



Selected Past KWD Rotary Presidents



Fred Howell

1925 - Fred Howell was the first President of Kirkwood Rotary. He spent six (6) years with Queen Victoria's Royal Marines and sailed the empire on a wooden ship.



Tim Carrabine

Rode with horse cavalry (1912) into Mexico after Pancho Villa under the command of Jack Pershing.



Bill Berry

Infantry officer in WWI and saw action at the battles of San Mihiel and the Argonne Forest (Kirkwood's Main Street was renamed for this battle). He was an avid golfer and lucky enough to have 7 holes-in-one during his lifetime.



Mack Yates

Pre WWII, he joined the Flying Tigers as a mercenary. The Flying Tigers were based in China and flew missions against Japan. He later had the Yates Ford dealership in Kirkwood.



Ed Smith

During WWII, serving in the Army, South Pacific, 11th Airborne, his first parachute jump ever was a combat jump. He retired as a Brigadier General.



Beecher Henderson

Club President 1970. During WWII he spent three (3) years on the destroyer Phelps and performed Atlantic convoy duty, participated in five (5) Pacific island invasions and learned at his 30-year reunion that seven (7) of his crew had become admirals.



Gene Fehlig

Club President in 1978. If you saw the first minutes of "Saving Private Ryan" you can visualize Gene's experience as a member of the first wave at Omaha Beach on D-Day. Gene earned a Purple Heart, a Silver Star and a year in the hospital. He was a 4x MO State HS golf champion and later the captain of the Notre Dame golf team.



Vince Henry

Club President in 1968, during WWII he was a belly gunner in a B-24 and flew 50 combat missions, 5 of the 7 raids on Nazi oil fields at Ploesti, Romania flying at tree-top level (the crews on these raids earned five (5) Congressional Medal of Honors), a 14-hour mission from Libya.



Tom Phillips

Club President in 1987. He was an Infantry Officer in Korea, participated in the Battle of Pork Chop Hill, a back-and-forth battle with the Chinese and had his position overrun. Two (2) Medals of Honor awarded to troops during this battle. The movie, MacArthur starring Gregory Peck incorporated this battle.



Russ Patton

Club President, Ballwin Rotary. Served in Vietnam and participated in the Tet Offensive.



Bob Miller

Club President. A Vietnam Infantry officer participated in the Tet Offensive.