

EVERYDAY HERO

Rotarian Stresses Community Service

By DIANE LOEBEL
dloebel@tampatrib.com

NEW PORT RICHEY — He's "a great guy that does a lot for the community."

And he's "a real asset" to the New Port Richey Rotary Club.

For those reasons, Rob Thornton, 2004-05 club president, recommended Scott McPherson for the Rotarian of the Year award.

A committee of five past presidents studied the candidate's qualifications and agreed with Thornton.

McPherson was introduced to the club five years ago when fellow lawyer Rich Williams invited him to a meeting. McPherson was impressed with the club's community service and members' camaraderie.

"It's such a great group," McPherson said. "Most of the members agree that it's one club they really enjoy being a part of."

During his five years in Rotary, McPherson has served as fundraising chairman for the pavilion project at the Concourse nature preserve off State Road 52.

When the pavilions were completed, McPherson planned a fish fry fundraiser to introduce the facility to the community and thank the club members and businesses who helped make it a reality.

McPherson also has one more year to go as chairman of the committee that plans the Chasco Fiesta boat parade.

ABOUT MCPHERSON

NAME: Scott McPherson

AGE: 40

BIRTHPLACE: New Port Richey

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Married to Kimberly; three sons, Scott, Jack and Zachary

BACKGROUND: Graduate of Gulf High School, Pasco-Hernando Community College and Franklin Pierce College of Law in Concord, N.H.

CLAIM TO FAME: Named Rotarian of the Year for the New Port Richey Rotary Club

HIS QUOTE: "I feel the Rotary has done more for me than I have done for it."

"I committed to chair the boat parade for five years," he said. "Then it will be time for someone new to take over and bring new ideas."

Although the parade is sponsored by the West Pasco Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club organizes and markets the event. Planning begins six months beforehand.

McPherson is on Rotary's board of directors, serving as community service director with Steve Henry.

In addition to his work with the Rotarians, McPherson is a board member and the secretary of the West Pasco Chamber of Commerce.

The New Port Richey native worked as an emergency medical technician/paramedic for



Tribune photo by CHRIS URSO

Scott McPherson has been named Rotarian of the Year of the New Port Richey Rotary Club. In his five years with the group, he has held several key leadership roles.

Pasco County Fire Rescue from 1984 to 1989. He trained at Pasco-Hernando Community College.

McPherson is chairman of the Pasco County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board.

He and his wife, Kimberly, have three sons: Scott, Jack and Zachary.

McPherson enjoys scuba diving and spearfishing. In 2003, he organized his first Spearboard Open spearfishing

tournament. It has become an annual event, and the most recent one attracted 240 competitors from throughout the Southeast.

"I fish when I can find the time," McPherson said.

But with his schedule, it doesn't happen often.

Want to suggest an Everyday Hero?
Call Diane Loebel, (727) 815-1081, write her at The Tampa Tribune, 6214 U.S. 19, New Port Richey, FL 34652, or e-mail at dloebel@tampatrib.com