

ROTARY CLUB OF PRINCE ALBERT

(Updated February 2021)

A NEW CLUB IS BORN

Back in 1919 a couple of Saskatoon Rotarians, Ben Chappell and Sherriff Calder, were delegated to make a survey of Prince Albert with a view to forming a Rotary Club. They arrived quite late one night in November, phoned Mayor Samuel McLeod, got him out of bed and went over to see him. The next morning, they met with Charlie Clare and Earnest Fox. As a result of a meeting held in the Bank of Commerce it was decided to get together a group of Prince Albert business and professional men who shared much interest and enthusiasm. This group met at the Palace of Sweets, now Wing's Café, on December 30. After due discussion the following resolution was moved by Samuel McLeod and Ray Clemons: "That the Rotary Club of Prince Albert be formed by the members present." The motion was adopted unanimously. They elected Charlie (Charles) Clare as President and Bert Pawson, Henry Hueston, George Carr and Oswald Manville as vice-presidents. So was born a club that was to play an important part in the future of Prince Albert.

The new Club met weekly at the Savoy Café. From the beginning the Club prospered and expanded. On February 23, 1920 the charter list was closed with twenty-five members. On February 26, 1920 a group came up from the Saskatoon Rotary Club and the Charter, Number 619, was formally presented. The Club was formally admitted to Rotary International on March 1, 1920.

The charter members were:

Charles F. Clare, President, classification of Jeweler who had his business at 923 Central Avenue.

Herbert E. Lawson, Vice President

James Guy Penny, Treasurer, classification of Banking who was the manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia

Edward T. Bagshaw, Classification Chartered Accountant, Sec-treasurer Bradshaw Agencies Ltd. McKay and Adam Block, 11th Street and First Ave West. He served as an appointed member of the Victoria Hospital from 1931 to 1963. He was also a city Alderman.

Alexander Brunton, classification of Tailor who had his shop in the K.C. Block opposite the Orpheum Theatre. He was a civil and military tailor who was known to handle products from Bond Street in London, England

Louis Campbell, classification in Lumber who was the General Manager of North Canada Lumber Co. Ltd.

George Carr, classification of Cartage Transportation, who owned Northern Cartage, assisted the Peary Expedition to the North Pole and was still in business at 100 years of age.

Ray Clemons, classification of Hotels, who owned the Empress Hotel which was built during the logging boom years. Rotary met there until the hotel was destroyed by fire.

Thomas C. Davis, Classification Lawyer, Partner at Halliday & Davis, #2 Masonic Temple Building, 10th Street West.

(September 6, 1889 – January 21, 1960^[1]) was a lawyer, judge, diplomat and political figure in Saskatchewan. He represented Prince Albert in the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan from 1925 to 1939 as a Liberal.

He was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan (then a district of the Northwest Territories), the son of Thomas Osborne Davis, and was educated there and at St. John's College and Osgoode Hall. Davis then practiced law in Prince Albert and later served two terms as alderman for the city; he was mayor from 1921 to 1924. Davis served in the provincial cabinet as Minister of Municipal Affairs and as Attorney General. He helped convince William Lyon Mackenzie King to create Prince Albert National Park, which was opened in 1928. In 1929, Davis defeated John Diefenbaker to retain his seat in the provincial assembly. He resigned his seat in the provincial assembly in 1939 to become a judge in the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal. Davis' judicial career ended in 1940 when he was named federal Deputy Minister of War Services;¹ however, he did not resign from the Court of Appeal until 1948. He was named Canadian High Commissioner to Australia in 1943 and

went on to serve as ambassador to China, Japan and West Germany. Davis retired from diplomatic service in 1957, moving to Victoria.

Leonard A. Elliott, Classification Sales Manager, P. Burns & Co. (Burns Meat packers at 15th Street and 6th Ave E.)

John S. (Jack) Fowlie, classification of Real Estate

Bruce Harris, classification in Lumber who was the sales manager for Ladder Lake Lumber Co.

Henry M. Hueston (Harry), Classification Editor, Herald. He went on to own several newspapers in Aylmer Ontario. His fourth-generation family is still operating the newspaper in Aylmer as of 2021.

James H. Lindsay, classification of Lawyer

Oswald B. Manville, classification of Retail Hardware who owned a large hardware business in the building later occupied by the Craig Department Store.

Rev. James W. McIntosh, Classification School Superintendent, Nisbet School Home for Ukrainian Boys

Dr. Stanley B. McMillan, Classification Physician, 4 13th Street West

Ralph Miller, classification of Merchant, Men's Wear

Nelson W. Morton, Classification Investments, Investment and Insurance Broker, Empress Theatre Building.

Samuel McLeod, classification in Lumber who owned P.A. Lumber and built Keyhole Castle.

Frederick J. O'Leary, classification of Soldiers Settlement Supervisor.

John P. M. Sibbald, classification of logging, who was the President and general manager of the Sturgeon Lake Lumber Co. Ltd.

Cecil G. Simpson, Classification Book-keeper, Sec-treasurer School Board office and Sec-treasurer Victoria Hospital.

Arthur R. Smythe, Classification Petroleum, traveler for Imperial oil

William T. Stephens, classification of Groceries - Wholesale who was the manager of Codville Co. Ltd.

THE EARLY YEARS 1919 - 1971

1919-1921 President, **Charlie Clare**, classification, Jeweler

Among the first projects of the new club was the providing of River Swimming Pool on the North shore of the river. The other project during that term was the establishment of the Red Cross Hospital at Paddockwood. To promote a greater knowledge of Rotary and its ideals practically the entire Club went to the District conference, which was held in Calgary that year.

1921 - 1922 President, **O. B. Manville**, Classification, Retail Hardware

River Swimming Pool, which was O.B.'s idea, was officially opened during his year of office. The members of the Rotary Club did the operation and supervision of the pool. The first Club family picnic was held on Fred Zoellner's farm at Buckland. The boys' work committee of the club made a citywide survey for the purpose of organizing boys' sports groups.

1922 - 1923 President, **Jack Fowlie**, Classification, Real Estate

River Swimming Pool was operated and supervised by the Rotarians. The boy's work committee carried out further work in the organizing of supervised sports. A family picnic was held at Lily Plain with the farmers of the district invited.

1923 - 1924 President, **Fred O'Leary**, Classification, Soldier Settlement Supervisor

A banquet honoring the old-timers of the district was given in the Empress Hotel. The event was very jovial with some of the participants getting quite talkative. The Rotarians again supervised river Swimming

Pool. The Paddockwood Red Cross Hospital, which was originally Fred's idea, was officially opened.

1924 - 1925 President, **Oscar Sharpe**, Classification, Retail Lumber

River Swimming Pool was turned over to the City Parks Committee and operated by them until the new pool on 13th Street West was ready for use. A delegate, Frank Culp, who traveled with his wife, Mary, attended the Rotary International convention in Toronto, which was the first convention to be held outside of the United States.

1925 - 1926 President, **Frank Culp**, Classification, Optometrist

The Public-School teachers of the City were entertained at a banquet held in the Empress Hotel. Rotary was still a comparatively new organization in P. A. and the aims and objects of Rotary were explained to the teachers with the hopes that they might pass the information along to their pupils, and so spread the "Ideal of Service" in the community.

The initial steps to erect a War Memorial were taken by the Rotary Club. It was felt, however, that a memorial was something that the entire citizenry should be interested in and so a public meeting was held and a Citizens' Committee was formed to proceed with the selection, purchase and erection of the Memorial now standing in front of the Court House.

1926 - 1927 President, **James(Guy) Penny**, Classification, Banking

Rotary's first Minstrel Show was produced this year. Three evening shows and a matinee were given. Net proceeds of about five hundred dollars were used to start a junior section of the Public Library.

1927 - 1928 President **Alex Brunton**, Classification, Tailor

This was the year of the Diamond Jubilee of Confederation and the City had a parade of all the public school children. They were marshalled to the Central School grounds where Bishop Lloyd delivered the address of the day. Large flags were presented by the Rotary Club to each of the schools and brochures illustrating flag etiquette was presented to each pupil.

1928 - 1929 President, **Bill Mahon**, Classification, Motion Pictures

The Prince Albert Auto Camp had been opened the year before and there was a need for a dining hall. The Club built a log dining hall of palisade construction and presented it to the City.

1929 - 1930 President, **Bill Rowe**, Classification, Druggist

As other presidents before Bill had trouble getting the members to fill the head table. April Fool's Day fell on a Monday this year so Bill thought an April Fool stunt might be in order. A drop of bitter aloes was put in each drinking glass except those at the head table. Immediately after Grace was said Bill proposed a toast to All Fools Day. The immediate effect was that many of the members made a rush for the nearest cuspidor. Some didn't appreciate the joke but those at the head table thought it funny. Other normal activities were carried on during the year as usual.

1930 - 1931 President, **Fred Stevens**, Protestant Clergy

The first series of Provincial Music Festivals were being held at this time. A new class for Male Choruses was started this year and as the Festival was being held in Saskatoon the Prince Albert Rotary Club decided to enter a chorus. It was necessary to have at least twelve singers in the group. We could get only eleven, not including Rae Manville. Rae candidly admitted that he was not a singer but we had to have twelve. So Rae went along, acted as end man for the chorus, going through all the motions of singing and saved the day. We didn't quite win the trophy but we got a mark of between 75 and 80. The Club is still a supporter of the Music Festivals, which were carried on during the Hungry Thirties until forced to recess during the World War. The festivals are thriving again and our Club remains a sponsor.

1931 - 1932 President, **James H.(Jim) Lindsay**, Classification, Lawyer

The usual club activities were carried on without loss in club membership or financial standing which was a real credit to the executive and directors during the early thirties. Jim was a charter member and still one of three members in the Club on the 36th Anniversary.

1932 - 1933 President, **George Carr**, Classification, Cartage

During this term George faithfully carried on the activities that had been started but not finished in previous years. He was now the only surviving member of the Peary Expedition to the North Pole.

1933 - 1934 President **Ralph Miller**, Classification, Merchant, Men's Wear

Ralph was very interested in music and during his year in office he threw the weight of the Club behind the Provincial Music Festival. With this increased impetus the festivals were carried on until 1940 when they recessed on account of the World War. The usual fund raising activities were carried on.

1934 - 1935 President, **B. L. (Ray) Clemons**, Classification, Hotels

It was during this year that Radio Station, 10 BI, became a commercial station with the call letters C.K.B.I. The Rotary Club assisted in arranging the first two days program of the station under its new status. They canvassed their members and other business and professional men for the first twenty-two programs and shared in the financial returns to the extent of about \$300.00. Of the twenty-two entertainment groups arranged only one failed to show up at the appointed time. The Rotary M.C. and Rus Carrier filled in the fifteen minutes extemporaneously. It is interesting to note that this broadcast started Rus on his radio career. He became a full time announcer with the C.B.C. in Winnipeg and later Ottawa.

1935 - 1936 President, **Vaughan Morgan**, Classification, Ladies Wear

We were now in the middle of the "Hungry Thirties" and the Club's activities were largely directed towards raising funds and clothes drives for the needy. This was a very active year but without an outstanding single event.

1936 - 1937 President, **Fred McLean**, Classification, Dentist

The Minto Hockey Club was in the Provincial finals this year and at the end of the season the Board of Trade honored them with a banquet in the Avenue Hotel. The Service Clubs were asked to contribute a number on the program. The Rotary presentation was the broadcasting of an imaginary hockey game between the Mintos and a picked team of the Rotary Club.

Great care was taken in picking the Rotary players. Bill Mahon was placed on defense as he had a reputation of never letting anything get by him. Harry Quinlan was chief scorer as he used a hockey stick like a blue pencil on a loan sheet; no principal but he sure held the interest. In the words of a sports announcer of that time, "It was the humdinger of all humdingers".

1937 - 1938 President, **Fred Jones**, Classification, Bakeries

A branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses was sponsored by the Club and started this year. They have been assisted in their yearly canvas every year since (until they disbanded).

The second Minstrel Show was held this year. Rotarians put on the circle. The second part was a motion picture instead of the usual oleo.

Fred always felt cheated because he wasn't given a Rotary button when he joined the Club in 1929. He made it mandatory for all future members so all new members would say, "Thanks Fred."

1938 - 1939 President, **Rex Puttick**, Classification, Meats, Wholesale

During the month of August, we joined with the Kiwanians for our weekly luncheon. This practice continued for the summer months for over forty years. We found them pretty good fellows so we turned over our "Apple Day" to them as they wanted to make it a countrywide effort for the Kiwanis Clubs.

The Club put on a Major Bowes Amateur Show. Instead of being sponsored by Sanborne Dated Coffee our program was sponsored by The Chafe & Sunburn Undated Underwear. A goodly sum was realized. Rotarians and their wives were guests of the President at a picnic at Waskesiu.

The university students of Rotarians were entertained at our luncheon between Christmas and New Years Day. This custom was continued until the sixties and was broadened to include all Prince Albert University students.

1939 - 1940 President, **Harry Quinlan**, Classification, Banker

Negotiations with the advance agent of the Passion Play resulted in the signing a contract with them for the production to come in the fall. In the meantime, war was declared and their contract was cancelled here and all over Canada. In January we started the production of "Trial by Jury". Owing to sickness in the cast this also had to be given up.

The Club helped raised funds for a Boy Scout Hall by a tag day. Major Ned Pickering, O.C. and the Officers of the 44th Battery were entertained at one of our luncheons.

1940 - 1941 President, **George Salter** Classification Lawyer.

During this year a ladies night was held at the Empress Hotel. A Rotary sign was erected on Highway 2.

1941 - 1942 President, **Bill Christie**, Classification, Wholesale Groceries

Rotarians operated two booths at the Community Carnival held in the curling rink. The proceeds were used for community activities. The Club assisted at a patriotic concert in the Orpheum Theatre in the aid of the Mrs. Winston Churchill Fund. Reference was also made to a lucky ticket episode.

1942 - 1943 President, **Bill Quinn**, Classification, Breweries

Talent Doubling Effort. Each member was given a ten-dollar bill, which he had to invest or otherwise put into active use and return to the club treasury with accrued earnings. The effort netted something around three hundred dollars.

1943 - 1944 President, **George Whitter** Classification School Superintendent.

This year an Efficiency Project was started at the Collegiate as well as a War Charities Chest. Rotarians were invited to weekends at Waskesiu as Rae Manville's guests.

1944 - 1945 President, **Richard (Dick) Mayson**, Classification, Aviation

This year was the 25th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Prince Albert and the occasion was observed with a ladies night and banquet to which representatives of other Rotary Clubs were invited. George Carr and Ray Clemons were recognized with appropriate gifts for their twenty-five years of membership. Initial steps were taken to sponsor a Rotary Club at Nipawin. Usual fund-raising activities were carried on. President Dick later became District Governor.

1945 - 1946 President, **Wendall Howard**, Classification, Merchant, Boots & Shoes

This year the organizational work at Nipawin was completed and a Rotary Club was formed there. Several carloads of local Rotarians drove there for Charter Night.

Fund raising activities were projected towards helping to finance the Prince Albert Recreational Centre. The university students and City Council were entertained again at the end of the year.

1946 - 1947 President, **R. D. Kerr**, Classification, Education

The Christmas Carol Festivals were started this year. These were carried on until the 1970's and proved to be one of the most popular activities in which the Club has been engaged. A donation of \$150.00 was made to the Prince Albert Recreation Association. A community auction sale was held and the proceeds were used for community activities. Steps were taken to organize a Rotary Club at Melfort and the Charter was presented to them on June 25, 1947. The Nipawin Club was presented with a Rotary Wheel.

1947 - 1948 President, Jack Conroy, Classification, Employment Service

The first contribution to Rotary Foundation was \$200.00 donated by members of the Club. From this fund up February of last year over 700 scholarships for advanced study have been awarded to students from fifty-seven countries to colleges in thirty-seven countries thus promoting better understanding between college groups of different nations.

Contracts were signed with the Stan Francis Show and the Night in Vienna Concert, both to be presented in the Fall. Membership in the Club

increased by over 15%. Tommy Davis presented us with a club pennant from the Rotary Club of Nanking. The second community auction sale was held.

1948 - 1949 President, **Bill Halsey**, Classification, Railway Express

A further donation of \$400.00 was made to the P.A. Recreation Association for the swimming pool. The Club revived the Provincial Musical Festival locally and assumed the financial responsibility. Donations were made to the National Film Board, the Aid to Britain Fund and the John Howard Society. The Stan Francis and the Night in Vienna shows each showed a nice profit.

Installation of Inner Wheel officers was held at Ladies Night and that was the highlight of social activities.

1949 - 1950 President, **Bob McKenzie**, Classification, Wholesale Groceries

The second Horsfall Concert now called the Cavalcade of Song was presented before a full house. It was one of the nicest concert programs to come to Prince Albert. The Easter Seal Campaign was taken on by the Club with gratifying results. Dick Mayson's nomination for District Governor was supported.

1950 - 1951 President, **Alex Blakely**, Classification, Insurance

This was the first year that we participated in the Adventures in Citizenship and sent a student from our Collegiate to Ottawa to attend Parliament while in session. While in Ottawa these students were the guests of the Rotary Club of Ottawa. Our Club continued to participate in Adventures in Citizenship until the 1980's when a variety of Adventures programs became available. Our Club was honored with a visit by the President of Rotary International, Arthur Legeaux, of Quebec. This year saw the first presentation of the Dare-Devil Motor Car Drivers, which was very exciting, and a good money maker. The Horsfal Concert again played to a good house. The Rotary District Assembly was held at Waskesiu.

1951 - 1952 President, **Ernie Aquilon**, Classification, Banking

There was a return engagement of the Dare-Devil Motor Car Drivers, which again showed a good profit. Other activities and fund raising were carried on as usual.

An airplane propeller, which had been used at the Prince Albert Flight Training School, was presented by Past District Governor, Dick Mayson, to the New Zealand Air Force.

1952 - 1953 President, **Fred Veale**, Classification, Motor Cars, Retail

We were proud to present a local boy in a concert program. Jon Vickers, son of W. Vickers, delighted the audience with a varied program of operatic and classical songs.

The Easter Seal Sale was again promoted with satisfying results. The Club sponsored a team in Pony League Baseball supplying the uniforms and equipment. The Musical Festival was presented and under-written by the Club. The Christmas Carol Festival was presented in the Sacred Heart Cathedral for the first time. Another student was sent to Ottawa for Adventures in Citizenship. A stag party was held to honor Fred Jones on his retirement from the Club.

1953 - 1954 President, **Jack Amos**, Classification, Stationary, Retail

We again sponsored a team in Pony League Baseball and this year saw them through to the Provincial Championship. As a community service and at the request of the Agricultural Society we had dinner served to 175 boys and girls attending the 'short course' at the Fair. A second Jon Vickers Concert was promoted. The Club raised \$400.00 in Talent Money promotion. The Musical Festival and Christmas Carol Festival were again held. We raised \$1,400.00 in the Easter Seal Sale. For the third year we sent a student to Adventures in Citizenship. Our Club continued to participate in Adventures in Citizenship until the 1980's when a variety of Adventures programs became available. We continued the V.O.N. drive in the business section and aided the Collegiate band..

Maurice Casgrain became the Club pianist and has been continuously since playing at the meetings and socials.

1954 - 1955 President, **Jack Boddy**, Classification, Railway Freight

It had been the custom to announce the receipts of the Easter Seals Sale for the entire Province at one time. These announcements have usually been made before a crowded grandstand at one of the larger Fairs of the Province. This year we had the honor of having the announcement made at our own Agricultural Fair. Our president was very proud to go before the microphone and announce that the receipts from the entire Province this year amounted to \$57,000.00. This fund was used for the treatment of children with cerebral palsy.

The weekend at Waskesiu as Rae Manville's guests had grown to be a district event with guests from Melfort, Nipawin and Carrot River as well as our local Club. The Golden Jubilee of the founding of Rotary in Chicago by Paul Harris was celebrated at Herbies and was the outstanding social event of the year. Rotarians were there from other Clubs in the district.

1955 - 1956 President, **Ed Gerry**, Classification, Accountancy

The Rotary Social Club was organized with membership limited to two hundred. The tickets were sold at \$25.00 each. As all members were considered good presidential material, the president was chosen by lot. The first twenty names drawn comprised the executive and each was given a souvenir of the occasion. The twentieth name drawn was the president. He was presented with a new car to help him transact his official business which was as various and strenuous as desired.

A Ladies Night was held at which tribute was paid to all Past Presidents. They, and their wives, were guests of the Club for the evening and occupied a special table at the right of the President and civic guest table. A voice from the past, via loud speaker, gave a short resume of each President's activities while a spotlight was thrown on him and his lady. In the case of absentee Past Presidents the light was thrown on the Rotary Wheel. Many of the members and guests were amazed at the number of things that had been accomplished during the thirty-seven years that Rotary has existed in Prince Albert. The evening was voted to be a decided success. The other usual activities such as the Easter Seal Campaign, the V.O.N. Drive, distribution of flowers to the shut-ins were carried on as usual.

1956 - 1957 President, **Harry Mitchell**, Classification, Garages

This was another year of accomplishment. All usual activities were carried on. Harry succeeded where others had failed and supported the Rotary Christmas Carol Festival by entering a Rotary chorus. The University students were entertained during Christmas break. The City Council and City executive officers were entertained. The local Music Festival Association was assisted in producing their spring festival and a very successful Ladies' Night and dance was held at Gus's Hall. The Rotary weekend at Waskesiu had been so successful that it was expanded to include all the Rotary Clubs of the District. The Rotary Social Club functioned again with the proceeds going to local activities.

1957 - 1958 President, **Edward Pickering** Classification Pharmacist.

An article from the Prince Albert Daily Herald was headed '12th Annual Carol Festival Underway Tonight In City' and quoted.

"Twenty-six Prince Albert choirs will sing songs of all nations, both ancient and modern, tonight, Thursday and Friday during the 12th annual Rotary festival of Christmas carols at the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

General carol festival chairman for the Rotary Club sponsors, A.R. Brown, said today that the program will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will continue for about two hours.

Tonight's program will include choral selections by the Academy Presentation of Mary, East Central Kindergarten, St. Alban's Cathedral Choir, All Saints Indian School, St. Michael's School, Prince Albert Rotary Club, Prince Albert Glee Club and Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir.

Chairman of tonight's program will be Richard Mayson, and address of welcome will be given by Ed Pickering, president of Prince Albert Rotary Club. Maurice Casgrain will preside at the Cathedral organ.

1958 - 1959 Presidents, **R.J.R (Bonne) Bonneland & Doug Chetland**,
Classifications, Both Bankers

Bonne Bonneland took over as President but four months later received a transfer to Yorkton and Doug Chetwynd then assumed the President's duties. The highlight of the year was the visit of "Whipper" Billy Watson, a very popular entertaining wrestler, to our Club in March. He was visiting crippled children in Prince Albert and providing a lift for our Easter Seal Campaign to commence the following month.

On April 18th the Prince Albert Daily Herald had a feature page for the annual Music Festival. One article was headed 'Prince Albert Rotary Club Is Sponsor Of Music Festivals' and is quoted.

"Prince Albert had music festivals during the period 1920 to 1935, when they were discontinued, apparently from lack of interest by musically minded people, and public support.

In 1948 a representative of the Saskatchewan Music Festival Association came to Prince Albert to attend a citizen's meeting with a view to reviving music festivals in the city. Musicians, music teachers, and some schoolteachers attended this meeting along with Messrs. T.J.E. Conroy and F. D. Culp, representing the Rotary Club of Prince Albert.

The outcome of the meeting was a decision to revive the Music Festival Association in the city, with the Rotary Club taking it on as one of the Community Service projects.

Mr. Conroy was elected president of the Prince Albert Music Festival Association, and the first festival under this new set-up was held May 2nd and 3rd in 1949, under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club and its sister organization, the "Inner Wheel."

Some innovations to the Club in May 1959 were the introduction of "Spin-the-Wheel" for non-attendance and the presentation of a souvenir Rotary pen to guest speakers and visiting Rotarians from distant Clubs. The first pen was given to Senior Past President, Frank Culp, on the occasion of his Golden Wedding Anniversary. The presentation was made by senior member, George Carr. There were sixty-two Active Members at the end of the Rotary year.

1959 - 1960 President, **Gordon Mann**, Classification, Motor Cars

1960 - 1961 President, **Walter F. Thorpe**, Classification, Plumbing Engineer

Walter built two large charcoal bar-b-ques to accommodate large functions. It is uncertain but this may have been done after the year he was president. This was a fundraiser for the Club and Rotarians bar-b-qed at air shows, AA roundups, sportsman of the year functions, etc.

1961 - 1962 President, **Bill Parks**, Classification, Forestry

The year started with a membership of sixty-seven and ended with sixty-four. Fifty-one meetings were held with a number of new procedures started. These included five minutes of Rotary information or a quiz at each meeting, weekly display of attendance, news bulletin by tape recorder read, buffet luncheons twice monthly, presentation of birthday roses, and one meeting in March with the ladies present. We had a joint meeting with Kiwanis on December 12, 1961 that was addressed by Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. Commencing in August of 1961 formal executive meetings were held every month. These were evening meetings rotated at various homes of the executive. A series of Fireside meetings were held at the homes of Duncan Black, Harry Fry, Jack Mahon and Bill Parks. An unusual occasion was recognized at the last meeting in December 1961. On that date Past President, Frank Culp, completed forty years of continuous membership in the Rotary Club and a presentation of a cuff links and tie clip set was made.

The following established projects were continued; Booster Club on November 29th, Joe Stretch of Riverside Collegiate sent on Adventures in Citizenship, Patricia Chipperfield of P.A.C.I. received the Service Award, Christmas Carol Festival on Dec. 11 & 12. A \$200.00 nursing scholarship was provided for each of the local hospitals and a \$250.00 flying scholarship was donated to the Prince Albert Air Cadet League. The children of St. Patricks Orphanage were treated to a movie, donated by Jack Mahon, which was followed by a potluck supper at the Empress Hotel. The Club also assisted in the United Appeal business canvas.

This is the first year that our Rotary Club became involved in an International project. We were paired with the Rotary Club of Pnom Penh, Cambodia through the Rotary Extends Aid to Others program. Four hundred dollars was committed but due to the political situation in Cambodia the District Governor held the funds in trust.

Another first for our Club this year was the sponsorship of two students to the Model United Nations Assembly (M.U.N.A.) in Winnipeg. They were Miss Elaine Stewart of the Presentation of the Academy of Mary and Miss Doreen Anderson of the Composite High School. This was held in April and our Club has been supporting this Rotary sponsored activity every year since.

The usual social events were held which included the President's Ball at the Aqua Inn, a stag at the P.A. Club in December, a ladies' night on Feb. 24th, bowling party on April 26th, the weekend at Waskesiu in June and also, we sent several rinks to the inter-club bonspiel in Saskatoon. A "Rotary at Home" was held at the home of Alleyne and Bill Parks on December 17th.

1962 - 1963 President, **D.A.L. Black**, Classification, Banking

The meetings were held at the Empress Hotel with membership in the high sixties. At this time and for many years later Rotary was very strict about classifications with the only multiple classifications being under the press and religion. The roster for that year lists three members under religion.

The Rural and Urban meeting was held once a year. Each member was to invite a rural guest or the meeting might be held in one of the surrounding rural communities.

As a community service project, Burkitt Flowers donated roses to the Club. Members submitted names of those in the community that may need a 'lift' and bouquets were delivered weekly. Jim Cloak recalls this as his first duty when he joined.

The Rotary Variety Show was held during the Winter Festival, first in the Orpheum Theatre and later in the Margo Fournier Centre. Rotary held the auditions, sold the tickets and set up and supervised the venue.

The District Conference may have been held in P.A. at the Marlboro and Coronet.

1963 - 1964 President, **Dr. W. Harry Fry**, Classification, Obstetrician

Due to low summer attendance, we held joint meetings with Kiwanis during the summer months. The clubs were alternate hosts with a president chairing every second meeting.

1964 - 1965 President, **W. Ray Slough**, Classification, Gaol
Superintendent

1965 - 1966 President, **Charles G. McWha**, Classification, Wood Preserving

The meetings were held at the Astro Motor Hotel with membership in the mid-seventies.

1966 - 1967 President, **J.A. Chevalier**, Classification, Banking

The following was submitted by Past President, Jim Cloak

THE ROTARY BELL

Through the years, bells have served many purposes; calls to celebrate, to mourn, to start war, to end war, to flee, to warn, to worship, but the Prince Albert Rotary Club Bell is truly unique. It establishes authority through its regular use; opening and closing Rotary Club meetings. Between these pragmatic functions, the Bell symbolizes solidarity and permanence as it sits at its place of honor at the head table during meetings, its polished brass presence radiating throughout the room. But this is only part of the story.

Richmond Mayson, president of the Prince Albert Rotary Club, 1944-1945, was elected District Governor, the only District Governor ever to be elected out of Prince Albert. During his tenure as District Governor, Mr. Mayson presented a brass bell to our Club with the following inscription:

"Presented to the Prince Albert Rotary Club by Richard Mayson, Governor, District #171, 1950."

That was the beginning of the Bell's shining history. But there is more to the story. The Empress Hotel that one time stood at First Avenue and 11th Street West, where the A & W is now located, was the Rotary Club's meeting place. The Empress Hotel, now renamed the Astro Hotel, was owned by Rotarian, Wes Walker. Sadly, on January 23, 1967, the hotel burned to the ground and with it all the records, banners, flags, gavel, and other Club paraphernalia, with the one exception of the brass Bell.

Denigrated severely, the Rotary brass Bell was almost unrecognizable in the rubble of the hotel. Chipped from an icy resting-place, the Bell was discolored and covered with dirt and soot ash. Unfortunately, a gavel, made

from wood taken from the steam stern paddle wheel boat, the Marquis, was totally destroyed by the fire.

As is the custom with our Club, members contribute fines for contravening meeting procedures. Rotarian Bill Isaac, Sergeant-at-arms, purchased some Brasso cleaner and several polishing cloths. In lieu of members contributing fines he put them to work polishing the brass Bell. Two of the first members to have the honor of bell polishing at the back of the meeting room were Chev Chevalier and Jack Mahon. With rejuvenation of the Bell to its original luster. George Gilmour, past president, 1973-1974, presented a new gavel to the Club.

The brass Bell, now rescued and restored to a place of honor after the devastating Astro Hotel fire reclaimed its place at the head table. It continues to assure a bright future for our Club, District 5550 and Rotary International

1967 - 1968 President, **George E. Couldwell**, Classification, Fish Culture

During these years the Club had a ticket selling booth at the Exhibition and a food concession at the Winter Festival. A garage was hauled onto the river ice for that purpose.

1968 - 1969 President, **Robert J. Casey**, Classification, Real Estate
Our Adventure in Citizenship ambassador was Robert Twyver. Robert was part of the Rotary variety show that year. He went on to join Rotary in 2013.

1969 - 1970 President, **Gordon H. Brooker**, Classification, Accountant

1970 - 1971 President, **George M. Jackson**, Classification, Forestry

1971 - 1972 President, **James Cloak**, Classification, Catering Services

The meetings were held at the Marlboro Hotel with over sixty members.

President Jim recalls a joint social evening with Kiwanis at Waskesiu in late August. It was a beautiful evening for a cruise and dinner on the paddle wheeler followed by a singsong.

1972 - 1973 President, **E. Donald Wickens**, Classification, Banking

The meetings were held at the Marlboro Hotel with over fifty members.

1973 - 1974 President, **Dr. George R. Gilmour**, Classification,

Ophthalmologist. President George always started the meeting with a joke. Those meetings were held at the Marlboro Motor Hotel with about fifty members.

1974 - 1975 President, **Wayne Temple**, Classification, Lumber - Retail

The meetings were held at the Marlboro Motor Hotel with membership in the mid forties.

This was the first year that Rotary sponsored a pancake breakfast to kick-off the United Way Campaign. Marg Temple was the chair for United Way and proposed this idea. These breakfasts were held in the fall for about twenty years, first at the Prince Albert Golf and Curling Club and later in the food court at the Gateway Mall. The Rotarians cooked pancakes and sausages for up to four hundred people for a good start to the fund raising.

The Christmas Carol Festival was still a feature event with several Rotarians participating. Club members and their wives attended an inter-club meeting in Melfort. Members continued to assist club fund raising by bar-b-queuing at community events.

A 'fashion show' was held at the Marlboro Hotel. Several Rotarians dressed in female attire and created hilarious entertainment at this banquet. A photo and write-up was featured in the Prince Albert Daily Herald.

President Wayne was unique in that this was the second time he was a President of a Rotary Club. He first joined Rotary in Carrot River and when he was President of that Club, with a membership in the mid twenties, they prided themselves on having up to half of their meetings with 100% attendance. When they attended an inter-club meeting in Nipawin their goal was to be there with one hundred percent. One of their members was in the hospital so a Rotarian, who was a doctor, supervised his transportation in a hospital bed to the meeting in Nipawin.

1975 - 1976 President, **Kenneth M. Tucker**, Classification, Accountant
The meetings were held at the Sheraton Marlboro Motor Hotel with over forty members.

During the fall of 1975 the Big Dipper restaurant and dance hall was opened at Christopher Lake. The first booking were the "Three D's" (doctors, dentists and druggists) and Rotary tended bar for them. The Club was so impressed with the venue that they booked the Big Dipper for their Christmas social and again for a Valentines dance. On both occasions the members and their wives traveled to Christopher Lake on a bus.

The last Christmas Carol Festival was held this year.

Due to the cost of a gold brick the elimination draw was held for the last time this year. This had been a popular public event.

1976 - 1977 President, **D.K. Winterton**, Classification, Furniture - Retail

A gold wafer draw was held this year.

1977 - 1978 President, **Stanley Reid**, Classification, Vocational Education

The meetings were held at the Dragon's Lair with membership in the mid thirties.

The State of the City address and banquet was held at the Marlboro Hotel banquet room during these years. This was a joint effort of Rotary and Kiwanis addressed by the Mayor and attended by civic and business.

1978 - 1979 President, **Dr. Donald G. Junor**, Classification, Surgeon

The meetings were held at the Dragon's Lair with the membership in the mid thirties.

President Don attended a meeting in Scotland at the Rotary Club of Perth.

The Club participated in community service projects including the roofing of a garage in Crescent Heights and reconstructing of a garage on

15th Street West. A contribution was made to fund a lounge at the half-way house for released Penitentiary inmates

The Rt. Hon. John Diefenbaker was the guest speaker at one of the meetings

The Rotary Variety Show was held for the last time this year.

The District Conference was in Flin Flon and President Don together with his wife, Dot, and Ron and Helen Wesolowski attended taking a travel trailer with them for accommodation. As a result of the rough roads the toilet was shaken apart.

1979 - 1980 President, **Allen J. Ryan**, Classification, Probation Officer

The meetings were held at the Prince Albert Golf and Curling Club with membership in the mid thirties.

President Allen wasn't able to participate much this year due to occasion health problems and Vice-President Glenn Martin directed most of the Club's activities.

The exchange student was David Ralph from Tasmania, Australia. His mother came to visit and arrived without her false teeth, which she had lost in a toilet in Great Falls. Montana.

1980 - 1981 President, **Glenn Martin**, Classification, Real Estate

The Club began to deliver meals-on-wheels once a week.

Casper Van Baal from the Netherlands was the exchange student Gold draw.

1981 - 1982 President, **Glenn Martin**, Classification, Real Estate

Tickets were sold on a draw for a trip for two to Hawaii.

We sponsored a child under the Foster Parents Plan of Canada.

Watrous and Saskatoon Rotarians and their wives were hosted in Prince Albert for an inter-club meeting

The house draw was held this year. Ticket sales totaled \$118,500.00 at \$100.00 each. After expenses the return to the Club was over \$20,000.00.

Ducky Pond attended the district conference in Thompson, Manitoba where Brian Dirks was a member.

1982 - 1983 President, **Harold Mallwitz**, Classification, Farm
Broadcasting

The members were drained from the house draw project and didn't take on any new projects this year.

A social to be held on the paddle-wheeler at Waskesiu was organized for the end of August. It was a very cool day and when the members arrived at the marina there was no operator for the boat. He hadn't been booked but was located and on short notice organized a very nice evening.

The rural-urban meeting was held in St. Louis with their Lions Club. President Harold had obtained Prof. Keith Downey from the U. of S. as the guest speaker. He was renowned for the development of yellow rapeseed.

1983 - 1984 President, **Harold Mallwitz**, Classification, Farm
Broadcasting

Membership was now barely twenty but steady year round so this was the last year we had joint summer meetings at the Marlboro with the Kiwanis Club.

This year we donated \$1,000.00 to the Herb Basset Home and an equal amount to the Knights of Columbus seniors' high-rise complex.

Two curling rinks of members attended the inter-club bonspiel in Watrous.

The District Conference in Regina was attended by Brian Dirks, Stan Reid and Ducky Pond with their wives while Brian Dirks and Brian Eckel were sent to the Rotary International Goodwill Meeting in Winnipeg.

1984 - 1985 President, **Brian Dirks**, Classification, Petroleum
Distribution

This year saw the kick-off of the Polio Plus Campaign by Rotary International. Dr. Marsh from the Winnipeg Transcona Club, district chair, addressed a ladies' night meeting held in the officers' mess and dining room at the Prince Albert Penitentiary.

Our Club acquired the old R.C.M.P. building at the Tourist Centre to develop the Rotary Museum of Police and Corrections. Rotarians completed the renovations with financial commitment by the Club and the assistance of a grant. A non-profit corporation including directors from Rotary, Federal and Provincial Corrections, City Police and the R.C.M.P. directed and supervised the development and use of the Museum.

Maria Lynn Freeland was selected as the first Rotary Foundation Scholar from Prince Albert and continued her studies in law for a year in Australia. Our exchange student was Hans Conring.

This was the last year of the State of the City address and banquet.

The Christmas party was held at Wayne and Marg Temple's home. The Club chartered a bus for the members and their wives to attend an inter-club meeting in Melfort.

Our sixty-fifth anniversary was celebrated in March with a banquet and dance at the Marlboro Hotel ball-room. We borrowed an idea from Wayne Temple's year and again provided entertainment with a 'fashion show' with several Rotarians dressed in female attire. A dance orchestra played and all stayed for a midnight buffet. District Governor, Colin Ransom, was in attendance together with several couples from other clubs for a total over eighty.

President Brian traveled to Winnipeg for the Rotary International Goodwill Meeting with Brian Eckel. The District Conference was well attended in Winnipeg where the Presidential Citation was awarded by Rotary International President, Carlos Canceco.

On May 13th a number of our members and their wives traveled to Saskatoon for the Meewasin Club Charter night. Herb Clark, later a D.G., was their first president.

1985 - 1986 President, **Pab Chetty**, Classification, Lawyer

The Rotary Museum of Police and Corrections was officially opened in July by Past President Brian Dirks and M.L.A. Sid Dutchak.

Our outbound exchange student was Richard Florizone who went to Australia. Our inbound exchange student was Isabela Gomes from Brazil.

We bought a piano since we were now holding our meetings in the Cedar Room at the Golf and Curling Club.

This year we started raising funds by working bingos at the Club Bingo Hall. This appeared to be a good fund- raiser but we had concern about member support. Our Club continues to work at bingos on a monthly basis. We also sold tickets for a trip to Hawaii.

Glen Green started to explore a project to develop Rotary Park south of the tourist centre.

1986 - 1987 President, **Ron Wesolowski**, Classification, General Insurance

On August 10 we hosted the District short-term exchange students to a bar-b-que at Waskesiu. The long-term student was Mattias Andersson from Sweden. We sponsored two students for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) camp hosted by the Gimli, Manitoba Club and have participated every year since.

We may have been involved with RYLA in an earlier year.

Benches were placed along the river.

Club members opened their homes to the Group Study Exchange from Brazil and we sponsored Bradley Houghton from Prince Albert to be on the GSE to that country.

Our World Community Service commitment was a water project in India. These projects under International Services qualify for a matching grant from Rotary Foundation and then that doubled amount is matched again by CIDA resulting in four to one value to our Club's credit.

A treasurer's report indicated that we paid \$854.00 for the Polio Plus collection boxes to be placed in local businesses.

As a fund-raiser we sold Christmas cakes that were baked in the Penitentiary and decided not to do it again. The Club was still sponsoring the Christmas Carol Festival.

On October 29 a number of members and their wives attended a Charter Night for the Saskatoon Riverside Club.

1987 - 1988 President, **Dr. Glen Green**, Classification, Physician

The exchange student was Marielle Bianchi from France.

The first fall hobby show was held at the Exhibition Centre and was such a success that it has been held annually in November. This idea was proposed to the Club by Rotarian Darrel Schultz who had attended a similar show in Saskatoon.

At the request of the University Women's Group our club moved the Claytonville school from 14 miles Northeast of Prince Albert. The school which closed in 1963 was originally known as the Husiatyn school. Our club moved it to the Chamber of Commerce area at the south city entrance as a community service project.

1988 - 1989 President, **Fred Collins**, Classification, Banking

The Club sold tickets on a trip to Las Vegas as a fund-raising project and a dollar value of each member's ticket sales was credited to their sustaining Paul Harris Fellow. Emily Martin won the trip and the profit went to Polio Plus which finalized our original commitment of \$10,000.00. That spring we held a draw for a "spring clean-up trailer.

The Club hosted the Rotary Fellowship Exchange from Australia in August as President Fred was very involved with the exchange, participating every year. The district short term exchange students were hosted for a camping weekend at Waskesiu.

Our World Community Service project was a joint effort with some other clubs in the district. We contributed \$1,200.00 to establish a medical clinic in Belize. Our contributions were matched by Rotary International and then again by the Canadian Government (CIDA).

An idea from the Thompson Club, the 'Magic Wheel', was introduced to our club by Brian Dirks. The Christmas social was held at Wayne and Marg Temple's home. Several members attended the inter-club bonspiel in Watrous.

The exchange student was Ariana Carpenzano from Argentina.

This was the year that extensive debate was held about admitting women as members to our Club. This was not a Rotary International directive but an individual club decision. The Club voted in favor of proposing women to join Rotary.

The first Spring Hobby Show was held this year and although it wasn't as successful as the fall event we continued for future years. The profit was used for the Personal Emergency Response equipment and \$4,000.00 was presented to the hospital.

The Canadian Government was asking citizens and groups to organize an activity to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Confederation to be known as 'Canada 125'. The Club discussed various ideas and decided to build a York boat, which was the traditional fur trade transportation in northwestern Canada, and travel in it to historic Cumberland House. Rotarian Bernie Soloman had obtained the original plans from Marine Museum in Ottawa and Warden Jim O'Sullivan at the Prince Albert Penitentiary offered to have the boat constructed there.

The district assembly was held in Prince Albert in March. Herb Clark was the District Governor and the conference was held in Saskatoon. This was the first year that the club paid for member registrations.

1989 - 1990 President, **Doug Clark**, Classification, Corrections

The first women joined our club this year but unfortunately didn't remain long as members. Others have joined since and have been a good contribution to our membership base.

Planning for the York boat construction continued with sourcing of the building material by Wayne Temple.

The District Governor was Dr. David Marsh from Winnipeg-Transcona and the conference was held in Winnipeg.

1990 - 1991 President, **Peter Piecowye**, Classification, Law Enforcement

Construction of the York boat commenced this year under the co-ordination of Brian Dirks. This was being carried out in an original fashion by the inmates in the Pen and under supervision of the staff there. Warden Jim O'Sullivan was very enthusiastic about this project and Brian visited the Pen regularly to view the progress.

1991 - 1992 President, **Mervin Schneider**, Classification, Accountant

The York boat was finished in the Spring and we took it to Wayne and Marg Temple's cottage at Emma Lake for testing at a Rotary bar-b-que. Everyone had a ride under sail and some practiced rowing. We could hardly wait to leave for Cumberland House, the oldest community in Saskatchewan.

On Sunday, June 21, 1992 at 1:00 p.m., in support of CANADA 125 the Rotary Club launched the York Boat "full of adventurers" into the North Saskatchewan River on a five-day journey with Past President Glenn Martin as captain. We arrived at the Founders Day celebrations with about 15,000 people assembled on the riverbank. Then we continued towards La Colle Falls but unfortunately ran into low water problems and had to trailer to Wapiti Regional Park where we camped for the first night and were hosted by the Melfort Rotarians

On Tuesday we were back on the water travelling the length of Codette Lake. Ducky Pond, who was with us for the entire journey, directed us to stop on the shore along the way. Then he guided us to a cabin and told us he

stayed there during the winter of 1939 while he was 'cruising timber'. Another stop was made at Smits Beach as there were a number of local people from the area who wanted to greet us. We arrived at Nipawin that evening. The Mayor, community and local Rotarians hosted a reception and activities after the boat was portaged past Francois-Finlay Dam and put on display.

The next day it was back in the water at Nipawin Regional Park with rides for everyone lasting all day. Ducky, Wayne, Ken and Brian played nine holes of golf which upset Ducky because that wasn't a real game, which should be eighteen. That evening we camped near the E.B Campbell Hydro Electric Station.

Early Thursday morning our guides arrived from Cumberland House to take us through the Delta which has up to fifty different channels. That part of the trip was a very enjoyable part of the journey with beautiful weather and some good sailing. Late in the afternoon we stopped at South Anglin to fish and caught fifteen pickerel in half an hour. We stayed overnight at Carrier's Camp, unbelievable mosquitoes, but enjoying our fellowship.

Friday was our final day on the river and Sandra Schmirler with her curling rink were boated out from Cumberland House for a ride that morning. As we approached the community that afternoon, we stopped at the cut-off to pick up the Band Chief and Mayor together with two R.C.M.P. officers in red serge, one in today's style and the other in a Northwest Mounted Police uniform. When we rowed into Cumberland House dressed in our period costumes the entire community was there to greet us.

The Rotarians from Prince Albert were treated as very special guests during the celebrations, which lasted until the early hours of Saturday morning. Some had been on the entire journey and others spent the days they could.

The residents of Cumberland House wanted us to leave the York Boat there. That form of transportation had very deep history in their community and many there could recall that their fathers, grandfathers and ancestors had been York boatmen. We couldn't do this because we had a commitment to display the boat in Rotary Park but we committed to see if we could get them a York Boat.

1992 - 1993 President, **Harold Guy**, Classification, Grocer

After returning to Prince Albert from the York Boat journey we approached Warden Jim O'Sullivan to see if another boat could be built. He enthusiastically agreed if we would supply the materials and we immediately started this project. Our plan was to make a second trip to Cumberland House and present them with a York Boat. Construction was carried out in the Penitentiary during this year.

During the fall of this year, we took the original York Boat to Saskatoon for the visit of the R.I. President. The boat was launched on the west side of the river and carried R.I. President Doktorman, across to Rotary Park. Then we hauled the boat downtown where it was parked on display in front of the Centennial Auditorium during the Rotary meeting. As a result of that visit our boat was pictured in The Rotarian.

1993 - 1994 President, **Ron Thorpe**, Classification, Plumbing and Heating

The first fund raising ice-fishing derby was held at Anglin Lake on Sunday, March 27. It was a beautiful day with over three hundred contestants but unfortunately it was a break even financially.

The District conference was held in Brandon, Man.

1994 - 1995 President, **Gordon Balon**, Classification, Lawyer

This year the Club celebrated our 75th anniversary with a total of forty-six members. The District Governor was Ed Hollaman.

Our incoming long-term exchange student was Aduardo Achcar from Brazil.

The highlights of our 75th year were:

1. Contribution and recognition to Community Service.
2. Contribution and recognition to World Community Service.
3. An Anniversary celebration banquet.

As to Community Service, it was decided that we would participate in a mural depicting the three Prime Ministers of Canada who represented the City of Prince Albert. These Prime Ministers were Sir Wilfred Laurier, MacKenzie King, and John Diefenbaker. There was a mural project painted on the North wall of Vincent Massey School located at 2800 2nd Avenue East.

Our World Community Service project was the Moni Farm in Kenya, Africa. Our participation was a \$5,000.00 contribution for the construction of a bridge in the farming community resulting in \$20,000.00 value after the grants.

Our song leader, Jim Cloak, and pianist, Maurice Casgrain, developed an Anniversary songbook, which is used regularly by the Club. Jim's name was put forward in nomination for District Governor for the year 1997-98. At the time of the nomination Jim had been a perfect attendance member for twenty-nine years.

The 75th Anniversary banquet was held in the Marlboro ballroom with about 150 in attendance. Invitations went out to the appropriate Rotary dignitaries including all past District Governors, past Presidents of our Club as well as the Lieutenant Governor, Federal, Provincial and Municipal politicians. At the banquet we were honored by the Lieutenant Governor for Saskatchewan and our District Governor who presented numerous Paul Harris Fellowships.

The District Conference was held in Winnipeg with numerous Prince Albert members and partners attending.

During the City mayoralty elections in the fall of 1994 candidates were invited to speak at one of our meetings providing a short platform. Our outgoing exchange student, Jesse Hislop, returned from Japan and provided his presentation to the Club.

1995 - 1996 President, **Brian Bosomworth**, Classification, Automotive

The Community Service project this year was the construction of a handicapped access and use picnic shelter at the Little Red River Park. The Club contributed \$10,000.00 and partnered with Weyerhaeuser and the City to complete the financing.

Our exchange student was Kohei Oshaea from Japan.

A Presidential Citation was awarded to President Brian at the District Conference where the Club also received an award for the highest per member giving to Rotary Foundation in our District.

1996 - 1997 President, **Jim McKay**, Classification, Life Insurance

The World Community Service project was a contribution of \$3,000.00 with matching grants from Rotary Foundation and CRCID to fund a community kitchen in Lamud, Province of Luya, Department of the Amazon, Peru. The site is at a school and the funding provided for the initial equipment and supplies with the kitchen to continue in a self-sufficient manner. The focus is on balanced food intake for the students and nutritional health. The total value of this project including grants was \$12,407.22 U.S.

This year the President with several members and their wives attended the Rotary International Conference in Calgary.

1997 - 1998 President, **Vesper Adams**, Classification, Psychology

During the last week of July the Club hosted the first Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) camp held in Saskatchewan. RYLA camps are held in more than 25 countries where Rotary sponsors over 9,000 young people each year. For at least fifteen years the camp for District 5550 was hosted at Gimli, Manitoba. The focus of RYLA camps is to enhance leadership skills.

Plans for RYLA had started in January by Past President, Brian Dirks who acted as chairman. Kenderdine Campus at Emma Lake was booked and the committee of members worked out the agenda, including the guest speakers, activities and particularly the support of the Toastmasters Club whose volunteers worked daily on the core of the program. The theme for the week-long camp was Challenging You to Leadership.

Twenty-seven students attended ranging from fourteen to nineteen years of age. Our Club approached the Prince Albert Grand Council and the Friendship Centre, which resulted in First Nations participation.

In addition to the Toastmasters program and other speakers the students voted an inspiring speech by Dr. Sonja Ruznisky as the highlight of the week. All participants and volunteers agreed that the camp was very successful and should be continued. Unfortunately, Kenderdine Campus was not available to us for the following year and RYLA returned to Manitoba to be hosted by the Swan River Club.

This year the Club didn't have a World Community Service Project but at the request of Rotary Foundation made a donation of \$5,000.00 to assist in the ice-storm disaster in Eastern Canada and the U.S.

For the balance of the year, we carried on with the regular fund raising and social activities.

1998 - 1999 President, **Ian Gray**, Classification, Pharmacist

This year the Abbeyfield Homes project was introduced to our Club. The Abbeyfield Society started in Britain during the early 1900's. It is a supportive living concept for the elderly who are self-sufficient but who need daily living help and companionship. Rotary has had a long history of monetary and moral support for the Abbeyfield Societies. From Britain they spread to British Columbia and Eastern Canada. Prince Albert was the first in the Prairie Provinces.

Abbeyfield is a housing project for singles and couples who occupy their personal suites. There is a common kitchen and support staff are in residence. The home is self-supporting by the affordable rent from the occupants.

The Abbeyfield Home Society of Prince Albert was incorporated with Ian Gray as president and Rotarians Charlie Dent and Mike Hoeft on the board.

This year the Club funded a large World Community Service project being the refurbishing of the Mazwi Primary School of twelve classrooms in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. Our contribution of \$8,003.00 was multiplied by Rotary Foundation and Canadian Rotary Committee of International Development by four to one to completely fund this need for 410 students of grades one to seven taught by 14 teachers. The students walk up to 8

kilometers daily during the dry season to attend and much further during the wet season when rivers are flowing.

As another World Community Service project, the Club provided \$1,000.00 towards the Sleeping Children Around the World Program.

Ian received a Presidential Citation at the District Conference.

1999 - 2000 President, **Boris Sen**, Classification, Optometrist

The first function of the year was the official visit of District Governor, Peter Peters where several new Paul Harris Fellows were recognized.

The Club hosted a long-term exchange student, Jesus Galindo, from Venezuela as well as participating in a short-term exchange with Germany.

The monthly bingos still constitute our major fund-raising project with the Fall and Spring Hobby and Craft Shows also successful fund-raising ventures. With 100% participation by Club members a fish derby was held at Murray Point in March. The proceeds were to be directed to Polio Plus. This venture, though not a great financial success, was deemed a great success by the participating fishers.

The biggest community project was the purchase of land for the Abbeyfield House, which was a commitment of \$45,000.00 over a three-year period. The sod turning took place this summer. The next commitment which was made this year was a donation of \$35,000.00 over a five year period to the construction of the Performing and Visual Arts Centre.

A World Community Service project was commenced to fund the establishment of a Communal Bank in Peru. The total committed by our Club was \$8,250.00 of which \$5,000.00 to be contributed this year with the balance finalized next year.

A fireside and the annual Christmas party were well attended by the Club members. In June a bar-b-que was held at Boris and Pat Sen's acreage at which time the gavel was handed over to President Elect, Clint Thierman.

2000 - 2001 President, **Clint Thierman**, Classification, Financial Advisor

The Club's main community service project was a commitment of \$35,000.00 over five years to the Arts Centre building fund.

The World Community Service project was a contribution of \$3,250.00 to complete our Club's commitment of \$8,250.00 to establish a Communal Bank in Peru. This qualified for matching grants from Rotary Foundation and CRCID resulting in a total value of this project of over \$30,000.00 U.S.

We didn't have an exchange student due to the lack of club support for host families.

At our Christmas social Rotarian Captain Mike Hoeft of the Salvation Army impressed us with a very powerful talk on the true meaning of Christmas.

This was the first year that the Emma Lake ice-fishing derby included tagged fish with the top prize of \$50,000.00 and this project showed a good profit.

2001 - 2002 President, **Stewart D. Adam**, Classification, Agrologist

The ongoing fund-raising projects were carried on including the ice-fishing derby at Emma Lake.

This year saw the official opening of Abbeyfield House.

Wheel chair project in Peru, contributed \$5,000.00. Donated \$2,500.00 to Mont St. Joseph to install park benches outside the home. Arts Centre and partnered literacy program with the Herald. The Victoria Hospital was having a community drive to fund new hospital beds and the Club donated for two beds.

Several Club members traveled to inter-club meetings at Hudson Bay and Melfort. A bar-b-que social and fireside on youth exchange was hosted by Marg and Wayne Temple at their Birch Bay home. As a result of this the long-term youth exchange program was reinitiated. A wind-up social and sponsor appreciation for the fish-derby was held at Par Place.

Charlie Clark participated in the Polio Plus bike-a-thon from Nipawin and the Club contributed \$750.00 on his behalf.

2002 - 2003 President, **Les Mewis**, Classification, Financial Advisor

Highlights of the year were twelve new members, Presidential Citation and a successful youth exchange with our incoming student, Audrey Janssen from Belgium. Contributions were made to Rotary programs including Adventure programs, literacy, MUNA, Polio Plus, Rotary Foundation, RYLA, World Community Service and the short, and long-term youth exchanges.

While no new commitments were made to Community Service projects, we continued to meet our obligations to the E.A. Rawlinson Centre for the Arts, Victoria Hospital and other miscellaneous local charities and groups.

Funds continued to be raised by monthly bingos, craft shows and the ice-fishing derby.

Several Club socials were held including a well attended sponsors night for the fish derby and Paul Harris night at Par Place when Mitchell Holash was named an honorary Paul Harris Fellow for his planning and fund raising efforts for the E. A. Rawlinson Centre for the Arts.

A good start was made on the Club history. The District Conference in Melfort was attended by a good number of members and partners.

2003 -2004 President, **Steve Suchorab**, Classification, Financial Advisor

In September we held the first "Fall Fest on 22nd" together with the Prince Albert Golf and Curling Club. The Club was hopeful that this would be an ongoing fundraiser.

The Club committed \$25,000.00 to the 'Bring Back the Magic' campaign. Prince Albert had a goal to raise \$2,000,000.00 to renovate and revitalize the Communiplex.

The year 2005 would usher in the Centennial year of Rotary International. All clubs were encouraged to plan a Centennial project to recognize this milestone. A committee was struck and after much deliberation and debate proposed a multi-use trail around the City to be known as Rotary Trail. This would be completed over the next ten years at a

total cost of \$250,000.00. Our Club committed \$100,000.00 and Rotarian Arsene Billo chaired the planning and fund raising involving the community.

The Fall Craft and Hobby Show and late winter ice-fishing derby were held with good success and together with bingo provided good revenue for the Club.

This year our international exchange student was Felix Liermann from Germany. He entertained us with the French Horn at our Christmas social.

2004 - 2005 President **Brian Martin**, Classification, Health Care

During this Rotary year we celebrated the centennial of Rotary International by an anniversary party on Feb. 23 at the Rawlinson Center. As a centennial Community Service project, we committed to the title sponsorship of the Rotary Trail. This 24 kilometer, paved, multi-use trail around the city would be built over six years at a cost of \$1.5 million of which our Club committed \$100,000.00, our most ambitious undertaking ever.

We commenced the year with 36 active and 1 honorary member. Past Presidents Glen Green, Glenn Martin and Ken Tucker were added as honorary members. We joined the web site "Club Runner to share information and improve Club administration with the District. We continued or improved a number of great traditions of service including youth activities such as Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) and Adventures Programs. In addition to monthly bingo our successful fundraising included the Fall Craft Show, Fish Derby and partnering with Ducks Unlimited at their banquet. The first payment was made to the \$25,000.00 commitment of "Bring Back the Magic" campaign by the P.A. Raiders and Communiplex.

Our Club continued the strong history of supporting Rotary Foundation with 95% of our membership participating as full or sustaining Paul Harris Fellow donors. Mayor Jim Scarrow was recognized as an Honorary Paul Harris Fellow.

Allison King from Australia was welcomed as our long-term exchange student in January. Stewart and Sharon Adam participated with a Saskatoon Rotary Club in a friendship exchange to Texas. With Charles Dent and Greg

Christakos assisting, Les Mewis organized a Fellowship of Canoeing Rotarians, including participants from the United States and Canada, for a trip on the Churchill River.

2005 – 2006 President **Duane Hayunga**, Classification, Telecommunications

All past service and fund-raising traditions continued with this being the last year for the Fish Derby. In support of literacy our Club had partnered with SaskTel, the Prince Albert Daily Herald and the Prince Albert Raiders Hockey Club to encourage children to read. For every book they read they had an opportunity to see a WHL hockey game.

Allison King, long term exchange student from Australia, remained with us until January.

We made a contribution to the community fund raiser to build a skate board park. We also continued our support of World Community Services projects.

Bingo revenue was in decline so a new fundraiser, The LobsterFest, was planned for the first Saturday in May. Other clubs throughout Western Canada had been very successful hosting a fresh lobster dinner . Brian Dirks had researched this fund-raising opportunity and chaired the committee. The LobsterFest was held in the Ches Leach room at the Art Hauser Centre and sold out at 350 tickets of \$50.00 each. We had purchased large pots for steaming the fresh cooked lobsters flow in from New Brunswick. In addition, steak was bar-b-qued for those who preferred that choice. It was a very busy day for members and partners lasting until the dance with live orchestra was over in the early hours of Sunday morning. We had a large selection of quality items for draws and raffles including a trip for two from WestJet to anywhere they had scheduled flights. Income generated that evening was over \$10,000.00 which was a great success. Many compliments were received from those attending.

A decision was made to cease holding our meetings in the Cedar Room at the Prince Albert Golf and Curling Club at the end of our year and move to the Kin Enterprises building which houses the Starlight Café to cater our lunch. The year ended with thirty-three active and four honorary members.

2006 – 2007 President **Dr. Don Junor**, Classification, Surgeon (Retired)

This was the second time Dr. Junor had served as President having held that position during the 1978 – 1979 year.

2007 – 2008 President **Sharon de Santis**, Classification, Health Care

The Club organized the first specialty wine/dinner as a fund raiser for the Victoria Hospital and Mount St. Joseph Foundations. A ‘Night in Cape Jaffa’ featuring wine from South Africa was sold out and very successful.

In addition to our ongoing community service projects a donation of \$5,000.00 was provided to Habitat for Humanity. World Community Services support continued to the school in Gualan, Guatemala. Our club was recognized with a Long Term Club, World Community Service award at the District Conference.

Youth Exchange welcomed John Kuo from Taiwan. Amber Schlosser was chosen as our outbound student for a year in Germany. Prince Albert had Cristana Fonstad join the Group Study Exchange to Finland and also hosted the return GSE group from Finland.

2008 – 2009 President **Arsene Billo**, Classification, Postal Services

Our club hosted the first gourmet meal and wine supper ‘A Nite in Cape Jaffa’ featuring wines from Australia. This sold-out event at \$100.00 a ticket was dedicated to raising funds for Victoria Hospital and Mont St. Joseph Foundations.

This year the club made a total commitment of \$25,000.00 over four years to the Alfred Jenkins Soccer Centre and Field House.

On the international side a financial contribution was made to Nevalisk Disaster Fund in Russia and a Shelterbox was purchased. The World Community Services project at the school in Gulan, Guatemala continued.

2009 -2010 President **Brian Harris**, Classification, Agrologist

We continued to support our project at the school in Gulan, Guatemala with a \$5,000.00 donation that translates to about \$15,000.00 through the Riple Affect program. At the District Conference in Winnipeg, attended by R.I. president John Kenny from Scotland, we received a WCS Ripple Effect

‘Certificate of Appreciation’ from the Gulan school children. Also again this year we purchased a Shelterbox for the Haiti earthquake disaster.

We made our final payment for our \$100,000.00 commitment to Rotary Trail. Our very successful Rotary LobsterFest fundraiser has made this easy.

“A Night Under the Southern Cross,” the second annual fundraising specialty wines and gourmet meal was sold out and raised over \$4,000.00 each for the Victoria Hospital and Mont St. Joseph Care Home Foundations.

Our Club hosted Aliisa Sari, the long term youth exchange student from Finland. Amy Dunn from Prince Albert completed the exchange to Belgium. Club members, Brian Martin and Les Mewis with partners traveled to India on a Rotary Friendship Exchange.

2010 – 2011 **Brian Bosomworth**, Classification Automotive

2011 – 2012 **Harvey Agnew**, Classification Accountant (Retired)

During this rotary year Danielle Mitchell is to be our outbound long term exchange student to Switzerland, and our inbound long term exchange student to Prince Albert is to be Tayna Lucena from Brazil.

A new project Pennies for Polio to raise money to eradicate Polio was completed. Read with the Raiders a literacy project was continued, and the Club participated in the Salvation Army’s kettle campaign. Also new motion made and passed to support a new project, to outfit a room in the Alfred Jenkins Field House for aerobics at a cost of \$30,000.00.

Model United Nations project coming in May of 2012. Project involved students from Carlton and St Mary’s Schools.

Blanca Hilda School in Guatemala a World Community Service Project completed and a new WCS project was approved of donation to be made for new project Dona Maria School in Guatemala of \$5,000.00.

Group Study Exchange guests to be received from England on May 28, and 29/12. Publicity for upcoming World Rotary Day done in the community. Club to Club agreement signed between Prince Albert Rotary and Gualan, Guatemala Rotary to refurbish Dona Maria School.

Special supper for Group Study Exchange guests from England, and also induction of Honorary Paul Harris member Malcolm Jenkins was held May 28/12.

2012 – 2013 **Clint Thierman**, Classification Financial Advisor

2013 – 2014 **Duane Hayunga**, Classification Telecommunications (Retired)

Duane served his second term as President for this Rotary year. The club made the decision to support the new Pine View Terrace Senior home with a \$50,000 contribution to the furniture campaign. Rotary was recognized with one of the areas of the complex being called Rotary House. The club also continued with its two major fundraisers, the Lobsterfest held its 8th annual event and the 6th annual Wine Premiere.

2014 – 2015 **Chris Clinton**, Classification Education (Retired)

2015 – 2016 **Steve Suchorab** Classification Financial Advisor

2016 – 2017 **John Doucette** Classification Real Estate

This was an exciting Rotary year. Along with our established fundraisers of the Wine Premiere and the Lobsterfest, the club held, not one, but two Rib Festivals. We also took on a project to provide \$65,000 over three years to upgrade the ball diamonds at Prime Ministers Park in Preparation for the Junior Men's World Fastball Tournament in 2018. For this we got the naming rights to the main diamond which is now known as Rotary Field. Our Youth programs continued to be very active under the leadership of Bob Twyver, our Youth Director. We changed the venue of our regular Monday meetings to the Travelodge. The club also welcomed 6 new members. The club was incredibly busy with so many activities and everyone got involved, to the benefit of the community. The spirit of "Service Above Self" was alive and well in the Rotary Club of Prince Albert.

2017 – 2018 **Dr. Nnamdi Ndubuka** Classification Physician

At the beginning of the year, our club worked together to identify 21 SMART goals consistent with RI Strategic Priorities. These included the

2017-18 Rotary Presidential Citation goals. Overall, we accomplished over 81% of the goals with members contributing over 2500 volunteer hours.

We maintained a strong club membership base by achieving a net membership gain of +4. We successfully planned and hosted 2 major fundraiser events (Wine Premiere and Lobsterfest). We continued to support the World Community Service Ripple Effect project in Guatemala with a \$7,500.00 donation towards construction of new schools.

Our club maintained strong youth capacity building initiatives by sponsoring over 13 students to various Rotary Youth programs. We increased media coverage of club activities by establishing and maintaining strong presence on social media and club website.

We successfully planned and hosted World Polio Day community event on October 24th. We created awareness on polio and raised funds to support polio eradication.

A Presidential Citation was awarded to President Nnamdi at the District Conference.

2018 – 2019 **John Morash** Classification Financial Advisor

The theme for John's year was "Be the Inspiration"

Inspiration, the process of being mentally stimulated to do or feeling something, especially to do something creative.

We were inspired; through our international work to fight Polio and support the ShelterBox program; through our development young leaders at RYLA and through citizenship programs; through our efforts to promote peace and reconciliation with our First Nations; through our efforts to promote community health and support a new local Centennial project.

We sent 6 students to RYLA and participant student to, Adventures in Citizenship, Adventure in technology and Model United Nation.

We raised funds to donate 5 (5,600) shelter boxes to help combat global climate mayhem. We raised \$1800 for Polio Plus. We Invited a First Nations Guest Speaker, Kevin Lamoureux, to a luncheon to address the business community in Prince Albert as well at the teaches of the School

District. Furthermore, we successfully raised money at Lobsterfest (net \$36,00) and Wine night. (net \$22,000).

We identified the committees for our Centennial project as well as the centennial celebrations. Our working title is the Rotary Active Playground at Little Red River Park. This is a partnership with the City of Prince Albert with a club cost of \$200,000.

2019 – 2020 President, **Joe Weinrich** Classification Automotive

The year of Joe's Presidency was also our club's centennial year. It would be fair to say it was an eventful year.

We hosted a special event in August on the subject of reconciliation. Kevin Lamouroux was our guest speaker and spoke to the teachers in the Prince Albert area on that topic. After that Mr. Lamouroux spoke to a sold-out crowd at a luncheon at the Ches Leach Lounge. The Rotary Club hosted the luncheon with Joe taking on the role of MC.

In October, the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, Russel Merasty spoke at a Rotary Club Meeting. During that time, it was announced that he would be recognized as a patron of our club. October was also the month that we hosted another successful Wine Premier. Most importantly in October, our long-term project, The Rotary Trail, was completed! A ceremony was held to complete the last few feet of trail. Media, local dignitaries and club members were in attendance.

In November we presented a check for \$11,000 to Mont St Joseph Home which was raised from our wine premier fundraiser. The remainder of the funds from the wine premier were set aside for our upcoming Centennial Project.

December was our annual Christmas gathering. Rotarians and their family all got together at My Place where Randy Witter made us an incredible meal. A special guest in a red suit showed up, to the excitement of the kids in attendance.

We had our big centennial celebration in February at the Coronet Hotel. A great meal was served, and we remembered and celebrated 100 years of Rotary in Prince Albert. The first details of our centennial project were

released, which has evolved into the current Rotary Adventure Park plan at Little Red Park.

Come March the biggest challenge of Joe's presidency took place as the Covid 19 pandemic effectively shut down Prince Albert and the rest of the world. We adapted to the situation and moved to virtual meetings. The pandemic also forced the club to cancel our annual Lobsterfest.