



## **KIWANIS CLUB OF KEENE**

63 Emerald Street  
PMB 451  
Keene, NH 03431

### **Reflections:**

#### **The First Kiwanis Club of Keene, NH**

The first Kiwanis Club of Keene, NH was sponsored by the Manchester, NH Kiwanis Club and was chartered on December 2, 1961 with 60 original members including myself. Its greatest public service to Keene was purchasing and organizing everything needed to have everyone in Keene inoculated with the Salk (anti-polio) vaccine. This involved about four successive weekends of work for club members along with volunteers from the medical community giving about 10,000 shots and was accomplished during the club's first year.

After that, the club's annual major effort was providing free dental care for underprivileged children referred to us by school nurses and through other medical channels. Funds to support this were raised by door-to-door sales of toothbrushes and club auctions.

Why did the Manchester club sponsor the Keene club? Because a former Keene high school basketball coach quit coaching and moved to Manchester to go into the insurance business. He did so very successfully and became the President of the Manchester club. His name is Jim Hatch and he was loved by everyone in Keene where he had spent about twenty years teaching and coaching. It was no miracle that the first President of the original Keene club was Frank Foley who was the owner of the Foley Funeral Home. Frank had been a star on one of Jim's Keene high school's basketball teams.

***By: Peter Espieffs, Esq.***

James H. Faux, Historian  
November 22, 2010

**"Serving the Children of the World"**  
[www.keenekiwanis.org](http://www.keenekiwanis.org)