary Club of Brunswick  
Coastal  
Rotary Club of Casco Bay  
Sunrise  
Rotary Club of Fryeburg Area  
Rotary Club of Kittery  
Rotary Club of Newburyport  
Rotary Club of South Portland-  
Cape Elizabeth  
Rotary Club of Windham

## Governor's Service Above Self Award

Anna Kristina Sawtelle, York  
Bridget Burns, Wells  
Kathy Vaden, Brunswick  
Tim Placey, Casco Bay Sunrise  
George Bartlett, Windham  
John & Holly Whiteside, Exeter  
Thomas Wilbur, Freeport  
Susan Ranger  
Helene Giftos  
Betty Hahn  
Ellen Labrie  
Shirley Mooers  
Stella B. Patten  
Brenda Schmidt  
June Clark  
Rosemary Cashman  
Jane Wellman  
Bruce Williams  
Lucy Skinner

## Rotarians of the Year

Rotary Club of Oxford Hills  
Rotary Club of Portsmouth  
Rotary Club of South Portland-  
Cape Elizabeth

## Largest Net Membership Increase

Rotary Club of South Portland-  
Cape Elizabeth  
Rotary Club of Windham

## Special Membership Award Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor

## Rotary Foundation District Service Award

Doug Bevins  
Kathy Emmons  
Ric Erickson  
Conrad Grondin  
Nancy Hawes  
Craig Kelleher  
Ellen Labrie  
Mary Larnard  
David Moravick  
Gaylene McHale  
Elias Thomas III  
Fred Thompson  
Paul Thornfeldt

## Governor's Newsletter Award

Loretta Rowe, Portland  
Dr. Jeffrey Martin, Windham

## Best Club Bulletin

Rotary Club of Scarborough

## Club Bulletin Excellence

Rotary Club of Saco Bay

## Community Service Citation

Rotary Club of Damariscotta-  
Newcastle

## Community Service Project of the Year

Rotary Club of Wells

## International Service Project of the Year

Rotary Club of Brunswick

## Vocational Service Project of the Year Rotary Club of Westbrook-Gorham

## Youth Service Project of the Year Rotary Club of Somersworth

## Rotary Awareness Citation Rotary Club of Portland Rotary Club of Portsmouth



## Group Study Exchange-Brazil

By DG Mike McGovern

Fernando, Eric, Emilia, Mary, Lena, Garry, Fernando, Sharyn and Juliana. They are but nine citizens of the world, but each has had the wonderful experience of participating in the Group Study Exchange this year. Both districts have opened their homes and their communities to welcome visitors from afar. Individuals who were first thought of as strangers have become friends with each other and with Rotarians in both countries.

On the Sunday before Memorial Day, Craig and Patti Kelleher, Pam Levere and I had the opportunity to go to Boston with our Brazilian friends. We shared time at a Holocaust memorial, walked the streets of the city and laughed endlessly as we went on a Duck Boat tour. This was one week after I went to the Portland airport to welcome Eric, Garry, Mary and Sharyn back from Brazil. On both Sundays the team members spoke of fellowship, friendship and the significance of Rotary. They told me they could never repay Rotary for the tremendous opportunity we had given them. I wish all of you could have been with me in both Portland and in Boston. Their smiles constituted the best thank you anyone could ever receive.







## Spotlight on . . . Inland New Hampshire

Last, but by no means least, we visit the neighboring communities of Dover, Rochester and Somersworth in New Hampshire. Dover was formed in 1924 and exactly 50 years later Somersworth, its "grandchild," was chartered by South Berwick. Dover also sponsored the Rochester club, which celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary last month.

### Dover

Dover is unique in our district in its major fundraiser – bingo. However, President John Cogan prefers that the club not be known for bingo alone but also for its service projects, many of which are also unique. Suffice it to say that the club makes a lot of money conducting bingo every week, but they work very hard for their money: the club is divided into four teams and every member is expected to work every fourth week. A fun idea for a club fundraiser was their meeting in January devoted to an auction of unwanted Christmas gifts. Members bid on tacky teddy bears, rubber checks, a variety of snowglobes and other gifts that missed the mark to raise \$423 for Rotaplast.

Now for a few of the ways the club spends its time and money to help the community. Rotary

Skatepark was dedicated in October and now the club is focused on renovating the bandshell at a local park. In December children were delighted to receive phone calls from Santa, aka Rotary members, as part of their "Santa Calling" project.



A dozen members dressed up as Elvis to march in the Christmas Parade, passing out 3,000 pieces of chocolate. They have encouraged creativity in the community by holding two writing contests. The winner's work was published in a limited edition. They are looking into a program to have local artists paint murals on buildings throughout the city. This is just scratching the surface of the club's many projects in all avenues of service.

### Rochester

Another one-of-a-kind (in our district anyway) fundraiser was inaugurated in Rochester on May 20. Club member Dave Kalil is an equestrian and organized a horse show in which riders from all over New England competed. The club raised over \$3,000 in this debut of the event; it was also a tremendous opportunity for public relations and fellowship. A Pro-Am golf tournament in August, Las Vegas Night in October and a Bowl-a-thon in March rounded out the fundraising activity this year.

In December the club took two busloads of senior citizens on an

evening tour to see the holiday lights. A few other clubs do this as well and it's one of my favorite service projects that I've learned of in the district this year. The club also buys Christmas gifts for the children of St. Charles Home. The club's bulletin, the Rochester Rotary Reporter, noted that "the children of St. Charles have generally had too much of life by a young age."

President Bob Cook is proud of the fact that Rochester is one of the few clubs in the district to show consistent membership growth in the past few years. This is truly commendable these days – congratulations, Rochester!

### Somersworth

Somersworth, led by President Ralph Pope, devotes a lot of its energies toward youth. The Interact club that they sponsored two years ago is thriving. The Interactors are currently campaigning to have a traffic light installed in front of the high school, where a fellow student, Casey Walters, was tragically killed recently. They are also donating a bench in her name. The students just gave some barbecue equipment and bedding to a group home. Rotarians' happy dollars are set aside to match any donations of the Interact club.

The club is also very supportive of RYLA. This year they are leading the district by sending 14 students and sponsoring two facilitators. A youth center in town was started two years ago with seed money from Rotary. Rotarians volunteer to supervise at the center one night a week. Much of the fruits of the club's fundraising activities are directed towards scholarships and the DARE program.



You can learn more about the Somersworth club's activities by logging on to [anderson-computer.com](http://anderson-computer.com) and following the link to the Rotary web page. As of this writing the web page features photos of the club's Casino Night in May, held to benefit – you guessed it – a local organization called Youths for Youths.

*And on a personal note...*

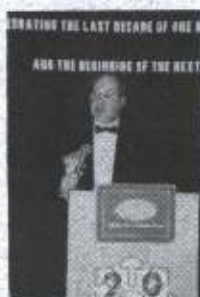
As mentioned above, I have had the opportunity to learn about a wealth of service projects, fundraisers and fellowship activities during the past year in visiting the clubs in our district and in reading your bulletins. I found that Rotarians throughout the district are extremely enthusiastic and proud when asked about their club's accomplishments. It was a privilege to see firsthand how much Rotary is making a difference in the communities of our district and the world. Thanks to all of you for your warm hospitality when the "district spy" arrived at your club.

*Nancy*

FROM THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE:



RI Associate General  
Secretary Edwin Futa



RI President's Representative  
B. A. "Andy" Milligan

## RYLA

RYLA Co-chairs Shannon Aldrich and Lionel Ingram are planning another outstanding program this year at Camp Hinds in Raymond, Maine on June 24-28. The RYLA program in our district is an outdoor living and leadership experience. It includes a high ropes course, compass challenge, water sports and a variety of physical initiatives and mental activities. The training will be led by Rotarians from our District except where special skills are needed. Boy Scout leaders will support the Rotarian facilitators in the high ropes course, waterfront and medical facilities. The committee is expecting 120 students to attend this year.

RYLA has developed a tradition of performing a service project each year at Camp Hinds to benefit this Boy Scout camp. This year, with the assistance of the Windham club and funding from the Portland club, we will build a split rail fence at the camp. Others who have also donated funds to help with the costs of RYLA include Portsmouth, Kittery, Fryeburg, Somersworth, Bath Sunrise, York and the Labries. Several clubs have sponsored graduate facilitators and additional sponsorships for facilitators are still needed. If your club would like to help with sponsorships or funding of items such as rain ponchos, pens & posters, S'mores ingredients, etc., please contact Shannon at 603-431-8977, ext. 127.



Andre Jardim



Mariela Quezada



Raul Villasanti

There are three Youth Exchange students whom we have not had an opportunity to show you in the newsletter yet – we remedy that situation above. Mariela Quezada is from Bolivia and has been here through the sponsorship of Wells. Raul Villasanti, sponsored by Kennebunk, is from Paraguay. And Andre Jardim of Brazil has enjoyed the hospitality of the South Berwick club this year. We have had an outstanding group of young people with us here this year and we wish them the very best as they return to their native countries this summer.

## *Thank you!!*

The editor is sincerely grateful for the invaluable assistance this year from PP and soon-to-be-ADG Loretta Rowe of the Portland club. Loretta is a very talented and dedicated Rotarian and helped to put the finishing touches on each and every newsletter this year.

Thanks also go to Jason Robie of Baker Newman & Noyes who designed the cover page layout and provided graphic design assistance throughout the year.

Articles for future newsletters should be submitted to John Whiteside, 234 North Road, Fremont, NH 03044 ([jwhiteside@mediaone.net](mailto:jwhiteside@mediaone.net)).



# APRIL ATTENDANCE

	ATTENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	FOUNDATION GIVING*		ATTENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	FOUNDATION GIVING*
BATH	77.7	48	-6	36.07	✓ OGUNQUIT	77.5	36	-6	14.29
BATH SUNRISE	N/R	17	-3	21.21	OXFORD HILLS	81.0	63	+3	33.33
BETHEL	N/R	35	+5	28.57	PORTLAND	67.5	197	+1	55.67
BIDDEFORD-SACO	N/R	64	0	30.77	✓ PORTSMOUTH	76.1	258	+6	36.95
BOOTHBAY HARBOR	75.0	54	+3	227.91	PORTSMOUTH SUNRISE	84.0	30	+2	34.48
BRIDGTON-LAKE REGION	N/R	21	-5	0.00	ROCHESTER	70.1	76	+3	50.66
BRUNSWICK	83.8	122	-2	66.30	RUMFORD	N/R	38	-1	29.73
BRUNSWICK COASTAL	60.0	16	+1	103.13	✓ SACO BAY	83.5	67	-2	38.97
CASCO BAY SUNRISE	N/R	30	+2	74.29	SANFORD-SPRINGVALE	80.0	59	+1	2.05
DAMARISCOTTA-NEWCASTLE	N/R	48	+4	23.51	SCARBOROUGH	85.0	28	+3	26.15
✓ DOVER	N/R	78	0	0.00	SEABROOK-H. FALLS	60.0	20	+2	50.00
DURHAM-GREAT BAY	72.8	57	+4	12.96	SOMERSWORTH	N/R	24	+6	40.91
EXETER	105.3	42	-5	45.45	SOUTH BERWICK	81.4	43	+2	63.46
FREEPORT	N/R	34	+6	2.83	SO. PTLD-CAPE ELIZ.	83.0	51	+9	374.88
FRYEBURG AREA	68.0	27	-1	52.59	WELLS	80.0	49	-2	61.22
HAMPTON	85.3	61	+4	19.49	WESTBROOK-GORHAM	66.9	37	-5	33.93
KENNEBUNK	79.6	86	-7	44.01	✓ WINDHAM	91.0	38	+9	0.00
KENNEBUNK PORTSIDE	83.0	39	-2	4.73	YARMOUTH	59.0	38	-2	43.68
KITTERY	75.0	25	+1	398.15	YORK	80.1	63	+5	17.24
✓ NEWBURYPORT	93.0	74	+3	0.99					

\*PER CAPITA AS OF APRIL 30, 2000

N/R= NO REPORT

✓ = DOES NOT REFLECT SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION MADE SINCE THIS 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

