



# Rotary Highlights • 1942-1998

*Rotary Club of Bay City Highlights of Club Directors Meeting Minutes 1942 - 1998 [Assembled in August 2003 by Harry Farris, Tom Tabor, Ron McGillivray, Mike Stoner, Dick VanAkker, Gay McInerney, Gina Escamilla, Hratch Basmadjian, Carl Lockwood, and from notes prepared earlier by Larry Cook]*

## 100 Years

### 1942

Jan 23, 1942: Eddie Moran of the Wenonah Hotel came to the meeting to discuss the matter of increasing the price of club meeting luncheons. The price of luncheons at the hotel was raised from \$.75 to \$.85.

May 29, 1942: President Hale appointed club delegate to International Convention in Toronto.

Sept 22, 1942: Voted to reduce the number of international meetings from four to one, following a presentation by President Fischer, with an outstanding speaker.

Nov 10, 1942: Club approved proposal by President Fischer to join the "go to church" project.

### 1943

May 4, 1943: Discussed placing a "roll of honor" for members of the club who had entered the armed forces. George Massnick was asked to secure further information. Crippled Children's Christmas Party scheduled for December 21st. Board decided to continue Crippled Children's Camp program.

### 1944

July 28, 1944: Discussion held on improving the quality of program speakers. Voted to contribute \$250 to schedule speakers through Central High School Principal Adams. Program committee of 4 or 5 members established.

Oct 1, 1944: Voted again to subscribe \$25 to the war chest drive, and to consider giving more later, if needed.

### 1945

Paid to send student to Wolverine Boys State [program sponsored by American Legion]. Noted board policy to transfer all general fund balances to the Student Loan Fund at year end.

April 2, 1945: Report by F.C. Learman on upcoming meeting with Hugh Giesel

of WBCM with reference to broadcasting some Rotary meetings.

Sept. 4, 1945: President T.P. Dixon read a communication from the Philadelphia PA Rotary Club proposing Philadelphia as headquarters for the new United Nations Organization.

### 1946

Dec. 3, 1946: 1946 membership dues were increased from \$20 to \$25. Total club membership — 83. Board voted to hold its meetings at the Elks Club.

Board voted to provide orthopedic screening for children attending the Crippled Children's Camp. Board voted not to include cost of luncheon in dues billings.

Nov. 4, 1946: Ben Boutell was declined membership because he was retired and had no classification. Dec. 2: Benjamin Foss was declined membership (though in Jan. 1947, he was reconsidered and admitted.)

### 1947

Author/speaker Lowell Thomas and son were booked for the Ladies Night program at Central High School on Nov 15, 1947, for \$1,000. Board approved honorary life membership for John Greenwald [Laundry Business classification] as Past President and Club Charter Member. 65 members contributed \$650 to the Paul Harris Foundation.

June 9, 1947:

Drs. Hess, Shafer and Whitten were disapproved for membership—would exceed 10% of classification.



Lowell Thomas

### 1948

Speed Charipar approved for membership on Feb 2, 1948. Board donated \$574 to the YMCA for Boys Camp, and voted to hold the 1949 Rotary District Conference in Bay City. President Lorne Miesel appointed Larry Cook general chairman for the 1949 District Conference. Proposed Bay City Scholarship Fund approved, along with other service clubs; fund to be administered by Bay Trust Co.

### 1949

Sam Ball, General Manager of Consumers Power, was offered as a candidate for District Governor. Canadian Rotary Clubs to be transferred out of District 152, leaving the district no longer an international one. District Conference netted \$1,500 for the club, and involved a visit to Dow Gardens in Midland, a trip on the Saginaw River and Bay on Harry Defoe's yacht, and a final banquet attended by 226 persons to hear Detroit newspaper columnist and international affairs expert,

S.L.A. Marshall. Sept. 1949: Board approved annual salary for club secretary of \$1.00 per club member per year. Membership stood at 88.

Sept 13, 1949: Harry J. Defoe named an honorary member for life for his outstanding service to club and community.

Summer expenses included: \$450 to send 15 boys to the YMCA camp; \$413 to send 11 girls to YWCA Camp Maqua; \$225 to send 17 handicapped children to Camp Grace Bentley; total of \$1088.



SLA Marshall



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## 1950

Jan 9, 1950: Board renewed 7 subscriptions to Rotaria Vista magazine at \$2.00 each for distribution in South America by Rotary International. This has been done for 10 years.

April 4, 1950: Club contributed \$1,000 to the Bay County Veterans War Memorial Fund.

Sept 11, 1950: Club voted to sponsor a young person to the Michigan Youth Commission.

Oct 2, 1950: Board voted to participate in a "Career Day" program in conjunction with the Bay City Board of Education.

Dec 7, 1950: Board voted to stop contributing \$10 per member each year and \$25 of each new member's initiation fee to the Paul Harris Foundation Fund. Funds to be retained by club.

## 1951

Dr. Max Brown named permanent chairman of the Crippled Children Committee of the club.

March 5, 1951: Club Forum made the following 3 recommendations:

1] Better publicity on Directors' meetings; 2] Better procedure for welcoming guests; 3] Start a Rotary bowling team.

Professor Pollock of the University of Michigan selected to be speaker at Ladies Night program on May 8th.

Each club in district asked to contribute \$1.15 per member to help finance the Rotary District Conference in Saginaw.

Speed Charipar appointed chairman of the "On to Saginaw" committee.

May 14, 1951: Plaque presented to charter member Selwyn Ramsey for his years of service to the club.

June 4, 1951: After extensive discussion, Board voted to discontinue the birthday table.

Oct 23, 1951: Board voted to name R.J. "Rudy" Boehringer an honorary member for life in recognition of his emulation of the principles of Rotary and his perfect attendance for 35 years.

## 1952

April 7, 1952: Committee reported on the possibility of establishing a second Rotary Club in Bay City. It was

decided that a second club was not feasible.

May 1952: Pauline Fredericks, nationally known news commentator for ABC, was guest speaker at Ladies Night program.

June 16, 1952: Board voted to transfer all funds in general fund [except \$50] to the Camp Fund. Board voted to cast its 5 votes to elect Rotarian Stone of the Clare Club as District Governor for 1953-54.



Pauline Fredericks

## 1953

March 2, 1953: Board voted to

join other service clubs, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Wenonah Hotel, to erect consolidated road signs at entrances to Bay City [River Road and U.S. 23] for \$106. Voted to dispense with Ladies Night this year.

April 6, 1953: Speed Charipar elected club president. Decided to poll members about changing club meeting day from Tuesday to Monday. [NOTE: Meeting day didn't change.]

August 1953: 113 club members paid \$1,554 in dues and contributed \$1,293 to the Camp Fund. 32 children sent to 3 summer camps [Camp Iroquois/YMCA, Camp Maqua/YWCA, and Camp Grace Bentley].

Aug 31, 1953: Board voted to sponsor an additional railroad car to the Central High/Muskegon High football game on Sept 25th, and to underwrite the cost to send the band with the team.

Nov 2, 1953: The possibility of establishing new Rotary Clubs in the Pinconning/Standish and West Branch areas was discussed. [NOTE: This issue was resurrected again about 50 years later, with the same lack of success.]

## 1954

Jan 4, 1954: Board voted to give one year's subscription to the Rotarian magazine as a gift to program speakers, at the discretion of the president.

June 14, 1954: Established a "Golden Anniversary Fund" to plan the celebration of the club's 40 years of community service. Thomas R. Tabor proposed for additional active membership under classification "Jewelry Retail."

The club contributed \$10 on behalf of every member, giving the club 100% participation in the Paul Harris Foundation for 1954. Club membership for 1954 was 102.

## 1955

Ladies Night 1955 was a great success. The world renowned "Yolanda" [Speed Charipar in drag] gave a demonstration of ESP, ably assisted by "straight man" Tom Tabor, recalling intimate personal data regarding club members. The evening ended with a big splash when several club officers ventured onto the pool springboard, to admire the underwater lights, and were accidentally nudged into the pool fully clothed.

## 1956

April 9, 1956: Club members authorized \$319 for shrubs from Begick Nursery to landscape the new YMCA building. Club members volunteered to do the planting.

May 7, 1956: Board approved purchase of 50 club banners @ \$1.70 each to present to foreign club visitors who came to Bay City. The banner design was provided by Wally Cramer. Board agreed to join with



Charlie Gehringer

other Bay City service clubs to sponsor a Little League honor night with guest speaker Charlie Gehringer of the Detroit Tigers. Cost: \$200.

Sept 10, 1956: Pat Trahan authorized to make arrangements to dispose of Carroll Park ducks at the proper time.

## 1957

Feb 11, 1957: Board approved sponsoring a foreign student for \$650, but there were no takers.

Sept 9, 1957: Board asked for club



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members to volunteer to attend City Commission meetings.

Oct 7, 1957: Authorized paying Frank Ristan \$10 for taking care of Carroll Park ducks during the previous summer. Report received detailing the successful duck program in Carroll Park.

Rotary had placed ducks in the park ponds for several years. Youngsters enjoyed feeding and watching the ducks, even though "at times, juvenile nimrods attacked the ducks, causing frustration for neighbor ladies who called the police." Later, a duck in a gilded parrot's cage was presented to a guest at an evening meeting honoring a past club president. After the meeting adjourned, the group went to the Top Hat Club on Tuscola Road where Rotarians and the "duck in the gilded cage" joined the floor show!



Wally Cramer

## 1958

Sept 8, 1958: Board authorized increasing membership dues from \$25 to \$30 [a 20% increase].

Oct 13, 1958: Paid a bill for \$17.74 to Bay City Pet Supply & Feeds for duck food.

Nov 10, 1958: District Governor advised board that the Sebewaing Rotary Club [the club had been sponsored by the Bay City Club] was having difficulty operating. He asked Bay City to send 2 to 3 members to Sebewaing meetings and to make arrangements for some club programs.

## 1959

To encourage better club meeting attendance, it was recommended that a board be put up at club meetings showing the names of members with perfect attendance each quarter.

Jan 20, 1959: Approved Harry McKay of Pigeon as District Governor.

July 13, 1959: Frank Learman appointed to explain Rotary to prospective club

members in Tawas.

Sept 14, 1959: Club sent 22 children to Crippled Children's Camp.

## 1960

March 29, 1960: Discussed possibility of establishing a Rotary Club for the west side of Bay City.

Oct 10, 1960: Donated \$420 for Crippled Children Fund.

Dec 12, 1960: Approved \$674.54 for special fund to sponsor special tennis match at Central High School.

## 1961

Jan 11, 1961: Discussed special performance of Bay City Players - monies raised contributed to special fund.

May 1, 1961: Contributed funds to local Science Fair.

June 19, 1961: Contributed English Thesaurus, Australian Dictionary, Australian Hyphenation, English (US) Word For 1962, to English Grammar County Pre-school for the Deaf.

May 7, 1962: \$400 donated to Crippled Children's Camp. On June 19th, \$500 was approved for the same purpose.

May 2, 1962: Ladies Night event held at the Yacht Club.

Dec 10, 1962: Board nominated Ron Fisher to the board of Rotary International. [Action was suspended on Dec 31st.]

1963 No report.

## 1964

April 7, 1964: Plans for the 50th anniversary were discussed.

Nov 9, 1964: It was decided that the activities of the Membership Committee were to be kept secret. Two membership proposals were denied.

## 1965

April 12, 1965: It was decided that a Vice-President was to be selected to succeed the President. Art Hagen was the first Vice-President selected.

## 1966

April 5, 1966: Tom Tabor elected Vice-President and given \$250 towards travel expenses to attend the RI convention.

A proposal to give a tip of \$.15 [that is,

15 cents] per member to waitresses at club luncheons was defeated.

## 1967

Jan 8, 1967: Plans were discussed to change the club's meeting place to the Elks Club and later to the new Holiday Inn. Problems were encountered in paying the club's pledge of \$500 for the new Bay Osteopathic Hospital. Vice-President Benson suggested using member photos in the club directory.

November 13, 1967: The Salvation Army was invited to attend a meeting for the purpose of soliciting members' personal support.

NOTE: Recurring requests were made by many members during these years to be temporarily relieved of their attendance requirements. The same members made this request every year. They all finally dropped out of the club.

## 1968

Nov 14, 1968: Ron Fischer resignation; member photos to be taken for new club roster; Program Chair to control future speakers with political connections.

Feb 10, 1968: Letters to be sent to members with less than 60% attendance.

Mar 10, 1968: Approved sponsoring exchange student from Europe.

Sept 8, 1968: Revised Rotary induction "ritual" submitted by Rev. David Castrodale was approved.

## 1969

Oct 13, 1969: Attendance at United Way meetings on Tuesdays to be counted for attendance credit.

## 1970

Jan 12, 1970: Donated \$100 for inter-service club council project to start a children's zoo.

Mar 9, 1970: \$200 approved to draw up articles of incorporation for proposed community foundation

Mar 17, 1970: Approved the cost to send Vice-President Frank Braman to Rotary International convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Braman and Wally Cramer appointed as official club delegates to convention.

Apr 13, 1970: Club dues raised from \$30



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to \$40 per year. Club gave \$300 to underwrite cost to send up to 10 crippled children to Camp Grace Bentley.  
May 11, 1970: Club endorsed Bay City school millage proposal.

**1971** No report.

## 1972

On Feb 28, 1972, two members, Frank Learman and Fred Fenske, to celebrate 50 years of club membership. Plaques to be presented.

Feb 7, 1972: Voted to develop a youth leadership camp. Voted to sponsor 7 boys to the leadership camp on March 21, 1972.

Nov 13, 1972: RI has new Youth Exchange program that club will participate in. First exchange student will be Al Gordon from South Africa.

Dec 11, 1972: Carl Hendershot to finish the term of Secretary Milster who served as club secretary longer than anyone to date.

## 1973

April 9, 1973: Declared "Art Milster Day." Notification that group study exchange team from Japan to visit in October.

May 7, 1973: The club newsletter, The Breezes, won first place at the District Conference. Editor is Ron Fuller.

June 4, 1973: Club sponsored 6 students to Rotary leadership seminar at Camp Rotary.

Dec 11, 1973: During this year, proposed club members were required to appear before the Board of Directors at which time benefits and obligations were discussed with them.

## 1974

Jan 8, 1974: A joint meeting of local service clubs was held at the Wenonah Hotel for the dedication of the new Chamber of Commerce office.

Feb 12, 1974: Received a capital improvement request for the Boys Club of \$3,000 to be paid over 3 years.

Ladies Night continued to be a popular event in 1974.

May 14, 1974: Up to 7 youths approved for leadership seminar at Camp Rotary.

Embarrassment to club concerning foreign scholarship criteria resulted in President Alan Moore and John Willertz flying to RI head-quarters to express the club's concerns. The problem may rest with the district selection committee.

Oct 8, 1974: Announcement that Rotary International President William Robbins is to visit the Bay City club on Nov 13, 1974.

Nov 8, 1974: F.E. Charipar to be the next Paul Harris Fellow awardee.

## 1975

May 13, 1975: 8 boys sent to leadership seminar at Camp Rotary. The Breezes again named top newsletter at the District Conference [Ron Fuller, ed.]

Sept 9, 1975: Special projects receipts and funds for Rotary International are now to go to support special and exceptional children in our community.

New member nominees now to be referred to a classification committee.

## 1976

Jan 13, 1976: A radio auction fundraiser was to be held but was cancelled for lack of volunteers.

Feb 1976: Swim meet project cancelled for lack of enough volunteers and poor prospect for raising funds. [YMCA swimmers to fill in.]

April 13, 1976: Howard Bidwell nominated for Carl Weber Award for outstanding community service. Club decided to support Bob Luce's proposal to support a program for shut-ins operated by the Michigan Vocational Rehab Commission.

June 8, 1976: Club will host an English exchange student.

Sept 9, 1976: Club provided \$300 to YMCA camp fund for special children. Club decided not to participate in the student exchange program next year due to club apathy.

Dec 14, 1976: Rotary Christmas Party for handicapped children scheduled later this month.

## 1977

Feb 8, 1977: Club pledged \$1,000 for brochures to promote a joint YMCA-YWCA camping program.

April 5, 1977: Bob Shearer selected for next RI Paul Harris Sustaining Fellow membership.

June 23, 1977: Sarah Goddeyne and Rodney Lambert were recommended by District 631 for RI graduate fellowships.

Dec 10, 1977: Due to fire at Wenonah Hotel, Rotary Club moved its meetings to the YMCA. A committee was to research other locations.

## 1978

March 14, 1978: Rotary board meetings moved from Mercy Hospital to Bay Medical Center.

April 1978: GSE team from India visited district.

July 1, 1978: Treasurer report that \$4,600 had been spent for charitable purposes [\$1,225 to RI, \$300 for crippled children's party, and \$2,800 for special events & projects].

Aug 8, 1978: During the 1977-78 year, 6 members were lost and 14 new members added. Budget for 1978-79 was \$17,301.

Oct 10, 1978: Paul Harris Fellow awarded to LeRoy Engelhardt. Report given that Pancake Breakfast netted \$2,073.

Nov 14, 1978: Board passed resolution that "the present rules of membership in Rotary be continued and the by-laws remain unchanged" [and] "we love women and support their ventures, but....."

Dec 12, 1978: Campaign to nominate John Noell for District Governor set in motion. \$300 provided for effort. \$150 paid to RI for Paul Harris Fellow sustaining membership for Harry Farris.

## 1979

Feb 2, 1979: Secretary reported that Spanish versions of the Rotarian Magazine are being supplied to area colleges and high schools.

May 8, 1979: Board authorized \$3,500 for the "River [Waterfront] Beautification Program."

July 10, 1979: Club's noon meetings to be held at Bob Hart's Washington Place.

Oct 9, 1979: Board approved continued support of one child under the Foster Parents Program. The child involved



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resided in Nicaragua. The cost was \$19 per month.

Oct 9, 1979: Board voted to commit \$4,500 to the historical project known as Center House or Trombley House—the oldest house in Bay City. The project is to be a gift to the community.

Nov 13, 1979: Paul Harris Fellow sustaining memberships approved for Lorne Meisel and Carl Hendershot.

1980 Pancake Breakfast held May 4, 1980, netted \$1,500. Tickets were \$3.00 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

## 1981

Club reported 116 members. 18 new members added since 7/1/80.

April 14, 1981: Hosted 6 GSE team members from Argentina.

May 3, 1981: 754 persons served at Pancake Breakfast held at Boys Club.

Approved sending 11 students to Youth Leadership Week at Camp Rotary.

Dec 8, 1981: Carlton Lockwood named Paul Harris Fellow with \$1,000 donation to RI.

Dec 6, 1981: 606 persons served at Pancake Breakfast held at Boys Club. Net income later set at \$924.

December 1981: Rotary Club given award by the Bay County Board of Commissioners for the key role it played in the Trombley House Historical Project. [NOTE: House moved from its original location at Water & 24th Street to new site in Veterans Park near Community Center.]

## 1982

Jan 6, 1982: Bay City Rotary Club's Crippled Children's Christmas Party project is mentioned in the December 1981 edition of the Rotarian Magazine.

Feb 2, 1982: 6 subscriptions renewed to Spanish language Revista Rotaria for placement in local colleges and high schools. Paul Harris Fellow for John Noell approved, with \$1,000 sent to RI.

April 13, 1982: RI notified Bay City Rotary Club that it is now a "2000% Club", that is, the club has supported the RI fund to the tune of \$19,000 to date.

June 15, 1982: Ron Fuller commended for his 10 years of faithful service as editor of The Breezes.

## 1983

1983 June 14, 1983: George Heron, new executive director of the United Way of Bay County, transferred from the Rotary Club of Barberton, Ohio.

Sept 13, 1983: Jack Shaw proposed a local heritage project called "The Spirit of Bay City" which would involve the construction of a 100-foot lumber schooner similar to those built 100 years ago, as a focal point for local tourism.

The proposal was enthusiastically received and further development encouraged.

Oct 11, 1983: Voted to support the Olympic training of Kim Klein [in 1984] and Walter Rheames [in 1986], with total amount not to exceed \$400.

Nov 8, 1983: Voted to contribute \$200 toward the cost of erecting a flagpole at Bay Area Chamber of Commerce headquarters, with a plaque honoring Frank Braman, Chamber executive director, who died recently.

## 1984

Feb 14, 1984: Approved a donation of \$3,850 for a Junior Achievement Project to promote the understanding and teaching of the free enterprise system to youth of the area.

## 1985

June 11, 1985: Rotarian Magazine article "Why Men Leave Rotary" discussed.

Sept 10, 1985: Harry Farris named Captain of the Rotary bowling team.

## 1986

Jan 14, 1986: Harlon McMillian resigns from club for job reasons.

March 11, 1986: Richard VanAkker elected president for 1986-87.

## 1987

June 4, 1987: Pledged \$50,000 for Polio Plus. [First proposal was to pledge only \$15,000. The club ended up raising over \$60,000.]

July 14, 1987: First appearance of women in Rotary International. Club received a Presidential Citation for the year 1986-87 when Jim Griffiths was club president.

Aug 11, 1987: Club continued to sponsor foster child in Ecuador. Club established a new member orientation program.

Oct 13, 1987: New guidelines established for "community charity on request" activity.

Nov 10, 1987: Club members recognized for 50 years of service [Al Eurich] and 52 years of service [George Anderson]. Previous 50 year recognitions had been given to Art Milster, Jim Risser, Vern Selden. Christmas party for handicapped children scheduled for Dec 22, 1987.

## 1988

Jan 12, 1988: \$750 approved for scholarships for Leadership Bay County, for Rotarians who could not afford the cost of the program.

Jan 10, 1988: Article in Bay City Times discussed the club's success in raising funds for Polio Plus.

Feb 9, 1988: Question raised about Rotarians' membership in other service clubs. Rotary policy discourages such memberships but does not prohibit them.

Mar 9, 1988: Club to send between 10 and 14 high school students to Camp Rotary Leadership Seminar. The idea of having women in Rotary was raised again. No action was taken other than to suggest that a "logical and harmonious approach is to be encouraged."

May 10, 1988: President Dick Van Akker read a letter to the membership from the Rotary International President about having women in Rotary.

## 1989

April 24, 1989: Rotary International acknowledges that the Bay City Rotary Club encompasses all of Bay County, not just Bay City.

August 8, 1989: Ruth Jaffe elected a new member with the classification "Professional Volunteer."

Dec 12, 1989: Copy of a document showing the territory granted to the Bay City Rotary Club upon being granted its charter on January 1, 1915, was presented to the board.



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## 1990

April 25, 1990: Club's 75th anniversary celebration held at Bay City Country Club.

July 10, 1990: Meeting bell and check given to the new Bay City Morning Rotary Club.

## 1991

Sept 10, 1991: Board authorized expenditure of \$500 for electronic keyboard to use at meetings as per request from Richard Kullberg.

Nov 12, 1991: Report given showing \$52,140 of a total pledge of \$56,655 for Polio Plus had been collected from club members.

## 1992

May 12, 1992: Keith Markstrom reported success in shipping medical equipment to a hospital in Turkey with help from the Morning Club and U.S. AID.

Dec 8, 1992: Board authorized establishment of a Rotary Club of Bay City Fund within the Bay Area Community Foundation with an initial contribution of \$10,000. [NOTE: A committee later determined the proposed BACF affiliation was not appropriate.]

## 1993

March 11, 1993: Board authorized \$2,000 for transportation costs to send a Bay City woman to New York for life-saving surgery under the "Gift of Life" program.

July 13, 1993: Jerry Woodcock described a special event to be held at Bay Valley Inn featuring Italian, French, German and American cuisine, to raise money for major projects, to be held Sept 8, 1993. [NOTE: This was the first "International Night" fundraiser.]

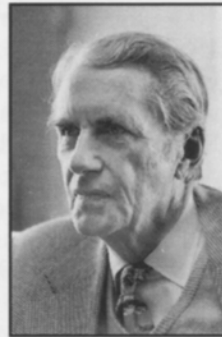
## 1994

July 12, 1994: Board noted that member Ron McGillivray had been a Rotarian for 50 years.

July 12th: It was noted that Brazilian students would visit club soon. "Reserve Fund Policy" established for contributions into the Major Projects Fund.

Sept 13, 1994: "Memorials Policy" approved.

Dec 13, 1994: Report given on upcoming GSE team visit from the Philippines, scheduled for April 1995.  
Dec 13th: "Strategic Plan 1994" approved.



Ron McGillivray

## 1995

Feb 24, 1995: Club celebrates 90th anniversary of founding of Rotary. "Living Mannequins" photo appears in Bay City Times.  
April 28, 1995: News article "Philippines Guests meet Mayor" was discussed concerning recent visit by GSE team to Bay City.

May 30, 1995: Certificate presented on club participation in recent "Paint-N-Pride" activity. [NOTE: Club members worked with other local organizations to paint and do minor repairs on homes in a Bay City neighborhood.]

May 1995: Discussed "Immunize Every Child" campaign jointly sponsored by Bay County Health Dept, Rotary and Kiwanis.

## 1996

Dec 21, 1996: Speed Charipar appeared on the cover of the "Town Crier."

November 1996: A historical committee was appointed with the objective of developing a written history of the Bay City Rotary Club. Members: Speed Charipar, Carl Lockwood, Carl Hendershot, and Larry Cook.

## 1997

March 11, 1997: Approval of the Bay County Library System's proposal [to fund the position of Youth Outreach Librarian] given at Club Forum.

[NOTE: This was the club's first five-year Major Project.]

April 1997: Information provided about the French GSE team.

July 1997: Discussion of the \$3,500 donated by the club to help construct the Castle and the "Imagination Station" in Veterans Park.

October 1997: Discussion of International Night program and Bay City Times article on same dated 10/6/97.

## 1998

March 1998: The Breezes and Bay City Times report the death of long-Time Rotary Club member Speed Charipar.

May 1998: Bay City Times article about "Polio Plus" and information on GSE team from India visiting Bay City.

*Common themes running through meeting minutes, which tie nicely into the four avenues of Rotary service [club, community, international, vocational]:*

1. The club was always active in promoting local programs to benefit young people, like sending children to summer camp, holding activities for disabled children, sponsoring youth exchanges, subsidizing a youth librarian, etc.
2. The club supported many local community activities by giving money to projects like war memorials, Carroll Park, YMCA, Trombley House, etc.
3. The club supported Rotary International projects, like Polio Plus, Paul Harris fellowships for members, Group Study Exchange, etc.
4. The club has been active in supporting other clubs in the district and in attempting to establish new clubs.
5. The club has supported many vocational activities, like career days, Rotary leadership camp, Leadership Bay County, etc



P.G. Wahlstrom was longtime chaplain of the Rotary club.



# Trombley House Floats to Park



October 21, 1981 was an important day for the Bay City Noon Rotary Club as representatives watched the Trombley/Centre House ply the water of the Saginaw River aboard the barge "Helen" owned by William Stender Mal-Marine. The short but exciting journey marked a milestone in a lengthy project that involved the Club, the Historical Society and the Chamber of Commerce.

The project unfolded years earlier when Rotary President Kyle Haselden, Historical Society President Mary Smith and Chamber President Frank Braman put together a plan that would preserve the

very cornerstone of historic Bay City. This effort would require moving this significant structure from its 24th and Water Street corner to a new location in Veterans Memorial Park.

Although the actual distance was not extensive, the necessary groundwork was. The initial project planning began in 1979. Planning required the participation of the City of Bay City including the Crump Street "right-of-way closure" and site arrangements in Veterans Memorial Park. Necessary funding was arranged by Bay City Noon Rotary and the Kantzler Foundation along with other assistance

from the Historical Society for the move. Laracey Brothers executed the move and an archeological excavation completed by Dr. Earl Prah met additional preparation requirements of the State.

As a Rotary major project, moving the 146 year old historic Greek Revival Trombley House in 1981 was certainly spectacular. Haselden and other Task Force members were aboard the "Helen" as the barge moved slowly and cautiously down river through the open spans of the Lafayette Bridge and onto the pages of history.

*Gay McInerney*

*100 Years*

## Rotary Club Resolution Supporting Trombley House

**Whereas** the Rotary Club of Bay City has instructed a task force to pursue a project to secure Center House, Bay City's original residence and business establishment, for the purpose of preserving said building for historic purposes, and,

**Whereas** said Trombley House may be used as an extension of the Bay County Museum System, and as a learning project in living history, and,

**Whereas** the Rotary Club by unanimous voice vote, agreed to pursue said project on a long-term basis as a gift to the community, and,

**Whereas** it now seems reasonable that through cooperative efforts with certain other community organizations said project can be a reality.

**Therefore** be it resolved that the Rotary Club of Bay City does pledge \$4,500 to the Trombley House Project to be matched by certain grants for the purpose of securing, renovating, preserving and maintaining the Trombley House for the purposes outlined above, and as an extension of the Bay County Museum, with said funds to be committed only upon the certainty that pledges, permissions, and systems for said project can be assured. Resolution to be in effect for length of option (October 1, 1981)



# Rotary Raised Initial Funds for Today's Disability Services Resource Center

The Disability Services Resource Center, a non-profit organization with offices at 1820 N. Trumbull Drive, began in 1933 as the Bay County Chapter of the Michigan Society for Crippled Children.

"The Bay City Rotary Club primarily did the fundraising," states the organization's history. "Most of its proceeds were forwarded to the state organization."

The local chapter, under the direction of Dr. L. Fernald Foster, president, and Dr. George M. Brown, campaign chairman, allocated the rest. In 1940 Dr. Brown became the chair of the Rotary Club Crippled Children Committee and also assumed directorship of the Easter Seals Society.

In 1971 the agency affiliated with Easter Seals and combined efforts with the original society. In 1980 the agency became known as the Bay County Society for Crippled Children and Adults, with Alice Rentjos as executive director.

Beth A. Dow is the current executive director and the mission of the agency is "to serve Bay County residents who have permanent or temporary physical disabilities. The group's volunteer and recruiting slogan is "Help Us Help Others."



*In the mid-1950s the Rotary Club of Bay City began sponsoring the placing of ducks in the pond at Carroll Park. Placing their web-footed friends at the start of the park's 1961 "duck season," are, from left, Rotarians Art Milster, Ping McKay, Bob Shearer and Rev. Win Stoerker.*

*Photo from archives of the Bay County Historical Society*

## Famed Rotary Club Bowling Team Rolled in the '60s

The Bay City Rotary Club joined the Exchange Club, Jaycees, Kiwanis and the Noon Optimist Club to form the Interservice Bowling League, which started in 1963. We bowled at the Monitor Bowling Lanes. There were eight teams in the league with some of the clubs sponsoring two teams. Our one bowling team at that time included Butch Engelhardt, Howard Bidwell, Charles McNay, John Noell, Harry Farris, Buck Antle, Bob Luce and Jerry Lewless. We started bowling in the nine o'clock shift and then went to a six o'clock start. This gave us time for good fellowship with members of other teams after bowling. Engelhardt, Farris, Luce and Lewless usually played euchre at that time.

Rotary sponsored another team in the late sixties when one of the other clubs dropped out. This team included Bob Luce, Rick Nelsen, Walt Fitzhugh, Mark Jaffe, Kamel Sams, Fred Meyers, Gary Pogue and David Mikolajczak. After about ten years Rotary went back to one team in the league. Good times were had by all and Bidwell and Farris came up with a traveling bowling pin for the lowest score in any game. Several men captured this award with the last recipient being Rick Nelsen with a score of 89 pins.

The Bay City Rotary Club also sent a team to the State Rotary Bowling Tournament, which was held yearly in other Rotary cities. Although we didn't win any prizes we had a great time with other Rotary members. The interservice teams had an annual banquet each year at which prizes and awards were presented to members and teams. Our team won various awards in different years and in 1989 we won the league championship with the help of Rick Nelsen who bowled 50 pins over his average. Jerry Lewless bowled a game of 287 in 1970, winning high game, high game with handicap and received the ABC Award for bowling 100 pins over his average of 165. The interservice league was disbanded in 1999 due to lack of teams as many teams were having problems getting bowlers.

*Bob Luce*



# 100 Years



*Nancy Cusick administers  
Polio Vaccine to African child*



*PDG Jerome Yantz honored by district  
youth exchange chair Dave Smith of Midland*



*Rob Clark, wife Claire and son Owen,  
6 months, youngest to attend a Rotary meeting here*



*Bay Area Convention &  
Visitors Bureau Director  
Shirley Roberts takes the podium*



*Rotarians join the crowd applauding  
the downtown "Waterfall Park"*



# Service Above Self



*Jim Griffiths, past president, returns to recall the admission of women to the club in 1989*



*Rotarians make telephone calls for Delta College Channel 19*



*Pancakes Were Us: Don Anker, Kathy Czerwinski and Deb Davenport in aprons*



*Nancy Cusick explains the volunteer international Polio Plus campaign*

**LADIES' NITE**  
**BAY CITY ROTARY CLUB**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 1944, AT 6:30 P. M.**  
 At Wenonah Hotel  
**SPEAKER: DR. HANS LEONHARDT**  
 PRESIDENT OF SENATE OF FREE CITY OF DANTZIG, UP TO  
 HITLER'S TAKING OVER  
 Price, \$2.00 per person