

New Hartford Rotary

Rotary 2000 Act With Consistency- Credibility-Continuity

President Craig Pugh
Vice President Les Cortright

Secretary Marlene Brown
Treasurer Hans Plambeck

District Governor Herb Jerry
www.rotarydistrict7150.org/NewHartf.html

April 26, 2000

President Craig had an easy day today. He opened the meeting by introducing NH Rotary Charter member **Don Urbanke**, sat down, and closed the meeting at the end of the ceremonies. For today was to honor Jim Simpson for his community commitment as a driving force in bringing "Americas Greatest Heart Run and Walk" to the accolade of the nation in raising funds for the American Heart Association.

Master of Ceremony, **Don Urbanke**, a heart transplant recipient himself, reviewed how the Utica / Walk has grown. In 1975, five runners raised \$247. In the year 1989, runners and walkers increased to 1,798 and raised over \$200,000. This years walk, in the year 2000, the runners and wakers grew to 8,278 and were able to bring in \$1,001,067 for the American Heart Association. The total amount raised in this area is \$6,520,800.

Master of Ceremony **Don**. then introduced the following speakers:

Ray Meier New York State Senator
Senator Meier is a Paul Harris Fellow and husband of former NH Rotary president Kim Meier. The Senator presented Jim with a plaque from the State Senate thanking him for his outstanding community efforts.

David Townsend NY State Assemblyman
Assemblyman Townsend wondered how the NY State Police ever got any work out of Jim with his intense community involvement. Assemblyman Townsend presented him with a plaque expressing their very deep appreciation for his efforts.

Ralph Eannace Oneida County Executive
County Executive Eannace named today "Jim Simpson Day" in Oneida County.

In addition, awards were presented to Jim by Tom Larabee, representing Mayor Hanna of Utica. Bill Keiser representing the town of New Hartford and Janet Durr for the village of New Hartford.

NYS Tropper Jim Simpson has been honored with several past awards.
February 1984 American Heart Association Volunteer of the Year
June 1988 Governor Cuomo Citation for Community Service
March 1993 Utica Kiwanis Club Leonard Wilbur Memorial Award
August 1999 Syracuse Boys and Girls Club "Champion for Children", which included the AHA NYS Volunteer of the Year

Jim Simpson's fund raising and volunteer efforts read like a biography of someone in a Who's Who of Community Service.

Ten years as coordinator of the Leatherstocking leg of the NYS Special Olympics Torch Run
Board of Directors and member of the National Long Distance Running Hall of Fame
Organizing member of the 15 K Boiler Maker Road Race
Board member of the NY / Mohawk Valley Chapter for Missing and Exploited Children
Involvement in six other local and national community activities.

Our thanks to **Don Urbanke** for the impressive job in organizing this tribute to Jim, who now won't have to fret about how he can decorate the walls of his family room.

From the District Governor Elect:
DISTRICT 7150 ASSEMBLY- Sat.- May 20th.
Holiday Inn, Electronics Parkway, Liverpool (NYS Thruway exit 37)

Registration- 7:30-8:30 AM

Programs and Sessions- 8:30 AM-1:40 PM

Cost: \$20 per Rotarian- Includes Lunch

Why Attend? Meet other Rotarians throughout the District. Learn about the District's Goals.

Become educated and motivated through training and inspirational speakers.

Develop leadership and management skills appropriate to club service of interest.

Who should attend? Current and future club officers, board members, avenue chairs, and other interested Rotarians. Also an excellent opportunity for your new members to learn more about Rotary International and other District clubs.

Registration- Send registration forms w/ checks to Dist. Secretary Austin Beltrany before May 12.

Registration forms have been mailed to Club Presidents, Pres. Elects and Sec. Elects.

Yours in Rotary,
Ward Vuillemont

Look for digital pictures of Jim Simpson Day on our New Hartford Web Page, along with the text article **Marlene** wrote that was sent to the Observer Dispatch and the New Hartford Town Crier.

<http://www.rotarydistrict7150.org/NewHartf3.htm>