

Established 1921

Incorporated 1929

Officers of Camp Rotary, Inc.

1949

President Charles W. Harwood
Executive Vice-President . Richard P. Breed
Vice-President . . Charles G. Woodbridge
Treasurer and Clerk . . Earl M. Lawrence



DIRECTORS

J. Warren Anthony
H. Allen Durkee
Percy C. Hicks
Harry E. Whitten
L. Henry Whittredge



INCORPORATORS

John L. Bradford
Frederick E. Bowers
Herbert O. Bunting
James A. Cook
J. Harold Evers
Ira Haskell
Percy C. Hicks
S. Abbott Hutchinson
Lionel V. MacDuff
John Sheehan
Frederick T. Weed
Fred H. Whittier

ROTARY CLUB

OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

July 1, 1948 to July 1, 1949

President FREDERICK E. BOWERS
1st Vice-President . RAYMOND E. H. PRESTON
2nd Vice-President . . GARFIELD MORGAN
Secretary EARL M. LAWRENCE
Treasurer RALPH H. ILLINGWORTH

DIRECTORS

HAROLD E. AYER
IRVING R. BEANE
JOSEPH J. DALFY
JOHN J. DEVLIN
ROGER S. HASKELL
PERCY C. HICKS
S. ABBOTT HUTCHINSON
ERNEST STEPHENS
HARRY E. WHITTEN

THE BIRTH OF CAMP ROTARY

It is a pleasure to tell the new members of the Club about the birth of Camp Rotary, and in order to do this we will turn the calendar back to April and May of 1921.

At that time the Young Men's Christian Association was debating the advisability of procuring a camp site for boys in order to expand their activities.

Herb Smith, a past President of this Club and Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. was enthusiastically in favor of a camp and persuaded some of our members to join forces with the Y. M. C. A. in this project, the Club to purchase and own a camp site and lease the same to the Young Men's Christian Association for them to carry on the activities of running a summer camp for boys.

This proposition was favorably received by the members of our Club, therefore, Earl Lawrence and Charlie Woodbridge went scouting for such a camp site and found a tract of 48 acres of land in West Boxford, Mass., bordering on Stiles Pond and owned by a man by the name of Hopping, which could be purchased for the sum of \$3,000. Earl conveyed his findings to the Board of Directors and subsequently, at a meeting of the Board held April 18, 1921, it was

VOTED: "That the Board of Directors recommend to the members of the Club that this tract of land bordering on Stiles Pond in West Boxford, Mass., be purchased for the purpose of establishing a boys' camp to be conducted under the management of the Lynn Young Men's Christian Association", and at a regular weekly luncheon of the Club held April 21, 1921, it was voted "To accept the recommendation of the Board of Directors and purchase this tract of land. The question of administering the camp through the Lynn Young Men's Christian Association or any other agency be left to the Board of Directors with power."

The following week at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Club held April 28, 1921, it was

VOTED: "To recommend to members of the Club that a Board of Trustees, five in number, be chosen whose duties it shall be to administer the affairs of the boys' camp for the Club with full powers as to lease and maintenance." Also "That ten members be selected by the Board of Directors to be voted upon by the Club, the five receiving the largest number of votes to serve as Trustees of the boys' camp."

At the next weekly luncheon of the Club held May 3, 1921, the recommendation of the Board of Directors placing the management of the boys' camp in the hands of a Board of Trustees was adopted.

As a result of the election which followed, Charles G. Woodbridge and Earl M. Lawrence were elected to serve for three years; Charles W. Harwood and Henry W. Pelton to serve for two years, and Charles H. Hastings to serve for one year.

The newly elected Trustees then organized and Henry Pelton was chosen chairman of the Board and a lease executed to the Y. M. C. A. for a term of five years at \$1.00 per year, the property to be occupied for a boys' camp during the months of June, July and August, to be operated by the Y. M. C. A.

Maurice Stevens was president of the Club at that time and requested twelve members by name to remain after the meeting to discuss a problem. The topic referred to was to find ways and means of paying for this camp site and after discussion, each of the twelve members present pledged \$100.00 to be used for a down payment and Earl Lawrence and Charlie Woodbridge were instructed to consummate the deal which was immediately done.

The Club was only three years old at that time and surplus funds were not at hand, but notwithstanding this fact, it was but a short time before the entire amount of \$3,000.00 had been raised and the camp paid for, and thus Camp Rotary was born.

At the time the property was purchased it comprised about 48 acres of scrub land including a small camp on the shore of the pond, which was later converted into the present Arts and Crafts Building. The entrance to the property was over a winding, rutty cart path extending about three quarters of a mile and flanked on either side by scrub bushes, the road terminating at an elevation overlooking a very pretty sheet of water (Stiles Pond), and although all of the timber had been cut and sold leaving stumps, bushes, boulders and ledges, the possibility of making this property very desirable and attractive was apparent.

The first major problem for the Trustees was to make the road to the pond passable, which was accomplished through the generosity of Sam Fisher, one of our members, who donated \$1,000, the total cost of this improvement. The road was promptly dedicated to Sam and bears the name of "Fisher Road."

A camp site was picked out by the Y. M. C. A. and tents erected, some equipment installed, a bus and boats purchased, all in time for the opening of the summer season of 1921.

In the years following to date, by voluntary contributions by the Club members and Club budget, by profit from entertainment of various kinds and also by contributions of interested people of the community and friends of the Y. M. C. A., considerable money has been made available for developments.

The property now comprising 48 acres of well wooded land has a dining or recreation

hall, an arts and crafts building, an administration building, a hostess lodge given by the Women of Rotary, a directors' lodge, given by Ernest Chandler in memory of his father, twenty camping lodges for boys and counselors, a hospital building, a sanitary toilet system, its own water system through driven wells, drinking fountains, piers on the waterfront, a fine entrance gate and many incidental refinements including a fine black road built from donations given by members of the Club and friends. ~~The total investment at this time, including land,~~ buildings and equipment owned by the Lynn Rotary Club is approximately \$50,000.

In 1929 it was thought wise to incorporate the camp as Camp Rotary, Inc., of Lynn, Mass., under the laws of Massachusetts as a one hundred per cent charitable enterprise of the Lynn Rotary Club, thus eliminating all town, state and federal taxes, its affairs being placed in the hands of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer and five directors. The duties of these officers and directors in addition to keeping the property in first class condition is in taking care of the continued developments and improvements of the camp, in co-operation with the Y. M. C. A.

Each year a group of underprivileged boys of the community enjoy the privileges of the camp as guests of Rotarians who voluntarily contribute to a fund for this purpose, the average amount over a period of years being about \$2,000 per year.

This contribution to the welfare of youth of greater Lynn through the ownership of Camp Rotary by our Club and the outstanding moral influence and physical training given by the Young Men's Christian Association in its operation of the camp has paid splendid dividends in the upbuilding of good citizenship of hundreds of underprivileged boys of Greater Lynn who otherwise could not have attended camp. This is a fact of which our members should be justly proud.



In case of absence from meetings, attendance may be made up at one of the following nearby clubs.

Monday

Danvers . . .	12:15	Masonic Temple
Peabody . . .	12:15	Masonic Hall
Reading . . .	12:15	Rotary Hall
Winthrop . . .	12:15	Beacon Villa Hotel

Tuesday

Chelsea . . .	12:15	Y. M. C. A.
Salon . . .	12:15	Hawthorne Hotel
Wakefield . . .	12:15	Y. M. C. A.
Revere . . .	12:15	Paul Roger House

Wednesday

Boston . . .	12:30	Hotel Statler
Malden . . .	12:15	Rotary Hall
Swampscott . . .	12:15	Hawthorne-by-the-Sea

Thursday

Beverly . . .	12:15	Y. M. C. A.
Cambridge . . .	12:15	Commander Hotel
Marblehead . . .	12:15	American Legion Hall