

District Beacon



Michael K. McGovern, District Governor, 1999-2000

NOVEMBER 1999

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Mark Your Calendars!

Nov. 7	GSE Team Member Interviews
Nov. 9	Rotary Foundation Seminar Yoken's, Portsmouth
Nov. 9-14	Rotary Institute Newport, R.I.
Nov. 11	Boothbay Harbor 60th Anniversary Celebration (note change)
Nov. 15	Rotary Foundation Seminar New Meadow's Inn West Bath
Nov. 18	Rotary Foundation Seminar Oxford Hills High School Norway/South Paris
Nov. 20	Saco Bay Tenth Anniversary Celebration
Dec. 8	World Community Service Committee Meeting
Dec. 16	Damariscotta-Newcastle 75th Anniversary
Jan. 29	District Rotary Awareness Seminar
May 18-21	District Conference 2000

Foundation Seminars Being Presented in 3 Locations

When incoming club presidents met last winter, there were two new clear messages to the district. When scheduling district meetings, try to bring them closer to us and try to avoid weekends. This was implemented in August with membership seminars and now, for the first time, the district will hold three separate Rotary Foundation seminars.

All are scheduled on weeknights in November from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The first will be at Yoken's in Portsmouth on November 9, 1999. The middle session will be at the New Meadow's Inn on Route One in West Bath on November 15th. The third and final seminar will be on November 18, 1999 at the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School in Norway/South Paris.

A second departure from tradition is that there will be no fee to attend the seminars. Preregistration forms have been sent to club presidents and while preregistration is not a necessity,

we hope to have an estimate of the number of attendees to ensure that space and packets are available.

PDG George Rice, chair of the District Foundation Committee,

is preparing an interesting program highlighting the programs of the Foundation as well as methods of giving.

All Rotarians are welcome and club leaders, new members, foundation chairs and International avenue of service directors are especially encouraged to attend. The Presidential Citation for this year requires your incoming club president and Foundation chair to attend in order to meet one of the eight requisites for the citation.

Learning about Our Rotary Foundation is important for all Rotarians as we build community within our clubs, the district, our cities and towns and our world.



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Message from Mike:

If Not Now, When?



Have you ever noticed how panicky district governors get in June when the Rotary year is about to end and goals for Foundation annual giving and new benefactors are not yet met?

I'm not in a panic yet, but as my official visits are now complete, and we are in Rotary Foundation Month, I cannot think of a better time to do "the ask." This Rotary year, we have set a goal of \$150,000 in annual giving or an average of \$67.50 per capita from every Rotary club whether in the form of individual or club donations. I have also spoken to many clubs about my personal pledge to give \$67.50 for every Rotary club in District 7780. My pledge will be completed this month, as I truly believe in the programs of our Rotary Foundation.

It is time for you, as Rotary leaders, to follow through and ask all Rotarians to write that check or to give that capital appreciated stock. On page 5, you will find a Rotary Foundation contribution form. The day I actually receive this printed newsletter is the day that I will write out my check. Please copy the form, give it to club members and ask them to return it by a set date. Extra copies are also available through www.rotary.org and will be in packets at the Foundation Seminars. Please also give special notice to the District Beacon article relating to the donation of stock. Having given appreciated stock to a church capital campaign last year, I can personally vouch for the tax savings from not having to pay capital gains and in obtaining a charitable deduction. This method of giving is truly painless!

Thank you to all of you for your past generosity and for considering a gift this month.

King Nominated to be RI President, 2001-2002

District 7780 is pleased to learn that Richard D. (Rick) King has been unanimously nominated to be President of Rotary International for 2001-02. A Rotarian since 1968, he is a member of the Rotary Club of Niles (Fremont) California and has served RI in numerous capacities. He is currently a trustee of our Rotary Foundation. Rick has received The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award and the Citation for Meritorious Service. In 1981, he was honored by the President of the United States for outstanding community service.

Serving on the Nominating Committee was PDG Dan Mooers. Rick is a friend of District 7780 and many of us know him from his inspiring presentations at PETS and other meetings. We are pleased to report that he has accepted DG Mike's invitation to speak at the Thursday night dinner at our Conference 2000 in May.

Focus on our Foundation

Giving to Our Rotary Foundation

By Marie Williams, PDG

How do I give to Our Rotary Foundation? How does my Club give to Our Rotary Foundation? It is very simple – make it part of your yearly budget, both personal and club. Every one of us has a list of the personal donations we wish to make during the year. Make Our Rotary Foundation part of that list of charitable donations. As for your club, it should be part of your club's budget under International Service. I am treasurer for my club and we have a budget for each avenue of service. A portion of the International Service budget is annual giving to our Foundation. Some clubs set aside the proceeds from a particular fundraiser or a percentage of their total budget for the Foundation. The Portsmouth club adds \$.50 to the meal price and dedicates all of that money to the Foundation. Still others pass a can around during each meeting – however you do it the dollars add up over the year!

To ensure that the Foundation gets the most money possible and that our members also benefit from our club's giving, each year we match a \$100 donation from a member with \$100 from the club. The member gets credit for \$200 towards becoming a Paul Harris Fellow. Other clubs match \$500 donations; if your club budget is small make it a \$50 match. Every one wins in this situation, the member for charitable giving and the club meets its annual giving goal to Our Foundation. The real winners, however, are those individuals all over the world that get medical care, food, shelter and the chance to learn to read and write that they would not have gotten without your HELP! Do your SHARE in making a difference this year by giving unselfishly to Our Rotary Foundation.

"Stock" Up on Tax Savings

All contributions to the Rotary Foundation are tax-deductible. But for those who are lucky enough to own stock held for more than one year that has increased in value, charitable contributions of that stock can provide extra tax savings. Why? Because you can deduct the current value of the stock without paying tax on the capital gain in the stock.

Here's an example. Rotarian Paula Harris, a Maine resident, is in a high tax bracket and would like to give \$1,000 to the Foundation to reduce her taxes. A \$1,000 charitable contribution would save her \$450 in federal and state taxes. Paula purchased some shares of Nile.com several years ago for \$200; they are now worth \$1,000. If she were to sell her stock she would pay \$200 in tax on her \$800 capital gain. By contributing the stock directly to the Foundation, she saves both the \$200 tax on the capital gain that she otherwise would have had to pay, plus the \$450 tax savings from her \$1,000 charitable contribution. Thus her \$1,000 contribution of stock has saved her \$650 and has cost her only \$350.

"you can deduct the current value of the stock without paying tax on the capital gain"

In the extreme case, some individuals can save 70 cents for every dollar of stock they contribute. At the other extreme, some people may not realize any tax savings. Therefore it is wise to consult with your tax adviser before making significant stock gifts. Information about how to effect a transfer of stock to the Foundation can be found on the Rotary website or by calling Yvonne Soong at 847-866-3380.

SHARE-ing the Wealth

PDG Marie Williams suggests that we refer to the Foundation as OUR Foundation. Not only do we Rotarians in District 7780 contribute money to our Foundation, but we also have a say in how the money is spent, through the SHARE system.

As Marie reported last month, our district contributed \$124,355 to Our Foundation in Rotary year 1998-99 under PDG Bill Skinner's leadership. These funds will be spent in 2001-02. Of the \$124,355 contributed, 40% (\$49,742) will go to the World Fund. This fund pays for 3-H Grants, the Foundation's "match" for Matching Grants, one Group Study Exchange per district and other programs. The remaining \$74,613 is spent on Foundation programs of our district's choosing such as Ambassadorial scholarships, Grants for University Teachers and additional Group Study Exchanges. It is also frequently used in our district to match club funds for matching grants. For example a club's \$2,000 expenditure may be matched by the district Foundation funds, and the resulting \$4,000 is matched by the World Fund, parlaying the club's \$2,000 into an \$8,000 project.

After the Bags are Unpacked



This month the district is holding interviews for the team traveling to Brazil next spring on our Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange. We billed it a couple months ago as a "4-week all expense paid trip." But in fact, the exchange is more than just a 4-week trip. Many former non-Rotarian team members joined Rotary after completing the trip – notable among them are PP Fred Thompson of Portland and current ADG Gaylene McHale of Bath Sunrise. Contacts made in the exchange countries have sometimes developed into humanitarian projects. For instance Peter Johnson led a GSE team to Sweden and Poland in 1997. He returned this past spring to visit schoolteacher Elzbieta in Poland and brought with him almost \$2,000 worth of new books for her school (purchased with donations from Rotary clubs) as well as many used books.

Two individuals who are walking advertisements for GSE are Stan Tenpenny (Argentina, 1996) and Alan Lishness (Finland, 1998). Stan is a decorated Portland firefighter who was astonished at the lack of fire prevention education in Buenos Aires. He returned to Argentina on a Carl Miller Discovery grant to bring prototype Spanish language "Learn Not to Burn" education materials to the children of Buenos Aires. He spoke about his

return trip at the 1997 district conference and received donations for a planned third trip to Argentina. Logistical problems prevented that trip so Stan used the money last month to carry his message to Santiago in the Dominican Republic, where the need is even greater. Santiago is the home of recent GSE member Harold, who is also a firefighter. The Santiago fire department has only 100 firefighters serving a city of one million people. Along with making many presentations to schoolchildren, Stan took with him many items donated by Scarborough and other fire departments. Some of these items were shipped to Santiago thanks to donations from the Portland and South Portland-Cape Elizabeth clubs. This recitation of Stan's activities since his GSE trip does not begin to convey his dedication and tremendous sense of mission in educating children about fire prevention. His GSE trip was just the first step in a crusade of Service Above Self that will continue for many years.



Alan Lishness, Executive Director of the Gulf of Maine Aquarium, writes about...

A GSE Experience Two Years Later

It was just two years ago that I applied to become a GSE member on a one-month trip to Finland. Little did I imagine that the trip would continue to prove vivid and meaningful. When I applied, I was

mindful of Finland's international leadership in the use of the Internet, and curious to learn whether we might bring back lessons applicable here in Maine. Today, as Maine's fourteen marine research institutions explore how to invest \$1 million to connect to one another with high-speed Internet II, we are seeking advice from Risto Linturi, Finland's Internet visionary, and one of the people I was privileged to spend time with on our trip.

Since my return, much of my work at the Gulf of Maine Aquarium has been directed toward the design of a marine research laboratory that is premised on a model of cooperation and collaboration among several participants from private, public and not-for-profit sectors. On my first afternoon in Finland, I visited a similar, but much larger, facility that functions on the same collaborative model. As was typical for our Rotary hosts, it turns out that our Rotary leader was the first to sign a lease in this new facility, and could provide useful guidance about what actually worked.

As important as the many professional contacts are, they pale in comparison to the personal friendships that have resulted.

Each time you invest another dollar in the GSE program, you should feel very proud of its contributions to better understanding and global friendships.



Individual completing this form _____ Daytime Telephone (____) _____ Today's Date _____

I. DONOR OF CONTRIBUTION

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other _____

Name (circle family name) _____

Address _____

City _____ St./Prov. _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

☐ Check here if this is a new address

Daytime Telephone (____) _____

Donor's ID # (if new, leave blank) _____

Rotary Club of Donor _____

Club Number _____ District _____

Credit the Rotary Club of _____

II. CONTRIBUTION DETAILS

Please make your check payable to The Rotary Foundation. Do not send cash.

Amount of New Contribution _____

Type: (please check one)

☐ Check Enclosed

Currency _____

☐ Wire transfer / bank order date _____

Designation: (please check one)

☐ Annual Programs Fund

(eligible for SHARE)

☐ Permanent Fund

(Benefactor recognition only)

earnings to

☐ WF

☐ SHARE

☐ World Fund

☐ PolioPlus

☐ Grant # _____

(number is mandatory)

☐ Disaster Relief

(District _____)

☐ PolioPlus Partners

☐ Stock / Shares _____ (name)
(Please contact the Gift Administrator for instructions)

Is this contribution being "matched" or augmented with available credits?
If yes, please complete the appropriate spaces below:

Available Credit:

Club Amount _____ District Amount _____

Individual Amount _____ ID # _____

Authorized Signature _____

If there are multiple transfers of recognition, please complete a Recognition Transfer Request or attach a list of details.

III. RECIPIENT OF PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITION

Recipient is: (please check one)

☐ Same as Donor

☐ Other (give details below)

☐ Deceased

If Other, please complete the following:

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr. ☐ Other _____

Name (circle family name) _____

Address _____

City _____ St./Prov. _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

Recipient's ID # (if new, leave blank) _____

Rotary Club of Recipient _____

(if not a Rotarian, leave blank)

Club Number _____ District _____

IV. RECOGNITION ITEMS REQUESTED

☐ Continuing Member

☐ New Paul Harris Fellow

☐ New Sustaining Member

(no tangible recognition)

☐ Certificate of Appreciation

☐ Benefactor

(Permanent Fund gifts only)

☐ Memorial Paul Harris Fellow

☐ Multiple Paul Harris Fellow: (please

circle one)

1 2 3 4 5 sapphire pin

1 2 3 ruby pin

Average processing time for recognition is four to six weeks from receipt of application.

☐ Check if recognition is a surprise

Approximate presentation date _____

Please send Recognition items to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St./Prov. _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone (____) _____

Please send a copy to your Annual Giving subcommittee chairperson and District

Rotary Foundation Chairperson.



Spotlight on . . .

Durham-Great Bay

Kittery

Kennebunk Portside

Last month we visited some of the clubs in the district with the longest history. By contrast this month's clubs are relatively new. I thought that this month's clubs all had something in common, but I discovered that I was mistaken about one of them – I would be fined by the Kennebunk club if they knew that I thought Kennebunk Portside was the home club of a recent PDG.

Durham-Great Bay is the home club of PDG Bill Skinner and was chartered by Dover in 1986. The club has recently published a very attractive brochure that describes some of their more notable achievements. Among these is the Boot, Shoe & Bike Helmet Fund. School nurses identify students who cannot afford these items and give them vouchers for a shoe store or bike store. The store then bills the club for items purchased. What a great way to fill a need while respecting the dignity of the students.

Roadside highway cleanup is another program in which the club can take much pride. They were the first in New Hampshire to undertake this type of project. Through their efforts it became a state-approved program and there are now over 300 groups doing highway cleanup in New Hampshire.

Durham-Great Bay initiated a new fundraiser in October – a book sale.

These were new books of all types – just like you would find in a bookstore – sold on consignment. President Joe Murdoch and the rest of the club were very pleased with the results, especially the participation – it was truly an “all-club event.”

Their Interact club also had a fundraiser recently: “Parents Night Out,” which is basically a giant babysitting service. Parents dropped off their kids at the elementary school at 6 p.m. and picked them up 4 hours later. The Interactors entertained the youngsters with games and videos and made them at least pretend to go to sleep.

Kittery was chartered in 1987 by York and is five generations removed from the Portsmouth club. It is the home club of PDG Marie Williams who serves as club treasurer in addition to her continuing district obligations.

One of Kittery's major fundraisers is the sale of calendars. A few other clubs have adopted this fundraiser – for those of you unfamiliar with it this is how it works. The club prints up 500 numbered calendars with attractive historical pictures of the community. (My favorite is May: strings of drying fish hanging in front of the Hotel Champerowne in 1924.) Advertising by local businesses helps to pay the printing costs. The calendars are sold for \$20 apiece. Each week a number is drawn at the club meeting and the owner of the calendar with that number wins \$100.

President Frank Clark's main goal for this Rotary year is to focus on membership. His club has an initiation ceremony that other clubs may want to emulate. Several board members join Frank in the ceremony as they read a welcome to Rotary, the Object of Rotary, the 4-Way

Test, and a description of the wheel and its significance. Frank also describes the Avenues of Service and lists some of the club's activities in each avenue. Following the ceremony the club forms a receiving line to welcome the new member.

Kennebunk Portside was chartered by Kennebunk nine years ago. Both clubs meet in the beautiful dining room of the Boatyard Restaurant – Kennebunk at lunchtime and Portside in the morning.



Photo by Don Curry

President John Anderson, fresh from an encounter with a hockey puck, presents club badge to exchange student Eszter Sisak.

Another common bond the two clubs have is Community Connections – a mentoring program sponsored by the two clubs and the YMCA. Now in its second year, it pairs 15 eighth graders with Rotarians. The program targets students who do not feel connected to the community (not “at-risk” students) and tries to make them aware of possible “community connections.” The goal is for each student to connect with at least one community program by the end of the year, as well as to have a relationship with a mentor. In order to achieve that goal, the entire group meets monthly, with smaller group activities scheduled more often. One of last year's mentees described the results of the program: “I wasn't as confident around new people as I am now. I've learned to be more myself.”



MAKING A DIFFERENCE COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY, OCTOBER 23, 1999



Windham Rotarians joined their Interact Club and Friends Forever students in renovating an abandoned school so that it can be used as a senior center.

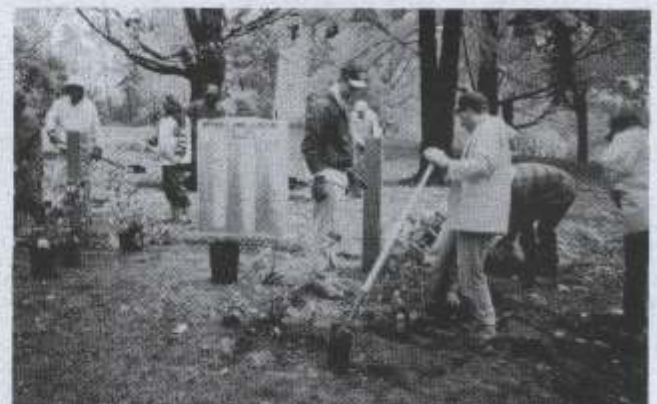


Casco Bay Rotarians paint a family shelter with the aid of Friends Forever students.

*Sean: "How many Rotarians does it take to paint a door?"
Sinead: "None; it's us Irish are doing all the work!"*



York Rotarians assist in hazardous waste collection.



Saco Bay toiled in the rain to preserve a historic cemetery from oblivion.

Saco Bay photos by John Anagnostis

Making Smiles

A Rotaplast team went to Maracaibo, Venezuela in early September to perform surgery on 162 children. The team members were from California, North Carolina, Florida, Argentina, Benin and...Kennebunk. The team journalist, Dana Pearson, is a reporter for the York County Coast Star. His reports make fascinating reading; complete reports are available from Bridget Burns (bridget@cybertours.com). Following is a brief excerpt (get out your hankies):

Only a handful of children, mostly babies, had cried when posed for their pictures. Most needed very little prompting – a silly face, a bit of playful mimicking, an exaggerated grunt while lifting them up on the table, or a severe butchering of their native language by a Mainer more comfortable with butchering French – to smile. None spoke a word of English. Yet even with this most fundamental barrier, connections were made. I'm pleased to report that I have a small, yet devoted, contingent of Venezuelan groupies. It began with one boy, 7 year-old Dioner Abreu who, restless having to wait with the growing crowd in the long assembly room where the photography and genetics questioning were going on, decided to clamber back up on the stage where he had recently had his picture taken. He watched other kids get photographed, and was mesmerized by the before-your-eyes development of the Polaroids, which Bob and I discovered to be a sure-fire crowd pleaser. Dioner became my assistant, handing me the camera, waving and blowing on the photographs after they whirled out, and getting me a chair when

mine broke (note to self: ease off the fatty foods).

I was worried about how I would react to the cleft lips, never having seen one. Would I look away? Would I stare? Would I feel sick? Looking through some of the literature supplied to me by Rotaplast, I had learned that these children have it rough in so many ways, not the least of which is being looked at differently from other children. But an amazing thing happened. I quickly came to see them not as cleft lip or cleft palate cases, but as children. Just children. One girl, after sitting for her photograph, said to us, "I want to be pretty." Bob and I were quick to tell her she already was. And we meant it, because we knew it.

It was a wonderful relief and an emotional realization.



Meet Chizuru

"Hello. My name is Chizuru Homma. I'm from Yokosuka, Kanagawa prefecture, Japan. Yokosuka has an American naval base so there are a lot of Americans in my town.



My hobby is playing the violin. I started playing it when I was five. I have been taking violin lessons for about 10 years. I don't take lessons now, but I'd like to continue playing the violin.

I'm an only child, so I'm very happy to have a little sister now. Also, I'll have a sister and two brothers at my second host

family and a brother at my third host family.

I've been having so many new experiences since I got here that I don't know where to start. I'm always surprised at the inexpensive prices and the big sizes when I'm at the mall or the grocery store. Huge cakes, potato chips, dog food... everything's BIG, BIG, BIG. I was shocked when I went to Payless Shoe Store. All the shoes were less than one third of the price compared to the shoes in Japan. Of course, I bought a pair of shoes!

It's easy to find the differences between Japan and America even in school. Students speak their opinions confidently in an American class. In Japan, we are encouraged to be quiet in class. What's worse, there are over 40 students in a class in Japan! Here there are less than 20 students. I think that's one of the reasons students can feel free to speak their opinions in class.

I went to New York City from October 8 to 11 with my host sister. The first day, we went to the Empire State Building and we ate Sushi that was just like the Sushi in Japan! The second day, we went to the Sony Wonder which has high tech equipment and we played computer games. I was overwhelmed by a lot of skyscrapers. It looked similar to Tokyo. The third day, we went to the American Museum Of Natural History and Broadway to see a dance performance. I ate Thai food for the first time. It was spicy and delicious. I still can't believe I went to New York City.

I am grateful to everyone for giving me such a good opportunity to study abroad."

(Chizuru is sponsored by Portsmouth.)

DG-Elect Elias

The other evening, I was reading one of my alumni magazines and was interested in a particular comment made by one of my former classmates. His father had died this past winter and he wrote:

"One thing I carried away from his memorial service was the importance of friends and the large amount of service he performed for others. In his memory, I plan to continue and increase my volunteerism. It's what lasts, what makes a difference. When you cut away the race for money, for status, for the newest of things, it's what's left for me. What about you?"

During September, many of us attended one of the Membership Seminars held throughout the District. At these meetings, we heard several Rotarians tell what it was which grabbed their attention, sparked an interest, or kept them coming back. We need to look beyond the imaginary boundaries of our current club membership and share with others that which grabs our attention and sparks our interest. Rotary is truly a remarkable organization, or to quote John Whiteside of the Exeter Club, *"we belong to a radical organization."* Collectively, within our clubs, throughout the district, and internationally, we impact millions of lives in a variety of ways. Is it not selfish to think we have enough members to continue this pace? Why not look beyond ourselves and invite others to join us in our projects and in our fellowship?

Ask yourself, "Why **am** I a Rotarian?" and then look for those with whom you wish to share our "radical organization." Find others who are volunteering in your community. They obviously do not have to be convinced. They are already "believers." They simply have to be asked to join.

It is what lasts. It is what makes a difference.

Elias



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Conference 2000

CELEBRATING THE LAST DECADE OF ONE MILLENNIUM AND THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT

The 10th Anniversary Conference of District 7780

**May 18 - 21, 2000
Portland Marriott Hotel
South Portland, Maine**

Pre-registrations to reserve admission to events now being accepted.

SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE

CLUB	ATTENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	CLUB	ATTENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE
BATH	84.0	55	-1	OGUNQUIT	72.0	42	+1
BATH SUNRISE	88.1	22	+1	OXFORD HILLS	87.0	61	+1
BETHEL	83.5	34	+4	PORTLAND	69.1	201	-5
BIDDEFORD-SACO	77.2	63	-1	PORTSMOUTH	68.7	249	-4
BOOTHBAY HARBOR	78.0	42	-10	PORTSMOUTH SUNRISE	N/R	28	-3
BRIDGTON-LAKE REGION	N/R	28		ROCHESTER	73.2	75	-1
BRUNSWICK	77.7	130	-6	RUMFORD	79.0	40	0
BRUNSWICK COASTAL	N/R	14		SACO BAY	81.3	70	+1
CASCO BAY SUNRISE	60.0	29	-1	SANFORD-SPRINGVALE	76.3	57	-1
DAMARISCOTTA-NEWCASTLE	73.8	42	-3	SCARBOROUGH	70.0	25	0
DOVER	65.4	78	-2	SEABROOK-H. FALLS	N/R	20	
DURHAM-GREAT BAY	84.9	54	+1	SOMERSWORTH	70.5	22	+2
EXETER	76.3	46	-1	SOUTH BERWICK	N/R	40	0
FREEPORT	83.0	33	+1	SO. PTLD-CAPE ELIZ.	81.0	43	-3
FRYEBURG AREA	68.1	29	+1	WELLS	80.0	50	+4
HAMPTON	80.9	59	0	WESTBROOK-GORHAM	73.1	40	-1
KENNEBUNK	N/R	91	-2	WINDHAM	92.0	35	0
KENNEBUNK PORTSIDE	88.0	37	-5	YARMOUTH	68.0	40	0
KITTERY	82.0	25	+1	YORK	84.6	62	+3
NEWBURYPORT	88.0	74	0				

The Rotary Club of Seabrook-Hampton Falls is now meeting at Captain K's on Route 107, Seabrook.

Michael K. McGovern
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Marie Williams
Past District Governor
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