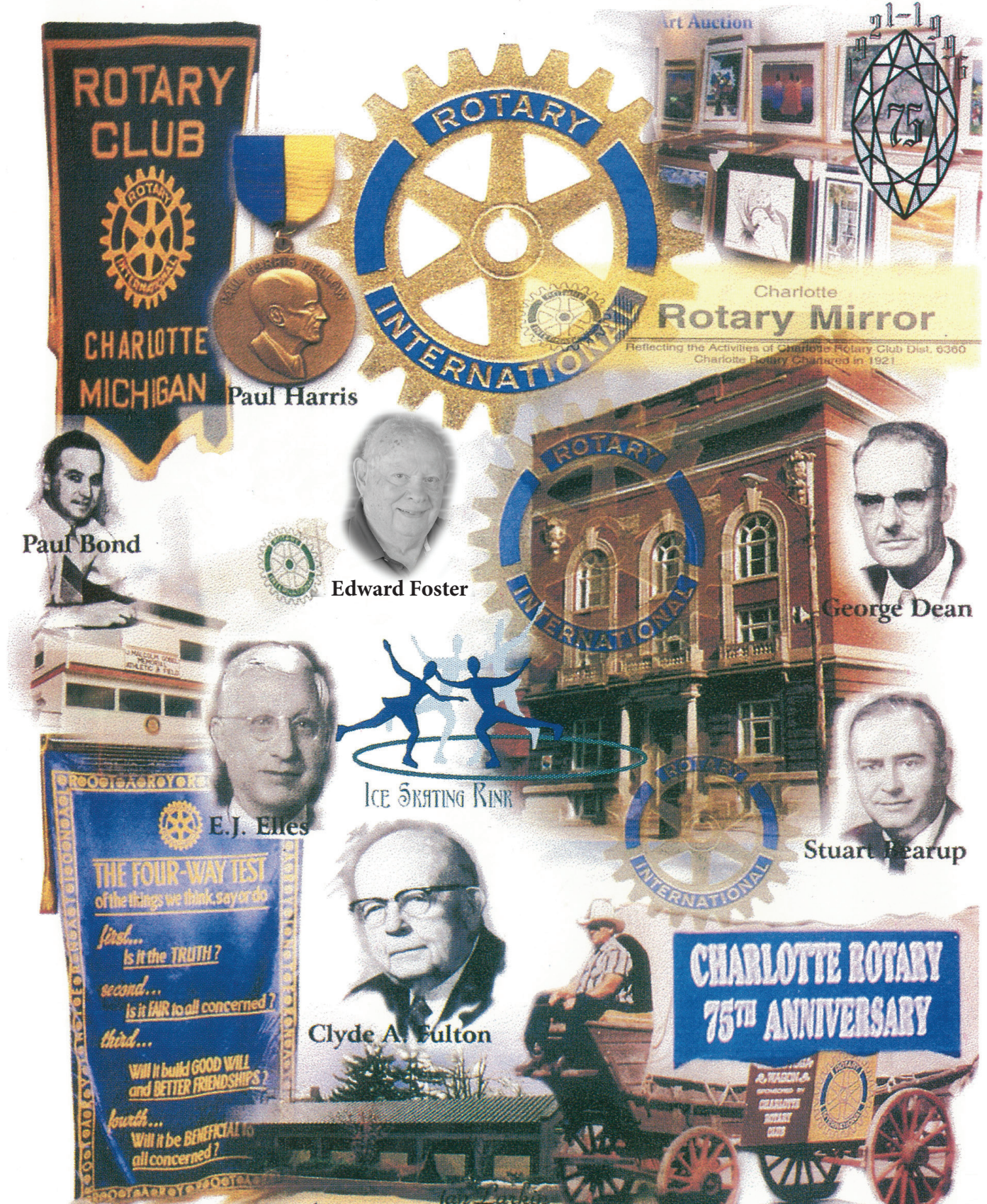


# 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



ROTARY SERVING CHARLOTTE  
SINCE MAY 1, 1921

Original cover designed by Jim Larkin



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# *The Objects of Charlotte Rotary Club*

*is to encourage and foster the idea of service as a basis of worth enterprise  
and in particular, to encourage and foster:*

- First: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;  
Second: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society;  
Third: The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life;  
Fourth: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional people united in the ideal of service.
- 

## *Charlotte Rotary Club*

*Chartered on May 1, 1921*

### **OFFICERS 2021-22**

President – Jerry Sommer  
President Elect – Tyler Pray  
President Nominee – Mandy Stewart  
Secretary – Edward Foster

Assistant Secretary – Eric Crandall  
Treasurer – Len Kilgore  
Immediate Past President - Samantha Davis

## *Board of Directors 2021-2022*

John Dykstra, III  
Keisha Howe  
Brian Lautzenheiser

John Newland  
Joel Fox  
Mike Crowner



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**



# The Four Way Test

There are no club projects or activities which are only business orientated, however, Rotary has a profound effect on each Rotarian's business life. Perhaps the application of Rotary's "Four Way Test" has the most noticeable effect; but the fellowship within the club and between the club and also between the Rotarians all over the world gives a lift to each member and his vocation.

Over the years there are many instances to bear this out and the early minutes of the club records the following occasions: Cash R. Reechler was honored with a testimonial banquet on December 30, 1929, at the Hotel Carnes, where 60 Rotarians and other Charlotte businessmen complimented their esteemed fellow townsman on the recent completion of the Eaton Theatre.

Again on July 31, 1930, the high esteem in which a member was held was shown by the following: "A motion made that M. H. DeFoe an honorary member of this club be sent a telegram of good wishes from this club aboard boat enroute to Europe leaving this day, committee to draft same Earl McGrath, Wilson Geddes, and Dr. Garlinghouse. The seconds were so numerous to record that the second of Fred Beach was accepted and motion carried. The program for February 4, 1932, involved tributes that were paid to six men who had been on 'Main Street' for forty years or more. The names and years in service were: Albert Murray, 54; M. H. DeFoe, 53; George Spencer, 52; John Miller, 48; Burt Collins, 47; and Russ Spencer, 41.

A detailed recorded occasion was on July 31, 1934, when the club held a testimonial meeting at the Allen Moyer cottage on Walled Lake honoring Ernest Chappelle, who had just accepted a new position as Superintendent of Schools at Ypsilanti. Ernest was president in 1927-28, and secretary from 1929 to 1932, and at the meeting he was presented with a matched set of genuine leather luggage and a large, framed document which was signed by the following members: Arnet Garlinghouse, Byron Brown, William Wright, John May, Rudolph Roth, Henry Nielsen, William A. Vance, Benj. F. Hennink, C. A. Snyder, Wesley B. Oldt, M. Donald Burkhead, Fred Bohm, John Richey, Paul S. Bond, Myer Vomberg, James Carr, Albert C. Cheney, Burt Collins, Frank Evans, William C. Peskett, John McNamara, Geo. F. Dean, Cash R. Beechler, Jos. W. Davis, Fred Beach, Lyman Chamberlain, Claude Chappell, Albert Murray, Wilson Geddes, James Church, H. Allen Moyer, Emerson R. Boyles, Huey Stall, Fitch Beach, Karl Keefer, Hans Kardel, C. B. Fisk Bangs, Earl McGrath, Ray A. Wietzke, W. B. Fulton and John Lawther.

The last tribute mentioned in those excellent club

minutes through 1936 concerned a special meeting at the Carnes Tavern on February 4, 1936, when Albert Murray was honored on his fiftieth year of business on 'Main Street.' The meeting was a complete surprise to Albert, which was further accentuated when he discovered other members of his family present as guests. The following was recorded: "Clyde (Fulton) called on R. S. Spencer, Burt Collins, John Miller, and George Spencer who respectfully told us what they thought of Albert, and each related some of the things that happened in their boyhood days as well as way back when on Main Street. Clyde then called on Russell McConnell, who with a few well-chosen remarks, presented to Albert a scroll with each and every member's name personally inscribed thereon. Albert very graciously accepted it making the statement that he never expects to have a better time at Rotary than he had today."

On a few occasions the club was even called upon to provide assistance to other establishments in the community. In the minutes of January 5, 1928, the following appeared: "Some talk took place relative to efforts toward the consolidation of the two local

telephone companies, wherein the chair appointed Clark Rudesill and Burton J. Cameron

to confer with other organizations relative to their cooperation toward this end."

Several appeals were made at various times for aid to the local hospital, one being on February 25, 1932, which was recorded as follows: "Allen Moyer suggested various items which were needed by the hospital. Karl Keefer promised to have Allen's wishes fulfilled provided Allen would attend his church the next Sunday at West Benton. The invitation was accepted."

Each year there are outstanding vocational programs presented, many by club members, which have always provided most interesting information about the businesses and professions represented in the club's list of members.

Our founder, Paul Harris, realized that any group promoting friendship among businessmen could not help but reward its members richly. The success of Rotary, and the history of Charlotte Rotary in particular, bears out his wisdom.

## The Four Way Test

*Of the things we think, say or do...*

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendship?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



# FOUR-WAY TEST

FOUR QUESTIONS – 24 WORDS

## THE UNIQUE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS

## PROCESS TO ACHIEVE DESIRED OUTCOMES THAT ARE ETHICAL, FAIR AND BENEFICIAL TO ALL

### IS IT THE TRUTH?

- Clarity
- Transparency
- Fact checking
- Ethical behaviour

That we do our homework to collect information and to apply critical thinking by asking questions to know the difference between facts, beliefs, assumptions, and opinions as well as know what we don't know.

### IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?

- Inclusion
- Empathy
- Acceptance
- Belonging
- Accountability

That we use empathy to see other points-of-view in the context of the problems to be solved and the goals to be reached.

### WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

- Trust
- Do good
- Feel good
- Have fun

That the process is civil, and there is a feeling of respect and openness to ask the "dumb" question, they can lead to creative and innovative answers. Also, people prefer to work with people they like, respect and trust.

### WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

- What if scenarios
- Trade-offs
- Being creative and innovative
- Better decision making

That these are the conflict transformative answers and decisions that can lead to mutually satisfying solutions, that are sustainable and scalable. This can be an iterative process as we learn more from doing and continuously improving with time.



# Early History of Charlotte Rotary

The forming of our club is best described by people who were there. The following was written by Arnet Garlinghouse and Byron Brown in 1964: "During the spring of 1920 Mr. Edward J. Elles, Mr. William I. Graham, who was a business partner of Mr. Elles and a member of the Detroit Rotary Club, and Dr. Arnet J. Garlinghouse met on many occasions at the offices of Dr. Garlinghouse and discussed the forming of a Rotary Club in Charlotte. Mr. Graham was an enthusiastic Rotarian and felt that Charlotte should have a club.

In July, 1920, Dr. Garlinghouse was planning to attend the National Convention of his profession in Chicago. Mr. Elles and Mr. Graham asked that while Dr. Garlinghouse was there that he visit the Central offices of Rotary International and get information, requirements and data necessary for the instituting of a club. At that time the officers and directors of Rotary International were reluctant to have clubs in cities the size of Charlotte. The interview was with Mr. Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, and Mr. Chester (Chesley) Perry, Secretary of Rotary International at that time. The meeting was very cordial and most interesting. They promised to give our application consideration. Undoubtedly the determination of Mr. Graham, who was a grand gentleman, a go-getter with top-notch selling ability, together with the fact that he was a member of the Detroit Rotary Club, convinced the staff at the Central Offices of Rotary International that as an experiment they would grant a Charter to Charlotte.

Mr. Graham, being a member of the Detroit Rotary Club, was named our Mother or Sponsor Club. After many meetings, conferences and with much correspondence during the winter of 1920 and the spring of 1921, the Charlotte Rotary Club was ready to be instituted. The Charter was granted May 9, 1921, with a membership of 24 Charter members.

And so it was that on May 9, 1921, the first organizational meeting of Charlotte Rotary Club was held. A nominating committee was selected, and seven directors elected. They were E. J. Elles, R. W. Carr, E. Kuhn, C. S. Brown, Max Shuler, Claude Marshall and Clifford Ward. It was decided that the membership fee would be \$25, dues would be \$25 per year, and that luncheons would be held on Thursdays from 12:10 to 1:10. One week later officers were elected, with E. J. Elles elected as president, R. W. Carr as Vice President, E. J. Kuhn as Secretary, and Dr. Max Shuler as Treasurer.

Charter Day (May 19, 1921) started with a noon meeting in the Community Club Room, above the former Consumers Power Company on South Cochran, now the home of Custom Home Interiors. One hundred fifty attended from many neighboring cities, including a special railroad carload from Detroit via NYCRR. Toastmaster William Graham of Detroit presided over the meeting, which included special music and speeches by many prominent Rotarians from throughout the state. To start the club off financially each guest gave \$1.00. Following the program, the guests were taken for a ride through Bennett Park, followed by sports and refreshments for all. Even a big crowd of boys,



*Garlinghouse*

who were enjoying the playgrounds were invited to join in with the festivities. The day was a sunny 75°, and was an appropriate birthday for club #971 of Rotary International.

During the next ten years the club established itself as a true service club, doing outstanding work with crippled children, youth activities and charity.

However, the depression took its toll, and we find the following froid

the "Charlotte Rotary History" by Arnet Garlinghouse and Byron Brown:

"In July 1933 the membership reached an all-time low of 26 members and was at a very low ebb. Much consideration was given to the thought of surrendering of the Charter at that date. A meeting was held by a few members at the home of Rev. Wesley D. Oldt after his election to the presidency in the spring of 1933. It was decided to continue for another year and effort be made to instill new life into the Club. The influence and personality of Rev. Oldt seemed to clear the clouds away. Added enthusiasm developed. New members came into the club and at the close of his year as president the membership had reached 39 in number."

The club has continued to grow, and now numbers nearly 80 members, far more than any city of our size in the area.



# 1921 Charter Members and Meeting Places

A. V. Roehm, Photographer  
Dr. Max Shuler  
Dentist George Spencer  
Banker Russ Spencer, Hardware Retailing  
H. R. Sylvester, Furniture Retailing Mortician  
C. C. Ward, Printing  
Rev. Alfred Way, Religion Protestant  
Price Wilson, Farm Machinery Retailing  
M. H. Defoe, Newspaper Publishing  
Edward J. Elles, Furniture Manufacturing  
Dr. A. J. Garlinghouse, Osteopathic Physician  
Carroll S. Brown, Banker

Dr. G. M. Byington, Physician Obstetrics  
Ralph W. Carr, Monuments Manufacturing  
C. H. Carrick, Education Public Schools  
Wilson Geddes, Men's Tailoring  
V. J. Griffith, Insurance  
E. J. Kuhn, Charlotte Community Assoc. Secretary  
Glen Marple, Bakery  
Claude Marshall, Attorney  
Arthur Mitchell, Men's Clothing Retailing  
Abbott L. Norris, Furniture Manufacturing  
John Richey, Dry Goods Retailing  
Lee E. Chandler, Druggist



*Charlotte Masonic Temple*

The Charlotte Rotary Charter Day luncheon was held in the Community Room of the Charlotte Community Association building at 225 S. Cochran, and this location was continued as the meeting place for the next twelve years. Mrs. William Dell catered for the Charter Day event and continued in this role until about December, 1921 when illness forced her retirement. Mrs. A. A. Shaver, who had worked with Mrs. Dell, then took over until about May, 1922 when Frank and Harry Robinson, both having restaurants locally, started catering, continuing until the club moved to the Carnes Hotel in August, 1933.

Board meetings during this period were usually held in the Community Room, but on occasion, the directors would first meet for dinner at the hotel and then retire to the Community Room for the meeting. The Tee Off at 695 Lansing Street (present site of the V.F.W. building) also provided a place for the directors to have a dinner meeting. Also noted in the

early records was that Ladies' Nights were usually held in the main dining room at the hotel and that waiters at the Community Room were high school boys, one being Emerson Vich, who was later to become our first Junior Rotarian in April, 1934.

In August, 1933, when the membership was down and the club was at a low ebb, it was felt that the large dining room in the Association building did not lend itself to such small luncheon groups, and after much discussion, due to one of the caterers being a club member, the decision was made to move to a much smaller room at the Hotel Carnes. This proved to be an excellent choice as the fellowship increased to a new high almost immediately.

The Hotel Carnes (or Carnes Tavern, as is noted in the early minutes) was a three-story building at the N.E. corner of Lawrence and Cochran and the meeting place was the so-called Trunk Room in the S.W. corner of the basement, with an outside entrance on Cochran street. The room was long and narrow and would hold about 50 persons. Also, as one fairly tall Past President described it, "When you stood up, your head was right against the ceiling." He also stated that the meals were prepared on the floor above and were lugged down to the basement, which always provided problems.

During World War II, the meals declined both in quality and quantity. One luncheon was mentioned in the Republican Tribune of May 14, 1943, as consisting of a sandwich and a piece of pie. Membership was increasing, so in January, 1944 a move was made to the basement of the Masonic Temple. Thus, we've been at the Temple for 52 years.



# The Rotary Foundation

Proposed in 1917 by R. I. President Arch Klumph, the Foundation was established formally by R. I. in 1928 but economic depression and war hindered its growth. The needed impetus took place in 1947 when Rotarians paid tribute to Paul Harris by donating millions of dollars to the Paul Harris Memorial of the Rotary Foundation.

The fund provides for the international exchange of Rotary Fellows or Scholars, undergraduate students, artisans, technicians, teachers of the handicapped and working journalists. The Foundation also sponsors international teams of young businesspeople known as Group Study Exchange teams. Over the years, the Rotary Foundation has sponsored more than 15,000 young people from 126 countries in these ventures.

In 1970, a Group Study Exchange team from Sweden toured our District 636, and, in the summer our district team toured Sweden. A German team visited the district in 1973.

In March of 1974, a team sent to Australia included Dennis Kloko from Charlotte. The team of five from New South Wales District 268 visited here in October.

In 1978, our district sent a team to England and, in turn, hosted a very impressive exchange group.

In 1989, Charlotte Rotary Club hosted an exchange team from India and this year will host a five member

exchange team from Finland May 13-19. The underlying thought in these thousands of exchanges is to promote international understanding. The students, GSE teams, etc., are, first, ambassadors of goodwill. From these people, the Club has enjoyed many fine programs and learned much about other countries, a partial fulfillment of the purpose.

The Rotary Foundation is funded by contributions from both individual Rotarians and Rotary Clubs.

The support of a club is measured in this manner: Whenever a club donates a sum equal to \$10 per member, it is designated a 100% club. As of August, 1995, Charlotte Rotary has contributed \$89,077.05 to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

In December of 1959, a member, Jack Beatty, presented 100 shares of stock to the Club for the Foundation. Through the sale of the stock, Charlotte became the first 400% club in District 636 and Beatty became our first Paul Harris Fellow.

Whenever someone donates \$1,000, or has \$1,000 donated in his or her name, that person becomes a Paul Harris Fellow. A person need not be a Rotarian to be one so this act is often used to honor a Rotary spouse or a benefactor of Rotary.

A club may designate its contributions to the Foundation for that purpose also.

## Clyde A. Fulton Community Pride Award

The Charlotte Rotary Club's Clyde A. Fulton Community Pride Award is presented annually in honor of Clyde A. Fulton, who over the span of his many productive years in Charlotte continually exemplified the qualities which have revered him to his friends, his many organizational groups, his church, and to the Charlotte Rotary.

Service to his customers, to his community and to numerous charitable, business and fraternal groups was his life. His was a history of commitment to worthy organizations and noble causes. The assumption of worthiness and honesty in his fellow man, his knack of mediation with the quality of fairness, his ever present friendliness and optimism were familiar traits to all who knew him.

His personal feelings of the dignity of the workplace, the holiness of worship and his meticulous adherence to integrity in business and personal life recommended him for leadership positions in every field of his interest.

Since adopting Charlotte as his home town in 1908, he

contributed his share to its history.

In 1983, Charlotte Rotary hereby took the opportunity to acknowledge its pride in him and his part in our community, of which we should all be proud, with the establishment of this annual award in his name.

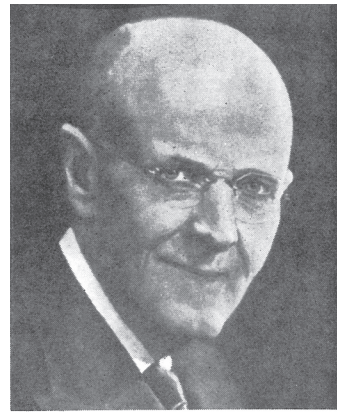
Past recipients of the award are:

1982-83	Eldred Toutant	2002-03	Richard Johnson
1983-84	Daryl Baker	2003-04	Edward Foster
1984-85	Stuart Bearup	2004-05	Jeannette Sommer
1985-86	Gordon Sparks	2005-06	Evelo Fulton
1986-87	Jo Johnson	2006-07	James Maatsch
1987-88	Herbert Black	2007-08	Floyd Jewell
1988-89	Jud Richardson	2008-09	Judge Thomas Eveland
1989-90	Darrell Cook	2009-10	James G. Crandall
1990-91	B. Phillip Brown	2010-11	John Gaedert
1991-92	Stuart Graham	2011-12	Randy Crandell
1992-93	Robert Fulton	2012-13	Christi Dutcher
1993-94	Fred Darin	2013-14	Donna W. Johnson
1994-95	William F. Powers	2014-15	Doug Buck
1995-96	Andy Nicolaou	2015-16	Marty Latchaw
1996-97	Rod Yates	2016-17	Lori Pray
1997-98	Richard Trumley	2017-18	Matt Rush
1998-99	Chuck Grundstrom	2018-19	Mike Bruce
1999-00	Frank Pawli	2019-20	Paul Wilson
2000-01	William White	2020-21	Joseph Pray
2001-02	Donald Sovey		

# Paul Harris and Rotary International

Rotary is the realization of a dream come true by our founder Paul P. Harris. Paul Harris was born in Racine, Wisconsin, April 19, 1868, and spent his early childhood and years of young manhood in Wallingford, Vermont. He attended the University of Vermont, Princeton University, and was graduated from law school at the University of Iowa in 1891. For several years after graduation, Paul traveled the country extensively, but finally settled down in Chicago and opened a law office in the loop area. One day following a business luncheon with an attorney friend, they took an after-dinner stroll in the Rogers Park business district of Chicago. Harris was quite impressed by the number of people on the street as well as in business establishments that passed greetings. Harris realized then that all of his business friends in the loop area were only interested in business and were not social friends. Thus began his dream of combining business and professional people into a club for the purpose of friendship and fellowship. By 1905, Harris had formulated his plans and philosophy of business relations. He discussed these plans with three clients, Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer; Gustavus Loehr, a mining engineer; and Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor. On February 23, 1905, the four men met in Schiele's office and

organized the first Rotary Club. The name Rotary was chosen by Paul Harris because the members met in rotation in their various offices or places of business. Rotary was soon on its way. By 1910 there were 16 clubs and there had, already been a national convention at which the name "National Association of Rotary Clubs" was adopted. Within the next two years clubs were founded in Canada, Ireland, and England. Winnipeg, Manitoba, had the distinction of being the first club outside of the United



PAUL HARRIS

States. With the move beyond our borders, the name was changed to the "International Association of Rotary Clubs," and this was shortened in 1922 to its present "Rotary International". Before his death on January 27, 1947, Harris had seen his dream materialize and sweep across not only this country but into many foreign lands. Currently there are 1,185,431 members and there are 27,926 clubs.

## Paul Harris Fellows

Allen, Joshua E.  
Allen, Stacey N.  
Archer, Chuck E.  
Arends, Herman S.  
Baker, L. Daryl  
Baxter, Max  
Buck, Douglas E.  
Campbell, Jacob  
Cicorelli, James  
Cook, Kathie F.  
Crandall, Eric J.  
Crandall, James  
Crandell, Randy  
Crownier, Mike A.  
Darin, Frederick P.  
Dykstra, John  
Dykstra, John III  
Dykstra, Kristin

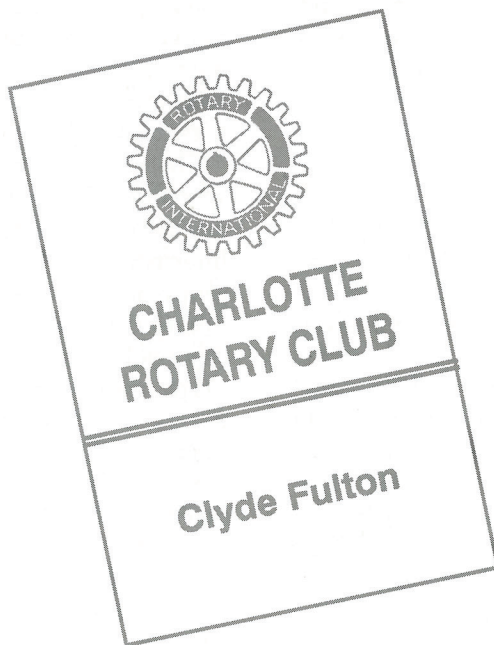
Ferris, Vince Jr.  
Foster, Ed  
Foster, Linda L.  
Fox, Joel F.  
Friar, Michael G.  
Fulton, Barbara J  
Fulton, Michael  
Gaedert-Gearhart, Cindy  
Gager, Matthew R.  
Gilson, Amy E.  
Grundstrom, Charles  
Guetschow, Gregg G.  
Jackson, Morris L.  
Jewell, Timothy J.  
Johnson, Mark Richard  
Johnson, Richard D  
Johnson, Tim W.  
Kelly, Terrance J.

Latchaw, Martin L.  
Lautzenheiser, Brian D.  
Leeser, Robert  
Lovaas, Nate A.  
Miars, Wally  
Miller, Cindy A.  
Newland, John H.  
Pray, Joseph Ernest  
Pray, Joseph Tyler  
Reed, Timothy  
Sommer, Gerald S.  
Sommer, Jeannette  
Sovey, Donald  
Starr, David W.  
Sweatman, Mark  
Wheaton, Leland  
Wildern, Jeffrey A.  
Wilson, Paul



# Medallions and Junior Rotarians

**M**edallions, or name badges as they are more commonly known, have been a part of service clubs since service clubs began. In the beginning, Charlotte Rotary was no different, and in August of 1922 it was decided that each member was to pay for his badge and not take the money out of the treasury. For this reason it is assumed that badges went out with the depression. The membership became very independent on this point, and through much of the recent history, Charlotte Rotarians have not worn name badges. During the fifties a few Rotarians thought the Club should adopt medallions, however, their efforts were unsuccessful. Apparently the Board of Directors, and the members, felt that it was alright for other clubs, but not necessary for Charlotte. We find records that in June of 1955, when the Olivet Rotary Club received its Charter and held their Charter Night at Dole Hall on June 8,



Charlotte Rotary presented Olivet with medallions for their luncheon meetings.

In September of 1955, the club voted whether Charlotte should have medallions, and the vote failed 50 to 17. And so, when 1960 rolled around, Charlotte still had no name badges. A Lansing Rotarian attending one of our meetings commented, that "Out West the absence of medallions means that there are horse thieves or tax dodgers around." In August of 1960 it was again considered and decided to purchase medallions for the Club guests. However, Club members still held out stubbornly and would not wear them. In May of 1961 the Board of Directors for the third time presented the question to the Club as a whole. At this time they were successful and we had medallions at last. At the June 6 meeting the president at that time, Bun Elles, pinned the first medallion on Stu Graham, a leader of the medallion cause.

**I**n 1934 Paul Bond initiated the idea of inviting one senior boy to the Club meetings each month as a guest of the club. The objective was to introduce young students who were leaders in the school community to men who were leaders in the professional businesses and industries of Charlotte.

However, even before Paul Bond started the Junior Rotarian program in Charlotte, Rotarians had included the high school boys in their activities.

In April of 1934 Emerson Visch, a Charlotte High School Senior, was invited as the first Junior Rotarian. Since that time, covering a period of 62 years, 850 seniors have shared the fellowship of Rotary. Starting in September of 1978, a young man and a young woman have been invited each month of the school year. Prior to that time, 9 - 14 Senior boys were selected for each year.

The Junior Rotarian movement spread throughout Rotary, but it is believed that it started in Charlotte. Rotary headquarters learned of our

Junior Rotarians and advised that they objected to our calling them Junior Rotarians, claiming there are no Juniors in Rotary. They requested that we refer to these young people as "student guests." The membership decided that title didn't appeal to them, and to this day our student guests are referred to as "Junior Rotarians."

The first Junior Rotarian get-together was held on June 23, 1936. Since that time, the club has annually invited the Junior Rotarians back for the meeting during the Christmas / New Year vacation. Everyone looks forward each year to renewing friendships and this reunion is one of the few opportunities for many of the past Junior Rotarians to see old classmates. Many of our Junior Rotarians have joined our club and other Rotary Clubs throughout the country. This year in honor of our 75th anniversary, 76 former Junior Rotarians joined us for the annual reunion.

# Projects of Our Past

## BIG BROTHERS OF CHARLOTTE

The Big Brother program was started in Charlotte in 1965 after the failure of a program that was designed to help high school boys who were about to drop out of school. It was thought that a Big Brother program was needed to help these boys before they had thoughts of dropping out.

Rotary became involved in 1966 when representatives from the Lansing Big Brothers presented a program explaining the activities and objects of the Big Brother program, and local Rotary members outlined the need for a program in Charlotte. Interest grew, and in January of 1967, a permanent committee was formed in our club and it became a club project.

During the 13 years of committee existence the Charlotte Big Brother program served 87 Little Brothers and 80 Big Brothers participated.

## CHARITY BALL

During the depression of the early thirties, various projects were engaged in by Rotarians for the public welfare needs of the community. The month of January 1932 was especially productive in providing assistance, starting with the first Rotary meeting of the month, when several guests from the community were present to offer suggestions on the matter. Present were the Superintendent of the Poor, President of the Sunshine Club, Secretary of the local Committee of the Michigan Tuberculosis Association, Secretary of the Altruistic Club, the Captain of the Salvation Army, an American Legion representative, and the Judge of the Probate Court.

Before the month was over, a nine-day city-wide drive for clothing and shoes was completed, with the Rotarians picking up seven truck loads of articles which were taken to the Community Rooms where the Sunshine Club did the sorting and then handled the final distribution. Also in January, a Charity Ball was held at the Temple for which tickets were sold on a house-to-house canvass; the first ward canvass being made by the Lions Club, the second by the Sunshine Club, the third by the American Legion, and the fourth by the Rotary Club. A substantial amount was realized which was made available to the Sunshine Club. Finally, the Community Hospital received temporary assistance through contributions made by the Rotary members.

## CRIPPLED CHILDREN

From the start of the Charlotte Rotary Club in 1921 the Crippled Children program was the major club project. In the 1920's and 1930's day long clinics were held every two or three years. Early records report clinics on June 12, 1925, July 8, 1927, May 8, 1930, and October 10, 1933, which were held at the Charlotte Community Association building at 225 S. Cochran, with orthopedic surgeons Dr. William Blodgett of the University Hospital at Ann Arbor and Dr. Purcell of the Grace Hospital in Detroit presiding alternately. Another early clinic was held at Howell on December 11, 1934, to which the Rotarians provided transportation for the children from Eaton County.

Prior to the first clinic on June 12, 1925, Rotarians thoroughly canvassed the entire county to locate the crippled children, and then talked to the parents about bringing the children to the clinic. Dr. William Blodgett of Ann Arbor was the attending orthopedic surgeon, bringing along two of his assistants. The first floor was used as a reception room and the upstairs halls and other rooms for the clinic. Rotarians, along with members of other clubs in Bellevue, Eaton-Rapids and Grand Ledge, assisted in the transportation of the mothers and children from and to their homes; all Rotarian doctors were present throughout the day; many local nurses helped out; all other Rotarians worked on various assignments, and Rotary Anns helped on registrations, serving lunches, entertaining the children, and in many other ways. Tricycles, carts, and other play articles were available to amuse the little ones while waiting to be examined. It was an extremely busy day with over 80 children being examined.

For all clinics each Rotarian was assigned one or more crippled children from the county, and the responsibility was not only the initial transportation, but, in the event surgery or treatment was recommended, he would first obtain the consent of the parents and then provide transportation as often as necessary to the hospital designated which was usually in Ann Arbor or Detroit.

On February 8, 1926, shortly after the first clinic, Raysh Higby was our delegate to the 6th Annual Meeting of the Michigan Society for Crippled Children held in Detroit, to which 115 delegates attended representing 31 cities.

Paul Bond mentioned in his 1955 report that Charlotte was one of eleven Rotary Clubs which were lauded for taking a personal interest in their



children by bringing them to and from the hospitals and exercising supervision over the family after the child was returned home.

Prior to 1927, the state-wide Crippled Children program was financed in part by a \$2 per capita assessment against all Michigan Rotary Clubs; but by this time there were more than 17,000 crippled children needing aid and more funds were required. In 1927, through the encouragement of the Rotary clubs, the Michigan Legislature created the first Crippled Children Commission which provided funds for the continuance and expansion of this most worthwhile endeavor.

Easter Seals (first called White Cross Seals) were also a source of revenue starting in the "twenties."

Charlotte Rotary Club's Crippled Children Committee had charge of the addressing, stuffing, and mailing of the thousands of Easter Seal envelopes throughout Eaton County.

#### ICE RINK

**D**ecember 15, 1967, the Charlotte Rotary Club answered an urgent call to serve the young people by agreeing to supervise the community ice rink. The City Recreation Department reported that it was impossible to find capable people on a part-time basis to do this job and asked the Charlotte Rotary Club for help. The board of directors met and voted to supervise the rink as a club service project. All club members that were physically able took their turn on duty. A shift consisted of two hours and many members served double duty due to the long length of the ice skating season. In 1967 there were 72 days of skating, a pretty "cool" record. The club continued this service for fourteen years.

#### MAGIC ON THE CEILING

**T**he Magic on the Ceiling project was sponsored jointly with the Lions club in early 1948 when a special projector was procured for the use of bedridden patients. This projector was made available to people in the hospital or at home and would allow them to read books, watch comic strips or anything else that could be put on film, by projecting a picture on the ceiling.

The project was the result of a six-page article in the July 1947 Coronet magazine, which told about service clubs in Detroit that provided several machines for use in their area. Permission was received from the magazine to reprint the article on a single sheet and these copies were distributed to the members of both local clubs prior to a joint dinner meeting with their wives on February 10, 1948. The speaker at this meeting was the President

of the Detroit Lions Club at the time the project was started there.

It was only a short time later that a projector was available here from the library.



Bob Fulton receives Community Service Award from President Gordon Sparks.

#### CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE PROGRAM

**"T**he Christmas Adventure for World Understanding" was sponsored by Michigan State University. Students from foreign countries attending colleges and universities in the United States came to the Michigan State Campus during the Christmas holiday vacation to attend programs during the week and socialize with other foreign students. This helped overcome the loneliness and boredom of being left alone on their individual campuses while the other students went home for Christmas. For several years George Dean worked with this program and encouraged Charlotte Rotarians to entertain these students over the weekend when there were no planned programs at Michigan State.

In the 1950's students from India, Malaysia, Nigeria, Okinawa, Formosa, France, England, Argentina, Afghanistan, Egypt, Iran, Lebanon, Israel, Mexico, Greece and Sweden were entertained in the homes of Rotarians Darrel Johnson, Bun Elles, Bart Rypstra, George Dean, Lynn Fowler and William Powers.

The Deans entertained a man from England who wrote a book about his experiences in the United States. Upon receiving a gift copy George and Bea learned they had been mentioned as gracious hosts during the author's short holiday in Michigan. While entertaining a girl from Egypt, the Powers learned their guest was antagonistic toward United States foreign policy and the friendly atmosphere gradually

became strained. That same year, the Elses and Johnsons got their guests together to exchange ideas of American hospitality and found they were hosting a man from Lebanon and one from Israel. Peace was maintained by avoiding political subjects during the hour of conversation.

The benefits of this program were very evident to Darrel and Jo Johnson one year when they hosted a student who was in his fourth year of study in the United States. Theirs was the first American home which had welcomed him during his stay in this country, and he remained a correspondent for several years after his visit.

## EXCHANGE STUDENTS

**O**n June 1, 1954 the idea of an exchange student program was presented to our Rotary Club. The program is sponsored by the United Council of Churches, through the Michigan Council of Churches, and enables a senior in high school from some other country to spend a year in our country. The purpose is to create a better understanding among nations by exposing young people to our way of life. Our Board of Directors voted to sponsor a student for the year 1954-55 and our first exchange student, Dieter Schneider from West Berlin, Germany, arrived on August 8, 1954. He was one of 19 coming to Michigan, 6 of them sponsored by Rotary Clubs in district 636. Dieter made his home with Mr. and Mrs. George Dean while here, made 56 speeches at Rotary Clubs, churches, and various organizations. He returned to West Berlin in July 1955, finished high school and college and received his Doctorate Degree in Business Administration. He then joined his father in the hotel and restaurant supply business.

In October of 1961, Dieter made a return visit to Charlotte and as a goodwill gesture, our club sent money back to West Berlin with Dieter to purchase a Christmas tree. Dieter took care of the arrangements and a Christmas tree tall enough to be seen over the wall at "Check Point Charlie" was purchased and erected, with the Rotary Emblem and the wording, "Charlotte Rotary Club."

In July of 1958, the club sponsored two students, Renate Gramer and Jutta Putz. Renate lived with Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Sassaman and after her return to Germany graduated from Munster University, then returned to the United States to attend the University of Michigan and in 1968 received her Ph.D. in Mathematics. In 1964 Renate was married to James E. McLaughlin, son of Rotarian and Rotary Ann, Judge and Mrs. Ion McLaughlin.

Jutta Putz made her home with Reverend and Mrs. H.B. Loomis while in Charlotte. She returned to West Berlin to complete her education and married Klans Asterhof, a manufacturer of automatic machines, and now lives in West Berlin.

In August 1960, Gabor Pusztaszere, from Lausanne, Switzerland, arrived to make his home with Dr. and Mrs. William Byland and attend Charlotte High School. Two years later, Mary Ellen Byland spent her junior year at his parent's school in Lausanne. Gabor is now a medical doctor doing graduate work in research.

For the years 1961-62 Ernst Ulrick Lettau, made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Bun Elles. Ernst came from Karlsruhe, West Germany, and after finishing his year in Charlotte, returned and completed preparatory school. He then attended Heidelberg University, returned to Lehigh University, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, then back to Heidelberg to receive his Master's Degree. Ernst was married in 1970 to Bettina Warneke, also a student at Heidelberg. Jukka Juvonan from Helsinki, Finland, for the years 1967-68 spent the first part of his years with the families of Bob Munger and Bun Elles and the balance with Edward Morey. In August of 1968 Jukka returned to Helsinki to complete his schooling.

Tito Maule of Rio Claro, Brazil came to Charlotte through the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program. He lived with Terry and Marilyn Armstrong from February 1983 until May when he was hosted by Gordan and Jo Sparks. During June Tito traveled to Toronto, Canada to the Rotary International Convention and took a trip around the United States. In August he came to live with Richard and Donna Johnson. Tito was highly motivated to learn all he could about the United States, by attending the State and local government sessions as well as our Court System. He stated he was very impressed with our "true democratic way of life." Tito returned to Brazil the middle of January 1984.

Tito has since returned to Michigan three times. The first trip was in 1986 when he came back and visited the Johnson family. In 1990 Tito received his law degree from Brazil. Then in 1991 on his way to Brussels, Belgium to study for a masters degree in law, he again visited the Johnsons on his way thru. The third time was in 1994 when Tito was traveling to the U.S. for a Brazilian law firm to try and secure financing to privatize the Brazilian electrical system.



# A Letter From Our President

It was the Roaring 20's - the decade of flappers, prohibition, and the great stock market crash. And in Charlotte, a group of businessmen envisioned founding a Rotary Club. And it is thanks to their vision and commitment that Charlotte Rotary was granted charter on May 19, 1921, from Rotary International.

And in the 75 years since, the Charlotte Rotary Club has not only survived but thrived, growing from 24 charter members to its current 78 members. During a particularly memorable program on March 26, Bob Fulton reminisced about the many members who have gone before and built such a strong foundation and rich heritage for us to currently enjoy as Charlotte Rotarians. Therefore, I feel particularly honored and privileged to chair the Charlotte Rotary Club in this, its 75th year. And it is thanks to the efforts of many individuals that this has been an illustrious and memorable year.

Many Rotary committies have helped commemorate this milestone of 75 years of Rotary service to the Charlotte community, and I would like to take a moment to highlight a few of those events. Our Attendance Committee hosted a successful "100% Attendance Day" on August 22, and we posed for our club picture as a part of that program. A few weeks later our Rotary Conestoga Wagon was a unit in the Charlotte Frontier Days parade proudly displaying our "75th Anniversary" banner, and in December was a unit in the Charlotte Christmas parade also. Our Membership Committee began a "member spotlight" program this year so we could learn more about some of our fellow long-time Rotarians. And the Student Guest Committee welcomed 75 Junior Rotarians back for our annual Junior Rotarian Reunion December 26. The Program Committee in cooperation with the Mirror, Environmental, Fellowship, and Four-Way Test Committees commemorated our 75th anniversary with some special programs.

We enjoyed programs on automobiles from the 1920's to present day, a "Laurel and Hardy" silent 1920's era film, a fashion show with models from the club featuring clothing from 1920's to the 1950's, and a "Charleston" dancing demonstration and lesson! We were honored to share this last program with the Olivet and Eaton Rapids Rotary Clubs. As Charlotte Rotary was the sponsor for the Eaton Rapids Rotary Club and helped found the Olivet Rotary Club, both Clubs helped us celebrate our 75th anniversary with a joint meeting on April 9. The Historical

Committee deserves many "kudos" for all their hard work putting together our 75th anniversary commemorative booklet. Also, the Public Relations Committee for the Charlotte Rotary Club "75th anniversary supplement" in the Charlotte Shopping Guide and slides at the Eaton Theatre. The Community Pride Committee was responsible for commissioning the 75th anniversary collage, and we thank artist Jan Larkin for her generosity in donating her time and talents to create this very unique tribute to our Club. The Sports Committee will get into the "swing" of things this summer, with a Club outing to a Lansing Lugnuts baseball game featuring an announcement of our 75th anniversary on their score-board. The highlight of our year-long 75th anniversary celebration will be the "Roaring 20's" banquet on May 4 organized by our Special Events Committee, with a special performance by the Charlotte Women's Club Choir singing "music through the decades."

Charlotte Rotary this past year has also continued the Club's long history of involvement in International Service. Some events of special note include Doug Lowe's second trip to Nicaragua as part of a District humanitarian effort in that country, our participation in the Rotary Youth Exchange program with Adrienne Simmons going to Chile this summer, and the hosting of a Finnish Exchange Team in Charlotte, May 13 - 19. This year we also marked the 8th annual art auction with funds donated back to the community for betterment projects such as

Christmas; Kiddies, the Holiday Food Basket program, the community Christmas decorations, new Charlotte welcome signs, and for plantings at the 1845 Courthouse. Other community service projects Rotarians helped with this year included the Frontier Days Las Vegas Night, Community Dinners, Salvation Army "bell ringing," Special Olympics, and the Holiday Food Basket program. We also continued the Club's tradition of involvement with youth in the community through the Junior Rotarian program, sponsorship of students for Whitewater and Life Leadership conferences, and a community recreation baseball team. And we awarded community service awards to Linda and Ed Foster, and Marty Latchaw, and will name the 14th recipient of our Clyde A. Fulton award in June.

All in all, it has been a busy and wonderful 75th anniversary year. And along the way, we hope we have helped lay the foundation for another 75 years of Rotary service to the Charlotte community!



*Susan Joostberns,  
1995-96 President  
Charlotte Rotary Club*



# Charlotte Rotary Club celebrates 75 years



Doug Lowe and Sandy Maatsch



Sally Johnson, Tony and Shelly Sommer



Rod and Joyce Yates



Kirk and Mary Evans and Beth Wildern



Tim Starr, Andy Joostberns, Joey Pray, Paul Wilson.



Lori Pray

Charlotte's Women Club Choir entertains.





# Rotary Projects (1980-present)

## CHARLOTTE ROTARY ART AUCTION



The first Art Auction took place in 1988 at the suggestion of then to be President, Vince Ferris. 1995 marked the eighth anniversary of the Art Auction, the only current fund-raising event of the Charlotte Rotary Club. The Art Auction has raised over \$24,000 for the local community service projects with over \$18,000 being donated alone for the Charlotte Library. Over the years other recipients of this event have included; the Charlotte Athletic Boosters for financing the press box at the Mac Gobel Athletic Field, Christmas Kiddies, Camp Frances, Helping Hands, the Garden Club, Summer Youth Baseball, Chamber of Commerce Christmas Decoration, Mac Gobel Scholarship Fund, Athletic Betterment Fund, and the Welcome to Charlotte sign as well as donations to individuals during their time of need. The Art Auction was held in 1988 at the American Legion Hall, but soon outgrew its capacity. The Auction was then moved to Kirk Center, Olivet College and is currently held in that location.

## LIFE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Charlotte Rotary Club sponsors a Charlotte High School student to attend the weekend Life Leadership Conference held at Camp Algonquin near Hastings, Michigan.

Each fall 60 high school youth from District 6360 attend the Life Leadership Conference.

Conference activities are developed to help high school students achieve success through team building, goal setting, cooperation, and creative problem solving. Participants will also develop their own leadership style, as well as expanding their communication skills.

Students are challenged to a "hands on" and "learn by doing" approach to leadership development. Some of the activities are only inches from the ground, while others are more than 20 feet from firm footing. All require the

participants to take a risk and give 100%.

Participating Charlotte students have returned to share their experiences with the Charlotte Rotary Club. All of the students have shared positive comments about their challenging weekend.

## WORLD AFFAIRS SEMINAR

Each year the Charlotte Rotary Club sponsors a Charlotte High School student to attend the week long World Affairs Seminar held at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The World Affairs Seminar is a personalized educational program for high school students to learn about the customs, traditions, aspirations and heritage of people from around the globe through personal association with young people from foreign countries.

The purpose of the World Affairs Seminar is to bring about a better understanding of world problems on the part of high school students through a study of current issues.

The seminar consists of lectures, films, panels and group discussions, as well as informational talks on important issues of the day.

## POLIO PLUS



Beginning in 1988 Charlotte Rotary Club participated in a major worldwide effort to eradicate polio throughout the world. The funding drive was a part of Rotary International's effort called Polio Plus which was designed to eliminate polio, as well as several other diseases, throughout the world by the year 2005. The program raised money to purchase vaccine to fight the diseases.

The worldwide goal of \$160 million was exceeded when Rotary International raised \$260 million, according to Ed Foster, Chairman of the Polio Plus drive for Charlotte. The club exceeded its goal of \$22,895 with the final pay-

ment being completed in June of 1991. At least 80 club members participated in the fund drive.

According to Stuart Bearup, there were at least 14 Paul Harris Fellows established during the Polio Plus fund raising effort which would account for \$14,000 of the total amount. Individual pledges ran from \$5 to \$1,000.

The Polio Plus program is still ongoing. After the initial fund raising was completed, the administration of the program was turned over to Rotary Foundation.

Over two billion children immunized against polio, in partnership with WHO, UNICEF, CDC and other world health leaders. Polio Eradication Gifts Since 1985: Charlotte Rotary \$164,354 & District 6360 \$1.9 Million

### MISSION TRIP TO BELIZE

The service of the Charlotte Rotary Club is felt beyond our own community and into the world, including the Central American country of Belize. District 6360 Rotarians, who represent 67 clubs between Lansing and Benton Harbor, had a mission to assist in this country for four years by providing buses, other vehicles, and school supplies worth more than \$500,000. The Charlotte club participated for three years, donating various school supplies and two school buses purchased from Charlotte Public Schools.

Last year's mission trip to Belize included Charlotte Rotarians Doug Lowe and Ed Morey, along with 32 others representing Rotary District 6360 who embarked on a 3,200 mile trip to the Central American country which borders Guatemala, Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea. Their goal was to deliver five buses, two ambulances, a bookmobile, a van, an educational resource vehicle, and a truck to a country lacking in many things, especially means of transportation.

Other Charlotte residents going along were Ed's wife, Grace, and Dick and Claire Beechler. Claire, a retired Spanish teacher, acted as the official interpreter for the entire caravan. The three men, along with Ed's lifelong friend and world traveler, Jim Keith, took turns driving the Charlotte donated bus, which Doug says did not break down once, just as the one donated the previous year did not break down.

The convoy traveled with citizens band radios, portable phones, and two-way radios on the trip that was well prepared with mechanic, nurse, interpreter, and a vehicle loaded with several hundred gallons of drinking water. Every individual financed their own two week trip while the Charlotte Rotary Club provided gas and oil for its donated Charlotte bus.

One of the objectives of Rotary is to provide fellowship among business people. The Rotarians on this trip were able to visit a Rotary Club in Rosenberg, Texas, and were treated to a reception hosted by the Brownsville, Texas, Rotarians.

Out of the ten days it took to arrive in Belize, two and

one-half of those were spent waiting for permission to cross the Mexican border. Because the convoy was traveling all the way through Mexico, the government was very particular about inspecting the vehicles and records regarding each vehicle's contents. At one point while at a gas station in Mexico, a small earthquake occurred disrupting Ed's reading time on the bus. Another somewhat unsettling experience for the group occurred in southern Mexico when a heavily armed group of soldiers stopped the convoy during the night, and went through every vehicle. Even though government officials may not have been very warm with the group, Doug says the entire trip was an experience of a lifetime and the people were very nice, hospitable, and appreciative of the group's efforts.

As the convoy entered Corozal in Belize, the Rotarians were welcomed with a police escort and a reception hosted by the Corozal Rotary Club. While there, those representing the individual clubs visited the schools their clubs had adopted and the various buses and other vehicles were distributed to other schools and Boy Scouts in this country that have little or no automotive transportation. Charlotte's bus was donated to Technical Jr. High School in Orange Walk Town.

Of the 44 schools adopted by District 6360 clubs, the Charlotte Club was assigned to the Christian School of Assembly of God, which has students from infants through the eighth grade. The students wear maroon uniforms and are clean and well behaved, Doug says. School supplies were distributed and Doug and his wife Jan, donated a carton of rings and wind-up cars that the principal used as awards for the students. The Charlotte adopted school consists of two 15 X 40 feet buildings divided into three rooms with cement floors, block walls, and open rafters up to a tin roof. One building has no electricity while the other has two outlets and neither building has electric lights, inside bathrooms, or running water. The playground has no equipment, but merely consists of some Maya Ruins. The staff, which includes three male teachers, one of which is the principal and three female teachers, was very appreciative of the compassion shown by the Charlotte club. The Rotary International motto of "Service Above Self" is certainly being fulfilled by the Charlotte Rotary Club as it continues to reach out to the local community and a world around us that is in need of many things we sometimes take for granted.

### CHARLOTTE ROTARIAN DOUG LOWE VISITS NICARAGUA

Charlotte businessman Doug Lowe joined 14 fellow Rotarians from District 6360 on an 11-day visit to Nicaragua to support several current and future products with local Rotarians.

Most of their work was done in an orphanage at El Crucero, just outside Managua, where Lowe says major renovations



were made in a kitchen there.

"It was a very large room with block walls, a cement floor, and a cement shelf," he says. "They had open firepits built with brick and stone and all the cooking was done in those firepits. There was one light bulb for the whole big room and there wasn't running water."

The first thing the Rotarians did was scrub the walls, floors, and ceilings, which were covered with soot. They installed a restaurant style gas grill and put in a stove and pizza oven. The orphanage kitchen fed about 70 children, and it was run by a sister and several young helpers.

After the kitchen was redone, the Rotarians helped with two donated automobiles the orphanage had but didn't run. "We managed to get those running too," says Lowe. The Rotarians also visited several other projects of Rotary International.



"We worked some long days in less than desirable conditions," says Lowe. "But it was worth it just to see them react. They were very happy."

Lowe said the residents were very helpful and very eager to learn.

"Our last night there, they put on a show and sang for us," says Lowe. "They came up and gave us a hug and a small gift. It was quite moving."

"There was one little boy who liked to be held. He was my little buddy. The last day when we were leaving he cried his eyes out. I plan to go back to the orphanage and visit him next year, even though we don't yet know where our next Rotary project will be."

Lowe has made two trips with Rotary to the region and said he won't hesitate to do it again.

"They are very appreciative of the help we gave them," says Lowe. "For them, they get to learn some of the basics. They help us and we help them."

Which is what Rotary is all about.

"The Charlotte Club is very active in helping out," he says. "Over the years, the contributions have been quite extensive in the community."

## CHARLOTTE ROTARY CLUB SPONSORS CHS STUDENT TO CHILE

Adrienne Simmons, age 16, went to Chile in late July, 1996. Her visit to Chile for one year is being made possible through the Ohio-Erie Rotary Youth Exchange Program, a project of Rotary International. Through Rotary's Youth Exchange Program students between the ages 15 and 19 may apply and are selected by a sponsoring Rotary Club on the basis of a written application and personal interview. Those applying for the program have to originate from a city which has a Rotary Club, and there has to be a Rotary Club in the city the student visits. According to John Conrad, who coordinates the exchange program for Rotary's District 6360, of which Charlotte is a part, students who apply must be open minded and in the top one third of their class.



Adrienne Simmons

Rotary Clubs sponsoring students can expect a visit from a student from that country the following year.

## FRONTIER DAYS

The Charlotte Rotary Club has been an active participant in support of the annual Frontier Days Festival held in Charlotte Each September.

Since the origin of the festival in 1971, members of the Charlotte Rotary Club have been in the front lines in planning, administration and participation in the festival. Several previous general chairmen have been members of the Charlotte Rotary Club; they are Ed Morey, Stuart Bearup, Fred Darin, Lynn Fowler, Herb Holmes, Doug Lowe, Frank Pawli, Leon Monroe, Jim Cicorelli, Dan Hayes and Tim Johnson. Many members of Charlotte Rotary have served on the Frontier Days Board of Directors and project committees as well.

In 1972, the Rotary Club restored an authentic Conestoga Wagon as a club project, which has been a featured event in the annual parade every year. The Conestoga Wagon has also been placed into service to offer free rides around the City to festival visitors.

Every year members of the Rotary Club have contributed their time in staffing the Frontier Saloon and Dance Hall. Free manpower at the Saloon has enabled this to be the festival's largest revenue producing event, and substantially contributes to the financial success of the festival.

The Charlotte Rotary Club and its individual members have devoted countless hours over the years in making Charlotte Frontier Days one of the most successful and renowned festivals in the great State of Michigan.

## THE CONESTOGA WAGON

When Frontier Days was proposed by Rotarian Steve Musselman as a sustaining event in Charlotte, Rotarians had a dominant part bringing this event into being. It was felt that the Club should have a permanent parade float and the authentic reproduction of a Conestoga Wagon seemed ideal.

Committee Chairman Edward Morey went to Greenfield Village to get pictures and a firm idea as to how the wagons were built. Almost a year was required to assemble wagon parts sufficient to make the undercarriage. Serviceable wheels were the biggest problem. Ed contacted Art Schultz, whose blacksmith shop is in Chester and who was the only wagon wheelwright this side of the Indiana line, for advice. Art offered to make his forge and facility available if we wanted to learn how to build our own wheels. Just as this seemed the only solution a set of usable wheels became available in a farm auction at Marshall. Needless to say they were purchased.

The committee went to work in the High School machine shop. Members were: Ed Morey, Mac Gobel, Charlie Schroeder, Stu Bearup, Dick Johnson, Ted Johnson.

The wagon bed took real authentic form being made from oak from Johnson Lumber Company. Bolts were supplied gratuitously by Yates Hardware. Bows were made from laminated oak strips which were glued together and allowed to dry while clamped around a wagon wheel tire.

We were now faced with the seemingly most difficult problem of all. How to get an "authentic" canvas cover. Rotarian Nobel Wirt came to the rescue. One of his suppliers who manufactured canvas tenting offered to make the cover to our specs. When it was delivered by Nobel the cost was--"not a thing, just glad to help."

Many club members have since taken over the father-ship of our wagon. Notable of them were Fred Dann, Jim Crandall and Jerry Combs. Until recently

the wheels had to be soaked each year before parade time so that the wood would swell and hold the steel tire on. This was no small job. So an old Charlotte Rotary auge was applied: "when in trouble call on the Johnsons." Ted drilled the tires and bolted them to the wheels.

In recent years the Rotary Club owes a debt of gratitude to Dade Schultz for storing and maintaining the wagon and pulling it in parades.

## ROTARY PARK SOCCER FIELD

One of Charlotte Rotary's largest projects has been Rotary Park. Then School Superintendent, Max Baxter, with the support of organizations such as

Charlotte Junior Orioles and AYSO Soccer approached the Charlotte Rotary Club with the idea of building a community soccer field. In February of 1998 Club Projects Chairman, Moe Jackson and Tim Johnson, looking for a signature project for the Art Auction donations recognized an opportunity and after many months of meetings with community leaders formed a committee, picked out a location at Parkview School, E. Kalamo Hwy., enlisted the support and cooperation of local businesses and volunteers to begin a project that was to take over four years to complete. The location was selected, an initial survey conducted by Reed Surveying, engineering and additional surveying were donated by Dave Starr and Snell Engineering Group. Crandell Bros. Trucking, SEG Engineering Group, Harris Brothers, Michigan Veterinary Supply, Tobias Fence, Eaton Federal Savings Bank, Spartan Motors Corporation, Anderson Associates and many individual Rotarians, high school students, and Eaton County Sheriff Department-Jail Grounds Crew helped with everything from planning to "elbow grease" in completing the project.



## DEAN PARK PAVILION / RESTROOM PROJECT

On February 1, 2005 the City's Public Works Director gave a presentation to the Rotary Club of Charlotte on the state of public works in the City. It was mentioned at that presentation that an application was submitted to the County for a mini-grant to help construct a pavilion at Dean Park as the Park Advisory Board had listed the project as a priority.



*(West Stoddard – West of the Railroad Tracks)*

Having recently completed the Rotary Soccer Fields, discussion was held at the subsequent Rotary Board meeting about the next signature project and how the Dean Park Pavilion may fit into that list of proposed projects. Additionally, the Rotary Club felt that restroom facilities would be an important addition to the pavilion since no



other facilities were available. In June, 2005 the general membership of the club voted to make the Dean Park Pavilion/ restroom its next Signature Project.

The Rotary Building Committee started work on the design and cost of the project while the club raised the necessary money for the project through its annual Art Auctions. It took two years to raise the estimated \$60,000 needed to construct the project.

City Council approved the formal agreement with Rotary for the project in April, 2007 followed by Planning Commission approval in May.

Construction started in May, 2007 with a short groundbreaking ceremony.

There were a few key Rotarians responsible for the management of the project. A club build day was held on a beautiful fall Saturday where several Rotarians came together to build the wood portion of the structure. The project was complete and ready for use in October, 2007 at a final cost of \$44,200.00.

The water and sewer services for the project were installed by the Public Works Department. As part of the agreement, the City also built and paid for the paved parking lot that was also completed in October, 2007.

## LINCOLN PARK PAVILION / RESTROOM PROJECT



*(A 19-Acre Parcel on West Stoddard)*

In the Spring of 2008 the City Council approved the Rotary Club of Charlotte's request to construct a restroom and pavilion at Lincoln Park. The request came as the Rotary Club was still completing a restroom and pavilion project in Dean Park.

The project was consistent with the Charlotte Parks Master Planning Study for Bennett, Combs, and Lincoln Parks that was completed by the Park Advisory Board earlier in 2008.

The Rotary Building Committee started work on the design and cost of the project while the club worked to raise funds to build it. The Committee took into

consideration the year-round nature of Lincoln Park and decided to make the building a four season building. It took four years to raise the \$116,000 needed to construct the project.



A groundbreaking ceremony was held in 2011, and the ribbon was cut in 2012. There were a few key Rotarians responsible for the management of the project and the bulk of the work. The raising of the pavilion structure was completed by an army of 30 club members on a hot, August 25, 2012 day.

The water and sewer services for the project were installed by the Public Works Department.

The first work completed was the soil borings for foundations on April 27, 2012. The last bit of work was the guardrail which was installed on October, 24, 2012.

## ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



Adopt-A-Highway is a Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) program designed to help keep the state's highway roadsides clean and attractive. Participants adopt both sides of a section of state highway roadside. The Charlotte Rotary Club has been doing Lansing Road to Pottersville since 2000. It takes the club about 2 hours with 6-8 volunteers, 3 time a year.



## SOAR AT ALIVE

In 2011, when the first phase of ALIVE opened, HGB collaborated with several community partners to help bring the spaces “alive” within the unique, experience-based health park. The Charlotte Rotary Club was one of the first to pledge support and committed to matching the first \$25,000 in donations, and then proceeded to provide an additional gift of \$100,000. In doing so, they brought alive SOAR, the multi-purpose activity gym. Currently SOAR is the largest indoor space at ALIVE, and the focal point at the center of the facility.



SOAR is one of ALIVE's most active spaces. When there isn't a group exercise class, community event, educational presentation, physician lecture, business meeting or children's activity scheduled, you will find groups of all ages playing basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, pickle ball or burning off energy in some other fun way. SOAR is admired for its glass walls and the beaming natural light that comes in to brighten and warm the building. Those who walk around SOAR on EXPLORE, the walking path, enjoy being entertained by the contagious energy that comes from those enjoying activities in the gym.

One of the favorite SOAR activities is ASCEND, the 24-foot rock climbing wall. It is the only local rock climbing wall that is open at designated times for no charge. And GROW, the children's recreation area at ALIVE, organizes the Five-Summits Challenge for our youngest climbers to enjoy ASCEND over and over again. Since it opened there have been 7,400 climbs on ASCEND.

Annually children can even experience a planetarium within SOAR, thanks to a mobile learning initiative. Other unique events in SOAR have included ePIFany NOW, a pay-it-forward community generosity effort; distinctively themed HGB Galas; Family Health and Fitness Day celebrations; charity auctions; a fashion show finale at the Women's Health Experience; and movie showings. SOAR has meant many things to many people and organizations. Annually there are more than 3,300 programs scheduled in SOAR with approximately 35,000 visits from people in our greater Charlotte community, and many of those programs are free.

Recently ALIVE visitors were asked: The Charlotte Rotary Club helped bring alive SOAR – what has this

gift meant to you? Their answers help demonstrate just how big an impact SOAR has had on its many visitors.

- My three young grandkids got to have their first try at rock climbing!
- A chance to dance like nobody is watching.
- A place for the community to gather.
- Laughter!
- It's given us a place to play.
- I have fun walking near SOAR.
- A healthier Charlotte with all the group ex and recreation opportunities.
- I love SOAR!
- SOAR's natural light creates a dazzling focal point. Thank you Rotary!
- We have something to brag about in our community that nobody else has in the area – one of the distinct assets of “The ‘Lotte.”
- I love SOAR! It pulls the whole building together and provides a great setting for many of our MOVE classes. Thank you Rotary!

So, on behalf of the Charlotte community, and our many visitors to ALIVE and SOAR, we want to thank the Charlotte Rotary Club for recognizing the vision and opportunity and experiences that could be created in the unique, open, welcoming space we enjoy as SOAR!





## THE NEW BEACH MARKET

As the first and most significant phase of the long-awaited Beach Market renovation nears completion, it is time to look back on the history of the project, and look forward to its successful completion.

Beach Market, the historic, 1920s open-air market building in downtown Charlotte, has been a fixture of the community for nearly 100 years. From ice skating and buying Christmas trees in the winter, to summertime sales and special events, your memories of the space may differ, depending on what year or decade you visited. Maybe you enjoy some combination of all these recollections.



It is now being transformed, from top to bottom, to serve as a three-seasons facility for programs, events, new markets and creativity. With a tailored blend of historic preservation and new design, Beach Market will be better and more functional than ever, while keeping its familiar identity intact.

The approximately half-million dollar renovation includes a new, pavilion style roof and two new walls that will help ensure the entire space is useable, even in challenging weather. At the same time, the design features enhanced natural lighting and the open-air architecture that gives the building its special atmosphere. It will remain a gathering space that connects with its downtown neighborhood in a way most buildings cannot.



It has been several years since the project was first conceived, but what were simply plans and drawings a few months ago are now being realized in brick and steel.

Originally built by Fitch Beach, the structure has served as a farmers market, ice skating rink, and many other various capacities. Although never owned by the City of Charlotte or any public entity, the space was originally designed with public service in mind. Fitch Beach's only surviving heir left the property and grounds to the Charlotte Lions club nearly 30 years ago. Since then, the Lion's have worked to maintain the structure and host various fundraising activities on site. In 2015, the Lion's began to explore the possibilities of constructing improvements, but soon realized the scope of the project was beyond realistic fundraising goals. Enter Charlotte Rotary. The two clubs combined resources in order to form a partnership. Soon, three members of each club joined to form the Friends of Beach Market, a 501c3 nonprofit. The Lion's transferred ownership of the property to the nonprofit and both clubs contributed financially to the renovation efforts. Friends of Beach Market will now be the organization responsible for the facility.



In 2015 Michigan Governor Rick Snyder chose ten communities for a pilot program he called Project Rising Tide. Charlotte was one of those communities. In an effort to jumpstart local economic growth and community development, each of the ten cities received special assistance. Recognizing that each of these communities had unique challenges and unique assets, each received a unique suite of services.

Charlotte embraced the Project Rising Tide program from the beginning, and took advantage of every opportunity for both technical assistance and financial help. Now, more than 5 years later, the initiative is still bearing fruit for Charlotte. Project Rising Tide led directly to the creation of Charlotte Rising, Charlotte's own Michigan Main Street organization, which continues to lead the rejuvenation of the downtown business district. It also led to downtown Charlotte's nomination to, and eventual acceptance for, the National Register

of Historic Places, a coveted designation that recognizes the importance of downtown Charlotte history and architecture.

Each Project Rising Tide city also received direct financial assistance for a signature project that would leave a lasting impact on the community. The comprehensive renovation of Beach Market envisioned by the Friends of Beach Market was chosen as Charlotte's signature project, and thus garnered the major support and funding required to proceed.

Despite its long-standing place in the community, Beach Market needed help. Designed originally as a place for local farmers to market their wares in town, the community was using it for more diverse and creative uses. However its open design proved to be a double-edged sword, with many uses limited by wind and rain. Its age and condition also proved challenging with a broken and uneven floor, no bathrooms and questionable structural integrity.



When it became time to put pencil to paper on a design that would match the project's vision, it was soon clear that grant funds alone could not cover the cost of both the necessary historic preservation work, as well as the desired improvements. It was going to require a local fundraising effort at least equal to the funding offer from the Snyder administration.

From the very beginning when it was built by Fitch Beach, Beach Market was a gift intended to support our community; and it was now time for our community to support Beach Market. Despite enthusiasm, it takes time to assemble the partnerships and coalitions needed to complete the task. Working with the state's Community Development Block Grant funds as a foundation, the Friends of Beach Market sought and received funding from other sources, including a significant award from the Capital Region Community Foundation. Several private donors also stepped forward to contribute, a line of credit was established and eventually all the pieces came together in a way that allowed the project to move forward this past fall. Even through a change in administration, the State of Michigan stood by the community as Charlotte worked

to assembled the pieces of this puzzle.

During this time, the space surrounding Beach Market also received significant improvements. The City of Charlotte reconstructed the two public parking lots that serve the market area, as well as reconstructing Lovett Street and its sidewalks. It also closed the adjacent alley to vehicular traffic and created an open 'plaza' next to Beach Market that can be used for associated activities.

Now, after a winter of work, spring of 2021 will see the Grand Opening of the redesigned and renovated Beach Market. It will finally be able to fulfill its historic potential and its future prospects as a uniquely historic, yet modern, gathering space for Charlotte.

Spring marks a transition point from dream to reality for the new Beach Market, but it is also a distinctly new starting point for the next phases of the project. The Friends of Beach Market hopes that Charlotte embraces this 'new' historic building in the heart of the city's center, and invites individual and organizations to reach out as they plan events and activities that can be held there. Its vital role in the community will be defined by the events, activities, and most importantly, the people who use it.



Despite the success, there are a lot of opportunities remaining to continue the improvements. The FOBM has a wish-list of further enhancements that could make the space ever more inviting and functional. From security cameras to permanent stage lighting; and from art installations to outside tables and chairs, the new Beach Market can continue its transformation into a place and space unlike any other in Mid-Michigan. We are looking forward to the community's continued support for this project, and we hope to see you using and enjoying this new space. Most of all, we hope Charlotte will be as proud of this new facility as is everyone who has been a part of it so far.



## CRANDELL LAKE

Charlotte Rotarians and Eaton County Parks and Recreation representatives met at Crandell Lake last month to officially break ground on the new 2.5-mile multi-use looped trail around Eaton County's newest park at Crandell Lake. The lake is located on M-50 between Charlotte and Eaton Rapids, and it is planned the trail will be completed for use this summer.

According to Eaton County Parks Director Troy Stowell, "the County Board of Commissioners loved the trail concept at Crandell lake when it was proposed by Charlotte Rotary Club and Rotarian Randy Crandell."

The trail started with a conversation between Rotarians Dr Ed Foster and Randy Crandell when it was suggested Charlotte Rotary was looking for a new project. Crandell had a dream of constructing the trail and it was a perfect fit for the next large Rotary project.

It was agreed Rotary would match up to \$100 thousand with a similar amount from Crandell over a period of four years for a total donation of \$200 thousand to fund the total trail cost. A fundraising event by Rotary in November raised enough to cover the first year of a four-year commitment for the trail. The trail is named Charlotte Rotary Lakeside Trail.



"It is important to give people access to this big, beautiful piece of property," Crandell said. "I am excited about partnering with Charlotte Rotary. It feels really good for the Club to want to partner in this real asset for the community. It's a big step".

"I see it as a destination for a ton of people to use from Eaton County and beyond. It will be unique for our county," Crandell said. "The lake area was originally 12 to 13 properties that were put together to develop 432 acres. We spent years mining and developing the property through Crandell Brothers Trucking."

"The lake concept started with Eaton County years ago. "We worked on it for five years to get it purchased through the DNR Trust Fund. The Trust Fund supplied funds for the county to partner for these types of projects as a 25% match," Crandell said.

Charlotte Rotary President Jerry Sommer said "I like the fact that it provides a great asset for the

communities of Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Olivet and the entire county. This is unique because it is a county park, and we can help kick-start this improvement.

Rotary recently partnered with other community organizations to revitalize and remodel Charlotte's downtown Beach Market. "It's a new outdoor covered venue that is available for use through the Chamber of Commerce for a farmer's market, parties, weddings, concerts, and it brings people downtown. We preserved a 100-year-old deteriorating structure that will now be useful decades into the future", Sommer said. "Anyone who wants to get involved with time, talent, or treasure should reach out to get involved with Rotary."



Parks Director Troy Stowell said this is the perfect time for this partnership as the county has just completed its new master conceptual plan effective 2021-25 (see [www.eatoncounty.org/384/Parks-Master-Plan](http://www.eatoncounty.org/384/Parks-Master-Plan)). "This trail will be the first phase of the plan with work starting in the spring for a three-week process. The trail will allow more people to use the park and enjoy this 160-acre lake. I look forward to seeing families pushing strollers and enjoying everything we have. All future work at the park will be based on the availability of funds", Stowell said.

County Commissioner and Rotarian Brian Lautzenheiser said he is excited to see this accepted project. "This park will only be developed through service clubs and non-profits organization such as Friends of Eaton Co parks. This project was welcomed with open arms. We feel the public will truly enjoy the more refined trail", he said.

The new county master plan shows that nonmotorized trails is one of the top three priorities for Crandell Park. The top three desired activities include fishing, sailing/boating/kayaking, and biking. There was also strong support for a trail from Eaton Rapids to Charlotte.

"I think having a jogging and bike trail around the lake will be a huge draw to Charlotte and surrounding communities with having the potential of connecting a trail between Eaton Rapids and Charlotte. I would eventually like to see a trail run from Crandell Lake to

Charlotte”, Foster said.

A recent study from Cobalt Community Research showed that between June and August of 2021 the following visitation was reported:

- Total visits: 26 K
- Unique individuals visiting: 13.2 K
- Average visits per individual: 1.96

Visitors from Charlotte accounted for 31 percent, while Eaton Rapids visitors accounted for 19 percent of the total visitors during the period. Most visits occurred on Saturdays and Sundays.

Rotary clubs exist worldwide to improve communities through a range of humanitarian, intellectual, and educational activities. Clubs advance international understanding by partnering with clubs in other countries. Rotary encourages high ethical standards in all vocations. Polio eradication and providing clean water systems to help stop the spread of polio have been hallmarks of Rotary success worldwide in recent years.

Rotary clubs address critical issues at home and abroad by providing health care and medical supplies, clean water, food, job training, youth development, and education to millions of people in need.

Regional clubs have identified the main reasons for joining Rotary including: friendship, fellowship, fun; opportunity to serve; business development & networking; personal growth and leadership development; continuing education; citizenship in the world; family programs; public speaking skills; the development of ethics, and cultural awareness.

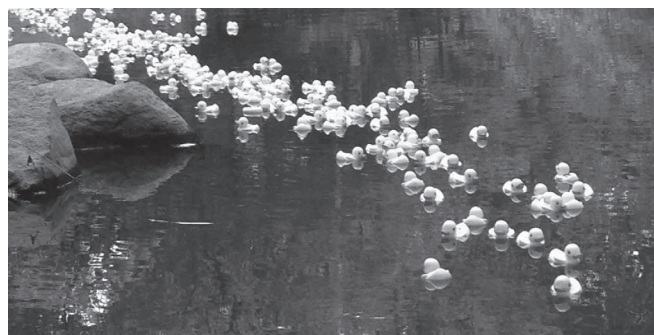


## Yearly Events

### READ TO ME PROGRAM

Charlotte Rotary Club has been in partnership with Washington Elementary School for several years with our Read to Me program. During the school year several members of our club and outside volunteers read to one or more students on a weekly basis. During this time we will spend 30 minutes with each student helping them with reading skill or some of their homework for the week. Much of our time with the student is giving them the opportunity to bond with a positive role model on a regular basis. The student range from the first up to and including third grade. At the end of the reading year the students always give us a hand made gift to show us their appreciation.

### DUCK RACE



Each fall, the Rotary Club unleashes a gaggle of nearly 1,000 yellow rubber duckies bobbling down the Battle Creek River in Bennett Park. Each duck carries a number of a ticket-holder, and the first three across the finish line win money! A crowd gathers to cheer their duck around the bends, over the rocks, under fallen trees and through the dramatic rapids beneath the footbridge. The race includes a grilled chicken picnic dinner, games, and fellowship for the whole family. The club designates a deserving charity or project each year to apply the funds raised from the ducks. 2021 will mark the 9th annual race.

### YEARLY SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Charlotte Rotary proudly gives away multiple scholarships.

- One Jim Maatsch Scholarship worth \$2,000 to a future MSU Spartan.
- Two Jr. Rotarian Scholarships worth \$1,000 each.
- One Olivet College Scholarship worth \$500 plus \$500 credit.
- One Our Fine CTE Scholarship worth \$500.



## PANCAKE BREAKFAST



A Charlotte tradition entering its 33rd consecutive year. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of local individuals and organizations, the event is still going strong. In fact, recent collaborations have actually allowed the annual event to grow.

“Our recent event was the best to date,” said Anthony Faulkner, a member of the Friends of Charlotte Airport. “All of this is made possible with the collaboration and commitment of the Rotary Club Members, Friends of Charlotte Airport, and great volunteers and vendors.”

The Charlotte Rotary Club came on board 5 years ago to help serve the \$6 all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast, which served close to 1,000 people. In 2019, the Rotary Club returned and donated all of its proceeds to the Beach Market Project in Charlotte.

The Fathers Day Fly In took place Sunday, June 16 from 7 to 11:30 a.m. at Fitch H. Beach Municipal Airport.

## JIM MAATSCH MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING



Charlotte Rotary's Jim Maatsch Memorial Golf Outing is a scholarship fundraiser, raising money for our club's Jim Maatsch Scholarship – a \$2000.00 annual scholarship given to a graduating Charlotte senior who is attending Michigan State University. It is Charlotte's largest annual scholarship.

However, it wasn't always an event to support a scholarship. In fact it wasn't even a fundraiser! It began in 1998 when the Charlotte Rotary Club's golf team of Ed Foster, Dave Nickel, Tim Johnson and Moe Jackson won the Rotary District 6360 Golf tournament in South Haven, Michigan. Much to their surprise,



winning the tournament meant hosting it the following year! After a couple of years hosting the event, other participating clubs in the district began to withdraw, so it became simply a Charlotte Rotary Club outing. It became a day where many of Charlotte's Rotarians, whether golfers or not, took the day off and had a great time of fun and fellowship. Then in 2006, things changed, following the untimely passing of Charlotte Rotarian and avid golf outing supporter Jim Maatsch, a suggestion was made by Moe Jackson, chairman of the outing, to continue the event as a fundraiser for a scholarship in Jim's name. The suggestion was unanimously approved by the club to establish the Jim Maatsch Scholarship in Jim's name to MSU, Jim's alma mater. The golf outing turned fundraiser began in 2007 with the ambitious goal of not only raising enough



money for the scholarship each year, but to create and build a fund that would eventually sustain itself. That first year we raised \$4,100.00 and this year we made over \$6,600. Now, after twelve years, our event has raised over \$66,124.05 and given out 12 scholarships totaling \$24,000!

#### FALL INTO 5 GRAND



We provide a fun-filled evening, including live music. A delicious dinner, open bar, and a chance to win a Grand Prize of \$5,000.00. The winner is chosen by a Reverse raffle. A Reverse Raffle is won by being the LAST ticket drawn. This takes the traditional raffle and completely reverses it — hence, the name. Not only do is there a grand prize winner, but also other winners along the way.



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## A Letter From Our President

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Thank you for the trust and honor for having me serve our Rotary Club in the role of president for the year 2020-2021. I have enjoyed this great service organization for many years and how it impacts the lives of people and the communities around the world. The Rotary motto "Service Above Self" brilliantly reflects the passion and character of each Rotarian. All of us are here today because we believe in Rotary and a better world. I know that none of the good that this program does, happens by itself. I was fortunate to see this first hand during my presidency. It was definitely an abnormal time in our lives and the world with the COVID 19 virus but our club came together and found a way to still continue with our weekly and monthly meetings and to continue with our service projects all while keeping our members safe. It was a

learning curve for everyone and I feel like the Charlotte Rotary Club stuck together and continued supporting all members. I want to thank my club for making my year as successful as possible during trying times. Our work is never going to be done, and that is as it should be. I urge you to continue another 100 years of good work and good deeds. Thanks again to all my fellow Rotarians that have made the Charlotte Rotary Club so successful over the past 100 years!



*Samantha Davis  
2020-2021 President  
Charlotte Rotary Club*

Thank You,  
Samantha Davis  
Charlotte Rotary Club President  
2020-2021



# Past Presidents

*Edward J. Ellis	1921-23	Keith Curtis	1972-73
*Murl H. DeFoe	1923-24	Richard D. Johnson	1973-74
*Horatio A. Higby	1924-25	*Roderick Yates	1974-75
*George H. Spencer	1925-26	*Robert Johnson	1975-76
*Wilson Geddes	1926-27	*William Brown	1976-77
*Ernest H. Chapelle	1927-28	Elwood Larson	1977-78
*Earl M. McGrath	1928-29	*John Hopkins	1978-79
*Paul S. Bond	1929-30	*Gary Janousek	1979-80
*A. Burton Collins	1930-31	*Floyd Jewell	1980-81
*Cash R. Beechler	1931-32	Frederick Darin	1981-82
*Gamer M. Byington	1932-33	*Gordon Sparks	1982-83
*Wesley D. Oldt	1933-34	Daryl Baker	1983-84
*Arnet Garlinhouse	1934-35	*Richard Cooper	1984-85
*H. Allen Moyer	1935-36	Edward G. Foster	1985-86
*Byron F. Brown	1936-37	Donald Sovey	1986-87
*William E. Wright	1937-38	Doug Lowe	1987-88
*Clyde A. Fulton	1938-39	Vince Ferris	1988-89
*Fred A. Richey	1939-40	Greg Poole	1989-90
*Russell H. McConnell	1940-41	Jeff Wildren	1990-91
*B. Phillip Brown	1941-42	Mark Johnson	1991-92
*Charles A. Snyder	1942-43	Charles Grundstrom	1992-93
*Harlan R. McCall	1943-44	Martin Latchaw	1993-94
*Hans Kardel	1944-45	*Richard Dowling	1994-95
*Fred Murray	1945-46	Susan Joostberns	1995-96
*James Church	1946-47	Tim Johnson	1996-97
*Charles F. Schaefer	1947-48	Jim Crandall	1997-98
*Stanley H. Raidle	1948-49	Jon Tomlanovich	1998-99
*Stuart Graham	1949-50	Peter R.K. Brenner	1999-00
*Clark Muma	1950-51	Morris Jackson	2000-01
*George Dean	1951-52	Mark Kraushaar	2001-02
*W. Alton Vance	1952-53	Joe E. Pray	2002-03
*Stuart Bearup	1953-54	John Newland	2003-04
*John B. Smith	1954-55	Tim Strickland	2004-05
*William F. Powers	1955-56	*Tom Falcsik	2005-06
*J. Malcom Gobel	1956-57	Kathie Cook	2006-07
*Horace B. Loomis	1957-58	Paul Wilson	2007-08
*Darrel Johnson	1958-59	Doug Buck	2008-09
*Lynn Fowler	1959-60	John Thiel	2009-10
*Edward S. Ellis	1960-61	Jim Cicorelli	2010-11
*Herbert Black	1961-62	Dave Starr	2011-12
*Daniel Carothers	1962-63	Amy Gilson	2012-13
*William Byland	1963-64	Herm Arends	2013-14
*Edward Morey	1964-65	*Larry Adams	2014-15
*Clayton Willits	1965-66	Carrie Burch	2015-16
*Eldred Toutant	1966-67	Jessica Edel	2016-17
*Robert Munger	1967-68	Tim Reed	2017-18
*Robert Fulton	1968-69	Mike Crouner	2018-19
*Harvey Holcomb	1969-70	Samantha Davis	2019-20
William Malotke	1970-71	Chuck Archer	2020-21
*Dave Smith	1971-72		
		*Deceased	

# '21-'22 CHARLOTTE ROTARY CLUB

Meetings are Wednesdays at Noon held at The Eaton Area Senior Center Center

Chuck Archer  
Herman Arends, *Asst. Treasurer*  
Daryl Baker  
Max Baxter  
Doug Buck  
Mari Calton  
Jacob Campbell  
Chelsey Carpenter  
Jim Cicorelli  
Kathie Cook  
Eric Crandall, *Asst. Secretary*  
James Crandall  
Randy Crandell  
Mike Crouner, *Club Director*  
Samantha Davis, *Past President*  
John Dykstra  
John Dykstra III  
Kristin Dykstra  
Eric Emery  
Anthony Faulkner  
Vince Ferris  
Edward Foster, *Secretary*  
Linda Foster  
Joel Fox, *Club Director*  
Mike Friar  
Cooper Frost  
Barbara Fulton  
Mike Fulton  
Matthew Gager  
Mary Jane Garn  
Amy Gilson  
Calley Green  
Charles Grundstrom  
Gregg Guetschow  
Keisha Howe, *Club Director*

Morris Jackson  
Tim Jewell  
Helen Johnson  
Mark Johnson  
Richard Johnson  
Tim Johnson  
Len Kilgore, *Treasurer*  
Kristin Kraushaar  
Erin LaPere  
Brian Lautzenheiser, *Club Director*  
Nathan Leale  
Robert Leeser  
Courtney Lewis  
Wally Miars  
Cindy Miller  
John Newland, *Club Director*  
Julie O'Neill  
Joseph Pray  
Tyler Pray, *President - Elect*  
Tim Reed  
Cary Ritter  
Lance Roe  
William SaintAmour  
Jerry Sommer, *President*  
Jeannette Sommer  
Don Sovey, *Membership Chair*  
David Starr  
Mandy Stewart  
Kathleen Szuminski  
Paul Tomasek  
David Votta  
Lee Wheaton  
Jeff Wildern  
Sean Williams  
Bob Wilson





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# '21-'22 ROTARY SATELLITE CLUB

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Meetings are Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. held at the Thirsty Bird Bar

Ed Allen  
Joshua Allen  
Stacey Allen  
Michael Armitage  
Garrett Bensinger  
Brian Burke, *Chair*  
Fred Darin  
Cindy Gaedert-Gearhart, *Treasurer*

Terry Kelly  
Marty Latchaw  
Nate Lovaas, *Secretary - Elect*  
Courtney Mead, *Secretary*  
Amy Ramos, *Chair - Elect*  
Mark Sweatman, *Club Director*  
Paul Wilson  
Matt Wonch



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## *Satellite Club Projects*

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Completed a renovation project at the Fitch H Beach Airport in Charlotte



Helping out with the Downtown Halloween Parade



# Satellite Club Projects

Pitching in at the Michigan Nordic Fire Festival



Eaton Community Palliative Care Spring and Fall clean up



Some staining and fence building for Housing Services of Mid Michigan



Downtown Charlotte Spring & Fall clean up



U.S. Veterans Memorial Park Spring clean up



Fall Scotch & Wine Tasting Event





Rotary



## New Year Rotary Resolutions

1. Have Fun!
2. Grow My Club Membership
3. Support The Rotary Foundation
4. Introduce a Friend to Rotary
5. Promote Rotary More!
6. Tell More People About the Good Work We Do!
7. Engage More With Rotary Alumni, eg Rotaract + Interact
8. Eradicate Polio!!
9. Connect More with Local and Global Communities
10. INSPIRE OTHERS!





