



ROTARY CLUB OF SAND SPRINGS A Brief History

In The Beginning

On the evening of January 19, 1925, a group of Sand Springs men met in the basement of the Community Presbyterian Church, 4th and Main, to plan the organization of a Rotary Club in Sand Springs. The growing Tulsa Club, acting in the capacity of "big brother", sent several of its men to the thriving industrial community of Sand Springs to assist in the organization. Ed Monsell, Bob Gibbs, and Charles Hubbard were appointed a committee to recommend a constitution and by-laws. O. L. Stewart became the first president and Charles Parker the first secretary. Ed Monsell was chosen vice-president and Nat White treasurer. Charles Hubbard, Frank Lannon, and Ed Craig were the first directors.

Charter Members

The following twenty men were charter members: Cliff Bobbitt, Joe Burke, Ed Craig, Ely Everett, Burt Frye, Bob Gibbs, W. B. (Dad) Hixson, Len Hohl, Jake Hollyman, Charles Hubbard, Frank Lannon, Jr., Ed Monsell, Charles Parker, Frank Pauly, O. L. Stewart, Sam (Doc) Strader, Burt Sutton, Ray Trimble, Sr., Nat White, and George B. Wilson, all prominent business and professional leaders in the Sand Springs area. From the beginning, weekly luncheons have been held Friday noon, first at the Community Presbyterian Church, then Ward's Cafeteria, later at Four Coin Restaurant, the Plaza Community Center, and Case Community Center and today at the Broadway Baptist Church with lunch catered.

Club Service Emphasis - Student Loans/Scholarships

Promptly after organizing, the Sand Springs Rotary Club elected operating committees and searched for methods of promoting the object of Rotary in the Sand Springs area. Working within the four service areas of Rotary, club service became the first active area with the newly formed club. Later, in August of 1929, the student loan and scholarship fund came into being with the grand sum of \$500.00, which in those days was a significant amount. The student loan fund was a significant contributor to the education of a number of needy Sand Springs area boys and girls over the years until student loans became readily available through other programs. The student loan fund was also used to finance the acquisition of livestock for 4-H and FFA boys and girls for those programs of self-development. In 2002-2003, the Sand Springs Rotary Club began to provide four (4) Scholarships for Charles Page High School graduates who met the criteria. Each \$1,000 scholarship provided additional schooling expenses beyond high school whether it is at a university, college, or technical vocational training school.

Great Depression

Rotary membership in Sand Springs continued to grow and by 1930 there were 45 members in various Rotary classifications. Club service was promoted through interesting and educational assembly and fireside chats provided by the older members for newcomers. Vocational service was encouraged through the presentation of short plays and committee operation. Club membership continued to grow until the depression of the early '30s.

Community Partnerships - Sand Springs Welfare Association

Economic and personal problems created by the Great Depression reduced the membership of the Sand Springs Rotary Club through loss of classification and job resignation. Those Rotarians remaining during this period devoted their attention almost entirely to the problems of the community and doing community service. The Sand Springs Welfare Association, now Sand Springs Community Services, had been started by the Sand Springs Woman's Club in 1929 to provide for needy persons in the area. The Sand Springs Rotary joined them in providing help for them in their efforts. During the administration of local Rotary President Clarence McKay, 1932-33, some 400 pairs of shoes were donated to the Sand Springs Welfare Association for distribution to the needy. Those shoes were purchased with \$300.00 which was contributed by Rotarians, along with money from the general fund of the Rotary Club. Through the difficult years of the '30s, Sand Springs Rotary continued to work through the Sand Springs Welfare Association to provide for the needs of citizens in the community with contributions for food baskets. At Christmas time for a number of years, Rotarians brought wrapped gifts to meetings to be distributed by the Sand Springs Welfare Association to needy children during the holiday season.

During the Rotary presidency of Erwin D. Phillips, 1971-72, a Christmas Bean Luncheon was held with food prepared by the Sand Springs Welfare Association employees and volunteers. All the funds were donated to the Christmas food basket and gift program of the Sand Springs Community Services. The Christmas "Bean Lunch Party" continues to this day.

Other Community Partnerships

The Sand Springs Rotary Club hosts a Sand Springs Salvation Army Lunch in November as a fundraiser to kick-off for the annual bell ringing. Following the lunch, Rotarians sign-up to ring the bell for one entire day at a local store. At Christmas, the club has held a canned food and toy drive that has brought in over 800 pounds of food and 70 toys for the Sand Springs Community Services children. Another Christmas activity has been buying Christmas Gifts for needy families at the Sand Springs Home Family Villas.

Other youth services provided to the Sand Springs community have been providing scholarships for students for the Salvation Army summer athletic program, conducting "Be Wise Immunize" vaccinations, Boy Scouts, Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA), Operation Aware, Limestone School Reading program, Tulsa Boys Home, Senior Celebration, raising \$6,600 for warm-up suits for Sand Springs Special Olympians, and initiating a mentoring program at Central Elementary School.

Through student loans and scholarships and special efforts such as the donation to the Boy Scouts of America of six canoes with full equipment and towing trailer during the administrations in 1976-77, 1985-86 and 1994-95, and Mountain Bikes in 1996-97, work with youth in the Sand Springs area has been highlighted, as it has been during the entire 75 years of Rotary in Sand Springs. For many years, Superintendent of Sand Springs Schools, Clyde (Pop) Boyd, brought outstanding students each week as his guests to the Rotary meetings and until 1975, the new teachers in the Sand Springs Public School system were guests at a luncheon in order that Rotarians and the educators might become better acquainted. (Note: The New Teacher Luncheon continued today. Added to the event is a donation of teacher school supplies.)

Other nonprofit organizations have received financial support from the Sand Springs Rotary Club including the Red Cross, Relay for Life, Sertoma Club Fireworks Display, Salvation Army Disaster Unit, and Life Line.

International Projects

Working with International Service became a growing concern of the Sand Springs Rotary Club and in 1947 Sand Springs Rotary Club commenced a continuing effort with its contributions and work with Rotary Foundation, and later with the Health, Hunger and Humanity Program of Rotary International.

A more recent activity in International Service by Sand Springs Rotarians was the participation in the Health, Hunger and Humanity Program, instituted by Rotary International in the last few years. From the inception of this program, which deals with the problems of needy people of the world, the Sand Springs Rotary Club has participated to the fullest extent through contributions and programs of information. The Health, Hunger and Humanity Program to date has provided medicines and vaccines for millions of children in Costa Rica, the Philippines, the refugee camps of Southeast Asia and many other Third World countries.

Over the years, the Sand Springs Rotary Club has been very involved in supporting Rotary International humanitarian projects such as donating to the RI causes of Clean Water, Digging Water Wells, Providing Wheelchairs, the eradication of polio worldwide, providing money for blankets for Afghanistan, and Medical Supplies Network International. It is sponsored by District 6110 and located in Tulsa. Here donated medical supplies and equipment are gathered, boxed, and shipped to countries around the world. The Sand Springs Rotary Club volunteers throughout the year and makes financial donations to this worthy project.

International Exchange

Sand Springs Rotary has, over the past several years, hosted visiting groups of young adults from other areas of the world through the Rotary Foundation Group Study Exchange. These groups have come from Denmark, India, England, New Zealand, Australia, Chile, France and Finland. Sand Springs Rotary Club has also participated in the American Field Service Foreign Student Exchange hosting students from other countries attending Charles Page High School. Sand Springs Rotarian, the late Mike Pedrick, past local Club President and past Rotary District Governor, had served on a number of Rotary International Committees and was a former director of the Rotary International Foundation. Sand Springs Rotarian George Paden is also a past Club President and a past Rotary District Governor. Sand Springs Rotary Club is honored by the achievements of Mike Pedrick and George Paden and the awards and honors received by them as reflecting upon the Sand Springs Rotary Club.

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Fight Against Polio (Currently, End Polio Now)

From the inception of the Sand Springs Rotary Club, in 1925, the work of the Crippled Children's Committee was an outstanding community service. Children with severe problems were provided with treatment in the Oklahoma City Hospital or in Doctor's Hospital in Tulsa, where the treatment of crippled children was a specialty. Many Sand Springs area children had their lives beneficially changed through the correction of club feet and other deformities.

Sand Springs Rotary, under the leadership of Harlan Pinkerton, Jr. has contributed a portion of the 500 million Polio Plus dollars raised by Rotarians to eradicate polio from 150 countries of the world. Rotary has inoculated over two billion children over the world against this dreaded disease. Health, Hunger and Humanity has been incorporated into the total program of the Rotary Foundation, assuring its continued positive contributions to World understanding and peace.

Fundraisers

Through the years, the Rotary Club has held several different fundraisers to provide support for their many project, programs, and activities. Besides previously mentioned hosting lunches, the club has held an annual Golf Tournament, 5-K Run; today, there are three main fundraising events. The Bass Fishing Tournament, Downhill Derby and the Chili Cook-off.

Paul Harris Fellows

Sand Springs Rotary Club is now honored to have among its members, spouses, and other relatives many Paul Harris Fellows. Each year the list continues to grow. Our club initiated a program in 1977-78, of contributing through club and individual members, the \$1,000.00 or more each year necessary to the Rotary Foundation to provide a Paul Harris Fellowship for a local member. Our club has 71 Paul Harris Fellows.

Membership

Sand Springs Rotary continues to grow and to prosper with an active and interested membership and today boasts approximately 90 members. On August 21, 1987, Sand Springs Rotary opened its doors to women after the United States Supreme Court Decision made a few months earlier. Today, the Sand Springs Rotary Club is a diverse Club with men and women of all ages, experiences, backgrounds, and abilities working together toward common goals and projects. Rotarians are well respected individuals within this community and are known for being able to get a job done. They continue to touch the lives of old and young alike. This particular club is known throughout District #6110 for its outstanding fellowship, close camaraderie, and warm welcome of visitors who attend its regular Friday noon luncheon meetings. Truly, Rotary and its wonderful spirit of service and friendship; are alive and well in Sand Springs.

Writers/Authors

Most of this brief information on Sand Springs Rotary Club and its history of Rotary service were prepared by Erwin D. Phillips (Died September 13, 2004) of the Historical Committee of the Sand Springs Club for 2003-2004, the ninety-eighth anniversary of Rotary in the world. Additions were made by Henry McCandless (died October 12, 2016) and Peggy Dumas Dyer.

**SAND SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB
ORGANIZED JANUARY 19, 1925
CHARTER GRANTED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FEBRUARY 3, 1925**

CHARTER MEMBERS

| Name | Classification |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| C. T. (Cliff) Bobbitt | Filling Service Station |
| J. P. (Joe) Burke | Automobile Retailing |
| Edwin A. (Ed) Craig | Petroleum Producing |
| E. E. (Ely) Everett | Newspaper Publishing |
| Thomas B. (Burt) Frye | Garage and Service |
| Robert W. (Bob) Gibbs | General Law Practice |
| Walter B. (Dad) Hixson | Groceries Retailing |
| Leonard B. (Len) Hohl | Women's Clothing Retailing |
| Jonathan C. (Jake) Hollyman | Protestant Church |
| C. H. (Charles H.) Hubbard | Fruit Jar Manufacturing |
| Franklin P. (Frank) Lannon, Jr. | Zinc Smelting |
| E. M. (Ed) Monsell | Charitable Homes |
| F. R. (Frank) Pauly | Educational Public Schools |
| Charles B. Parker | Building and Loan |
| O. L. Stewart | Banking |
| Samuel A. (Doc) Strader | Drugs Retailing |
| Burt Sutton | Hardware Retailing |
| A. R. (Ray) Trimble | Dentistry |
| Nat D. White | Household Furniture Retailing |
| George B. Wilson | Lumber Retailing |

PAST PRESIDENTS OF SAND SPRINGS ROTARY CLUB

| Year | President | Classification |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1925-26 | O. L. (Ollie) Stewart | Banking |
| 1926-27 | Fred S. Halm | Physician |
| 1927-28 | E. M. (Ed) Monsell | Charitable Homes |
| 1928-29 | J. P. (Joe) Burke | Automobiles Retail |
| 1929-30 | George B. Wilson | Lumber Retail |
| 1930-31 | C. H. (Charles) Hubbard | Fruit Jar Manufacturing |
| 1931-32 | Ed S. Wolff | Electric Power and Light |
| 1932-33 | Clarence McKay | Oil Refining |
| 1933-34 | R. N. (Dick) Hoerner | Corrugated Box Manufacturing |
| 1934-35 | A. R. (Ray) Trimble, Sr. | Dentistry |
| 1935-36 | Harrison Young | Natural Gas Distributing |
| 1936-37 | Charles R. Parker | Building and Loan |
| 1937-38 | Wallace (Wally) Smiley | Lighting Fixtures Manufacturing |
| 1938-39 | Gus Weekly | Metal Smelting and Refining |
| 1939-40 | H. B. (Rusty) Dowell | Cotton Mill |
| 1940-41 | E. E. (Tom) Mansfield | Electric Light and Power |
| 1941-42 | Paul P. Pinkerton | Charitable Homes |
| 1942-43 | Harley Aitkin | Glass Jar Distributing |
| 1943-44 | George Way | Steel Mill |
| 1944-45 | Victor (Vic) Hulett | Business Promotion |
| 1945-46 | T. H. (Ted) Steffens | Railroad Transportation |
| 1946-47 | Harold Aitkin | Metal Smelting and Refining |
| 1947-48 | Clyde (Pop) Boyd | Education, Administration |
| 1948-49 | Phil Smith | Real Estate Sales |
| 1949-50 | Sam Gavril | Bedding Manufacturing |
| 1950-51 | Ura B. Crewson | Glass Jar Distributing |
| 1951-52 | Clarence Lawless | Instrumental Music |
| 1952-53 | C. C. (Clint) Evans | Postal Service |
| 1953-54 | George E. M. Campbell | General Law |
| 1954-55 | Harlan S. Pinkerton, Sr. | Casualty Insurance |
| 1955-56 | Luther Roberts | Electric Light and Power |
| 1956-57 | Mike Pedrick | Animal Foods |
| 1957-58 | Ray Miltz | Stock Yards |
| 1958-59 | A. R. (Ray) Trimble, Jr. | Dentistry |
| 1959-60 | Bert Sutton | Education, Attendance |
| 1960-61 | Clyde Browers | Education, Vocational/Agriculture |
| 1961-62 | H. C. Jones | Banking |
| 1962-63 | Dennis C. Gilliam | Lumber Retail |
| 1963-64 | Tot Brown | Life Insurance |
| 1964-65 | N. B. Lasater | Commercial Gas Manufacturing |
| 1965-66 | Homer C. (Zenie) Goatcher | Radio Service |
| 1966-67 | Dan Brown | Animal Foods Distributing |
| 1967-68 | Ed E. Everett | Magazine Publication |
| 1968-69 | Marshall Perry | Liquid Gas Retail |
| 1969-70 | W. L. (Wink) Burcham | Steel Bar Manufacturing |
| 1970-71 | Ed Zickefoose | Animal Foods |
| 1971-72 | Erwin D. Phillips | Charitable Homes |
| 1972-73 | A. Lyle Crowder | Savings and Loan |
| 1973-74* | James Borren | Hospital Administration |
| 1974-75 | Charles Hill | Electric Light and Power |

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| 1975-76 | Bob Ray | Metal Smelting and Refining |
| 1976-77 | Herb Finnell | Corrugated Box Manufacturing |
| 1977-78* | Herschell Daney | Mental Retardation Rehabilitation |
| 1978-79 | Wendell Sharpton | Education, Administration |
| 1979-80 | David A. Stone | Land Development |
| 1980-81 | Robert (Bob) Van House | Methodist Pastor |
| 1981-82* | George Paden | Education, Secondary Schools |
| 1982-83 | Tom Gilbert | Casualty Insurance |
| 1983-84 | Lee Rand Smith | Special Education |
| 1984-85d | Dale Morrow | Building Materials Retail |
| 1985-86 | Dick McClure | Office Supply, Retail |
| 1986-87* | Ed Dubie | Corrugated Packing Industry Engineer |
| 1987-88* | Mark Manahan | Optometry |
| 1988-89 | Bill Brown | Charitable Home Trustee |
| 1989-90 | Glen Richards | Banking-Administration |
| 1990-91d | Phil Niles | Senior Active |
| 1991-92d | Mike Snyder | Natural Gas Distribution |
| 1992-93* | Tom Cobb | Civil Engineering |
| 1993-94 | Floyd Davis | Investments Counseling |
| 1994-95* | Mary Sue Overbey | Governmental Finance |
| 1995-96* | Larry Clenney | Telephone Service |
| 1996-97d | David Mick | Insurance |
| 1997-98d | Al Dodson, Jr. | Funeral Director |
| 1998-99* | Kenny Tate | Real Estate |
| 1999-00 | Cindy Burks | Loan & Investments |
| 2000-01* | Romme Pate | Tax Accounting |
| 2001-02* | Joe Stephenson | Gas Distribution Wholesale |
| 2002-03 | Lloyd Nixon | Investments General |
| 2003-04* | Donna McLain | |
| 2004-05* | Harlan S. Pinkerton, Jr. | |
| 2005-06* | Jeff Smith | |
| 2006-07 | David Allen | |
| 2007-08* | Clay Langley | |
| 2008-09d | David Phillips | |
| 2009-10* | Howard Pidcock | |
| 2010-11* | Brian Smejkal | |
| 2011-12* | Brandon Grell | |
| 2012-13* | Alan Copeland | |
| 2013-14* | Gary Hargrove | |
| 2014-15* | Robert Wood | |
| 2015-16* | Cody Worrell | |
| 2016-17* | Steve Lane | |
| 2017-18 | Peggy Dyer | |

* = Current Members