

## ROTARIANS IN ACTION



**"BILL" GLASS**

. . . Telling how he helped Henry M. Flagler build the overseas railroad to Key West . . .  
Commander Carl Abel and his celebrated lecture on the love life of arctic seals.



**DR. BILL MILLER**

Rotarians are a gregarious lot. And they like to travel. The above pictures of "Bill" Miller show him on Safari in Kenya, Africa in 1959. In four trips he has acquired four World Records. Today, he is more active with cameras than with guns. A new hobby is collecting, polishing and mounting precious and semi-precious stones.



**"BIG JOHN" MONAHAN**

Martin County, in late April, 1965, wants to name a bridge over state highway 710 over the Saint Lucie called the "Big John" Monahan Bridge in honor of Fort Lauderdale's distinguished member of the Florida State Road Department.

*See Big John's namesake, BIG JOHN the alligator  
on back page*

## 40th ANNIVERSARY



Starting at right Earl O. Shreve, Wm. A. Glass, Pres. 1929-30; Jack B. Fannin, Pres. 1934-35; Howard Pierce, Pres. 1942-43; Carlyle Sweet, Pres. 1944-45; Alonzo Putnam, Pres. 1948-49; E. Thos. Wilburn, Pres. 1949-50; W. J. Eastman, Pres. 1935-36, can be seen between Fannin and Pierce.



Starting at left Thom. Cook, Pres. 1960-61; Wm. B. Hulett, Pres. 1959-60; Ernest N. Orr, Pres. 1958-59; Grant L. Clarke, Pres. 1957-58; F. Peter Clements, Pres. 1955-56; Harlow Davock, Pres. 1954-55; Richard W. Ward, Pres. 1953-54; C. L. Pierce, Pres. 1950-51; J. Clark Work.

# 40th ANNIVERSARY



Widows of Charter Rotarians, Mrs. M. A. Hortt and Mrs. D. D. Oliver, with August Burghard and President Wm. Burke.

## MEMBERS OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE



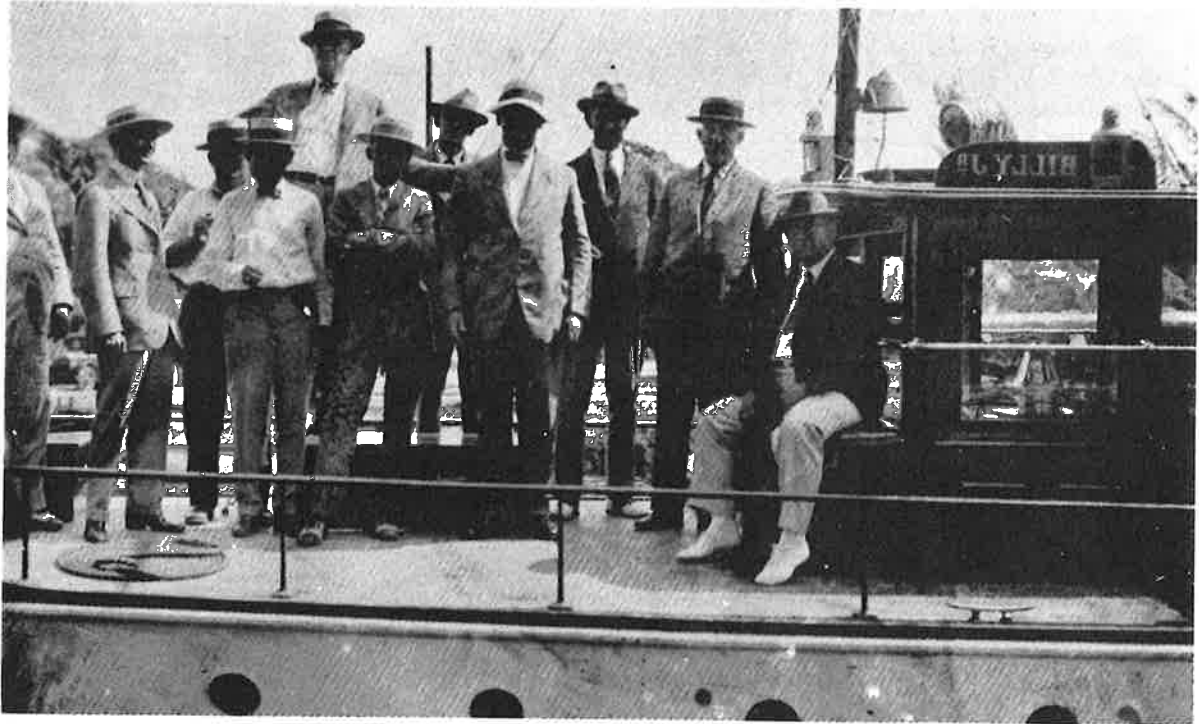
Andy Musselman



Leigh F. Robinson

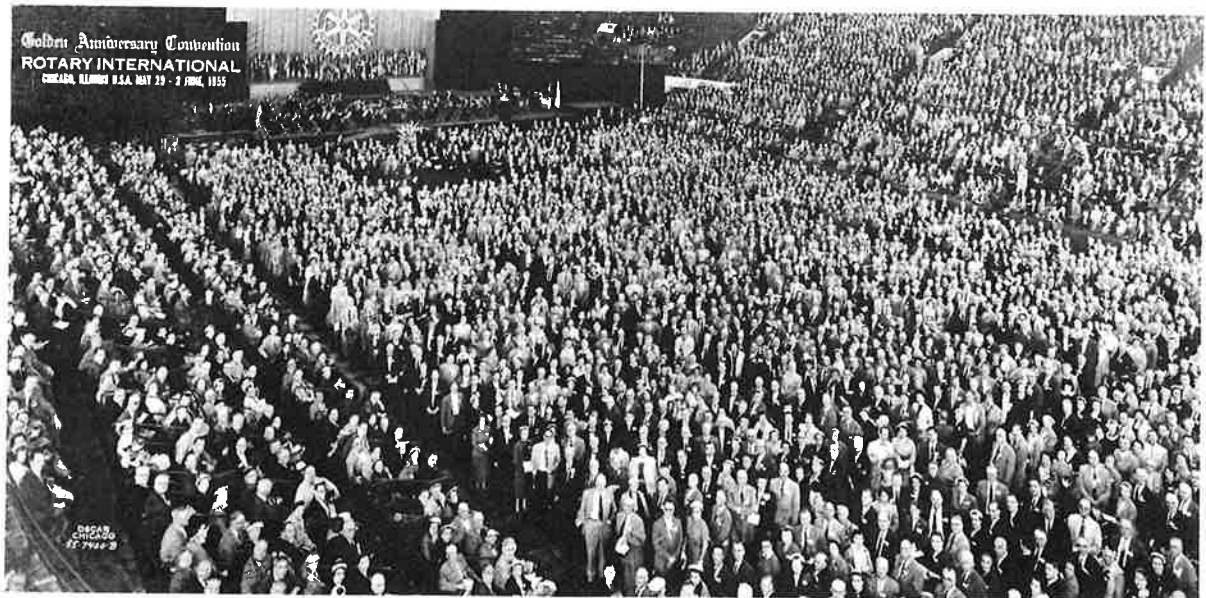
# VIGNETTES

## GALLERY OF ROTARY MEMORIES



William C. Kyle's yacht, the Billy, Jr. Standing highest is John D. Sherwin.

From left, standing, Blanchard J. Horne, first paid city manager. Also pictured are Ralph J. Blank, Russell G. Snow and Horace Stilwell, one time publisher of the Ft. Lauderdale News. The yacht was badly damaged in the 1926 storm.



**GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION**  
Chicago, May 29 - June 2, 1955

Accompanying this postcard picture of the thousands at Chicago, addressed to the 1090 Club Secretary was the following saucy message:

"Dear Dallas: Here we are just as plain as can be. Pete Clements, the Howard Jelks, "Doc" Hansen, Grant Clark, Ed R. Johnson." A. B.

(Ed. Note: Finding any individual in that mass of humanity would be like selecting an individual grain of corn in a 50-lb. sack!)

# VIGNETTES

## Development of the Individual Rotarian

The long-time theme of Club 1090 has been the development of the individuals who make up the club . . . They are exposed to community and civic needs and work . . . Their horizons are broadened . . . During the last war we conducted classes in public speaking . . . The club is a training ground in leadership . . .

The presidency of Club 1090 is one of the most important civic jobs in South Florida . . .

Issues of the Tarpon reflect continuously the interest of the club in its members, and in what they are doing.

Issue of June, 1939: Harold Bache becomes Tarpon editor.

The club dined Tuesday at the new Floyd L. Wray citrus packing plant and heard Nathan Mayo, State Commissioner of Agriculture.

Charlie Johnson, Salvation Army, promoted to Lakeland.

Jack McDonald is back at his Coca-Cola plant.

Commodore Brook drew "The-Men-Who-Make-Florida" accolade Sunday.

Dallas and Clara Swindle celebrated their silver anniversary.

Ted Thompson lost his airplane.

Al McMillan's Rotaryann Mae expands her school into magnificent Pinecrest.

Sept., 1945: President Harry Randel announced that Pompano and Hollywood would be guests of 1090. A former Jap prisoner, W. R. Willis, WGBS, speaks. Our own Justine Tigert will sing.

Pres. Randel and Fred Roath were real professionals as they imitated the voices of Gabriel Heater and the "March of Time."

Bill Groene builds Boy Scout cabins for Ed Downey.

Champ Carr is president of the Hotel Association.

Harold Franks hasn't missed a football game in 42 years.

What ever became of "Ham" Forman?

Jim Camp and Bill McEachern are getting ready for another Victory Loan Drive.

Geo. Reed, king of Las Olas, awaits cooler weather to resume his golfing.

Roy E. Hope promoted to Lieutenant Commander.

June, 1946: Associate Editor John D. Pennekamp presented the advantages of the Everglades National Park in a forceful, interesting manner.

Two father-son combinations set up: George Reed and George, Jr. and Dave Oliver, senior and junior.

Rex Bassett manufactures electronic equipment for the war effort.

The Girl Scouts need office space. Contact Ray Whyte.

August 15 meeting called off because of Victory over Japan celebration.

Grandest Ladies Night at Lauderdale Beach Hotel.

Special Mention (by Pres. Randel) for outstanding services: Bob Davis, Earl Halsey, Berkey Jones, Ed R. Johnson, Tom Levidiotis, Howard Pierce, Bob Roberts, Dr. J. B. Robertson and Arthur Stone.

Nov., 1946: Doug Handley, a "Vulture for Culture," has the program.

Geo. W. English, Jr. and his War Planning Commission-are getting under way.

June 1946: Paul Meyers, the Standard Oil representative, takes over as president.

Bill Ketchin, Sr. is in Cuba.

Deepest sympathy of the club goes to Bob Wolfe, who lost his brother.

Howard Pierce's son, Billy, is third ranking honor student at local school . . . a chip off the old block!

## ROTARY AND RADIO



REGGIE MARTIN

WALTER B. DUNN: (1961)

"WFTL was originally owned by Gene Dyer of Chicago, who took it over immediately following the war, late 1944-45. WFTL started on a houseboat. The first manager was Reginald (Reggie) Martin — a Rotarian.

"The original WFTL is now WGBS in Miami, Radio 710. That WFTL had nothing to do with the present WFTL but kept the same call letters.

"The studio was situated in what later became the Radio Night Club and still later — as of this date is the REEF Restaurant. The tower was located where the present Broward International Airport take-off runway is now. It was relocated when the airport went in — on Route 84, four miles west of State Road 7, and is now the FCC monitoring and listening station.

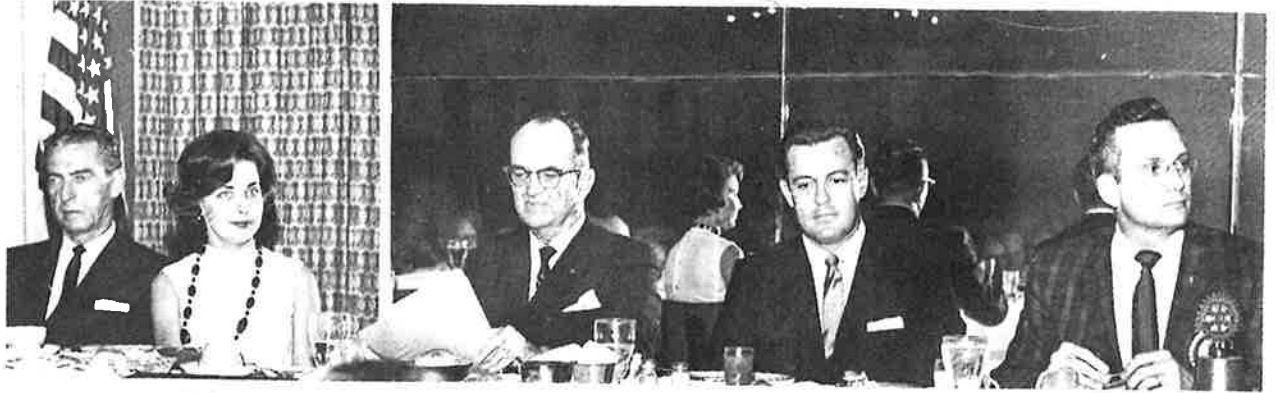
"The hurricane sometime between 1941-45 destroyed the WGBS tower and they moved into Miami.

"Gene Dyer, Congressman Dwight Rogers, owned original WFTL, and Reggie Martin was part-owner-manager. They operated it one and one-half or two years when Governor Gore bought it for something like \$150,000 (1947). Gore had an application for FM and was granted WGOR-FM which he opened at Radio Center with studios on third floor — combined with Wft.L-AM. Bob Standart\* came up to Fort Lauderdale from WBAY (1490) Coral Gables, as manager. Martin was then a member of Rotary and introduced Standart who joined when Martin left (about 1949-50). He read newscasts at Rotary every noon on the PA system — local news, weather, etc. Standart left Wft.L 1950-51, followed by Fitz Gore, then Bob Bowles, and Dunn-Amaturo.

"Wft.L resumed reading newscasts at luncheon in 1960. Dunn joined Rotary in November of 1959. Besides Downtown Rotary, Wft.L reads newscasts to Wilton Manors Rotary and Pompano Rotary."

\*Rotarians

## Rotary In Action



Television Executive from Palm Beach County explains to Rotary, plans for extending service in Broward County. August Burghard center, President Bill Burke on right.



Rotarian D. A. Swindle and Lewis Moore, Mayor, discuss Fort Lauderdale expansion program with Don D. Freeman, F.P.&L. Manager and Chamber of Commerce President.



JULES RICHNER

Jules B. Richner was Treasurer of District Governor Burke's Assembly on Miami Beach. R. T. "Dusty" Spangler was the distinguished General Manager of Port Everglades for many years.



DUSTY SPANGLER

# ROTARY MEETING PLACES

Earl C. Shreve  
Dear Bill:

In the summer of 1926 when I became a member, J. S. Rickard was President and the Club met on the first floor of the Masonic Temple, S.E. 1st St. & 1st Avenue. It continued to meet there for some time, two or three years. After leaving there we went to the Broward Hotel.

When Logan Brown opened his new restaurant on Brickell Ave. at the end of Wall Street, we moved there, but it soon got too small.

It seems we went from there to the Sunday School room of the Presbyterian Church. We were there several years until the Church sold the site to the Governor's Club.

From there we went either to the Broward Hotel or the Seven Seas Restaurant on South Andrews. The last place was the old Pioneer House which housed us for several years. It seems we left the Pioneer House one time and then went back. There was a period when we met at DeLoach's Restaurant on the south side of Las Olas at 5th Avenue where now is the Fort Lauderdale Furniture store. We did meet at the Radio Building on South Andrews for a brief period.

I can name the pieces of the puzzle but I cannot put them together. On going over the Roster it would seem that the men joining in the different years would remember where the Club met the year that they became a member. In my own case the only year that I am *sure* about is 1926 — the year I became a member.

LEIGH ROBINSON

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Fellow Rotarians:

I am not at all sure where we were meeting when I was inducted in 1937. It is possible that we were meeting at Browns. I think that in 1925 or 26 the *Presbyterian Ladies* were serving us in their small building on *Las Olas*.

At the time I was installed as President in 1948 we met at the Pioneer House summers and the Broward Hotel winters. We had a couple of meetings out at the Reef. Katie Armstrong Pearce played for us for many years.

A. W. Putnam

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Howard C. Jelks, long-time house chairman, says that to date Rotary has met in ten more or less permanent quarters:

Brown's Good Foods, The Seven Seas, Broward Hotel, the Riverside Presbyterian Church, Sea Horse, Pollys, Governor's Club and DeLoach Cafeteria.

Howard was a charter member and director of the Community Chest — now the United Fund; helped organize the Boy Scouts, Y.M.C.A.; and was a charter member of the Lauderdale Yacht Club, the Fort Lauderdale Realty Board, and served on C. of C. Boards . . . He was a Rotary Director and served on many committees.

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"We met at the Pioneer House, which closed summers, forcing us to the Broward Hotel.

"I was pleased to help the camp and expand on the Girl Scout work, started earlier. In earlier Rotary days I served on the Service Men's Committee."

Tom heads the First Federal Savings & Loan Assn., largest financial institution in the county with assets well over a half billion.

E. THOMAS WILBURN



# 40th ANNIVERSARY

## ROTARY TAKES A LOOK AT SOUTH FLORIDA 100 YEARS AGO

By C. L. PIERCE (1961)

"I have been asked to tell Rotary of South Florida 100 years ago, inasmuch as my family came to South Florida in 1872.

"They came in through Jacksonville, then a small city; Bay Street, unpaved; very little settlement on the South end of the river. They came down the St. Johns River to Palatka by steamer; then overland by stage to Sands Point, now Titusville. Titusville was then the last point of civilization. Coming down the East Coast of Florida, from there to the mouth of the Miami River, stretched a barren, unbroken wilderness, save for a small settlement at Fort Pierce and Jupiter Lighthouse.

"All of the living was done along the very rim of the coast, inasmuch as the back country was all swamp. Transportation facilities were limited to your boat, somebody else's boat . . . or walk the beach!

"The people settling in the area around the Palm Beaches did their trading with Titusville, 150 miles away. A trip to the grocery store usually took near to six weeks. The settlers used copper and brass picked up along the beach in exchange for supplies and ammunition.

"My father's first slate was purchased with a copper bolt. In all this barren stretch of wilderness with its numerous rivers, inlets, and swamps, the Government decided to erect so-called "Houses of Refuge" for shipwrecked sailors. There were ample wrecks, brought about by the fact that nearly all the vessels were sailing vessels and there was a decided set of currents in the fall and winter months that put the ships on the beach. These "houses of refuge" were located in Stuart, Delray, New River, at Fort Lauderdale and Biscayne Bay.

"As the country developed and the coast settled, the town of Juno was established, which was the county seat of Dade County. Juno, located on the north end of Lake Worth, was the Southern terminus of the first railroad in the area, called the Celestial Railroad. It ran from Jupiter to Juno and had two intermediate stops, Venus and Mars, hence the name of the road. Venus and Mars were actually piles of wood along the roadbed; the engine burning Florida "light wood," needed to stop twice between Jupiter and Juno for refueling.

"Juno was a real frontier town with barrooms, gun fights, lynchings, etc., just like we see on T.V. The first coconuts came off the Spanish boat, *Providencia*. Until that time, there were only a few coconuts here, washed up by the tide.

"The first election ever held in the Palm Beach area was in 1876. The ballot box was my grandfather's old straw hat; total votes cast, 6. The voters insisted on keeping the polls open 'til sundown. The votes were put in an envelope and given to the first fellow passing to take to Miami.

"The first sugar cane planted in this whole area was planted on Hypoluxo Island. When time came for harvest, they didn't have a pot big enough to cook it in so they swapped a boat load of coconuts for an iron pot, to a man in Miami. There was no mule to pull the press so they had to go up state to find one. The press was made of mahogany logs that had drifted up on the beach. All the settlers came for the cane grinding and the cane came out salty by reason of having been grown so close to the ocean. From that little start, we have thousands and thousands of acres of cane today.

"Communications between the county seat, Juno, and Miami, were poor. To write a letter from Juno to Miami, the letter was sent from Juno to Jupiter on the Celestial Railroad; from Jupiter to Sands Point by steamer; Sands Point to Palatka by stage coach; Palatka to Jacksonville up the St. Johns River by steamer; from Jacksonville to Cedar Keys by the J.T. & K.W. Railroad; from Cedar Keys to Key West by schooner; and from Key West to Miami by schooner.

"Therefore, the so-called 'barefoot mail route' was established.

"Barefoot, because the only mode of travel was beachwalking, and the mail carrier walked in the firm sand just above the tide. He tied his shoes together and slung them around his neck and set off down the beach. The trip to Miami and back took a week.

# 40th ANNIVERSARY

Earl Owen Shreve,

Dear Bill:

Will give you the best of my present day thinking of the years gone by.

We moved so many times it is difficult to place the date. We had lunch at the Masonic Temple on S.E. First Ave., during the time Art Griffith represented the Miami Herald. Art is Bill Burke's father-in-law. We had a big dinner for "Art" when he left for the "South." (Art went to Miami.) We stayed some time at the Overseas Restaurant on S. Andrews Ave. The Broward Hotel was our meeting place on several occasions.

Radio Club on S. Andrews Ave., Pioneer House, Sea Horse Restaurant on E. Las Olas Blvd. — Brown's Restaurant when located on Andrews Ave. and again at Brown's when he moved to S.W. First Ave., and Governor's Club Hotel.

First Presbyterian Church when it was located at the present location of Thompson & McKinnon. I was President while located here. 1935-36 it was here when I joined /'29. It would be worthwhile to ask all living presidents where the meeting place was when they officiated.

Howard Jelks was *HOUSE MAN* for many years, he may have the facts.

W. J. "Bill" Eastman

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## ROTARIAN REMEMBRANCES

By J. B. FRASER

(Letter to John Ullman dated July 31, 1961)

Dear John:

I am delighted to pass on to you the club record, and information I have that may help you in your Historical Committee work.

This club should make a strong effort to acquire the Vale pictures and information that he accumulated about Fort Lauderdale history. (Note: The Vale collection is now in the hands of the Historical Society).

I know of no record as complete as his was, accompanied in many cases by photographs . . . I know of no greater service that could be done for the City than to preserve so many historical facts and occasions, and I feel that it would be a wonderful thing for our club to take on this project in connection with whatever might be compiled as Rotary History.

I would not hesitate to ask the city to help secure records and photographs . . . with the idea of placing them on display in a case in the public library, for the benefit and information of the people in Fort Lauderdale.

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## ON THE RECORD

Following is a list that may be of help in getting a historical record of early days in Fort Lauderdale and Rotary:

(1) The building of the South East Packing Company's meat plant at Colahatchie in 1922 . . . (2) The building of the Municipal swimming pool. (Mayor Kittridge and Commodore Brook were among the prime movers in this instance.)

And of course Commodore Brook and other prominent Rotarians maneuvered around to get a bridge locked on the Intracoastal Waterway, so that President Harding had to stay overnight in Fort Lauderdale . . .

(3) John Sherwin was a Port Everglades Commissioner when the first cargo of steel pilings was brought from Europe on a German freighter. This was during prohibition days, and as guests of John Sherwin and others, we were invited to come aboard ship by the Captain, who graciously served German beer in quart bottles.

# 40th ANNIVERSARY

## Brook

Commodore Brook, as those who knew him would testify, had no limit in his enthusiasm for the development of Fort Lauderdale. I remember when he put twelve large billboard signs on the Federal Highway, between Fort Lauderdale and Jacksonville. Later on he put street signs all over town. He ran water mains into the Riverside Sub-division; was chairman of the Commissioners of the Inland Navigation District; was a tremendous factor in getting local interests to do their parts, as well as being able to influence the army engineers to do things on the strength of his word, that whatever he committed the Inland Navigation District to, they would do . . . General Youngberg, Retired, would testify to this. Commodore Brook also spearheaded the old Anglers Club, and the present Yacht Club, of which I am one of the oldest members. I am proud to say that my youngest son, Russell B. Fraser, is Commodore of the Yacht Club for 1961.

Commodore Brook was important in securing rights-of-way of Sunrise Boulevard, from Middle River to the ocean, on land then owned by H. T. Birch. The day Mr. Birch gave the right-of-way to the city, the whole Commission, including the mayor and city attorney, called on Mr. Birch at his home on the beach with a check in their pocket for \$15,000, hoping they could maneuver him into taking the check for the right-of-way, as they knew it was worth a great deal of money. They were quite surprised, and flabbergasted, when he told them to make out a check in the amount of \$2.00. (Two Dollars.)

I could not say too much about what he has done for Fort Lauderdale, and for the state. Only a man with a heart as big as his could do it all.

With the principles of Rotary in his mind, at all times, he devoted himself to services that he rendered privately and publicly.

## War Memorial

*War Memorial Auditorium.* There were three or four Rotarians, including myself as Chairman of the Building Fund Committee, who worked for three years to build an Auditorium for less than one-half million dollars, which couldn't be duplicated today for a million and a half.

There were several Rotarians, including Jim Camp, George English and myself and possibly other Rotarians, who put on a drive and raised funds to build a new Y.M.C.A., and acquire more land to the tune of about three to four hundred thousand dollars, and all paid for.

## Tunnel

Last, but not least, yours truly was the Chairman of the first committee for the purpose of securing three traffic tunnels for the City of Fort Lauderdale, and the state highway department. As you know, the local newspapers fought this project tooth and toenail, but there were some hard-headed Rotarians in the initial stage that would not be denied.

We did get the state to spend one-quarter of a million dollars. The tunnel engineers investigated three sites, namely 17th Street, Las Olas Boulevard under the Intracoastal Waterway, and Federal Highway (or 6th Avenue under Las Olas Boulevard and New River.)

But whoever claims the credit for this is beside the point. We got the Federal Highway tunnel, and I think everyone recognizes that it is now a beautiful job, and serves a wonderful purpose, and is a big asset to the city. Except for the tunnel at Mobile, Alabama, this is the only one in the Southeastern part of the United States.

## Birch State Park

Rotarians played an important part in securing Birch State Park for the State of Florida. Mr. John Lloyd, County Attorney, and the Honorable Spessard Holland, Senator of the State of Florida, can tell you more about this.

In closing my remembrances, I have mentioned many names, including my own, not necessarily to be used in whatever you finally compile in your report. However, you may use these names, including my own, if you so desire.

(I guess by this time I am off the track, but down through the things I have mentioned above, Rotarians have been an important factor, and I dare say in many cases, leaders in bringing many of these things about.)

I expect to be in Fort Lauderdale about the 10th of August, and I will contact you and Mr. Burghard at that time.

James B. Fraser, Sr.

# ROTARY MEMORIES



Atlantic Deeper Waterways Congress at Atlantic City; Commodore Brook far right.



President Elect Harding visited Fort Lauderdale . . . C. P. Weidling is in front of him and Jas. Brophy is behind him.



Commodore Brook heads up the Red Cross Drive in World War Two.

# ROTARY MEMORIES

From the Rotary Tarpon, March 8, 1941:

**"HE MAY BE A BROOK TO SOME; TO US HE'S A MIGHTY RIVER":**

Commodore Brook on Sunday reaches his 75th birthday. This Rotary Club is taking the lead in organizing a "drop-in" party at his Southwest Ninth Avenue home from 3 until 4:30 p.m., all unbeknownst to him. Make it a point to call — there is a big cake we're giving him to be eaten on the occasion, and Ray Spencer is sending up enough "fortified" Coca-Cola that somebody may take the thing literally and drop in New River. For gosh sakes don't tell Commodore or his sister, Lady Clare Fursman, we had anything to do with getting out the crowd for which they are not fully preparing.

For me to say anything of Commodore and his work in the upbuilding of this community, his remarkable spirit, his indefatigable energy, would be to gild the lily. A native of England, he epitomizes the dogged spirit of that beleaguered people today as he arises from his sick bed to declare "I could lick a couple of cops."

Commodore Brook made a great name and a fortune in the outdoor advertising business before he came to Fort Lauderdale and settled. When the fortune was swept from under him, he called again upon the talents in which he was rich beyond the power of man-made things to destroy, and established a business built upon the principles that made him a friend to all who came in contact with him.

We salute Commodore Brook — 75 YEARS YOUNG. May he never grow old!



Katherine Rawls stands in salute holding her commission as a Colonel, a bouquet of flowers, and a sabre and wearing the high hat of the Flying L. Pep Club presented by the girls of the Fort Lauderdale High School cheering section. On her left is Colonel Walter R. Clark, high sheriff of Broward County and President of the Florida State Sheriff's Association. On Katherine's right is Colonel John Dent Kennedy, attorney for the Broward County School Board and "The First White Child Born in Broward County." Commodore Brook was largely responsible for this pool . . . HOME OF CHAMPIONS. Commodore Brook headed the group which got the olympic sized pool to develop aquatics.

# 40th ANNIVERSARY

Herewith:

- "1. Data re. Charter Members."
- "2. A summary of the creation of the Broward General Hospital as presented before Rotary in Dec. 1959."
- "3. A summary of the creation of the Broward County Health Department."

Leigh F. Robinson

## The Making of a Hospital\*



Dr. L. F. Robinson

Prior to 1937 there was only one hospital in Fort Lauderdale. In mid-1937 this was sold to an insurance group for use of its policy holders. Broward County suddenly found itself without hospital facilities.

While a temporary hospital was set-up in the old Battle Creek Sanitarium, a representative group composed of medical and non-medical citizens, organized the Broward Hospital Association, naming J. D. Camp\* chairman.

This group believed that the hospital situation was so grave that the City of Fort Lauderdale should assume the responsibility of providing hospital facilities. The City Commission agreed . . . if outside financing could be found. The Association reported that the Granada Apartments, a vacant boom-time building on South Andrews Ave. had been approved by the medical group as suitable for conversion. The purchase was recommended because it could be financed locally and could be converted in about four months, while starting from scratch would take two or three years at probably a prohibitive cost. The City Commission approved this recommendation.

The Broward National Bank and Broward County physicians agreed to underwrite the project.

Title was taken by the City of Fort Lauderdale as agreed October 1, 1937 and J. D. Camp\* was appointed chairman of a Hospital Commission composed of himself, Logan Brown, William J. Kelley, E. Gex Williams, W. T. Coates\* and Howard Jelks.\* On January 2, 1938 the Broward General Hospital admitted its first patient.

\*(Presented at Ft. Lauderdale Rotary Club — Dec. 4, 1959, by L. F. Robinson)

\*Rotarians

Less than six months after the hospital opened it was realized than an expansion program should be started.

When Board Chairman J. D. Camp\* reported this to the City, Mayor T. B. Manuel gave George English,\* City Attorney, the assignment of finding the money. Mr. English was able to get a R.F.C. commitment for a loan of \$150,000.00. The south wing and administrative offices were added to the hospital. The east wing came later.

The old converted apartment supplied hospital facilities for Fort Lauderdale until the North Broward Hospital District assumed control in 1953.

It was able through taxes, to build the new 300-bed highly modern Broward General Hospital in 1959. It stands today as a monument to that first Hospital Commission, namely James D. Camp,\* William J. Kelly, Logan Brown, E. Gex Williams, W. T. Coates\* and Howard Jelks,\* who sacrificed so much of their time and energy during the early trying years.\*

\*A detailed story of this subject may be found in Early History of B.C.M.A. by L. F. Robinson, M.D.

# 40th ANNIVERSARY

LEIGH ROBINSON

## THE MAKING OF A COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT\*

Before the 1924-1925 land boom, sanitary problems in Broward County were few.

However, with the sudden doubling and tripling of population in those boom years, many problems of sanitation appeared. Drinking water which had been supplied by wells and cisterns, and an adequate water system were in short supply. Fort Lauderdale recognized this and started the first modern water plant.

Milk became the big problem. Most of the supply was shipped in, as the few dairies in the county fell far short in keeping up with the demand.

Broward County had no health department and all efforts of the municipalities of the area were fruitless in controlling milk sold in their city limits. Communicable diseases in and out of school likewise were not effectually fought. School cafeterias had little, if any, sanitary control.

After the Broward County Medical Society was organized in 1926, the lack of coordinated work for health purposes came to the attention of the medical society.

The outstanding health problem was the lack of supervision under which milk was produced, shipped in and sold. Dade and Palm Beach Counties had Milk Commissions and as early as 1927, the County Medical Society tried to have one appointed for Broward County to cooperate with Palm Beach and Dade, but the Broward County Commission was not interested.

By early 1935 the situation had become so intolerable that the three nurses employed separately by the School Board, the County Commission and the FERA found their jobs frustrating. Health Inspectors of Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood had no backing in the enforcement of sanitary codes.

The Broward County Medical Society endeavored to have the County Commission take advantage of the State Board of Health laws. The answer — "No funds." Health and sanitary problems went from bad to worse.

The Medical Society, in 1935, appointed a committee composed of Drs. Butler,\* Brown,\* Denniston,\* Peavy\* and Robinson\* to make a supreme effort to get something done. The committee went to the School Board, the County Commission, City of Fort Lauderdale, City of Hollywood, etc.

In May, 1935 the Medical Committee invited Dr. Googe, Chief of the County Health Units of the State Board of Health, to brief the Society. The result was a joint meeting between Dr. Googe, the County Commission and the Medical Committee. The Commission voted to give the idea of a County Health Unit a trial, and would approve it fully when confirmation could be obtained from the State Board of Health.

Within a few weeks the new Broward County Health Department was in operation. All Health and Sanitary personnel employed by governing bodies was transferred to the County Health Department. Dr. Paul Shell, an M.D. and a recent graduate in Public Health was appointed by the State Board of Health as Director.

So, late in 1935 the County Health Department was at last a reality and has become one of the most important units of our County Government.

\*Rotarians

# ED R. JOHNSON

## TWO INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS



Major Harold Holden greets Tom Warren in scene on left. In picture on right is Rotary International President Dick Hedke of Detroit.



Rotarians on Ed R. Johnson's Yacht. Tom Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Ed R. Johnson, Governor Hodges of North Carolina and Others.



Ed R. Johnson Cuts 40th Anniversary Cake. Other Rotarians include Frank Borner, Luther Hodges, Dallas Swindle and Carlyle Sweet.



Picture on left shows Tom Warren, Pres. Rotary International



Picture on right shows Angus S. Mitchell Pres. Rotary International 1948-49



## ROTARY VIGNETTES



Left to right: Ernest N. Orr and Other Men About Town with August Burghard at Podium.



Future District Governor Bill Burke as "Have Gun Will Travel Castro."

## ROTARIANS AT PLAY



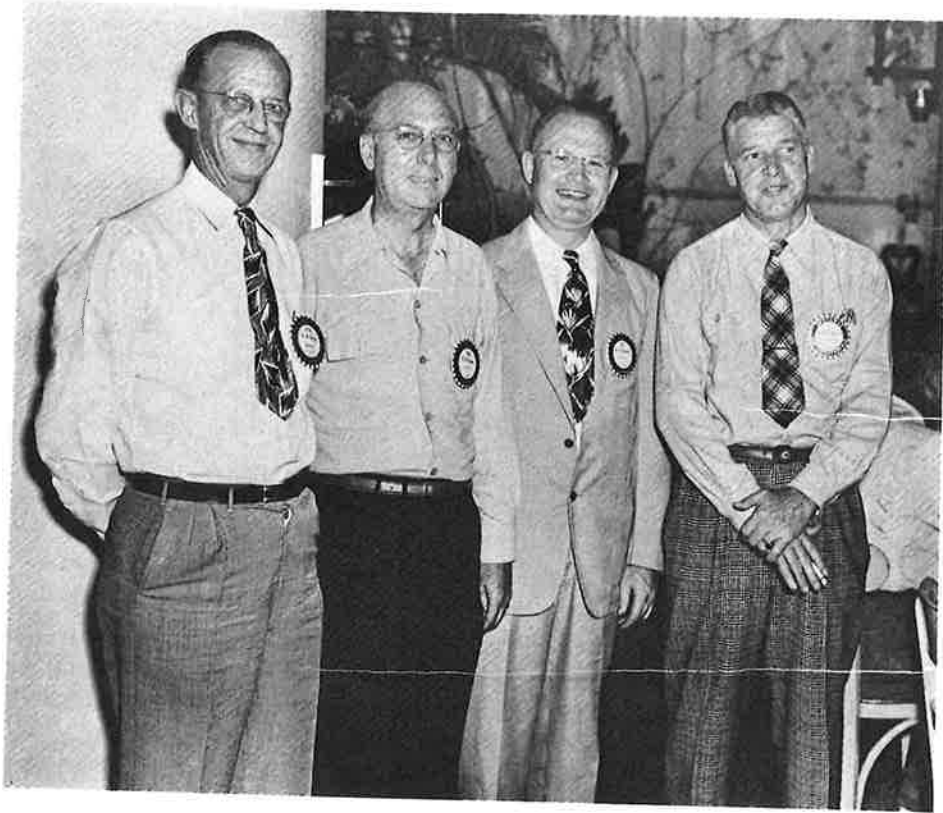
Rotarian  
Pete Lawrence

Produced  
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# ROTARY VIGNETTES



Otis Smith, Harold Franks, Ed. Downey and Ed Buchanan displaying new Badges.



1945-1946. Find Yourself in This Picture.

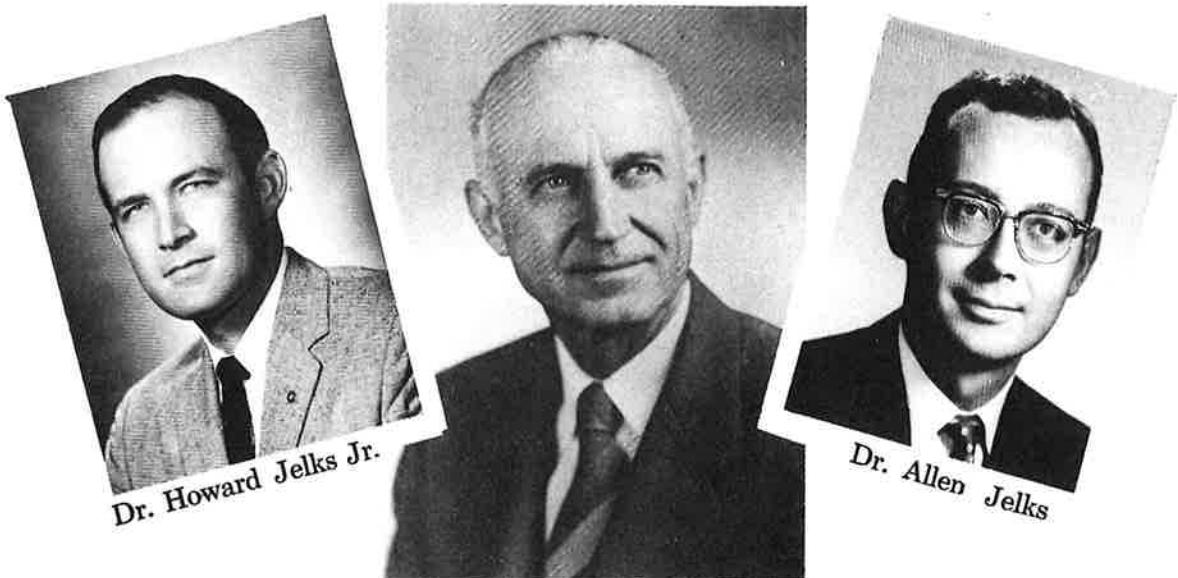
## FATHER AND SON



Arthur Griffith, left, and his stepson, William J. Burke, on Sunday, March 5, 1944.

Wm. J. "Bill" Burke, president in 1961-62 and the only District Governor Club 1090 has produced in fifty years, and our longtime member, Arthur Griffith, who went to Miami to write editorials for the Miami Herald, were an important duo. (Arthur could sing. In fact he was an operatic baritone.)

Bill Burke left the Navy as a Lieut. (j.g.), having served on a Navy Attack Transport in the Pacific, WWII. He was 1090 Club President, 1961-62; and District Governor, 699, in 1965-66 . . . Bill currently, 1971-72, is Commodore of the Lauderdale Yacht Club.



Dr. Howard Jelks Jr.

Dr. Allen Jelks

Club 1090 has had outstanding father-son combinations whose influence has been wide, and whose community service has been great.

Consider the Jelks: Howard is one of our oldest in point of membership years. He helped shape Rotary's and Lauderdale's future in trying earlier years and is very active today.

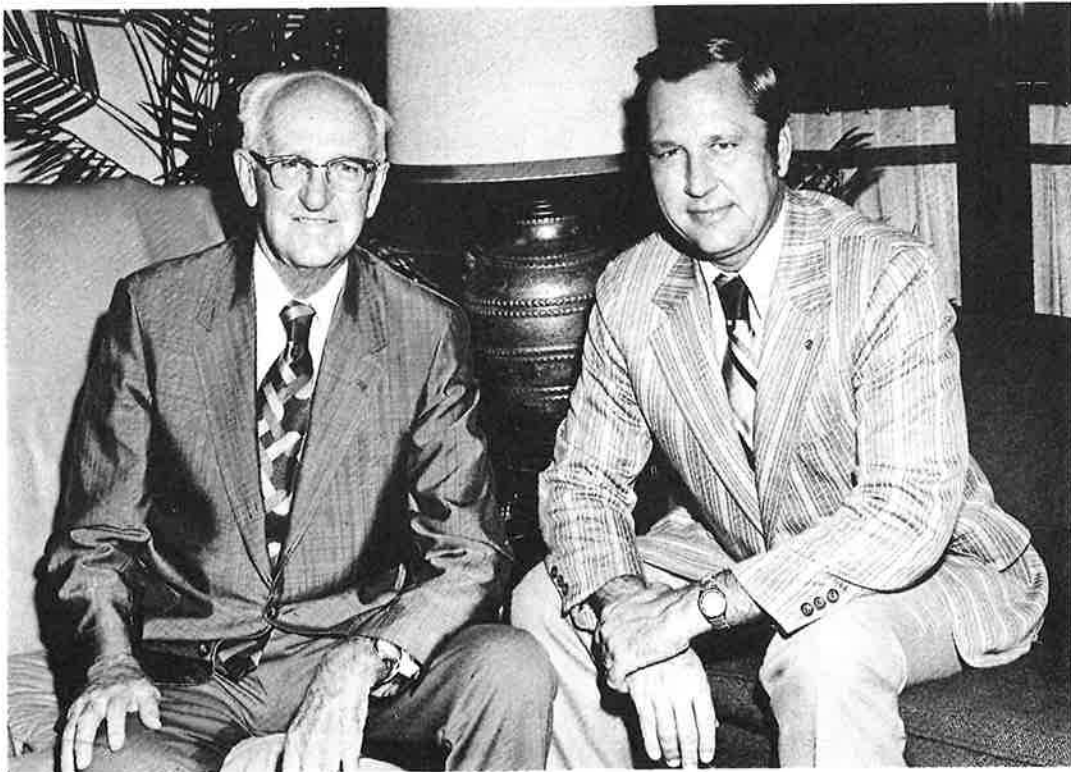
Dr. Howard, Jr. is an optician and a member of the Beach club. Second son, Dr. Allen Jelks, is an officer of Rotary in Sarasota. The three are great fresh water fishermen. Rotary-ann Bulah, a talented musician, was accompanist for Macon, Ga., Rotary . . . until Howard married her and brought her to Fort Lauderdale. He named a boom-time subdivision Beulahland in her honor.

## FATHER AND SON



The Saarinenes are a remarkable team, also. Arthur, Sr. was a long-time president of the Broward National Bank, and is now chairman of its board of directors, and president of Broward Bancshares.

Arthur, Jr. was president of Club 1090 in 1964-65. He is an environmental engineer specializing in water — one of the best in the state . . . Both Saarinenes are native Floridians, Art, Sr. was born in Newberry, Art, Jr., West Palm Beach.



A particularly handsome father and son pair, both members of this club are Ed H. Ramsey and Harvey E. Ramsey III. Ed was in the wholesale and retail lumber business and road building in Pittsburgh.

Harvey is president of South Florida Bond and Mortgage, Inc., of Fort Lauderdale.

## FATHER AND SON



Bob Davis, now of Miami Shores, and Bob, Jr., of 1090. Our Bob calls senior, "The Son Advisor" . . . He's up almost every day checking on Son Junior's work as Ramp Master manufacturer. He makes loading ramps and dock boards.



Dr. Thomas L. McKee, now at Beach Rotary, and his son, James Robert