

THE ROTARY CLUB

of Grosse Pointe, Michigan

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

* * *

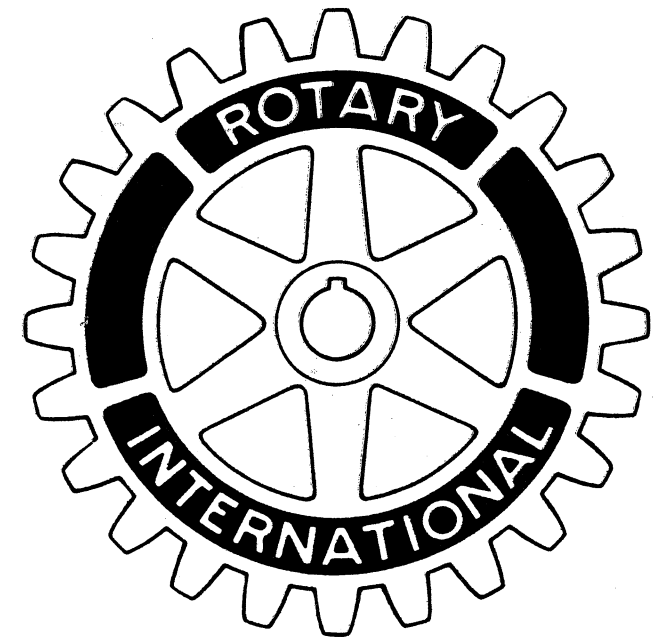
To encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third. The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business, and community life;

Fourth. The advancement of international understanding, good will, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service.



Fifty years of service

1937-1987

H. B. Garver



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Service Above Self - He Profits Most Who Serves Best

3 June 1987

Robert H. Pytell, President
Grosse Pointe Rotary Club
32 Lake Shore Road
Grosse Pointe, Michigan

Dear Bob:

It gives me great pleasure to offer my congratulations to the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club on the occasion of the celebration of its Fiftieth Anniversary. The accomplishments of the Club are well known to me since I have been an active member during almost half of those years. You and all of the Grosse Pointe Rotarians have reason to be proud of our accomplishments.

I particularly want to take this opportunity to thank all of the Rotarians for the support and assistance they have given me during this past year. Serving as district governor has been a pleasure and an honor, and the solid backing from my fellow members has made it a great year for me.

I anxiously look forward to returning full time to my home club during the next Rotary year. I want to be a part of the service that Grosse Pointe Rotary will offer in the future too.

Sincerely,

GROSSE POINTE ROTARY CLUB

1986-1987 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Robert H. Pytell
1st Vice President John F. Mozena
2nd Vice President Theodore C. Hadgis
Secretary John C. Brooks
Treasurer Paul F. Mabarak
Director - Vocational Service James Alle
Director - Community Service Theodore W. Trefzer
Director - International Service Ronald Vitale
Director - Past President Thomas R. Youngblood

Executive Secretary

Frederick W. Seltzer
20070 Ghesquiere Court
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236
Telephone: (313) 822-2580(B)
(313) 885-1897(R)

This booklet commemorates the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe, celebrated at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club on Wednesday evening, June 24, 1987. It is intended to increase the pride of all members, old and new, in our Club and its heritage. Much of the story of our own Club is a revision of the Grosse Pointe Rotary history originally prepared by Robert K. O'Neil in 1955 and from time to time updated for other Club anniversaries.

Chairman of the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration was Carl E. Meyering. This booklet was assembled by John R. Cobau with the generous help of many other Club members. Special thanks to Thomas R. Youngblood for arrangements with Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Service Above Self - He Profits Most Who Serves Best

1600 RIDGE AVENUE · EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201 · U.S.A.

Tel: 312/328-0100 · Cable: Interotary · Telex: 724-465

29 April, 1987

M.A.T. CAPARAS
PRESIDENT - 1986-87

To All Members of the
Rotary Club of
Grosse Pointe, Michigan

Dear fellow Rotarians:

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the members of the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe as you celebrate your 50th Anniversary in Rotary. I extend my warmest personal regards to your club as you show that ROTARY BRINGS HOPE during this important milestone in your club's history. For half a century, the Rotary Club of Grosse Pointe has provided valuable services and leadership to the local community as well as to an ever widening world community. During those fifty years your club has provided an excellent example to the more than 22,000 Rotary clubs in 161 countries around the world.

Grosse Pointe Rotarians have much to be proud of. I trust that this celebration in honor of your club's service will commemorate the rich past while recognizing the countless opportunities of service in the years ahead as we all join together in our common cause: for children without polio; for food for all people; for life worth living; for a world at peace.

May the next fifty years and the following fifty years also be equally rewarding as you continue to show that ROTARY BRINGS HOPE.

Sincerely yours,

M.A.T. Caparas

M.A.T. CAPARAS
President

ROTARY CLUB OF GROSSE POINTE THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS

Organization. Grosse Pointe Rotary was chartered on June 17, 1937, as Club No. 4317. Len Johnson, Bill Moir, Fin Henk and Rex Cranson were the local men who helped the Hamtramck Rotary Club to organize the Grosse Pointe Club. Twenty seven members were signed as Charter Members of the Club; they are listed separately on pages 12-15. Two of them, August J. Miehm and William J. Moir, are still members of the Club.

The organizational meeting was held on June 3, and the Charter from Rotary International was formally presented at a banquet held in the auditorium of the Neighborhood Club on July 28. At the banquet short messages of encouragement were given by the following men: Dick Harfst (Past President, Detroit), Ward Macauley (Detroit), Frank Justeson (Past President, Detroit), Paul King (Past District Governor, Detroit), Harry Robins (Governor's Aide), Arthur Fitzgerald (Past District Governor, Windsor), and Roy Shaw (District Governor, Detroit). Gifts were presented from the following Clubs:

Ann Arbor - Rotary Plaque
Chatham - Canadian Flag
Detroit - Rotary Lapel Buttons
Hamtramck - Rotary Bell and Gavel
Highland Park - Silk American Flag
Mount Clemens - Button Case and Large Buttons
Plymouth - Flag Standard
Royal Oak - Record Book
Trenton - Nursing Bottle

Members are expected never to dodge an assignment, and to be willing to serve the community. One of the first acts of community service, which received no publicity at the time, occurred at the Charter Banquet when a visiting Rotarian had a flat tire in the parking lot. Butch Harshman, who held the Club's Garage classification, went to his station and changed the tire without the visitor ever knowing about it.

Early Years. The Club first met at the Neighborhood Club on Thursdays, but in September of the first year the day was changed to Monday, which it has remained to this day. The change was made to accommodate George Deets, who held the Fish-Retailing classification and was unable to get away from the odor of his business, even after going home for a bath before the meetings. After three years of meetings at the Neighborhood Club, the Club was forced to find another meeting place, due to catering difficulties. A few meetings were held at Pete Moore's Restaurant, then the Club moved to Al Green's Restaurant. This wasn't satisfactory, so meetings were moved to the Whittier Hotel in Detroit, where the Club stayed for ten years. In the years following World War II several members worked actively to help form the Grosse Pointe War Memorial, and on February 13, 1950 the Club met for the first time in the War Memorial Center. Our 50th anniversary year also marks the 37th year of our meetings in that location, the beauty of which has been a source of pride to all our members.

Shortly after the Club was chartered, its Flower Fund was established. As in many smaller Clubs, members were fined for various infractions or acts not in accordance with the rules, such as coming late to meetings or leaving them early or not making up missed meetings or failing to wear the Rotary pin. Although this was a common practice in Rotary Clubs, all members did not take kindly to it, and it was agreed (as an alternative) that each member would be assessed ten cents each week for a chance on the flower raffle. After Vince DePetrus became a member, he donated each week a floral arrangement which was raffled off at the meetings; for the past several years the flowers have been contributed by Don Jensen. For many years the winner also received the "pot" but since 1985 the funds paid into the raffle have been used to purchase Paul Harris Sustaining Memberships whenever \$100 has been accumulated.

The oil can presentation each week in this Club is a direct result of abolition of the fines. The sting was taken out of the fines by the collection of the dimes, but the Club needed a reminder for those members who were guilty of rules violations, so the presentation of the oil can was devised. This oil can has traveled half-way around the world and returned, as you may note from the inscription on it by the President of an Australian Club. The reasons for giving the oil can have greatly broadened, and it is frequently given for meritorious service to the Club or Community.

The first Roster of the Club was a mimeographed copy which was published as the Rotarpointe for August 1, 1938, listing 34 members. The first pocket edition was printed in 1941, with a plain paper cover. On the fifth anniversary of the Club, the Roster was printed in a larger size with a brief history of the Club. The next few editions were with a stapled cardboard cover. On our tenth anniversary, a car was raffled to obtain funds for a Roster with a picture of each member, and this has been the pattern of the Club Rosters each year since.

It was on October 22, 1937 that the first issue of the Club bulletin (shortly after named the "Rotarpointe") was issued, edited by Ed Allen; a copy is found on pages 16-18. When Ed resigned from the Club in November of 1938, Dick Maxon became the editor and carried on until 1957. From 1958 until 1973, Bob Orr was the editor. He was succeeded by Bill Peters, who served until 1981. It is presently edited by members of a committee on a rotating basis.

During the years of World War II the Club maintained contact through correspondence with its members who served in the armed forces: Matt Houghton in the Army, Gus Miehm in the Navy, and Fran Lemmer in the Coast Guard.

In Service to the Community. The first community service project of the Club occurred when the Club was only two months old. One of the charter members had died, leaving a family of several children. The Club had no money for charitable projects, and practically no money in the Treasury, but Fin Henk, our first President, took it upon himself to outfit and clothe this family. This act depleted our funds, but made every member feel that he had been of service. This project also stimulated the members to find some means of raising money for community service activities.

Fund Raising Activities. The Club's first fund-raising project was a Country Fair held at the Neighborhood Club; the proceeds were used to purchase tickets to a preview of Colleen Moore's Doll House, for the benefit of crippled children. On November 21, 1938 the Club held its first annual Feather Party, under the chairmanship of Al Herrmann, and the Club netted the sum of \$355.85 for community service activities. Ed Pongracz was active for many years in the organization and promotion of this event. They were continued each year until 1951, when local authorities advised the Club that they might be illegal in Michigan as a form of gambling. The last Feather Party netted the Club \$8,100. A full-blown musical comedy show, "You Can't Beat Fun," was produced at Parcels School in 1954, but only \$1,000 was raised. For the 21 years from 1955 until 1976 the Club relied chiefly upon its sponsorship of an Antiques Show to obtain funds for service purposes; the last such show was held in March of 1976. In addition, from 1965 on there was also a small members-only party held just prior to the opening of the Antiques Show, and funds to supplement Show revenues were raised at this event by auctioning off items contributed by members. Proceeds from this source gradually became more significant, and in 1975-1976 the Board under President Pete Higbie decided, after all members were consulted, to discontinue the Antiques Show and put our efforts into an expanded Auction at which all friends of Rotary would be invited to participate. This expanded Auction was held each year, usually in February, up to and including 1984, in which year a new pattern was developed: the Auction is now held as a major event once every two years, and a "mini-auction" is held in the off-year. Revenues formerly realized from the Auction as an annual event have been replaced by profits from a Raffle held each Fall. In 1984 - its first year - approximately \$15,000 was realized from the Raffle, and in 1986 almost \$20,000 was earned.

Our Projects. In the Club's early years, as funds raised from the Feather Parties increased, more and more community service activities were developed, with many of the projects being continued for a number of years. During the war years, the nature of the projects changed, so that recipients of Rotary Club aid were mostly servicemen and projects devoted to their comfort.

The Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation was formed in 1956/1957 as a conduit for the Club's fund raising and charitable activities; it has a separate Board of Trustees. In fiscal year 1986 it disbursed \$36,728, of which \$22,113 went for support of civic and community organizations, \$11,843 was spent on education programs, and \$2,235 was spent for awards and gifts.

Our policy toward community service is to determine the community needs, and then determine how these needs can most effectively be met. Each Rotarian is urged to contribute his services as an individual to the various community groups and agencies by actively participating in them.

The first Grosse Pointe War Memorial Committee was organized by the Rotary Club. A large contribution was made to get this project started, and the Club has assisted the War Memorial financially at various other times.

Another first by the Rotary Club was the formation in 1943 of the "Tool Library" in the Grosse Pointe Public Library; this was a proposal of the Boys' Work Committee under Paul Essert, and received national recognition among Librarians. The Grosse Pointe Central Library was also given the furnishings and motion picture projector and screen for its Meeting Room.

Grosse Pointe Rotary has always been partial to community service projects involving underprivileged, crippled or ill persons, and the youth of the community. One of our first projects was to donate to Bon Secours and Cottage Hospitals modern oxygen tents for community use. A room has also been donated to each hospital, plus a large donation for the outpatient clinic of Bon Secours. Underprivileged children have been recipients of Rotary aid in the form of television sets for bedridden boys, orthodontic work for a high school boy and girl, special tutoring for a blind-crippled girl, summer camp for handicapped and delinquent children, tuition and board at Wayne University for a crippled student, monthly movies for the patients at Marine Hospital, and a special radio set for a Grosse Pointe boy at Marine Hospital. A welfare fund was established for needy students at Pierce Junior High School; Christmas gifts were provided for wounded servicemen; a surgical appliance was provided for a needy boy; crippled children were provided with two weeks at a summer camp; a garage and tool house was built at the crippled children's camp; and emergency hospital care was provided for a needy family. Other medical-health related programs were a project (Vial of Life) designed to provide health professionals with medication information in emergency situations, and the purchase of equipment to help remove persons from wrecked vehicles (Jaws-of-Life).

In the late 1960s the Club played a prominent role in helping organize the Grosse Pointe Family Life Education Council ("FLEC") and in promoting its continuing work against substance abuse and related problems which affect principally the young people of our area. FLEC was started in 1966 by concerned citizens, was approved as part of the Grosse Pointe Board of Education in August, 1967, and became an independent nonprofit agency in April 1969. This last step was made possible by a grant from our Grosse Pointe Rotary Foundation in the amount of \$10,000. Another grant of the same amount was given in a subsequent year. The talents and expertise of Grosse Pointe Rotarians have been generously provided by a number of our current members. Max Gardner, William Peters, Robert Pytell, Fred Sibley, Frank Sladen, Jr., Joseph Spagnoli, and Clarence Wascher have all been actively involved through the years and many other Rotarians have given financial support on a regular basis. FLEC is dedicated to enhancing the quality of community and family life, and from its beginning has concentrated on young people and their concerns. The problems it deals with are great and the needs for service were and are readily visible; it was one of the first community organizations to establish a methadone withdrawal clinic where adolescent heroin addicts could receive intensive group therapy by professionals and where their parents could receive guidance and counselling. Rotarian Clare Wascher took an impressive step to demonstrate service to the community in 1971 by making a vacant building in the Village available to FLEC to establish a drop-in center for the youth of the community; this proved to be an

important factor in demonstrating the needs that existed. FLEC remains an organization of importance to the Grosse Pointe community and one that Grosse Pointe Rotary is proud to have supported and fostered from its infancy.

The Neighborhood Club of Grosse Pointe has been another prime beneficiary of the Foundation: for construction of its building on Waterloo, it received \$25,000 under a three-year commitment approved by the Club in 1978-1979.

One outstanding activity of our Foundation at the international level was participation in the "Happy Smiles" program under which a team of physicians from this country traveled to the mountains of Mexico to perform reconstructive surgery on children with cleft lips and palates. Jose Borrego, with a complement of anesthetists from Bon Secours Hospital, traveled with the group in the Spring of 1982, and our Club gave financial support for transportation expenses. Steve Tsangalias and David Benfer were also active in promoting the venture and providing necessary materials and equipment.

International Youth Exchange. Grosse Pointe Rotary has a long history of involvement with foreign exchange students on the high school level. In the late 1950s we brought the first AFS (American Field Service) student to Grosse Pointe. We have continued to support that program financially and each year there are two or three AFS students attending our high schools. In the mid-1970s we began with the Rotary Youth Exchange program. Each year since, we have received, and have sent abroad, two or more students. The program is an important part of our International Service. Most of the visiting students attend our weekly meetings, and our members have had much pleasure from speaking with them and hearing of their home countries and their impressions of our community and country. Much of the credit in recent years goes to Jose Borrego, Tom Persing, and George Schelter.

Social Activities. While the emphasis in Rotary will always be on service, the friendships which it fosters remain a strength of the Club and a pleasure to its members. Some of the Club's social events have become traditional: the President's Ball has been held each year since 1957, and the Progressive Dinner has been a highlight of the Fall's activities for many years.

Attendance. Rotary has always placed a premium on regular attendance by its members, and Grosse Pointe has many members who have achieved excellent attendance records at our own Club and through "make-up" at other Rotary Clubs. Diamond-set lapel buttons have been provided for members who attained either five, ten or fifteen years of perfect attendance. Twenty-three of our present members have achieved perfect attendance for ten years or more.

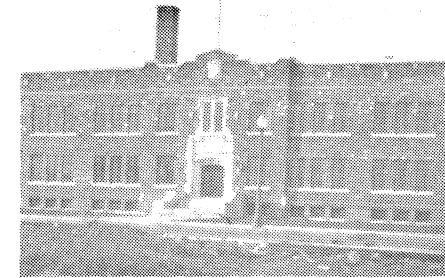
District Activities. Grosse Pointe Rotary is one of 48 clubs in Rotary International District 640, and has long taken an active role in District activities. It has served as host for several District Conferences, most recently the 1987 Conference held in Toronto, Canada. Members

have also played a prominent role in District Assemblies, where training is offered to new officers of District clubs. Three Grosse Pointe Rotarians have served with distinction as District Governor: Clifford W. Ashton in 1963-1964, Frank J. Sladen, Jr. in 1979-1980, and Max L. Gardner in the current year, 1986-1987. The Club has evaluated and sponsored several outbound Rotary Scholars, and has welcomed many inbound Scholars as speakers and as guests in members' homes while they studied in the Detroit metropolitan area. It has been similarly involved with the Rotary International Group Study Exchange ("GSE") program, under which teams of young people are exchanged between Rotary districts of different countries to provide in depth studies of the businesses and institutions of each other's land: Grosse Pointe Rotarians have helped select GSE teams from our District for visits to Finland, Japan, Australia, India, and Austria, and Club members have also served as hosts to many of the GSE members from those countries when their teams come to this area. In the most recent such exchange, the Club hosted the District's farewell party for the Austrian GSE team at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in 1986.

Our Executive Secretaries. No story of our Club would be complete without reference to the services of our Executive Secretaries, who have kept our records and handled much of the day-to-day work of the Club: Bob O'Neil served until 1967, and was instrumental in developing our Club into a strong organization. Fred Seltzer is our current Executive Secretary, and has given excellent and dedicated service at this post since 1976.

In consonance with the high ideals of Rotary International, the general welfare of the Community is of concern to the members of this Club. The Club will not endorse or recommend any candidate for public office, but it is the duty of each Rotarian to participate in public affairs and to accept public office. Since the organization of Grosse Pointe Rotary, many members have served the community as public officials, including city councilmen and managers and public safety officials. These members are busy men, but still find time to donate their services to their community. So it is with many other Rotarians who are active in civic and community groups. It is the spirit of Rotary which instills the ideal of Service in their actions. It is the spirit of Rotary which binds us together in community service activities, both in the Club and in outside activities.

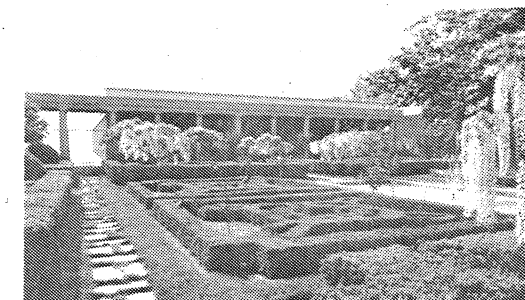
OUR MEETING PLACES



OLD NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB 1937-1940



WHITTIER HOTEL 1940-1950



GROSSE POINTE WAR MEMORIAL (FROM 1950)

OFFICERS OF GROSSE POINTE ROTARY 1937-1987

<u>Term</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
1937-1938	Fintan L. Henk	Leonard A. Johnston	Ray Ellis
1938-1939	Rex P. Cranson	Edward E. Allen	Edward Pongracz
		August J. Miehm	
1939-1940	Paul Rehmus	August J. Miehm	Edward Pongracz
1940-1941	William J. Schultz	Robert K. O'Neil	John Davis
1941-1942	Vincent R. DePetris	Robert K. O'Neil	Ernest A. Provo
1942-1943	William J. Watkins	Robert K. O'Neil	Matthew A. Houghton
1943-1944	Richard L. Maxon	Robert K. O'Neil	Henry Horn
1944-1945	Alphonse J. Meyer	Robert K. O'Neil	Henry Horn
1945-1946	Francis G. Palmer	Robert K. O'Neil	Fred Kopp
1946-1947	William J. Moir	Robert K. O'Neil	Ernest Graham
1947-1948	David S. Burnett	Robert K. O'Neil	Robert Boyer
1948-1949	Edward L. Rector	Robert K. O'Neil	William Johnson
1949-1950	William B. Hurley	Robert K. O'Neil	Austin Neeb
1950-1951	Earl N. Holzbaugh	Robert K. O'Neil	William Johnson
1951-1952	Ernest C. Graham	Robert K. O'Neil	Larry Hetzelt
1952-1953	Cyril F. Paye	Glenn M. Pratt	Allan Walter
1953-1954	Robert K. O'Neil	Robert M. Orr	Gerald Fitzgerald
1954-1955	William G. Wahl	Robert M. Orr	Herbert Baker
1955-1956	Glenn M. Pratt	Herbert Savage	Remington Purdy
1956-1957	David E. McCarron	Clifford W. Ashton	James Alexis
1957-1958	Robert M. Orr	Matthew A. Houghton	Gilbert Hauke
1958-1959	Remington J. Purdy	Bruce K. Bockstanz	Edward W. Taube
1959-1960	Clifford W. Ashton	Ralph M. Burke	Anthony Manardo
1960-1961	Andrew F. Rauth	William G. Strawbridge	Milton M. Volkens
1961-1962	Edward W. Taube	Robert Wilcox	Kenneth W. Smith
1962-1963	Ralph M. Burke	Kenneth W. Smith	William Quinlan
1963-1964	William G. Strawbridge	Edward J. Hickey	Thomas V. LoCicero
1964-1965	Albert D. Thomas	Elton Turner	James A. Passanante, Jr.
1965-1966	Kenneth W. Smith	James A. Passanante, Jr.	Vernon S. Glendening
1966-1967	Bruce K. Bockstanz	John A. Hammel	George E. Measel
1967-1968	James A. Passanante, Jr.	John Peel	Robert Harrison
1968-1969	Vernon S. Glendening	Robert Maunz	Max L. Gardner
1969-1970	Stephen A. Balogh	Frank J. Sladen, Jr.	William G. Sutter
1970-1971	Robert C. Harrison	William J. Merritt	Elton A. Turner
1971-1972	Max L. Gardner	William G. Sutter	William F. Schroeder
1972-1973	Frank J. Sladen, Jr.	Thomas A. Persing	Henry H. Sobson
1973-1974	Clarence F. Wascher	Carl E. Meyering	Donald E. Gilbert
1974-1975	Frederick W. Seltzer	Minert N. Thompson, Jr.	Richard J. Pryce
1975-1976	Peter C. Higbie	G. Bruce Feighner	W. Philip Ardussi
1976-1977	Albert J. Ceravolo	Mark Valente, Jr.	Bert A. Hyman
1977-1978	Carl E. Meyering	John R. Cobau	Elton A. Turner
1978-1979	Minert N. Thompson	Robert O. Squier	Elton A. Turner
1979	W. Philip Ardussi	Ronald J. Moir	Arthur E. Judson
1979-1980	Mark Valente, Jr.	Ronald J. Moir	Arthur E. Judson
1980-1981	John R. Cobau	Ronald J. Moir	Arthur E. Judson
1981-1982	Steve S. Tsangalias	Robert H. Pytell	E. Normand Giard
1982-1983	Jose M. Borrego	Thomas R. Youngblood	Donald R. Briggs
1983-1984	William A. McCourt	John F. Mozena	Thomas R. Youngblood
1984-1985	E. Normand Giard	William T. Peters	Theodore C. Hadgis
1985-1986	Thomas R. Youngblood	William F. Schroeder	William T. Peters
1986-1987	Robert H. Pytell	John C. Brooks	Paul F. Mabarak

ROTARY CLUB OF GROSSE POINTE

50th Anniversary Program

Wednesday, June 24th, Nineteen Hundred & Eighty Seven

Grosse Pointe Yacht Club

Cocktails and Hors d'Oeuvres

Invocation

Dinner

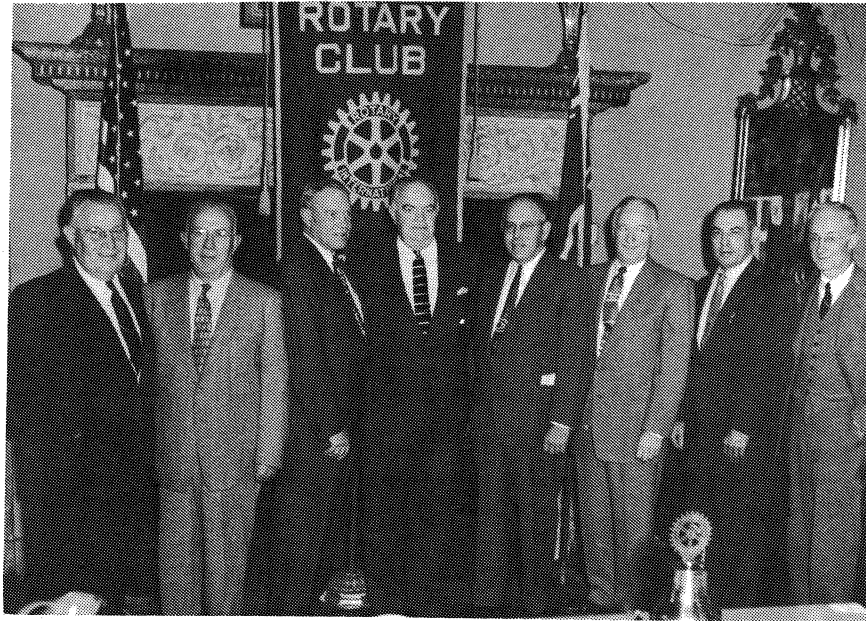
Welcome - Carl E. Meyering

President's Comments - Robert H. Pytell

Recognition Of Charter Members & Special Guests

District Governor's Comments - Max L. Gardner, M.D.

Dancing



From left to right: Al Hermann, Vince DePetris, Gus Miehm, Norm Bonney, Bob O'Neil, Bill Moir, Gaston DeRidder, Dick Maxon. Taken in February, 1950, when the site of Monday meetings was moved to the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

CHARTER MEMBERS

Dr. Norman K. Bonney ("Norm") was a physician with offices on Kercheval. He had a perfect attendance record of twelve years, and remained in the Club until his death in 1964. Classification: Surgeon.

Raymond J. Boos ("Ray") was meat manager at Glaeser's Meat Market on Kercheval in the City of Grosse Pointe. He died suddenly a short time after the Club was formed, and a fund-raising event was held for his family. Classification: Meats-Retailing.

Dr. Rex P. Cranson ("Crans"), second President of the Club, was a dentist with offices on Mack Avenue. He was instrumental in the Club's first regular fund-raising event, "Feather Parties," which were held at the Neighborhood Club from 1938 to 1951. These parties were attended by Rotarians and their friends throughout the community, and participants

played a game similar to bingo in which they could win prizes. He remained in the Club until he gave up his dental practice in 1945, after which he became active in Republican politics. Classification: Dentistry.

John S. Davis was a funeral director with an establishment at 15301 Mack. Classification: Funeral Directing.

George S. Deets operated a fish market on Mack Avenue. To accommodate the needs of his business, the meeting date for the Club was changed to Monday in September, 1937. He supplied live lobster for the Club's summer picnic held at Fin Henk's cottage. He was obliged by time pressures to resign from the Club in October of 1939. Classification: Fish - Retailing.

Carl M. Dell. He was a member only until March or April of 1938. Classification: Drugs - Retailing.

Gaston DeRidder had a plumbing business and was a member until 1961. He was active in pigeon racing, which was sponsored by a club headquartered on Cadieux Road. Classification: Plumbing.

Ray S. Ellis operated a barber shop at 15044 Mack. He served as the Club's first Treasurer, and was a member until early 1939 when he moved to Canada. Classification: Barber Shops.

Felix Francois was born in France and came to this country in 1927. After two years in New York City he established a hairdressing shop on Kercheval near the Punch & Judy Theater. Upon his physician's advice that he had only a few months to live, he resigned from the Club and moved to Florida in the 1940s. He joined the Fort Lauderdale Club, and at last report is still a member. (We have no news as to the condition of his physician.) Classification: Beauty Parlors.

Francis M. Harshman ("Butch") operated a gas station and garage on the southwest corner of Kercheval and St. Clair. He remained a member until January of 1940. Classification: Refined Oil Products & Retailing.

Fintan L. Henk ("Fin") served as the first President in 1937-1938. He had a real estate and insurance business, and wrote articles on local history which were published in the Grosse Pointe Review. Many of the Club's fellowship outings were held at his cottage in Anchor Bay, and he stayed active in Grosse Pointe Rotary until the 1950s. Classification: Insurance.

Alfred E. Herrmann ("Al") was a butter and eggs distributor. He was Chairman of the first "Feather Party" in 1938, and remained in the Club for more than 37 years until his death in 1976. Classification: Butter & Eggs - Distributor.

Mervin R. Jaynes ("Red") operated a hardware store on Kercheval between St. Clair and Notre Dame. His membership terminated in late 1938 or early 1939.

Armin C. Johnson. He is not named in the Rotarpointe or listed in the first roster of August 1, 1938, and perhaps never activated his membership. Classification: Electric Appliances - Retailing.

Leonard A. Johnston ("Len") was editor of the Grosse Pointe Review, a newspaper with offices on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park. He was the first person approached by Herb Smith of Hamtramck Rotary, who was attempting to form a club in Grosse Pointe. Len initially contacted Bill Moir, and the two of them contacted Fin Henk. These men then enlisted the other charter members. Len resigned from the Club in 1938. Classification: Newspaper Publishing.

Lincoln Maire ("Linc") had a landscaping business on Cadieux north of Mack and planted many of the cherry trees along Lakeshore Road. He was a member until 1940. Classification: Landscape Architecture.

Richard L. Maxon ("Dick") was President in 1943-1944. He had a real estate business on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Farms, and was also an accomplished golfer and squash and racquets player. He published the Rotarpointe from 1938 to 1957 with diligence and whimsical humor, and remained a member until the 1960s. Classification: Real Estate.

August J. Miehme ("Gus") practiced real estate law and also had a brokerage business. He is now retired and living in Sparta, Tennessee, but retains his membership. Classification: General Law Practice.

William J. Moir ("Bill") was President in 1946-1947, and remains a member. He was born and raised in Canada. He was instrumental in organizing the Club, and was its first Attendance Chairman. He founded the Farms Market and operated it until 1972, and resides in Grosse Pointe Park. Classification: Groceries - Retailing.

Dr. Robert K. O'Neil ("Bob") was President in 1953-1954. He was a veterinarian with offices on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe Park. He served as Secretary of the Club from 1940 to 1952, followed by two years as President-Elect and President, and then continued as Executive Secretary until 1967, shortly before his death in January of 1968. He was often called "Mr. Rotary," and his dedication to Rotary objectives was instrumental in building the Club into a strong community organization. Classification: Veterinary Medicine.

Edward J. Pongracz ("Ed") was born in Chicago and educated in New York City. He operated Pongracz Jewelry on Kercheval in Grosse Pointe. He was a dedicated Rotarian, and was regular in his attendance until he and his wife became ill in the years before his death in early 1987. Classification: Jewelry - Retailing.

Ernest A. Provo ("Ernie") had a plant protection firm, and later opened a burglar alarm business. He loved to play golf, and was also active in Gratiot Township politics. He was in Grosse Pointe Rotary until 1943, and later moved to California, where he died in 1952. Classification: Patrol Service.

Morris C. Schiller. He is not named in the Rotarpointe or listed in the first roster of August 1, 1938, and perhaps never activated his membership. Classification: Cleaning & Dyeing.

William J. Schultz ("Bill") was a native Detroit, and was officer of a wholesale and retail creamery on Mack Avenue known as Schweitzer Creamery. He was the fourth President in 1940-1941, serving with much energy and loyalty to Rotarian principles. Classification: Creamery Products - Distributing.

Dr. Roland E. Schwab ("Elmer") was a physician with offices on Lakeview south of Jefferson. He was in the Club until January of 1939, when the time pressures of his business obliged him to resign. Classification: Physician.

Joseph E. Venola ("Joe") operated a toy shop near Kercheval and St. Clair. He and his wife owned several race horses. Classification: Variety Stores.

Adolf P. Verdonckt ("Dolph") operated Verdonckt Bakery on Mack Avenue, and was in the Club until his death in an auto accident in Canada in 1943. He was born in Belgium, and was active in various local Belgian-American organizations. Classification: Baking - Retail.



GUS MIEHM



BILL MOIR

VOL. I

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NO. I

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE GROSSE POINTE, MICHIGAN, ROTARY CLUB

October 22, 1937

WE MAKE OUR BOB

WIND

You now have in your hands the initial copy of the publication of our local organization. First editions sometimes attain great value. It is hoped, however, that each subsequent issue of this bulletin will be of as much or more value to you than this first one.

In looking over the material sent for our assistance in this venture by the R.I. Secretariat we conclude that the function of a club bulletin is really three-fold. Its primary function is that of being informative. It may accomplish this by presenting announcements of coming meetings and giving details concerning club and committee activities. The bulletin should also serve as a record of club activities. While a complete record of this type is kept by the club Secretary it is not always available for the use of individual members. The club publication can serve a real purpose in this connection by including all information of an official nature, such as reports of previous meetings, lists of prospective members, lists of absent members, etc., that will aid Rotarians in keeping a cumulative record of their club's activities. The third purpose of the bulletin may be to present items of general interest to all members that would not fall under the preceding classifications. Items included in this category may be letters from other clubs and officers, clippings from other publications, personal opinions of members on matters of general interest to the group, and personal items concerning members and/or their families, ie, birthdays, travel, illness, etc.

While extreme dignity, in itself, impresses some people as being ridiculous, unbridled "horseplay" can be highly offensive to others. Well meaning banter has a definite place in creating the proper atmosphere for club gatherings but its inclusion in such a publication as this should probably be made with care. The Editor pledges himself to attempt to keep as serious as possible and still not make the publication read like the house organ of an embalming fluid company.

The Editor also pledges himself to endeavor to make the bulletin a service to members of a service organization. It is hoped that an inspection of its copy by Rotarians outside of this club will convey the impression that every activity of the group is founded on and initiated by the fundamental principles and spirit of Rotary International.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A LOT. The name of any publication can be quite significant of its general purpose. We want the club to choose the name for this bulletin. Each member is requested to bring to the next meeting of the group a suggested name for this publication with his signature attached. The next week's bulletin will contain a complete list of all suggested names but will not identify the persons suggesting them. Further information concerning the method of selecting the name for the bulletin will be given with this list.

PROGRAMME, MONDAY, OCT. 25, '37

George Deets announces that the programme for next Monday will bring something interesting under the general title of "Oil." The Standard Oil Company is to aid in this presentation. Regardless of the brand, we all use quite a bit of this substance and should be interested in what George has arranged for us.

NOVEMBER PROGRAMMES

"Doc" Cranson gives us an inside tip on the general nature of the programmes for November. He and Paul Rehms and Jim Drysdale have done a good job in getting things lined up for the month and every meeting promises to be an interesting one.

November 1 Detroit Community Fund Programme
November 8 International Meeting, Windsor
November 15 Ladies Night. Radio Personality as Speaker. Details Later
November 22 Michigan Liquor Commission Programme
November 29 Michigan Centennial Programme. An Ex-Governor to Speak.

INTERNATIONAL MEETING

Members are asked to be sure to keep the Windsor meeting in mind and plan on attending. It is possible that arrangements will be made to have transportation available to take members directly from the Neighborhood Club to the meeting across the river. If you have suggestions give them to President Fin Henk.

WATER OVER THE DAM

You fellows who missed either or both of the last two meetings lost out on an opportunity to hear discussion on a matter of general civic interest. On Oct. 11, Charles Parcells, President of the Board of Education gave the Board's point of view on the junior high school situation, now and in the future. On Monday, Oct. 18, Mr. John Sweeney, a representative citizen of Grosse Pointe, presented the point of view of those not in agreement with the Board of Education on this subject.

MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM THE MAIL

District Governor E. Roy Shaw sends the following communication after his appearance on the programme of October 7:

October 11, 1937

Mr. Finton L. Henk, Pres.
Grosse Pointe Rotary Club
15224 E. Jefferson Ave.
Grosse Pointe, Michigan
Dear Finton:

Many thanks for the courtesies extended to me on my official visit to your club. I certainly enjoyed the time I spent with you. You have a dandy type of membership and I know they will go far in any project they may undertake.

One thing quite noticeable to any visitor would be the splendid Rotary spirit as evidenced by the members. I will be looking for some great things from the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club under the leadership of your present administration.

Rotarily yours

E. Roy Shaw, Governor
153rd District R. I.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

From The R.I. Secretariat-Central Office comes the following written by Charles M. Dyer.

Congratulations on the splendid way your club has developed to date and the many fine things it has accomplished in the short time it has been a member of R.I. District Governor Roy Shaw, who paid his official visit to your club last Thursday, is mighty proud of your progress and splendid spirit, and evidently enjoyed the opportunity of taking part in the fellowship of the group. Keep up the good work. Please feel free to drop us a line now and then especially when you believe we might be of service to you or any of the committees.

We have made a good initial impression and none of us sees any reason why we should not maintain it. In fact, I see a lot of reasons why we will.

PLANS OF FAIR COMMITTEE

Paul Rehmus announces that his committee on the Rotary concession at the Neighborhood Club Fair, consisting of George Deets, Fred Glaeser, Ed. Pongracz and Joe Venola, really has an idea that is going to go over with a "bang." The folks out here are going to have a chance to give long suppressed desires an airing and stick pins into balloons. We'll probably hear more about this Monday.

HOBBY SURVEY

The hobby survey made at last Monday's meeting reveals some interesting data, according to President Fin. Local Rotarians are vitally interested in everything from hunting to antiques. The spread of reported hobbies is interestingly great. Results of the study may be published later if you desire that such be done.

HALL OF FAME

George Deets wins nomination on the basis of having initiated several of the club members into the mysteries involved in facing oysters in the raw. His generous contribution to the menu of some three weeks ago won't be forgotten at once and it's possible that he has created a new taste for some of us. The lobster made a big hit, too.

VITAL STATISTICS

Monday, October 18, 1937

Visiting Rotarians: Dave Ireland, Detroit, Michigan
Edward Stiling, Homestead, Florida

Guests: S.M. Brownell, Superintendent of Schools, Grosse Pointe
George Dansbury, Fire Chief, Grosse Pointe Farms
John Sweeney, Grosse Pointe Farms, Speaker.

Absentees: Gaston De Ridder, Felix Francois, Alfred Herman,
Richard Maxon, Adolph Verdonckt.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

Just this one time, in the first number of the bulletin, we are disclosing the name of the Editor. It is Ed. Allen. The name of the publisher will never be revealed as he is the one to whom all errors in publication shall be attributable and against whom all libel suits shall be filed.

Early History. On February 23, 1905, at the invitation of Paul P. Harris, an attorney, four men met in an office in the Unity Building (now the 127 North Dearborn Building) in Chicago, Illinois. The four were: Harris; Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer; Gustavus E. Loehr, a mining engineer; and Hiram E. Shorey, a merchant tailor. It was agreed that evening to organize a club based on the idea that Harris had been developing for the past five years - that men in business could and should work together as friends to achieve a better community and world.

The following day, Harris interested Harry Ruggles, a printer, in the proposed club. He, in turn, interested Will Jenson, a real estate dealer. Within a short time the Rotary Club organization was completed at a meeting in Schiele's office with the election of Schiele as President, Jenson as Corresponding Secretary, Shorey as Recording Secretary, and Ruggles as Treasurer. Paul Harris modestly declined any office in the new Club and he did not become its president until two years later.

Each of the six first members of the Chicago Rotary Club was a comparative stranger in a large city who had come from a small town to Chicago to go into business, and no doubt felt the need of personal friendships to replace those that had been severed by removal from his former home. The aim of the first Rotary Club was the encouragement of friendship, fellowship, and mutual assistance.

At one of the early meetings, several names were suggested for the new organization. Adopted was Paul Harris' suggestion "Rotary," which was prompted by the original plan of the Club members to meet in rotation at their various places of business. Papers on business topics were read at these early meetings. Harry Ruggles developed the idea of community singing in the Club, an idea which would be adopted by many other types of organizations; and Paul Harris frequently suggested original stunts to enliven the meetings. The membership of the new Club grew rapidly. Its novelty was attractive and those who joined the Club found its friendship and fellowship a tonic that stimulated them to better achievement in their business, social and community relationships. As the Club's membership increased, it became inconvenient to meet in the offices of members. As a result, the Club began to hold dinner meetings, which later gave way to weekly noonday luncheons.

The second Rotary Club was established in San Francisco in 1908. By 1910 there were sixteen Clubs with 1,800 members, and the first Rotary convention was held in Chicago. The first Club outside the United States was Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1910, and the first overseas Club was Dublin, Ireland in 1911. Rotary's first Club in Latin America was formed in 1916 in Havana, Cuba. Both World Wars slowed growth temporarily, but served as tangible proof of the need for stronger personal contacts between people of different countries and races; the aftermath of each war saw a great resurgence of Rotary growth.

Current Statistics. In the Spring of 1987 there are 22,839 Rotary clubs with a membership of 1,031,297 in 161 countries and geographical regions. There are 5,211 Rotaract clubs with a membership of 104,220 in 107 countries, and 5,118 Interact clubs with a membership of 112,596 in 83 countries. Paul Harris Fellows number 164,962.

The Rotary Foundation. When Paul Harris died in 1947, Rotarians memorialized him in a fitting way. They donated millions of dollars to the Paul Harris Memorial of The Rotary Foundation. The fund provided for the international exchange of "Rotary Fellows" (today they're called "Rotary Scholars"), young men and women who, like Paul, traveled to distant lands to learn about other peoples by living among them.

This was the first major activity of The Rotary Foundation (aside from certain relief measures during and after World War II for war-struck Rotary families). The Foundation was originally proposed in 1917 by then R.I. President Arch Klumph, and was formally established by the R.I. board in 1928, but economic depression and war hindered its development.

The original eighteen "Rotary Fellows" were graduate students funded for a year of study abroad. Later, Rotary Foundation fellowships were extended to include undergraduate students, artisans, technicians, teachers of the handicapped, and working journalists. The Foundation also sponsors teams of young business and professional men, called Group Study Exchange teams, who exchange visits between Rotary Districts in different countries, and provides Special Grants for educational and charitable projects.

In the year 1986-1987, a record 1,305 Rotary Scholars were chosen, nearly 300 Group Study Exchange teams were scheduled for traveling, and more than 130 Special Grants were awarded. Rotary Foundation award recipients act as goodwill ambassadors between sending and host countries, sharing their thoughts and experiences in speeches before Rotary clubs and other groups. Many from this select group have risen to positions of leadership in their countries. Former Foundation Fellows include prominent authors and journalists, legislators, and cabinet ministers.

In the 1980s the Foundation has turned its attention to the problems of World Health, first through its "3-H" (Health, Hunger and Humanity) projects and more recently through its most ambitious project, PolioPlus. In this program Rotary, in cooperation with the World Health Organization and some 130 individual Third World countries, supports a global effort known as Expanded Program on Immunization, the objective of which is to irradicate in those countries six childhood diseases which can be prevented by immunization: poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, and tuberculosis. Rotary has pledged \$120,000,000 in support of PolioPlus, and also is applying Rotary leadership to the problems of implementing the necessary vaccinations.

Grosse Pointe Rotarians have supported the goals of the Rotary Foundation both through work at the District and International level and through personal contributions. Twenty four members have contributed at least \$100 and are Paul Harris Sustaining members, and thirty members have contributed \$1,000 or more and are Paul Harris Fellows.

GROSSE POINTE ROTARY CLUB

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER JUNE, 1987

Alandt, Clayton P.
Alle, James
Ashton, Clifford W.
Asmus, Marvin
Baker, J. Herbert
Balogh, Stephen A.
Basile, Ralph A.
Benfer, David W.
Bockstanz, Bruce K.
Bologna, James
Briggs, Donald R.
Brinker, H. Robertson
Brooks, John C.
Bruen, Gerald E.
Burnett, David S.
Case, David
Caulkins, John E.
Cavanaugh, Dennis P.
Ceravolo, Albert J.
Cobau, John R.
Cote, Charles E.
Crawford, John R.
Creed, Charles D., Jr.
Daniell, Gustaf R.
Denler, William H.
DeWald, John E.
Doll, Richard A.
Dossin, Douglas P.
Drucker, Aaron
Everett, James A.
Feighner, G. Bruce
Ferrara, Richard J.
Fikany, James R.
Fikany, Joseph A.
Finken, Darrell E.
Fitch, Roger H.
Fulgenzi, William R.
Gabriel, A. Gerald
Gach, Paul
Gardner, Max L.
Giard, E. Normand
Haberek, Noel B.
Hadgis, Theodore C.
Harrison, Robert C.
Hart, Ronald R.

Higbie, Peter C.
Houghton, Matthew A.
Huckins, John P.
Huntington, William
Hurley, William L.
Hyman, Bert A.
Jackson, Gene
Jaskolski, Edmund J.
Jensen, Don F.
Jenzen, Harold F.
Kackley, James E.
Kearney, James J.
Klingbeil, William H.
Knowlton, G. Stephen
Laenen, Remie
LoCicero, Thomas V.
Lockhart, Raymond A.
Lombardo, Roy F.
Lytle, Robert A.
Mabarak, Paul F.
Mack, James
Marowske, Gary F.
Marr, William B.
McCarron, David E.
McCourt, William A.
McNeill, Roger F.
Meyering, Carl E.
Miehm, August J.
Miller, Gary C.
Moir, Ronald J.
Moir, William J.
Mozena, John F.
Nicol, John
Ollison, Frederick III
O'Loughlin, Charles P.
Persing, Thomas A.
Peters, William T.
Platt, W. T.
Pytell, Robert H.
Qualanze, Michael
Quinones, Rafael E.
Raveschot, Mark
Reaume, James A.
Reid, Robert A.
Ricard, Roland

Riddell, Donald III
Rogers, Brandon
Russell, Richard E.
Ryszewski, Richard D.
Sanderson, Dave
Scarfone, Richard
Schelter, George M.
Schroeder, William F.
Seltzer, Frederick W.
Shammas, Philip N.
Shannon, Calvin J.
Sheoris, John
Sibley, Fred M.
Sladen, Frank J., Jr.
Smith, Stanley C.
Spagnoli, Joseph
Stavale, Michael G.
Stuart, James V.
Sturges, W. E.
Taliaferro, William M.
Thompson, Minert N., Jr.
Thorwaldsen, Stanley E.
Tolari, Joseph
Trefzer, Theodore W. III
Tsangalias, Steve S.
Ulmer, Arthur A.
Valente, Dean P.
Valente, Mark, Jr.
Vasse, Gregory J.
Vince, Andrew W.
Vitale, Ronald
Wascher, Clarence F.
Washburn, Jack A.
Weiner, Marc
Wilhelm, Peter C.
Williams, Arthur J.
Witkowski, Clifford
Witzky, H. Peter
Youngblood, Thomas R.
Ziff, Henry L.
Zmyslowski, Mark

Honorary Member

Bryant, William R., Jr.