

**THIS REMARKABLE BOOK** was created on a volunteer basis. Past club presidents and other members contributed records, reminiscences, and photographs. A committee tracked down relatives of deceased presidents for biographical data and pictures. Sources also included the club's weekly *Rotaview* bulletins dating back to 1943, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings kept by several club presidents in the 1930s and 1940s, and an earlier club history edited by Floyd Huddleston in 1963. The author directed the committee's efforts and pulled the results together in a year's spare time.

Thus what is still primarily a club history became also a fascinating reference book for the general public. And since the Longview-Greggton and Longview South Rotary Clubs sprang from this one, the book is very much their history too.

Printing in a suitable form was made possible by generous gifts from patrons in addition to club funding. All proceeds go to the Longview Rotary Endowment Fund, whose income is distributed to worthy local causes.

**EUGENE W. McWHORTER** is a freelance market communications engineer and technical writing consultant, providing advertising and related services for industrial equipment manufacturers. Having attended Rice, the University of Texas, and SMU, he holds master's degrees in chemical engineering and marketing. Gene is the son of Lottie and the late Eugene R. McWhorter of Longview. His wife is the former Nancy Green, daughter of Mary Belle and Gordon Green of Longview. Nancy and Gene have two sons, Andrew Gordon and David Warren McWhorter.



# A Place in History



Inscription: Longview, Texas - a community rich in natural and human resources, settled in 1870 by hardy, adventurous people. Anchored in the past, embracing the present, preparing with purpose for the future.



Inscription: A community developed by citizens motivated by a winning spirit. A resourceful people - with fortitude and determination to use all resources at hand to make early Longview prosper.



Inscription: A community of strong people, undaunted by the Great Depression, surviving difficult times. With the discovery of oil in and around Longview, a populace flourishing into a thriving metropolis!

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AN INDEPENDENT, COMMUNITY BANK SINCE  
1958, CONTINUES TO SERVE AS A SOURCE OF  
STRENGTH IN THE LONGVIEW AREA THROUGH  
THE COMMITMENT OF ITS PEOPLE AND ITS  
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THE BRONZE MONUMENT SUPPORTING THE  
OVERSIZED AMERICAN FLAG WAS CREATED IN  
1983 TO COMMEMORATE THE 25TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF LONGVIEW BANK & TRUST.  
THE LATE HENRY C. WEDEMEYER, THROUGH  
HIS TALENT AS AN ARTIST AND SCULPTOR,  
DEPICTED THE 113-YEAR-HISTORY OF  
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TOWN TO ITS PRESENT STATUS AS A REGIONAL  
CENTER FOR COMMERCE AND CULTURE.

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MEANS PLANNING, PRODUCING AND PREPARING  
FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW FOR OUR  
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Inscription: A community with diverse economic strengths, deeply rooted in the principles of free enterprise. An industrious people, dedicated to productive, stable growth of Longview business and industry.



Inscription: Longview - a vibrant community committed to improving its quality of life. Through spirited cooperation, a people broadening horizons through business, industry, education, art and recreation.



Inscription: A community united by the most valuable resource of all - their faith in God. Longview - a people who work together, worship together, believing in truths everlasting.

The Club and the Town



# The Club and the Town

## The Rotary Club and the City of Longview, Texas, Year by Year from 1920 to 1995

McWhorter

**HOW DID CONRAD HILTON** acquire his Longview hotel, and why was it so special for him? Who was the mayor during the Oil Boom? Who was the city manager? Where were they born, where did they go to school, and who were their families? How were the LeTourneau, Eastman, and Schlitz plants brought to the city, and when? Where was the first Longview mall intended to be, and why wasn't it completed? When was Interstate Highway 20 built through Gregg County? When did racial integration begin in the Longview schools?

Read about these and a thousand other key events and persons of Longview during the past 75 years in *The Club and the Town*. It is a special view of civic history, seen through the window of the oldest service club in Longview. Much of what went on in the town was reflected in the Rotary club's projects and weekly programs and in the lives of its presidents—all of which are chronicled here on a year-by-year basis. The presidential biographies form a substantial encyclopedia of Longview's leadership.

This method of exploring history is especially meaningful because it is *personal*, tied-in with individuals and families. The story is enlivened here with photographs of club presidents (all 75 of them), meeting places, and events.

Although originally intended purely as a club history, the book became in effect a sequel to the author's *Traditions of the Land: the History of Gregg County, Texas*. It brings the narrative up to the present and fills in personal details that were left out of the earlier work.

Check the book's exhaustive index—maybe there's something in here about *you*!







*Home of the Rotary Club of Longview from 1978 to 1979  
and again from 1987 to the present*

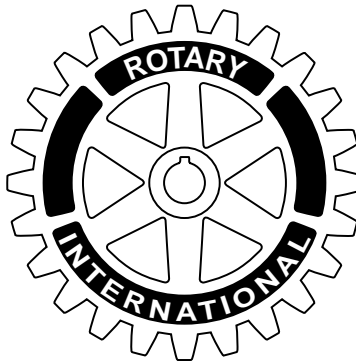
*Pinecrest Country Club, looking southeast.*

*Photo by Sam Smead*

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# ***The Club and the Town***





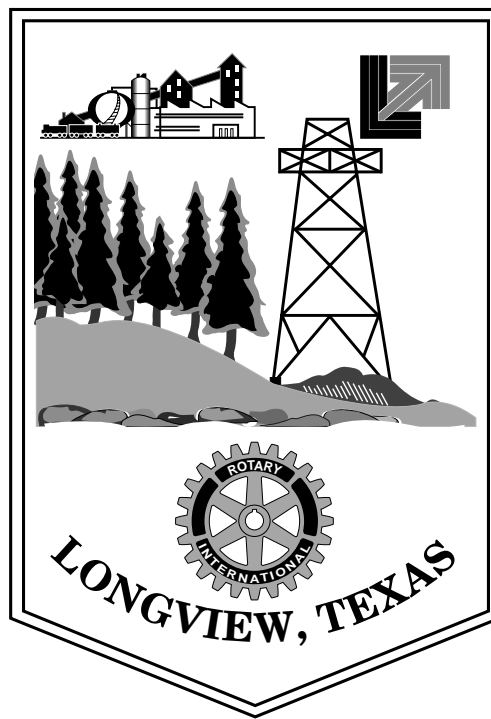
*In May of 1935, most of the 74 members of the club gathered in the southwest part of the Longview city park, near Pecan and Molton Streets, for dedication of the new cabin built for Boy Scout Troop 202, which the club sponsored from 1933 until 1979. (See appendix for identifications.)*

Photograph by courtesy of Gerald Osborne, Jr.

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# The Club and the Town

*The Rotary Club and the City of  
Longview, Texas, Year by Year  
from 1920 to 1995*



Eugene W. McWhorter

Published by Longview Rotary Endowment Fund, Inc.

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# *Patrons of the Project*



AMONG THE MANY PERSONS who participated in the effort to produce this book, several are due special gratitude and recognition. These patrons believed in the project, both as part of the good works of the Rotary Club and as a valuable contribution to the historical literature of the city. Their gifts enabled the book to be printed and bound in appropriate style and quantity.

*Charles G. Tullis*

*In memory of J. O. Monday, W. Bruner Smith, and Henry L. Foster, Jr., by Claire Monday Smith Foster  
Howard P. Coghlan*

*In memory of Claude Barbee by his wife Geraldine and their daughters Emily Shelton and Claudia Parrish*

*In memory of E. K. Bennett by Ann and John Walker*

*In memory of Lawrence and Mabel Bray Birdsong by their son Lawrence, Jr., and daughter Blanche*

*Russell E. and Sally Hewell Brown*

*Mr. and Mrs. J. Carroll Callahan*

*In memory of Betye Sapp Cammack by Milton Cammack*

*In memory of Bob Carroll by Mr. and Mrs. Ramey Carroll*

*In memory of Arthur and Carlie Harlan Connor by Elizabeth Mercer, Laura Elkins, and Kay Cunningham*

*Mr. and Mrs. Barcus DuBose*

*In memory of Dr. E. S. Farrington by his family*

*In honor of Victor E. Ferchill by his son Cary*

*In memory of Grover C. Finch by his niece Eva Jean Finch Blount*

*In memory of Jack Fiscus by Mr. and Mrs. J. Kim Callahan*

*In memory of Henry L. Foster, Senior, by his daughter Florene Gregory*

*In honor of Dr. Thomas Bramlette Francis by his daughter Floreid Stevens*

*Henry O. Gossett, Jr.*

*Ron and Candy Heezen*

*David and Rebecca Houston*

*Anne and Jim Hugman*

*In memory of Dr. V. R. Hurst by Blackshear and Jacquelyn Hurst Jameson*

*In memory of D. E. Kincheloe by his daughter Ann Lucy*

*Mr. and Mrs. Arliss Mallory*

*In memory of Dr. Louis Northcutt Markham by his daughter Elaine Clanton*

*In memory of Starlin Marrs by his daughter Ann Daniels*

*In memory of Ruth E. H. Martin by her daughter Mary Mitchell*

*In memory of Eugene Rodden McWhorter by his wife Lottie Wherry McWhorter*

*In memory of Curtis W. and Lucille Loyd Meadows by their daughter Eloise Rouse*

*In memory of Ray Newnham by Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Bright*

*In memory of Dr. W. D. Northcutt and W. D. Northcutt, Jr., by Mrs. W. D. Northcutt, Jr.*

*In honor of Mrs. W. D. Northcutt, Jr., and in memory of Dr. W. D. Northcutt and W. D. Northcutt, Jr.,  
by Mr. and Mrs. J. LeGrande Northcutt*

*In honor of Mrs. W. D. Northcutt, Jr., and in memory of Dr. W. D. Northcutt, W. D. Northcutt, Jr.,  
and Walter H. Sandberg, by Dr. and Mrs. W. D. Northcutt, III*

*In memory of O. Lee Norton and H. Wallace Norton by their grandnephew Rusty Norton*

*Charlie and Jean Reeves*

*In memory of Cecil W. Richardson by his wife Virginia*

*In memory of Alexander Boggs Ryan and in honor of Reva Harrison Ryan by their daughter Linda Butter*

*In memory of Steve Topp by his son David*

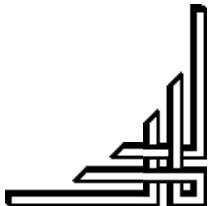
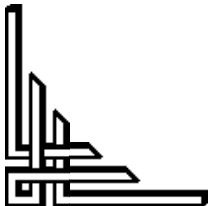
*In memory of Anna Norton Troy by her son John G. Troy, Jr.*

*Mike and Debbie Verucchi*

*In memory of O. Thomas Welch by his son Thomas, Jr.*

*Ava and Jack Welge*

*In memory of E. Quest Whitney by his daughter Helen Rodgers*



# Preface

THIS BOOK STARTED OFF to be purely a history of the Rotary Club of Longview since its founding in 1920. For each Rotary year—from July 1 of one calendar year through June 31 of the next—we would provide a photograph and biography of the club president and a summary of the club's weekly programs and other activities. Then in a final chapter, we would further describe significant traditions and projects of the club.

However, while the book was being written, its complexion changed. We realized that it was going to be a passably interesting history of the city of Longview as well as the club, because much of what went on in the town was reflected in the club's programs and the lives of its presidents. This method of covering history is especially interesting because it is *personal*, tied in with personalities and families. And as Thomas Carlyle said, history is the essence of innumerable biographies. Thus, in casting about for a catchy title, we decided to call the book *The Club and the Town*. We hope this name does not offend members of any other club in Longview, whether social, service, or fraternal. We are not implying that this is the only club in town, or that we are better than other clubs in any way.

THE FATHER OF THE PROJECT was Vic Ferchill. Its story begins when he was president, in 1961–62. Realizing that first-hand knowledge of the club's formative years was rapidly disappearing, Vic appointed a committee of 16 past presidents to prepare a history of the club. Past President Bill Northcutt Taylor served as chairman, and the booklet that resulted in 1963 was edited by Floyd Huddleston, a former editor of the *Rotaview* weekly club bulletin. Then when Henry Gossett was president, in 1980–81, he appointed a committee headed by Curtis Morris to prepare a supplement to the 1963 history, extending it to the current year. After preliminary gathering of information, that committee suspended work.

Vic took the matter up again with the club's board of directors in the fall of 1993. On October 14 of that year, with the vigorous support of President John Troy, the board authorized him to form a committee to update the 1963 history. Having secured Gene McWhorter's volunteer services as editor, Vic summoned all past presidents living in Longview to a luncheon meeting at Johnny Cace's restaurant on December 1. Twenty-nine were invited, and most of them showed up, enthusiastically offering suggestions for the project. The general scope and format of the book grew out of that meeting. Each past president was requested to provide all the material for his year in the book. As it turned out, Gene did nearly all the writing and direction of research, so he is considered to be the author instead of the editor. He also handled design and typography.

HOWEVER, THIS WAS TRULY A TEAM EFFORT, and all of the many persons who participated can take pride in sharing the credit. A committee headed by Barcus DuBose and Andy Guinn tracked down photographs, gathered information on deceased presidents and events of their years, and identified people in group photos. These dedicated volunteers included the late Hank Foster, Henry Gossett, Art Mercer, Wells Burton, Blackshear Jameson, John C. Murphy, Charley Rader, Thomas Welch, W. D. Northcutt, and Franklin Martin. Andy Guinn collated and bound many *Rotaview* volumes. Dick Dial furnished tax counsel. Henry Gossett, John Troy, Kim Callahan, and W. D. Northcutt took care of fund-raising. Vic Ferchill and John Troy provided overall guidance, inspiration, and control throughout the project. John's wholehearted backing as president in 1993–94 was continued by his successor for 1994–95, Kim Callahan. The club directors for both years were very supportive, as were the trustees of Longview Rotary Endowment Fund, headed by Past President Julian Fiegel. The club is particularly grateful for the help of Hudson Printing & Graphic Design and Sam Smead Photography. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted anyone from appreciative recognition here.

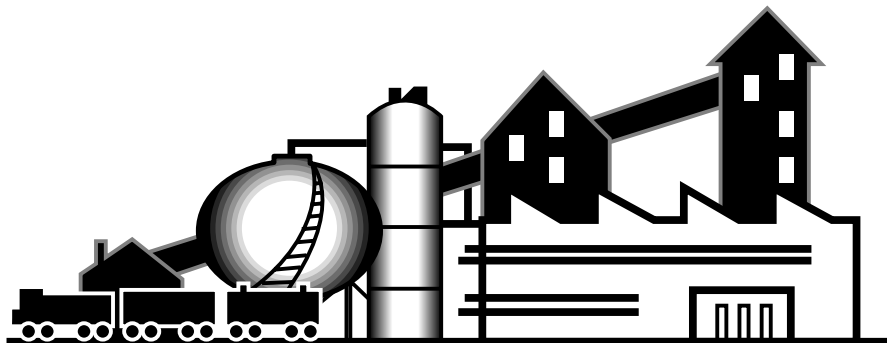


**H**ERE ARE SOME OTHER DETAILS: We tried to get a photograph of each past president which was made as nearly as possible to the time when he served—even if we had to settle for a snapshot instead of a portrait. Persons other than living past presidents who entrusted their priceless family photographs to us—including pictures of places and events as well as past presidents—are gratefully acknowledged in notes accompanying the pictures in these pages.

The main sources of information on events consisted of the club's bound volumes of weekly *Rotaview* bulletins dating back to 1943, club archives, scrapbooks of newspaper clippings loaned by several past presidents or their families, personal knowledge of the author, his 1989 book *Traditions of the Land: the History of Gregg County*, and the 1963 history of the club. (The reader may recognize passages copied from the 1963 history.) Biographical information on deceased past presidents was gleaned from newspaper obituaries, the *New Encyclopedia of Texas* (a 1936 “who’s who” of Texas), writeups in the *Rotaview*, and conversations with family members. We tried to verify important facts found in these sources and omit uncertainties, but we make no claim as to accuracy or completeness. We also tried to avoid mentioning anything that might be embarrassing to anyone. The biography and summary for each year were submitted to the corresponding past president or at least one member of his family for corrections. The amount of coverage of a given president’s year is not an indication of relative importance. Mostly, it depended on how much information was available and on how much of that information was covered elsewhere in the book. The author accepts responsibility for judgment in all such matters and hopes he will be excused for the inevitable errors and oversights.

Note that for brevity, we generally did not list the dates when a president or other person held various offices and memberships that are cited. Thus, someone who is said to be “of this club” may have been a member only a very short while, a long time ago. Similarly, we generally omitted repeated reference to years in listing dates within the synopsis for a given Rotary year. For example, in the writeup for 1945–46, “August 1” would refer to 1945, and “May 10” would refer to 1946. Note also that we observe the Rotary tradition of referring to all Rotarians by their first names, not Mister this or Judge that or Doctor something. We mean no disrespect by that practice.

**W**E OF THE ROTARY CLUB of Longview hope that as you read this, in 1995 or 2095, you will feel a sense of fellowship with the people who made this club and city what they are today—and what they will become—and that you will be inspired to follow their good examples in your own life of service for the benefit of this community and all mankind.



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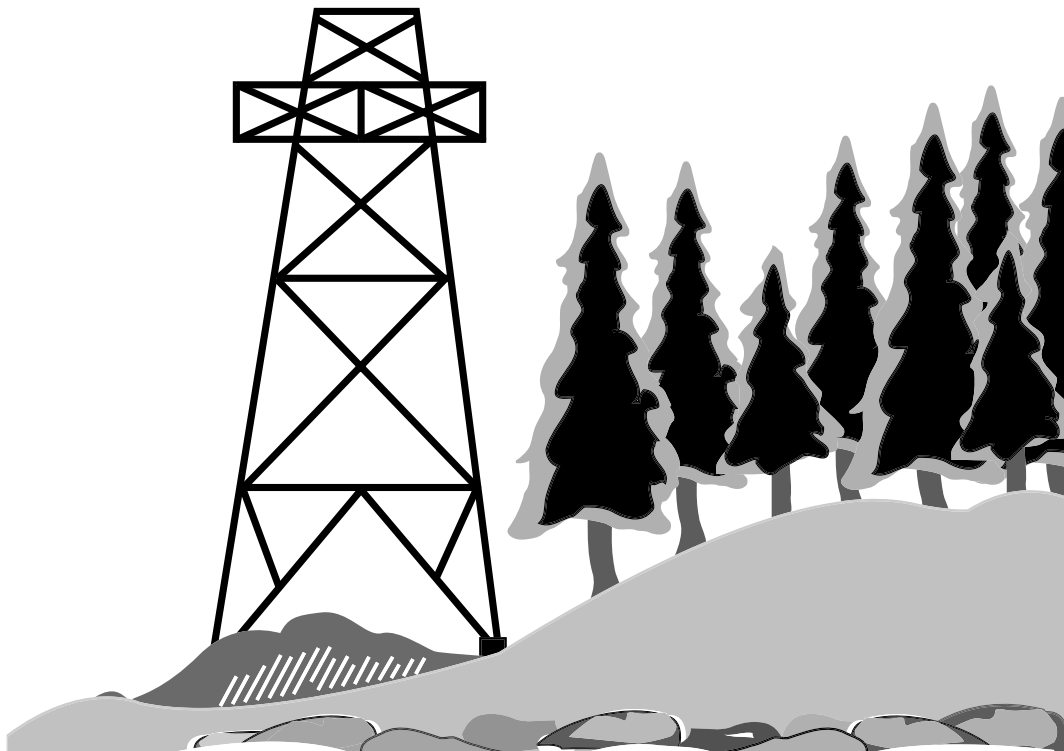






Photo by courtesy of Jean Dalston

### ***Home of the Rotary Club of Longview until 1930***

*Built in 1872 and later enlarged, the Magnolia Hotel stood on the southeast corner of Center and Cotton Streets, catercorner from Kelly Plow Works, facing north on Cotton Street. (The view above looks southwest across Cotton Street.) Greatly favored for its hospitality and cuisine, the hotel was owned and operated by three generations of one family: Mrs. G. M. Tabler, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Dalston, and R. T. Dalston. It was demolished in 1935 to make way for the new city hall and central fire station that still stand at the site.*

# Chapter 1.

## Rotary Comes to a Farm Town, 1920 to 1930

### 1920–21: Edward Bussey, President

*Born near Gilmer in 1871, the founding president of the club came to the city at age 17 and was first employed as a bookkeeper in the store of John Walke. Later, he worked as bookkeeper for Womack and Perry, wholesale and retail merchants, and then entered the banking business as cashier at Citizens National Bank. In 1917, Ed became the first president of Rembert National Bank—later known as Longview National Bank, then Texas Commerce Bank, and now Longview National Bank again. A prominent member of First Baptist Church, Ed was a leader in many Longview civic organizations. His wife, the former Minnie Elizabeth Jacobs, was born in Longview in 1874 and died in 1922. At his death in 1927, Ed was survived by his son, Dr. James Everett Bussey (1897–1964), a Rotarian of Longview and later Minden, Louisiana, a brother and fellow founder of this club, James William Bussey, a sister, Mrs. Eliza Bonham of Memphis, a nephew, Dr. E. J. Gee of Wills Point, and nieces Mrs. Reagan Wyche of Longview and Lila Mae Bussey (now Benton) of Tyler. Mrs. Wyche's daughter Elizabeth Robison is a Rotary Ann of this club.*

IN 1920, LONGVIEW WAS a city of 5,713, which represented about one-third of Gregg County's population of 16,767. The town's economy was based on farming, lumber, and railroads. The only significant manufacturing plants were the G. A. Kelly Plow Works (located principally on the north side of Cotton Street between Center and High Streets) and Graham Manufacturing Company's box factory (site of the present city hall west of Court Street), which made containers for fruits and vegetables. These plants, together with cotton gins, a cottonseed mill, several lumber mills, and division offices and shops of the T&P Railroad, provided most of the payroll income of the townspeople. But Longview was still as much a farmer's town as when it was founded during Reconstruction 50 years before, and the crops were the same as when the land was first plowed 20 years earlier than that. Cotton provided the cash, and corn provided the fuel for the mules.

### Charter Members and their Classifications

Dr. B. H. Acker .....	Dentistry
G. A. Bodenheimer.....	Insurance, Life
J. J. Boyd .....	Dry Goods, Retailing
F. B. Brown.....	Real Estate
E. H. Bussey .....	Banking
J. W. Bussey .....	Cotton Buying
D. B. Coates .....	Newspaper Publishing
A. L. Connor.....	Dry Goods, Retailing
J. L. Fentress.....	Drugs, Retailing
D. W. Gans.....	Insurance, Fire
P. J. Hayes .....	Electric Light & Power
T. E. Huffman.....	Transportation, Railroad
Rev. W. H. Joyner.....	Ministry, Protestant
L. D. Kelly.....	Agricult. Implements, Mfg.
R. M. Kelly* .....	Agricult. Implements, Mfg.
L. N. Markham, M.D.....	Medicine, Gen. Surgery
K. S. Melton .....	Milling, Cotton Seed Oil
A. E. Morgan.....	Lumber, Retailing
E. A. Morgan.....	Groceries, Retailing
A. Nix .....	Banking
W. D. Northcutt, M.D.....	Medicine, General Practice
A. C. Numsen.....	Groceries, Wholesaling
W. B. Smith .....	Insurance, Casualty
T. B. Stinchcomb .....	Law, General Practice
J. F. Stuckey .....	Dry Goods, Retailing
W. H. Terrell.....	Soda Fountains
J. C. Turner, Jr.....	Groceries, Wholesaling

\*Because R. M. Kelly was on a business trip to California when the charter was signed, his name was not included. On his return, because of his work in organizing the club, Mr. Kelly was prevailed upon to sign as a charter member, which in truth he was, and which all considered him to be.

In 1920, Longview reportedly had 9 1/2 miles of paved streets (beginning in 1910), some concrete sidewalks, electric street lights, a single electric streetcar running about a mile between the downtown and junc-



**1. Edward Hezekiah Bussey**  
**1871-1927**

### Founding Officers and Directors

President .....E. H. Bussey  
First Vice President .....G. A. Bodenheim  
Second Vice President.....J. F. Stuckey  
Secretary.....P. J. Hayes  
Treasurer.....A. Nix  
Sergeant-at-Arms.....A. E. Morgan

Directors: .....K. S. Melton  
J. J. Boyd  
W. H. Terrell  
L. D. Kelly  
Dr. B. H. Acker  
A. C. Numsen

and came by and talked to Dad on his wonderful experience of being invited to attend a Rotary meeting in San Francisco. He and Dad were so thoroughly sold on the ideals of Rotary that they decided to try to do something about organizing a Rotary Club in East Texas. Ike Hockwald was so enthusiastic that he got a group of Marshall men together, and they organized the Marshall Rotary Club in 1919. After the Marshall Club received its Charter, Ike Hockwald came back to visit Dad, and they, with other Marshall Rotarians, organized a provisional Club in Longview.

Others recounted that the organizational meeting was held on April 20, 1920, in a room on the second floor of the municipal building, which was located just west of the present Glover-Crim Building. The ground floor was the fire station, and city offices were on the second floor. R. M. Kelly and most of the others who became charter members were present at this meeting. Ike Hockwald and Frank Davis were two of the Marshall Rotarians present.

Rotary International admitted the Longview Club to membership on May 1, 1920. In listing the members who signed the charter, an attempt was made for the 1963 club history determine the classification of each.

The charter night dinner was held on May 1, 1920, in the Magnolia Hotel. Rotary District Governor Lutch Stark of Orange appointed as his special representative Ike Hockwald of Marshall, who presented the Charter, and the Longview Rotary Club, the 715th Club in Rotary, was officially in existence. The weekly meeting day was set as Tuesday, and it has remained so throughout the entire history of the Club. The meetings were continued for many weeks at the Magnolia Hotel.

One of the more notable founding members was Gabriel Augustus Bodenheim, known to one and all by his nickname of Bodie, who was mayor of Longview for all but two years between 1904 and 1920. Some other members added during the founding year of the club, according to a newspaper article in 1940, were County Judge Erskine M. Bramlette, Robert Brown, Jr., Grover Finch, B. D. Marshall, and Ed Rembert.

tion depots, city garbage collection, municipal water supply (since 1904), sanitary sewers (since 1910), a paid fire department with the first two pumping trucks in the state, and home mail delivery. The entire county had been dry by local option since 1903. Until 1931, the only road pavement in the county (aside from city streets) was a 16-foot-wide strip of asphalt along State Highway 15, later designated U. S. Highway 80. Longview was the only incorporated city in the county; Kilgore and Gladewater were country villages.

The years 1919 and 1920 were to see the organization of the Marshall and Longview Rotary Clubs as the culmination of the interest and efforts of two men of vision, Ike Hockwald of Marshall and R. Marvin Kelly of Longview (head of Kelly Plow Works). For the first history of the Longview club in 1963, Marvin Kelly's son George A. Kelly, II (then Past President and Past District Governor), recalled the events leading to the organization of Rotary in East Texas as follows:

In 1919, my dad was visiting in the office of Arthur A. Everts in Dallas. When it became time for Mr. Everts to go to the Rotary Club (Club #39), he invited Dad to be his guest. Dad was so impressed with this meeting that he asked if a "suburban club" could be organized in Longview, and he was told such a thing could not be done.

A few days after returning to Longview, his good friend Ike Hockwald of Marshall was in Longview





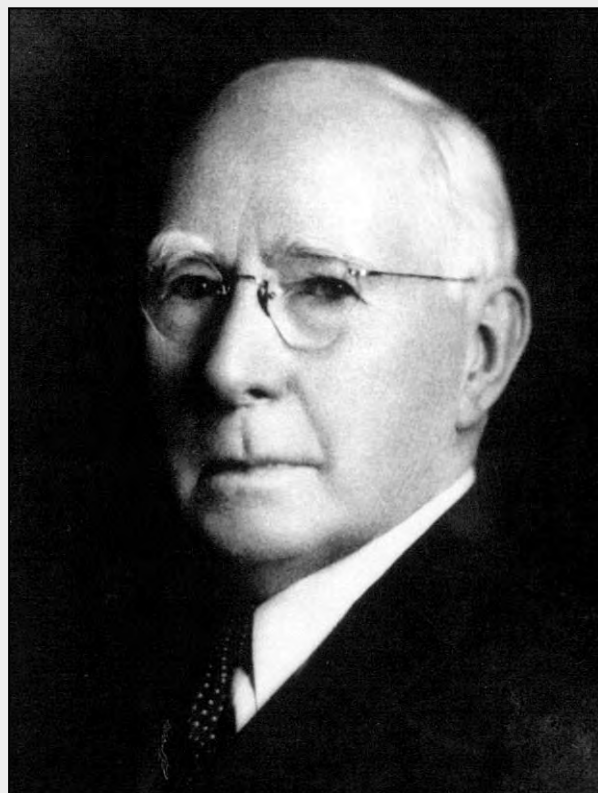
**2. Edwin Brown Rembert**  
**1878–1954**

*Photo by courtesy of Betty Starkey*

## **1921–22: Edwin Rembert, President**

*Born in 1878, Ed moved to Longview from Wesson, Mississippi, in 1895 to work for his uncle, F. T. Rembert. Frank Rembert was a businessman with numerous interests in the city, including cotton marketing, real estate, and the Rembert National Bank where Ed Bussey served as first president. Ed Rembert later worked for the Longview Cotton Oil Mill and the Santa Fe Railway. He was married to Josie Taylor of Longview (aunt of Rotary President Bill Northcutt Taylor), who preceded him in death. A lifelong Methodist, he was active in all phases of the First Methodist Church of Longview. Ed taught one class of adults for 30 years. He was a member of the board of stewards, Sunday school superintendent, and choir member. He was a member of the Masonic lodge. Survivors at his death in 1954 included a brother, F. M. Rembert of Irving, a daughter, Martha Frances (Mrs. Roy Wilson, whose husband was also a Longview Rotarian), a granddaughter, Mrs. James Starkey, and a great-granddaughter, Melinda Starkey.*

**A**CCORDING TO A NOTE in the *Rotaview* for October 23, 1951, the club bulletin for November 22, 1921, said meetings were held at 12:10 p.m. on Tuesdays at the Knights of Pythias hall. The officers and directors serving under President Ed were listed in that bulletin as follows: Vice Presidents J. C. Turner, Jr., and A. E. Morgan, Secretary H. C. Bennett, and Directors Thomas D. Campbell (Chair-



**3. Robert Marvin Kelly**  
**1869–1958**

*Photo by courtesy of Bank One*

man), B. D. Marshall, Dr. B. H. Acker, S. C. Forman, and J. G. Pegues.

The 1963 history said meetings at that time were on the second floor of a building at the corner of Tyler and Fredonia Streets which was razed in the 1950's, so that must have been the KP hall. However, the Club soon went back to the Magnolia Hotel and met there until 1930.

From the beginning, the Longview Rotary Club was zealous in its efforts to extend the Rotary movement in East Texas. Just one year after receiving its own charter, Longview Rotary sponsored the organization of the Jacksonville Rotary Club on May 1, 1921. This was followed by its sponsorship of the organization of the Jefferson Rotary Club on February 23, 1924; The Gilmer Club in 1925; the Atlanta Club on December 26, 1926; and the Kilgore Club on April 20, 1934.

## **1922–23: R. Marvin Kelly, President**

*The father of the Rotary Club of Longview was born in 1869 near Jefferson at Kellyville, named for his father George Addison Kelly, I, where George had established G. A. Kelly Plow Company after moving from Tennessee via Nachitoches. In 1882, the business relocated to Longview and remained the town's primary industry until after World War II. One of eight children, Marvin*

finished high school in Longview, graduated from Roanoke College in Virginia in 1891, and married Arra Hoskins of a pioneer Longview family in 1898.

In a long career in managing the company after his father's death in 1907, Marvin became recognized as the dean of East Texas industrialists. He was also a board member of First National Bank of Longview (now Bank One) from 1900 until his death, serving temporarily as president starting in 1907 upon the death of President J. W. Yates (his brother-in-law and great-grandfather of Rotarian B. H. Jameson). It was board member T. M.

Campbell of Longview and Palestine, then Governor of Texas, who nominated Marvin for that office. He was the principal founder of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce in Longview in 1926, serving as first president.

In 1901, the Methodist church in Longview was renamed Kelly Memorial Church in George Kelly's honor, but the name was changed to First Methodist in 1936 at Marvin's request. Besides singing in the choir for 50 years, he was Sunday school superintendent from 1899 to 1920, chairman of the board of stewards for many years, and chairman of the board of trustees.

## Excerpts from the *Rotagraph* of September 30, 1922

by *Shorty LeBlanc, Floor Walker*

[The Rev. Edgar N. LeBlanc was priest-in-charge of Trinity Episcopal Church from 1921 to 1924.]

### One Hundred Percent

Roy Havens wrote us a letter congratulating our club on having two 100% meetings in August. Fine. Will he "Say it with flowers" when he sees our 100% September report? Maybe. Fellows, let's shake hands over our first full 100% month. Will it be our last? It will not! Here's to you—may you live long and continue 100% in Rotary.

### Lige Coles. Lynn Milam.

These two live wire past district governors graced our intercity meet on the evening of September 14th. Lige came to invite the East Texas clubs to the big international intercity meet at Houston October 20th and 21st. We must return Lige's visit in force. We set the pace and Lige will have to go some to beat us. Lynn came to see a live bunch of live Rotarians and reveal some of Shorty's concealed past. He did both. You tell 'em. Lutch Stark was almost here but went on to Chicago.

### That Intercity Meet

The biggest Rotary event ever pulled off in East Texas. Henry Bennett, Chairman; Dan Gans, Bonehead; Bert Sessums, Hard Worker; and two others deserve applause for handling the entertainment so successfully. 318 plates were filled and emptied. We want the same bunch to handle our intercity meet next summer. Marshall, Tyler, Nacogdoches, Palestine, Mt. Pleasant, and Jacksonville clubs were well represented. Three or four other clubs had single representations. Tyler won the large Rotary wheel prize made of aluminum in Longview, and Marshall won the jar of moonshine—made near Mt. Pleasant of course.

### Daddies

Ike Hockwald of the Marshall club is "daddy" of the Longview club, Ed Bussey, First President. Ed is "daddy" of the Jacksonville club, George Williamson President. Lige Coles is "daddy" of the Marshall Club, and Lynn Milam is "daddy" of Lige's work in East Texas. All in a row, five generations—George, Ed, Ike, Lige, Lynn. Son, daddy, granddaddy, great granddaddy, great-great granddaddy. Some genealogy at one meet.

### Sing-Song and Minstrel

The Dago fever prevented the Rotary community sing-song last week, but we will pull off one or two in October if that blankety-blank mosquito hibernates. The plan is

to have at least two sing-songs a month during the fall and winter, using the Rembert Opera House and charging a small admittance to cover expenses. A four-reel picture will probably be included in the programs. The Bonehead Division is making plans for the big Rotary minstrel in November. It will be a scream and an event long to be remembered in this man's town. More anon.

### Teachers

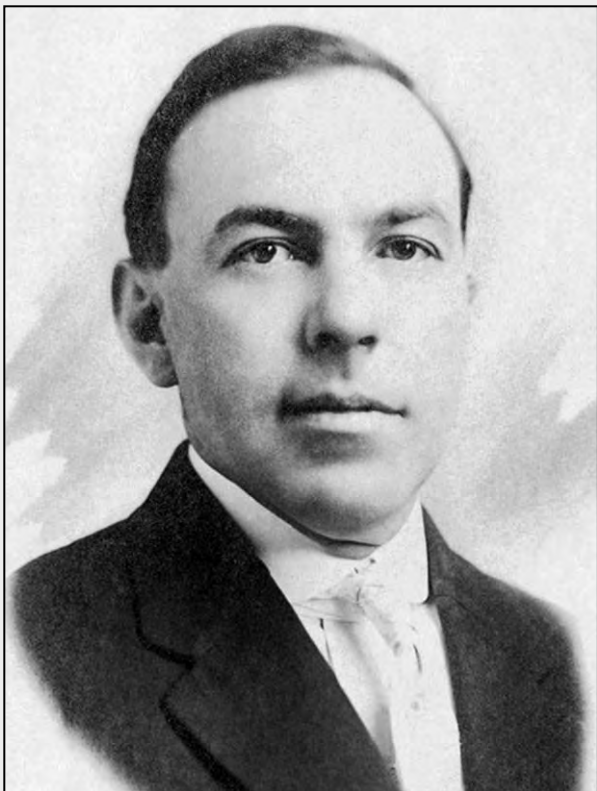
Our club entertained recently the 300 visiting public school teachers with joy rides, style shows, picture shows, sing-song, and etc. Old Connor and his committee were on the job, and they know how. The grade and high-school teachers will be our luncheon guests soon.

### Boys' Work

Rotary everywhere is sponsoring work among the boys. The Longview club has an excellent boys' work committee, headed by Bill Jones, and they have undertaken an ambitious program. The students' loan fund is a reality, nearly \$1,500 having already been subscribed by Rotary members alone. Others have indicated they want to assist in raising this fund. Our aim is \$5,000 revolving fund to assist worthy boys to finish school work. We will succeed in this undertaking, of course. An athletic committee has been appointed from the Rotary club to co-operate with the high school athletic director in promoting clean athletics among the boys. A Boy Scout council will be organized, and the Scout work will be affiliated with the national organization. A "Hi Y" secretary is under contemplation and if secured will greatly assist in Scout and other boys' work. ...The club is unanimous in this work except .01%. That infinitesimal minority is O.K. It thinks it will be heard for its much speaking. Verily it has its rewards.

### One Hundred \$\$

The Mineral Wells district conference in March authorized the raising of \$15,000 for the promotion and extension of Boy Scout work in Texas. Three experienced field men will be employed to assist in organizing and directing the Scout work where needed. This is a great forward step and will benefit Rotary and Scout work. The executive meeting at Galveston apportioned this amount to the 65 clubs in the 13th District. Longview Club was assessed \$100.00. This is "home missions," and we will assume our part.



**4. Baldwin Daniel Marshall, Jr.**  
**1879–1964**

*Photo by courtesy of Emily Barbee Shelton*

*At his death in 1958, Marvin was survived by his son George the Second (Rotary Club president and district governor), daughter Margaret Kelly, and grandsons James Marvin, who was a member of this club before moving away in 1964, and George the Third, who transferred from the Kilgore Rotary Club to this one in 1992.*

**D**URING ITS FIRST TWO YEARS of existence the club grew rapidly—too rapidly, perhaps—taking in some 70 members, and possibly not properly respecting the classification principle, nor fully impressing upon all members the duties and responsibilities imposed by Rotary. Attendance at the meetings was poor, barely averaging 50%. When the third year was entered upon, the new officers and the faithful members reorganized the club and by strict adherence to classification requirements reduced the membership. This resulted in a more spirited, better working club, and attendance increased to a considerable degree.

### **1923–24: B. D. Marshall, President**

*Born in Clinton, Mississippi, in 1879, Baldwin Daniel Marshall moved to Longview with his parents when a small child. He graduated from Longview High School and attended Massey's Business College in Houston. In 1915, he married Miss Erminie Northcutt of Longview, niece of Dr. W. D. Northcutt, I, a founding member of the Rotary Club of Longview. One of the pioneers in the*



**5. The Rev. Robert McAlpine Hall, D.D.**  
**1863–1941**

*Photo by courtesy of Mary Martin Mitchell*

*laundry business, B. D. was for 40 years owner and operator of the Longview Steam Laundry, located at 620 North Fourth Street, on what is now the southwest corner of the Good Shepherd Medical Center site. He was also a director of First National Bank and served several terms as a trustee of Longview Independent School District. A lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church, B. D. served many years as deacon and elder and was tenor soloist in the choir. He was a 50-year member of the Longview Masonic Lodge. At his death in 1964, he was survived by his wife and their daughter Kathreen, Mrs. Oliver G. Brown.*

### **1924–25: Dr. Robert Hall, President**

*The fifth president of the Rotary Club of Longview—and the only clergyman until Jim Stjernstrom—was born a week after the Gettysburg Address in 1863. The Reverend Doctor Robert McAlpine Hall served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Longview from 1921 to 1929. Son of a Presbyterian minister, Robert was born in Talladega County, Alabama, and raised in Gonzales, Texas. After graduating from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia in 1885, he did post-graduate work at the University of Texas and graduated from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia in 1888. In 1889, he married Hester Elizabeth Daniel of Vicksburg and Victoria, Texas. His main pastorates other than Longview were Westminster Presbyterian in San Antonio, First Presbyterian in Galveston, and Fort*





**6. Arthur Lee Connor**  
**1886–1943**

*Photo by courtesy of Laura Elkins*

*Worth. Robert was noted as a good organizer who was particularly devoted to Christian youth development. At his death in Forth Worth in 1941, he was survived by two daughters, Mrs. Charles Handley of Blacksburg, Virginia, and Mrs. Malcolm Martin of Longview.*

## **1925–26: Arthur L. Connor, President**

*Son of Julius Chester and Laura Connor, Arthur was born in 1886 at Blue Ridge in Collin County, Texas, growing up there and in Dallas. While attending Southwestern University (playing center on the football team), he met Carlie Harlan of Marlin, and they were married in 1904. After operating a dry goods store in Venus, Texas, for nine years, he moved to Longview. For 26 years, he owned and operated Connor Dry Goods Company, located at 213 North Fredonia Street at the northwest corner of Bank Street, later the site of Longview National Bank. (See the photographs below and on the next page.) Arthur and Carlie reared two children, Elizabeth and Arthur, Junior, in their home across Green Street from Longview High School, now Foster Middle School. In 1935, they moved to a new home at 1200 Turner Drive.*

*Among other business activities, Arthur was also a bookkeeper. But during the Oil Boom, like many Longview merchants, he became involved in oil investments. He was associated with fellow Rotarian Rogers Lacy as president of Miller-Lacy Oil Company and vice-president of Lacy Petroleum Company. He also occasionally worked as an attendant helping Arthur, Junior, operate Connor & Swetman Texaco service station at 100 West Methvin Street. Arthur's brother Chester, in turn,*



**A. L. Connor's Store at 213 North Fredonia**

*Photo by courtesy of Laura Elkins*

*Located across Bank Street from McCarley's Jewelry, it was replaced in 1940 by the Longview National Bank building.*

was proprietor of Connor's Cash Grocery at 906 East Cotton Street.

Arthur was known as a quiet, unassuming man who shunned publicity as he went about doing good in the community. Among other activities, he was a Shriner, member of First Methodist Church, and president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce. An avid football fan, he also loved fishing, keeping a camp house at Lake Laverne for many years. Carlie shared his fondness for flowers, and the newspaper often carried reminders for friends to visit the gardens at their home. At Arthur's death in 1943, the Masonic Lodge had charge of services at Memory Park Cemetery. Carlie lived on until 1969.

**R**OTARIANS HAD A BIG HAND in a major event for Longview: the founding of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce in March, 1926. Marvin Kelly's front-page obituary on April 3, 1958, included this account:

Mr. Kelly liked to review the history of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce. That story began in Tyler early in 1926, when businessmen of that area

were attending an banquet honoring the past season's champion cotton grower.

"I made a little address," he recalled. "I included some blank verse written by Bill Tucker, who was editor of the Longview News then. It ended up, 'I am East Texas! A land that is richest and fairest and where achievement has just begun.' Then I made a suggestion that we should get together and build up an organization with 'achievement' in view.

"Everyone seemed to like the idea, and I was asked to see what could be done about it. I called a meeting for March 26, 1926. We expected about 200 people, but 2,000 or 3,000 showed up. By the time we finished eating barbecue and had a few talks, everyone was ready to organize. They conscripted me as president, and I served two terms."

Fellow founding Rotarian Fred Stuckey, a merchant, organized Longview business leaders to erect a building for the Chamber and thus defeated bids by larger Tyler and Palestine to become the headquarters of the new organization. The East Texas Chamber of Commerce endured for more than 60 years.



Photo by courtesy of Laura Elkins

### ***President Arthur Connor in his Store***

*This side of the shop was devoted to gentlemen's trade, the left side to the ladies. Arthur is behind the counter in the center.*

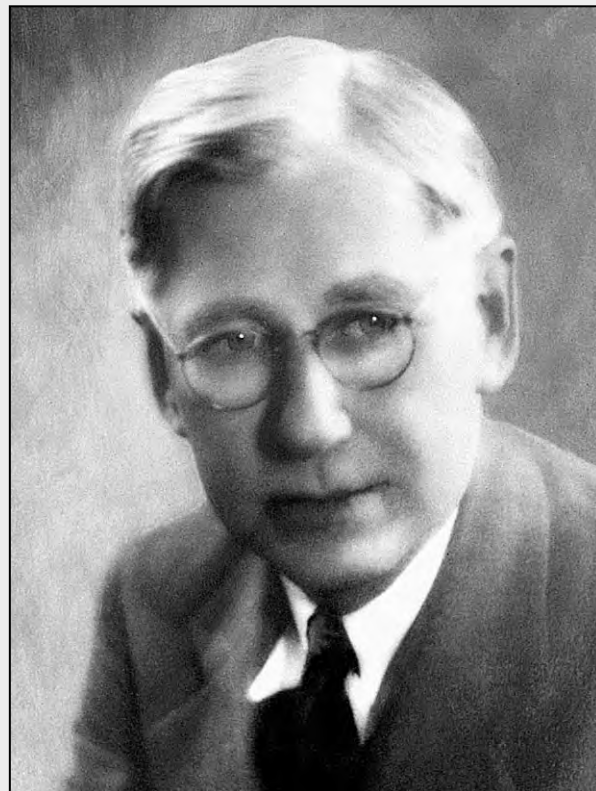


**7. Langley Albertus Sessums**  
1877–1945

*Photo by courtesy of Bernice Smith*

### 1926–27: Bert Sessums, President

Born in 1877 at Pirtle, L. A. Sessums was orphaned at age three and went to live with his sister Lucinda Tinnin in Elgin. He was tutored at home with her children, then attended public schools and a business college. Callia Turner of Bastrop met Bert while visiting a sister in Elgin, and they were married in 1902. After trying vegetable farming in California, the couple moved to Longview in 1907. At various times, Bert operated a grocery store and a Dodge automobile agency. Having established a hardware store, he brought in Herbert Fisher as a partner. Located at 225 West Tyler since 1931, Fisher-Sessums Hardware is still operated by Herb's cousin Bill Fisher. It was distinguished for a saddle shop operated by Robert Rogers and his son Bedell. After the Oil Boom began, Bert formed oil investment companies named Fredonia Oil Company and Sabine Syndicate, which were being dissolved as this book was written. Bert was president of Longview Chamber of Commerce, a Mason and Shriner, a steward of First Methodist Church for 35 years, and an avid hunter and fisherman. Although not a founding Rotarian, he appears in the *Rotagraph* of September 30, 1922 (Page 4). Bert died in 1945. Survivors include the couple's foster daughter Bernice Smith (a niece of Callia) and her daughter Ann Lowman of Alice, Texas; Bert's great-grand-nephew Bobby Smith and his son Hank of this club; and Bert's grand-nieces Florine Davis of Goliad, Tippy Foster of Austin, and Barbara Brooks of Hawaii, and grand-nephew Jim Stansell of Austin.



**8. LeGrande D. Kelly**  
1881–1941

*Photo by courtesy of Mrs. Dozier Skipper*

### 1927–28: LeGrande Kelly, President

A younger brother of Marvin Kelly and fellow founder of this club, LeGrande Kelly was born at Kellyville in 1881. He attended Longview schools, Southwestern University at Georgetown, and the University of Michigan. Back home, he learned the family business as a molder and a shipping clerk, then served as secretary-treasurer from 1905 until his death. In 1903, he married Cacy McCullough of Longview, who died in 1921.

At First Methodist Church, LeGrande served on the board of stewards and board of trustees. He was a Knight of Pythias, a Mason, a Shriner, and a founder of Pinecrest Country Club. A city alderman and later commissioner for 20 years, he was instrumental in formulating the city charter which established the commission-manager form of government in Longview in 1923. At the Longview Chamber of Commerce, he served as director and vice-president. LeGrande was also a director of First Federal Savings and Loan Association and the Gregg-Tex Gasoline Corporation and was associated with other oil businesses including Lucey Petroleum Company. He was considered an expert accountant and an authority on matters of finance, business, and industrial methods.

LeGrande died in 1941 at the stately mansion he had built less than two years earlier in Forest Hills, now known as Northknoll and occupied by Dr. W. D. Northcutt, III, of this club. He was survived by a daughter, Mrs. Dozier Skipper, Jr., of Longview, sons LeGrande, Jr., of Longview and Verner of New York



**9. Judge William Cornelius Hurst**  
**1880–1968**

*Portrait by courtesy of W. C. Hurst, Junior*

*City, sisters Virginia Kelly and Mrs. J. W. Yates of Longview and Mrs. R. B. Cousins of Kingsville, and brother R. Marvin Kelly.*

## **1928–29: Will C. Hurst, President**

*Born in 1880 in Limestone County, Texas, Will was educated in the public schools of Shelby County and graduated in 1903 from North Texas State Normal College at Denton. In 1907, he married Esther Leak. Beginning as a schoolteacher in Shelby County, he became county school superintendent, meanwhile studying law at the office of Judge Walker in Center. Soon after admission to the bar in 1914, Will commenced practicing law in Longview. He was county chairman of the Democratic Party from 1917 to 1923. He became a state district judge in 1932, serving the 124th district and returning to private practice in 1936.*

*Will was a director of the Federal Land Bank and of Longview Building and Loan Association, president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, and first chairman of the Longview Community Chest (now Greater Longview United Way). He was a Knight of Pythias, a Woodman of the World, and a Mason. Having been a member of First Christian Church of Longview, he was a member of Woodland Christian Church, serving there as elder emeritus. At his death in 1968, Will was survived by his wife Esther and sons W. C., Junior, and James L. Hurst. His younger brother, Dr. V. R. Hurst, was president of this club twenty years after him.*

**T**HE CLUB HAD about 36 members, and according to the 1963 club history, these members were in the forefront in Chamber of Commerce and Church work and all business civic undertakings. The club was small so that all could get acquainted. Weekly classification programs were held and afforded an opportunity to know each one's line of business and where he worked. The highlight of the Rotary year was the organization of the Jefferson Rotary Club, sponsored by the Longview Club. But for Longview and Gregg County, as both the Depression and the Oil Boom approached, a severe economic blow fell in January of 1929. According to *Traditions of the Land: the History of Gregg County, Texas*,

The Texas and Pacific Railroad moved its division offices and shops from Longview to Mineola. As a result, some 700 families and an immense payroll vanished almost overnight. Longview's 1930 population, which was headed for a healthy increase over the 1920 figure of 5,713, fell to barely 5,000. That was even less than in 1910. The county's population dropped slightly more during the 1920s, from 16,767 to 15,778.

## **1929–30: H. Wallace Norton, President**

*Other than Kelly Plow Works, the largest manufacturing plant in Longview before LeTourneau was the box factory of Graham Manufacturing Company, and Wallace Norton was vice president and general manager. Son of Edwin Thomas and Annie Mackey Norton of pioneer Gladewater families, Wallace was born there in 1896. He was a first cousin of founding Rotarians Albert and Elbert Morgan and brother of our later president Lee Norton as well as great-uncle of our present member Rusty Norton. Wallace graduated from Gladewater High School and Draughon Business College. Before and after a year's military service during World War I, he was employed as bookkeeper at the lumber company of Albert Morgan and his brother Charles in Longview. In 1919, Wallace married Julia Melton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Melton of Longview. In 1923, he joined the Graham Manufacturing Company as vice president and manager. In 1931, the company merged with Cummer Manufacturing Company of Paris, forming Cummer-Graham Company, and Wallace moved to Paris as vice president and sales manager. He continued in that position until his death. Back in Longview, Rotarian Shelly Clayton "Jimmie" Hudnall succeeded Wallace and managed the box factory for many years to come.*

*In both Longview and Paris, Wallace was president of both the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce. He was also a director of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce. In Paris, he was president of the Community Chest and United Fund as well as board member of the housing authority, the city planning and zoning commission, the public library, the Boys Club, and the Boy Scouts Camp Glover committee. He was a Mason and Shriner and an active member of the Methodist Church. He was also a director and life member of the Texas Manufacturers Association, president of the Southern Box and Crate Association at Shreveport and of the Southwest Wirebound Box Association at New Orleans,*

and vice-president of the American Veneer Packers Association at Washington, D.C. In recognition of his work with the Boys Club of Paris, their baseball field was named for him, and he was selected as Optimist Man of the year in 1956. Other than those many activities, Wallace took pride in the flower gardens that he and Julia kept at their house, where she lived after his death in 1960.

**A**FTER THE GREGG HOTEL opened early in 1930, the club moved its meeting place there from the Magnolia Hotel, remaining until the move to Pinecrest Country Club toward the end of the 1977–78 Rotary year. The hotel was built mainly by the efforts of Rotarians Dr. Vesse R. Hurst (president 1948–49, brother of Judge Will C. Hurst, president 1928–29) and Oliver Daniel. Before the hotel was built, the site, on the northwest corner of Methvin and Green Streets, was occupied by the home of Dr. Hurst’s father-in-law, Jack Yates. The original Hurst clinic, built in 1919, was the red brick building nearby to the west, demolished in 1995, which was later renamed the Curtis Building by Rotarian James R. Curtis. Conrad Hilton wrote about acquiring the hotel in his 1957 biography *Be My Guest*:

The second hotel I acquired at that time [1935] was important to me for another reason. Every businessman who had survived the Depression was waiting for a sign, national or personal, that it was time to stop treading water and go ahead. The Gregg was my green light.

Into my Dallas office one morning, unannounced, walked a gentleman who said he owned the Gregg Hotel. “But I’m a doctor, not a hotel man,” he added. “I’m too busy to run it.”

I knew the hotel and knew it as a good one. At that precise moment, however, I had nothing with which to buy, so I listened. “Longview is a growing town,” the doctor continued in a worried tone, “and not only needs the hotel but needs more rooms.”

It was good salesmanship and I knew it was true. But I couldn’t make an offer, so I just went on listening.

“I will sell it to you,” this surprising man continued, “on time. And you can borrow against it to build the addition. Of course, I suppose you should have some money in it—so if you haven’t got it, I’ll lend it to you.”

This was as close as I ever came to being given a hotel. I took it, too, and renamed it the Longview Hilton. And then gave it away myself—but that comes later in the story.



**10. Herbert Wallace Norton**  
**1896–1960**

*Photo by courtesy of The Paris News and Boys Club of Paris*

The Longview Hilton was somehow always special to me. Not because it made money. That it did from the start. Not because it was acquired as a gift, without any cash outlay. But because it was my personal sign; as though I had been living in a desert having to wrest each bite of food, each drop of water, from a reluctant earth, and suddenly an oasis appeared and started showering these things effortlessly upon me. After the desert of the Depression, this hotel stood as my symbol that American business was ready to grow again.

It was later called the Hotel Longview, then the Downtowner. In 1995, the hotel was demolished by the City of Longview to create a park.

Back in 1929, the crash of the United States stock market in October signalled the beginning of the Great Depression.



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## Chapter 2.

# Growing Up With Longview, 1930 to 1945

### 1930-31: Quest Whitney, President

*Born in Carthage in 1892, Evans Quest Whitney attended the University of Texas and went into business with his father at the first ice and light plant in his home town. Later, Quest worked for the Frisco Railroad in Fort Worth, the Santa Fe in Longview, and Marshall Electric Company. In 1915, he became manager of Jefferson Ice and Light Company. From 1920 until his death in 1949, Quest managed Longview Ice and Light Company (founded in 1900), which was acquired by*

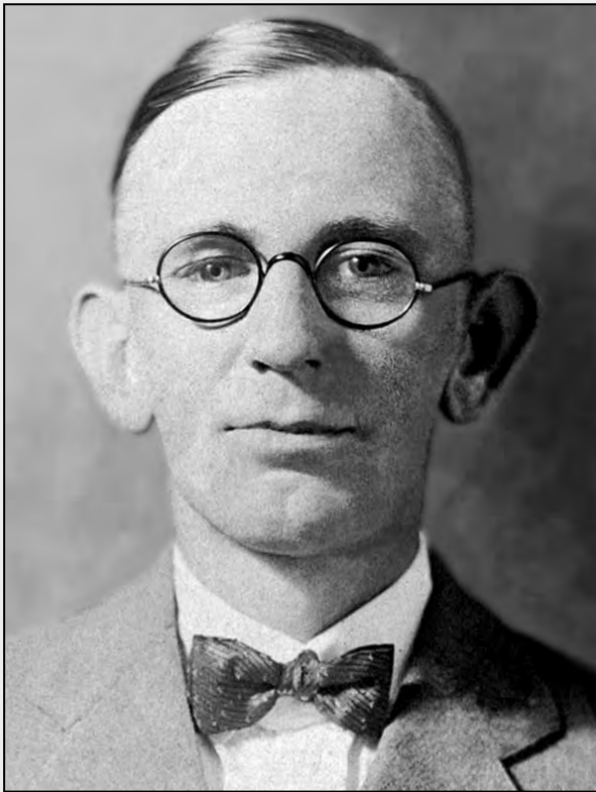
*East Texas Public Service Company, later known as Southwestern Electric Power Company. A member of First Baptist Church, he was a director of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, president of the Retail Merchants Association, director of the East Texas Exhibit Association, member of the city planning commission, and trustee of Longview Independent School District. Mr. Whitney was survived by his wife, the former Myrtle Falls of Fort Worth, sons E. Q., Junior, and Harry B. Whitney, and daughters Dorothy Reynolds of Big Spring and Helen Rodgers of Longview.*



Photo by courtesy of Gregg County Historical Museum

### *Home of the Rotary Club of Longview, 1930 to 1978*

*The new \$200,000 Gregg Hotel in 1930, looking northwest from the intersection of Methvin and Green Streets.*



**11. Evans Quest Whitney**  
**1892–1949**

*Photo by courtesy of Helen Rodgers*



**12. Bill Northcutt Taylor**  
**1898–1981**

*Photo by courtesy of Gloria Taylor Wismar*

**T**HE EAST TEXAS OIL BOOM blew in right in the middle of Quest Whitney's year. This was the single most important event in the history of Longview and all of Gregg County as well as this Rotary Club. It was a time when both Longview and the club grew up, bringing in a new era for both of them.

More specifically, it was on October 5, 1930, that Dad Joiner completed casing in the small but promising discovery well on Daisy Bradford's farm near Overton. On the Ashby farm a mile to the west, Deep Rock Oil Company brought a much bigger well into production on December 13. Two weeks later, on December 28, the world took note and the Boom got under way: A well flowing an enormous 22,000 barrels per day from the same Woodbine formation was completed on property south of Kilgore belonging to Lou Della Crim, mother of future Kilgore Rotarians Malcolm and Leggett Crim. Hoping to stimulate interest farther north, the Longview Chamber of Commerce voted a prize of \$10,000 for the first oil well in Gregg County within 12 miles of Longview. But Longview Realtor Barney Skipper had already started one on the property of Kelly Plow Works Manager F. K. Lathrop southwest of Spring Hill School. It was brought in on January 26, 1931, suggesting the possibility of a single huge pool of oil. The Chamber's prize was eventually paid, but as a minuscule footnote to the Boom's history.

In an interview for a Dallas newspaper early in the Boom, our founder R. Marvin Kelly was quoted as saying, "Longview is going to become a really fine little city, but I rather dread the growing pains." Indeed, for this club, perhaps the first and most noticeable sign of the Boom was that all available living quarters in Longview were suddenly filled. Facilities at the Gregg Hotel were severely overstressed, and there was pressure on the club to leave and meet elsewhere. However, the new manager of the hotel, our future president Curtis Meadows, arranged a way for us to stay: Our space in the meeting room was cut in half by a makeshift partition made of bedsheets strung on a line some distance below the ceiling. During Rotary meetings, boomers were sleeping on cots on the other side.

One result of the Boom was a rapid influx of aggressive businessmen into Longview, many of whom stayed to become Rotarians and bring vigorous new life to the club. Another development was that within a few months, both Kilgore and Gladewater grew from sleepy country villages into sizeable towns, both acquiring Rotary clubs in the spring of 1934.

And, of course, there was the new wealth. Before the Boom, many Longview merchants acquired scattered pieces of nearly worthless land throughout the county in lieu of cash settlement of bills. In this way, some of them did quite well after oil was discovered.

## 1931-32: Bill N. Taylor, President

Longview's boom-time city manager from 1928 to 1940, Bill Northcutt Taylor had deep roots in Longview, where he was born in 1898. His father was Charles Lee Taylor, and his mother was Iba Northcutt, sister of founding Rotarian Dr. W. D. Northcutt. Bill's grandfather Andrew S. Taylor was the surveyor who established the boundaries of Gregg County in 1873 and 1874. Andrew's father, in turn, was Dr. Job Taylor, physician and Methodist minister at the antebellum Earpville church which became Longview's First Methodist. And Andrew's father-in-law was Stokely Rowan Chadwick, Cumberland Presbyterian minister at Pine Tree and Gilmer. The Northcutt influence prevailed, however: Bill was a member of First Baptist Church.

He served in the army during World War I, got an engineering degree from Texas A&M in 1920, and joined the Aggie faculty. In 1924, he married Louise Durham Shaw, daughter of Dushee Shaw (who was county clerk of Gregg County for 40 years) and his wife, the former Ida Rule. Bill's early experience with Tidewater Oil Company in Tampico and Sun Oil in Venezuela proved useful for Longview when it became the business center for the biggest oil field in history. Bill guided preparation of a master plan that governed the city's development for many years. Later, as city manager of Baytown, he drew up the city charter for what had been three separate municipalities. As president of the International City Manager's Association and the League of Texas Municipalities, he wrote a book on city budgeting that was in wide demand. Before retiring to

Longview in 1954 and rejoining this club, Bill also was city manager in Beaumont, Wichita Falls, and Columbia, Missouri.

At his death in 1981, Bill was survived by his wife Louise and their children Charles Shaw "Buddy" Taylor of Fort Worth, Nancy (Mrs. S. Stanley) Kennedy of Honolulu, and Gloria (Mrs. S. A.) Wismar of Baytown.

**H**ISTORICALLY SPEAKING, perhaps the most notable event of President Bill's year came on August 17, 1931. As told in *Traditions of the Land: The History of Gregg County*,

In order to enforce proration, Governor Ross Sterling proclaimed martial law in a 600-square-mile area that encompassed the entire East Texas Oil Field.... More than a thousand members of the 56th Cavalry Brigade of the Texas National Guard took over the area, under the command of Brigadier General Jacob F. Wolters. ...Armed troops fanned out and shut down every well by order of the governor, and beginning on September 6, production was permitted again on a strictly prorated basis. ...In order to survive, many independent producers resorted to hidden pipelines and bribery to circumvent proration. Much of the oil went to the 95 refineries that had been built throughout the Field. ...Besides buying illicitly produced oil...many refiners evaded payment of taxes on their gasoline products. ...Stories of the independents' and refiners' subterfuges and escapades during the so-called "hot oil" period have become colorful folklore....

## The 1932-33 Rotary Ann Party

*reported in the Longview Newspaper*

What gets a woman's goat?

Friend hubby working at night, or coming home and telling her to take the children upstairs so he can read his papers...having to buy so many baby shoes...being told by hubby that he wished she would try to reduce...not being married...talk of high rents...and so on, far, far into the night.

More than 45 Longview women last evening were given the opportunity, at the annual Rotary Ann program of the Rotary club, to give expression to their pet grievance, and they did so without hesitation, embarrassment, and what have you. This was an interesting feature of the program and evoked gales of laughter.

All of the Rotary Anns were given attractive favors, and three of them awarded prizes, as were three men.

The program consisted of a sing-song, music by Lester Denson's orchestra, vocal numbers by Henry L. Foster and Glenn Hutton, "Shandu" tricks by Jim Airey, introduction of the Rotary Anns, introduction of two "new" members—W. H. Terrell and B. D. Marshall—and a farcical presentation of glassware to Mr. and Mrs. B. N. Taylor.

The spacious dining room of the Gregg hotel was artistically decorated for the occasion. Before entering

the hall, each Rotarian was compelled to match his novelty favor with that of a Rotary Ann, this determining who was to be his guest.

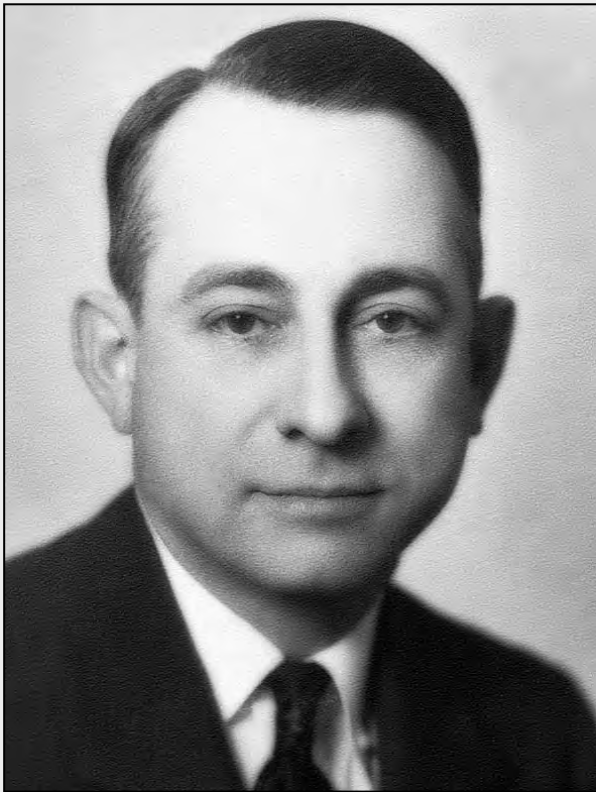
L. D. Kelly, chairman of the entertainment committee, was in charge. He and W. B. Smith, president, expressed the club's appreciation of the Rotary Anns. Mrs. Curtis W. Meadows reciprocated the courtesy in behalf of the Rotary Anns.

The club made a reverent move near the end of the banquet when it was decided to place upon the grave of the late J. O. Monday the huge Rotary flower wheel. The floral wheel will be taken to the grave of Mr. Monday in Grace Hill cemetery today.

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*In the "Chit-Chat" column the following day:*

The Rotary program took on an air of reverence when it was made known that the beautiful floral Rotary wheel used in decorating the hall would be placed today on the grave of a man who was a good Rotarian and a splendid citizen—for such was Josh Monday. Mr. Monday always enjoyed the Ladies' Night programs. He was as young in spirit as the youngest member of the club.



**13. William Bruner Smith**  
**1888–1955**

*Photo by courtesy of Claire Smith Foster*

### **1932–33: Bruner Smith, President**

*Bruner was born in Longview in 1888, son of merchant Henry Louis Smith and his wife, the former Sammie Bruner. Graduating from Longview High School, he attended the University of Texas, where he was a member of Phi Kappa Psi, and after two years joined his father's business in Longview. In 1912, Bruner formed Gans and Smith Insurance Agency with Dan Gans, who became a fellow founder of this club eight years afterwards. Later, the firm would be joined by Bruner's brother Henry, father of Bobby and grandfather of Hank of this club. In 1915, Bruner married Verne Monday of Lovelady in Houston County, daughter of Joshua Owen Monday, Jr., and his wife, who was Clara Alberta Holley. (Josh later moved to Longview and joined this club.) Guests at the wedding at the First Baptist Church in Lovelady included Governor Thomas M. Campbell of Palestine, formerly of Longview, and his wife, the former Fannie Bruner (the groom's aunt). With Dan Gans in 1919, Bruner participated in the organization of the East Texas Oil Company. After the Oil Boom vindicated their judgment over 11 years later, Bruner joined Clark Sample and Joe Mucher in an oil production partnership and was also a director and secretary-treasurer of the Gregg-Tex Gasoline Corporation.*

*Bruner was a Mason, Knight Templar, Shriner, and Elk. He was president of Pinecrest Country Club, the Cherokee Club, and Longview Chamber of Commerce. He was an organizer of the East Texas Chamber of*

*Commerce and Rembert (later Longview) National Bank, becoming board chairman and the largest stockholder in the latter. Before election as president of this club, Bruner served several terms as secretary. At his death in 1955, he was survived by his wife Verne, their daughter Claire, and granddaughters Betty and Sally Bivins. Verne was given a Paul Harris fellowship on December 18, 1984, by Claire and her husband Hank Foster of this club. Four years later, Verne died at the age of 98.*

**A** LASTING ACHIEVEMENT of the club this year was the conversion of the former Gregg County "fair park" into a city park (now known as Stamper Park) by adding a playground. The Lion's Club had recently built the natatorium there. Rotarian John L. Whorton, pastor of First Baptist Church and chairman of the city executive committee in charge of the park, was quoted as saying President Bruner and this club originated the idea, the Chamber of Commerce fostered it, and the City put it into operation. At the end of the Rotary year, the "first annual" Rotary family picnic was held at the picnic grounds in the southwestern part of the park.

The newspaper article on the preceding page shows that the club had an especially good time at the Rotary Ann banquet in those days. In this case, they also honored the memory of Rotarian Josh Monday, father-in-law of President Bruner, who died on March 17, 1932.

At a meeting during the Christmas season, the dining room was decorated with Christmas trees and a snowman scene. A costumed Santa Claus brought gifts for needy children, and he and a dozen Rotarians presented talks on Christmas and the holiday spirit. The gifts were presented to Captain Charles Brennan of the Salvation Army for distribution.

At the annual Rotary-teacher gathering at the Gregg Hotel, entertainment consisted of a kangaroo court put on by a group of Rotary Anns. They pretended to catch their husbands trifling with pretty young teachers at the party, in addition to other high crimes and misdemeanors. (See newspaper report, Page 79).

### **1933–34: Curtis W. Meadows, President**

*Born in Vidalia, Georgia, in 1894, Curtis was the eldest son of seven children born to Dr. and Mrs. John Morgan Meadows. He was valedictorian at Vidalia Collegiate Institute and attended Mercer University and Georgia-Alabama Business College in Macon. During World War I, he served in Europe as auditor with the headquarters staff of the thirty-second division, including the battles of Verdun, Argonne Forest, and St. Mihiel. After the war, he began his business career as an auditor for Southern Cotton Oil company of Georgia. Next, he was chief accountant for Tropical Oil Corporation, a subsidiary of Standard Oil Corporation in Colombia.*

*In 1929, he became connected with the General Securities and Investment Company in Shreveport. Assigned as auditor for the newly built Gregg Hotel, he was hired as general manager and moved to Longview*



**14. Curtis Washington Meadows**  
**1894–1980**

*Photo and references by courtesy of Eloise Meadows Rouse*

in April, 1931. Meantime, in 1930, he married Lucille Eloise Loyd of Birmingham and Shreveport. They became the parents of three children: Eloise; Curtis, Junior; and Algur. After about three years running the hotel, Curtis bought and operated the Farmers and Merchants Grain Company at 101 North Center Street and became an independent oil man.

In Longview, Curtis joined this club in October, 1931. He was also president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, the Community Chest, the Salvation Army Board of Trustees, and the Civic Music Association. He was a deacon in First Baptist Church, a trustee of Longview Independent School District, and helped establish the Longview District of Boy Scouts of America. In addition, he was chairman of the board of East Texas Baptist College in Marshall, where he received an honorary doctor of laws degree in 1973. (The administration building and main campus drive are named for him.) Lucille was an equally tireless worker in social, church, and civic affairs. Among other achievements, she was the founder of a Longview Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution which is named for her ancestor Aaron Burleson.

In 1946, Curtis moved with his family to Dallas and bought the Lawther-Meadows grain mill, which he later operated. He also continued his independent oil business. Joining the Dallas Rotary Club without a break, he accumulated 40 years' perfect attendance and became a Paul Harris Fellow. In Dallas, he was a deacon at First Baptist Church, president of its Brotherhood, mem-

ber of the Baraca and Caleb Men's Bible Classes, and a director of the Adult Department of the Training Union. He continued his support of Scouting at Longfellow Elementary School and First Baptist Church. He was president of the Dad's Club at Thomas J. Rusk Junior High School, president of the P.T.A. at Hillcrest High School, director of the Central Dad's Club, and president of the Greenway Parks Homeowners' Association. He was also a trustee of the Meadows Foundation, which was established by his brother Algur, an oil man and philanthropist.

At his death in 1980, Curtis was survived by his wife Lucille, daughter Eloise Rouse of Dallas, son Curtis, Junior, of Dallas, three sisters, and six grandchildren.

**T**HIS WAS A VERY BUSY Rotary year. Most of the information we have about it comes from a scrapbook which was meticulously kept by President Curtis's Rotary Ann, Lucille. One wonders how she had time for it, considering the many worthy projects she supported, besides starting a family.

Looking back over sixty years, Curtis's principal achievement as president was one of the most enduring legacies of the Rotary Club of Longview. On September 1, we began supporting a Boy Scout Troop, Number 202. (See Chapter 6.) By December, a permit was obtained for construction of a cabin for the troop's meetings in the newly redesignated city park. The scouts themselves were supposed to build the cabin in their spare time within 60 days, using materials furnished by this club. It was finally dedicated toward the end of the following Rotary year.

Two other historical events for Rotary were the charter meetings of the Gladewater club on March 19, 1934, and the Kilgore club on April 20. The Gladewater club was sponsored by the Gilmer club, but we sponsored the Kilgore club. In this effort, President Curtis acted as liaison assistant to District Governor Roy Smith of Tyler. With the help of our member Bob Knight a suitable number of prospective members were found, and a charter for the Kilgore Club was obtained.

A newspaper article on August 1, 1933, noted that "Two projects that will get the cooperation of the Rotary club are the permanent use of the old jail for a worthwhile purpose and the building of a wagon yard for the benefit of rural people."

The following week, the Rotarians accepted a challenge of the Lions Club for a baseball game. (We beat them twice before, five and ten years earlier.) A committee was appointed to select a team and start training: Syril Parker, Bill Northcutt Taylor, and LeGrande Kelly. After much publicity, the game was played at Cannibal Park (Fair Park) on the evening of Tuesday, August 17. The public was invited, at 10¢ and 25¢ a head, and more than \$110 was collected.

The Rural-Urban acquaintance program was held on Tuesday evening, October 10, at the city park, with about 40 farmers attending as guests of the club. Ladies' Night was a Hallowe'en costume party on October 31. The annual party for teachers of Longview



Independent School District was held on November 28. A students' program was conducted on December 12 at Longview High School, with lunch provided by Miss Bernice Alsup's home economics class and vocational talks by Jimmie Hudnall, Grover Finch, and Chunk Oliver. Another Ladies' Night was held on June 6, 1934, with visitors from Marshall, Gilmer, and Kilgore. As of April 24, there had been seven meetings with 100% attendance during this Rotary year.

Here are some other notable programs and events: August 24, 1933, Dr. Charles Selecman, president of SMU; September 19, guests included directors of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce, dignitaries of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, and a number of circus performers; November 7, Miss Emma Jean Donald, librarian, describing the operation of the new Nicholson Memorial Library, donated to the City by Rotarian Walter Nicholson; December 5, Marvin Kelly provided a venison luncheon; December 19, joint meeting with the Lions Club; January 23, State Attorney General and future governor James V. Allred; March 20, Tyler attorney W. F. Weeks, presented by Bruner Smith, charging that laws against hot oil (requiring refineries to disclose sources of crude) signed the previous week by Governor "Ma" Ferguson were not being enforced; April 3, 1934, Boy Scouts demonstrated making bows, arrows, and fire; April 10, Ray Flaskamper, manager of the Longview Dixie League baseball club; and throughout the year, a number of programs on the Federal Government's various measures to combat the Great Depression. Many meetings featured not only a speaker, but also musical entertainment, usually including a female vocalist.

### 1934-35: Tom E. Richardson, President

*The son of Ben and Casey Mann Richardson, Tom was born at Longview in 1889 and reared on a farm north-east of town in the vicinity of Smelley and Page Roads. Graduating from Longview High School, he attended San Marcos College and Pilot Point Military College, then went to work for Kelly Plow Company. In connection with World War I, he saw nearly three years overseas service, rising from corporal to second lieutenant. In 1920, Tom married Miss Hettie Richardson, also a Longview native, who had lived on land near his but was not related. For ten years, he and Hettie operated a grocery store on the southwest corner of Methvin and Fredonia Streets. Tom then acquired and became president of East Texas Novelty and Wholesale Tobacco Company, in which he was occupied until his final illness. He also had oil holdings and rental housing. Tom was president of the Longview Community Chest and Longview Chamber of Commerce, second commander of the Bernay Camp American Legion Post, member of the Longview city commission, and chairman of the Board of Stewards of First Methodist Church, where he also sang in the choir. He and Hettie became members of the Longview Little Theatre in 1926, acting in several plays. At his death in 1951, Tom was survived by Hettie, his*



**15. Tom Edward Richardson**  
**1889-1951**

*Photo and references by courtesy of Roscoe Tinsley*

*brother Jeff, and his sister Mrs. Annie Moore. Pallbearers were his nephews Mervin, Wilson, T. J., and Billy Moore and Clarence, Edward, Travis, and Jeff Richardson, Junior.*

**T**HIS WAS ANOTHER banner year for Boy Scout work in the club. The Scouts' meeting cabin in the city park, originally intended for completion in March of 1934, was finally dedicated in May, 1935. The project was shepherded to its conclusion by this year's chairman of the Boys' Work Committee, Gerald Osborne. A photograph of that event in the soft light of a late spring afternoon was treasured by Gerald for the rest of his life. Loaned to us by his son Gerald, Jr., it is featured as the frontispiece of this book. The earnest faces of those 53 men and 13 boys of the town, ranged between the American flag and the troop banner with the priest in the middle, shine down through the generations with the enduring spirit of service above self to which this club and all of Rotary are dedicated.

This was also the Rotary year when Carl L. Estes came to Longview. He was to become the chief promoter of industrial development of Longview after World War II. A clipping from his newspaper dated October 30, 1934 reads:

Col. Carl L. Estes, new publisher of The News and The Journal, was accorded a very enthusiastic welcome by members of the Rotary club when he

was introduced at the organization's meeting Tuesday at the Gregg.

In acknowledging the rousing welcome accorded him, Col. Estes told Rotarians that in coming to Longview he was realizing an ambition that he had been harboring for the past two and a half years, and pledged his aid in the development of this East Texas oil field center.

J. F. Stuckey, as the guest of J. Marcus Wood, appealed to Rotarians for their cooperation in assuring the success of the welcome banquet which Longview business men are tendering to Publisher Estes on Thursday, November 8, and received the assurance of President Tom Richardson that the Rotarians would be found anxious to lend every assistance in this project.

Most of the information about President Tom's year comes from his scrapbook of newspaper clippings, provided by Hettie's nephew Roscoe Tinsley. Farmers and rural residents of the Judson area (men only) were invited to a rural-urban program at Judson Grove School on Tuesday night, October 2. Similar programs were planned for other rural communities of Gregg County. Ladies' Night this year was a Christmas party on December 18 at the Gregg Hotel. The annual Rotary-Teacher banquet was held on January 22, 1935. Entertainment consisted of a one-act comedy directed by Miss Ruth Claire Sybert, head of the high school English department, plus readings by Miss Sybert and songs by a student quartet. For another meeting, luncheon was served at the high school by the home economics class under Miss Bernice Alsup.

At the meeting on October 9 during the World Series, druggist E. B. "Chunk" Oliver installed a radio and scoreboard in the hotel dining room, and the scheduled program was postponed for a week.

On November 13, a committee of two was appointed to meet with similar groups from other bodies on preparing tentative plans for organizing a YMCA in Longview and erecting a building to house it.

In those days, the club had a "crippled children's committee," through which various assistance was provided for physically handicapped children of Longview whose parents could not afford diagnosis and treatment. This year, the club provided transportation and meals for eight children plus parents going to clinics in Dallas.

### **1935-36: Gerald E. Osborne, President**

*Born in Melvin, Illinois, in 1898, Gerald was reared in Mayfield, Kentucky, where his father Dr. J. J. Osborne, an optometrist, also operated a jewelry store. Before finishing high school, Gerald became manager of a Coca-Cola bottling works in which his father owned an interest. Later, the family moved to Corpus Christi, where Gerald graduated from high school in 1917. Moving to McAllen in charge of a drug store and soda fountain, Gerald worked nights for the McAllen Morning Sun as a telegrapher copying wire-service news reports, a skill he had learned back in Kentucky. In 1918, he became a*



**16. Gerald Elwyn Osborne**  
**1898-1977**

*Photo by courtesy of Gerald E. Osborne, Jr.*

*telegraph operator for Western Union, quickly rising to the position of local office manager. Transferred from city to city, he settled in Dallas, where he became district manager and auditor. In 1922, he married Grace McCoy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin McCoy of Battle, Louisiana. They reared one son, Gerald, Junior.*

*Gerald was transferred to Longview as manager of the Western Union office in 1931 during the peak business of the early Oil Boom. He was ordained deacon in First Baptist Church, taught a Sunday School class, and chaired the committee that raised money for the first educational building. As chairman of the Rotary Boys' Work Committee for 1934-35, he secured the completion of the Boy Scout Troop 202 meeting cabin in the city park. With Grace and nine-year-old Gerald, Junior, he attended the Rotary International convention in Atlantic City in 1936 as a delegate of this club. Having been nominated for election as city commissioner, he withdrew upon being transferred to Harlingen as Western Union manager for the Lower Rio Grande Valley in 1939.*

*Among other church and civic work in Harlingen, Gerald taught Sunday school and was president of the Community Chest. He loved fishing and sailing and was a member of the Port Isabel Yacht Club. After four years, Western Union transferred him to Waco, where he served as local manager for 20 years until retirement in 1963. Gerald and Grace died in 1977 and 1993 respectively, and both were buried at Oaklawn Cemetery in Waco.*

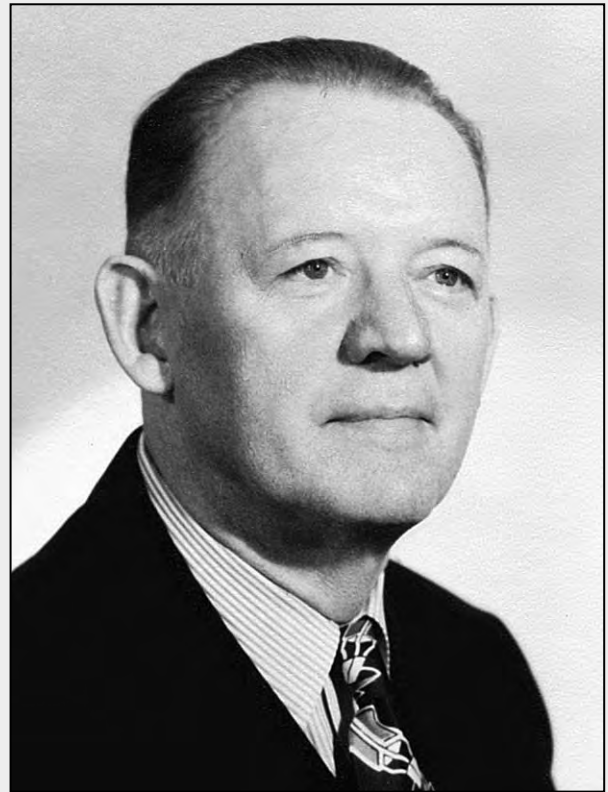


**17. Grover Cleveland Finch**  
**1886–1956**

*Photo by courtesy of Elaine Markham Clanton*

### **1936–37: Grover Finch, President**

Grover was born in 1886 at the home of his father J. L. Finch which still stands on the south side of Cotton Street between Gum Springs Road and Eastman Road. A graduate of Longview High School, he attended Baylor University. In 1911, Grover organized Guaranty State Bank, forerunner of Rembert and Longview National Banks, whose building remains near the east end of Methvin Street. He enlisted in the army for World War I, serving in the finance department of the aviation corps. Back in Longview, he was an organizer of Pinecrest Country Club in 1920, allowing the club free use of part of the Finch farm until the club bought it in 1930. Grover helped organize Longview Building and Loan Association, incorporated in 1924 with Dr. Vesse Hurst as president and Charles L. Taylor as vice-president. (Vesse was one of our presidents; Charles was the father of our president Bill N. Taylor.) Until his death in 1956, Grover was manager and secretary-treasurer of Longview Building and Loan. He also had extensive oil investments. In 1934, he married Mrs. Maurine Gray, a widow, daughter of Dr. Stewart, a Longview dentist. Grover was a Mason, Shriner, Elk, Longview city commissioner, and chairman of the board of trustees and board of deacons at First Baptist Church. Survivors in Longview included his wife Maurine, stepson Dr. Charles Gray, brother John, sister Mrs. Louis Markham (a founding Rotary Ann of this club), and nieces Elaine Clanton and Eva Jean Blount, former Rotary Anns of this club.



**18. Henry Lee Foster**  
**1891–1966**

*Photo by courtesy of Henry L. Foster, Jr.*

### **1937–38: Henry Foster, President**

Henry was one of a very small handful of the most highly esteemed men of his time in Longview. Son of R. D. Foster and Della Garner Foster, he was born in 1891 in the Tryon community near Longview in what had been his grandfather's farm house, located about 200 yards east of the intersection of Alpine Road and Page Road. He graduated from Longview High School and received a BS degree from San Marcos Teachers' College (now Southwest Texas State University). In 1914, he became a teacher at First Ward elementary school in Longview, located between Greenwood Cemetery and what is now Good Shepherd Medical Center. (It was later replaced by Valley View School.) In May, 1918, he married Florence Black, daughter of T. P. Black and his wife Fannie. Mr. Black operated the general store at Hallsville and founded Hallsville State Bank. Before the end of the year, Henry enlisted in the army, training at Camp Mabry at Austin and Camp John Wise at San Antonio for the Balloon and Observation department of the Air Service. Home again in 1919, he was appointed principal of Campus Ward Elementary School, then principal of Longview High School in 1922. From 1923 until retirement in 1952, he was superintendent of Longview Independent School District. Doing graduate work in the summers, he earned a master's degree from Colorado State College in Greeley.

In First Methodist Church, Henry was Sunday school superintendent for many years, member of the Board of

*Stewards, lay reader, and baritone in the choir. Serving the Boy Scouts for 40 years, he held numerous leadership positions. Henry was a Mason, Knight Templar, Knight of Pythias, president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, charter member of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army, organizing member and director of the Longview Community Fund, trustee of George Peabody College of Nashville, officer in numerous professional associations, director of United Bankers Life Insurance Company of Dallas, director of First National Bank of Longview, and acting president of the bank for a short time.*

*Henry's stated aim was to live a life of service for his fellow man. His special distinction in 30 years as a Rotarian was singing—a gift that was carried on by Henry, Junior, known as Hank. Each was awarded the club's highest honor shortly before his death, the father with a special program at a meeting in 1966, the son with a Rotary Citizen of the Year award in 1994.*

*Florence died in 1957. Four years later, Henry married a long-time friend and neighbor, the former Louise Dobbs of Longview, widow of Henry Kerry. At his death in 1966, Henry Foster was survived by Louise; his daughter Florene Gregory of Shreveport; his son Henry, Junior; a sister; and six grandchildren.*

**A** HIGHLIGHT OF THIS Rotary year was the special chartered railroad car to the Rotary International convention in San Francisco: 26 Rotarians, wives, and children attended.

Rotarian Lee Norton was chairman of the board of trustees of Longview Independent School District, and the Lobos won the state football championship.

### 1938–39: J. Marcus Wood, President

*Marcus was born in Kilgore in 1889, son of Sam Houston Wood and the former Laura Frances Thompson. Educated in local schools, he came to Longview in 1906 and was employed by the Texas and Pacific and Santa Fe Railroads. His first wife was Virgie Belle Smith, daughter of J. T. Smith, Gregg County Judge from 1888 to 1898. In 1921, Marcus established the Longview distributing agency for Gulf Refining Company, which he continued until retirement about 1956. His membership in this club dated back to 1930 or earlier. In 1930, he married Tecaro Cubberly, daughter of O. P. and Lucie Rain Cubberly of Marshall. Having joined First Methodist Church on arrival in Longview, Marcus served as chairman of the board of stewards for many years. He was president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, Baseball Club, Quarterback Club, Civic Music Association, and Community Chest, and member of the city commission. He took a leading role in building the Gregg Hotel in 1929 and establishing the East Texas Chamber of Commerce in Longview in 1926. He was one of the founders of the Petroleum Marketers Association of Texas. As a director of the Texas Good Roads Association, he was instrumental in securing several excellent highways for the Longview area. He was an avid baseball fan, a Mason, and a Shriner. His brother William Oscar was Gregg County tax assessor from 1924 to 1936. Another brother Robert, a pharmacist, operated Wood Drug Store from 1936 to 1946.*



**19. James Marcus Wood**  
**1889–1959**

*Photo by courtesy of Susan Ellsworth Gardner*

*At his death in 1959, Marcus was survived by Tecaro and five daughters: Laura Virginia (Mrs. Chuck) Ellsworth and Jane Lockett of Midland (later Mrs. Jim Witt of Longview) were daughters of Virgie Belle; Emily (Mrs. Melvin) McWhirter, Evelyn (Mrs. Tom) Hight, and Garland (Mrs. Dub) Noble were daughters of Tecaro. Of his 16 grandchildren, Evelyn's son Joe has been a member of this club. Tecaro lived on until 1993.*

**O**NE RELIC AT HAND from President Marcus's year is the following engraved invitation in the scrapbook kept by Lucille Meadows:

The Longview Rotary Club requests the  
pleasure of your presence at its annual  
Rotary Ann Christmas Party at the Hilton Hotel  
Tuesday night, December twentieth  
nineteen hundred and thirty-eight  
at six-thirty o'clock

Please bring your husband

### 1939–40: Dr. Robert K. Womack, President

*The seventh surviving child and only son of Joseph Emerson and Annie Eliza Lokey Womack, Robert was born in 1903 in Blakely, Georgia, where he graduated from high school in 1921. His father, a gentleman farmer, fell on hard times and became a rural mail carrier. His*



**20. Robert Kendrick Womack, M.D.**  
**1903–1974**

*Photo and references by courtesy of Dr. Joseph L. Womack*



**21. Oliver Lee Norton**  
**1894–1978**

*Photo by courtesy of Maud Norton Bivins*

high-school teachers included three of his sisters. After working a year, Robert completed a three-year pre-med program at Mercer University, playing on the football team. He graduated from Tulane Medical School in 1928, working as a janitor and receiving financial support from his sisters, their parents having died. After interning a year at Tri-State Hospital in Shreveport (later named Willis-Knighton), Robert served a two-year apprenticeship in urology with Doctors I. B. Rougon and Jesse R. Stamper. He married Myra Grace Lawhon of Shreveport, and they moved to Longview about 1932 to seek their fortune in the Oil Boom. The second of their three children died and was buried in Longview. Robert joined the Rotary Club on July 24, 1934. In 1938, he became the first urologist in this area to be board certified.

In 1941, Robert moved back to Shreveport and re-joined Rougon and Stamper, remaining until retirement in 1972. He was chief of staff at Doctors Hospital in 1942 and at Schumpert Hospital in 1946. He is credited with setting up the urology training program at Confederate Memorial Medical Center (now a branch of the LSU system), serving as chief of urology from 1947 to 1971. He was a member of the advisory committee for LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport, the Shreveport Board of Health, and Broadmoor Baptist Church. At his death in 1974, Robert was survived by his wife, the former Virginia Dupuy; son Joseph (also a doctor) of Shreveport; and daughter Betty Jordan of Palatka, Florida. His memory is perpetuated in the R. K. Womack memorial lectureship in urology at LSU Medical Center in Shreveport.

## **1940–41: Lee Norton, President**

A brother of our earlier president Wallace Norton, cousin of club founders Albert and Elbert Morgan, and great-uncle of present member Rusty Norton, Lee was born in Gladewater in 1894. His parents were Edwin Thomas Norton, a grocer, and the former Annie E. Mackey. Educated in the Gladewater schools, he worked in the family store, taking over when his father died. In 1919, Lee married Lynne Smith, daughter of Sydney George and Maud Castleberry Smith of Pine Tree. After working in a grocery in Marshall in 1920 and 1921, Lee moved to Longview. In 1922, he bought a grocery from E. H. Brawley, renaming it Norton's Grocery Store. In 1931, he was joined by two partners, Claude E. Barbee of this club and J. A. Mansinger. The three did business as Norton and Barbee Grocery until they retired in 1977. The store they built still stands at the northwest corner of Center and Bank Streets, a model of historic preservation in its conversion to office use by John Adams.

As president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce in 1936, Lee went to Washington with City Manager Bill Taylor, East Texas Chamber Manager Grady Shipp (both Rotarians), newspaperman Carl Estes, and Carl McClure in a successful lobbying effort with Congressman Morgan Sanders for a new post office. Similarly, Lee and other businessmen took a special train to Austin to urge better enforcement of proration and laws against hot oil. The next year, 1937, when Lee was chairman of the Longview ISD board, the Lobos won the state football championship.



*Lee was also a director of First National Bank for 43 years, an organizer of the East Texas Chamber of Commerce in 1926 and treasurer for 20 years, a director of the Sabine River Authority from 1949 to 1969 (having a vital part in building Lake Tawakoni and Toledo Bend Lake), one of three organizers of the local Salvation Army post, and chairman of the gasoline rationing board for Gregg County during World War II. He was a Mason, Knight of Pythias, and elder, deacon, and trustee of First Presbyterian Church. Lee and Lynne died in 1978 and 1993 respectively. Their daughter Maud Lynette married J. K. "Knotty" Bivins, formerly of this club, and her children are the late Lee Norton Bivins of Dallas, Lynne (Mrs. Lamar) Simpson of Longview, and June (Mrs. James L.) Baumel of Los Angeles.*

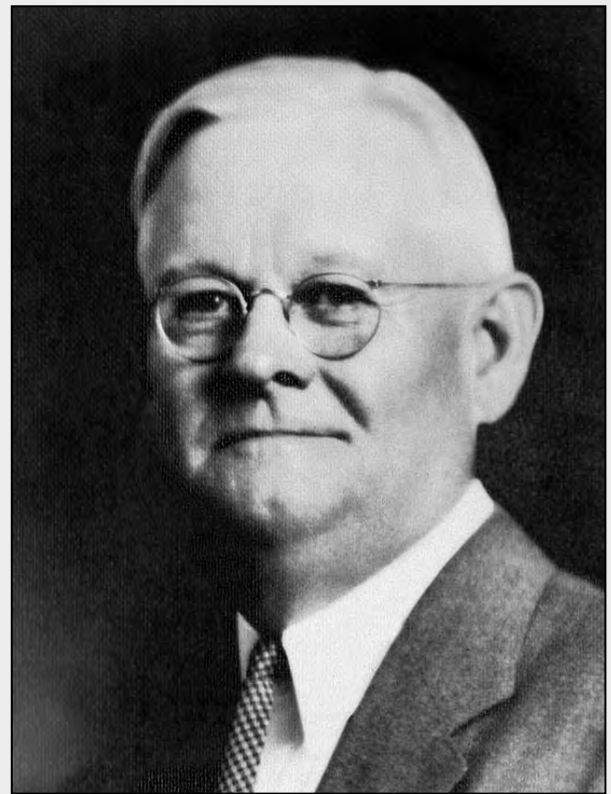
**T**WO CIVIC EVENTS stand out in President Lee's year: The location was obtained for the future Gregg County Airport, for which a \$200,000 bond issue was passed in 1940. And plans were finalized for a revolutionary steel plant promoted by a charismatic Hungarian inventor named Julius Madaras and funded by local investors. Located at what is now the northwest corner of West Cotton and Lake Lamond Road, the facility attempted to produce steel from local iron ore by direct reduction with natural gas instead of coke. It was later converted to a conventional foundry.

## 1941-42: Erskine Bramlette, President

*Erskine was born in 1875 at Pontotoc, Mississippi, eldest of 13 children of Thomas Anderson Bramlette and his wife, the former Annie E. Miller. He attended the local schools, earned a B.A. degree at the University of Mississippi, and became a schoolteacher in that state. Having relatives in Longview, he moved there in 1897, and after teaching a short time, he enrolled in the University of Texas Law School. Upon graduation and admission to the bar in 1902, he commenced a long and illustrious practice of civil law in Longview. He was associated with another pillar of the community and legal fraternity, Richard B. Levy, who at one time was Judge of the Court of Civil Appeals at Texarkana*

*In 1903, Erskine married Jessie O. Boring, whose grandfather Bluford W. Brown is considered the legislative father of Gregg County. They reared one son, Joseph Boring Bramlette. From 1907 to 1916, Erskine was a member of the Board of Legal Examiners for this part of Texas, and from then until 1920, he was county judge. During World War I, he served on the Board of Draft Appeals. He was Longview city attorney from 1924 to 1935, helping draw up a new city charter. He served twice as president of the Gregg County Board of Education, the body which administered the county schools. Erskine was an elder in First Presbyterian Church, a Mason, Shriner, Knight Templar, and a Knight of Pythias. He was also a member of the Longview Saddle Club and Pinecrest Country Club.*

*His parents, seven brothers, and five sisters settled in Longview after Erskine. The sisters included Floreid (mother of Dr. Tom Francis of this club) and Nannie Mae (wife of our founder Bill Terrell). Erskine's home*



**22. Judge Erskine Miller Bramlette  
1875-1942**

*Photo by courtesy of Floreid Francis Stevens*

*was a farm on McCann Road which became Huntington Park and other subdivisions. After the Oil Boom began, his son Joseph designed the mansion that still stands on what remains of the estate. Jessie died in 1933, and in 1937 Erskine married Miss Nellie Landry. After his death in 1942, she returned to her home in Tennessee.*

**I**N HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER, President Erskine had two bits of bad luck while in elective positions. First, in July of 1919, when he was county judge, Longview suffered a brief civic disturbance which was widely mislabeled a race riot. After Erskine and Mayor G. A. Bodenheimer telephoned Governor William P. Hobby for help, the governor sent 250 national guardsmen and eight Texas Rangers and put the entire county under martial law for five days. And second, in the middle of Erskine's term as president of this club, World War II broke out with the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

## 1942-43: Maurice Bivins, President

*Maurice was born in 1887 in Cass County at the community of Bivins, named after his father, Captain James Knox Bivins, who conducted timber operations in the area. He was reared in the vicinity of Atlanta and graduated in 1907 from Texas A&M College, where he was prominent in athletic and campus organizations. Settling in Longview,*



**23. Maurice H. Bivins**  
**1887–1952**

*Photo by courtesy of Marjorie Harrison Bivins*

he joined his father's extensive sawmill and lumber business, Bivins Lumber Company, dating back to 1870 and owning 10,000 acres along the Sabine east of Longview. In 1913, he married Effie Rule Durham, granddaughter of Gregg County's first sheriff, M. L. Durham. In 1927, Maurice and E. D. Skipper formed a cotton brokerage firm called Skipper-Bivins Cotton Company, and when the East Texas oil field was discovered, they organized the Skipper-Bivins Oil Company, Inc. In 1945, Maurice and his sons bought the ice plant of the former Longview Ice and Light Company (See *Quest Whitney*, 1930–31), operating it as Longview Ice Manufacturing Co. Maurice was a Mason, Knight of Pythias, and member of the board of stewards of First Methodist Church. He was president of Longview Chamber of Commerce and the Salvation Army board, trustee of Longview Independent School District, and during World War II was chairman of the Longview Chapter of the American Red Cross. He was also a member of Pinecrest Country Club and DeLatin Gun Club. Effie Rule died in 1948. At his death in 1952, Maurice was survived by his sons Durham and Jim. His descendants include four grandchildren: Betty, Sally, Craig, and Louise.

**W**ORLD WAR II was in full swing, and rationing was in effect for many commercial products. According to a printed program in Curtis Meadows's scrapbook, the district conference for Rotary District 128, held in Longview on April 25 and 26, was entitled "The Rationed Conference."

## 1943–44: Casey P'Pool, President

In the *Rotaview* for March 15, 1949, Editor Tom Putman wrote the following: "William Casey P'Pool entered this world July 30th, 1901, in Anson, Jones County, Texas. He attended public schools in Munday, Haskell, and Valentine. North Texas State is his college alma mater. Roustabouting with Texhoma Oil Company was his first job after leaving college. After about 18 months in the field, he joined the LeBus Tool Company as a bookkeeper in the year of 1925. He resigned in 1935 his position as office manager to become associated with J. O. Lyle in the Standard Tool and Standard Engine Companies of Greggton. He married Gurlye Dickson of Seymour, Texas, in 1924. They are the parents of one daughter, Geraldine. As for hobbies, the Lobos and the Longhorns hold Casey's attention in the winter, while in the summer he follows the Texans. He is fond of square dancing and fishing too. Casey is past president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club. He has been president of the Roundup Club for some time and is an active steward in the Methodist Church. He is a Mason and a life member of the Gideons organization...."

P'Pool is a variant spelling of Pettypool. Casey continued as a very active Rotarian long after his term as president, serving many times as director and committee chairman. In 1964 he sold his business, retired, bought a ranch, and moved to Dallas. He died in 1989. His wife Gurlye lives in a nursing home in Dallas. His daughter Geraldine Cantwell also lives in Dallas.

**W**ORLD WAR II CONTINUED to dominate the scene in this club as everywhere else. Two aspects of the war which stand out most prominently in *Rotaview* bulletins of that era are rationing and the absence of Rotarians and their sons in military service. Here are some quotes on these topics in November:

The food administrator of our government is asking us to help in the conservation of food. If we do not change our practices, the food shortage may become still more acute. ...We should select our food wisely, dish it out sparingly, and *eat it up*.

...Thanksgiving is that season when we say we are thankful for our many blessings and then proceed to grumble, gripe, and growl because we cannot get all the tires, gasoline, or certain foods we enjoyed in peacetime. ...Thanksgiving this year will be a sad time for many of us. There are vacant chairs in many homes because of this war. Many of these chairs will never be filled again, but for many the sadness will pass when peace returns and the boys come home. We may be prone to say bitter things against war, but how much more do we have to be thankful for even in wartime, than people of Britain or Germany. Just think how much more honorable is the thing for which our youth are fighting than is that of the German youth. They are fighting for Hitler, but our youth are fighting for an ideal.

...Dock Glover is all smiles—son Algie is home.

*Rotaview* bulletins at that time included a list of members entitled "In the Country's Service." The names were Frank Bolton, Dyrll Hull, LeGrande Kelly (Junior), and Colonel D. C. Snyder. (Club membership was down to 68.) On January 11, 1944, there was also

a list entitled "Rotarians with Sons in the Fighting Forces," as follows:

George Kelly:	Son James Marvin, Army
Oliver Daniel:	Son Oliver, Jr., commissioned officer
Bill Terrell:	Son Bill Bob, Army
Lawrence Birdsong:	Son Lawrence, Jr., Army
Maurice Bivins:	Sons Ensign Jim & Captain Durham
R. L. Speight:	Son Marston, Seaman Second Class
E. Q. Whitney:	Sons E. Q., Jr., and Harry
W. C. Hurst:	Son James, Air Corps
G. C. Finch:	Son Charles Gray
H. A. Ross:	Son Carl, Instr. in Civil Aeronautics
A. T. Glover:	Son Algie, Navy
Ray Newnham:	Son Morris, Navy
B. W. Crain:	Sons B. W. and Edward Bruner
W. A. Lanagan:	Son Billie

The *Rotaview* for March 21, 1944, was likewise dominated by the war. In an editorial entitled "In Post War Period," Bob Speight wrote,

Most people say we should win the war before we talk about industry in the post war period. It was the lack of a planned economy that made possible the depression years of 1929 to the present. This community should be thinking now about what new fields of endeavor may be opened up following the war.

In the same bulletin, the program for the following week's meeting was listed as Henry C. Withers, managing editor of the *Dallas Morning News*, speaking on "Dealing with our progress in the war, the need for preventing similar wars in the future, and criticizing the New Deal Bureaucracy."



**24. William Casey P'Pool**  
**1901-1989**

*Photo by courtesy of Geraldine Cantwell*



*Photo by courtesy of Lawrence Birdsong, Jr.*

***The Annual Rotary Ann Christmas Party at the Community Center, Tuesday, December 19, 1944***

*In Europe, the month-long Battle of the Bulge began three days earlier. (See appendix for identifications.)*

Despite the war, Rotarians continued their usual programs and projects. Casey and others helped high-school students establish the Round-Up Club, which remained without a place of its own for several years. The annual Rural-Urban program was held on November 23, 1943. A *Rotaview* editorial that day reveals the club's attitude toward this yearly ritual:

#### WELCOME FARMERS

The farmer differs from the banker in only two ways: where he lives and what he does. The farmer is the original producer of foodstuff, and we are dependent on him for raw material as he is dependent on us for manufactured goods. In fact, many of our farmer friends have more invested in their business than we have in ours, and some have more deposited in our banks than we. Without the farmer, we would not only fail but starve.

Friends from the farm, we hope you like us. We are glad to have you as our guests today. May the cold of the winter mellow the soil, the rains produce a deep season, the crop next year be a bumper, and the price such as to give you a reasonable profit.

### 1944-45: Lawrence Birdsong, President

*Lawrence's father Simon, a resident of Huntsville, Alabama, was a construction engineer working on the Texas and Pacific railway when that line was extended west from the Southern Pacific terminus at Longview in 1873. Two years later, Simon settled in Longview with his wife, the former Lowela Searcy. He acquired land in the vicinity of the present Birdsong Street, which was later named for the family. About 1900, they moved to the house at 104 West Whaley Street which was built in 1879 by Bluford W. Brown, the state legislator who achieved the creation of Gregg County in 1873 and 1874.*

*Lawrence was born in 1885 and attended the Longview schools and the University of Texas. After passing the bar examinations, he served a term as assistant county attorney but never practiced law. He was in theater and mercantile businesses, then concentrated on general contracting. Lawrence constructed many of the commercial buildings in Longview, including the Norton and Barbee grocery (See Lee Norton, 1940-41) as well as many fine residences. He retired in 1956.*

*In 1914, Lawrence married Mabel Bray, daughter of Gladewater merchant C. L. Bray. An accomplished musician educated in Dallas schools, Mabel was organist at First Baptist Church from shortly after her marriage until retirement in 1970, as well as the pianist for this club for several years. She and Lawrence bought his parents' home in 1920 and reared two children there.*

*Lawrence was the boom-time mayor of Longview, serving from 1932 to 1939. He was also president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce and a member of the first planning and zoning commission for the City of Longview. He was a Mason, Knight Templar, Shriner, and Knight of Pythias. At First Baptist Church, he was a deacon, trustee, building committee chairman, and charter member of the Men's Bible Class. The candid photo above captures his buoyant, cheerful disposition.*



**25. Lawrence Birdsong**  
**1885-1961**

*Photo by courtesy of Lawrence Birdsong, Jr.*

*At his death in 1961, Lawrence was survived by his wife Mabel (who lived until 1990); son Lawrence, Junior (Sonny, who lives in the family home); daughter Blanche Paetzold of Bonn, Germany; granddaughter Rebekka Paetzold; and sisters Cornelia Whitson, Alamo Mobberly, and Lowrene Grissom of Longview.*

**T**HE CLUB CARRIED on in the last, victorious year of World War II. Teacher's Night was on October 10. The Rotary Ann Banquet was a Christmas party at the Community Center on December 19, shown in the photograph on the preceding page. On February 27, George Kelly directed a "founders' day" celebration of the club's twenty-fifth anniversary. Rationing remained high in everyone's awareness. In the *Rotaview* for May 15, 1945, Editor Bob Speight wrote,

Now that the European phase of the war is over...let's renew the following pledge: I will buy only what I need; I will pay no more than ceiling prices, and I will pay my ration points in full. I will save—I will buy and hold all war bonds and stamps I can—and then some. I will save my things—make them last longer. I will save materials—by salvaging paper, metal, fats, etc. I will save manpower for Uncle Sam by working or helping with home chores. I will save transportation by walking wherever possible. ...Victory is in sight. One more mighty heave, and all working together, the nations of the world can bring peace. We must do our part.

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## Chapter 3.

# The Postwar Era, 1945 to 1962

### 1945–46: Ralph Parker, President

*Ralph was born in 1908 and reared on Wild Rose Stock Farm at Concord, a community three miles north of Chandler. His father raised sugar cane and prize Jerseys. On graduation from Chandler High School in 1926, he moved to Dallas and married his childhood sweetheart, Audrey Rowland, daughter of Dallas County*

*Commissioner John W. Rowland. After working for Krohler Manufacturing and Gulf Oil, Ralph went to work for Southwestern Bell in 1936. From 1941 to 1951, he was manager of the office in Longview. Having married into the Disciples of Christ, Ralph became one of the youngest elders in First Christian Church of Longview. Among other activities, he was a Camp Fire dad, boys' baseball team manager, president of the Quarterback*



Photo by courtesy of Ann N. Grant

***Boy Scout Day at the Rotary Club of Longview, 1950–51***

*(See appendix for identifications.)*



## The 1945-46 Rotary Ann Christmas Party

### ***"Rotary Members Entertain Wives With Christmas Party On Tuesday"***

*reported by Society Editor Julia Shaw Acker (a founding Rotary Ann) in the Longview News-Journal*

Members of the Rotary Club were hosts to the Rotary Anns at a Christmas dinner and party Tuesday night [December 11] at the Community Center building and were, in turn, entertained with a clever program presented by the honorees.

For the occasion, the reception rooms of the building were beautifully decorated with Christmas suggestions. A special arrangement of white and gold chrysanthemums was used on the drop leaf table in the parlor and the large mantel were banked with red candles.

The receiving line, which welcomed the guests in the foyer was composed of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Parker, Mr. and Mrs. George Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. McGowen, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Daniel, Mr. and Mrs. Dell Messner and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Birdsong.

The feature of the decorations in the banquet hall was a beautifully decorated holly tree that reached the ceiling. The tree was supplied by Lawrence Birdsong and caused much comment. Large floor baskets filled with holly were used at vantage points about the room and the tables were spread with white damask cloths. Long strips of holly were interspersed with red tapers down the center of the tables.

The menu consisted of turkey, dressing, gravy, English peas in nests of creamed potatoes, waldorf salad, candied sweet potatoes, hot rolls, celery, olives, pickles, pumpkin pie, whipped cream and coffee.

Mrs. Ralph Parker, program chairman for the affair, introduced Mrs. O. Thomas Welch, who presided as mistress of ceremonies and presented the clever program.

Preceding the program, "A Forecast of 1946," A. E. Reider, chalk talk artist, depicted the changing months with drawings on a calendar. As the seasons of the year were ushered into the room, two heralds, Russell Williams and Dale Jones, announced their arrival with blasts from a trumpet.

January was represented by little Algur Meadows, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Meadows, shyly entering the room as 1946 while Mrs. Howard Eason played Auld

Lang Syne. February was portrayed by Mrs. Tom Richardson as Martha Washington and Curtis Meadows as George Washington and Mary Lou Harris, Vera Gray, and Jimmie Hudnall enacted the scene for March which brought peals of laughter.

A Texas Independence Day scene represented the month of April with Mr. Henry Foster enacting the spirit of the pioneers while the entire group sang "The Eyes Of Texas." For the month of May, a commencement scene was portrayed by Norman Messner, who, dressed in a cap and gown, played an appropriate accordion solo. June, the wedding month, was enacted by Sarah Jo Dunsworth as the bride and Algur Meadows as the groom, while Martha Jane Parker sang "I Love You Truly." July was appropriately portrayed with R. L. Speight making a patriotic speech while guests threw fire crackers and sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Mrs. Curtis Meadows enacted the month of August by canning vegetables while her son, Curtis Meadows, Jr., and Brewster Welch calmly sat fishing.

October, the Halloween month, was cleverly displayed by Mrs. Claude Barbee, dressed as a fortune teller who billed herself as Madam "I Tell Em," who knew all and told all. For November, Linda Jane Ryan and Brewster Welch, dressed in puritan costumes, very effectively argued which Thanksgiving day should be observed and the month of December was observed by singing "Jingle Bells" and distributing the gifts, lovely boxes of toilet soap, to each of the guests from under the tree.

Approximately 150 members and guests were in attendance. The program committee for the affair consisted of Mrs. Thomas Welch, Mrs. Curtis Meadows, Mrs. Curtis Morris, Mrs. Lawrence Birdsong and Mrs. Howard Eason. Mrs. Rembert Rea served as chairman of the decorations committee and was assisted by Mrs. Lee Norton, Mrs. Bill Patterson and Mrs. Casey P'Pool, while Mrs. T. D. Campbell and Mrs. Henry Foster served on the gift committee.

*Club, member of the Civic Music Association and Longview War Price and Rationing Board, charter member and vice president of the Longview Knife and Fork Club, board member of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, Knight of Pythias, and active in the Community Chest.*

*When the telephone company transferred Ralph back to Dallas, he and his family returned to Pleasant Grove Christian Church, where Audrey's family had worshiped for six generations (and she still does). He was elected Elder Emeritus. A parakeet fancier, Ralph became president of the Dallas Bird Club and treasurer of the Texas Bird Club. At Southwestern Bell, he worked as a commercial staff assistant until retirement, which was hastened by Parkinson's disease. At his death in 1980, Ralph was survived by his wife Audrey, son Jack,*

*daughters Mary (Mrs. Jerry) Lanier and Martha Lane, brother Rudolph, sister Lola Hanson, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.*

WORLD WAR II was coming to an end when past District Governor George Kelly installed Ralph Parker and the other new officers on July 3. Germany had surrendered on May 8, and fighting with Japan ended August 15. Longview attorney Earl Sharp presented a program November 27 on the establishment of the United Nations at the recent World Security Conference in San Francisco, which he attended as a member of the armed forces intelligence corps. *Rotaview* editor Bob Speight (principal of Longview High School) commented on the war's end as follows:



**26. Ralph Ray Parker**  
**1908–1980**

*Photo by courtesy of Audrey Parker*

President Ralph begins his administration in a most auspicious time. This year will mark the turn of things economic, social, and governmental to a more nearly normal condition. Business will get better. The consumer will find more of the products he needs. Labor will begin to hunt jobs. Rotary will find more and greater opportunities for service to those who need it.

Ralph left behind a very informative scrapbook on his administration, which has been loaned to us by his wife Audrey. A highlight of the year for the club as well as the city was a major successful effort to bring R. G. LeTourneau to Longview early in 1946 with his existing manufacturing company and newly formed LeTourneau Technical Institute. The committee working with newspaper publisher Carl Estes to secure the LeTourneau move was composed mostly of Rotarians. In May, plant manager Bob Flanagan was inducted into our fellowship by Curtis Morris.

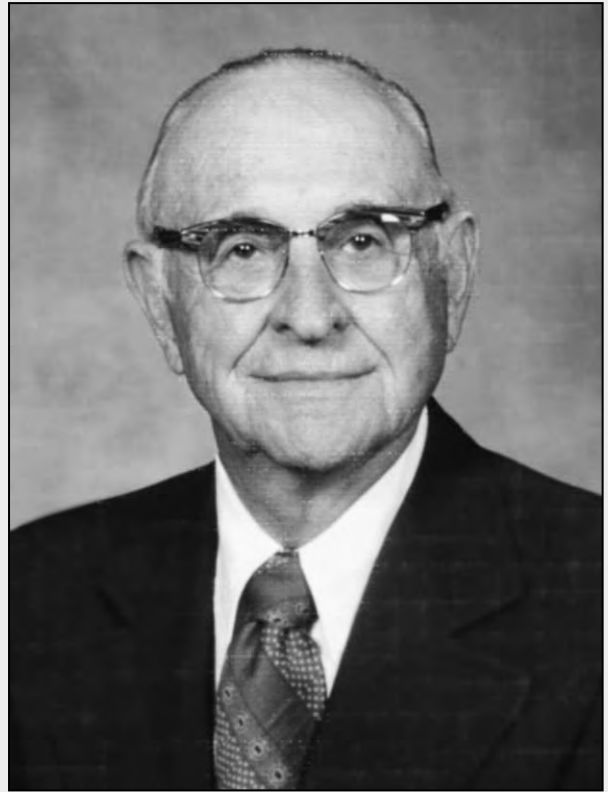
As in the preceding year, the Rotary Ann banquet celebrated Christmas instead of Valentine's Day. (See the newspaper report opposite.) The program featured the children of the club, including one of our newer members of 1994, Linda Ryan Butter, who was eight years old at the time. The *Rotaview* noted, "It was surprising how many youngsters there were. We may not be such an old man's club after all."

The annual banquet for all Longview Independent School District teachers was held at the Community Center on October 9. There were 99 white and 31 black teachers in LISD. Each Rotarian was expected to buy a one-dollar ticket for himself and another for a teacher. Editor-Principal Bob Speight noted, "In the past, the teachers have been present; the Rotarians have been absent. This year you are expected to come." Entertainment was provided by Harry McDaniels, amateur magician from Dallas.

Participation in the Salvation Army Christmas collection continued. On the Tuesday before Easter, the meeting consisted of attendance at a "pre-Easter union service" for our club, conducted at First Baptist Church by the Reverend Frank Richardson of First Methodist Church, followed by lunch at the Hilton Hotel. The club had 68 members at beginning of the year and 80 at the end. Dues were \$25 per year, which is equivalent to \$207 in 1994 after adjustment for inflation.

### **1946–47: Dell Messner, President**

*Besides being presently the oldest member of this club and having the longest perfect attendance record in our history with 52 years, Dell is the only member who has met Paul Harris, founder of Rotary. Delbert M. Messner was born in 1904 to Pennsylvania Dutch parents at Etna*



**27. Delbert Michael Messner**  
**President, 1946–47**

Green, Indiana, and attended high school at White Pigeon, Michigan. In Chicago in 1923, he started work for L. E. Myers Company, a construction contractor for electric utility firms, where he became an accountant. Having been transferred to Michigan, Kentucky, and Marshall, Texas, Dell wound up in Longview during the Oil Boom, joining First Methodist Church in 1930. He resigned from Myers in 1934 and founded Messner Electric Supply Company, a wholesale dealership. Rooming and boarding at Rotarian Dee Plyler's house, Dell met a pretty schoolteacher from Nacogdoches named Barbara Elizabeth Perritte, and they were married the next year. (Barbara's father Hiram had been pastor of First Methodist Church in the early 1920s.) They have one son, Michael, who lives in Longview. Dell sold his business in 1960 but continued in its management until 1970. He has also been active in farming, ranching, and oil and gas investments, not to speak of fishing a lot. Dell is a Scottish Rite Mason and Shriner. He was president of the board of trustees of Longview Independent School District in 1963.

Dell joined this club in 1941. His meeting with Paul Harris came in the winter of 1942-43 at the Dixie Hotel at Monticello, Florida, where Paul was spending the winter. Dell stayed there about a month while supplying a wartime construction contract, visiting with Paul regularly at breakfast. Dell's half-century attendance record has involved both heroic effort and luck. When a lung was removed at Baylor Hospital in 1959, he made up in advance and was home the second Saturday, making up on Monday at the closest club in Mineola. After coronary surgery at Baylor on a Tuesday in November of 1980, a friend took him to the Oak Cliff club the next Monday, and he came home the same day. After all that, he says it was easy to make up before and after carotid surgery at Baylor in 1983 and at Good Shepherd in 1994.

**A**FTER SERVING as Rotaview editor at least three years, Bob Speight turned the job over to John Harrison. Annual events included the teacher appreciation banquet on October 22 (the club being dined and entertained in return by the high-school home economics department at the Community Center) and the Rotary Ann banquet at the Community Center on December 3. A tour was made of the LeTourneau plant, with lunch at their cafeteria. The annual city-farm fellowship banquet this year consisted of a picnic-style lunch on the courthouse lawn, organized by the rural-urban committee chaired by William Gardner Mitchell. All Rotarians mourned the death of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, in January, 1947. The Rotaview for June 3 reported the opening of the new Gregg County Airport.

## 1947-48: Steve Topp, President

John Stephen Topp was born in 1897 in Carroll County, Mississippi. After working as a bookkeeper for a lumber company in El Dorado, Arkansas, he came to Longview. In 1920, he married Bessie Vallery and became a founding stockholder in Pinecrest Country Club. In 1936, he bought Tony Printing Company by pawning Bessie's wedding ring for the down payment, establishing Topp



**28. John Stephen Topp**  
**1897-1984**

*From photo on Page 23*

Printing and Stationery company, which he operated until 1972. It is still in business under Steve's name. A Scottish Rite Mason, he was a member of First Methodist Church, where he attended the Men's Bible Class regularly from 1933 until his final illness. Among other community services, he was a member of the board of directors of Longview Chamber of Commerce. At his death in 1984, Steve was survived by his sons Stephen of Aiken, South Carolina, David of Sugar Land, and three grandchildren.

**M**EMBERSHIP WAS about 85, and 24 committees were listed. John Harrison turned over editorship of the Rotaview to Austin Hatchell. Regular annual activities included the Schoolteachers' Banquet and the Sweetheart Banquet, which was held on February 10 at the Community Center. The R. G. LeTourneau plant was going strong; on January 20, 1948, plant manager and Rotarian Bob Flanagan presented a program on the heavy equipment they were making, including enormous rubber-tired bulldozers called Tournadozers. One Monday in May, President Steve's store was heavily damaged by fire, but he was at the podium with his characteristic smile the next day. The annual end-of-year district assembly for Rotary District 128 was held in Longview on Monday, June 21, 1948, at the Community Center. The assembly luncheon, with attendance of about 160, was our meeting for the week: 13 of us missed without makeup.

At the end of the year, as *Rotaview* Editor Austin Hatchell turned the job over to Tom Putman on June 29, he addressed the editorial to his successor:

Dear Tom:

We greet you as editor of the *Rotaview*. But our heart goes out to you in a most peculiar manner.

Now and then you will suffer a brainstorm and write a front-page article you think to be the cat's whiskers. It will be your baby, and you will be proud of it. When the *Rotaview* is delivered, you will watch the members glance at it and turn over to the jokes, which some think are too dumb and others think are too dirty.

In your off moments, you will get soft and make up your mind to say something nice about some member. You will exhaust your vocabulary and the dictionary in search for adjectives to tell of his good traits. You will expect him to read it and rush up to you with generous thanks and appreciation. You wait a week, two weeks, or perhaps a month, and then timidly approach him and say, "Fellow, did you read all the nice things I said about you in the *Rotaview*?" He will look startled, hesitate, and finally say, "Well, no, I must have missed that issue. Somebody told me my name was in the bulletin."

You will then grow hard with a determination to tell the truth. You will pick out some member and begin to write. After you have written a few lines, you will suddenly stop and exclaim to yourself, "No, I can't tell this. If I do and the members believe it, they will turn him out of the club. If they don't believe it, they will turn me out. Being only an editor, they won't believe me, and it will be curtains on my career." Yes, Tom, there will be times when you think you were a sap for accepting the honor.

But you will find it to be fun and the work most interesting, as I have done. You will find there isn't a sweller bunch of guys anywhere than the members of this club. They have been patient, tolerant, and appreciative of the efforts put forth by the *Rotaview*, for which we are most grateful. We wish for you good hunting and success and predict you will give us from week to week a good bulletin. Good luck!

Starting on July 6, 1948, Tom Putman was to be editor of the *Rotaview* for 17 of the next 27 years.

## 1948-49: Dr. V. R. Hurst, President

Vesse Reeves Hurst was born at Timpson in 1887 and reared at Hursttown (named for his family), near Center. After graduation from the University of Texas Medical School at Galveston in 1912, he practiced two years in Marshall, then moved to Longview. In 1916, he married Genevieve Yates, daughter of Jack Williams Yates of Longview (a founder of First National Bank in 1889 and later president of Kelly Plow Company) and his wife Mary Alice, sister of R. Marvin Kelly, the father of this club. In 1919, Vesse established the first eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic in Texas, located first in a red brick building east of the downtown post office, then in a larger white brick building on the southwest corner of Center and Whaley Streets, both built by him (the latter still standing). As president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce in 1929, he was responsible for building the



**29. Vesse Reeves Hurst, M.D.**  
**1887-1957**

*Photo by courtesy of Jacquelyn and Blackshear Jameson*

*Gregg Hotel on the site of the Yates home. (See 1929-30.) Vesse was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology. He was a charter member and vice president of the Private Clinics and Hospital Association, vice president of First National Bank and of Kelly Plow Company, president of Longview Savings and Loan Association, director of Allen Foundation (operating Allen Academy), founder and president of the Longview Foundation, a Freemason, and trustee and steward of First Methodist Church. He died in 1957. Vesse and Genevieve reared two daughters: Mary Marchman of Dallas (wife of Oscar Marchman, Jr.) and Jacquelyn Jameson of Longview (wife of Blackshear Jameson of this club). Two grandchildren have been members of this club: B. H. and Kelly Jameson.*

OUR VICE-PRESIDENT G. Artemus McCreight had been mayor of Longview for eight years. He moved to Longview in 1927 to succeed this club's first president, Ed Bussey, as president of Rembert National Bank, later Longview National Bank.

For the annual rural-urban program on October 5, 1948, eighty "farmers and guests from many East Texas areas" were invited to the meeting. Congressman Lindley Beckworth of Longview spoke on the hope of preventing World War III. He declared the American farmer the bulwark of democracy. Teachers' Night was on October 26 at the Community Center.

Alex Ryan, Rotary chairman of fund-raising for the planned new teenage Round-Up Club, announced that the drive would begin Monday, January 17. Tom Putman commented, "It's our sacred duty to help all we can, to keep our boys and girls and the children of our neighbors and friends, and strangers too, from becoming Juvenile Delinquents."

Ladies' Night was a Valentine Party on Tuesday, February 15. The Rotary Anns decorated the Community Center in a "Forty-Niner" gold rush theme. Dr. Trent Root of SMU spoke, and the program was completed by a square dance and community sing.

Our meeting on April 12 was at Longview High School. Rotarians held a vocational clinic and gave vocational talks to the student body.

At the district conference in Sherman in April, our members Ray Newnham and Blackshear Jameson were elected delegates to the Rotary International convention in New York, with George Kelly and Roy King as alternates. On July 1, 1949, the number of our Rotary District 128 was changed to 188.

Other special programs were as follows: August 24, 1948, Ann Weeks sang, accompanied by Boggs Ryan (son of our member Alex), followed by Judge Earl Sharp speaking on the hospital situation; September 21, Dr. F. C. Bolton, president of Texas A&M; November 2, Lawrence Birdsong, Jr., manager of R. G. LeTourneau's Radio Station KLTJ, on FM radio broadcasting; November 23, Bill Kendricks, superintendent of the ore mines of Lone Star Steel Company; December 28, Longview City Manager Jim Giddings; January 11, Sonny Birdsong's sister Blanche in a song program accompanied by their mother Mabel, organist of First Baptist Church; June 28, District Attorney William A. Wilson of Dallas, who toward the end of his tenure as Attorney General from 1957 to 1963 opened up the "Slant Hole Scandal" in Gregg County.

## 1949-50: John Harrison, President

*John was born in Marshall in 1892, son of Mr. and Mrs. Y. D. Harrison and grandson of Major and Mrs. John Womack, pioneer Harrison County settlers. Having earned a bachelor's degree from Southwestern University at Georgetown, he pursued graduate studies at the University of Chicago. During World War I, he served as an army officer in France. He taught school at Graham and Plainview, then in 1924 married Winnie Dee Hamilton of Abilene. The newlyweds moved to Longview at the invitation of John's aunt, Kate Womack Rembert, whose husband, Frank, had recently died. They lived with her in her home on the northeast corner of Fredonia and College Streets. (See President Ed Rembert, 1921-22.) John taught science and biology at Longview High School until 1938. He then managed family business interests until joining the faculty at Kilgore College, where he taught geology for 10 years until his retirement. He was a director of First Federal Savings and Loan Association, trustee of Longview Independent School District, director of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, district chairman for the Boy*



**30. John Womack Harrison**  
**1892-1955**

*Photo by courtesy of Marjorie Harrison Bivins*

*Scouts of America, and served in the wartime Office of Price Administration. A lifelong Methodist, John was also a Mason and served in high posts in the Knights Templar. At his death in 1955, he was survived by his wife, four children, and six grandchildren. John's son John, Jr., is a past president of this club. His daughter, Marjorie, married Jim Bivins, whose father, Maurice, was also a president of this club.*

**T**HIS WAS THE YEAR when Texas Eastman was established. Their purchasing agent Duncan Kincheloe joined our club early in 1950. (See President Duncan, 1963-64.)

The program for July 26, 1949, was devoted to the club's Boy Scout Troop 202. Two boys of the troop attended: Patrick Kelly and Billy Hines. The *Rotaview* pointed out that this was the only project which the club sponsored as a corporate body, under Boy Scout Committee Chairman German Hollandsworth. The troop, in turn, entertained the committee at a banquet in City Park on the evening of January 16, 1950. And on May 2, about 15 scouts attended another Rotary program on scouting.

Teachers' Night was October 4. The annual rural-urban program was a speech by a county agricultural agent at our meeting on November 29, without the traditional country guests. The Ladies' Night party was on Tuesday, February 14. After the April 25 meeting,



Rotarians gave vocational talks at Longview High School. On June 6, three outstanding vocational students at Longview High School spoke to the club, and it was announced that Wayne Pevey had received the \$100 Rotary scholarship for the year. Rotarians, wives, children, and guests were invited to a picnic at Dann Budd's Cherokee Lake house on Thursday evening, June 8.

Here are some other outstanding programs: September 13, joint meeting with the Gilmer and Gladewater Rotary Clubs at Hotel Longview; November 29, talks by three students of White Oak High School; December 6, C. C. Turner, Longview High School Teacher, on teenage driving; and May 9, Harry Miller, business manager of Gregg Memorial Hospital, discussing the 93-bed addition under construction, including one room furnished by Rotarians' donations.

## 1950-51: George Kelly, II, President

*Named for his grandfather, founder of G. A. Kelly Plow Company, George was the son of R. Marvin Kelly, father of this club. (See 1922-23.) He graduated from Longview High School, attended the University of Texas and SMU, and got a mechanical engineering degree at the University of Cincinnati. After serving in the army during World War I, George came home to work in the family business, eventually taking over as president. In 1922, he married Leita Cunyus Young of Crockett. They reared two sons: James Marvin, who was a member of this club before moving away in 1964, and George the Third, who transferred from the Kilgore Rotary Club to this one in 1992. At the time of his final illness in the spring of 1977, George had almost achieved 51 years of perfect attendance in this club. He was our secretary-treasurer from 1931 to 1943, serving also as district governor in 1940-41. During World War II, George was a director of the War Production Board and served in the War Foods Administration. During the Korean war, he was one of 15 members of the national Advisory Council of the Defense Production Administration. He was president of the Farm and Industrial Equipment Institute, member of the Department of Commerce Agricultural Equipment Advisory Committee, a director of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, board chairman of First National Bank, director of Longview Savings and Loan Association, and partner in King Tool Company. He was a lifetime member of First Methodist Church, where Leita still attends.*

**T**HE KOREAN WAR began in 1950 as a so-called police action by the United Nations. The frequency of programs and *Rotaview* editorials with patriotic and anti-communist or anti-socialist themes increased dramatically. For instance, on October 24, a joint meeting of this club with the Kiwanis and Lions Clubs was addressed by former heavyweight boxing champion Gene Tunney, who said war with Russia was inevitable. Two weeks later, retired army colonel R. W. Holderness proclaimed to us that the Korean conflict was actually the initial stage of World War III.



**31. George Addison Kelly, II**  
**1898-1977**

*Photo by courtesy of Leita Kelly*

Floyd Huddleston joined Tom Putman as associate editor of the *Rotaview*, becoming the sole editor in March when Tom took a leave of absence from the club. At a club assembly Monday night, October 16, the possibility of starting to use identification badges again was discussed. On November 14, future president John W. Harrison, Jr., then a student at Longview High School, was our guest as the Junior Rotarian of the month. On February 27, dinner music was provided by members of the White Oak School band.

The photograph of a Boy Scout program shown at the beginning of this chapter was apparently taken during this year, because George Kelly is shown next to the speaker (German Hollandsworth), and the poster advertises a 1951 Scouting anniversary.

The Teachers' Night party at the Community Center on October 10 was supposed to serve also as the Rotary Ann Banquet. This was presumably supposed to boost attendance, but it didn't work, so we had a regular Ladies' Night banquet at the same place on December 5. Once again, the Rural-Urban program was merely a speech at a regular meeting, on January 16.

Some other programs of interest were as follows: August 8, Longview Mayor R. B. Williams; February 13, an evening tour of the Lone Star Steel plant, followed by supper, with 60 members attending in cold rain; and June 5, City Manager Gary Summers.

## 1951–52: Thomas Welch, President

*O. Thomas Welch was born in 1897 in Alexander City, Alabama. He had three brothers and three sisters. Their father William, an undertaker and hardware dealer, moved the business in 1907 to Kerens, Texas, where Thomas finished high school in 1913, and then to Longview the next year. On graduation from the Dallas School of Embalming in 1919, he became the first licensed embalmer in Longview. Thomas joined his father as a partner, taking over the business on William's death in 1930. In 1926, he married the Spanish teacher at Longview High School, Alta Rita Brewster of Killeen. They closed the hardware store a block south of the downtown depot when a fire swept that area in 1937. The funeral parlor, in turn, continued in a former residence where the Petroleum Building now stands, being moved to the present location on South Green Street in 1939. At First Baptist Church, Thomas was a trustee and chairman of the deacon body. He was a Freemason, president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, city commissioner, member of the Texas Insurance Rate Board, President of the East Texas Funeral Directors Association, vice president of the Texas Funeral Directors Association, and president of the LHS Band Boosters Club. Sons Thomas, Jr., (a member of this club) and Brewster continue in the family business. Grandson Thomas the Third was in the Longview-Greggton club before moving to Austin, and grandson Marcus is a past president of the Longview South Club.*

**T**HE KOREAN WAR continued, and so did the bitter tone of editorials about national political trends in the *Rotaview*. However, Editor Floyd Huddleston allowed that not all members agreed with the speaker for September 25, former congressman Martin Dies, who had been chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

After some uncertainty as to whether a Teacher's Night would be held this year, it took place on October 30. As usual, only about half of the club showed up.

Boy Scout Committee Chairman German Hollandsworth was described as scoutmaster of our Troop 202 at the beginning of 1951, but college student Frank Baccus (or Bockus) took over for the summer. The committee held a board of review at the Rotary scout cabin on Tuesday night, August 7, 1951.

## 1952–53: Austin Hatchell, President

*Born in Granger in 1885, Austin attended Southwestern University and received a law degree at the University of Texas. He practiced law in Plainview, then Dallas, finally settling in Longview in 1931. His first wife, the former Delsa Dale Dillingham, died in 1926. Of their two children, Austin Lee is a retired attorney in Austin, Texas; and Virginia (Mrs. John Baxter) is deceased. Austin married Vera Smith of Dallas in 1933, and their son Raymond is a charter member of the Longview-Greggton Club with the classification of pipeline equipment manufacturing. Austin's law practice in Longview was first with Rotarian T. D. Campbell and Bailey Salmon, later*



**32. Obediah Thomas Welch**  
**1897–1953**

*Photo by courtesy of O. Thomas Welch, Jr.*

*with others, and then solo until his death in 1969. He joined this club during the 1945–46 year, edited the *Rotaview* very capably in 1947–48, and remained for 20 years. An active member of First Baptist Church, Austin was also an Elk and a Knight of Pythias. In addition to various civic service, he was president of the Gregg County Bar Association and chairman of the board of directors of the State Bar of Texas.*

**T**OM PUTMAN RETURNED from his leave of absence from the club in January, 1952, and Floyd Huddleston passed the *Rotaview* editorship back to him at the beginning of this Rotary year. In an editorial on April 7, 1953, Tom expressed the heady spirit of the postwar development that Longview was experiencing under the roughshod leadership of the mercurial developer of industrial real estate who also owned the city's only newspaper:

### CITY BUILDERS

#### Carl L. Estes

When Carl Estes moved from Tyler to Longview 19 years ago to assume ownership of the Longview News & Journal, he found here a sleepy little city without vision—a town completely in the doldrums. Folks were self-centered, self-satisfied. Their business fronts were shabby, dilapidated, and ugly unsightly awnings hung heavily over the sidewalks. Carl Estes wanted progress. He visualized a mighty city someday of industries. He started out to push



**33. Austin Cleveland Hatchell**  
**1885–1969**

*Photo by courtesy of Raymond Hatchell*

Longview forward in the path of progress. He was confronted with obstructionists, reactionaries, and the horse-and-buggy gang. Undaunted, he fought for a greater Longview. He knew that the “pen was mightier than the sword,” and with the power of his prolific pen, intestinal fortitude, and indomitable courage he moved forward, and Longview moved forward with him. He was slandered, cussed, and discussed, but he fought on. He has been Longview’s ambassador of good will, its super salesman, its hard-hitting ramrod! The vast industrial might in Longview today is the result of a doer—not a dreamer. Yes, to us, Mr. Estes, you are the Spirit of Progress!!—A City Builder Extraordinary!!

The following week, Tom expanded on the same theme in a tribute to the evangelistic industrialist with whom Estes had started the postwar boom:

#### **CITY BUILDERS** **R. G. LeTourneau**

When Mr. R. G. LeTourneau decided to build a great industrial plant in Longview and to make this the headquarters of his world-wide industrial empire, it was the spark needed to awaken Longview to its vast possibilities as an industrial center. With him came chemists, engineers, scientists—men of vision, men of action, men of achievement, men of ability that were soon to transform the dormant city of Longview into a mighty, thriving metropolis. Following close in his wake came other great leaders

of industry and great industries to expand their operations—Texas Eastman, Powers Manufacturing, the LeTourneau steel plant, expansion of the Lone Star Steel plant, the great Knox Lee power plant, the Groves Manufacturing, and many others. There soon followed a great technical school, a junior and senior college, a new shopping and residential center, a great new Fedway department store, other smart shops, and smaller industries. Stimulated by the spark ignited by Mr. LeTourneau, Longview is forging ahead in rapid strides. Thanks to the pioneering spirit of R. G. LeTourneau, a great spiritual leader, a great industrialist, a great city builder! We join in wishing him well as he helps to pioneer Longview into a greater tomorrow!

The shopping and residential center to which Tom referred was Pinewood Park. The Fedway building was later occupied by Dillard’s and is now the Atrium office center.

The next weekly editorial of this series, in turn, reflects the effect of the LeTourneau location in drawing urban development to the south of the city. It also serves as a reminder that many others besides Carl Estes were responsible for postwar industrialization:

#### **CITY BUILDERS** **G. A. McCreight**

G. A. McCreight has played a vital role in the growth and progress of Longview during the past 25 years. While on the city commission, where he served untiringly for 12 years, he was instrumental in giving Longview one of the most efficient and modern water and sewerage systems in the State of Texas. Under his leadership, High Street was widened and opened up, giving Longview its first through artery in the city. It is the only street that crosses the entire city from north to south and connects two highways—No. 26 and No. 149. As a member of the finance committee of the First Baptist Church, his influence again was felt in the building of the new million-dollar Baptist Church of Longview. He is an active director in the massive Lone Star Steel plant. ...He helped organize the Community Chest in 1934. ...Today we pay tribute to a City Builder who has served well his community for a quarter of a century.

In a similar tone, Tom Putman went on to eulogize two more city builders on the front page of the next two *Rotaviews*: Clayton Loftis, president of First National Bank, and Verne A. Clements, president of Longview National Bank (formerly Rembert National Bank). These were the only banks in the city. Clements was credited with fathering the Cherokee Lake project. Of these five men, only McCreight and Loftis were Rotarians.

Interestingly, Tom began this City Builder Series not with Carl Estes, but right before him with the Reverend Dr. W. Morris Ford, pastor of First Baptist Church. He dismissed the imposingly domed 1914 church building (demolished in 1982 for a parking lot) as small and inconspicuous. Tom was expressing a spirit that ran counter to the later ideals of historic

preservation. Where we now see a few remnants of an irreplaceable architectural heritage, Tom saw only shabbiness. To him, old buildings were symbols of what he called the horse-and-buggy gang. He was presumably speaking of the civic leadership cadre that had maintained continuity with the town's long agrarian past, established this club, steered the city through the Oil Boom, and eventually yielded to the boomers during World War II.

Teachers' Night began at 7:00 on October 28 at the Community Center, attended by 130 teachers. The Rural-Urban program was an ordinary meeting on December 30, with a speech by Dallas dairy operator Earl Cabell. On February 10, the club was host to Boy Scout Troop 202, and a talk on Scouting was given by Robert Gibson, Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Some noteworthy programs of the year were as follows: July 8, 1952, R. E. Slayton, new superintendent of Longview ISD (succeeding Rotarian Henry Foster); September 16, Swede Dees, coach of the Lobos football team; October 7, a tour of the LeTourneau plant, hosted by R. G. himself, talking about his plans for agricultural investment in Liberia; January 27, a 50-voice mixed chorus from the Longview Colored High School, directed by Eddie Henry; March 31, Congressman and future senator Lloyd M. Bentsen of McAllen; April 7, Paul Williams of Dallas, speaking on air conditioning; and May 12, G. R. McGeeney, manager of the Fedway store, prophesying that Longview would be the Pittsburgh of tomorrow.

## 1953–54: Ellie Hopkins, President

*Born in 1909 in Meridian, Mississippi, Ellie Hopkins was raised in the country near Hallsville, Texas, where his father Jack was a farmer and stock man. He later said that when he first earned 50 cents as a child, he spent it on a book. After completing all the grades offered at the local two-room Mulberry Springs School, Ellie worked his way through the College of Marshall (a junior college, now East Texas Baptist University) as a proofreader for the Marshall Messenger. Then instead of teaching school as originally intended, he became editor of the Jefferson Journal at the age of 19 and joined the Longview Daily News on June 27, 1930. He was a reporter in the crowd when the Oil Boom dawned in September at Dad Joiner's Number Three Daisy Bradford well. Remaining with the Longview newspaper after Carl Estes acquired it from Clarence Faulk in 1934, Ellie worked up to become Editor-in-Chief before retirement in 1974. His editorials won statewide and national awards.*

*In 1933, Ellie married Nina Hall of Hallsville, whose father John T. Hall was a first cousin of Judge Sam B. Hall, Senior, of Marshall. (Thus Nina is likewise a cousin of our former member Dr. John L. Hall.) Ellie joined this club on November 27, 1945, and never missed a meeting in 38 years until his final illness. At First Baptist Church, Ellie was deacon, general superintendent of the Sunday school, and president of the choir. He was president of the Texas Press Association; a*



**34. Ellie Hopkins**  
**1909–1993**

*Photo by courtesy of Nina Hopkins*

*director of Lone Star Steel Company, LeTourneau College, and the National Association of Petroleum Writers; and a trustee of the Baptist Standard. At his death in 1993, Ellie was survived by Nina, their children Mary Beth Shaw of Canada and Jack of Longview, a brother Sidney of Hallsville, a sister Zula Mae Bunt of Hallsville, and six grandchildren.*

THE WAR IN KOREA dragged on as the Rotary year began. Tom Putman, who had been fulminating against President Harry Truman and communist conspirators for years in *Rotaview* editorials, now praised President Dwight Eisenhower, Governor Allan Shivers, and Senator Joseph McCarthy. On May 25, 1954, he delivered a diatribe against the Supreme Court's recent ruling on school segregation in Topeka, linking the court to communist infiltration. On June 15, he lauded Texas Congressman Brady Gentry for opposing the sending of U. S. troops to Indochina, where Ho Chi Minh was defeating the French. Tom was doubtless preaching to an agreeable choir on matters such as these. However, on August 10, 1954, he noted that his editorials did not necessarily reflect the views of the club, and that members' views on both sides of all questions would appear from time to time.

In an article headed "Rotary and Tolerance" on February 2, Tom noted that this club had 52 Methodists, 24 Baptists, 9 Christians, 8 Presbyterians,

4 Episcopalians, 3 Jews, 2 members of the Church of Christ, 1 Lutheran, 1 Catholic, and 1 member of the Salvation Army—105 members in all.

According to the custom of that time, Austin Hatchell became vice-president when Ellie succeeded him as president. Rotarian J. Clyde Tomlinson was mayor. The speaker at Teachers' Night on October 27 at the Community Center was Dr. Willis Tate, vice president of SMU. The club manned the Salvation Army kettles during a blizzard on December 22. The Rotary Ann Banquet was held on February 9 at the Community Center.

On February 16, the club was host to our Boy Scout Troop 202. W. B. Higgins was scoutmaster, and Sam Vaughn was his assistant. The members were listed as James Roberts, David Hornbeck, Marvin Curnutt, David Stuckey, George Green, Kenneth Moon, Jack Stracener, Roland Jones, Leon Coody, Billy Gray, Mike Mullins, John Lanham, Eddie Fudge, Thomas Kornegay, Billy Smith, Eugene DeGeorge, John Burkett, Winder Lay, Kenneth Sanders, Dan Stuckey, Dick Rathbun, John Hicks, Roger Wade, Johnnie Rundell, Gerril Whittlesay, and Bill Martin.

The annual conference for Rotary District 188 was held Sunday and Monday, March 14 and 15, at the Hotel Longview and the Community Center. The governor's banquet took place in the high school gymnasium, with entertainment by the Kilgore College Rangerettes.

Here is a sampling of programs: July 21, 1953, State Representative D. H. Buchanan; January 26, the Longview Colored High School Choir; February 2, a movie on civil defense; June 15, County School Superintendent J. W. Hagler, denouncing school integration; and June 22, Ewing Adams, president of the recently formed Longview YMCA, located in the new Ware Addition on South High Street.

## 1954–55: Henry A. Pitts, President

*Henry Pitts and his presidential predecessor Ellie Hopkins shared much the same experiences in childhood and youth. They were friends on neighboring farms near Hallsville, where Henry was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Pitts in 1908. Like Ellie, Henry attended Mulberry Springs School and the College of Marshall. In 1928, he went to work in Marshall for Southwestern Gas and Electric Company, now known as Southwestern Electric Power Company. Transferring to Longview, he served under Quest Whitney (president of this club in 1930–31). Back in Marshall as Division Sales Manager for the same company, Henry married a schoolteacher from Hallsville named Orisca Ponder in 1942. She passed away in 1949. After a three-year leave from SWEPCO as an infantry sergeant during World War II, Henry succeeded Quest Whitney as manager of the Longview office in 1949 and joined this club the following year. At his retirement from that position in 1976, he was followed in turn by Rotarian Toby Abney for nearly three years, then Rotarian Jerrell Huffman, and now Rotarian Buck Birdsong. A member of First*



**35. Henry Allison Pitts**

*President, 1954–55*

*Methodist Church, Henry has been president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, chapter chairman of the Texas Manufacturers Association, and board member of LeTourneau College, Good Shepherd Medical Center, and Gregg Home for the Aged. Besides looking after his prize polled Herefords, Henry enjoys fishing and bird hunting.*

**T**HIS WAS THE YEAR when club members started wearing the present name badges during meetings. The innovation was instituted in January, 1955. Membership increased by 15, exceeded only by the first two years of the club and the current year. We were in the midst of our longest period of uninterrupted growth, when membership doubled in twelve years from 68 to 137. (See the graph on Page 95.)

On Wednesday, January 12, Club Director and Service Committee Chairman German Hollandsworth hosted a luncheon in the Tropical Room of the Hotel Longview for the 33 committee chairmen of the club. Twenty-seven attended, dining on an enormous salmon caught by Lee Travis. (Lee, along with German's brother Earl, had recently bought the hotel with the intent of modernizing it. They also planned to build an "ultra-modern skyscraper office building.") At the club meeting the day before, Attendance Chairman Austin Hatchell had urged members who were lax on attendance to reform or resign.



As usual for that era, Longview's booming growth was reflected in the club's proceedings. The *Rotaview* for October 5 noted that First Federal Savings and Loan Association had bought the old Brookshire grocery store (catercorner from the new First Baptist Church building) for erecting their new building. Six of the eight First Federal officials named were Rotarians. The speaker for January 25 was C. A. Bullen, president of Manhattan Construction Company, describing the forthcoming new First National Bank building. Although only 10 stories tall, it was to be engineered for future expansion to 17 stories.

On August 31, 1954, a \$250 scholarship was furnished to Teddy Thomas to attend Kilgore College. The Teachers Appreciation Banquet was held at the new Ware Elementary School cafeteria on November 16, with 168 LISD teachers and a few Rotarians in attendance. The club manned the Salvation Army kettles one day at Christmas time, winning the service-club competition with over \$1,000 (\$5,600 in 1994 dollars), which was about 30% of the total collected. Twenty boy scouts of our Troop 202 attended our meeting on February 11, 1955, with Scoutmaster Bill Higgins and his assistant Carroll Harris. The annual Sweetheart Banquet was held at Hotel Longview the following week. On Monday night, June 13, all three Rotary clubs of Gregg County met at the three-year-old Longview Junior High School gymnasium for a speech and musical entertainment celebrating the golden anniversary of Rotary.

State constitutional amendments on the ballot on November 2 included one providing jury service for women. Editor Tom Putman said he would not attempt to influence members' votes, but that particular item was quite controversial.

Some memorable programs were as follows: November 9, the Longview Colored High School choir, directed by O. J. Lloyd; March 29, the Longview High School A Cappella Choir, directed by Herbert Teat (they had also entertained at the Teachers' Banquet in November); May 3, J. E. Arnold, manager of the 300 Convair employees operating the U. S. Navy Aerophysics Laboratory wind tunnel at the Lone Star Steel plant; February 22 (the golden anniversary of Rotary), Dr. Willis Tate, President of SMU.

### **1955-56: Dr. Wayman B. Norman, President**

*Wayman was born in 1923 in Louisville, Kentucky, where his father was a student at Louisville Theological Seminary. Raised in Waxahachie, Wayman finished high school at Roswell, New Mexico, in 1939. He graduated from Baylor in 1943 and Southwestern Medical School in Dallas in 1946, then interned one year at Baylor Hospital. From 1947 to 1949, he served in the army as an ear-nose-throat doctor, including some early research on Streptomycin at Fitzsimmons General*



**36. Wayman Bowers Norman, M.D.**  
*President, 1955-56*

*Hospital in Denver. After residency in St. Louis and Dallas, he joined the staff of Dr. Vesse Hurst's eye, ear, nose, and throat clinic and hospital in 1951. (See 1948-49.) Dr. Hurst immediately brought him into this club. Meantime, in 1944, Wayman married Jessie Evelyn Jackson, originally of Louisville, whom he met at Baylor. They reared two children, Paul and Melanie. Wayman took over the ear, nose, and throat portion of the Hurst clinic in 1954. About ten years later, he built his own clinic at 905 Judson road, where he brought in Dr. Clayton Mitchell, and in 1988 he retired.*

*Besides involvement with various professional organizations, Wayman has been a very active Baptist, teaching Sunday school since 1948. He became a deacon at First Baptist Church in 1954 and was deacon chairman twice at Oakland Heights Baptist Church. He led a church choir in Waco as a Baylor student. When the Oakland Heights congregation was established in 1957 (meeting at Bramlette School for three years), Wayman served as choir leader for seven years, and Jessie provided piano accompaniment until an organist was secured. Since retirement, Wayman has been president of the East Texas Civil War Round Table and a docent at the Kilgore Oil Museum and the Gregg County Historical Museum.*

**O**NLY 32 YEARS OLD when he took office, Wayman was the youngest president the club has ever had. *Rotaview* editor Floyd Huddleston liked to refer to him as "Ole Doc."

Tom Putman had retired from the editorship at the end of the 1954–55 year. In his valedictory editorial, he noted that letters of commendation had come to him from Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay, the Dallas Morning News, Governor Allan Shivers, Texas Attorney General John Ben Shepperd of Gladewater, Senator (and future governor) Price Daniel, Senator Lyndon Johnson, Congressman Brady Gentry, and Senator Robert Taft of Ohio. Floyd continued Tom's denunciations of communism and desegregation. But in a guest editorial on July 19, 1955, Ellie Hopkins took a calmer position on the social stress of the era:

Many people have been shocked, as we have, at recent crimes of violence as reported in the press. Perhaps you've been caused to wonder what is coming over us—*Is this a major danger signal? Are we going to the dogs?* ...Our population is growing rapidly; living and recreation areas are highly congested; sexes and races, and rank strangers, are more often thrown together under conditions of dress and conduct far less formal than a mere half generation ago. ...But alarm will not help. A sense of proportion will help maintain our emotional balance.

According to the 1963 club history, the highlights of the year were the excellent work of Carroll Harris with the Boy Scout troop and the work of C. W. Richardson as secretary. On August 16, plans were announced to move the Boy Scout cabin to the new Pinewood City Park on Patricia Street, near Radio Street. Teachers' Night was November 1 at the Longview Junior High School cafeteria (formerly Campus Ward elementary school cafeteria). The Sweetheart Banquet was held on February 14 at Pinecrest Country Club. A District Assembly for incoming club presidents and secretaries was conducted on Tuesday, April 24, at the Hotel Longview.

Among other interesting programs were the following: July 19, 1955, music and readings by Claude Barbee's teenage daughters Emily and Claudia and their cousin Madeline Wallace; August 30, future world-famous pianist Van Cliburn, then 20 years old, son of Rotarian Harvey Cliburn of Kilgore; and May 22, "The Voice of Boys" choral group from Longview High School, directed by Herbert Teat.

### 1956–57: Cecil Richardson, President

*Born in Warren, Texas, in 1910, Cecil graduated from high school in Nacogdoches, where his father was a sewing-machine dealer and his mother kept a boarding house for college students. He attended Stephen F. Austin State College, worked for Texas Power and Light Company, and moved to Longview in 1933 to become associated with Leo Butter, who had established East Texas Plumbing Supply Company in 1930. As a sideline, Cecil operated a bookkeeping service. He was president and general manager of Leo's company (which became International Supply Company about 1965), remaining until retirement in 1988.*



**37. Cecil Willard Richardson**  
**1910–1993**

*Photo by courtesy of Virginia Richardson*

*Having joined this club on March 14, 1950, Cecil never missed a meeting for over 40 years. With Vic Ferchill, he led this club's efforts to establish the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club in 1962. He is also considered the father of the Longview South club, for which we awarded him a Paul Harris fellowship on April 2, 1974. The first recipient of the Tom Putman award on August 10, 1976, he was also the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year in 1991.*

*Cecil was a Mason, Shriner, Elk, Knight of Pythias, and Civitan. At First Methodist Church, he served as greeter for many years. He was a founder of the Longview Community Chest in 1934, serving as president, secretary, and treasurer, and likewise participated in establishing the successor organization, Greater Longview United Fund (later renamed Greater Longview United Way). He was president of the Longview Jaycees, director of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, and member of the Retail Merchants Association, Pinecrest Country Club, and the Summit Club. At his death in 1993, Cecil was survived by his wife, the former Virginia Allen Pruitt of Tatum; his daughter Camille Reynolds (another daughter Locolian Reid having died earlier); stepsons Jimmy and Don Pruitt; and five grandchildren.*

**T**HE YEAR OF 1956 was a big one for construction in Longview. The First National Bank (now Bank One) Building, Petroleum Building, and Jaycee Exhibit Building at the county fair grounds were completed,

and construction of the Longview National Bank building was announced. The Jodie McClure and Erskine Bramlette elementary schools were completed, and Forest Park Junior High School was under construction. Trailmobile, Inc., began production in their new plant early in the year. Longview Industrial Districts, Inc., was formed, acquiring a 250-acre tract on Highway 80 just east of the city and an 86-acre tract on Highway 80 just west of the city. Ferrell's Bridge Dam was completed, forming what would later be named Lake o' the Pines by Lady Bird Johnson.

Vic Ferchill took over from Floyd Huddleston as *Rotaview* editor on May 22, 1956. In a guest editorial the preceding week, former editor Tom Putman wrote, "Should a Rotary bulletin discuss politics? We believe so. ...No editor is expected to remain mutely silent while corruption runs rampant—and evil and treachery abound." However, Vic wisely avoided inflammatory editorials.

A student guest committee was established this year under the chairmanship of Dr. Tom Francis to invite a Longview High School student to each of our meetings. The first guest, on September 11, was Gene McWhorter, Jr., a twelfth-grader almost 16 years old. As he writes this more than 38 years later, he regrets to report that he has absolutely no recollection of his first Rotary meeting and only the vaguest memory of his second, when he was inducted into the club in the same room nearly 20 years later, on April 13, 1976.

The Teachers' Banquet was held on Tuesday, October 2, at the Longview High School cafeteria, taking the place of the weekly meeting, with 235 teachers and Rotarians in attendance. The first weekly meeting in December was with all other service clubs of the city at the annual banquet of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, on Monday evening, December 3, at the new Jaycee Building at the Gregg County Fairgrounds. Members' ladies, friends, and associates were invited. The club manned the Salvation Army kettles on December 18, winning the competition by collecting \$1,075.31. The Sweetheart Banquet was held February 26 at Pinecrest Country Club, with 218 attending. The club's annual college scholarship of \$250 was awarded in May to Roland Reynolds, senior at Longview High School.

### **1957–58: Dr. Allen C. Tyler, President**

*Allen Charles Tyler was born in 1892 in Joliet, Illinois, and grew up there and in Granville. After dropping out of school in the eighth grade to work in his father's planing mill, he came back at age 25 and finished high school in less than two years while working as the school janitor. Allen earned a B.A. degree at Bradley Polytechnic in Peoria and an M.A. at the University of Illinois. At Hall Township High School and Vocational School in Spring Valley, Illinois, he served as teacher, principal, and then superintendent. In 1926, he was*



**38. Allen Charles Tyler, D.V.E.  
1892–1986**

*Photo by courtesy of LeTourneau University*

*president of the Spring Valley Rotary Club. His first wife Dena Steele of Spring Valley died in 1934, leaving him with a 10-year-old son, Donald. Allen then married Mildred Leslie Anderson of Cobden, Illinois, whom he had hired to teach home economics. Their two children are Nancy and John. Retiring from public school in 1944, Allen became the training director at R. G. LeTourneau's heavy equipment manufacturing plant in Peoria. Two years later, he was transferred to the new LeTourneau Technical Institute in Longview, where he became the second dean in 1947, succeeding Rotarian Dr. Walter Brooking. He was awarded an honorary doctorate of vocational education by John Brown University in 1951. Allen was responsible for transforming the vocational school into LeTourneau College, which he served as first president in 1961. Upon his retirement later that year, the first permanent building on the campus, a men's residence, was named Allen C. Tyler Hall.*

*Raised a Methodist in Illinois, Allen married into the Disciples of Christ and became a deacon and elder at First Christian Church in Longview. Believing that LeTourneau Tech should be an integral part of the Longview community, he took great pride in his service as a director of the First National Bank and in Rotary, the Longview Chamber of Commerce, Community Chest, Boy Scouts of America, and the Masonic order. Having served in the military during World War I, he was a member of American Legion Post Number 140 in Longview. After retirement, he remained active as a real estate investor in Longview. Mildred died in 1979, and*



**40. Joseph Wesley Dunsworth**  
1889–1976

**39. Charles Reagan Perkins**  
1904–1988

*Photo by courtesy of Sarah Jo Dunsworth Lackey*

*Allen moved to a nursing home in Kansas City near his son Donald in 1984. At his death in 1986, Allen's survivors included his three children and nine grandchildren. Burial was at Lakeview cemetery in Longview.*

**T**HE ROTARY YEAR got off to an impressive start on July 2, 1957, with a program of songs by Alice Lon, one of the most popular vocalists in the country, known as the Champagne Lady of the Lawrence Welk Orchestra. Held at the Community Center to accommodate a larger crowd than usual, this meeting was attended by a sizeable number of Rotary Anns. Alice, who died in 1981, was a sister of our future president Charley Rader's wife Betty. Named Wyche, they were reared in the Monroe community southeast of Kilgore.

Officers serving with President Allen were Vice-President Cecil Richardson, Secretary-Treasurer Ray Tracy, Club Service Director Ray Matthews, Vocational Service Director Lambert Ballard, Community Service Director Starlin Marrs, and International Service Director Joe Dunsworth. Vic Ferchill continued as editor of the *Rotaview*.

One of the highlights of the year was the Rotary International convention in Dallas on June 1–5, 1958, with a large contingent from the Longview club. The Teacher's Night banquet was held on Tuesday, October 29. District 188 became District 581 at the beginning of this year.

## **1958–59: Charles Perkins, President**

Born in 1904 at Calvert, Texas, Charlie was reared in Beaumont, graduating from Beaumont High School in 1922. After three years with the Santa Fe Railroad, he joined Sun Oil Company and married Winona Banks of Beaumont in 1926. Attending East Texas College of Law part-time, he graduated in 1938 and was then transferred to Evansville, Indiana, as office manager of the newly created production office. In 1950, Charles transferred from Sun Oil to become secretary and treasurer of Mid-Valley Pipe Line Company, a joint venture of Sun and Sohio which operated a 20-inch and 22-inch crude oil pipeline running from Longview to Lima, Ohio. Having been president of the Optimist Club in Evansville, he joined our fellowship in 1951. In Longview, he was a member of the board of stewards of First Methodist Church and the board of directors of the Salvation Army and president of Pinecrest Country Club. Charles was an avid golfer, fisherman, and hunter. At his death in 1988, he was survived by his wife Winona, daughter Winona Martin of Villanova, Pennsylvania, son Charles, Junior, of Longview, and three grandchildren.

**T**HE ADMINISTRATION for the year consisted of Vice-President Allen Tyler, Secretary-Treasurer Bob Steed, Club Service Director Guy Yent, Vocational Service Director Percy Northcutt, Community Service

director L. T. Williams, and International Service Director Carl Erman. Norman Galyon succeeded Vic Ferchill as *Rotaview* editor.

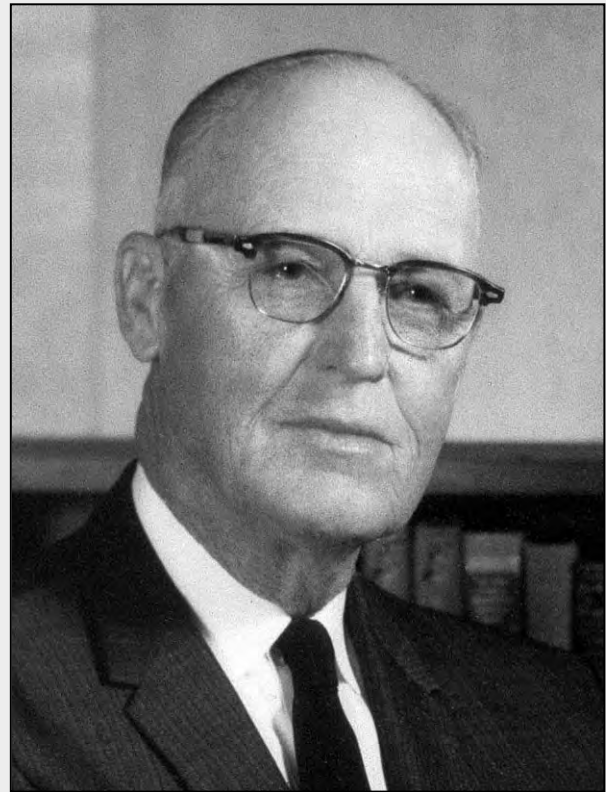
A seed was planted this year which lay dormant three years and then sprouted into the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club (See Chapter 6). On November 19, 1958, former Secretary-Treasurer Ray Tracy wrote a letter to the board of directors, proposing that we sponsor a second club in Longview. He did not mention a location. The reasons he listed were to facilitate making up attendance, to allow men whose classifications were filled in this club to become Rotarians, and to allow Rotary to grow as fast as the city, unhindered by this club's limited room and facilities. Ray's proposal was rejected by the board at its next meeting on November 25.

The Teachers' Night banquet was held at Pinecrest Country Club on Wednesday, October 22, with a record turnout. Rotary Anns were entertained with dinner and a program. A contribution was made to the Camp Fire Girls for construction of a new bath house at Camp Natowa. We also gave \$300 to the Gregg Home for the Aged. Arvin Redfearn chaired our participation in the Salvation Army Christmas kettle drive.

## 1959-60: Joe Dunsworth, President

*Joe was born in 1889 in Brownwood, Texas, where he graduated from Howard Payne Academy in 1916. He served as registrar and bursar of Howard Payne College in 1918 before enlisting in the army for a year during World War I. Back in Brownwood, he graduated from Howard Payne College in 1921. In 1926, he married Sadie Mae Neel, one of ten children of a Presbyterian minister. She was a graduate of Baylor Nursing School. Joe entered the transportation industry in 1930 and moved to Longview in 1931, working as general manager of the Longview terminal of Red Ball Motor Freight Company until retirement about 1968. A member of this club from 1934 until 1975, Joe served as secretary-treasurer for three years starting in 1951-52. He was a Freemason, an elder in First Presbyterian Church (where he also served as assistant Sunday school superintendent and a leader in operating the Echols Presbyterian Mission on Highway 80 near Lake Lomond) and president of the Longview-Greggton District Dad's Club of Camp Fire Girls. He said his hobbies were young people, golf, and the Longview Lobos football team. At his death in 1976, Joe was survived by his wife, their daughter Sarah Jo Lackey of Nacogdoches, and three grandchildren. Sadie died in Nacogdoches in September, 1994, at the age of 97.*

**OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR** included Vice-President Charlie Perkins, Secretary-Treasurer Jim Deakins, Club Service Director Vic Ferchill, Vocational Service Director Jim Kelly, Community Service Director Jimmie Knox, and International Service Director Tom Wilmoth. Norman Galyon continued as *Rotaview* editor. The roster at the beginning of the year shows a membership of 127.



**41. Dale Harris McDaniel**  
**1897-1973**

*Photo by courtesy of First Federal Savings Bank*

## 1960-61: Dale McDaniel, President

*Dale was born in Prescott, Arkansas, in 1897 and attended high school there. He served in the American expeditionary army on the Mexican border in 1916 and in the navy during both world wars. In 1925, he married Julia Ogden of Prescott. Dale had a varied business career that included banking, lumber, gasoline, and oil field equipment. Moving to Longview from Kilgore in 1945, he joined this club on September 21, 1948, and worked at First Federal Savings and Loan until he retired as president. He was a Freemason, chairman of the board of stewards at First Methodist Church (where he taught the men's Bible class and sang bass in the choir), president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, and member of the Salvation Army advisory board. At his death in 1973, Dale was survived by his wife Julia, a sister in Prescott, and several nieces and nephews.*

**SERVING WITH PRESIDENT DALE** were Vice-President Joe Dunsworth, Secretary-Treasurer Jim Deakins, Club Service Director Jimmie Knox, Vocational Service Director Andy Guinn, Community Service Director Arvin Redfearn, and International Service Director Rich LeTourneau. The roster folder shows 132 members. Franklin Martin took over editorship of the *Rotaview* from Norman Galyon. Unfortunately, only one or two issues are available for each year from 1957-58 through 1960-61.





**42. Victor Eugene Ferchill**  
*President, 1961-62*

## 1961-62: Vic Ferchill, President

*Vic was born in 1918 in New Philadelphia, Ohio. His parents, John and Mary (originally named Fucilli), were born in Italy. He attended Sacred Heart Catholic School and graduated from New Philadelphia High School in 1936. At Ohio State University, he was on the golf team and then was the pro at Sugar Creek Golf Course, graduating with a journalism degree in 1941. Enlisting in the army, Vic served in the quartermaster corps and was commissioned directly from the ranks in France. Meantime, his brother Pat had come to Longview barely ahead of the Oil Boom in 1931, establishing Ohio Auto Parts Company. When Pat and Vic returned from the war, they formed Reliable Motor Supply in Longview in 1946, bringing in their brother Joe in 1948. Vic married Cara Mae Price of Marshall in 1947, and they reared a son, Cary, and two daughters, Vicki and Cindi. After acquiring sole ownership of Reliable, Vic sold out to ABC Auto Parts in 1978 and has been a real estate broker since then.*

*Vic is a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He became a member of this club on April 12, 1955, editing the Rotaview in 1956-57 and 1957-58 and being awarded the club's Paul Harris fellowship in 1985. He was honored by the Civitan Club as Outstanding Citizen of Longview in 1953 and 40 years later by this club as Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year in 1993. With Cecil Richardson, Vic is considered a father of the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club. In the*

*Elks lodge, he has earned virtually every distinction: he was a charter member at the reorganization of the Longview Lodge in 1947, exalted ruler of that lodge, and the youngest president of the Texas Elks State Association at age 35. Among other achievements, Vic has been a member of the board of directors of Good Shepherd Hospital and president of the Longview Jaycees, Meals on Wheels organization, Good Shepherd Medical Center Auxiliary, and the Fourth of July Heartland Celebration (which he originated with Joe LaBarbera and others). Cara Mae died in 1980, and Vic now has seven grandchildren.*

**T**HE FOLLOWING SUMMARY of President Vic's administration is excerpted directly from his farewell speech at the end of the year, slightly edited:

Special emphasis has been placed on attendance, programs, indoctrination, information, and fellowship. While performing all of these functions, it was our aim to have lots of fun and much levity. I hope that we have not disappointed you.

The phase of our year that really bears mentioning is attendance. Early in the year, the job was turned over to Rotarian Duncan Kincheloe. We did not know it at the time, but our attendance worries were over. The monthly percentages read as follows: 89.02, 89.37 (these were PK figures—pre-Kincheloe), 90.2, 93.72, 93.97, 95.24, 95.80, 98.37, 98.23, 99.48, 99.46, and 98.57. There have been seven 100% meetings during the year. Attendance ranked among the top ten of Rotary International four times. In April, the Longview Rotary Club was ranked Number One in Rotary International in clubs of membership of 100-199, with a percentage of 99.46. [Despite draconian enforcement, membership increased by ten during the year.]

Much great work has also been done in the field of extension, headed by Past President Cecil Richardson. With a starting date in January, this committee held organizational meetings until plans were finalized to charter a club at Greggton under the able leadership of Forest Sartain, a member of the Longview club and a past president of both the Arp and Kilgore Rotary Clubs. The Greggton Club held its charter night on Monday, June 18, at the First Methodist Church in Greggton, with District Governor George Cullum, Senior, presenting the charter. Twenty-nine members formed the charter membership of this fine club. [They met at the Greggton Community Center.]

Another outstanding event was a program honoring all past presidents at the Rotary meeting on March 6. At that time, a plaque listing all past presidents and the years they served was presented. [The plaque is the kind with letters set in slots, with room for future years.] Sixteen of the past presidents who are still in the club have been appointed as a committee to write a history of the Longview Rotary Club, edited by Floyd Huddleston. It is hoped that this history will soon be ready for distribution. [It incorporated Vic's remarks on each president as master of ceremonies at the luncheon.]

We now have a downtown Rotary office located at 222 Glover-Crim Building, adjacent to that of Merton Young, the incoming Secretary-Treasurer.

Andy Guinn, in addition to editing the *Rotaview*, found time to design a banner for the club, which is now presented to the Rotarian who makes up from the farthest distance. The banner is indicative of this section of Texas. [Andy says the banner used in 1994 was designed later by a student.] In due time, you will hear a report from E. K. Bennett and his committee about plans for the erection of a Rotary park. A Rotary golf tournament was staged on Saturday, April 28, which produced much fellowship and two winners in the persons of Rotarians Arthur Clapp and Gene Matthews. This club assisted the YMCA membership drive, which proved a resounding success and saved your president from being thrown into the swimming pool. We again assisted in manning the Salvation Army kettles, and the club won the trophy for securing the most money of all the clubs during this campaign. John Murphy, Jr., did a grand organizational job. During the distress of Hurricane Carla, the Longview club assisted the relief fund of District 581 with a contribution of \$280 from its members.

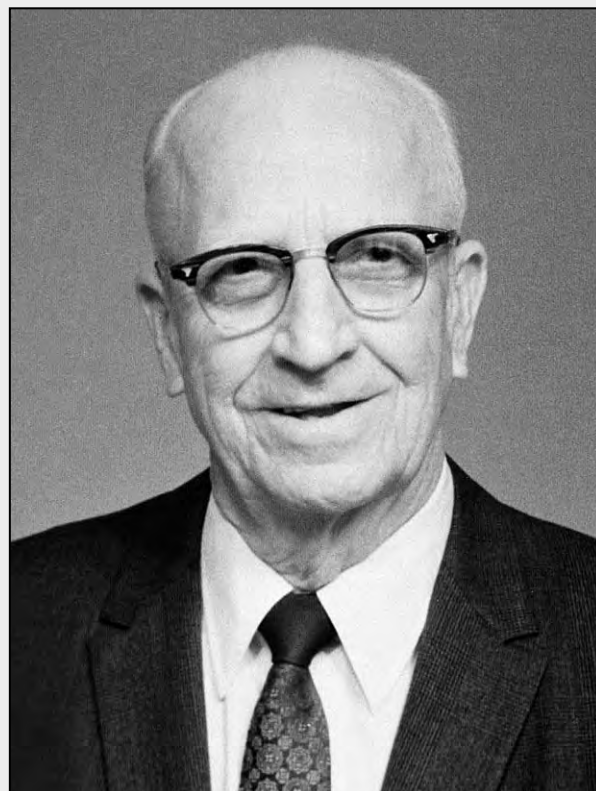
Among the events I enjoyed most were the meetings of the board of directors on the third Monday of each month. We met in the homes of one of the officers each month and had dinner, to which our wives were invited. After dinner, the ladies socialized while the board held its business meeting. I heartily recommend that such meetings be continued.

By secret ballot on August 15, 1961, the club decided to discontinue the annual Teachers' Night banquet.

The speaker for August 22 was State Comptroller Robert Calvert. On January 30, Scoutmaster Barcus Dubose presented members from our Troop 202; an advisor was needed for the Explorer post.

## 1962-63: Starlin Marrs, President

*Starlin was born in 1897 in Terrell and graduated from Terrell High School. His father S. M. N. Marrs was superintendent of the Terrell schools and later was elected as state superintendent of schools. During World War I, Starlin served as a lieutenant in the army medical corps in Galveston. In 1919, he married Cornelia Granbery of Marshall. Starlin worked for Magnolia Oil Company in Olden, Texas, then managed ice plants in Hartshorne, Oklahoma, and Shreveport and a Sherwin-Williams store in Dallas. In 1932, he moved to Marshall and went to work for the state comptroller of public accounts in Longview, becoming head of the office. This was the peak of the oil boom, when hot oil was flowing freely. Colorful tales are told of subterfuges of some of the 95 local refineries and associated truckers as they attempted to evade gasoline taxation by the sharp-eyed but fair-minded Starlin Marrs and his trusty staff, including Tully Scott. Starlin moved to Longview in 1941 and retired from the comptroller's office in 1968. He was a deacon in First Baptist Church, president of the East Texas Knife and Fork Club, and member of the American Legion. At his death in 1974, he was survived by his wife Cornelia (who died in 1981); daughter Ann Daniels; and grandchildren Z. T. Daniels, II, and Ellen Ann Wooley. Starlin's descendent now include three great-granddaughters and one great-grandson.*



**43. Starlin Marion Marrs**  
**1897-1974**

*Photo by courtesy of Ann Marrs Daniels*

OUR MEMBER J. Clyde Tomlinson was still Mayor of Longview, retiring in 1963 after 20 years as city commissioner. Our member Hamp Smead, Jr., was elected interim county judge in Earl Sharp's absence by the Gregg County Bar Association on September 14. In November, our member Peppy Blount was elected county judge. Interstate Highway 20 was being planned, and city officials including Mayor Tomlinson and our members E. K. Bennett and Tom Wilmoth discussed it with the State Highway Commission on September 24. (The previous May 22, Highway Commissioners Charles Hawn and Hal Woodward had addressed the club.) On July 31, it was noted that since our Boy Scout cabin was moved to Pinewood Park, several hundred dollars' damage had been done by vandals breaking in. We won the Salvation Army Christmas collection trophy for the third year in a row. The Rotary Ann Banquet was held at Pinecrest Country Club on February 19, 1963. The district conference was conducted in Kilgore on March 24 and 25.

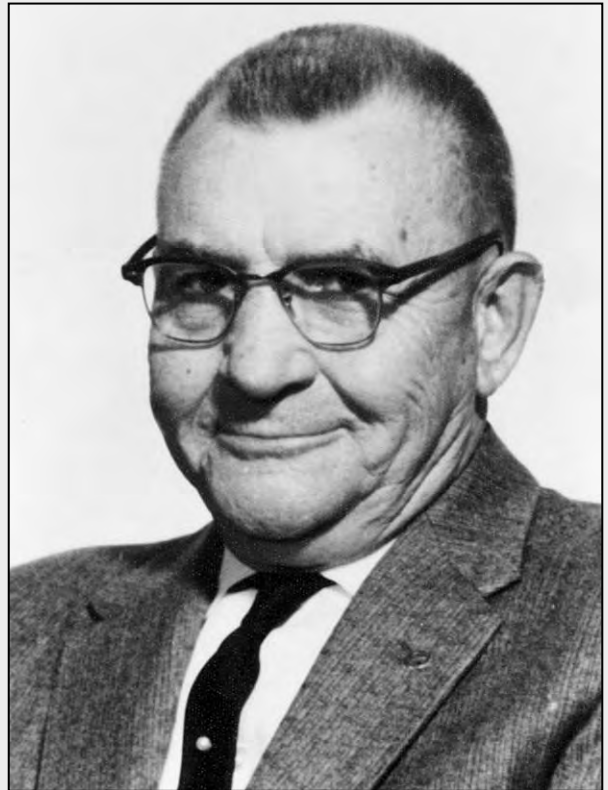
Some noteworthy programs were as follows: July 24, 1962, State Representative John Allen of Longview; August 14, a film of Ronald Reagan's famous speech on Americanism; August 21, Democratic state senatorial candidate Jack Strong of Longview; October 9, Former Governor John Connally; and December 18, the Longview High School choir, directed by Herbert Teat.

## Chapter 4.

# One of Three Rotary Clubs, 1963 to 1978

### 1963–64: D. E. Kincheloe, President

*Affectionately known as Kinch, our forty-fourth president was born in 1902 at Palmer in Ellis County, Texas, and finished high school in Church Hill, Tennessee. Joining the Army during World War I, Kinch fought from 1918 to 1920 with the "Polar Bears" American Expeditionary Force against the Red Army during the Russian Revolution. Later he served in the Philippines, then in the Intelligence Service in China, Japan, Pacific islands, and Australia. Back stateside in 1922, Kinch attended the University of Detroit and married Joy Wangen in 1925. After 15 years with Pontiac Division of General Motors, he joined Tennessee Eastman Company in Kingsport in 1942. The next year, he became a particularly active Rotarian while working in procurement and expediting for Eastman at Holston Ordnance Works. Transferring to Longview and this club in February of 1950 with the cadre who founded Texas Eastman Company, he served as purchasing agent and head of the purchasing department until retirement in 1964. Kinch was a member and Sunday school teacher at First Methodist Church. Among other achievements in the Rotary Club, he was credited with 29 years of perfect attendance. Ray Newnham gave him a Paul Harris fellowship in 1972. Kinch was also active in purchasing agents' professional organizations. His daughter Ann married Dan Lucy, descendant of Gregg County pioneers of the Elderville community, who became a leading member of the Longview South Rotary Club. Besides his wife and daughter, Kinch was survived at his death in 1973 by his son Duncan and five grandchildren. He was buried in the Elderville community cemetery at Centre Presbyterian Church.*



**44. Duncan Eve Kincheloe**

**1902–1973**

*Photo by courtesy of Ann Kincheloe Lucy*

**T**HERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS why 1963 can be considered a turning point in the history of the Rotary Club of Longview, for which it is appropriate to begin a new chapter. Most obviously, this is the end of the previous history of the club, published in 1963. Further, the establishment of the Greggton club in 1962 marked the end of the long era in which ours was the only Rotary club in Longview. Sharing the act made a big difference in the life of the club and its rela-

tionship with the community. A few years later, the third Longview Rotary club was born. Only one founder of this club was left, druggist Bill Terrell.

Looking at landmarks beyond the local scene, this time saw the beginning of decentralization of cities throughout the country by the automobile and public school desegregation. Construction of Loop 281 began in 1964. This time was the watershed in relations between black and white Americans, when desegrega-

tion was beginning to take effect throughout the country. (Under a court order, black first-graders began attending Longview white schools in 1963; blacks comprised 26% of the school district population then, compared to 52% minority in 1994.) And perhaps most memorably, it was the time of the assassination of President John Kennedy, which seemed even while it was happening to mark a major turning point in the history of the country.

The Schlitz brewery led the city's industrial development in the new era. Here are some excerpts from an article in the Houston Chronicle of May 31, 1964:

Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co. announced it will build a 15-million-dollar brewery on a 140-acre tract with completion expected in 1966. Schlitz President Robert A. Uihlein, Jr., said at least two other major factories will be established. Penn Controls revealed it will open a multimillion-dollar factory. Texas Eastman Co., which employs 1,300, announced plans to build a multimillion-dollar cracking plant and an acetaldehyde plant. R. G. LeTourneau, Inc., announced an expansion that will boost its work force from 1,100 to 2,000 by the end of 1964.

Unlike other cities, Longview offers no special inducements to its prospects—free land, reduced taxes, etc. Oilman Robert Cargill got credit for brewing up the Schlitz location. He heads an elite corps of industry-hunters called the Longview Industrial Districts, Inc. It was founded in 1956 and has been the driving force behind almost all industrial development. The team is composed of Cargill; Walter Koch, manager of Longview Chamber of Commerce; E. K. Bennett, Longview's mayor; Paul Bramlette and Dale McDaniel, presidents of savings and loan associations; V. A. Clements, a bank president; Thomas Davidson, an industry president; Henry Foster, Sr., a former school superintendent; C. R. Tucker, a retired railroad executive; Harry Mosley, city manager; Henry Pitts, a power company official, and Jasper Allbright, president of the Chamber of Commerce. Industries are located in three industrial parks, two of which are owned by the nonprofit Industrial Districts, Inc. The third is owned by newspaper publisher Carl Estes.

At the beginning of the year, *Rotaview* editor Andy Guinn commented, "Those of us who remember Kinch the Terrible as head of the attendance committee [1961–62] know that this Rotary year under the leadership of President Kinch will be an outstanding one for the club—and those who survive the year will be better Rotarians because of the experience." Upon retiring as attendance chairman at the end of this Rotary year, Charley Rader reported an attendance score of 96.9%.

On November 19, Andy congratulated Bill Taylor as chairman of the committee that produced *Service in Action: a Concise History of the Rotary Club of Longview, Texas*. Edited by Floyd Huddleston, that book was initiated by President Vic Ferchill in 1962.

Lieutenant Governor Preston Smith and Texas House Speaker Byron Tunnell attended our meeting September 10. The program on November 19 was Charles Peter Hope, Consul-General of Great Britain,

here for the East Texas Chamber foreign trade conference. Bob Cargill spoke on May 19 on industrial development.

## 1964–65: Dr. Stan Farrington, President

*A native of Fort Worth, Stan graduated from TCU and the University of Texas Medical School in Galveston, interning at Kansas City General Hospital. During the Korean War, he was a Navy doctor in a MASH unit in the First Marine Division. After conducting general practice in Beaumont, doing a dermatology residency in Galveston, and marrying Norma Frances Plummer of Galveston, Stan settled in Longview in 1957. Dr. Farrington was a staff member of both Longview hospitals, president of the Gregg County Medical Association, member of the Texas and American Medical Associations, and diplomat of the American Board of Dermatology and the Texas Dermatological Association. He was a board member of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, active in the Longview Civic Music Association, first president of the Longview Museum and Arts Center, and senior warden and lay reader at Trinity Episcopal Church as well as trustee of Trinity Day School (now Trinity School of Texas). Survivors included his wife Norma (later wife of Longview Rotarian Dr. Warren Hunt), daughters Lucy and Betsy, and son Evan Stanley the Third. Norma's sister Joyce,*



**45. Evan Stanley Farrington, Jr., M.D.**  
**1927–1984**

*Photo by courtesy of Norma Hunt*

wife of Dr. G. R. Hugman of Gladewater, is the mother of Longview Rotarian Jim Hugman.

**D**IRECTORS IN STAN'S administration were Vice President Duncan Kincheloe, Secretary-Treasurer Merton Young, Club Service Director Bill Patterson, Vocational Service Director Bruce Cunningham, Community Service Director Henry Atkinson, and International Service Director C. R. Tucker. After a nine-year sabbatical, Tom Putman stepped back in as *Rotaview* editor, with Dutchie Bright, Art Mercer, and Vic Ferchill listed as associates.

Membership at the beginning of the year was 154, of whom 22 are members at this writing in the summer of 1994. On May 11, the club won a four-month, one-on-one attendance contest with the Dallas Park Cities Rotary Club. The score was 97.75% to 97.57%.

For the first program of the year on July 7, Frank A. Baldwin presented a film showing recent riots in Panama. The next week, State Representative John Allen of Longview discussed problems resulting from the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision on state redistricting. On August 11, the club was given a guided tour of the Southwestern Bell Telephone building, learning about direct distance dialing and other innovations. On March 2, Longview City Commissioner Jim Witt urged passage of a bond issue; other commissioners were guests; Rotarian E. K. Bennett was mayor of Longview, and Rotarian John C. Murphy was a commissioner. The city's predicted population was 75,000 in 1975 and 115,000 in 1985. On March 30, Bob Cargill envisioned 100,000 in 1975. On April 13, Rotary Scout Troop 202 presented a program on scouting under the direction of Scoutmaster Ed Russell; the troop was 30 years old.

## 1965-66: Andy Guinn, President

*Leland Andrew Guinn was born in Port Arthur in 1923 and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School there in 1942. After serving in the Air Force in the Panama Canal Zone from 1943 to 1946, he got an architecture degree in 1950 at Rice, where he was elected president of the architectural society. Meantime, in 1948, Andy married Joyce Goldsmith of Bryan, a graduate of Texas State College for Women (now Texas Women's University) in Denton. Their daughter Laurie married Bill Hammons of Longview and has two children. Their son Paul married a Montana girl, and they likewise have two children. Andy worked in architectural firms in Houston, joined the Longview architectural office of Wilson, Morris, & Crain in 1952, then went into private practice in Longview in 1957. Until retirement at the end of 1993, his clients included numerous county and city governments in East Texas; Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Southwestern Bell Telephone Company; and Texas Eastman Company. He helped establish the Northeast Texas chapter of the American Institute of Architects and served as its president in 1967-68.*

Andy joined this club on November 8, 1955. As Chairman of the Rotary District 5803 World Community Service Committee from about 1986 to 1990, he directed projects to raise donations for a water development, to eliminate sickle-cell anemia in Africa, to provide dental care in Belize, and to provide medical supplies and equipment to the state of Chiapas in Mexico. In 1982, our club presented him a Paul Harris Fellowship for work on the Costa Rica World Community Service Project. (See Chapter 6 for more on some of these projects.) Andy has achieved 35 years perfect attendance in the Longview Rotary Club. His other avenues of service include chairmanship or board membership in the Longview Art Museum, Symphony Orchestra, Chamber of Commerce, and United Way, as well as the Arrowhead District of the Boy Scouts of America. Andy and Joyce are members of Winterfield Methodist Church.

**A**LWAYS A LEADING philanthropist, Ray Anewham (age 79) became the first Paul Harris Fellow in the Longview Rotary Club in January, 1966, by contributing a thousand dollars to the Rotary Foundation. He was reportedly the second Paul Harris fellow in Texas. Over the 28 years since then, inflation has eroded the significance of a Paul Harris fellowship. In 1994 dollars, Ray contributed \$4,700.

The two Longview Rotary clubs hosted the district conference this year, under the chairmanship of Vic Ferchill. With a budget of \$2,500, the conference uti-



**46. Leland Andrew Guinn**  
*President, 1965-66*



lized the Elks lodge, the high school auditorium (now T. G. Field auditorium), Pinecrest Country Club, and the new Holiday Inn on East Marshall Avenue. The registration fee was \$7.50, and attendance was 461. Local business and industrial firms were solicited for donations of items to be included in gift packets for all the attendees. Among the gifts were miniature salt shakers in the form of beer cans, donated by Schlitz brewery. This item was omitted, however, because District Governor Charlie Walker of Gladewater thought they might offend some participants.

Officers were as follows: Secretary-Treasurer Merton Young, Vice President Stan Farrington, Club Service Director Joe Fugitt, Vocational Service Director E. B. Crain, Community Service Director Charles Mathews, International Service Director Bud Loomis, and Sergeant-at-Arms Mike Hutchinson. The *Rotaview* editor was Tom Putman. Rotarian Peppy Blount was county judge at the time. The eight directors of the Longview Chamber of Commerce elected in December included six Rotarians: Ray Milam, Charles Perkins, Delbert Bright, Clarence Tucker, Ray Saunders, and John C. Murphy.

Among other activities, the Longview Rotary Club presented a \$1,000, one-year scholarship to Longview High School senior Glenn Dawson "Skippy" Archer. We had 100% attendance on April 19, 1966, and were four times among the top ten clubs in attendance in the United States and Caribbean Basin Region of Rotary International. We ranked first in attendance among all Rotary clubs of our size in the world in December, 1965.

Notable programs included the following: August 24, Ben Barnes, 28-year-old speaker of the Texas house of representatives; October 5, Howard Coghlan and Dr. George Tate, on plans by the Gregg County Historical and Genealogical Society to build three museums, including one for antique automobiles and one on the oil industry; January 4, Senator John Tower, on the conflict in Vietnam; March 1, a "This is Your Life" program honoring Henry Foster, Senior; he died on May 20. In July, 1965, the last surviving charter member of the club passed away: druggist William H. Terrell. His name remained on the roster 45 years, until the beginning of this Rotary year. As an interesting development in Rotary International, it was noted in the *Rotaview* for August 24 that Pope Paul VI had recently lifted the prohibition against Rotary membership by Catholic clergy, imposed in 1950.

## 1966–67: John C. Murphy, Jr., President

*A native of Shreveport, John Coffey Murphy, Junior, has lived in Longview since he was four months old, in 1931. His father established Jno. C. Murphy Paint and Glass Company in downtown Longview in 1937. Graduating from Longview High School in 1948, John got an associate degree at Kemper Military College in*

*Missouri and then studied business administration at the University of Texas. Commissioned in the army in 1952, he served a combat tour in Korea, then came home to work for his father and eventually take over. In 1955, he married Betty Ann Jouett of Shreveport. They have three sons and four grandchildren. The Murphys worked together in the business, then closed it and retired last year.*

*Having joined Rotary in 1961, John C. has never missed a meeting in 33 years. In 1966, he hit the jackpot. Already serving on the City Commission, he was elected as chairman, a post carrying the informal title of Mayor—the youngest in the city's history. He was elected to the board of directors of the Longview Chamber of Commerce. And in July, after less than five years in Rotary, he became president of the club. We awarded him the club's annual Paul Harris fellowship on July 7, 1981. He has been president of the Longview Jaycees, co-chairman of the Gregg County Fair, president of Cherokee Water Company, a director of the LeTourneau University Associates, and a member of the Masonic order. At Trinity Episcopal Church, John has served many years in several leadership capacities: vestryman, junior and senior warden, president of the Endowment Board and of the Men of Trinity association, parish delegate to the annual diocesan council, member of several diocesan boards, and licensed eucharistic minister. He is presently a member of the parish staff as lay assistant to the rector, with the title of verger.*



**47. John Coffey Murphy, Jr.**  
*President, 1966–67*

**O**FFICERS SERVING with John C. were as follows: Vice President Clarence Tucker, Secretary-Treasurer Merton Young, Club Service Director Mike Hutchison, Vocational Service Director Fred Paris, Community Service Director Ray Milam, International Service Director Arthur Clapp, and Sergeant-at-Arms LeGrande Northcutt. The program chairman was Henry Gossett, bulletin editors were Tom Putman and Art Mercer, and the pianist was Elizabeth McLure. Program speakers included the chief engineer of the Texas Highway Department, a state representative, the mayor of West Monroe, Louisiana, and representatives from Humble Oil Company, HLH Products, the *Dallas Times Herald*, and the Second Air Force Strategic Air Command. On June 27, 1967, the program consisted of the presidents of five other service clubs in Longview: Gerald Thornton of the Lions Club, Harold Jordon of the Civitan club, Alvin Khoury of the Jaycees, Dr. A. G. Thomas of the Kiwanis Club, and Kenneth Mace of the Optimist club. Twenty new members were inducted during this Rotary year, maintaining the roster approximately constant. Of the total of 155 at the end of the year, there were 4 honorary, 111 active, 6 additional active, 35 senior active, and 3 past service members.

## 1967–68: Jack Williams, President

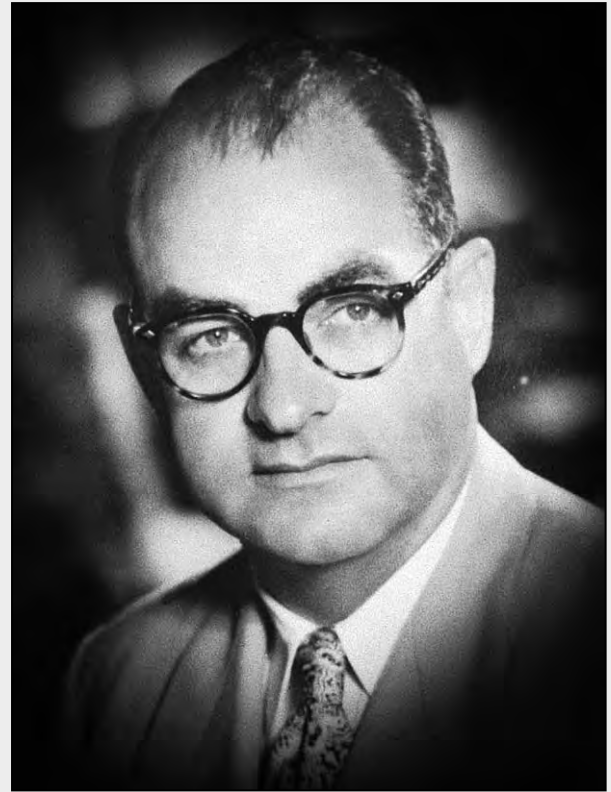
*John Tremper Williams, known all his life as Jack, was born in Longview in 1910. His father H. A. Williams, a bank president, died when Jack was 12 years old. His mother was Fannie Lacy of Longview, sister of oil man Rogers Lacy of this club. Jack and his brothers Claude Allen and Herbert and sister Minnie were reared in the house that stands in the fork of Fredonia and Main Streets, looking north up Fredonia Street into the heart of the town. At Longview High School, Jack played half-back on the state championship football team and graduated in 1927. After losing a TCU football scholarship due to injury, he attended Lon Morris Junior College in Jacksonville and got a law degree in 1933 at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee. At the height of the East Texas Oil Boom in 1934, he entered law practice in Longview with his uncle Judge Edwin Lacy and married Thelma Ruth Holmes of Hartshorne, Oklahoma, a graduate of Baylor School of Nursing. In 1941, Jack became general manager of Southern Gas Company, a local gathering and distribution firm which he established with Rogers Lacy and others. He continued with the company after it was purchased by Delbert Bright and then Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company, until retirement in 1974. Meantime, he joined this club on December 14, 1954.*

*During World War II, Jack and his brother Claude formed a group of investors to bid on construction of the historic Big Inch Pipeline to carry Texas oil to Illinois, from whence it traveled on existing lines to the Northeastern industrial area. Upon missing that opportunity, the group formed Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company and established a gas line to the same destination; Claude was president, and Jack was Secretary-Treasurer. Having acquired some 600 acres near*

*Foreman, Arkansas, Jack enjoyed raising cattle and pecans there after retirement—while keeping up regular Rotary attendance in Longview. Jack and Thelma were members of First Baptist Church; she died in 1993, less than a year before him. They are survived by their sons Jack Williams, II, of San Antonio and Dr. Lacy Williams of Shreveport, and six grandchildren.*

**R**OTARIANS WERE INVOLVED in a particularly significant project this year (through the Longview Chamber of Commerce and Jaycees): promotion of a civic center. At this club's meeting on March 14, 1968, architect Andy Guinn and Southern Gas Company executive Delbert Bright presented plans for a civic center that would hopefully be built on a location which was not yet determined. Patterned after the one in Monroe, Louisiana, it was to consist of a coliseum, theater, and convention hall. (The city commission remained opposed, however.) At that time another notable Longview building designed by Andy was under construction, the Cargill Theater. Later remodeled and expanded, it is known as Movies Nine.

Jess King presented two programs to the club on new developments in telephones. Wireless and touch-tone telephones were predicted to become commonplace by the year 2000. He also presented a film on the new all-number digits, which were instituted in Longview on January 8, 1968. Telephone numbers



**48. John Tremper "Jack" Williams**  
**1910–1994**

*Photo by courtesy of Dr. Lacy Williams*

such as Plaza 8-8775 which came in with the dial system in 1957 suddenly turned into the numerical equivalent: 758-8775.

Here at the peak of the Vietnam War, on March 5, 1968, a speech and movie were presented by Paul Jacob, National Field Representative of the American Red Cross, on that organization's wartime services. At the last meeting of the year, urban planning consultant Marvin Springer of Dallas presented a slide talk on the development of East Texas and Longview. His organization would be contracting with the City of Longview to produce a professional plan for guiding the city's development in the coming decades.

Officers serving with President Jack were Vice President Buddie Shelburne, Club Service Director Hugh Hagemeyer, Vocational Service Director Jack Mann, Community Service Director Howard Coghlan, International Service Director Paul Belding, Sergeant-at-Arms Arvin Redfearn, and Past President John C. Murphy. Joe Dunsworth resigned as secretary-treasurer after serving a month, being replaced by Mike Hutchison. Tom Putman and Art Mercer were the *Rotaview* editors. Membership ranged from 154 to 158, of whom at least 24 are still in the club. We had both Allen Tyler and Ty Allen (president of LeTourneau College and manager of Pinecrest Country Club, respectively). Present members who were inducted this year include Julian Fiegel and Glenn Detmore.

## 1968–69: C. W. “Buddie” Shelburne, President

*Born in Kerrville in 1912, Buddie graduated from Tivy High School there and was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy, receiving a commission in the Marine Corps in 1935. While in the service, he earned a master's degree at Stanford University. In Washington, D.C., in 1939, he married Kathleen Merrit, also of Kerrville, and they reared two daughters. Besides island-hopping with the Marines across the Pacific in World War II, Buddie also served in China and Iceland. In combat in Okinawa, he earned the Navy Cross for Bravery. Upon retirement as a brigadier general in 1956, Buddie joined Texas Eastman Company in Longview as Superintendent of the Engineering Department. He became a Rotarian on December 5, 1961. When Rotary President Kinch Kincheloe retired from Eastman in 1964, Buddie succeeded him as purchasing agent and head of the purchasing department. Besides Rotary, Buddie was active in the Longview Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Purchasing Agents as well as First Presbyterian Church. He retired from Eastman in 1971 and moved back home to Kerrville, where he and Kathleen still reside.*

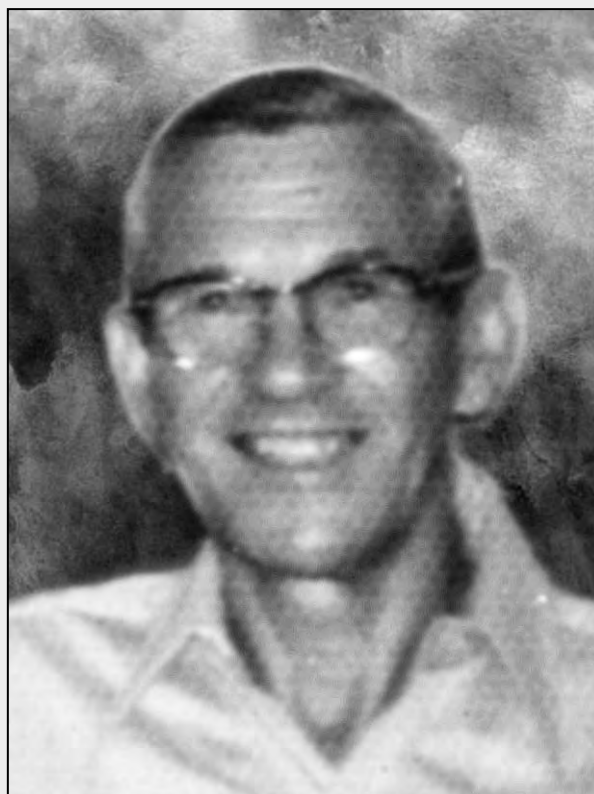
**C**lub membership during Buddie's year ranged from 151 to a peak which apparently has never been exceeded: 160 members. Regardless of worries about the war in Vietnam and changes in the social fabric of the country, this was a time of booming development for Longview as for the entire country. The

recent completion of Interstate Highway 20 and Loop 281 particularly contributed to a buoyant mood of optimism in the city.

In the Rotary program on July 16, 1968, manager Winston Roberts of the LTV plant at the airport predicted employment of 450 by the end of 1969. They would be building A-7 aircraft.

In the *Rotaview* for August 13, 1968, Editor Tom Putman proudly noted that Rotarian Joe Fugitt's realty company—including Don Manning and Frank Abbott as well as Joe—had recently negotiated acquisition of 110 acres for a shopping mall being developed by Boyd Ridgeway of Longview. This tract was southwest of the intersection of East Marshall Avenue and Eastman Road. On December 3, Putman likewise congratulated Rotarian Bruce Cunningham on building the new Holiday Inn on Interstate 20 and State Highway 149 known as Estes Parkway after May, 1967).

Ridgeway boldly attempted to develop this Longview mall and Broadway Square Mall in Tyler at the same time and very nearly succeeded. The Tyler mall project was further along, and it was bought from Ridgeway's creditors by Dallas NorthPark developer Ray Nasher, who also took an extended option on the cleared and leveled Longview site. Nasher held the option for many years, inhibiting development, and then released it. Whaley Street was later extended across the desert-like site to Eastman Road.



**49. General Charles Wesley Shelburne**  
*President, 1968–69*

The prevailing optimism about Longview's future during Buddie Shelburne's Rotary year was reflected in a 76-page "comprehensive land use and structuring plan" presented to the city administration by Marvin Springer and Associates in March of 1969. It painted a glowing picture of an ideally balanced, symmetrical city of 116,000 by the year 1985. This document guided development of the city's thoroughfares and parks for many years. However, Springer's people apparently failed to notice that they were projecting the southern extension of Loop 281 right through the Texas Eastman plant and across miles of undevelopable Sabine floodplain. They apparently ignored negative possibilities such as future blighting of areas by crime and drugs, and white flight to the Pine Tree school district. Residential development was supposed to expand inward and outward from the entire north Loop, with a particularly big bulge in the northeast. As it turned out, the public perversely flocked instead to Pine Tree in the northwest.

Here is a sampling of noteworthy Rotary programs of this year under Program Chairman Howard Coghlan: August 6, Al Altwegg, Business Manager of the Dallas Morning News; August 13, Joe D. Carter, Chairman of the Texas Water Rights Commission; September 24, John Allen, State Representative; November 12, Bishop J. Milton Richardson of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas; January 1, Lieutenant Governor Ben Barnes; January 14, a film about the 1967 race riots in 100 American cities, linking them to the international Communist conspiracy; February 25, Robert M. Parker on Sabine River development; March 11, Longview Police Chief Roy Stone, on how his force would handle riots and uprisings; May 8, Mike Clark of Longview, Dallas Cowboys kicker, who led the NFL in total points in 1968.

## 1969-70: Charley Rader, President

*Born in Paris in 1932, Charles Guthrie Rader grew up in Kilgore, where his father LeRoy (originally from Illinois) established a funeral home in 1937 in partnership with O. Thomas Welch of this club. On graduation from Kilgore High School in 1950, Charley attended junior college at Kemper Military School in Missouri and got a BBA at North Texas. His professional training was achieved at the Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science and the School of Management of the National Foundation of Funeral Service. In 1952, Charley married Betty Wyche of the Monroe community southeast of Kilgore. The next year, they settled in Longview to start a branch of the family business there, and within two more years Charley was a Rotarian. Now he is the president of LeRoy Rader Funeral Home in Longview, Rader Life Insurance Company, Rader Enterprises, Inc., and East Texas Crematory. He is also the secretary of Rosewood Park Cemetery and a partner in Rader Funeral Home in Kilgore. An active member of First Presbyterian Church, Charley has served as deacon, ruling elder, and trustee. Besides working in the American Heart Association, Greater Longview United Way, and*

*other civic endeavors, Charley has been a director of First National Bank of Longview (now Bank One), the Longview Chamber of Commerce, the Texas Funeral Directors Association, and the International Order of the Golden Rule (an international group of independent funeral home owners). Betty and Charley's two children are active in the family business: daughter Lynn Martin and son Charles, who is president of the Longview Greggton Rotary Club for 1994-95.*

**W**ITH TRAVIS BEAVERS as attendance chairman, half of all the meetings of the year had 100% attendance, including 16 consecutive meetings. The big event for Longview and Rotarians was a monumental celebration of the city's centennial from Friday, May 1, through Saturday, May 9, 1970. Whiskers and string ties suddenly came back into style, and Rotarians of this club dominated the management of the affair. Howard Coghlan was president of the corporation formed to handle it, Delbert Bright was vice-president, and Royl Carby was one of six board members. W. D. Northcutt, III, chaired a committee which published a history book (copies still available at the Gregg County Historical Museum). Bill Rice and Dr. Charles Mathews chaired a committee which staged a historical pageant running for five nights in Lobo Stadium. Hundreds of citizens took part in the pageant alone, including Arliss Mallory as the town



**50. Charles Guthrie Rader**  
*President, 1969-70*

drunk in Episode Seven and Reagan McLemore, III, as Rudolph Valentino in Episode Twelve.

This was the year when Longview Rotary Club formed an Interact Club at Longview High School, with 35 boys as charter members (see Chapter 6). An Interact fund-raising tradition was inaugurated at a Rotary meeting: a "slave auction," in which Interact boys were "sold" as laborers. The Rotary Club also awarded college scholarships totaling \$1,250 to five Longview High School students: Kerry Cammack, Sammy Satterwhite, Jimmy Nelson, Kenneth Rainey, and Jimmy Don LaFerney.

This was also the year in which the previously established concept of Paul Harris fellowships began to receive new emphasis in Rotary International. In August, 1969, Ray Newnham received a medal for the fellowship he had been awarded in January, 1966. He was still our only Paul Harris fellow.

On September 30, our speaker was Governor Preston Smith. Entertainment at the Sweetheart Banquet was provided by popular comedian "Stuttering Sam," alias Cecil Hunter of Tulsa. Cecil's daughter Jeanne had recently married Dr. Gordon Green, Junior, a 1957 graduate of Longview High School and brother-in-law of Gene McWhorter, Junior, of this club.

## **1970-71: Howard Coghlan, President**

*A 19-year-old Dublin boy named Jack V. Coghlan immigrated to this country from Ireland and married Inez Watts of Longview. Their second son Howard Payne Coghlan was born in Shreveport in 1927. The family lived in Marshall for 10 years, then moved to Longview, where Howard finished high school in 1944. After attending Texas A&M briefly, he served in the Coast Guard aboard a transport ship carrying troops and prisoners among ports in Italy, France, and the United States. At Kilgore College in 1946, Howard was president of the student body. Upon graduation from SMU law school with honors, he first practiced law with Philip Brin. From 1952 to 1972, Howard was general counsel and assistant manager of the E. C. Johnston Companies and related enterprises involved primarily in oil, gas, and mining. For the next 14 years, he was a partner in what was then and still is the oldest continuously operated law firm in Longview. (Established before 1900 as DeGraffenreid and Young, it continues as Harbour, Kenley, Boyland, Smith, & Harris.) In 1986, Howard formed his own law firm, now known as Coghlan, Crowson, & Fitzpatrick. His specialty and primary board certification is in oil, gas, and mineral law. He was president of that section of the State Bar and is a member of the Federal Energy Bar.*

*Howard joined the Rotary Club in 1957. He has been president of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, the Longview 1970 Centennial Corporation, and Pinecrest Country Club. He has served as director, trustee, or governor of the Summit Club, LeTourneau University, Longview Bank and Trust, and Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company (now KN Energy, Inc.) At First United Methodist Church, Howard's service has ranged*

*from Sunday School teacher to Chairman of the Official Board, and he has been a trustee for over 20 years.*

*In 1950, Howard married Peggy Crowder of Kilgore, and they have two children, Kelly and Katie. The first person to receive a doctorate of education at Texas A&M, Peggy is now vice president and chief academic officer at Kilgore College. She was the main force behind construction of the Longview Public Library in 1987. As President of the Chamber of Commerce, Howard is credited with the same role in construction of the Maude Cobb Activity Center in 1983. Another achievement of which Howard is especially proud is calling wild turkeys during mating season.*

**W**HEN HOWARD COGHLAN took the reins of Rotary on June 30, 1970, he was trying to turn loose of the Longview centennial celebration. That event, in May, brought the entire city together in a harmonious working relationship which was wonderful to experience. It also helped bond the two Longview Rotary clubs together in various projects.

The theme Howard stressed was the obligation of Rotarians as individuals to take leadership responsibilities in civic and religious endeavors for the good of the entire city as one community. Without abandoning club sponsorship of various worthy causes, Howard encouraged weekly programs on a variety of community-wide causes to promote participation by Rotarians.



**51. Howard Payne Coghlan**  
*President, 1970-71*



It is no exaggeration to assert that this traditional emphasis by the Longview Rotary Club helped ease the city through a literally explosive crisis during Howard's term. Racial integration of Longview Independent School District had just been completed. It began from the first grade up in 1963 and from the twelfth grade down in 1965. Finally, the black Womack High School was closed, and its student body was merged into that of Longview High School in the fall of 1970. At the same time, the school district was ordered to begin busing children outside their neighborhoods to promote racial balance. Longview was one of the first schools in Texas to receive a busing order.

Fortunately, the LISD school board at that time was heavily Rotarian. The members were Tom Landers, O. L. Kimbrough, Dr. Landon Colquitt, Cody Mason, John Harrison, Jr., Merton Young, and Dr. Bob Schrader—and Rotarian Charles Mathews was the superintendent. This powerful concentration of goodwill helped counterbalance the bitterness connected with a dynamite bombing of the school bus barn on the night of July 4, 1970, for which two men were later convicted. (Two buses were destroyed and 39 damaged.) As school began, the new Interact Club played a leading role in bringing about a peaceful transition on the LHS campus. President Howard's son Kelly Coghlan had been elected president of the student body of Longview High School, and a black student named Calvin Allen had been elected president of the student body of Womack High School. During this unique school year, these young men served together harmoniously as co-presidents, and they remain good friends.

During this Rotary year, the fiftieth anniversary of the club was observed. At Christmas time, we won the competition among Longview service clubs for raising money for the Salvation Army. The club continued to sponsor Boy Scout Troop 202 and played a major role in the United Fund annual campaign. A group study exchange team was sent to England, including attorney Ebb Mobley, who reported to the club on their return. The board of directors felt that if we had excellent programs, projects, fellowship, and food, then good attendance would result without specific emphasis. That strategy worked; average attendance for the year was 97%, including eight 100% meetings.

## 1971–72: Delbert Bright, President

*William Delbert Bright was born in 1929 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Graduating in 1946 from Fort Smith (now Northside) High School, Delbert attended Fort Smith Junior College (now Westark Community College) and graduated from the University of Arkansas in 1950 with a degree in mechanical engineering. After less than six months as an engineer at Arkansas Louisiana (Arkla) Gas Company in Shreveport, Delbert was drafted into the army and served two years at the Ballistic Research Laboratories at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. Returning to Arkla in 1953, he worked his way up to general sales manager. In 1954, Delbert married Jean*

*Williamson of Vivian, Louisiana. By studying law in the evenings at Centenary College and taking the bar exam in 1963, he gained admittance to the bar of Louisiana. The following year, Delbert bought Southern Gas Company from the Rogers Lacy estate, operating it for seven years. On selling out to Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Company, he continued as an executive for that firm in Longview and then Denver, being elected to the board of directors in 1979. From 1983 until retirement in 1990, he was a senior vice-president at Texas Commerce Bank in Longview.*

*Delbert first joined this club on February 16, 1965. He has been president or chairman of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, the East Texas Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Greater Longview United Way, and the Official Board of First United Methodist Church of Longview. His hobbies are golf, tennis, and model airplanes. Delbert and Jean have three children, Lyndell, Kevin, and Mark, and four grandchildren.*

**A**T THIS DISTANCE, we can judge the flavor of Delbert Bright's administration by an excerpt from Tom Putman's editorial addressed to the outgoing president in the *Rotaview* for the meeting of June 20, 1972:

You have, through your Arkansas humor, added much enjoyment to our weekly meetings. Visitors far and wide have complimented our club on the jovial way you have conducted yourself. You have



**52. William Delbert Bright**  
*President, 1971–72*

put new life into the club, and new meaning to Rotary. No longer are we referred to as the "old man's club." We are now known as a lively, wide-awake, active Rotary club.

Anyone who knows Delbert will realize that Tom was putting it mildly.

This was a banner year for the new concept of Paul Harris Fellowships in the club. With a total of five, we were second in District 581 only to the Dallas club (about 450 members). This achievement was reached when Ray Newnham, our first Paul Harris Fellow, presented Paul Harris Fellowships to Duncan Kincheloe and Tom Putman. The other two of the five were Howard Coghlan and George Kelly.

The club continued its lively support of the new Interact Club at Longview High School. The program for December 7, 1971, was a traditional "slave auction" of Interact members. Interact officers were Vice President Tim Allen, Secretary Cary Ferchill (son of Rotarian Vic), Treasurer John David Harrison (son of Rotarian John W., Jr.), and Sentinel Andy Ballard (son of Rotarian Jay). In May, Cary Ferchill was elected president of the Interact Club.

In the *Rotaview* for November 9, 1971, Tom Putman commented about Cecil Richardson, "He is now working like a beaver to help organize the new South Longview Rotary Club, which is scheduled to be completely organized soon. They will meet at the I-20 Holiday Inn."

All the Rotary clubs of Gregg County were hosts for the district conference at the Cargill Theater, March 23 through 25, 1972. (The theater had one big screen, later divided into three.) The featured speaker was Senator John Tower.

The Rotary International annual convention was held in Houston, June 11 through 15, 1972. Several members of this club attended.

On May 23, we gave four-year scholarships of \$1,600 apiece to Jim Draper, John Ross (now an oral surgeon in Longview), and Mike Scott (now an orthodontist in Longview).

Here is a sampling of notable weekly programs during this Rotary year: July 27, Eloise Wolff, widow of the late Reverend Peter Marshall; August 10, Bill Hobby, publisher of the *Houston Post* and candidate for Lieutenant Governor; August 31, Congressman Ray Roberts; January 18, State Representative John Allen; March 21, urban planning consultant Marvin Springer on development of downtown Longview; April 25, Dallas Cowboys kicker Mike Clark of Longview, presenting a film on the team's 1971 Super Bowl championship season.

## 1972-73: Ray Milam, President

*Born to a farming family in Carthage in 1925, Ray Winford Milam was drafted into the Army on his eighteenth birthday in 1943, two months shy of graduating from Carthage High School. In competition with college*

*graduates, he was sent to flight school and advanced electronic intelligence school. Promoted to captain, Ray flew "Ferret" missions on B-29 bombers in Europe from bases in England, determining German radar and radio frequencies so that appropriate countermeasures could be employed. One result was the diversion of Nazi air cover 300 miles away from the Normandy beaches on D-Day. After the war, Ray finished his two months in high school, entered Centenary College as a sophomore, and got a business degree there. In 1948, he married Nelda Sullivan in Carthage, and they reared three children: Stephen, Stacy, and Deryk. Starting in 1950 at First Federal Savings and Loan in Longview, Ray worked his way up to Executive Vice President, Chief Executive Officer, and director. Then he organized Metropolitan Savings and Loan (chartered 1970), serving as President, C.E.O., and director. Nelda designed the beautiful Metropolitan building on the southeast corner of Judson Road and Pegues Place. Ray also assisted in organizing First Southwest Savings and Loan in Tyler, joining that organization in 1980 and serving as President, C.E.O., and director until retirement in 1990.*

*Ray joined our fellowship on February 20, 1962. He served 12 years on the Longview Planning and Zoning Commission and nine years on the board of directors of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, where he was elected first vice-president and earned a lifetime membership. He also put in 12 years on the board of directors of the First Christian Church of Longview, serving as vice-chairman as well as Sunday school superintendent. In*



**53. Ray Winford Milam**  
*President, 1972-73*

*addition, Ray was president of the Longview Jaycees and the LeTourneau College Associates. After Nelda passed away in 1993, Ray moved to Jefferson, where he says he fishes a lot.*

**P**AUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS were something for the Longview Rotary Club to be particularly proud of this year. With a total of nine at the end of the year (an increase of 40 percent), we had more than any of the other 63 clubs in District 581, even Dallas. The four new Paul Harris fellows were Ray Milam, Charley Rader, Delbert Bright, and Clyde Tomlinson, Senior.

Now in its third year, the Interact Club at Longview High School was thriving. The "slave auction" at the Rotary meeting of January 30, 1973, raised \$435 for the Interact Club's good works. Twenty-three boys attended the first Interact state convention, held in Dallas from March 29 through 31 in conjunction with the annual conference of Rotary District 581.

In this unique year, after the district conference for District 581, we had a district assembly for the newly created District 583, held from 9:00 to 4:00 on Saturday, June 9, at Henderson County College in Athens. Eight members of this club attended. With 64 clubs, District 581 had become too large for effective management. Therefore the eastern 33 clubs were split off to form the new district, taking effect at the end of this Rotary year on July 1. The clubs in District 583 would be Athens, Atlanta, Carthage, Clarksville, Gilmer, Gladewater, Greggton, Hawkins, Henderson, Hugo (Oklahoma), Idabel (Oklahoma), Jacksonville, Jefferson, Kilgore, Lindale, Longview, Malakoff, Marshall, Mineola, Mount Pleasant, Overton, Paris, Pittsburg, Quitman, South Tyler, Sulphur Springs, Texarkana, Texarkana Oak Lawn, Troup, Tyler, Wills Point, and Winnsboro.

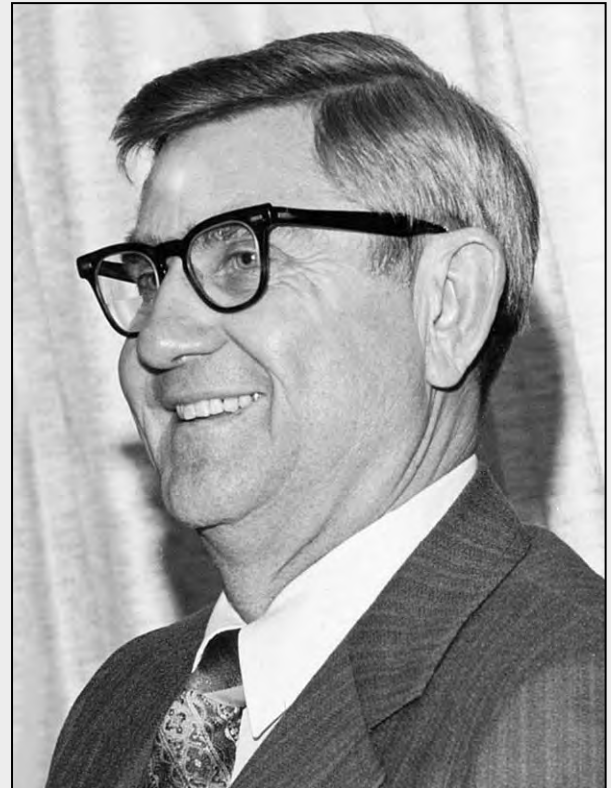
Here is a sampling of programs during this year: July 11, Byron Tunnell, Chairman of the Railroad Commission; August 28, Senator Lloyd Bentsen at a joint meeting with the Greggton Rotary Club at the Contessa Inn; March 21, Longview Police Chief Roy Stone, providing what the *Rotaview* called a "complete and comprehensive description of the problems involved in the Longview High School since the advent of integration;" April 3, Jim Acker, local manager of Southwestern Bell, explaining the newly available direct distance dialing; several musical programs, including First Methodist Church Youth Choir, Longview High School choir, the Longview String Ensemble, and vocalist Mrs. Callie Smith.

Directors serving with President Ray this year were Vice President Charles Tullis, Club Service Director John Harrison, Vocational Service Director Bob Carroll, Community Service Director Ted Mooney, International Service Director Kurt Borris, Past President Delbert Bright, and Sergeant-at-Arms Rogers Pope. Charles Cobb started the year as secretary-treasurer and was re-elected on March 6 for 1973-74 but resigned as of April 24, 1973. Tom Brown was appointed by the board

of directors on an interim basis on that date, thus beginning a notable term of more than 21 years as secretary-treasurer. The *Rotaview* editors were Art Mercer, Dr. Gene Petty, and Tom Putman.

## **1973-74: Charles Tullis, President**

*The second of four children, Charles was born in 1927 in McGehee, Arkansas, grew up there and in Pensacola and Shreveport, and graduated from Byrd High School in 1944. He served 2½ years in the Navy, put in two years of pre-med studies at Centenary College, then got a mechanical engineering degree at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute in Ruston in 1951. He married Marion King in Shreveport in 1948. After two years with vessel fabricating companies in Shreveport and Houston, Charles with some partners started a gas compressor packaging company in Houston called Southwest Industries. Selling out in 1965, he bought an interest in King Tool Company in Longview, a natural gas separator manufacturer founded in 1945 by Rotarians W. Roy "Pop" King (not related to Marion King Tullis), Curtis Morris, and George Kelly. Charles still operates the company as president and general manager. He joined Rotary shortly after moving to Longview, remaining for 18 years. Except for George Kelly, Charles was the only member of this club to become district governor, serving District 583 during the 1978-79 Rotary year. The club honored Charles with a Paul Harris fellowship for the 1974-75 year.*



**54. Charles Gene Tullis**

*President, 1973-74*

*Charles and Marion reared two daughters, Carol Jean and Kaye Elizabeth. Among other community involvement, Charles has been active in Greater Longview United Way, serving as president in 1982. He is a registered professional engineer in Louisiana and Texas, a member of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, and a life member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers as well as the Louisiana Engineering Society.*

**T**HE BIG NEWS for this Rotary year, aside from the new District 583 taking effect at the beginning, was the establishment of the South Longview Rotary Club. (See Chapter 6.) The new club was the direct result of work by President Charles Tullis, Charles Cobb, and especially Cecil Richardson, who became known as the father of the club. In recognition of this and other service, the Longview Rotary Club honored Cecil with a Paul Harris Fellowship on April 2. As for the Greggton Rotary Club, its name was changed in November to the West Longview Rotary Club. (Later, the junior Longview clubs changed their names to Longview-Greggton and Longview South.)

Under Vocational Service Director Rogers Pope, we started what became the annual custom of honoring outstanding vocational students at Longview High School. Nancy Byers and Carroll Davis were presented to the club on August 28 by E. B. Jenkins, vocational education coordinator at the school. This practice was continued by Jenkins's successor Jack Lynch, who became a member of this club on May 7.

Another club custom instituted this year (October 16), under Attendance Chairman LeGrande Northcutt, was the use of attendance slips to certify each member's presence at meetings. At the same time, the board of directors made Rotary International attendance rules mandatory for this club.

Still another first, on November 27, 1973, was the weekly news report by Rotarian J. R. Curtis, Junior, of KFRO Radio. In this service, he succeeded Bill Ray, who for many years had been delivering what was known as the market report. In the first *Rotaview* of the year, July 3, editor Tom Putman called Bill's presentation the Market and Watergate report.

A historic event for the young people of the state was noted by the club in a program on July 24 by Bobby Whittensberg, district supervisor of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. The legal age for buying alcoholic beverages was lowered from 21 to 18 years. (More recently, it was raised to 21 again.) Eighteen-year-olds no longer had to go to Louisiana to drink legally. However, they might be interested in the new racetrack at Bossier City, which was described to the club on October 17 by John Walcott, President of Louisiana Downs. Speaking of young people, Boy Scout Troop 202, sponsored by the Longview Rotary Club, became active again this year after several years of dormancy.

As the program for August 21, Vice President John Harrison presented one-year scholarships of \$400

apiece to John Ross, Jim LaFerney, Eddie Killingsworth, Mike Scott, and Jim Draper. Charley Rader introduced two more scholarship recipients on May 21: Kent Jordan and Walter Reuther.

In his valedictory editorial to retiring President Charles on June 25, Tom Putman commented,

You have put new life in our club. It has been a difficult year in many ways. You have had to enforce attendance rules like they have never been enforced before. You have been criticized by a few and praised by many. You have done an outstanding job and will go down in history as one of our greatest presidents.

## **1974-75: John Harrison, Jr., President**

*Born in Longview in 1934, John Womack Harrison, Jr., was raised with three sisters in the house on the northeast corner of Fredonia and College Streets which had been the residence of their great-uncle Frank Rembert and his wife Kate Womack Rembert. (See President Ed Rembert in Chapter 1 and President John Harrison in Chapter 3.) John graduated from Longview High School in 1952, then attended Kilgore College and Southern Methodist University. In 1953, he married Jean Ramey of Longview. After working for Thiokol and CIT Credit Corporation, John became an executive for*



**55. John Womack Harrison, Jr.**  
*President, 1974-75*

the Boy Scouts of America in De Queen, Arkansas. In 1965, he moved back to Longview to join the business founded by his father-in-law J. R. Ramey in 1942, now known as Ramey-Harrison Appliance Company. John and Jean bought out Mr. Ramey in 1979 and have continued the business since then. They have two sons, two daughters, and three grandchildren

Raised as a Baptist and a Disciple respectively, John and Jean compromised on First Methodist Church, where John has served on the Administrative Board and taught Sunday school. He followed in his father's footsteps in Rotary and the board of trustees of Longview Independent School District. Having been a Rotarian in De Queen, he joined this club on September 7, 1965, and has never missed a meeting in 29 years. The club honored him with a Tom Putman Award on June 28, 1977, for his work on the Lobo Relays (Chapter 6) and a Paul Harris fellowship on July 25, 1978. With time out for one term from 1977 to 1980, John has served on the school board continuously since 1971, being elected to all offices, including five years as president. He was president when the new high school was built in 1974 and again when it was enlarged in 1989. Twice during this service, in 1976 and 1992, LISD won statewide "honor board" recognition. Starting with Cub Scouts at age nine, and continuing through the Order of the Eagle, John was active in scouting for 50 years. In 1968, he was named outstanding Jaycee in Longview. And in De Queen, John was president of the Sevier County Association for Retarded Children and Regional Vice President of the Arkansas Association for Retarded Children.

**O**FFICERS SERVING with President John were Vice President Ted Mooney, Secretary Tom Brown, Club Service Director Bob Carroll, Vocational Service Director Charles Cobb, Community Service Director Travis Beavers, International Service Director Blackshear Jameson, Sergeant-at-Arms Dick Avent, and Past President Charles Tullis. Charles received the club's Paul Harris fellowship for the year.

At the end of this year, Tom Putman retired as chief editor of the *Rotaview* after 17 years in that capacity over a period of 27 years. He first took over from Austin Hatchell at the beginning of the 1948-49 Rotary year. On February 18, Charley Rader presented Tom with a plaque in appreciation of this long service. He was succeeded by Dick Avent.

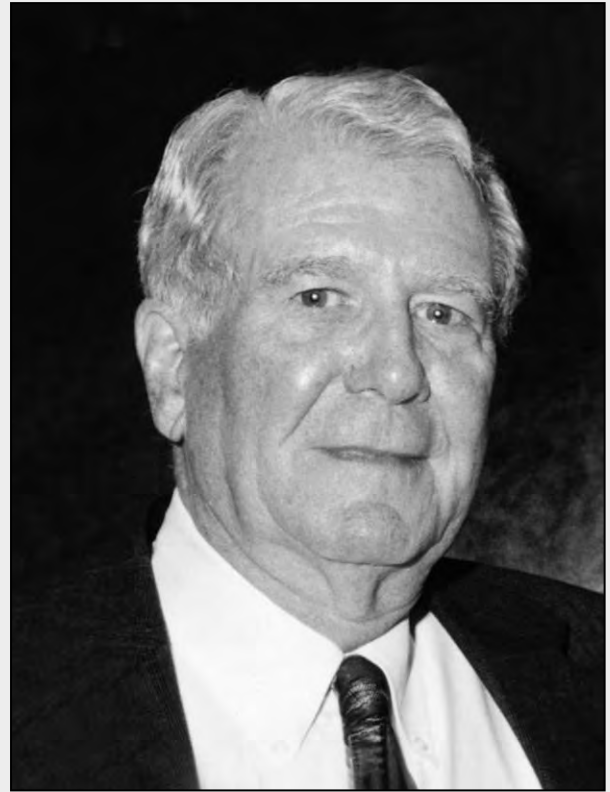
Some notable programs were as follows: July 2, Dr. Wade Clendenen on the newly formed Longview Downtown Development Association; July 16, architect Robert Allen of the South Longview Rotary Club, on the new Longview High School under construction; January 14, Assistant City Manager Larry Martin, on plans for the new city hall.

## 1975-76: Edward J. "Ted" Mooney, President

*Ted Mooney's parents immigrated from Farnsworth, England, to West Virginia, where his father became a coal mine superintendent. Ted was born in 1915 in the*

*small mining town of Minden, lived a time in Holden, became an Eagle Scout with three palms, and graduated from the county high school in Logan. In 1938, Ted married Johnnie Mae Kidd in Holden, and in 1940 he received a chemical engineering degree from the University of West Virginia. After three years at a DuPont plant in Charleston, Ted joined Tennessee Eastman at Kingsport, Tennessee, working in process improvement until coming to Longview in 1950 to help establish Texas Eastman Company. Progressing through various positions there, he became superintendent of the Oxo Division, consisting of several plants within the Texas Eastman complex. He retired from that position in 1980.*

*Having joined Rotary on May 7, 1968, Ted has served as attendance chairman, program chairman, orientation committee chairman, and all board positions leading to president. At the district level, he has served as scholarship chairman and financial chairman for the district convention. In 1977, District 583 awarded its annual Paul Harris fellowship to Ted for outstanding service. An active member of Trinity Episcopal Church, he has taught Sunday school and served on the vestry as junior warden and senior warden. Among other avenues of community service, Ted is a charter member and past board member of the Longfellows Association as well as former director of the Longview Symphony and the Longview Community Theater. Ted and Johnnie Mae's daughter Margaret is a successful corporate marketing executive. Their son Ted Junior, a chemical engineer*



**56. Edward Joseph "Ted" Mooney**  
*President, 1975-76*



and attorney, married Mary Martha May of Longview and has recently become chairman and CEO of Nalco Chemical Company.

**T**HERE IS A COMMON THEME running through the personal commentaries submitted by past presidents for this history. With his characteristic talent for plain talk, Ted Mooney expressed it most vividly:

My first years in Rotary were a disappointment to me, because all I did was attend, eat, and leave. Then on the day Howard Coghlan was installed as president, all members were invited to attend a meeting with the club officers and District 581 Governor Jim Cady of Texarkana. Jim asked all those present to stand and tell what they were getting out of Rotary. When my turn came, I said I wasn't getting a darned thing out of it. Vice President Delbert Bright, sitting behind me, said, "Well, if you would get up off your duff, you might get something out of Rotary!" So I said I would welcome a chance to become involved.

Sure enough, the next year, Delbert appointed me attendance chairman. I also assisted Club Service Director Charles Tullis in organizing and conducting the district convention that year and gave several talks. Charles became my mentor, and from that point, I became very active, serving in all the positions leading to the presidency.

Over the years, Rotary has meant a great deal to me, and I am convinced it has made me a better person. The benefits include new friends among civic leaders, opportunities for community service, and helping young people realize their goals. But I am convinced that *you cannot reap the full benefits of Rotary without accepting responsibility for service and leadership in the club's activities.*

In line with this principle, President Ted's slogan for the year was "Every member an active Rotarian." The club soon became known as the best organized in District 581.

One of our continuing traditions, the Tom Putman Award, was established during this Rotary year but not yet awarded. It was the brainchild of President Ted and *Rotaview* Editor Dick Avent. (See Chapter 6.)

Among other notable events of the year, the district conference was held at the Contessa Inn in Longview on March 26–28. On May 4, Past President and Past District Governor George Kelly achieved fifty years of perfect attendance. The club itself was not quite 56 years old.

At the beginning of the year, a special United States census was about to be completed. The purpose was to qualify Longview for federal designation as a standard metropolitan statistical area by showing a population over 50,000. For good measure, all of Gregg and Harrison Counties were included in the prospective area. (The 1970 census figures had been 46,744 for the city and 75,929 for Gregg County.) This was the subject of Mayor Tommie Carlisle's program for the club on July 8, 1975.

As the bicentennial of the American Revolution approached, *Rotaview* editor Dick Avent presented

occasional news items from that week two hundred years before, in 1775 and 1776. Franklin Martin, in keeping with his historic first name of Benjamin, brought Dr. Norman Black and Kay Pigeon to present a program December 30 on bicentennial celebration plans in Longview. Their project was to make Longview "The City of Flags in 1976."

Here is a sampling of programs under Program Chairman Tom Landers: August 5, Sinclair Kouns, President of the Shreveport Steamers football team; August 12, Dr. Abner McCall, President of Baylor University, and Dr. Guy Newman, Chancellor of Howard Payne University; January 5, Senator John Tower, speaking to a joint meeting with other clubs at the Contessa Inn; January 20, Rotarians Mike Macey and Bob Parrott (pastors of Trinity Episcopal and First Methodist churches) on episcopal church government, followed the next week by Rotarian Rex Humphreys (pastor of Founders Christian Church) on congregational church government; February 17, Dr. Clayton Mitchell, on plans for a second hospital in Longview; and March 23, a bus tour of the new Longview High School.

## 1976–77: Bob Carroll, President

*A native of Houston, Bob was raised in Silver Spring, Maryland, graduating from high school there. In 1957,*



**57. Charles Robert "Bob" Carroll**  
**1930–1989**

*Photo by courtesy of Ramey Carroll*

he married Catherine Anne Ramey of San Diego, California. A self-educated man, Bob went into sales of janitorial supplies and was transferred by Cello Wax Company from Baltimore to Dallas as district sales manager in the early 1960s. In 1967, he moved to Longview and went into business as Texas Custodial Services, operating out of his residence. By 1976, the expanding company was located at 931 Young Street, where Bob and Cathy also started Cathy's Carpet Care and Maid Service. In 1981, they bought and remodeled the present location at 1802 East Cotton Street. Members of Alpine Presbyterian Church, Bob and Cathy reared a son, Ramey, and three daughters, Mary Lou, Christy, and Peggy. Bob was inducted into the Longview Rotary Club by Loyd Hudson on October 21, 1969. After rising through the board and serving as president, Bob continued tireless service in many club projects. He and Ted Mooney were the official indoctrinators of prospective new members. Bob was also active in the Masonic order and the Southwest Association of Building Service Contractors, which he served as board member and president. After Bob passed away in 1989, Ramey Carroll, an active member of this club, capably stepped into his father's shoes in running the family business.

**C**HIEF EDITOR DICK AVENT of the *Rotaview* provided a fitting summary of Bob Carroll's administration at the end of the year, on July 5, 1977:

Under the leadership of President Bob Carroll, his fine directors, committee chairmen, secretary, bulletin editors, and outstanding members, the Longview Downtown Rotary Club has had a very good year for 1976-77. All committees functioned so well that our club won the award of the "most representative club in District 583." This team effort included having outstanding programs for most of the year, an excellent Rotary Ann Banquet, attendance consistently over 95% (excellent for a club our size), five new road signs on main highways into Longview, sponsoring the Lobo Relays, establishing the Past Presidents Council, expanded grants to vocational students, sending an exchange student to Sweden, hosting an exchange student from Sweden, increasing the Rotary Foundation annual contribution level to 2,000%, and getting a district governor elected from our club. Congratulations to all who contributed to bring this about!

In the *Rotaview* for August 17, President Bob emphasized a theme which never grows old for Rotarians:

My personal opinion is that every man, woman, and child owes something to the community that provides their livelihood. It makes no difference whether a person chooses a civic club, garden club, art gallery, symphony, or picking up cans by the roadside; they all play a part in the improvement of our community. Of course, there is a big difference in belonging to a group or working with a group. Our goal this Rotary Year is to have all Rotarians perform at least two acts of community service—*outside of Rotary*. It is not much of a goal. Most of the fellows you sit with each week will perform eight or ten acts of service and never even think about it. I

certainly hope that you are not one of the ones that don't do anything. Think about it.

The club's first Tom Putman award (for the prior Rotary year) was presented on August 10, 1976, to Cecil Richardson by Past President Ted Mooney. Ted explained that the award would be presented each year to the Rotarian who best exemplified the principle of Service Above Self. At this time, Tom Putman himself was an honorary member, still writing *Rotaview* bulletins occasionally as needed. The award for the current Rotary year, in turn, was presented on June 28, 1977, to John Harrison for his work on the Lobo Relays. (See Chapter 6.)

On August 10, Aaron Selber, Chairman of the Board of Selber's department store of Shreveport, discussed the new Longview Mall, scheduled to open for business by the coming February. He noted projections of 1980 income of \$750,000,000 for Longview and \$550,000,000 for Tyler.

At the Rotary Ann banquet on February 8, W. D. and LeGrande Northcutt made their mother Josephine Still Northcutt the first lady Paul Harris fellow of the club. On April 12, Past President Ted Mooney won the District 583 annual Paul Harris fellowship.

Some other outstanding programs: July 6, Bob Eitelman, Executive Secretary of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, presenting a panoramic slide show in the VIP room of the Chamber building; and January 25, Mack Wallace, Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission.

On January 4, the price of a Rotary meal at the Downtowner Motor Hotel went up to three dollars. On March 15, President Bob was reportedly very upset over the awful attendance at the March 1 meeting (seven absent, 95.2% score). He suggested drastic action, such as orientation meetings and publishing twice a year the number of times each member is absent without make-up.

## 1977-78: Dr. W. D. Northcutt, III, President

*All three William Davis Northcutts have been members of this club. Doctor Billy was a founder, and his son Bill was on the roster from August 7, 1951, until he died in December, 1971. For several years after Doctor W. D. the Third joined on September 29, 1964, the club had four Northcutts: Bill, his cousin Percy, and his two sons LeGrande and W. D. (LeGrande joined on May 12 of that year, taking Bill's classification of Fire Insurance.) On February 8, 1977, Bill's widow Josephine became the first woman honored as a Paul Harris fellow in this club.*

*Born in Longview in 1933, W. D. graduated from Longview High School in 1950, from Baylor University in 1954, and from Baylor College of Dentistry in 1957. He then married Susanne Sandberg of Texas City, served two years in the Air Force in Fairbanks, Alaska, and commenced practicing orthodontics in Longview. His graduate orthodontic education was obtained at*



**58. William Davis Northcutt, III, D.D.S.**  
*President, 1977-78*

*Washington University in St. Louis, then St. Louis University, and finally Columbia University. W. D. practiced with Dr. Wade Clendenen until 1974, by himself until 1984, and in a subsequent partnership until 1992. Since then, he has been a consultant with Dr. Clark Spencer. He also is a partner in Northcutt Interests, a property management, real estate, and oil and gas investment company, as well as a director of First Federal Savings Bank of Longview.*

*While serving on the City Council from 1983 to 1987, W. D. was elected Mayor Pro Tempore. He has been president or board chairman of the Longview Commission on Arts and Culture, the Gregg County Historical Foundation, Crisman Preparatory School, First United Methodist Church administrative board, Longfellows Association, Summit Club, Longview Museum and Arts Center, Longview Community Theater, Gregg County Dental Society, Longview Health Service Development Board, and the Lieutenant M. Baldwin Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. In addition, he has been a director of the Hockaday School, Trinity School of Texas, LeTourneau College Associates, Longview Symphony League, Longview Civic Music Association, Gregg County Historical Commission, Good Shepherd Medical Center Foundation, Cherokee Club, Arthritis Foundation, and Baylor Dental College Century Club.*

*W. D. and Susanne have four children: Davis (W. D. the Fourth), Walter, Cissy (Frances), and Le (LeGrande).*

*Both Walter and Cissy's husband Craig Abernathy are members of this club.*

**A**FTER 48 YEARS of meeting every Tuesday at the same place, the club had to change its location at the end of this Rotary year. When the Gregg Hotel was finished early in 1930, we moved there from the Magnolia Hotel. We remained through changes in ownership, while the hotel continued to operate under the names of Longview Hilton, Hotel Longview, and finally Downtowner. But now the hotel was going out of business, and the building was to be used as a dormitory by LeTourneau College. By vote of the membership, Pinecrest Country Club was selected as our new home. We convened there for the first time on June 6, 1978, in the midst of a severe thunderstorm.

Officers serving with President W. D. were as follows: Vice President Rogers Pope, Secretary-Treasurer Tom Brown, Club Service Director Charles Cobb, Vocational Service Director Leo Wall, Community Service Director Henry Gossett, International Service Director Milton Cammack, Sergeant-at-Arms David Bailey, and Past President Bob Carroll. Dick Avent continued as chief editor of the *Rotaview*, and his roster of assistants changed to Mike Macey, Gene McWhorter, Jr., and Porter Brandon.

Our Interact Club at Longview High School was going strong. On October 18, Interact officers Russell Buckstaff and Jack Slagle were guests at the Longview Rotary Club. They reported inducting 48 new members this year, bringing total membership to 70. Under John Harrison's supervision, we also continued sponsorship of the Lobo Relays annual track meet, which was held on March 31.

Among other noteworthy programs under Program Chairman Blackshear Jameson were the following: September 6, Mark White, Secretary of State of Texas (appointed by Governor Dolph Briscoe), on the "energy crisis;" November 8, Bob Cargill, Senior, of Longview on economic growth in Longview and East Texas, predicting a population of 100,000 for Longview by 1987; April 11, Mayor and fellow Rotarian J. R. Curtis on the new city charter, the recent non-attainment ruling on Gregg County by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, the proposed civic center, and reduction of garbage pickup service (pickup only of plastic bags at the curb, no longer from garbage cans without bags in residents' yards); May 2, fellow Rotarian Larry Martin, City Manager of Longview, on the financial status of the city.

On the last day of the year, July 4, the Tom Putman award was presented to Charley Rader. Belatedly for this Rotary year, on July 25, 1978, a Paul Harris fellowship was presented to John Harrison. This was the first such fellowship awarded out of club funds as an honorary gesture. We have continued that tradition each year since then, sometimes with more than one award.

The Adobe Acrobat PDF file of which this notice is a part was created (with minor corrections) from a book entitled *The Club and the Town: The Rotary Club and the City of Longview, Texas, Year by Year from 1920 to 1995*, published in 1995 by Longview Rotary Endowment Fund, Inc. Notwithstanding the prohibition of reproduction without permission on the copyright page of the book, the publisher provides this PDF file to the general public without charge, but only for purposes of reference and research. The publisher strictly prohibits publication, distribution, or dissemination of this file or any part or printed pages thereof, or conversion of the file into any other format, without prior written permission. Longview Rotary Endowment Fund, Inc., PO Box 2244, Longview, TX 75606

# Chapter 5.

## Goodbye to Downtown Longview, 1978 to 1995

### 1978–79: Rogers Pope, President

John Rogers Pope was born into the third generation of a banking family in Overton in 1937. His grandfather R. A. Motley married a first cousin of Longview oil man and Rotarian Rogers Lacy and founded the First State Bank of Overton in 1910. His father John L. Pope established Pope and Turner Furniture Company with Judson Turner in Overton in 1938 and still operates it in addition to the bank. Graduating as valedictorian of Overton High School in 1955, Rogers earned highest honors at Baylor and later SMU, where he received an M.B.A degree in 1966. Along the way, he was employed at First National Bank in Dallas and the family bank in Overton. Then as a C.P.A., he worked at Peat Marwick Mitchell in Dallas. In 1969, he joined the Rotary Club as well as Longview Bank and Trust, where he has become Chairman and CEO. Rogers is also a director of

the Overton bank and chairman of Lindale State Bank and First State Bank of Van. He is married to the former Joyce Davis of Overton, and they have three children: Jan McClelland, Rogers, Jr. (a member of this club), and Jennifer Jones. Besides being a deacon at First Baptist Church, Rogers has served in about two dozen local, regional, and national organizations, ranging from the Longview Chamber of Commerce (past president) and the Baylor University Board of Regents to the American Bankers Association.

THE YEAR 1978 marked another turning point in the history of the Rotary Club of Longview. Since founding the other two Rotary clubs in Longview, this one had become known informally as the Longview Downtown club. The nickname was especially fitting because the hotel where the club had been meeting for 48 years had long since been renamed the Downtowner.



Photo by courtesy of Gregg County Historical Museum

### *Home of the Rotary Club of Longview, 1979 to 1987*

*The Longview Community Center, looking southeast at the corner of Whaley and Second Streets*



**59. John Rogers Pope**  
*President, 1978-79*

But the central business district of the city was following the path of stagnation which has affected nearly all American cities. Loop 281 had been established around the northern part of the city beginning in 1964, and Longview Mall opened this very year. Now, because the hotel was being closed, the Rotary Club of Longview had moved its meeting place to Pinecrest Country Club on June 6, 1978. Thus, although the central business district still had many years of life remaining, for this club it was goodbye to downtown Longview in more ways than one.

When outgoing District Governor Bill Campbell of Mount Vernon installed Rogers Pope and his officers, he also installed his own successor: our former president Charles Tullis. Members of Rogers's administration were President-Elect Charles Cobb, Secretary-Treasurer Tom Brown, Club Service Director Henry Gossett, Community Service Director Milton Cammack, Vocational Service Director Julian Fiegel, and International Service Director Dick Dial. Dick Avent continued as chief *Rotaview* editor, assisted by Mike Macey, Porter Brandon, Gene McWhorter, Jr., and Lloyd Schultz.

Since our man was district governor, it was fitting that the annual district conference be held in Longview. It took place on March 23 and 24 at the Holiday Inn, under the general chairmanship of Henry Gossett.

On December 26, Past President Bob Carroll spoke to us on community service, urging us to sponsor a Rotoract club—similar to an Interact club but for both men and women of college age (18 to 28). Nothing came of it, then or later.

On February 27, Joe Fugitt announced that the club's board of directors had approved sponsorship of a Hubert Gregg Day and the collection of contributions to help him pay off his house. Mr. Gregg was the amiable blind man who had been making a living selling peanuts in Longview for decades. Joe's successful effort was crowned by the city's proclamation of Hubert Gregg Day in Longview at our meeting on April 3. This was the beginning of what became our annual Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year award.

The death of Tom Putman was noted in the *Rotaview* for March 13, 1979. Though not an active Rotarian for several years due to illness, he was still listed as the club's only honorary member.

The following programs stand out in reading through the *Rotaview* bulletins for the year: August 1, Lionel Barry of Hospital Corporation of America, on his plans for the new Longview Regional Hospital, scheduled for completion in June, 1980; Both August 15 and 22, Longview's own Nazi Holocaust survivor, Coen Rood; September 5 with all three Longview Rotary clubs, Senator John Tower; March 20, Tommy Carlisle and Jack Reeves, candidates for mayor under the newly adopted city charter (Jack drew our applause for opposing federal revenue sharing but lost the election); April 17, Congressman Ray Roberts.

At the Sweetheart Banquet on February 20, the club presented its annual Paul Harris fellowship to Past President Bob Carroll. The Tom Putman award for the year was presented to outgoing District Governor Charles Tullis on June 26 after he inducted the club officers for the coming year.

## **1979-80: Charles Cobb, President**

*The son of Frank and Lillie May Ottman Cobb, Charles was born in Longview in 1944 and graduated from Longview High School at the top of his class in 1962. (Frank joined this club when Charles was president.) He majored in math and engineering at the University of Texas, then joined Frank in electrical contracting and became a member of the Rotary Club of Longview in 1967 when he was barely 23 years old. When Mike Hutchison moved to Dallas, Charles was appointed secretary-treasurer of the club in February, 1972, and served more than a year, being succeeded by Tom Brown. He was this club's youngest secretary-treasurer, third youngest president, and perhaps the youngest person ever inducted. He served as Boy Scout committee chairman, Interact Club sponsor and district chairman, and Attendance Committee chairman; became a Paul Harris fellow when he was president; and received the Tom Putman award for 1982-83. Charles was married to the former Elizabeth Amick of Longview, and their children are Beth, May, and Susie. In September, 1994, he married Dr. Ann Rhodes of Longview. Charles has served*



on the school board of Longview Independent School District. He has been president of the Longview Museum and Arts Center, treasurer of the Greater Longview United Way, and a director of the Northeast Texas Electrical Contractors Association.

**T**HIS YEAR WAS the diamond anniversary of Rotary International. It was also the year when the club moved its meeting place from Pinecrest Country Club (after only a year and a half there) to the Longview Community Center. Some of the country club members had objected to our taking up so many parking spaces for the Tuesday noon meetings. On November 13, 1979, *Rotaview* editor Ted Mooney noted, "Our club will be tested during the next few weeks as we resolve the meeting-place problem. We need to pull together to meet this challenge by supporting our directors and officers. If a change takes place I am sure we can adjust."

On August 14, 1979, Reese Middleton and Kerry Cammack announced plans to reactivate our Boy Scout Troop 202. They had a scoutmaster lined up but needed more scouts and a meeting place. Fellow Rotarian and Scout executive Bud Trigleth presented an annual troop charter to the club on August 21. However, as President Charles later explained, it was not a good time to reactivate the troop. This is the last mention of Troop 202 in the weekly bulletin.

On October 30, the *Rotaview* carried excerpts from *Texas Business*, including the following:

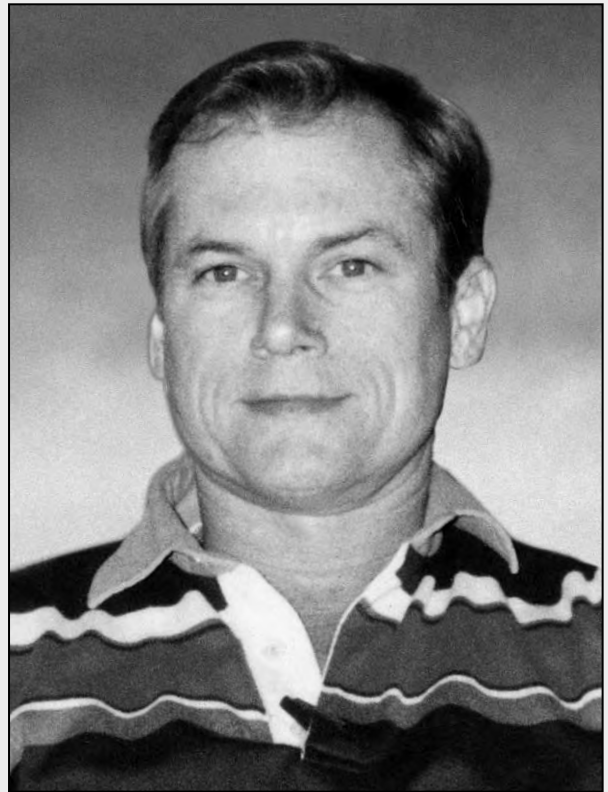
Last year, Longview moved back into its Number 2 statewide position in number of new industrial plants built (14) and expanded (28). In 1977, it had been nosed into Number 3 by the [Dallas and Fort Worth] Metroplex and Houston.

Some...employees who relocated...in Longview will no doubt settle their families among the 18 new subdivisions currently projected or planned for the city in 1979. During 1978, a total of 24 residential subdivisions were added. These new settlers evidently had jobs looking for them instead of the other way around.

On February 26, it was announced that the club's honoring of Hubert Gregg last year would be taken as the first of a series of annual awards. Joe Fugitt headed a committee to consider suggested candidates. As a result, the club presented Millie Harper a Paul Harris fellowship on June 10 for her tireless work at Woodland Christian Church on behalf of the sick, shut-ins, and elderly. This annual award was later to be called the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year.

Also on June 10, Jim Stjernstrom received the Tom Putman award. The club's regular end-of-year Paul Harris fellowship, in turn, was presented on June 24 to Dell Messner.

The club co-sponsored the Lobo Relays, held on March 29—the fourth year of our involvement with this annual event as a Rotary service project. John Harrison and Bob Carroll were in charge.



**60. Charles Franklin Cobb, Jr.**  
*President, 1979–80*

On June 17, 1980, we inducted Ray Jackson two months after he became city manager. Former City Manager Larry Martin continued as a Rotarian in the classification of Banking, Public Relations.

Here are some programs that stand out in the list: November 18, Texas Railroad Commissioner Jim Nugent; March 18, the Four-Way Test speech contest among Longview High School students; March 4, Carroll Callahan introduced congressional candidate Ralph Hall of Rockwall; and after Ralph won the Democratic primary, Andy Guinn brought us his Republican opponent John Wright on May 20.

That maiden speech of Ralph's to us has become immortalized in the legends of the club. Our young president was about to turn 36 on March 9. He liked to emphasize that Rotary exemplified serious business and community leadership in Longview. Just as he called the meeting to order, a pretty girl in a 1950s drum majorette costume rushed in from the west door of the Community Center and commenced an energetic tap-dance routine in front of the head table, singing a lively birthday song to Charles that began, "You're aging, aging, aging." It was a Kilgore college coed who operated a thriving business delivering tasteful greetings of this sort. The president unhesitatingly made a dive under the table, but considerate friends on either side dragged him back to face the

music. Just before Shuffling Off to Buffalo out the door, the performer planted a heavy lipstick kiss on Charles's forehead.

Candidate Ralph watched all these goings-on with rapt appreciation. He opened his speech thus: "On primary election day, May 4, you would probably expect me to be anxiously awaiting the results at my campaign headquarter in Rockwall. But no, I will be in Longview instead, because that happens to be my birthday, and I want a greeting just like the one your president just got." Charles, meantime, was still trying to wipe off the lipstick.

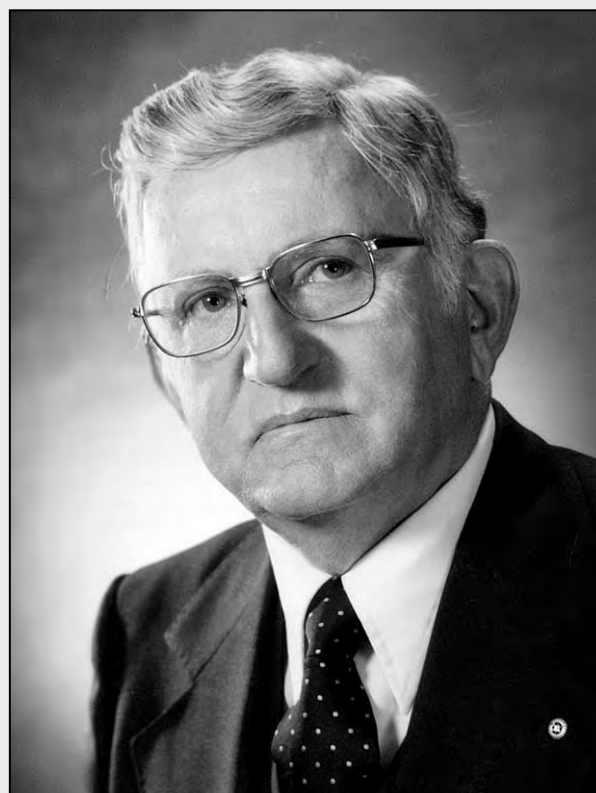
It was obvious even at the time that this entertainment had been arranged by Terry Woods, then a member of the Longview-Greggton club. If his aim was to surprise and embarrass the earnest young president, he certainly succeeded, to the delight of the entire house. Charles took it in characteristic good humor. However, some said that for the rest of the year, he anxiously eyed the door every time he sounded the opening gavel.

## 1980-81: Henry Gossett, President

*Henry Oscar Gossett, Junior, was born in Fort Worth in 1913. His father, after many years as a judge, came looking for opportunities in Longview right after Dad Joiner's Daisy Bradford oil well made news toward the end of 1930. As soon as Henry graduated from Central (now Pascal) High School in 1931, he and his mother came along too. Henry attended Rice Institute (now University) and Cumberland University Law School in Tennessee. In 1935, he married Margaret Cash in Richmond, Virginia. The same year, he entered law practice with his father in Longview, specializing in oil and gas, continuing after the senior Henry died in 1959. On the side, Henry was also involved in other businesses, including retail jewelry, outdoor and indoor movie theaters, a motel and restaurant, wire-line well service, and oil pipelining. In 1970, he gave up law practice and entered full-time into oil and gas well drilling and production, an oilfield supply store, a well servicing company, and an N.A.S.D. brokerage business.*

*Since 1932, Henry has been a member of First Baptist Church, serving as Sunday school teacher and superintendent, training union director, chairman of the finance committee for erecting the Christian education building, and chairman of the Board of Deacons. Having joined the Longview Rotary club on February 16, 1965 (the same day as Delbert Bright), he has never missed a meeting. As president of the Gregg County Historical Foundation from 1979 to 1989, he was the principal founder of the Gregg County Historical Museum. In addition he has been vice-president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America; president of the Texas State Chamber of Commerce, East Texas Chamber of Commerce, Gregg County Bar Association, and Longview Civitan Club; founding president of the LeTourneau University Associates; and a trustee of East Texas Baptist University.*

*Besides all that, Henry is a fisherman, woodworker, artist (portrait, landscape, watercolor, and oil), comput-*



**61. Henry Oscar Gossett, Jr.**  
*President, 1980-81*

*er hacker, and electronic tinkerer. He and Margaret are avid musicians and composers. They have two daughters, Sally and Henrietta (Yetta).*

**T**WO DISTINGUISHING characteristics of President Henry's administration were excellent programs under Program Chairman Mark Abernathy and historical awareness regarding Rotary International and this club. The sixtieth anniversary of the club had occurred the previous May, and the 75th anniversary of Rotary International came on February 24, 1981 (observed by this club with a special program). Throughout the year, Henry often presented a tidbit of historical information, which he called the D.Y.K. of the week (standing for "Did you know?") For example, on August 26, Henry said, "Did you know that W. D. Northcutt was a founding member of the club in 1920?" He then explained he was speaking not of our own latter-day Dr. W. D., but his grandfather.

Longview Regional Hospital had opened for business in June, 1980. We got a report on this long-awaited facility by administrator Jon Trezona in the first program of the Rotary year on July 1. As chairman of the Longview Hospital Authority, our Bill McReynolds had assisted in establishing LRH.

On July 22, our honorary member Bill Northcutt Taylor was recognized as the oldest living president,

and Mayor Tommie Carlisle presented a proclamation of Bill Northcutt Taylor Day in Longview. Bill died less than a year later, on May 14, 1981.

On October 28, after John O'Brien of the National Weather Service described his efforts to bring a weather warning system to Longview, Leo Wall presented 14 weather alert radios to the Longview Independent School System as a gift of the club for use in schools.

The same day, *Rotaview* editor Wells Burton noted a *Longview Morning Journal* article on the business and construction boom in downtown Longview, contrary to trends in other East Texas cities. Three buildings were recently built or remodeled, five were under construction, and five more were planned.

On December 16, President Henry announced that a committee headed by Curtis Morris would begin working on a club history to supplement the one published in 1963. After laying some important groundwork, the committee suspended work. In the fall of 1993, the project was picked up where they left off, resulting in this book.

John Harrison recruited Blackshear Jameson, Julian Fiegel, Bob Carroll, and Ronnie Pliler to help with staging the annual Lobo Spring Relays, held on March 28. The Rotarians wore white sunshades as a uniform.

According to the *Rotaview* of June 2, 1981, this club took over sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 262, of which our member Arthur Brown was scoutmaster. That troop had been sponsored since the late 1940s by Trinity Episcopal Church. Our own Troop 202 had been defunct for at least two years.

The Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year was Gene Boyd, recognized in a program on April 28 for service to alcoholics at Boyd House, which he and his wife established in the Greggton Area in 1970. The Tom Putman award for the year was presented to *Rotaview* editor Wells Burton on June 23; Tom's Rotary Ann, Nancy, was a guest. The club's Paul Harris fellowship for the year was presented to Past President John C. Murphy on July 7, 1981.

Here are some outstanding programs during the year: August 5, James E. Chenault, Jr, new president and CEO of Lone Star Steel Company, a subsidiary of Northwest Industries with a 100-million-dollar payroll and booming oilfield business; October 14, Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby; November 11, Paul Thayer, Chairman and CEO of LTV Corporation; February 12, Texas Railroad Commissioner Mack Wallace; and May 19, Texas attorney general and future governor Mark White.

A new lectern was built for the club, designed by Andy Guinn, featuring brass letters and medallion. And as a parting gift to the club, President Henry and his Rotary Ann, Margaret, gave us American and Texas flags, complete with bases and staffs featuring gold flying eagles on top.



**62. James Milton Cammack**  
*President, 1981-82*

### **1981-82: Milton Cammack, President**

*Born in Paxton, Texas, in 1925, James Milton Cammack settled with his family in Longview in 1939. His father Edwin operated a grocery store on Mobberly Avenue across from South Ward School. Milton graduated from Longview High School in 1943, then served two and a half years in the army air corps as a flight officer, including several months as a B-29 bombardier based on Saipan Island. After the war, he attended Kilgore College and Baylor University. In 1947, Milton married Betye Sapp (daughter of Marshall and Myrtle Sapp of Sapp's Nursery in Longview), and they reared six sons: Jim, Calvin, Tony, Casey, Bob, and Jason. Tony is a past president of the Longview South Rotary Club, Casey is a past president of this club, and Bob is president-elect of the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club. Out of Milton and Betye's ten grandchildren, seven are boys. Betye died in 1989. Milton represented The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States from 1951 until retirement in 1992, when he turned the business over to Tony, Casey, and Bob. Among other service at First Methodist Church, Milton has been a Sunday school teacher. His community service has included one term on the Longview City Council, two terms on the Longview Independent School District board, and board membership for Greater Longview United Way, Hospice Longview, and Pinecrest Country Club.*

PRESIDENT MILTON can rightfully claim this as a very, very good Rotary year. Besides enjoying good programs and increases in membership and attendance, we instituted the Longview Rotary Golf Tournament as the club's major annual fund-raising event. Jim Haralson and Tom Brown were co-chairmen for the project. Most of the \$4,489 raised was assigned to a major international service project to provide equipment to a school for retarded children in Puntarenas, Costa Rica. (See Chapter 6 for more on both of these events.) We also contributed \$1000 to the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club for their new park for the handicapped in Longview. In addition, \$300 was donated to the Paris Rotary Club as aid for tornado victims.

Milton established four basic goals for the year: (1) familiarize officers and committee chairmen with the Rotary International Manual of Procedure, (2) update our club's constitution and by-laws, (3) conduct two fund-raising projects, and (4) promote attendance at the Rotary International convention in Dallas in June. At a club assembly on April 27, we heard progress reports from President Milton and the club directors, then adopted the revised constitution and by-laws. Henry Gossett handed out copies the next August 31, earning special appreciation for his work.

Jim Stjernstrom succeeded Wells Burton as *Rotaview* editor, beginning a long period of service in that capacity.

On November 3, 1981, two months after taking over as Longview Public Library Director, Jeff Rippel described for us the kind of library Longview ought to have. Jeff became a member of this club on the following May 11, and the library became a reality six years later. It was an addition to the city office complex for which a bond election was held in December, 1981.

Some other programs were as follows: June 30, Congressman Sam Hall, one of 28 "boll weevil" Democrats who voted for President Reagan's budget cuts; July 14, Jack Evans, Mayor of Dallas; August 18, Howard Putnam, president of Southwest Airlines; September 29, State Senator Peyton McKnight; January 17, a report by Ralph Hall on his first year in Congress; and March 6, State Senator Ed Howard.

On June 1, the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year award was presented to Agnes Scruggs for a vast array of community patriotic activities. Beginning with the national bicentennial celebration in 1976 and continuing for years afterwards, she was the principal promoter of Longview as "the city of flags." On June 29, the Tom Putman award went to Tom Brown and the club's Paul Harris fellowship to Andy Guinn. Earlier, on December 22, we had honored Julian Fiegel with another Paul Harris Fellowship.

A new club attendance rule was announced on June 22. Members and visiting Rotarians will receive credit for attendance only if they are present from when a meeting is called to order until adjournment or 1:00 p.m., whichever comes first, unless they have prior approval from the secretary.

## 1982-83: Julian Fiegel, President

*Julian's father Reginald came from New York, married Stella Meyer of Marshall, lived for a while in Shreveport where Julian was born in 1925, and settled in Tyler with Etex Paper Company. Julian graduated from Tyler High school in 1942. After a year at Texas A&M, he joined the Army and was assigned to the 305th Heavy Bomb Group of the Eighth Air Force based in England. A staff sergeant, he flew 35 combat missions over Germany as a tail gunner in B-17 Flying Fortresses. Home after the war, Julian majored in business at the University of Texas at Austin, then joined his father at Etex Paper Company in Tyler. Transferred to Longview in 1966, he rose to the position of Vice President and Division Manager before retirement in 1988. Having been inducted into our fellowship by Bob Brown on June 18, 1968, Julian has never missed a meeting. We honored him with a Paul Harris fellowship in December, 1981. A thirty-second-degree Scottish Rite Mason, he is a member of Lodge Number 404 in Longview and of Sharon Shrine Temple, where he served as Potentate in 1986. He is on the board of governors of the Shreveport Unit of the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children.*

THE MOST NOTABLE landmark of Julian's year was the establishment of the Longview Rotary Endowment Fund by vote at a club assembly on August 24, 1982. (See Chapter 6.) At Christmas time, we won the competition among service clubs for collect-



**63. Julian M. Fiegel**  
*President, 1982-83*

ing the most donations for the Salvation Army, turning in \$3,366. The second annual Longview Rotary Golf Tournament netted \$5,227, a healthy increase over the inaugural event of the preceding year.

There had been a movement among some members to return to Pinecrest Country Club as our meeting place. But at a business meeting called to discuss the issue on December 7, a motion to that effect was tabled. There was considerable uncertainty as to whether we would be welcome at the country club.

Rather suddenly, Longview seemed to be getting interested in local history and preservation of historic buildings. Besides starting the ball rolling toward publication of this book two years earlier, Henry Gossett (as chairman of the Gregg County Historical Foundation) promoted creation of the Gregg County Historical Museum. Opened in March of 1984, the museum occupies the Everett Building in downtown Longview, which was dedicated after renovation early in 1983. Also, the Junior League of Longview had engaged architect David Harrison (son of our past president John) to begin cataloging historic sites in the county. He reported that project to us on November 9, 1982. It was for a book on this survey that the Junior League hired our Gene McWhorter, Jr., to write a county history which instead became a separate book published by the historical foundation in 1989, *Traditions of the Land*. And in a program for us on November 30, 1982, Architect John Adams advocated a redevelopment and revitalization program to restore worthy old buildings in downtown Longview. Among other laudable projects, John was instrumental in restoring the Norton & Barbee grocery building (built in the 1920s by Rotarian Lawrence Birdsong for Rotarians Lee Norton and Claude Barbee with others) for office purposes. Thanks to efforts such as these, the popular tide of destruction of our architectural heritage was held back for a time.

It was partly for her help in acquiring the Everett Building for the museum that we presented our annual Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year award to Ann Lacy Crain on April 19. She is the wife of renowned architect B. W. Crain, Jr., and daughter of Longview oil man and Rotarian Rogers Lacy. Her late father-in-law B. W. Crain, Senior, and her brother-in-law E. B. Crain were also members of this club. Ann was praised as a quiet philanthropist. Recently elected City Councilman W. D. Northcutt, III, read Mayor Mitch Henderson's proclamation of Ann Lacy Crain Day.

At the last meeting of the Rotary year, the club presented its annual Paul Harris fellowship to Bob Brown. For many years, Bob did the weekly duty of introducing guests and visiting Rotarians. In that capacity, he originated the weekly badge prize. The Tom Putman award for the year went to former president Charles Cobb.

Here are some memorable programs of the year: November 2, football coaches Doug Cox of the Longview Lobos and Maurice Cook of the Pine Tree Pirates, discussing the following Friday's game

between their two 5-A teams; February 1, Mayor Mitch Henderson, reporting on his first nine months in office; March 29, County Judge Henry Atkinson, reporting on (among other topics) the new 100,000-square-foot addition to the courthouse.

## 1983-84: Dick Dial, President

*Richard A. Dial is a third-generation Rotary president. Both his father David J. Dial (a CPA) and his maternal grandfather Boone Hombs (a merchant) were presidents of the Palestine club. Though born in Fort Worth, Dick was reared in the home town and graduated from Palestine High School in 1964. A Sig Ep at the University of Texas, he earned a BBA in accounting in 1968 and a master's degree in professional accounting with highest honors the following year. Dick worked for Peat Marwick Mitchell in Dallas until 1976. In that year, he married a fellow accountant, Bonnie Prendergast of Marshall, moved to Longview, joined our club, and opened an accounting partnership with Bonnie. Her father George, an attorney retired from Texas Eastman, was a member of the Marshall Rotary Club. Dick has been president of the East Texas Chapter of the Texas Society of CPAs and of the Northeast Texas Estate Planning Council, treasurer of Good Shepherd Medical Center and of the Gregg County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited, and a director of the Texas*



**64. Richard Alan Dial**

*President, 1983-84*



*Association of Hospitals and the Texas Society of CPAs. He and Bonnie are members of First Christian Church.*

**A**MONG OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS of this year, President Dick is particularly proud of the weekly programs under Program Chairman Gene Coddou. Many of them were covered by television and radio as well as newspapers, providing excellent publicity for the club. Speakers included the following: former Texas Governor Bill Clements; Lieutenant Governor Bill Hobby; State Comptroller Bob Bullock; Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives Gib Lewis; Boll Weevil Congressman Kent Hance of Lubbock; Congressman Ralph Hall of Rockwall; Congressman Sam Hall of Marshall; State Senator Ed Howard of Texarkana; State Representative Jimmy Mankins of Kilgore; future congressman Jim Chapman of Sulphur springs; Roberto Quinonez-Meza, former Salvadoran ambassador to the United States; Southwest Athletic Conference Commissioner Fred Jacoby; and Bill Gray, President of the Texas Association of Business.

On November 8, 1983, the club revived a former practice of honoring an outstanding Longview High School student every month. The first Longview Rotary Student of the Month was Stacy Baucum, presented as a guest at the meeting by Jeff Rippel. Later, the program was expanded to include international students at LeTourneau University.

Continuing club events included the following: club scholarship, presented to Longview High School valedictorian Jeff Mach; the Longview High School speech contest on the Rotary Four-Way Test; manning the Salvation Army "bell-ringing" stations at Christmas time; awarding savings bonds to outstanding Longview High School vocational students on April 24; and the third annual Longview Rotary Golf Tournament on April 9.

Among other activities, we were the initiating club and largest contributor to the District 583 world community service project, drilling a water well in South Africa. We assisted the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club with Rotary Park. In August, 1983, we sponsored a boy and girl to the American Legion Boy's State and Girl's State events.

On May 22, C. C. Turner was honored as the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year for his many years of distinguished service in teaching mathematics at Longview High School. City Manager Ray Jackson read Mayor Mitch Henderson's proclamation of that day as C. C. Turner Day in Longview.

At the end of the Rotary year, we presented the club's Paul Harris Fellowship to Syril Parker for being our chief publicity agent over many decades.

### **1984-85: Leo Wall, President**

*Born and raised on a farm in Cass County, Leo graduated from McLeod High School in 1952 and from East Texas State University in 1960. He received CLU and*

*ChFC designations after study at American College. For 15 years, Leo was an insurance salesman and manager for Aetna Life & Casualty in Shreveport, Monroe, Longview, and Lubbock. In 1974, he settled permanently in Longview, where he was associated with Gans & Smith for another 15 years before establishing his own business as Wall Financial Services in 1989.*

*As a member of the Optimist Club in Monroe, Leo was club president, Lieutenant Governor for Louisiana, and winner of the outstanding club president award for Louisiana as well as the International Distinguished President award. In East Texas, he has served as director of 15 civic, benevolent, and professional organizations. Besides this club, he has been president or chairman of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, Gregg County Crime Stoppers, Oil Belt Life Insurance Association, and Sales and Marketing Executives of East Texas. Along with other committee chairmanships at the Chamber of Commerce, Leo was the principal originator of the Leadership Longview program in 1981. A very active member of Trinity Episcopal Church, he has served on the Vestry, conducted Children's Chapel for 10 years, won the "Love of Trinity" award, and chaired the Church Growth Committee as well as the Brotherhood of St. Andrew.*

*Since 1987, Leo has been married to the former Judy Walker, who was originally from Sioux City, Iowa. He has three daughters, all of whom are presently in various stages of college educations: Julia Ann, Lee Barclay, and Whitney Leane.*



**65. Leo B. Wall**  
**President, 1984-85**

**I**N DESCRIBING HIS YEAR, Leo wrote that we all have our own different ideas on how to advance the worthy Rotary object of service above self:

First, the directors wanted to participate in the full scope of Rotary at all levels. If we aspired to be the best club in district affairs, our local success would take care of itself. Therefore we supported the district's goals fully and provided leadership to assure their attainment.

Our second purpose was based on the belief that the true test of Rotary's ideal of service above self is in community involvement—not merely through Rotary. We encouraged members to engage in worthwhile organizations that were making Longview a better place to work and live.

In a survey we conducted among our club starting August 14, we found that in addition to Rotary, the average member participated in 2.5 benevolent or humanitarian organizations and projects. These were the foremost endeavors of that sort in our community. Also, most members were in major leadership roles at that time or in the past.

In the first program of the year, on July 3, Wes Ferns, manager of the new KLMG-TV station in Longview (Channel 51), said they would be on the air as a CBS affiliate in August. *Longview had been the largest city in the country without a television station.* Ferns commended our Jim Singleton and Ray Jeter for their work in designing and constructing the building.

On August 21, we recognized four members for participation in District 583 activities. Roland Henry was district parliamentarian and chairman of the Rotary Foundation Scholarship Committee. Andy Guinn and Blackshear Jameson served on the International Service Committee. Andy also worked with the World Community Service Committee. Jack Welge was a member of the District Resolutions Committee.

On January 8, Dick Dial arranged for Leo to receive dignified fiftieth birthday greetings similar to Charles Cobb's 36th in 1980. The girl was dressed as a night-club hostess instead of a drum majorette, and she delivered a balloon bouquet instead of tap-dancing, but the overall effect was much the same.

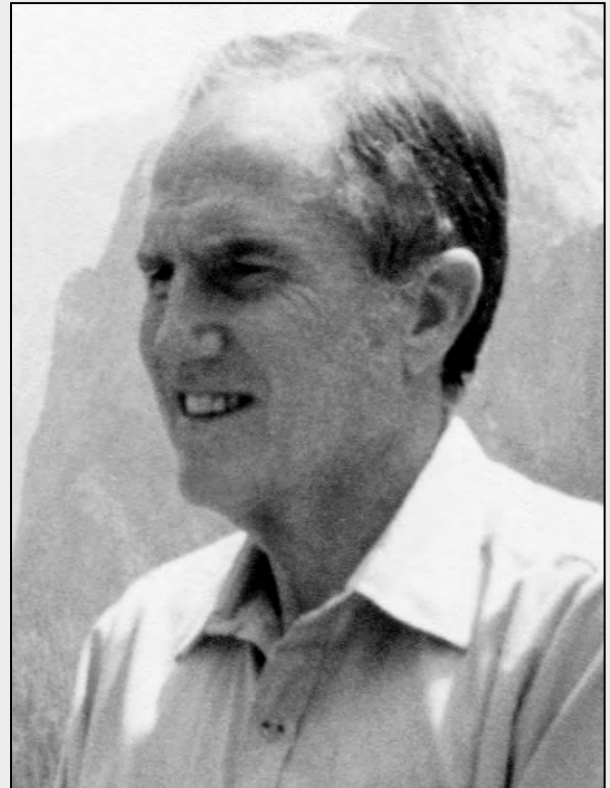
We contributed \$1,200 to the City for Rotary Park on July 17 and sent LeGrande Northcutt's daughter Aurelia to Girl's State. On February 26, the club committed \$2,500 from that year's golf tournament for a District 583 project: sending teams of dentists the following year to help impoverished Indians in Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico. (They went instead to Belize.)

In addition, the club continued the usual activities: Longview High School student of the month; international LeTourneau student of the month; bell-ringing for the Salvation Army at Christmas (we won the prize); LHS speech contest on the Rotary Four-Way Test on February 19; Longview Rotary golf tournament on April 19, netting \$4,500; presentation of savings bonds to outstanding LHS vocational students on May 21; club scholarship award to LHS senior Bryan Stidham announced on May 28; Longview Rotary

Citizen of the Year award on May 14 to our own E. K. Bennett, who died about three weeks later (City Councilman W. D. Northcutt read a proclamation from newly elected Mayor Lou Galosy); presentation of the club's Paul Harris fellowship to Vic Ferchill and the Tom Putman award to Mike Macey on June 25; and classification talks at nearly every meeting.

## **1985–86: Barcus DuBose, President**

*Barcus was born in Waxahachie in 1919 and grew up in San Antonio, where his father was a cotton mill manager. Graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School in 1936, he attended North Texas Agricultural College in Arlington and got a chemical engineering degree from Texas A&M in 1941. In the army for the next five years, he served in anti-aircraft artillery, including command of a 90-millimeter battery in Europe. Meantime, in 1943, he married Bertha Keller of Wilmington, North Carolina, who was a chemist working in the naval shipyard. They have two sons—a PhD and an MD—and two grandchildren. In 1946, Big Three Industries sent Barcus to open a branch in Longview. He joined this club on March 25, 1955. Since 1964, he has operated his own equipment supply company. Barcus is an active member of First Methodist Church. His other leadership service has included the Longview Chamber of Commerce and Jaycees, Boy Scouts of America, and LeTourneau University Associates.*



**66. John Barcus DuBose**

*President, 1985–86*

**T**HIS WAS AN ESPECIALLY big year for the club in terms of money raised and given away. The most notable event was the Rotary Fashion Extravaganza spearheaded by Bob Brown on March 5, 1986, raising about \$12,000 for the planned new Longview Public Library in addition to individual contributions of more than \$8,000. (See Chapter 6.) Our \$20,000, plus \$30,000 from the other two Longview Rotary clubs, resulted in the Rotary Periodical Reading Center in the new facility. The Extravaganza also served as our Sweetheart Banquet for the year.

In addition to our regular club scholarship support, the new Longview Rotary Endowment Fund gave its first scholarship award on July 23, 1985, to Hershel Ramsey, an employee of Mike Holbert. We were sponsoring Leslie Laffitte as a Rotary Exchange Student, and she visited us on August 13 before heading for Belgium. We won the Salvation Army Christmas collection competition with \$3,250. The Golf Tournament under Jim Haralson's direction on April 25, 1986, netted \$5,816. The club contributed \$2,000 to Rotary International's Polio Plus eradication program. On February 25 and May 20, Dr. Wayne Legg and Dr. Dee Rea reported on the first District 583 Dental Team Excursion to Belize, which our club helped support. (See Chapter 6.) We gave the usual savings bonds totaling \$300 to four vocational education students from Longview High School on April 29. And at the end of the year, on June 24, the club awarded not just one but three Paul Harris fellowships to Carrie Riff, Dick Dial, and Tom Brown. At that meeting, City Councilman W. D. Northcutt read Mayor Lou Galosy's proclamation of Carrie Riff Day. We had already given Bob Brown a Paul Harris fellowship two years earlier, so we honored his work on the Fashion Extravaganza with the Tom Putman Award for this year.

Another unusual event this year was the Rotary International Letters for Peace competition, a one-time event spearheaded for the club by Gene McWhorter, Jr., jointly with the other two Rotary clubs in Longview. A city-wide publicity effort conducted mainly through the public schools resulted in 58 letters being submitted by young people from 14 to 18 years old, offering suggestions to public officials for promoting world peace. The winner was awarded \$500 for college tuition. He and two runners-up were sent to further competition at the Rotary district level, leading to national and international award possibilities.

The Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year, honored on June 17, was Miss Doris McQueen, business manager of Longview Independent School District for many years.

Program chairmen Glenn Evans and Wayne Legg provided several prominent speakers, including the following: August 13, Governor Mark White; September 17, Texas Railroad Commissioner Jim Nugent; November 25, chicken merchant Bo Pilgrim; and April 1, State Treasurer Ann Richards, introduced by future mayor and state treasurer Martha Whitehead.

## 1986-87: Dr. Jim Stjernstrom, President

*Born in St. Paul in 1936, James Edward Stjernstrom graduated from high school there at Minnehaha Academy in 1953. His subsequent career at Bethel College in St. Paul was interrupted by two years as a cook in an army hospital in Berlin, where he won the last medal issued for World War II occupation duty. In 1958, Jim married Kathryn Ann Youngberg of Minneapolis. Working as a taxi driver and postal clerk, he got a BA at Bethel College and then a bachelor of divinity at Bethel Seminary in 1964. After two years as pastor in a Baptist church in Milaca, Minnesota, Jim sold real estate in Minneapolis while earning an MA in history and philosophy of education at the University of Minnesota, awarded in 1973. At that time, R. G. LeTourneau's sons Roy and Ben brought him into their industrial tractor dealership in Orlando as a chaplain. (Jim's father Nels had been assistant to R. G. in Longview and then Vice President for Public Relations for the company, joining this club on October 6, 1970.)*

*From 1975 to 1992, Jim was Vice President in charge of fund-raising for LeTourneau University. Meantime, he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree at Bethel in 1980. He and Kathryn raised three children as Texans and members of First Baptist Church: Jill, Scott, and John. Jim was inducted into our fellowship on November 7, 1978, later winning both the Tom Putman award and the club's Paul Harris Fellowship for many years of ser-*



**67. James Edward Stjernstrom, D. Min.**  
*President, 1986-87*

vice, including editing the *Rotaview*. Jim's affiliations and service have included the National Society of Fund-Raising Executives, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, the Christian Stewardship Association, the Longview Volunteer Center, the Salvation Army Advisory Board, Greater Longview United Way, Longview Chamber of Commerce, Longview Symphony League, and Longview Downtown Development Corporation. A certified fund-raising executive (CFRE), Jim is now Director of Development at Greenville College in Illinois. Nels and Bernice lived in retirement in Tyler, where Nels died in January, 1995. We look forward to Jim and Kathryn's eventual return to their home among us in Longview.

**A**FTER FIVE YEARS as *Rotaview* editor, Jim Astjornstrom turned that job over to new member Kenny Hawthorne and moved up to the presidency. The most memorable event of Jim's term was decided on April 28, 1987, by a ballot of 77 to 18. After meeting at the Longview Community Center for seven and a half years, we moved back to the Country Club on May 12.

The greatest change in the history of Rotary occurred during this year: As a result of a U.S. Supreme Court decision which Rotary International had opposed, the organization dropped its restriction of membership to men in the U.S. Applying the goodwill part of the Four-Way Test, this club quietly accepted the inevitable.

On April 28, LeGrande Northcutt and others reported on "Longview Day in Austin." A bus load of civic leaders descended on the capitol to lobby on education, the proposed Little Cypress reservoir, downtown development, tort reform, and oil and gas employment.

The Four-Way Test speech contest for Longview High School students was conducted on March 3, introduced by Superintendent Buddy Davis. The sixth annual Rotary golf tournament was held on Friday, April 24, chaired by Bill Dodson. On June 2, we recognized four outstanding vocational students at Longview High School. The Rotary Citizen of the year, honored on June 23, was Jim Elam, pastor of First Christian Church (previously acclaimed by our Bill O'Neal, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, as Emperor of the Preachers). The Tom Putman award went to Dr. Wayne Legg on June 30, and Leo Wall won the club's Paul Harris fellowship on July 21, 1987.

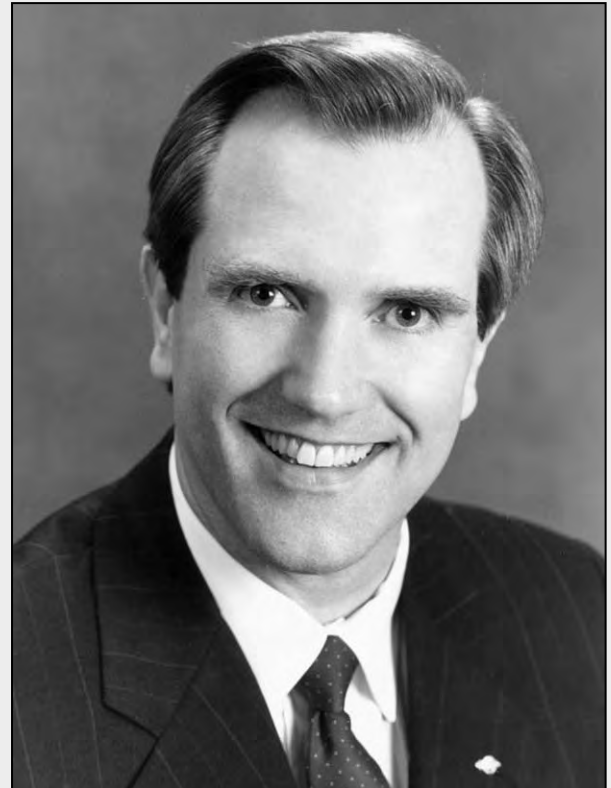
Our honorary member Ray Newnham turned 100 years old on May 19. He died within a month.

Here are some weekly programs that deserve mention: July 15, 1986, Bud Austin, new president of LeTourneau University; July 29, Bill Hilliard, new general manager of the Little Cypress Utility District; November 25, Congressman Ralph Hall; April 7, 1987, Gladewater oil man Jack Phillips, father-in-law of our once and future member Mark Abernathy, showing movies of his 1969 shooting trip in Kenya with Mark's future wife Nancy, then 16 years old, who was seen blowing an elephant away with the same cheerful aplomb that she now displays in chairing civic commissions and private school boards and such; and June 9, County Judge Henry Atkinson.

## 1987-88: Jack Welge, President

Jack Herman Welge, Jr., was born in Austin in 1951 and graduated from McCallum High School in 1969. While a student at the University of Texas (graduating in 1974), he was elected to the board of University United Methodist Church. On finishing St. Mary's University Law School in San Antonio in 1977, he married fellow Longhorn Band member Ava Avent of Longview, daughter of our member Dick Avent. Jack served as assistant district attorney in Longview, then joined the law office of Jerry Irwin. There, he successfully helped defend Billy Sol Estes in one of his last legal scrapes and also was appointed by the city commission as first judge of the new municipal court of record. Since 1983, he has conducted a solo practice, specializing in family and matrimonial matters, general civil litigation, and probate affairs. Jack and his father-in-law are among the few Longview lawyers admitted for practice before the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Having joined our club in 1978 and become a Paul Harris Fellow, Jack brought Ava in as our first woman member in 1990. He has served on the boards of the Longview Museum and Arts Center, East Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, Longview Community Theater, and East Texas Association for Abused Families. He has been president of the Gregg County Bar Association and the Knife and Fork Club. Jack and Ava and their two daughters are members of Trinity Episcopal Church, where he has served on the vestry.



**68. Jack Herman Welge, Jr.**  
*President, 1987-88*

THE LANDMARK EVENT of Jack Welge's year as president came on February 16, 1988. We voted unanimously to accept the challenge of Rotary International to raise \$22,893 for the 120-million-dollar Polio Plus campaign as our share of the District 583 quota over a five-year period. The object was to eradicate polio and four other childhood diseases worldwide: DPT (diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus), and tuberculosis. We hoped to accomplish this goal through Paul Harris fellowships and fund-raising projects.

However, another event of the year got more attention than Polio Plus: the frightening plunge of the United States stock market on October 19 and 20, 1987. Stock brokers hit heavily on that topic in programs on November 24 and March 29.

At the beginning of this year, John C. Murphy, Jr., started presenting the weekly sunshine reports, which he has done ever since.

Four outstanding vocational students at Longview High School were honored with savings bonds on April 5. The annual Four-Way Test speech contest was held on March 8.

The Rotary District 583 annual conference was held at the Maude Cobb Activity Center on April 29 and 30. Senator Phil Gramm was the speaker on Saturday night.

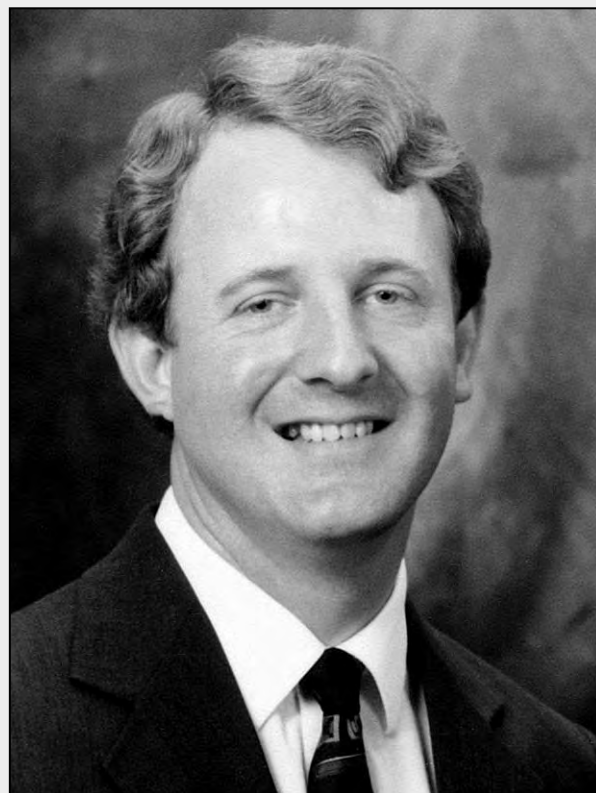
Our annual golf tournament was held on May 13 at Oak Forest Country Club under the chairmanship of Larry Martin. About \$5,100 was earned for the Polio Plus fund.

The Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year, honored on June 7, was Marcus Shuttlesworth. On June 28, the Tom Putman award was presented to Sergeant-at-Arms John Walker, and Henry Pitts won the club's annual Paul Harris fellowship.

Some other important programs under Program Chairman Mike Holbert were as follows: July 7, 1987, State Treasurer Ann Richards; September 8 and again on May 31, Congressman Ralph Hall; September 22, State Representative Jerry Yost; October 6, our own member, 31-year-old Rabbi Joshua Taub; October 13, State Land Commissioner Gary Mauro; November 10, Federal District Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler; November 17, State Comptroller Bob Bullock.

## 1988-89: Casey Cammack, President

*A son of Milton Cammack, Casey is the most recent of three presidents whose fathers were also presidents of the club. (The others were George Kelly, II, and John Harrison, Jr.) He was born in Longview in 1955 and graduated from Longview High School in 1973, then attended Kilgore College and graduated from UT Tyler in 1977. He immediately joined the family business as a sales representative for the Equitable Life Assurance Society and has been at it ever since. Along the way, he received CLU and ChFC designations from American College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. In 1985, he married Esther Barnes, who had moved to Longview from Johnstown, Ohio. They have three sons and one daughter.*



**69. Casey Womack Cammack**  
*President, 1988-89*

*ter. Casey has been president of the Oil Belt Association of Life Underwriters and the East Texas Chapter of CLUs as well as serving on the board of Greater Longview United Way. He and his family are active at Longview Christian Fellowship, where Casey serves as deacon and member of the school board.*

AFTER A VACATION of two years, Jim Stjernstrom relieved Kenny Hawthorne as editor of the *Rotaview*. Kenny had been hired the previous July as director of the newly formed Longview Downtown Development Corporation. It was intended to stave off the commercial decay of downtown Longview, which was becoming ever more obvious as prime retail businesses closed or relocated. (That trend illustrates the reason for calling this chapter "Goodbye to Downtown Longview.") On September 20, Kenny told us about a concept promoted by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and adopted by LDDC, called the Mainstreet Program. It involved encouraging activities and amenities which would attract people to the downtown area and draw downtown workers onto the streets.

On October 18, the founding of what became the fourth Rotary club in Longview was announced in the *Rotaview*. Known as the Hallsville Rotary Club, it started meeting at the Harrison County sub-court-house at 6:45 Wednesday mornings. However, membership drew heavily on Longview, and the meeting



was changed to Bentley's on Thursday evenings, then in late 1990 to Johnny Cace's on Monday evenings.

Starting on June 5, 1989, the Longview South Rotary Club moved its meeting place from the Holiday Inn in South Longview to Wyatt's Cafeteria in the Earlee Shopping Center, which could be considered downtown Longview.

The Four-Way Test speech contest for Longview High School students was conducted on March 7. Three outstanding vocational students of LHS were honored at our meeting in temporary quarters at the Holiday Inn in South Longview on May 30.

The club's annual golf tournament was held at Pinecrest Country Club on April 28, chaired by Larry Martin and Bill Dodson, netting about \$5,800.

On June 6, Dr. Sam Mack was named Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year. On June 27, the Tom Putman award was presented to Larry Martin, and the club's annual Paul Harris fellowship went to Jim Stjernstrom, followed by seven others two months later: Travis Beavers, Milton Cammack, Royle Carby, Claire Foster, Gordon Hargett, Art Mercer, and Al Wisenbaker.

Some noteworthy programs were: August 30, former congressman Ron Paul of Houston, Libertarian Party candidate in 47 states for President of the United States, presented by Barcus Dubose; October 11, Ron McMichael, new superintendent of Longview Independent School District; April 11, Jack Rains, Secretary of State of Texas, presented by Rex Boyland; May 9, our own Bud Austin, president of LeTourneau University, a name recently changed from LeTourneau College; and June 13, State Representative Jerry Yost.

## 1989-90: Ronnie Pliler, President

*The son of Wardell and Katherine Pliler, Ronnie was born in Longview in 1947. He was a member of the last class graduating from Judson High School before the merger with Longview Independent School District resulted in conversion of the facility to a middle school in 1965. From then until 1977, he served in the U.S. Army Reserve. Ronnie went to Kilgore College, but his real education was gained in his father's office machine store at 426 East Cotton Street. Having started the business in 1948 and been one of our members for many years, Wardell sold out to Ronnie in 1978. He and Katherine now live at Hideaway Lake. Ronnie, in turn, joined this club in 1982. He sold the store in 1988 and became a partner in a travel agency for several years. Since 1991, he has busied himself with oil and gas and other investments. Ronnie served on the county court in 1982 as appointed commissioner of Precinct 2. He is a member of Longview Masonic Lodge Number 404 and a life member of Waco Scottish Rite and Sharon Temple Shrine. Among other community services, he has been involved in the March of Dimes and Greater Longview United Way. Raised in Moberly Baptist Church, Ronnie is now a member of New Beginnings Baptist Church. He has two daughters, ages 15 and 17. An avid hunter and fisherman, he also enjoys reading and gardening.*



**70. Ronald Wardell Pliler**  
*President, 1989-90*

**T**HE LONGVIEW ROTARY Golf Tournament was held on April 20, pulling in about \$5,300. On May 22, we recognized outstanding vocational students at Longview High School. Our Citizen of the Year award was presented to Jo Lloyd on June 5. The club's annual Paul Harris fellowship went to Tom Landers on June 26 and the Tom Putman award to Sergeant-at-Arms Jack McIlhenny on July 10.

Here are a few of this year's excellent programs: July 25, 1989, City Secretary and Interim City Manager Jo Ann Metcalf; August 22, Kenny Hawthorne, promoting "100 acres of heritage" downtown, the Alley Art Show, the Street Jam, the Rigadoon to kick off Loblolly Jubilee, and Christmas in the Alley; September 19, Retta Kelley, new publisher of the Longview News Journal; September 26, Judge Ben Z. Grant of the Sixth Court of Appeals in Texarkana; October 17, Clayton Williams of Midland, Republican candidate for governor; November 14, City Councilwoman Martha Whitehead, opposing a tax cut; November 28, Jack Goodwyn of Texas Eastman, telling about the GLOBE effort to help local public high schools produce employable workers; December 12, Congressman Ralph Hall, promising the Superconducting Supercollider; December 19, Federal Judge Robert Parker; and January 23, 1990, several members of the Texas Rangers baseball team.

## 1990-91: Dan Fiscus, President

*Dan was born to a farming family in Wynne, Arkansas, in 1954. Graduating from Wynne High School in 1972, he received a B.S. in business administration at the University of Arkansas in 1976 and an MBA from Southern Methodist University in 1977. That year, Dan started work at Lakewood Bank & Trust in Dallas. He was president of the East Dallas Kiwanis Club. In 1982, he came to First National Bank in Longview (now Bank One), moving in 1984 to Texas American Bank, where he served as senior lender and became president. Since the fall of 1994, Dan has been an investment executive with PaineWebber. In 1986, he married Becky Ottmers, daughter of Wanda and Roy Ottmers of Longview. Dan has served in leadership positions in numerous benevolent and professional organizations. He enjoys golf, biking, country and western music, and dancing. Dan and Becky have one son, Jason Daniel, born on the fourth of July, 1990, the day after Dan took office as our president. They are members of First Methodist Church.*

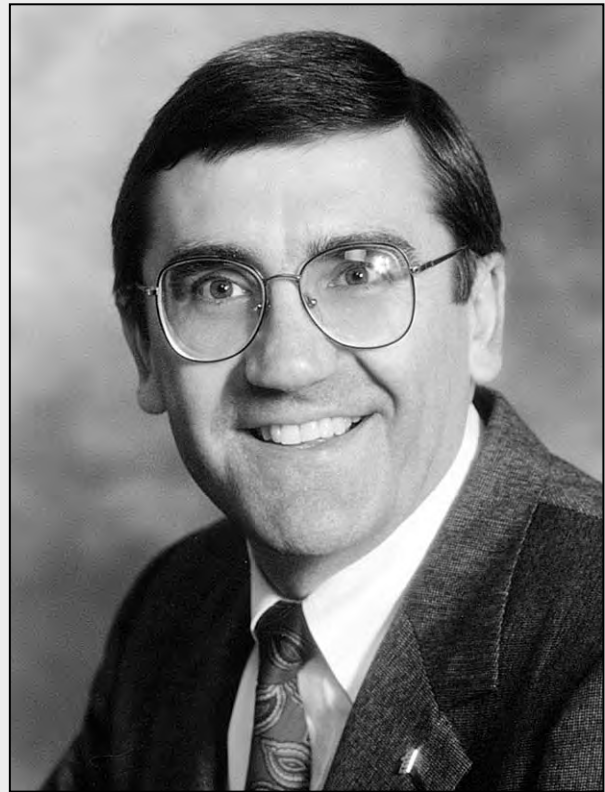
**T**HE MAJOR TURNING POINT in the history of Rotary International trickled down to our club this year. Not quite three years after women were allowed in Rotary, we inducted our first one on November 13, 1990: Ava Welge, daughter of our member Dick Avent and wife of our member Jack Welge, who proposed her for membership. On March 5, 1991, Ava brought in Pat Florence, widow of Longview-Greggton Rotarian Buck Florence. Now, four years later, we have as many as half a dozen women in the club.

Among the major achievements of this year, we paid off the small amount remaining on our 1986 pledge of \$20,000 for construction of the Longview Public Library. Similarly, we completed our 1988 pledge of \$22,893 for Rotary International's Polio Plus program. We provided \$2,000 in scholarships to four students. In addition, we donated \$400 to Junior Achievement Project Business and approved a \$1,000 contribution to the city's Heartland Celebration of independence day (originally promoted by Vic Ferchill with Joe LaBarbera). Under Jack McIlhenny's chairmanship, our annual golf tournament raised \$5,100.

Among other activities, we sponsored two Rotary Exchange students: Michael Hvass from Denmark, and Casey Hawthorne of Longview to Spain. On April 9, we conducted the annual Four-Way Test speech contest for Longview High School Students. Various club members participated in the Santa Calling program, the Salvation Army kettle collection at Christmas, and Operation Clean Sweep to renovate houses of the needy.

The Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year was our own Cecil Richardson. On June 25, the Tom Putman award went to Ramey Carroll, and we presented our annual Paul Harris fellowship to Casey Cammack. President Dan was awarded the District 583 Service Award by District Governor Carroll Fletcher.

Notable programs included the following: July 3, State Representative Jerry Yost; July 31, new City



**71. Jack Daniel Fiscus, Jr.**  
*President, 1990-91*

Manager Jim Baugh; August 14, Congressman Jim Chapman; October 9, Tom Ramey, judge of the Twelfth Court of Civil Appeals in Tyler; October 16, State Senator Bill Ratliff, quoted as advocating a state income tax, which he later denied; December 4, our own Mayor Lou Galosy, on the upcoming city bond election; March 5, Jim Hurst, President of the Greater Longview Development Foundation, advocating a half-cent sales tax for industrial development; April 2, Ronnie Morrison, Director of the same organization, which grew out of the former Longview Industrial District three years before; April 30, new County Judge Ken Walker; and May 28, a tour of the Texas Eastman plant.

## 1991-92: Bill Rice, II, President

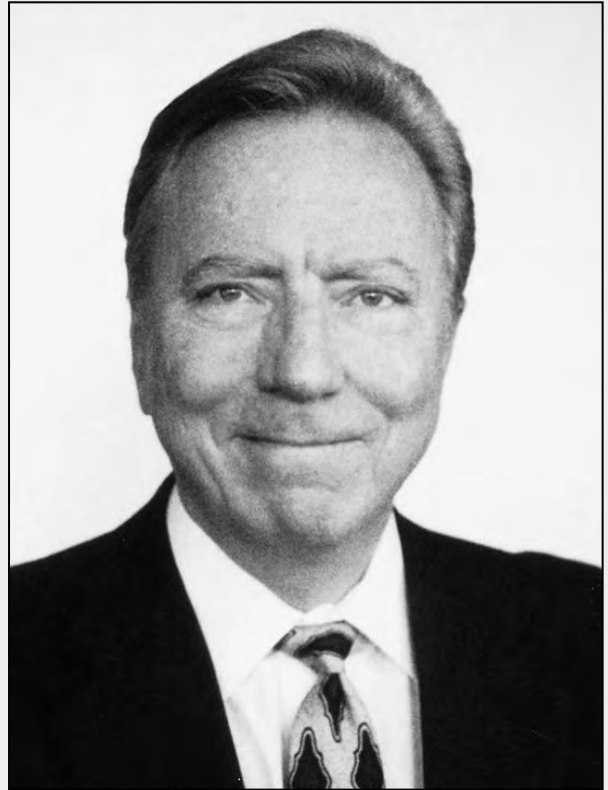
*Born to Lucille and John H. Rice in Tyler in 1930 and named for his grandfather, Bill grew up in Longview, where John was a gasoline and oil distributor. Graduating from Longview High School in 1947, Bill got a BBA at Baylor in 1951. The next year, he married Rachel Gallenkamp of Kingsville, whom he met at Baylor when he was a senior and she was a freshman. They have three sons who also graduated from Baylor, including Bill the Third of this club. After seven years at Texas Eastman, Bill went into business with his father. Through the years, he has been active in various*

kinds of investments, especially real estate. He also was an organizer and director of two banks and one S&L. Most recently, he has been associated with Smith Barney as a financial consultant. A member of First Baptist Church since childhood, Bill has served in many capacities, including chairman of the board of deacons for three terms. In 11 years on the Longview City Commission and Council, he served as mayor in 1970, 1971, 1976, and 1977 and won the Carl Estes Memorial Award as Citizen of the Year in 1971. And in almost 14 years on the Sabine River Authority board, he was president for two terms. Charles Tullis brought Bill into our fellowship on October 1, 1974. Earlier, as a Kiwanian, he was club president and Lieutenant Governor of the Texas-Oklahoma district. For two years in the 1970s, he was project advisor for a public television series called "Watch Your Mouth." Bill has been an officer or director of the Longview and East Texas chambers of commerce, LeTourneau University board of trustees, SBA Area Advisory Council, East Texas Area Council of Boy Scouts, Greater Longview United Way, East Texas Council of Governments, Longfellows, Longview Community Development Team, Longview Symphony League, and Paisano Baptist Encampment. His other interests include skiing, travel, and reading.

**A**S BILL LAID DOWN the gavel on June 30, 1992, his administration was described thus in the *Rotaview*: "We've been telling President Bill Rice we're going to miss him when he's gone, because someone is bound to shoot him before his year is out. This president has brought to our podium an artful blend of gentlemanly decorum and deadpan hilarity which will be a tough act to follow, although there are signs his successor will be up to the job. Bill deserves everything he is going to get, which we hope will be as good as he gave." What he got was a "This is Your Life" roast conducted by John C. Murphy, Ron Hudgens, and Ron McCutcheon.

The distinctive Bill Rice tone was established early in the year. On August 20, 1991, with President-Elect Jerry Adair officiating in Bill's absence, Larry Martin proudly presented famous movie and television actor George Peppard as our speaker. He said George was in the area studying local speech and mannerisms for a new role, and he had been offered to Bill Rice as a speaker. George said a few genial words of introduction, threw the floor open for questions about his career, and gazed around grandly. Larry had said very little about George, assuming we all knew who he was, but a lot of us didn't. Most of the rest, considering the president's reputation for skillful spoofery, assumed this was a put-on. (Some still do; consider the face above.) In a full minute of dead silence, George's gaze darkened considerably. He concluded brusquely, "Well, in that case, thanks for lunch," and sat down. We haven't heard from him since and don't expect to.

In earlier decades of its history, the club had conducted major programs each year to recognize and honor teachers in Longview Independent School District. Every year until 1961-62, we invited all the teachers to an annual banquet. (See Chapter 6.) This



**72. William Yngve Rice, II**  
*President, 1991-92*

year, under Vocational Service Director John Troy, we began inviting one outstanding teacher each month to our meeting for special recognition. The LISD administration picks one school each month, and the teachers of that school vote to select one for the honor. The first Longview Rotary Teacher of the Month, presented on October 8, was Joyce Upshaw of Valley View School.

The Four-Way Test speech contest for Longview High School students was conducted on February 18. The school's three outstanding vocational students were honored on May 12. The annual golf tournament was held at Pinecrest Country Club on April 24, netting about \$5,000.

The Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year, honored on June 9, was our own member and former mayor Lou Galosy; Mayor Martha Whitehead joined in praising Lou. The club's annual Paul Harris fellowship was awarded to Ronnie Piler on the last day of the year, June 30. Three weeks later, Bill presented the Tom Putman Award to Gene McWhorter. (This was the younger Gene; his father died in August, 1991.)

Among the especially interesting programs were the following: September 3, a tour of the Stemco plant; September 24, State Representative Jerry Yost; October 1, State Senator Bill Ratliff; October 15, Congressman Jim Chapman, presented by Jim Hugman; and May 26, a tour of the Stroh brewery.

## 1992-93: Jerry Adair, President

*Jerry was born in Hugo, Oklahoma, in 1946 and graduated from Stillwater High School in 1964. He got a B.S. from Oklahoma State University in 1968 and a Master's degree in hospital administration at Duke University in 1970. He married Nancy DeKinder of Chickasha in 1965, and they have a son and a daughter; the three gave Jerry a Paul Harris Fellowship for Christmas during his presidency. At Gaston Memorial Hospital in Gastonia, North Carolina, from 1970 to 1981, Jerry became a senior vice president. Then, moving back home to Oklahoma, he took over as head of Jackson County Memorial Hospital in Altus. There, he was inducted into the Rotary Club. Then two months after becoming president and CEO of Good Shepherd Medical Center in Longview in December, 1986, he came into this club. Besides being elected to the boards of the Longview Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Longview United Way, Jerry has served in leadership positions in nine major professional organizations at the local, state, and national levels. He and Nancy are members of First United Methodist Church. Don't stand between Jerry and the TV when it's showing Duke basketball, the Dallas Cowboys, or Texas Aggie football, or between him and his bass boat.*



**73. Jerry D. Adair**  
*President, 1992-93*

**P**RESIDENT JERRY started with a member opinion survey which formed the basis for the club's activities for the year. The most unpopular tradition turned out to be classification talks, so they were eliminated. Another negative was club assemblies, so only one was held. Overall, the response was quite favorable; all respondents indicated they were proud to be members of the club.

When Jim Stjernstrom moved away during the preceding Rotary year, Lester Kilpatrick was left as the only *Rotaview* editor. During this year, Gene McWhorter and Sam Smead alternated every two months.

In his capacity as Permanent Sunshine Committee Announcer, John Murphy revved up Murphy's Rotary Fellowship Drill: he occasionally called on a member to recite the names and occupations of all the members at that table.

Pat Young recruited a men's chorus last year, for occasional harmonious serenades in lieu of our customary song or prayer. Known as the Young Singers, the group continued this year. Besides Pat, the members were Ellie Hopkins, L. J. Fite, Warren Tharp, Thomas Welch, Bill McReynolds, Gene McWhorter, and Wells Burton on piano. Wells was the usual club pianist for the weekly song for many years.

The annual conference for Rotary District 5830 was held in Longview on April 23 through 25, hosted by all four clubs. We continued our LISD teacher of the month recognitions as well as Salvation Army bell-ringing, Santa Calling duty, and Operation Clean Sweep service. The golf tournament was held on April 30, chaired by Terry Woods. Under its president Casey Cammack, Longview Rotary Endow-

ment Fund conducted a raffle for a set of golf irons on June 15. We named Vic Ferchill our Citizen of the Year on June 22. Gordon Hargett received the Tom Putman award on June 29. The club's Paul Harris fellowship was presented to Wells Burton on July 27, 1993.

Program chairman Leo Wall started off the year with a series of programs on local economic development: July 14, County Judge Ken Walker, mainly discussing the Gregg County Airport; July 21, Dr. Jack Foreman, Dean of the new TSTC vocational college branch in Marshall; August 4, Howard Rosser on the East Texas Tourism Association; August 11, Dr. Norman Black, on the county's first planned economic development, the new town of Fredonia in the 1840s; and November 10, investment banker Ed Moore on municipal bond issues.

Among other memorable programs were the following: October 6, retired Rear Admiral Sam Moore of Marshall, on the Navy's role in the Persian Gulf "war" last year; October 13, Congressman Ralph Hall; December 1, Judge Sam Hall of Marshall; December 22, Southwest Conference Commissioner Fred Jacoby; January 5, State Senator Bill Ratliff, on the school funding fiasco; and January 19, Sheriff Bobby Weaver on turning a downtown grocery store into an annex to the county jail in the courthouse.

## 1993–94: John Troy, President

*Born in 1952 to Boston Irish Catholic parents in Palo Alto, California, John was raised in Stratham, New Hampshire and graduated from public high school in nearby Exeter in 1970. He got a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1974 at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and a law degree at Boston University in 1977. Seeking to get warm, he moved to Houston. Before settling down, he lived the Bohemian life, traveling a lot and working as a waiter when he had to. In May of 1982, he married Sandra Kay Balloun of Westbury, a Houston suburb, and in August was invited by a friend to visit Longview. The following October, he hung up his shingle here as a lawyer in solo general practice and has been at it ever since. Franklin Martin brought him into this club on October 16, 1984. John's community service activities have included Junior Achievement, Windridge Therapeutic Riding Center, and Greater Longview United Way. He and Sandy have two children, William and Amy. If you play golf with John, don't bet money.*

**T**HE CLUB EXPERIENCED a major change in personnel this year. For the first time in 20 years, Tom Brown was not selected to continue as secretary-treasurer by the nominating committee. The slate of officers they presented on December 14 included Casey Cammack for that position instead. Tom Landers nominated Tom Brown from the floor on that day, and we had a contested election for the first time anyone could remember. Both candidates conducted themselves as gentlemen, and Casey was elected in a secret ballot on December 21. Tom resigned from the club at the end of the Rotary year. (See Chapter 6.)

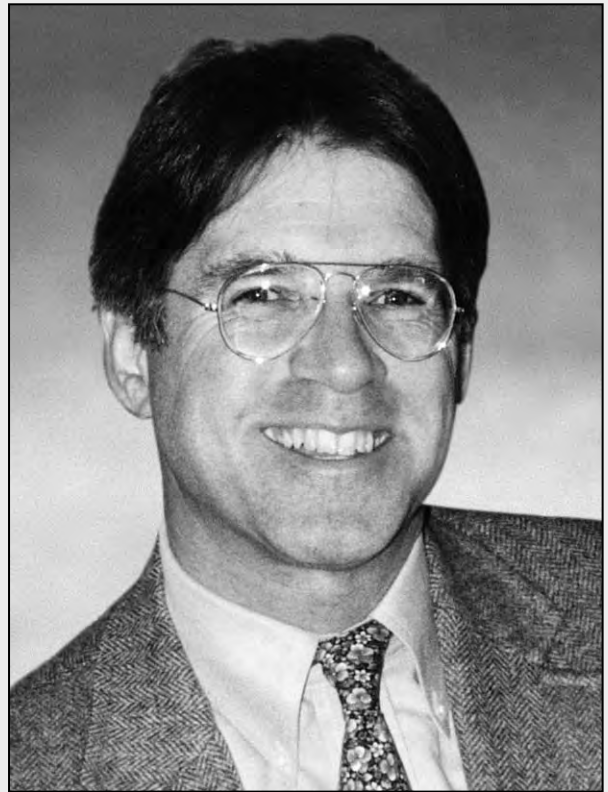
John instituted a method to encourage participation in the club's service activities such as the golf tournament, Operation Clean Sweep, and so forth. Everyone who works in at least three such efforts will take part in a drawing for a prize at the end of the year.

A new idea for the annual golf tournament was submitted for a vote on March 1: that every member be required to play in the tournament, or get a hundred-dollar sponsor, or be an eighty-dollar sponsor himself. The proposal was defeated, and tournament support remained strictly voluntary. Charlie Reeves was in charge this year, and more money was raised than had been in several years.

On October 14, the board of directors accepted Vic Ferchill's suggestion that the 1963 history of the club be updated. That idea, nurtured by Vic, led to the publication of this book in 1995, which turned out to be the diamond anniversary year of the club.

This year, a committee of *Rotaview* editors started alternating the duty: Mark Boon, Ron Heezen, Ava Welge, and our third Rotarianne, Cindy Russell.

We continued the LISD Rotary Teacher of the Month program under Ron Heezen. The annual Four-Way Test speech contest for LISD students was held on February 22. On June 21, as the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year, we honored our own Hank Foster,



**74. John Grannan Troy, Jr.**  
*President, 1993–94*

who was absent due to an extended illness. Hank died four weeks later. Some members recalled that on March 1, 1966, the club similarly honored Hank's father, Past President Henry Foster, who also died shortly thereafter. The Tom Putnam award was presented to David Houston. Gene McWhorter won the club's Paul Harris fellowship for his work on this book.

Notable programs were as follows: July 13, State Senator Bill Ratliff, saying he was sick of talking about public school financing; September 7, Nancy Abernathy, wife of our wayward member Mark, chair of the advisory board for the proposed city activities complex; October 26, I. J. Patterson, who was elected Mayor after Governor Ann Richards appointed Martha Whitehead as state treasurer; February 1, George W. Bush, owner of the Texas Rangers baseball team and successful candidate for Governor of Texas; and March 8, our own Don Scoggins of Texas Eastman, discussing the spinoff of Eastman Chemical Company from Eastman Kodak on January 1, 1994.

## 1994–95: Kim Callahan, President

*A fourth-generation citizen of Longview, Kim was born here in 1956 to J. Carroll and Elaine Shaw Callahan. (Carroll has been a member of this club since 1956.) Kim grew up working in the family business, Carolane*





**75. James Kim Callahan**  
*President, 1994-95*

*Jewelers, which was founded in 1953. Having attended Trinity Day School (now Trinity School of Texas) through the third grade, he graduated from Longview High School in 1974 with an academic rank in the top two percent of his class. Following two years at Kilgore Junior College, he graduated summa cum laude from the University of Texas at Austin in 1978 with a BA degree in government and history. Three years later, he won a JD degree from the University of Texas Law School. Upon passing the bar exam, Kim returned to Longview and served as staff legal counsel to First National Bank and then Texas American Bank.*

*Meantime, in 1982, Kim married his long-time sweetheart Joyce Jackson of Longview. In 1990, he joined Carroll, Elaine, and Joyce in operating the family jewelry business and also joined Carroll's law firm. Sponsored by Bob Carroll as a member of this club in 1983, Kim has maintained perfect attendance along with his father.*

*Kim and Joyce are members of First Christian Church. He enjoys playing basketball and collecting and driving classic automobiles. He also plays acoustic guitar and collects antique watches.*

**T**HE DUAL THEMES of change and growth characterized the Callahan administration from the beginning. Incoming Secretary-Treasurer Casey Cammack declined to accept the salary traditionally paid by the club. On Casey's recommendation, we voted that, beginning with this year's elections, the

positions of secretary and treasurer be separated. Next year, for the first time in the club's history, we will not have a single secretary-treasurer. The Board of Directors adopted a formal budget for the first time in recent memory. They resolved to use golf tournament proceeds entirely for charitable purposes, not spending any on club operations.

Membership growth soon emerged as a highlight. Having begun the year with 129 members, the smallest enrollment in 35 years, we grew to nearly 150 by March. On October 4, W. D. Northcutt's son Walter became the club's first fourth-generation member.

We stepped up to a co-leadership role in the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive along with long-time sponsor Longview Cable TV. Thanks to Robert Durham and 37 other Rotarians, along with many community volunteers, this event provided Thanksgiving meals for a great number of needy families. Community Service Director Ron Heezen headed up the club's December bell ringing, which collected over \$2,000 for the Salvation Army.

District Youth Exchange Committee liaison George Kelly, III, announced approval of the application of David Northcutt Brown, a Trinity School of Texas junior, to visit Japan's Rotary District 2520. David is the son of Janet Brown and the late Arthur Northcutt Brown of this club. His grandfather Ted Brown and great-grandfather W. D. Northcutt, I, were also members, and his grandmother Jessie Northcutt Brown was our pianist in the 1930s.

President Kim instituted a quarterly club newsletter which proved popular. Past President John Troy continued the Teacher of the Month award. New member Ross Jutsum succeeded Wells Burton in accompanying our song at each meeting. Following a club-wide survey concerning the annual Rotary Ann banquet, Co-Chairmen W. D. Northcutt and Craig Abernathy turned it into a dinner dance instead. It was held in the Michelob Room of R&K Distributors on February 22, with catering by our own David Choy's Canton Restaurant and big-band music by Ross Jutsum's Ambassador University Stage Band.

The completion of this book was a major event for the club, expected to coincide with celebration of our diamond anniversary in May. At the same time, ironically, the downtown hotel where we met from 1930 to 1978 was being demolished.

At the cut-off date for this text on February 28, notable speakers this year have included Texas Agriculture Commissioner Rick Perry, State Senator Bill Ratliff, Congressman Jim Chapman, District Judge Robin Sage, new Longview City Manager Ted Willis, Texas Comptroller John Sharp, and "Drug Dog Max" of the Longview Police Department.

Plans for the remainder of the year include a tour of the Capacity, Inc., plant, organized by Lara Lever and Ramey Carroll. The annual golf tournament, headed by David Houston, is scheduled for May 5—including, for the first time, a party the night before.

# Chapter 6.

## Traditions of Service, 1920 to 1995

*The Rotary year in each heading is the earliest found for that topic in available records.*

### Boy Scouts (1922–23)

Rotarians are the Boy Scouts of the business world: both organizations are based on ideals of personal conduct. The Four-Way Test of truth, fairness, goodwill, and general benefit is an adult counterpart of the Scout Law: *A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.* Thus it was particularly appropriate to choose the photograph of the dedication of our Boy Scout cabin below for the frontispiece and dust jacket. Other reasons are mentioned on Page 16.

According to the *Rotagraph* excerpt on Page 4, the club was supporting Boy Scout programs as early as 1922. A note in the *Rotaview* for January 30, 1962, says that Boy Scout Troop 202 was first organized in April, 1933, under the sponsorship of First Presbyterian Church, and the Rotary club took over the following September. A newspaper article dated July 18, 1933, notes that scouts Allen Gaston and Jimmie Aden attended the installation of Curtis Meadows as president. They presented Bruner Smith and Frank LeBus with “trophies symbolic of the appreciation of Longview Boy Scouts for the aid and coopera-



Photo by courtesy of Gerald Osborne, Jr.

***Dedication of the Troop 202 Boy Scout Cabin at the City Park, May, 1935***

*(See appendix for identifications.)*

tion given by the Rotarians.” Here are some excerpts from a newspaper article dated December 10, 1933:

The Longview Rotary Club, as its part in the program to put scouting on the map in Longview, has become sponsor of Boy Scout troop number two, known as the “Orphan Boy Scout troop.”

The troop was organized on September 1, with Herman Hoeft as scout master. There are now 11 scouts enrolled, and...the full number of 32 for the troop is expected to be secured soon. The troop has been holding regular meetings on each Friday.

Troop members are Wesley Danforth, James Chism, Allen Gaston, Eddie Little, J. S. [J. T.] Terry, Jack Tucker, Jimmy Cobb, Ira Felts, Marvin Jordan, and Bruce Gaw. Carl Anderson is now qualifying for membership. The Rotary Club has appointed the following committee to be in charge of the troop: G. E. Osborne, chairman and general supervisor; W. H. Terrell, in charge of education and advancement; B. W. Crain, advisor and in charge of outdoor activities; Joe Riff, custodian of Health and safety.

The first project adopted by the troop is to secure temporary headquarters for weekly meetings. This space has been provided by A. L. Connor. The second project is to obtain a new troop flag, a record book, and a first-aid kit. The third project is to provide for a permanent meeting place. The Rotary club will assist in all these projects.

Another member of the troop, Herbert Skidmore, was mentioned in a newspaper article the following April. Other articles tell that in December, 1933, the troop began building a cabin at Longview Municipal Park as the permanent meeting place. Located in a clump of native pines near the barbecue pits at the corner of Molton and Pecan Streets, it was intended to be 20 by 40 feet in size. The photograph on the preceding page was taken at the dedication 17 months later.

With the continued active support of the Rotary Club, Troop 202 became one of the best in town. Scouts often attended Rotary meetings and presented programs, and Rotarians often attended troop events. As late as 1974–75, the club had a Boy Scout committee (last chairman: Ward Summers), earlier called the boys’ work committee. Among many scoutmasters through the years were Noble Crawford (1942 to 1945), German Hollandsworth, Carrol Harris, Ed Russell, Barcus DuBose, and Ralph Wise. Other Rotarians working with the troop included Steve Butter, Fritz Cornelsen, Jim Kelly, and Royce Lackey. On August 16, 1955, plans were announced to move the cabin to the new Pinewood City Park, which is located south of Radio Street and west of High Street.

The troop gradually died out. In 1973–74, it was reported as active again after several years of dormancy. Finally, in August of 1979, Rotarians Reese Middleton and Kerry Cammack announced plans to reactivate the troop, and an annual troop charter was presented to the club, but the effort was soon discontinued. In June, 1981, we briefly succeeded Trinity Episcopal church in sponsoring Troop 262, of which our Arthur Brown was scoutmaster.

According to the *Rotaview* of March 4, 1947, the club’s board of directors decided to sponsor a *Girl Scout* troop. However, that project was not mentioned again.

## Scholarships and Student Loans (1922–23)

One of the earliest and most lasting accomplishments of the Longview Rotary Club is its assistance to college students. This avenue of service is mentioned under “Boys’ Work” in the *Rotagraph* for September 30, 1922. (See Page 4.) During the club’s second year, the members held a minstrel show to establish a student loan fund. Rotarians and others added their contributions. The annual minstrel continued for many years, and according to the 1963 club history, the Rotary Club helped many deserving students.

However, in the *Rotaview* for February 25, 1947, editor John Harrison wrote that the student loan fund had become inactive and poorly controlled. In March and April, 1947, the club abolished the fund and distributed the remaining \$717.54 to the Red Cross, the Round-Up Club, the American Legion youth program, and a scholarship of \$100 for a high-school student.

Scholarship awards were something apart from student loans. Editor Harrison explained on February 25, 1947, “As many of you perhaps did not know, our club has been giving a \$50 scholarship for several years to a worthy student of our high school. The present holder of this scholarship is James Mathis, who is attending Kilgore College.”

Club members and the public still are generally no more aware of this benevolence than they were in 1947. However, the club has continued its annual scholarship awards. Club scholarships were given a boost in 1959 when Pearl and Stella Gans established a Rotary scholarship fund in memory of their brother Dan, who was a charter member of the club. The Gans sisters later added to the fund, which is still in existence. However, club scholarship awards have mostly been drawn from the general fund. Once we begin helping a student, we generally continue annual support for four years. We usually have four scholarship holders at a time (each receiving \$500 per year), but as of early 1995 there are only three: Kevin Cochener, Richard Holloway, and Jennifer Shivers.

## Honoring Schoolteachers (1922–23)

An annual teachers’ appreciation dinner which brought the Longview club national recognition was started during the early years of the Club. It is mentioned in the *Rotagraph* of September 30, 1922, excerpted here on Page 4. Each year, the club held a dinner party for the teachers of the city. (See the newspaper article opposite.) It was an event which the teachers appreciated and enjoyed a great deal. In return, the girls of the home-economics classes at

Longview High School served lunch to the club from time to time. The annual schoolteachers' banquet continued until 1961, when the addition of Greggton to Longview brought the Pine Tree schools within the city limits. The large number of teachers then involved made the dinner impractical, and it was discontinued.

Thirty years later, at the beginning of the 1991-92 Rotary year, the club once more began showing appreciation to the teachers of Longview Independent School District. Under Vocational Service Director John Troy, we instituted the Longview Rotary Teacher of the Month Award. The program was described in the *Rotaview* for December 15, 1992, as follows:

#### OUR LISD TEACHER OF THE MONTH

We see it as a way to encourage excellence among the teachers of Longview Independent School District. The LISD administration, in turn, sees it as a way to show off their best teachers to us. So this club's practice of recognizing one superior teacher each month is a happy one all around. For each of the nine academic months, LISD Public Relations Coordinator June Lassiter designates a different one of the 16 campuses. The teachers of that campus, in turn, get together and select one of their number for the honor.

The selected teacher attends one of our meetings, typically accompanied by the principal of that school. After being introduced with a brief career summary by one of our vocational service committee members, the teacher is given an inscribed plaque and invited to address the club.

### Rotary Ann Banquet (1932-33)

The tradition of having an annual club party to which Rotary Anns are invited is apparently common throughout Rotary International. The earliest Rotary Ann Banquet in Longview for which a record is at hand occurred in the 1932-33 Rotary year. The newspaper report (Page 13 here) called it an annual event, so this was not the first. Apparently we have had a Rotary Ann banquet every year since then. The event has sometimes been called sweetheart banquet and sometimes ladies' night. It has usually been held on the Tuesday evening before Valentine's Day, but sometimes as a Christmas party, and at least once (1933-34) as a Halloween costume party. However, in 1994-95, the event (held on February 22) is called the spring dinner dance.

### The 1932-33 Rotary Schoolteachers' Banquet

#### *"52 Longview Men Trifle on Wives, Maybe"* *reported in the Longview Newspaper*

Fifty-two Longview business men trifled on their wives last evening, and some of them got away with it. But not so with about 15 of them. Their balls and chains followed them and brought wrath down upon them in no uncertain terms, much to the misery and discomfort of the board bills.

The fifteen "irate" wives who invaded the girl-filled, men-filled, and smoke-filled dining room of the Gregg Hotel found their mates, and mates of their friends, breaking bread with a select group of young ladies: the schoolteachers of the Longview system. Did they bounce skilletts off the heads of the ma'ams? They did not. They just put the men-folk on the grill and roasted them as they have never been roasted before. They were really done up brown.

Very adroitly and very humorously executed was the kangaroo court concocted by a group of Rotarians' wives as a part of the program of the annual Rotary entertainment for the teachers. It provoked gales of laughter and applause, and apparently made everyone happy. Just as the regular program was terminated, the women, headed by Mrs. T. D. Campbell, burst into the room. Mrs. Campbell announced why they were there: to check up on their husbands. She then "convened" court. High Sheriff Hettie Richardson called out the names of three defendants, M. D. Abernathy, Cyril A. Parker, and Joe LeSage, and asked that they come forth to be searched. Several gosh-awful things were found on them. Clerk Forman then proceeded to present a farcical paper on

Rotary. This was followed by testimony adduced by Attorney Effie Rule Bivins, from Mrs. Curtis W. Meadows, Mrs. B. N. Taylor, and Mrs. W. B. Chauncey, who told their husbands gallivanted mightily. Other defendants, including W. B. Smith, George Kelly, Henry Foster, John L. Whorton, V. R. Hurst, Jim Airey, and T. D. Campbell, were found to possess unmentionables that no man should carry in his pocket.

The verdict: the husbands must stay home every night for a year; help the kiddies with their lessons; spend money freely on their wives; let the wives go when and where they please and stay out as late as 2 o'clock in the morning.

The numbers on the special program, as announced by Mr. Foster: "School Rules of 1712," by R. L. Speight; "Cuban Love Song," by Helen Leaverton and Frances Thomas; reading, Mrs. Lloyd Stephens; solo, Roger Creed; reading, Miss Addie Maye Glover; novelty, the Dodson sisters; song, Mr. Foster. Miss Josephine Hopkins played the accompaniment for the various numbers.

Preceding the program, the teachers were introduced by Mr. Foster and the Rotarians by J. Marcus Wood. Mr. Foster also introduced several members of the school board, including H. L. Turner, Opha Grissom, Mr. Wood, E. Q. Whitney, and O. L. Norton. Mrs. Norton and Mrs. Grissom, guests, also were introduced.

The program was in charge of the local club's program committee, of which L. D. Kelly is chairman.

The tradition of calling Rotarians' wives "Rotary Anns" also seems common to all Rotary Clubs—at least in English-speaking countries. This term is likely derived from the feminine form of Rotarian in French: *Rotarienne*. Presumably, now that we have women members, this time-honored name will die out, unless we develop a term for Rotary husbands too. The natural choice would be *Rotary Andy*, based on the storied rag dolls Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy.

## Rural-Urban Program (1933–34)

In the 1963 club history, the rural-urban program was explained as follows:

During the 1920s, the club recognized that it could be of help in drawing people to the city, and it began a rural-urban program. This program included the holding of a meeting each year in each of the small communities around Longview. At these dinners, the farmers in these communities were invited to meet and become better acquainted with the citizens of Longview, who were represented by the Rotary Club.

According to a 1933 newspaper article, the purpose of these meetings was to engender a closer relationship and better understanding between the city and country citizens. As agriculture declined as a way of life during the 1930s and 1940s in this area (and throughout the country), the club's annual rural-urban programs became less elaborate. Rather than a series of banquets throughout the county, we merely scheduled a speech on a farm-related topic at a regular weekly meeting. However, the club had a rural-urban committee as late as 1968–69 and possibly later.

## Crippled Children and Sight Conservation (1933–34)

Another early project of the Club was the Crippled Children's Program. Clinics were held at which specialists from crippled children's hospitals were brought in to see what might be done for these children. The earliest documentation of this effort is a newspaper article dated November 21, 1933.

Also during the early 1930s, a sight conservation program was started. The Rotary Club arranged for the testing of the eyes of children who were suspected of having sight defects and furnished glasses for those who were not able to obtain them.

## The *Rotaview* Bulletin (1941–42)

According to the 1963 history, the *Rotagraph* was a mimeographed bulletin in early years of the club. George Kelly II had issues from August and September, 1922. It was not known how long the publication continued. The Rev. Edgar N. "Shorty" LeBlanc was the only editor whose name was available.

The 1963 history also said that the club published bulletins intermittently during the 1930s under the name *Rotaview*. There was no record as to when the name was adopted or why that particular name was chosen. However, the name is obviously a composite of Rotary and Longview. It is reminiscent of the endless variety of cute bulletin names found in other clubs. Some which come to mind are the Longview-Greggton *Rotarama*; Mount Vernon *Rotator*; Carthage *Roteller*; Dallas *Rotagrams*; Kilgore *RotaReport*; Gladewater *Rotary Driller*; Brunswick, Georgia, *Rotarygram*; and Lewistown, Pennsylvania, *Rota-Record*.

The earliest *Rotaview* issue at hand is dated November 2, 1943, edited by Bob Speight. He assigned the same number 4 to volumes for both 1943–44 and 1944–45. These numbers, and occasional comments by editors, indicate that the first full year of *Rotaview* publication was 1941–42. Weekly issues have continued, apparently without interruption. However, editors have not always been consistent in numbering each successive annual volume. Presently, *Rotaview* issues for 1994–95 are called Volume 49, but they are actually the fifty-fourth annual volume.

A list of the bulletin editors is included in the general club data in the appendix. They have taken their responsibilities quite seriously. For instance, before stepping into the job, Vic Ferchill gave a great deal of thought to how it should be accomplished. His statement of *Rotaview* purposes on May 22, 1956, is a timeless one which would serve the club well today:

1. To circulate notices of meetings to members with details of the program, and so stimulate interest and improve attendance.
2. To provide desirable material which can be used by the Public Information Committee in keeping local newspapers advised about Rotary.
3. To increase acquaintance among the members by its newsy items and so foster club fellowship.
4. To serve as a record of all the club's activities and so provide a club history.
5. To inform other clubs of the club's views, activities, etc., and so cultivate good will.

Most of the volumes we have were collated and bound by Past President Andy Guinn at various times over the past 30 years. The permanent repository for this civic resource is the Longview Public Library.

## Founding Other Rotary Clubs in Longview (1958–59 and later)

The earliest recorded proposal at hand for a new Longview club is found in a letter dated November 19, 1958, from former Secretary-Treasurer Ray Tracy to the club's board of directors. Ray proposed that we sponsor a second club in Longview, without mentioning a location. The reasons he listed were to facilitate making up attendance, to allow men whose classifications were filled in this club to become Rotarians, and to allow Rotary to grow as fast as the city, since this



club did not have the room and facilities for expansion. Noted on the letter is the comment, "Rejected by board 11/25/58."

When Vic Ferchill was president three years later, former President and former Secretary-Treasurer Cecil Richardson was chairman of the club's standing committee on relations with other clubs. The District 581 governor was George Cullum, and the chairman of the district extension committee was Dr. Sam Scothorn, both of Dallas. The first step in organizing a new Rotary club was to present a list of likely member classifications in the area to the district governor. The beginning of that list (and potential Rotarians) for the Greggton Club is in Vic Ferchill's files. It is scribbled on the back of an earlier letter from Sam Scothorn on procedures for forming a new club in Daingerfield.

Vic sent the classification survey to George Cullum on March 8, 1962. The next step is described in a letter from Sam Scothorn to Calvin Clyde of Tyler two weeks later:

You will remember that at the institute you held in Longview, you called a meeting of five of us at a coffee table in the Longview Hotel to discuss the possibility of a Rotary Club at Greggton, Texas. Well, that meeting has borne fruit, because on last Thursday, March 22nd, I helped the Longview Club organize the Greggton 24-member Rotary Club at the Kitchenette Cafe in Greggton. The name of the club is Greggton Rotary Club, the meetings to be held on Monday at 12:10 at the Kitchenette Cafe, which has a nice banquet room.

I cannot remember a single one of the three Longview men who met with you and me, but it seems to me that Cecil Richardson was one of them. Anyway, Vic Ferchill, president of the sponsoring club, says that Cecil did more than anyone towards organizing this new club, so the first thing we did was to have the sponsoring club nominate Cecil to be appointed special representative by District Governor George Cullum. Then we elected Forest Sartain temporary president. ...He immediately named a nominating committee to bring in a slate of officers at their regular meeting a week from Monday. I told the Greggton men of our meeting in Longview, originated by you....

Other steps for establishing the club were rapidly completed, including formal relinquishment of specific territory by our club. The new provisional club became the Greggton Rotary Club when a charter was granted on May 8, 1962. The ceremonial presentation of the charter occurred at a banquet held for that purpose on June 18 at Greggton Methodist Church.

For the Longview South club, in turn, the gestation period was about the same length as for the Longview-Greggton club twelve years earlier. On April 23, 1970, Cecil Richardson proposed specific territorial boundaries for a possible new South Longview Rotary Club. He asked that the two existing clubs jointly sponsor the new club and agree to give up their shares of the proposed area. Apparently nothing came of the proposal at that time, but Cecil kept trying. Eighteen months later, on September 8, 1971, this club's board of directors approved his plan, and Cecil proposed the new

### ***"Interact Club Is Organized Here"***

*reported in the Longview News-Journal, September, 1969*

An organizational meeting of the Longview High School Interact Club, sponsored by the Longview Rotary Club, was held in the auditorium of the Longview National Bank Tuesday night.

Thirty-three youths joined at the initial meeting. Sammy Satterwhite was appointed temporary chairman and Alan Jones temporary secretary.

Plans were made for a meeting Sept. 23, when permanent officers will be elected and a charter sought.

James H. Keys, Rotarian chairman for the Interact Club, explained the principles of the youth organization and that selection of persons invited to join is based on scholastic averages, participation in civic, community, and school activities, moral character, and interest in Interact.

Keys stressed that Interact is not a junior Rotary Club but that it sponsors the organization as a community service and for better international understanding.

Howard Coghlan, vice president of the Longview Rotary Club, explained the purpose of Rotary and introduced members of the local club present for the organizational meeting. These included Charles Cobb, Julian Fiegel, Jay Ballard, Loyd Hudson, and Bobby Smith.

Keys listed the goals of Interact as (1) recognition and development of constructive leadership and personal integrity; (2) encouragement and practice of thoughtfulness and helpfulness to others; (3) creation of an awareness of the importance of home and family; (4) building of respect for the rights of others, based on recognition of the worth of each individual; (5) emphasis of acceptance of individual responsibility as a basis of personal success, community improvement, and group achievement; (6) recognition of the dignity and value of all useful occupations as opportunities to serve society; (7) providing of opportunities for gaining increased knowledge and understanding of community, national, and world affairs; and (8) opening of avenues for personal and group action leading to advancement of international understanding and goodwill toward all people.

Students recognized for their efforts toward organizing the club were Satterwhite, Jones, John Mackey, Kenneth Raney, Jr., Kelly Coghlan, Larry Moncrief, John Durst, David McDaniel, and Steve Woodruff.

The invocation was given by Kelly Coghlan.

A guest at the meeting was Dr. Charles Mathews, superintendent of Longview schools.

club to Rotary International. Then for more than two years, there were discussions and formalities pertaining to territorial boundaries.

When the territory matter neared settlement, Cecil convoked a committee of four men from each of the two sponsoring clubs (Longview and West Longview) on September 13, 1973. They started a membership campaign on September 27. With 22 members, the provisional South Longview club held its first meeting on January 3, 1974. A charter was issued on February 8, celebrated with a presentation banquet on March 14 at the Holiday Inn. The South Longview club history credits Charles Tullis and Charles Cobb of this club as active in the effort along with Cecil Richardson.

The assigned territorial boundaries of a club were formerly very important, because one of the qualifications of membership was that one's place of business be located within the territory. That rule was later relaxed and eventually abolished.

### **Interact Club at Longview High School (1969-70)**

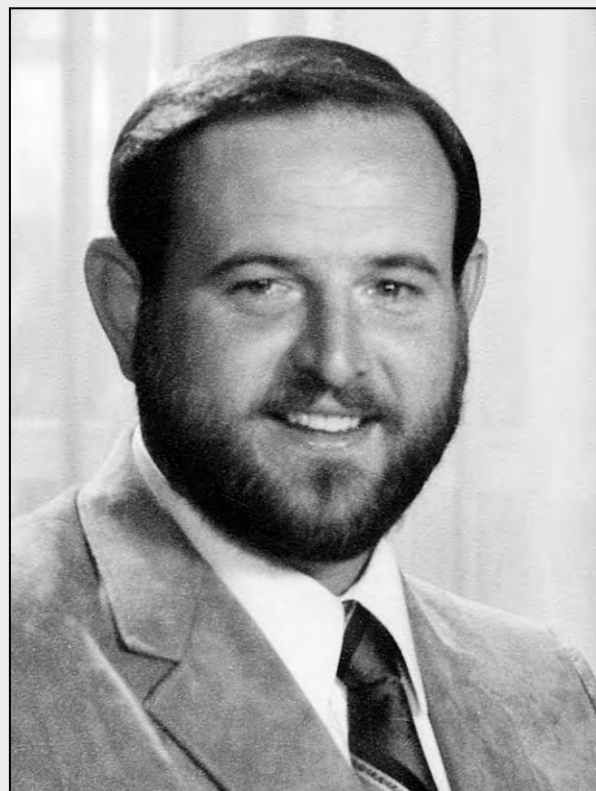
On September 23, 1969, President Charley Rader announced the formation of an Interact Club at Longview High School. By a unanimous vote that day, we accepted sponsorship of the new organization, which is described in the newspaper article reproduced on the preceding page. Rotarians Charles Cobb and Julian Fiegel said they would attend all Interact meetings.

The new club held its first fund-raising event on December 9: a "slave auction" at the Rotary Club meeting, in which the labor of 39 Interact boys was "sold" to the highest bidders. Each Rotarian at that meeting was requested to buy lunch for at least one Interact boy. This event inaugurated a tradition which was repeated every year during the life of the Interact Club.

During the next school year, 1970-71, the Interact Club played a leading role in maintaining peace and goodwill as the student body of the black Womack High School was incorporated into that of Longview High School. The first state-wide Interact Club convention was held in Dallas on March 29 through 31, 1973, in conjunction with the annual conference of our own Rotary District 581. The convention was attended by 23 Longview Interact Club members. At our meeting on October 18, 1977, Interact officers Russell Buckstaff and Jack Slagle reported membership of 70. Our club rosters continued to list Rotarians responsible for the Interact Club through 1978-79.

### **Tom Brown, Secretary-Treasurer for more than 21 years (1972-73)**

*Thomas Stevens Brown was born in 1942 in El Dorado, Arkansas. His family moved to Longview in 1954, and he graduated from Longview High School in 1960. Stationed in Japan with the Air Force, he served as a*



**Thomas Stevens Brown**  
*Secretary-Treasurer, 1972-1994*

*photo reconnaissance specialist. Back in Longview, he began a career in the printing business, purchasing Longview Print Shop in 1969 and operating it ever since. In 1968, Tom married Bobbie Jean Sanford of Dallas. They have two children: Jeb, a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University, and Robin, a college student. Tom and Bobbie are members of Mobberly Baptist Church, where Tom coached boys' basketball for several years. He was active in the Jaycees at local and state levels for 17 years, serving as chapter president in 1974.*

*Having been inducted into our fellowship on October 5, 1971, Tom was appointed as secretary-treasurer when Charles Cobb resigned from that position, taking office on April 24, 1973. He was elected as secretary-treasurer for each of the next 21 years, ending with 1993-94. He has never missed a Rotary meeting. He served on numerous club project committees and was co-chairman with Jim Haralson of the first annual golf tournament, held in April, 1982, later chairing that event five times. We demonstrated our appreciation for Tom's service by presenting him with the Tom Putman award in 1982 and the club's Paul Harris fellowship in 1986.*

**T**OM BROWN HAS EARNED a place among the club's traditions of service in this chapter. His name dominates the list of secretary-treasurers found on the club data page in the appendix. The one serving the next longest was George Kelly, II, with 12 years from 1931-32 through 1942-43. Thus Tom has exerted a stronger influence on the club than any other person.

Much of the tone and style with which we have become familiar over the past two decades—and many of the resulting achievements on which we pride ourselves—are due to the quiet guidance and unselfish devotion of Tom Brown.

## Outstanding Vocational Student Awards (1973–74)

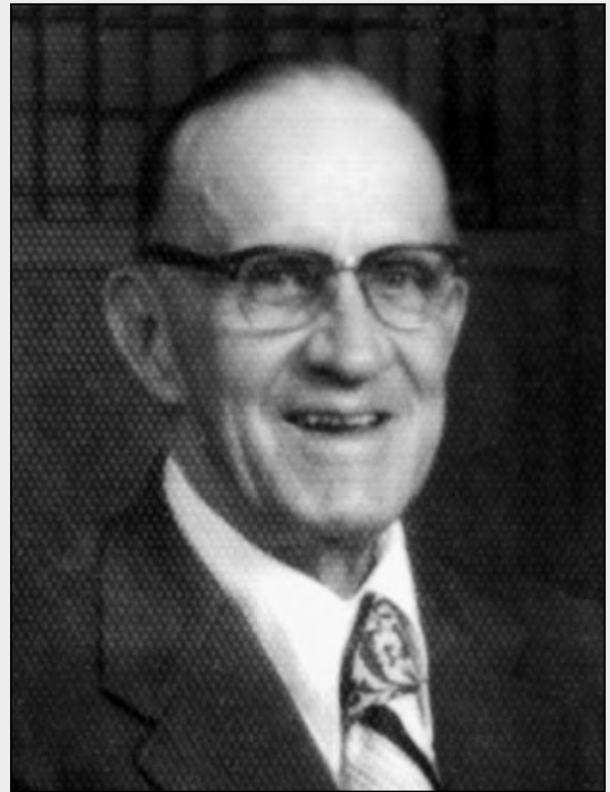
Under Vocational Service Director Rogers Pope in 1973–74, we started what became the annual custom of honoring up to eight outstanding vocational students at Longview High School. Nancy Byers and Carroll Davis were presented to the club on August 28, 1973, by E. B. Jenkins, vocational education coordinator at the school. This practice was continued by Jenkins's successor Jack Lynch, who became a member of this club on May 7, 1974. This annual program has continued through the years as one of our traditions of service for the schools and the youth of Longview. Under President Bob Carroll in 1976–77, we started awarding savings bonds to the students. The event typically includes remarks by the teacher and descriptions of their vocational programs by the students.

## Tom Putman Award (1975–76)

*Thomas Russell Putman was born in Flemingsburg, Kentucky, in 1897. His mother died when he was about six years old, leaving four small children. Tom and one other were reared by three aunts in Fort Thomas. Joining the Navy when he was about 17 years old, Tom served four years and was discharged after World War I. He attended Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, and worked for his uncle Robert at Putman Candy Company in Cincinnati. In Longview during the Oil Boom, Tom helped James Curtis organize his KFRO radio station—which went on the air in 1935 with a 100-watt transmitter—and became the first station manager.*

*In that capacity, Tom joined this club in 1935. After a few years, he returned to Kentucky, working in the tailor business in Lexington, where he married Nancy Elizabeth Stephens. Back in Longview with Nancy in 1946, Tom joined our fellowship again in 1948 as manager of East Texas No Flame Company, with a classification of lumber preserving. Out of the club for about a year, he returned in 1952 as salesman for Moore & Neal Company, in the classification of neon sign manufacturing. After two more years away, he came back in 1962 as salesman for KFRO, remaining on the roster until his death in 1979—the last three years in honorary status. Tom's main service in the club was as editor of the *Rotaview* for 17 of the years from 1948–49 through 1974–75 (chief editor for 16 of those years). In addition, he was international service director for 1969–70. He was made a Paul Harris fellow by Ray Newnham on May 2, 1972.*

*Tom took an active role in the Baseball for Boys program in Longview from its inception. He worked as team manager, league president, and commissioner. He was a Mason and Shriner and member of First Methodist Church, serving there as Sunday school teacher*



**Thomas Russell Putman**  
**1897–1979**

*Photo by courtesy of Nancy Putman*

*and member of the official board. Among other writing achievements, Tom was the author of a genealogical book on Putman and Putnam ancestral lines.*

*Tom and Nancy reared three children: Nancy Lee, who married our Tom Brown's brother Bill and works for our Jerry Adair at Good Shepherd Medical Center; David, in the plumbing business in Longview; and Tom, Junior, a regional manager for J. C. Penney Company in Vancouver. Nancy now has six grandchildren. She still lives in the house that she and Tom bought in 1946.*

**T**HE ORIGIN of the club's annual Tom Putman award as one of the club's traditions of service was described for this book by Ted Mooney:

During my tenure as club president in 1975–76, *Rotaview* Editor Dick Avent and I conceived of the Tom Putman Award. The idea came from Dick after we visited Tom together when he was hospitalized. We were greatly impressed at how much Rotary meant to Tom, and we thought of how much he meant to us and the whole club. He had served the club for many years as bulletin editor, winning the district award for the most outstanding club bulletin year after year. He attended all district conferences, and it was always a pleasure to be with him. He was a great storyteller, blessed with a wonderful sense of humor and an infectious smile. Dick and I felt that this delightful man possessed qualities worth emulating and that Rotarians who followed his example should be honored in Tom's memory.

At our meeting on April 27, 1976, President Ted proposed that we immediately institute a Tom Putman Award to be given every year to the Rotarian who has contributed the most in the closing year. The motion passed unanimously. Afterwards, Ted submitted the following further description of qualifications for candidates being considered for the Tom Putman Award:

The recipient of the Tom Putman Award should reflect the qualities that Tom possessed as well as Tom's devotion to Rotary. The club should set such high standards that the Putman Award becomes highly coveted.

Each candidate for the award should make a contribution to Rotary in at least two of the four avenues of service and preferably in all four. These are club service, vocational service, community service, and international service.

*Club service* includes but is not limited to the club bulletin, positions of leadership, programs, sergeant-at-arms, and attendance chairman. Since the Putman Award is a club recognition award that must be earned, club service must be given the most weight. Certainly service at the district level should be given serious consideration.

*Vocational service* should recognize the contributions made throughout the business world, including membership in organizations such as the chamber of commerce.

*Community service* may include non-Rotary activities as well as Rotary activities. Some examples are Boy Scouts, church work, school activities, Meals on Wheels, local scholarships, and so forth.

*International service* can include efforts to promote the Rotary Foundation, foundation scholarships, and club exchanges.

In addition, the candidate must have a good reputation as a citizen of the community and be a willing worker in Rotary.

After the end of his term as president, Ted Mooney presented the first Tom Putman award to Cecil Richardson on August 10, 1976. For a list of all winners of this prestigious award, see the appendix.

## **Lobo Relays (1976–77)**

Besides being president of this club in 1974–75, John Harrison, Jr., has served on the board of trustees of Longview Independent School District continuously since 1971, except for one term from 1977 to 1980. In March of 1977, John led the club into the tradition of acting as sponsors for the Lobo Rotary Relays, an annual invitational track meet hosted by Longview High School. Each year, John recruited several Rotarians to accompany him as a team providing assistance to the Longview High School athletic staff and officials in conducting the event. Besides sponsoring the "Miracle Mile Run" for local competitors, the club provided the program and a barbecue for officials and coaches. After 1983, the club decided to discontinue participation because some officers felt we were not getting enough recognition from the local

newspaper. The Kiwanis Club then sponsored the event for several years, calling it the Kiwanis Hawkins Relays.

## **Paul Harris Fellowship Awarded by the Club (1977–78)**

The concept of Paul Harris fellowships is a method of encouraging contributions to the endowment fund operated by Rotary International, known as the Rotary Foundation. A Paul Harris fellowship is an honorary title given to a person who contributes one thousand dollars to the Rotary Foundation—or to a person designated by someone who contributes the money. Rotary International describes the foundation as follows:

The origin of the Rotary Foundation was a proposal made at the 1917 Rotary Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, by Arch C. Klumph, the sixth president of Rotary International. He proposed the creation of an endowment fund "for the purpose of doing good in the world in charitable, educational, and other avenues of community progress." The first contribution to the foundation was \$26.30 from the Rotary Club of Kansas City, Missouri. The first grant was \$500 to the International Society of Crippled Children, in 1930. Since then, approximately 700 million U.S. dollars has been contributed to the foundation, including approximately 241 million dollars for the PolioPlus program.

The foundation is supported by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of Rotary. The foundation spends 100 percent of its contributions on programs. Contributions are invested for a three-year period before they are expended on programs, with the interest and earnings paying the foundation's administrative, program operation, and fundraising costs. All awards and grants are made in conjunction with Rotary Club and district international service activities. Applications for funding must be initiated by a Rotary Club or district.

Paul Harris fellowships were instituted by Rotary International in 1957. (Adjusted for inflation, \$1,000 in 1957 is worth \$5,300 in 1995.) On February 1, 1966, President Andy Guinn announced that our member Ray Newnham had been designated as a Paul Harris fellow by Rotary International. Later, it was claimed that Ray was the second Paul Harris fellow in Texas. In the *Rotaview* for August 12, 1969, it was noted that the trustees of the Rotary Foundation had decided to present a medal to each Paul Harris fellow, so Ray Newnham was receiving one. In addition, Paul Harris fellows also receive a certificate and a special lapel pin. As of May, 1993, over 403,000 Paul Harris fellowships had been awarded, making up the vast bulk of all contributions to the foundation other than those for the PolioPlus program (See 1987–88).

In the 1977–78 Rotary year, this club instituted a tradition of awarding at least one Paul Harris fellowship each year out of our general fund. Every few years, we have had enough money to award more than

one. Recipients are chosen by the club's board of directors. They are listed in club data in the appendix.

Except for an award for Millie Harper as the second Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year in 1979–80 and for Carrie Riff in 1986, the club's honorary Paul Harris fellowships have been given to members of the club. This has become a method of showing our appreciation to members who have provided exceptional support for the club's activities over a number of years. To receive one of the club's honorary Paul Harris fellowships is considered a higher honor than the Tom Putman award, which is based on service only during the closing year.

### **Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year (1978–79)**

Traditions are usually established gradually by a process of evolution and experimentation through the years, and this one is no exception. On February 27, 1979, Rotarian Joe Fugitt announced that the club's board of directors had approved sponsorship of a Hubert Gregg Day and the collection of contributions to help him pay off his house. Mr. Gregg was the amiable blind man who had been making a living selling peanuts in Longview for decades. Joe's successful effort was crowned by the city's proclamation of Hubert Gregg Day in Longview at our meeting on April 3. This was the beginning of what became our annual Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year award.

Exactly one year later, on February 26, 1980, it was announced that the club's honoring of Hubert Gregg last year would be taken as the first of a series of annual awards. Joe Fugitt headed a committee to consider suggested candidates. As a result, Millie Harper was awarded the club's Paul Harris fellowship on June 10 for her tireless work at Woodland Christian Church on behalf of the sick, shut-ins, and elderly. The award was not yet called the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year.

Finally, in 1981, we began using that name. The first person honored as the Longview Rotary Citizen of the Year was Gene Boyd, recognized in a program on April 28 for service to alcoholics at Boyd House, which he and his wife established in the Greggton Area in 1970. For a list of recipients of this award since then, see the general club data page in the appendix.

### **The Four-Way Test Speech Contest (1978–79)**

The *Rotaview* for February 27, 1979, carried the following report:

Two weeks ago at Rotary, Bill Gilbert of Longview High School brought us our program in the person of three young very talented men who spoke to us on the Four-Way Test as applied to business and trade relations. Harry Hardwick and

Andrew White judged the speakers and awarded Mark Cave a first place in the contest. He will go on to the finals in the competition, where the winner will be awarded a \$200 scholarship.

This was the beginning of an annual tradition for the club, in support of a program carried out at the district and international level.

### **Puntarenas School Project (1981–82)**

Among other items in his report of events during his year as president for this book, Milton Cammack wrote as follows (with clarification by Andy Guinn):

At the beginning of the 1981-82 Rotary year, the committee chairmen were asked to submit their objectives for the year. One objective was to participate in a world community service project. At the suggestion of Andy Guinn, chairman of the world community service committee, we elected to assist the Puntarenas, Costa Rica, Rotary Club with their project of supporting the Escuela de Ensenanza Especial, a school for retarded children. Our board allotted \$2,500 from the golf tournament proceeds to purchase and ship instructional tools and playground equipment to Costa Rica for those students.

Andy and Joyce Guinn visited the Rotary Club in Puntarenas, Costa Rica, in March of 1982 and made plans with that club to send equipment to the school for retarded students. There were 68 children, ages 2 to 13. They were taught practical skills with the objective of becoming self-supporting members of the community.

When word of this project began to spread in Longview, there were a great number of donations. Jerome Henderson of Machinery Supply and Grinding Company donated a complete set of carpentry tools, and Blackshear Jameson and the Longview Foundation donated over \$300 in tools. Other donations came from Ralph Wise, Charles and Liz Cobb, and Bob Carroll.

We were fortunate in 1982 because the Rotary International Convention was held in Dallas. Fernando DeSoto of the Puntarenas Rotary Club came to the convention and then on to Longview. He attended our June 15, 1982, meeting and expressed his club's gratitude for the work that we had done with the school project. I think it was a feeling of all the people involved in this project that this was something we ought to do more often.

### **Golf Tournament (1981–82)**

Along with his preceding report on the Puntarenas project, Milton Cammack wrote about the golf tournament:

Our fund raising project for the 1981–82 year was the first annual Longview Rotary golf tournament, which was held on April 3 and 4 at Alpine Golf Course. The cost was \$50 per entrant. Tom Brown and Jim Haralson were co-chairmen. The



tournament was highly successful and netted \$4,489, which was to be used for various club projects.

We have conducted a Longview Rotary Golf Tournament every year since then.

## **Longview Rotary Endowment Fund (1982-83)**

A not-for-profit corporation, Longview Rotary Endowment Fund, Inc., is a vehicle for collecting tax-deductible contributions and supporting worthy causes in Gregg County. Every member of our club is automatically a member of the corporation. All contributions are invested, and only income from the investments is distributed.

According to Julian Fiegel, the origin of this institution is traceable to efforts begun during 1981-82. Curtis Morris told President-Elect Julian about a similar fund operated by the Rotary Club of Washington, D.C. As soon as he became president, Julian appointed a committee to look into the concept, consisting of Bob Carroll, Curtis, Dick Dial, and Kerry Cammack. It was not easy to secure the support of the board of directors. Bob Carroll presented the proposal to the club at our regular meeting of July 27, 1982. We tabled it for further discussion, which took place at another club assembly on August 24, and it passed by large margin. The fund's first board of trustees was elected by the club on September 28: Milton Cammack, Julian Fiegel, Curtis Morris, Paul Belding, W. D. Northcutt, Bob Schrader, Bob Carroll, Henry Gossett, Rogers Pope, and Louis Williams. The new board, in turn, elected Bob Carroll as the first president.

As of 1994-95, the corpus of the fund is valued at about \$20,000. The trustees have been giving away about \$900 of investment income per year. Recent recipients have included Asbury House Child Care Center, Longview Foster Children's Home, Longview Early Childhood Development Center, and Longview Junior Achievement.

## **Longview Public Library and the Rotary Fashion Extravaganza (1985-86)**

On August 6, 1985, our speaker was Howard Coghlan's wife Peggy, the spark plug in the campaign to build a first-class modern library, urging support for that project in a city bond election on September 14. Three days after the favorable ballot, the club voted to raise \$20,000 for the library over the next five years. The Longview-Greggton club committed the same amount, and the Longview South Club promised \$10,000. As a result, the periodical reading area in the library was named for Rotary. Individual contributions from our members began to come in immediately, reaching about \$8,000 within a few months.

Bob Brown spearheaded an effort to put on a fundraising event for the balance. It was the Rotary Fashion Extravaganza, a style show conducted by Riff's Women's Apparel Shop at Maude Cobb Activity Center on March 5, 1986. (Bob managed the store for Carrie Riff.) This event also served as our Sweetheart Banquet for 1986. About a thousand people bought tickets for \$17.50 apiece, resulting in a profit of about \$12,000, which put us over the top of the goal. (However, because we had other uses for the money that year, we held out a couple thousand until later in the 5-year pledge period.)

Other members working with Bob on the event included Tom Meredith, J. R. Curtis, Howard Coghlan, Delbert Bright, Jack Welge, Gary Skinner, Tom Landers, Gordon Hargett, and Guy Cunningham. In appreciation for her support in this worthy cause, we awarded Mrs. Riff a Paul Harris fellowship on the following June 24. Bob Brown, in turn, received the Tom Putman award on that day.

## **Belize Dental Project (1987-88)**

At our meeting of February 26, 1985, Wells Burton announced a joint world community service project with the Rotary Club of Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico. According to an account by Andy Guinn for this book, the goal was to provide medical assistance in Chiapas, one of the poorest states in Mexico. Our club's contribution was to be funded through the annual golf tournament. However, because of possible conflicts with a church group regarding control over expenditures, our board decided not to proceed with this project.

As a substitute, we embarked on a similar project. In the next Rotary year, 1985-86, our Dr. Wayne Legg requested that we help in a dental project in Belize (the former British Honduras). Wayne was joined by Dr. Steve Baker of the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club, Dr. Dee Rea of the Longview South club, and Dr. Troy Jolly of the Marshall club. These dentists offered to donate their time, provide some of their instruments, and pay some of their personal expenses. They were requesting assistance with air fare, lodging, and dental equipment. In contrast to some foreign health volunteers who provided one-shot treatments, our dentists wanted to return for follow-up work on their patients. Our board agreed to sponsor the project in partnership with the other three clubs, using proceeds from our annual golf tournament. Later, as the project attracted interest throughout our Rotary district, it was adopted as a district world community service project, funded through a district dues assessment.

Pairs of our dentists visited twice a year to towns assigned by the Belize government: Dandriga, Benque Viejo, and San Antonio. In 1992, the project was terminated for lack of dental volunteers. The equipment was donated to a group of doctors doing volunteer work in Belize, headed by David F. Nichols of Tyler.

# Appendix

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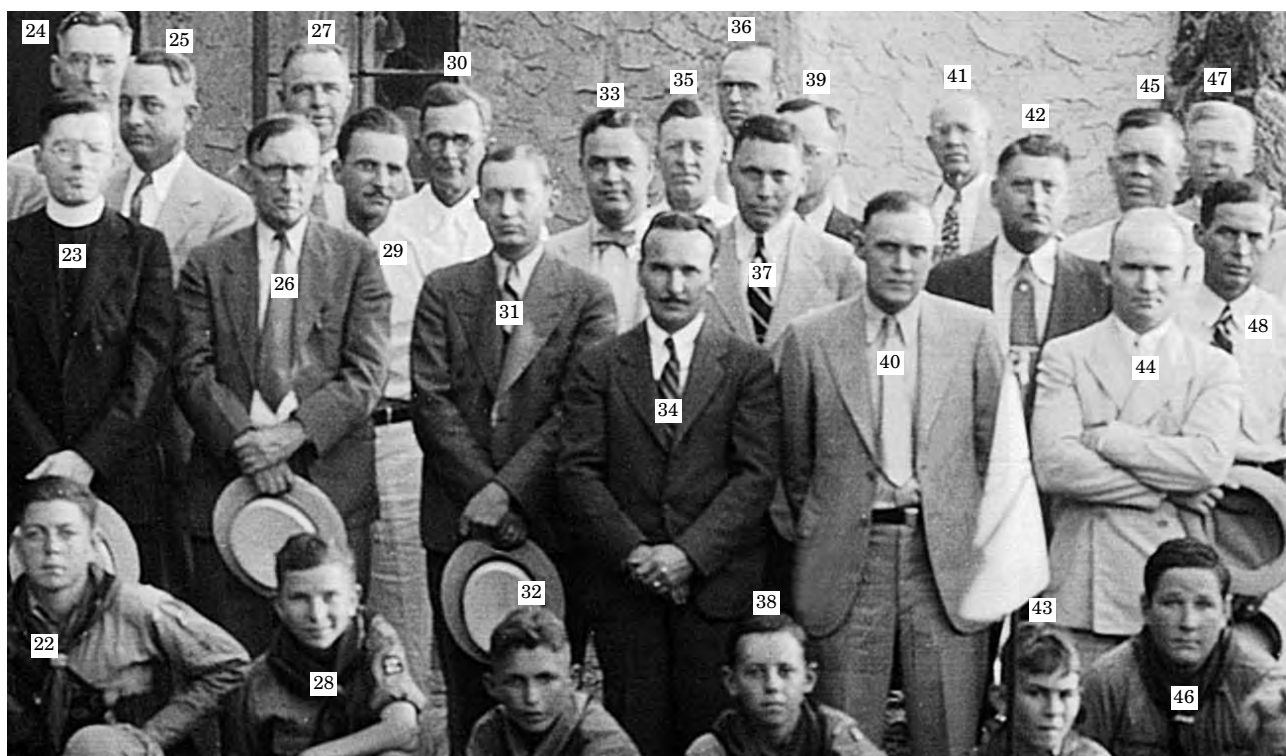
<b>Graph of Membership Year by Year . . . . .</b>	<b>.95</b>
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# Persons Identified in Group Photographs



***Left side of 1935 Boy Scout cabin dedication on frontispiece and Page 77***

- |                 |                   |                     |                         |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Tony Lanagan | 6.                | 11.                 | 16. S.C. Jimmie Hudnall | 21. Paul Harding |
| 2. Henry Foster | 7. Curtis Morris? | 12. Rembert Rea?    | 17. Paul Stamper        |                  |
| 3. Steve Forman | 8. Bob McGowen    | 13. B. D. Marshall  | 18. Marvin Jordan       |                  |
| 4. Smith Price  | 9.                | 14. R. Marvin Kelly | 19. Bill N. Taylor      |                  |
|                 | 10. Joe Riff      | 15.                 | 20. Marvin Abernathy    |                  |



***Middle of 1935 Boy Scout cabin dedication on frontispiece and Page 77***

- |                         |                      |                      |                    |                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 22.                     | 28.                  | 34. Percy Zimmerman  | 40.                | 46. Allen Gaston   |
| 23. Father Jim Callahan | 29. Syril Parker?    | 35.                  | 41. Bill Terrell   | 47. LeGrande Kelly |
| 24. George Kelly        | 30.                  | 36.                  | 42. Tom Richardson | 48. Joe Dunsworth  |
| 25. W. Bruner Smith     | 31.                  | 37. O. Lee Norton    | 43.                |                    |
| 26. E. Quest Whitney    | 32. Herbert Skidmore | 38. Wesley Danforth? | 44.                |                    |
| 27. Joe L. Grimes       | 33. Dr. Tom Hagan    | 39. Grover Finch?    | 45. Maurice Bivins |                    |



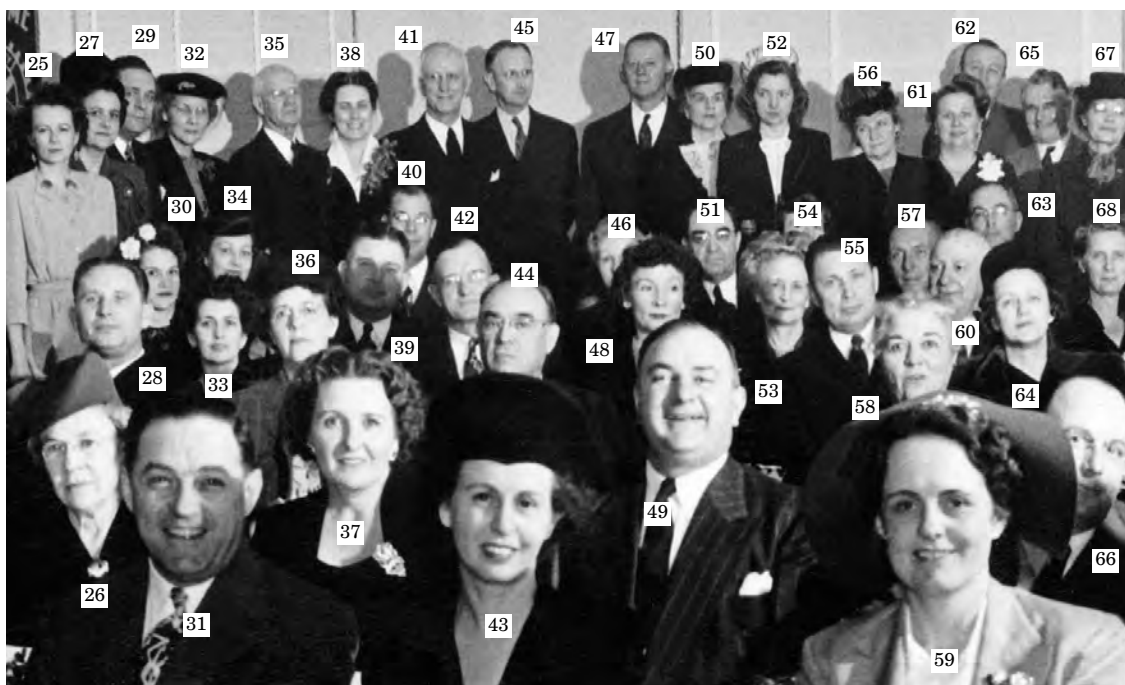
***Right side of 1935 Boy Scout cabin dedication on frontispiece and Page 77***

- |                      |                 |     |     |                    |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|--------------------|
| 49.                  | 53.             | 57. | 61. | 65.                |
| 50. G. A. McCreight? | 54.             | 58. | 62. | 66. Gerald Osborne |
| 51.                  | 55.             | 59. | 63. | Dr. Howard Ross    |
| 52.                  | 56. B. W. Crain | 60. | 64. | T. D. Campbell     |



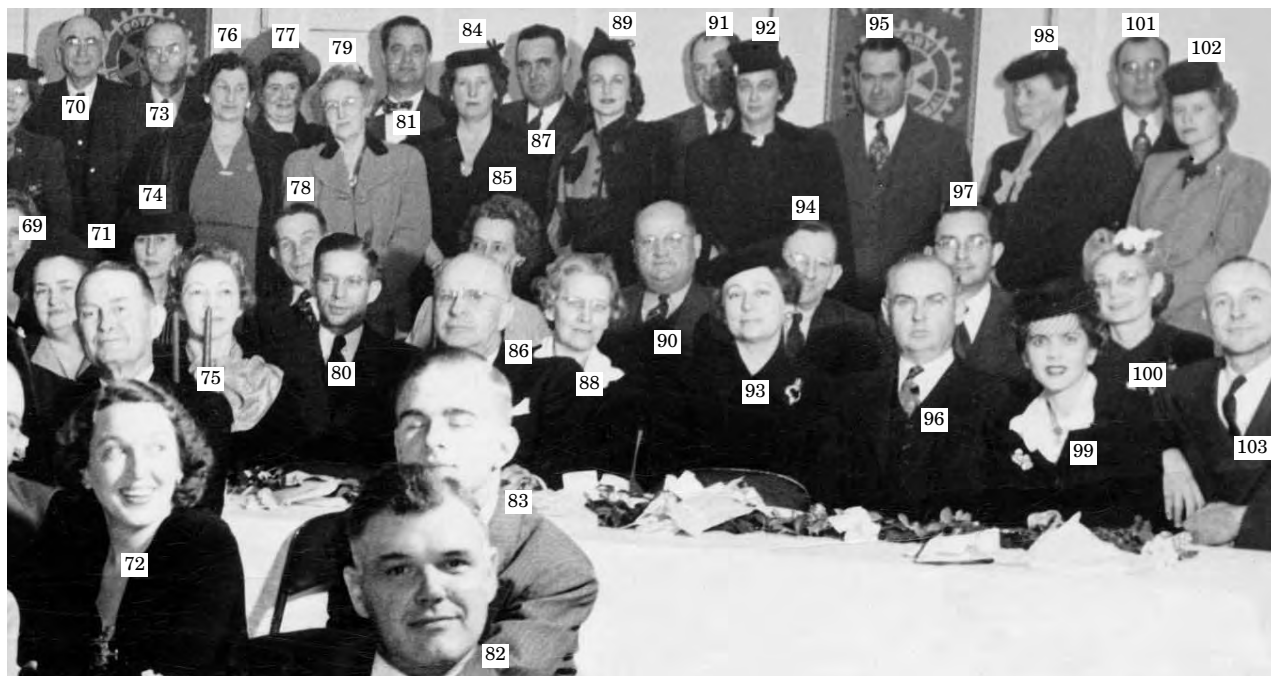
***Left side of 1944 Rotary Ann Christmas banquet on Page 23***

- |                      |                       |                   |                      |                      |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Lawrence Birdsong | 6. Col. G. V. Emerson | 11. Howard Eason  | 16. Ralph Parker     | 21. Claude Barbee    |
| 2. George Kelly      | 7. Grace Eason        | 12.               | 17. Blanche Birdsong | 22. Earle McCreight  |
| 3. Effie Rule Bivins | 8. Mabel Birdsong     | 13. Mrs. McGowen  | 18. Frank Richardson | 23. Mrs. Grady Shipp |
| 4. Maurice Bivins    | 9. Bob McGowen        | 14.               | 19. Geraldine Barbee | 24. Syril Parker     |
| 5. Leita Kelly       | 10. Mrs. Emerson?     | 15. Billie Butter | 20. Leo Butter       |                      |



***Middle of 1944 Rotary Ann Christmas banquet on Page 23***

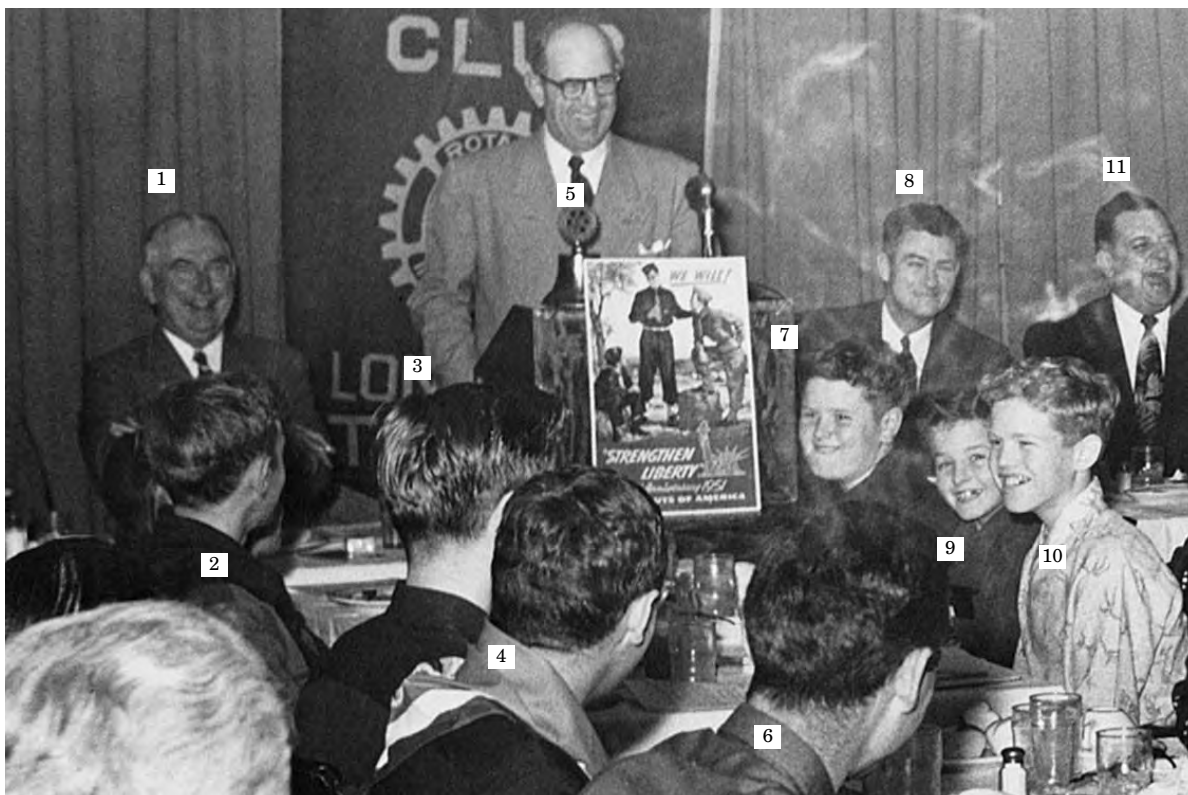
- |                        |                         |                         |                       |                       |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 25. Mary Maude Parker  | 34. Mrs. S. C. Hudnall  | 43. Bess Topp           | 52. Florene Foster    | 61. Lucille Meadows   |
| 26. Alta Rita Welch    | 35. Bill Terrell        | 44. Judge Will C. Hurst | 53. Mrs. Niehuss      | 62. Grover Finch      |
| 27. H. P. Black        | 36. Esther Hurst        | 45. John McDavid        | 54. Maurine Finch     | 63. Lynne Norton      |
| 28. O. Thomas Welch    | 37. Reva Ryan           | 46. Genevieve Hurst     | 55. O. Lee Norton     | 64. Curtis Meadows    |
| 29. Ruth Sterling?     | 38. S.C. Jimmie Hudnall | 47. Henry Foster        | 56. Sam Dorfman?      | 65. John M. Souerbry? |
| 30. Steve Topp         | 39. Grady Shipp         | 48. Mrs. H. Harrison    | 57. Mrs. Ray Newnham  | 66.                   |
| 31. Nannie Mae Terrell | 40. Hubert M. Harrison  | 49. Alex Ryan           | 58.                   |                       |
| 32. Mrs. H. P. Black   | 41.                     | 50. Florence Foster     | 59.                   |                       |
|                        | 42.                     | 51. Dr. Vesse Hurst     | 60. Dr. Henry Niehuss |                       |



***Right side of 1944 Rotary Ann Christmas banquet on Page 23***

- |                         |                    |                       |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 69. Sadie Dunsworth     | 77. Mrs. Tom Hagan | 85. Dr. Louis Markham | 93. Mrs. Clayton Loftis | 101. Dr. Austin Glover |
| 70. Ray Newnham         | 78. John Harrison  | 86. Leroy Zeigler     | 94. E. Quest Whitney    | 102. Dell Messner      |
| 71. T. D. Campbell?     | 79. Daisy Campbell | 87. Daisy Morris?     | 95. Clayton Loftis      |                        |
| 72. Amma Souerbry       | 80. Joe Dunsworth  | 88. Jetta Yonge       | 96. Curtis Morris       |                        |
| 73. M. Clint Brown      | 81. Dr. Tom Hagan  | 89. Dann D. Budd      | 97. Nelwyn Glover       |                        |
| 74. Winnie Dee Harrison | 82. Boggs Ryan     | 90. Charles Yonge     | 98. Barbara Messner     |                        |
| 75. Princess Markham    | 83. Nelda Zeigler  | 91. Grace Patterson   | 99.                     |                        |
| 76. Beecher Daniel      |                    | 92.                   | 100.                    |                        |





***Left side of 1950-51 Rotary meeting with Boy Scouts on Page 25***

- |                 |                         |                  |                |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. George Kelly | 4. German Hollandsworth | 7.               | 10. David Topp |
| 2.              | 6.                      | 8. Richard Lucas | 11.            |
| 3.              |                         |                  |                |



***Right side of 1950-51 Rotary meeting with Boy Scouts on Page 25***

- |                     |                      |     |     |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|
| 12.                 | 16.                  | 20. | 24. |
| 13. Charles Cashell | 17. Martin Ray Adams | 21. | 25. |
| 14. Oliver Daniel   | 18.                  | 22. |     |
| 15.                 | 19.                  | 23. |     |

# Membership Rosters at Middle of Each Decade

1933-34 (approximate list)	1944-45 (approximate list)	1954-55 (beginning of year)	1964-65 (beginning of year)
Marvin D. Abernathy	D. Ray Adams	Eugene L. Bailey	Willard Archer
Rev. Jas. Airey	Claude E. Barbee	Claude E. Barbee	Henry Atkinson
Lawrence Birdsong	Buford D. Battle	Henry C. Bennett	Eugene L. Bailey
Maurice Bivins	Lawrence Birdsong	Lawrence Birdsong	J. A. Ballard
Fr. Jim Callahan	Maurice Bivins	M. Clint Brown	Claude E. Barbee
T. D. Campbell	H. P. Black	B. D. Bruyere	Paul B. Belding
Will B. Chauncey	Frank Bolton (Hon.)	John A. Blackwell	E. K. Bennett
Tyson Cleary	M. Clint Brown	Dann D. Budd	Henry C. Bennett
B. W. Crain	Dan D. Budd	R. C. Burgess	Fred S. Berry
Oliver Daniel	Harry Cain	L. F. Burke	R. E. Blount
Clarence Faulk	T. D. Campbell	Dr. Reid Clanton	Carl L. Boice
Grover C. Finch	Frank Condon	O. D. Clark	Carl Borders
Minor Fooshee	B. W. Crain	J. B. Cockrell	Dutchie Bright
Steve C. Forman	Oliver Daniel	Frank Condon	Edward A. Brown
Henry L. Foster	Roger Davis	B. W. Crain	B. D. Bruyere
Dr. A. T. Glover	Sam Dorfman	Joe H. Croxton	L. F. Burke
Horace G. Glover	Joe W. Dunsworth	Raymond Cupp	Stephen Butter
Joe L. Grimes	Grover C. Finch	Oliver Daniel	J. Carroll Callahan
Dr. Tom Hagan	Henry L. Foster	Dr. Jamie Dawson	Paul D. Campbell
Paul Harding	Dr. A. T. Glover	Joe W. Dunsworth	Rex Campbell
Hubert M. Harrison	Sam B. Gray	Dr. Jack Dworin	Arthur E. Clapp
Walter Hewell	Dr. Tom Hagan	Oscar Epstein	James B. Cockrell
S. C. Hudnall	Lin B. Hardin	Carl Erman	Howard Coghlan
Dr. V. R. Hurst	Ralph Hardin	Dr. Glenn Farr	Dr. L. A. Colquitt
George, II Kelly	Roy Hardin	Buford Fields	Frank Condon
LeGrande Kelly	Hubert M. Harrison	Grover C. Finch	Fritz Cornelsen
R. Marvin Kelly	John W. Harrison	Ernie Foerster	H. F. Jim Cottingham
R. E. Knight	S. C. Hudnall	Henry L. Foster	B. W. Crain
W. A. Lanagan	Bob Hugill	Henry, Jr. Foster	E. B. Crain
Frank LeBus	Dyrl Hull (Hon.)	J. C. Fountain	Bruce Cunningham
Clayton Loftis	Dr. V. R. Hurst	A. R. Graves	Oliver Daniel
Purser Magee	Will C. Hurst	Dr. A. T. Glover	Malcolm Davis
B. D. Marshall	George, II Kelly	Sam B. Gray	Dr. Jamie Dawson
John W. McDavid	LeGrande Kelly	Dr. Tom Hagan	James F. Deakins
R. S. McGowen	R. Marvin Kelly (Hon.)	John W. Harrison	Wm. B. Droge
Otho McKaig	Rogers Lacy	Austin C. Hatchell	J. Barcus Dubose
Curtis W. Meadows	W. A. Lanagan	A. D. Hays	Joe W. Dunsworth
Bob Meyers	Lawrence Landrum	Leeton Hillis	Jack Dworin
Curtis Morris	Frank Lebus	German J. Hollandsworth	Carl Erman
Rev. L.W. Nichols	Clayton Loftis	Ellie Hopkins	Dr. E. Stan Farrington
Walter Nicholson	Joe Long	Floyd Huddleston	Victor E. Ferchill
O. Lee Norton	Isadore Maritzky	S. C. Hudnall	Joe M. Fugitt
E. B. Oliver	Dr. Louis Markham	Robert F. Hunter	Henry L. Foster
Gerald E. Osborne	G. A. McCreight	Dr. V. R. Hurst	Henry, Jr. Foster
Syril A. Parker	R. S. McGowen	Will C. Hurst	Jerry Ray Foster
Herman Pasternack	John W. McDavid	Blackshear Jameson	Dr. Tom B. Francis
Dr. Don Peterson	Curtis W. Meadows	George, II Kelly	Charles Freet
Smith Price	Del M. Messner	James M. Kelly	James S. Garrett
Tom E. Richardson	Curtis Morris	R. Marvin Kelly (Hon.)	Dr. A. T. Glover
Joe D. Riff	M. Ray Newnham	Richard O. Kenley	A. R. Graves
Dr. H. A. Ross	Dr. Henry Niehuss	John S. Kimble	Bert, Jr. Griffin
Bruner Smith	O. Lee Norton	Duncan Kincheloe	L. Andy Guinn
Tanlac Strange	Ralph R. Parker	James King	Dr. Tom Hagan
Bill N. Taylor	Syril A. Parker	W. Roy King	Hugh Hagemeyer
Wm. H. Terrell	Wm. F. Patterson	Melson Lanier	Gordon K. Hargett
Harry Turner	Ben Pope	W. A. Lanagan	Jerry Harris
O. Thomas Welch	W. Casey P'Pool	Joe Long (Hon.)	W. Carroll Harris
E. Quest Whitney	Rembert Rea	Dewey Mathis	Austin C. Hatchell
Rev. John Whorton	Joe D. Riff	Del M. Messner	Elmer C. Heritage
J. Marcus Wood	C. G. Rogers	Ray Maberry	Leeton Hillis
Jim Young	Dr. H. A. Ross	Isadore Maritzky	German J. Hollandsworth
Leroy Zeigler	Alex B. Ryan	G. A. McCreight	Ellie Hopkins
Percy Zimmerman	Grady Shipp	Dale H. McDaniel	Will C. Hurst
	John M. Souerbry	John W. McDavid	Mike Hutchison
	Bob Speight	R. S. McGowen	Stanley Ibenthal
	Guy Sterling	W. G. Mitchell	Blackshear Jameson
	Wm. H. Terrell	Dr. Frank Mondrick	W.B. Mutt Johnson
	J. Stephen Topp	J. H. Moody	George, II Kelly
	Monroe Vivian	Marshall Muse	Richard O. Kenley
	O. Thomas Welch	Josh T. Moore	Duncan Kincheloe
	E. Quest Whitney	Q. C. Murphy	Kenneth Kirkpatrick
	Drew Wilson	M. Ray Newnham	W. Roy King
	Jimmie Wilson	Dr. Henry Niehuss	James M. Knox
	J. Marcus Wood	Dr. W. B. Norman	Royce E. Lackey
	Charles Yonge	O. Lee Norton	Norman Lawyer
	Leroy Zeigler	W. D., Jr. Northcutt	James A. Leiby
		Syril A. Parker	Richard LeTourneau
			Mel T. Lewis
			Dan Littlejohn
			Norman E. Loomis
			Ray Maberry
			Dr. Sam Mack
			Jack M. Mann
			R. Chas. Mantinband
			Isadore Maritzky
			Starlin M. Marrs
			B. F., Jr. Martin
			J. H., Jr. Martin
			Charles Mathews
			R. Eugene Matthews
			G. A. McCreight
			Dale H. McDaniel
			James D. McDaniel
			John W. McDavid
			Henry C. McGrede
			Eugene R. McWhorter
			Arthur D. Mercer
			Del M. Messner
			Ray W. Milam
			Dr. Frank Mondrick
			Louis Morgan
			Roy A. Morgan
			Jno. C., Jr. Murphy
			Q. C. Murphy
			Marshall Muse
			W. Robt. Myers
			M. Ray Newnham
			LeGrande Northcutt
			Percy D. Northcutt
			W. D., Jr. Northcutt
			O. Lee Norton
			Fred R. Paris
			Syril A. Parker
			Wm. B. Patterson
			Dr. C. W. Payton
			Charles R. Perkins
			Henry A. Pitts
			Fred Pool
			Tom Putman
			Charles G. Rader
			Bob Raleigh
			Rembert Rea
			Arvin Redfearn
			Cecil W. Richardson
			Dr. Brannon Riddle
			Joe D. Riff
			Otto Ritter
			Alex B. Ryan
			C. W. Shelburne
			H. P., Jr. Smead
			Robert E. Steed
			Dr. A. C. Stevens
			Gil Stribling
			Clarence Swanson
			Bill N. Taylor
			Wm H. Terrell
			J. Clyde Tomlinson
			J. Stephen Topp
			A. Ray Tracy
			Clarence Tucker
			Harold Turner
			Dr. Allen Tyler
			John R.L. Vaughan
			Carl Warrell
			Tom, Jr. Welch
			George B. Westbrook
			Eugene C. Willey
			Chas. W. Williams
			Jack T. Williams
			Tom Wilmoth
			Drew Wilson
			Joe A. Wilson
			Charles Yonge
			J. Merton Young

# Membership Rosters at Middle of Each Decade

## 1974-75

(beginning of year)

Toby H. Abney	Jack Lynch
Richard G. Avent	Rev. Mike Macey
J. A. Ballard	Jack M. Mann
Claude E. Barbee	B. F., Jr. Martin
Irby D. Bates	R. Eugene Matthews
Paul B. Beavers	Jim, Jr. McCann
Paul B. Belding	John W. McDavid
Joe M. Bell	Wm. E. McReynolds
E. K. Bennett	Eugene R. McWhorter
Henry C. Bennett	Arthur D. Mercer
Joe T. Bohannon	Del M. Messner
Talmadge Booth	Ray W. Milam
Kurt Borris	Edward J. Mooney
Herbert Boyland	J. Coy Moreland
C. Porter Brandon	Roy A. Morgan
J. M. Brashear	Jno. C., Jr. Murphy
Howard E. Brasier	M. Ray Newnham
Dutchie Bright	LeGrande Northcutt
W. Delbert Bright	Dr. W.D., III Northcutt
Arthur N. Brown	O. Lee Norton
Edward A. Brown	Hal O'gain
Robert K. Brown	Harry J. Owens
Thomas S. Brown	Fred R. Paris
L. F. Burke	Syrl A. Parker
J. Carroll Callahan	Rev. Bob Parrott
J. Milton Cammack	Dr. C. W. Payton
Paul D. Campbell	Charles R. Perkins
Royl J. Carby	Rev. Gene Petty
C. Robert Carroll	Henry A. Pitts
Arthur E. Clapp	J. Rogers Pope
Chas F. Jr. Cobb	Tom Putman
Howard Coghlan	Charles G. Rader
Rev. Steve Cook	Arvin Redfearn
E. B. Crain	Cecil W. Richardson
Jas. R., Jr. Curtis	Alex B. Ryan
Jim Davis	W. Ray Saunders
John L. DeLoach	Willard M. Shivers
Glenn A. Detmore	A. Daniel Silensky
J. Barcus Dubose	John M. Smith
Joe W. Dunswoth(H)	Robert H. Smith
Rev. W. C. Everett	John, Jr. Spiekermann
Dr. E. Stan Farrington	Rev. Ray Starnes
Victor E. Ferchill	Larry W. Starr
Julian M. Fiegel	Charles A. Stevenson
Neill Flemister	Nels E. Stjernstrom
Henry, Jr. Foster	Ward Summers
Dr. Tom B. Francis	Bill N. Taylor
Charles E. Frith	J. Stephen Topp
Joe M. Fugitt	Charles G. Tullis
Henry, Jr. Gossett	Dr. Allen Tyler
L. Andy Guinn	Gary A. Vincent
Dr. John Guttery	Tom, Jr. Welch
Hugh Hagemeyer	Charles M. White
Dr. Harry Hardwick	W. D. Bud White
Gordon K. Hargett	Barney D. Williams
John, Jr. Harrison	Jack T. Williams
Neal A. Hawthorn	Drew Wilson (Hon.)
Jerome Henderson	Joseph A. Wilson
Elmer C. Herritage	Allan R. Wisenbaker
Al D. Hethcock	Dr. Allan E. Wisenbaker
Robert C. Holbert	Thos. J., Jr. Wolf
German J. Hollandsworth	
Ellie Hopkins	
O. Loyd Hudson	
Rev. Rex Humphreys	
B. L. Jack Jackson	
Blackshear Jameson	
Alf Jernigan	
W.B. Mutt Johnson	
Charles F. Kee	
George, II Kelly	
Richard O. Kenley	
James H. Keys	
W. Roy King	
Royce E. Lackey	
Tom W. Landers	
Norman E. Loomis	

## 1984-85

(beginning of year)

Toby H. Abney	Harry D. Mattison
James W. Asbury	Wm. E. McReynolds
Richard G. Avent	Eugene R. McWhorter
J. A. Ballard	Eugene W. McWhorter
Claude E. Barbee	Arthur D. Mercer
Travis Beavers	Tom R. Meredith
Paul B. Belding	Del M. Messner
E. K. Bennett	Larry W. Minx
Henry C. Bennett	Edward J. Mooney
Mark L. Boon	Curtis Morris
C. Porter Brandon	Jno. C., Jr. Murphy
Hal Brattelli	M. Ray Newnham
Fr. John Brennan	LeGrande Northcutt
W. Delbert Bright	Dr. W.D., III Northcutt
Dutchie Bright	Rev Wm B. O'Neal
Britton P. Brookshire	Fred R. Paris
Arthur N. Brown	Syrl A. Parker
Robert K. Brown	Dr. C. W. Payton
Thomas S. Brown	Charles R. Perkins
A. Wells Burton	Henry A. Pitts
J. Carroll Callahan	Ronnie Piler
J. Kim Callahan	J. Rogers Pope
Casey W. Cammack	Charles G. Rader
Kerry N. Cammack	Dr. A. A. Rasheed
J. Milton Cammack	Wm. Y., II Rice
Royl J. Carby	Cecil W. Richardson
C. Robert Carroll	Thomas H. Richter
C. Frank Cobb	Jeffrey A. Rippel
Chas F. Jr. Cobb	Tommy L. Roberts
Eugene S. Coddou	Alex B. Ryan
Howard Coghlan	W. Ray Saunders
Jack Covin	Robert J. Schrader
E. B. Crain	Willard M. Shivers
Jas. R., Jr. Curtis	Lloyd E. Schultz
John L. DeLoach	John R. Simonetti
Glenn A. Detmore	Jim Singleton
Richard A. Dial	John M. Smith
J. Barcus Dubose	Robert H. Smith
Bob Dyer	Jerry Starnes
Rev. Robt. Ely	Wilson Stinnett
Glenn Evans	James E. Stjernstrom
Victor E. Ferchill	Randel Stringer
Julian M. Fiegel	Thomas A. Sweeney
L. J. Fite	Dr. Warren Tharp
Henry, Jr. Foster	Hiram G. Tipton
Charles E. Frith	J. Stephen Topp (Hon.)
Joe M. Fugitt	M. E. Bud Trigleth
W. Allen Gage	Harve Truskett
Lou Galosy	Dr. Allen Tyler
Henry, Jr. Gossett	Leo B. Wall
L. Andy Guinn	James E. Wallace
Hugh Hagemeyer	Tom, Jr. Welch
Dr. John L. Hall	Jack H., Jr. Welge
Dr. Harry Hardwick	Andrew White
Gordon K. Hargett	Jack T. Williams
John, Jr. Harrison	Louis B. Jr. Williams
Richard C. Hathorn	Garland Williamson
Marcus C. Headley	Rev. Conrad Winborn
Roland Henry	Allan R. Wisenbaker
Elmer C. Herritage	Dr. Allan E. Wisenbaker
R. Michael Holbert	Thos. J., Jr. Wolf
Ellie Hopkins	Allan Wren
J. Guy Hughes	P. Jim Wyant
C. Ray Jackson	A. Pat Young
Blackshear Jameson	
B. H. Jameson	
Ray Jeter	
W. Roy King	
Royce E. Lackey	
Tom W. Landers	
Michael G. Liverman	
Norman E. Loomis	
Jack Lynch	
Lee B., Jr. Lynch	
Rev. Mike Macey	
B. F., Jr. Martin	
W. Larry Martin	

## 1994-95

(beginning of year)

Craig Abernathy	Reagan, III McLemore
Jerry D. Adair	Ron McMichael
Milton Aunan	Wm. E. McReynolds
Gene R. Austin	Eugene W. McWhorter
Richard G. Avent	Arthur D. Mercer
J. A. Ballard	Del M. Messner
Fred S. Berry	Edward J. Mooney
Joan N. Berry	Jno. C., Jr. Murphy
Shane Best	Latricia Nichols
Buck, Jr. Birdsong	LeGrande Northcutt
Mark L. Boon	Dr. W.D., III Northcutt
Herbert Boyland	Rusty Norton
C. Porter Brandon	Scott Novy
W. Delbert Bright	James E. Parrish
Dutchie Bright	Dr. C. W. Payton
A. Wells Burton	Paul S. Perry
Linda R. Butter	Dr. John E. Petty
J. Carroll Callahan	Henry A. Pitts
J. Kim Callahan	R. Darryl Primo
Casey W. Cammack	Charles G. Rader
J. Milton Cammack	Perry Reed
Royl J. Carby	Charles A. Reeves
C. Ramey Carroll	Wm. Y., II Rice
Dr. Carl Childress	Wm. Y., III Rice
David Choy	Leonard Riggs
C. Frank Cobb	Charles R. Risinger
Doug Cox	Bob Rodgers
Rev. Tom Crowe	Robert J. Schrader
D. Randle Cunningham	Don W. Scoggins
Jas. R., Jr. Curtis	Lloyd E. Schultz
Glenn A. Detmore	Bill Simms
Richard A. Dial	Loren Smith
Doug Diebolt	Michael J. Smith
John W., IV Dimond	Robert H. Smith
Bill R. Dodson	R. Hank, Jr. Smith
J. Barcus Dubose	Tom Southern
Vincent L. Dulweber	Don C. Talley
Robert E. Durham	Dr. Warren Tharp
Wm. F. Edmonds	John G., Jr. Troy
Victor E. Ferchill	Harve Truskett
Julian M. Fiegel	Patrick A. VanBurkleo
L. J. Fite	Mike Verucchi
Patricia Florence	John C. Walker
Bruce Forbes	Leo B. Wall
Harrison Forbes	Tom, Jr. Welch
Henry, Jr. Foster	Ava A. Welge
Charles E. Frith	Jack H., Jr. Welge
Lewis Goins	Thos. J., Jr. Wolf
Dr. Willard Gold	Terry Woods
Henry, Jr. Gossett	J. David, Jr. Wrather
Keith Griffin	Gregory J. Wright
L. Andy Guinn	A. Pat Young
Hugh Hagemeyer	
Gordon K. Hargett	
John, Jr. Harrison	
Ron Heezen	
R. Michael Holbert	
David Houston	
Ron Hudgens	
Jerrell Huffman	
J. Guy Hughes	
Jim Hughey	
James R. Hugman	
Blackshear Jameson	
B. H. Jameson	
George, III Kelly	
Royce D. Laffitte	
Tom W. Landers	
Lara Lever	
Hal, Jr. Long	
M. Carter Macey	
Arliss Mallory	
Jack M., Jr. Mann	
B. F., Jr. Martin	
Bill E. Martin	
W. Larry Martin	
Richard L. McGee	

# General Club Data for Each Rotary Year

Rotary Year	President	Secretary-Treasurer	Bulletin Editor	Market or News Rept.	Pianist	Members	Putman Award	Club P. H. Fellowship	L. R. Citizen of the Year
20-21	Edward Bussey	Phil Hayes				27			
21-22	Edwin Rembert	Henry Bennett				‡70			
22-23	Marvin Kelly	Bruner Smith	Shorty LeBlanc						
23-24	B. D. Marshall	Bruner Smith							
24-25	Robert Hall	Bruner Smith							
25-26	Arthur Connor	Bruner Smith							
26-27	Bert Sessums	Newman Wells							
27-28	LeGrande Kelly	Newman Wells							
28-29	Will Hurst	Newman Wells				*36			
29-30	Wallace Norton	Newman Wells							
30-31	Quest Whitney	Newman Wells							
31-32	Bill Taylor	George Kelly, II				*50			
32-33	Bruner Smith	George Kelly, II							
33-34	Curtis Meadows	George Kelly, II			Jessie Northcutt	‡63			
34-35	Tom Richardson	George Kelly, II			Jessie Northcutt	‡74			
35-36	Gerald Osborne	George Kelly, II							
36-37	Grover Finch	George Kelly, II							
37-38	Henry Foster	George Kelly, II				*75			
38-39	Marcus Wood	George Kelly, II							
39-40	Robert Womack	George Kelly, II				‡79			
40-41	Lee Norton	George Kelly, II				‡84			
41-42	Ersk. Bramlette	George Kelly, II							
42-43	Maurice Bivins	George Kelly, II							
43-44	Casey P'Pool	Bob McGowen	Bob Speight		Grace Eason	‡68			
44-45	Lawr. Birdsong	Bob McGowen	Bob Speight		Grace Eason	‡70			
45-46	Ralph Parker	Bob McGowen	Bob Speight		Grace Eason	‡68			
46-47	Dell Messner	Bob McGowen	John Harrison		Grace Eason	‡80			
47-48	Steve Topp	Bob McGowen	Austin Hatchell		Grace Eason	*85			
48-49	Vesse Hurst	Ray Maberry	Tom Putman		Grace Eason				
49-50	John Harrison	Blacksh'r Jameson	Tom Putman		Grace Eason				
50-51	George Kelly, II	Raymond Cupp	Tom Putman***		Grace Eason				
51-52	O. Tom Welch	Joe Dunsworth	Floyd Huddleston		Grace Eason	96			
52-53	Austin Hatchell	Joe Dunsworth	Tom Putman		Grace Eason	104			
53-54	Ellie Hopkins	Joe Dunsworth	Tom Putman		Lorraine Martin	107			
54-55	Henry Pitts	Cecil Richardson	Tom Putman		Lorraine Martin	108			
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56-57	Cecil Richardson	Ray Tracy	Vic Ferchill		Lorraine Martin	127			
57-58	Allen Tyler	Ray Tracy	Vic Ferchill		Lorraine Martin	137			
58-59	Charles Perkins	Robert Steed	Norman Galyon		Lorraine Martin	132			
59-60	Joe Dunsworth	James Deakins	Norman Galyon	Lewis/Littlejn†††	Lorraine Martin	127			
60-61	Dale McDaniel	James Deakins	Franklin Martin	Lewis/Littlejohn	Lorraine Martin	132			
61-62	Vic Ferchill	James Deakins	Andy Guinn	Lewis/Littlejohn	Lorraine Martin	144			
62-63	Starlin Marrs	Merton Young	Andy Guinn	Lewis/Littlejohn	Lorraine Martin	150			
63-64	Dunc. Kincheloe	Merton Young	Andy Guinn	Lewis/Littlejohn	Lorraine Martin	151			
64-65	Stan Farrington	Merton Young	Putm. w/ Bright, Merc., Ferch.	Lewis/Littlejohn	Eliz. McLure	154			
65-66	Andy Guinn	Merton Young	Tom Putman	Mel Lewis	Eliz. McLure	152			
66-67	John C. Murphy	Merton Young	Tom Putman	Mel Lewis	Eliz. McLure	153			
67-68	Jack Williams	Mike Hutchison**	Tom Putman	Bill Ray	Eliz. McLure	154			
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69-70	Charley Rader	Mike Hutchison	Tom Putman	Bill Ray	Eliz. McLure	150			
70-71	Howard Coghlan	Mike Hutchison	Tom Putman	Bill Ray	Eliz. McLure	157			
71-72	Delbert Bright	Mike Hutchison††	Tom Putman	Bill Ray	Eliz. McLure	155			
72-73	Ray Milam	Charles Cobb‡‡	Mercer, Petty, & Putman	Bill Ray	Eliz. McLure	152			
73-74	Charles Tullis	Tom Brown	Putman w/ Petty & Mercer	J. R. Curtis‡‡‡	G. Stan Roberts	152			
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75-76	Ted Mooney	Tom Brown	Dick Avent with 4 others	J. R. Curtis	G. Stan Roberts	134	C. Richardson		
76-77	Bob Carroll	Tom Brown	Dick Avent with 4 others	J. R. Curtis	G. Stan Roberts	146	John Harrison		
77-78	W. D. Northcutt	Tom Brown	Avent w/ Macey, McW, Brandon	Figallo/Curtis	G. Stan Roberts	145	Charley Rader	John Harrison	
78-79	Rogers Pope	Tom Brown	Avent w/ Mercer, Wolf, Macey	J. R. Curtis	G. Stan Roberts	140	Charles Tullis	Bob Carroll	Hubert Gregg
79-80	Charles Cobb	Tom Brown	Mooney w/ Brandon & E.W.McW	J. R. Curtis	G. Stan Roberts	144	Stjernstrom	Harper, Messner	Millie Harper
80-81	Henry Gossett	Tom Brown	Burton w/ Bob Brown & Mooney	J. R. Curtis	None	153	Wells Burton	John Murphy	Gene Boyd
81-82	Milton Cammack	Tom Brown	J. Stjernst'm w/ Brown & Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	149	Tom Brown	Fiegel, Guinn	Agnes Scruggs
82-83	Julian Fiegel	Tom Brown	J. Stjernst'm w/ Brown & Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	153	Charles Cobb	Bob Brown	Ann L. Crain
83-84	Dick Dial	Tom Brown	J. Stjernst'm w/ Brown & Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	151		Syrl Parker	C. C. Turner
84-85	Leo Wall	Tom Brown	J. Stjernst'm w/ Brown & Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	141	Mike Macey	Vic Ferchill	E. K. Bennett
85-86	Barcus Dubose	Tom Brown	J. Stjernst'm w/ Brown & Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	145	Bob Brown	Riff, Dial, T. Brown	D. McQueen
86-87	Jim Stjernstrom	Tom Brown	Kenny Hawthorne w/ Bob Brown	J. R. Curtis	None	147	Wayne Legg	Leo Wall	Jim Elam
87-88	Jack Welge	Tom Brown	Kenny Hawthorne w/ Bob Brown	J. R. Curtis	None	146	John Walker	Henry Pitts	M. Shuttlesworth
88-89	Casey Cammack	Tom Brown	Kenny Hawthorne w/ Bob Brown	J. R. Curtis	None	144	Larry Martin	Stjernstrom	Dr. Sam Mack
89-90	Ronnie Pliler	Tom Brown	Stjernst'm, Kilpatrick w/ Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	151	J. McIlhenny	Tom Landers	Jo Lloyd
90-91	Dan Fiscus	Tom Brown	Stjernst'm, Kilpatrick w/ Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	142	R. Carroll	C. Cammack	C. Richardson
91-92	Bill Rice, II	Tom Brown	Stjernst'm, Kilpatrick w/ Burton	J. R. Curtis	None	141	E.W. McWhorter	Ronnie Pliler	Lou Galosy
92-93	Jerry Adair	Tom Brown	E.W. McWhorter & Sam Smead	J. R. Curtis	None	133	G. Hargett	Wells Burton	Vic Ferchill
93-94	John Troy	Tom Brown	Boon, Heezen, Russell, A. Welge	J. R. Curtis	None	132	D. Houston	E.W. McWhorter	Hank Foster
94-95	Kim Callahan	Casey Cammack	Jack Welge and 4 others	J. R. Curtis	None	129			

Other pianists before 1943-44, according to the 1963 club history: Josephine Hopkins Bodenheim, Miss Virginia Estes, Mae Beth McHaney Holloway, Mrs. George Ballard, Dr. Glenn Farr, and Mabel Birdsong

**Partial Years:** \*\* The secretary-treasurer in 1967-68 was Joe Dunsworth until August, then Mike Hutchison.

†† The secretary-treasurer in 1971-72 was Mike Hutchison until about February, then Charles Cobb.

‡‡ The secretary-treasurer in 1972-73 was Charles Cobb until April, then Tom Brown.

\*\*\* The *Rotaview* in 1950-51 was edited by Tom Putman until March, then by Floyd Huddleston.

††† Mel Lewis and Dan Littlejohn started giving a stock market report at club meetings after April, 1960.

‡‡‡ The stock market report in 1973-74 was given by Bill Ray until November 20, then J. R. Curtis began giving a news and market report.

**Sources of Membership Figures:** Annual folder, or roster on *Rotaview* back at beginning of the Rotary year, including honorary members, *except* as follows:

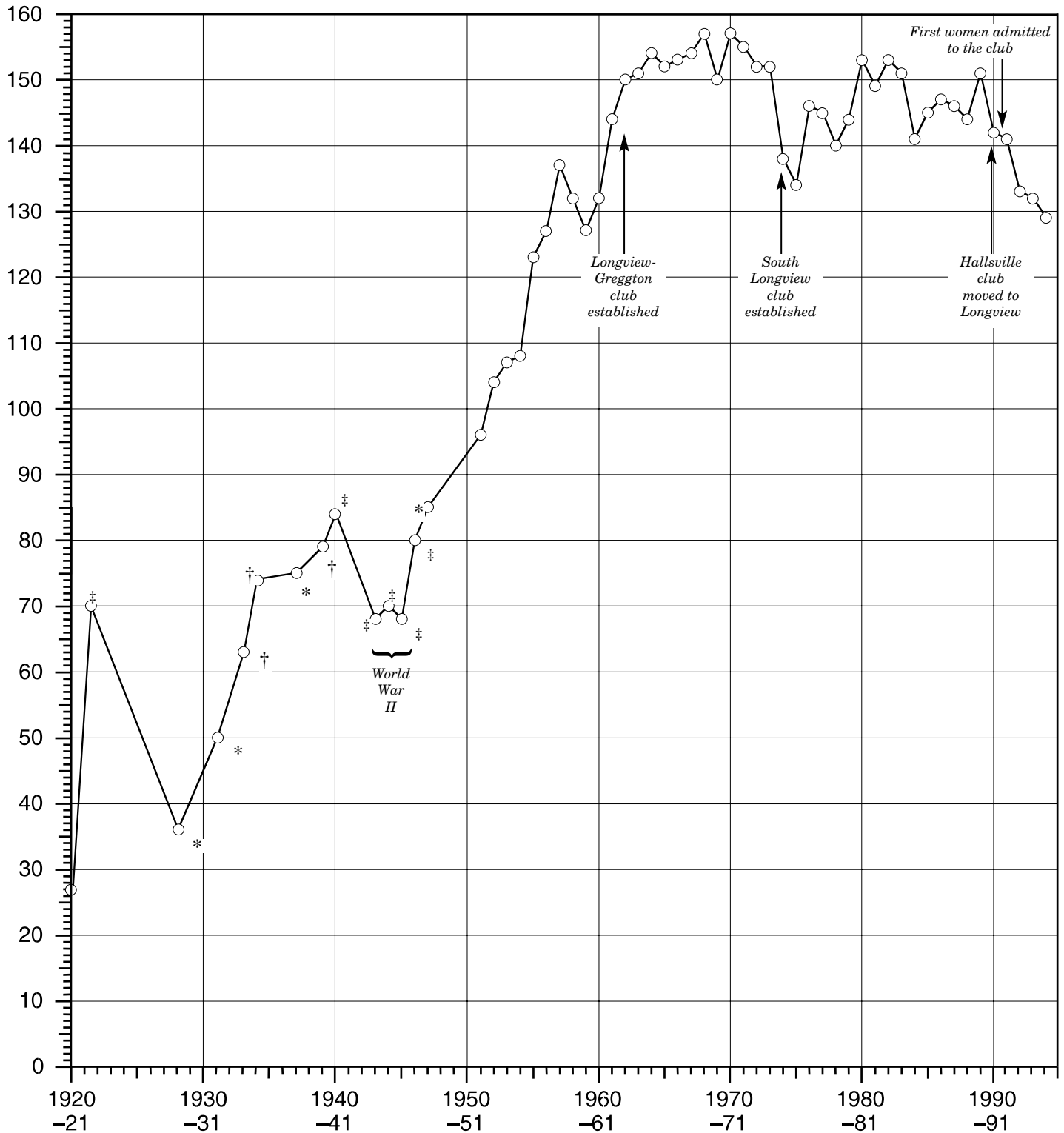
\* Roughly estimated for whole year by past president for 1963 club history booklet

† Approximate roster of whole year reconstructed from newspaper articles

‡ Mentioned for some time during that year in *Rotaview* of that year or later

# Graph of Membership Year by Year

From membership column on opposite page  
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*The Club, December 13, 1994*

*The Annual Christmas Serenade by  
the Longview High School  
Concert Choir*

*Photo by Sam Smead*