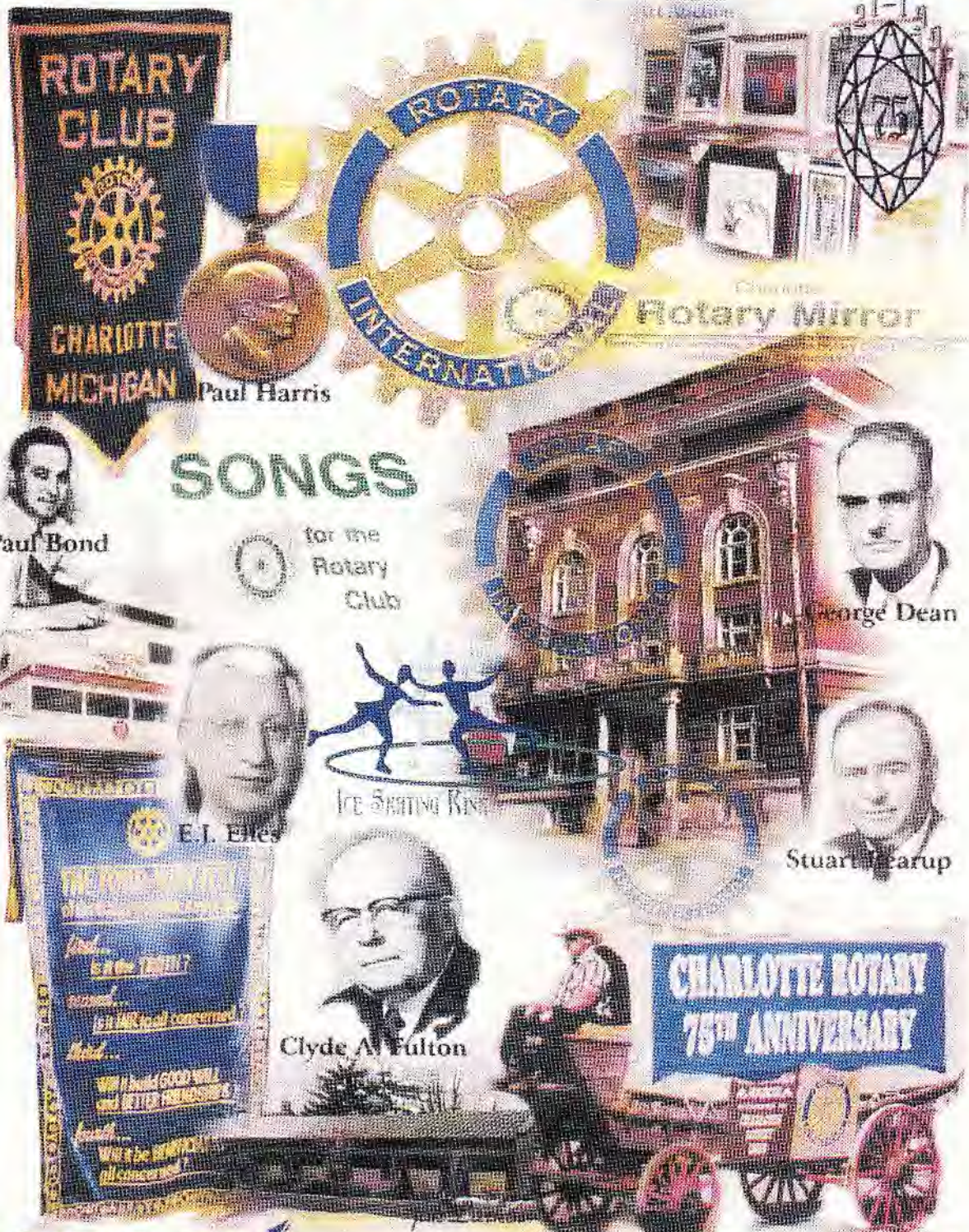


# 75TH ANNIVERSARY



ROTARY SERVING CHARLOTTE  
SINCE MAY 19, 1921

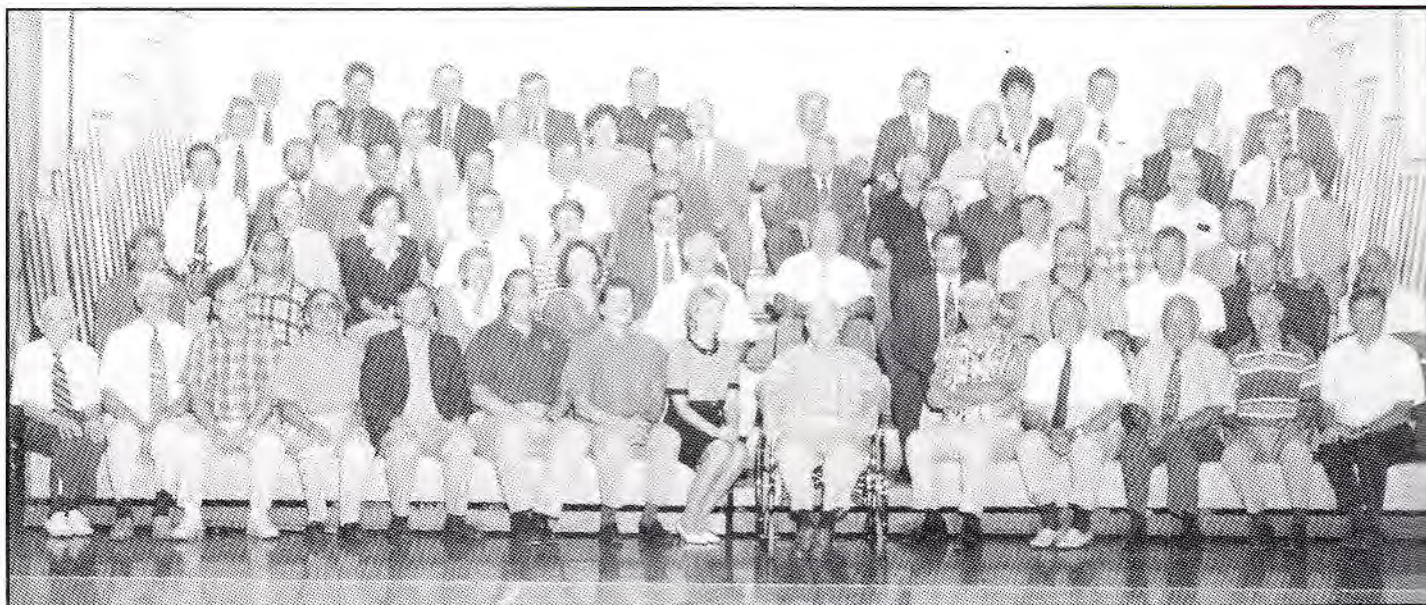


Charlotte Rotary

75 years of  
Service Above Self



# 1995-96 Members



Front row, l. to r.: Stuart Graham, William Powers, Eldred Toutant, Richard Dowling, Jon Tomlanovich, Morris Jackson, Tim Johnson, Susan Joostberns, Donald Fields, Herb Black, Stuart Bearup, Edward Foster, Jim Crandall, Richard Johnson. 2nd row, l. to r.: Mike Fulton, Jim Cicorelli, Susan Shotwell, Sandra Maatsch, Robert Leeser, Doug Lowe, Mark Kraushaar, John Curtis, Bob Wieland, Bob Wilson, Galen Tibbett. 3rd row, l. to r.: Don Sovey, Gail Williams, Dan Hayes, Jeannette Sommer, George Brown, Chuck Grundstrom, Edward Johnson, Wayne Backlund, and Kirk Evans. 4th row, l. to r.: Vince Ferris, Scott Sanders, Jim Lord, Mark Johnson, John Ewen, Jim Olin, Daryl Baker, Roger Speaks, Rod Yates, Ray Gager, Ed Atherton, Peter Brenner. 5th row, l. to r.: Jeff Wildern, Tony Sommer, Don Hummel, Steve Willard, Laura Howe, Charles Means, Kelly Hasselback, Ken Jones, Wendell Boone, John Bookshaw, and Jody Promer. Back row, l. to r.: Floyd Jewell, Scott Cooper, Bruce Smith, Barrett Zink, Rick Wahl, Fred Darin, Kathy Wright, Robert Rolle, Robert Fulton, Marty Latchaw. Not pictured: B. Phillip Brown, Randy Crandell, John Dykstra, Charles Gulliver, Leonard Johnson, Jr., Edward Morey, Andy Nicolaou, Joe E. Pray, James Shaull, Dan Timmins, Frank Pawli, and Rice Fowler.

## 75th Anniversary Song

To the Tune of "Ain't She Sweet".

Rotary is great  
and we're here to celebrate.  
3/4 of a century of service  
as of this date.  
In early '21,  
our club had just begun.  
A lot of work in serving others  
but, it's been fun.  
Just take a look in all these papers,  
and see our names in all these capers.  
Rotary serves Charlotte  
with everything we've got:  
with time and money and loads of effort,  
we've helped a lot.

The things we can achieve,  
If only we'll believe,  
that all together in any weather  
you'll live to see.  
With this fun group,  
Which is really quite astute,  
we'll build a future upon the past  
that will soon bear fruit.  
The record shows we've filled our space  
to make Charlotte a better place,  
like Malcolm Gobel Field,  
or the Library appeal  
or bricks and trees for downtown beauty  
we've turned the wheel.

We sold a lot of art,  
to help to pay our part  
and reach our goals of helping  
others with great jump starts.  
Toward an understanding world,  
Rotary unfurled  
Exchanging students and ideas  
with boys and girls.  
With kids abroad from this great nation,  
and our guest here a great sensation,  
We'll repeat,  
Don't ya think it's kinda neat  
That having fun while serving others  
Just can't be beat!!



# A Letter from our President

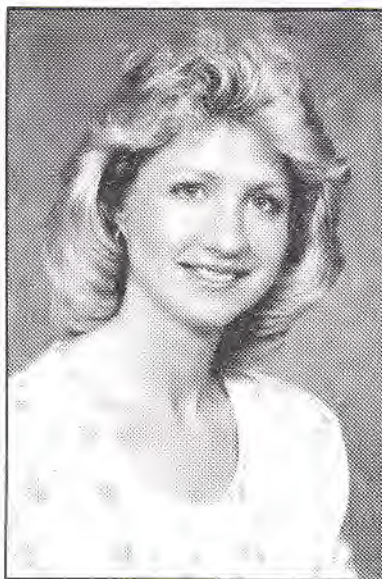
It was the Roaring 20's - the decade of flappers, prohibition, and the great stock market crash. And in Charlotte, a group of businessmen envisioned founding a Rotary Club. And it is thanks to their vision and commitment that Charlotte Rotary was granted charter on May 19, 1921, from Rotary International.

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 committees 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 scoreboard. 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."



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

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!



# Charlotte Rotary Presidents

*Edward J. Elles	1921 23
*Murl H. DeFoe	1923 24
*Horatio A. Higby	1924 25
*George H. Spencer	1925 26
*Wilson Ceddes	1926 27
*Ernest H. Chapelle	1927 28
*Earl M. McGrath	1928 29
*Paul S. Bond	1929 30
*A. Burton Collins	1930 31
*Cash R. Beechler	1931 32
*Garner M. Byington	1932 33
*Wesley D. Oldt	1933 34
*Arnet Garlinghouse	1934 35
*H. Allen Moyer	1935 36
*Byron F. Brown	1936 37
*William E. Wright	1937 38
*Clyde A. Fulton	1938 39
*Fred A. Richey	1939 40
Russell H. McConnell	1940 41
B. Phillip Brown	1941 42
Charles A. Snyder	1942 43
*Harlan R. McCall	1943 44
*Hans Kardel	1944 45
*Fred Murray	1945 46
*James Church	1946 47
*Charles F. Schaefer	1947-48
*Stanley H. Raidle	1948 49
*Stuart Graham	1949 50
*Clark Muma	1950 51
*George Dean	1951 52
*W. Alton Vance	1952 53
Stuart Bearup	1953 54
John B. Smith	1954 55
Wm. F. Powers	1955 56
*J. Malcolm Gobel	1956 57
*Horace B. Loomis	1957 58
*Darrel Johnson	1958 59
Lynn Fowler	1959 60
*Edward S. Elles	1960 61
Herbert Black	1961 62
*Daniel Carothers	1962 63
William Byland	1963 64
Edward Morey	1964 65
*Clayton Willits	1965 66
Eldred Toutant	1966 67
*Robert Munger	1967 68
Robert Fulton	1968 69
*Harvey Holcomb	1969 70

William Malottke	1970-71
David Smith	1971 72
Keith Curtis	1972 73
Richard D. Johnson	1973 74
Roderick Yates	1974 75
Robert Johnson	1975 76
William Brown	1976 77
Elwood Larsen	1977 78
John Hopkins	1978-79
Gary Janousek	1979 80
Floyd Jewell	1980-81
Frederick Darin	1981-82
Gordon Sparks	1982-83
Daryl Baker	1983-84
Richard Cooper	1984-85
Edward Foster	1985-86
Donald Sovey	1986-87
Douglas Lowe	1987-88
Vince Ferris	1988-89
Greg Poole	1989-90
Jeff Wildern	1990-91
Mark Johnson	1991-92
Chuck Grundstrom	1992-93
Martin Latchaw	1993-94
Dick Dowling	1994-95
Susan Joostberns	1995-96
*Deceased	

## CHARLOTTE ROTARY CLUB MULTIPLE GENERATIONS

Brown, Byron: B. Philip  
 Cook, Darrell: Fred  
 Cooper, Richard: Scott  
 Elles, Edward: Edward S.; Steve  
 Fowler, Rice: Lynn  
 Fulton, Clyde: Robert; Michael  
 Lowe, Calvin: William; Douglas  
 Johnson, Darrell: Richard; Robert; Ted; Mark; Tim  
 Smith, Clifford: David  
 Shaull, Richard: James  
 Bearup, Stuart: Richard  
 Munger, Robert: Richard  
 Crandell, James: Eric  
 Reed, Robert: Mike  
 Saxena, K.B.L. Roger



# 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 refresh-

ments for all. Even a big crowd of boys, 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



Garlinghouse

depression took its toll, and we find the following from 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."

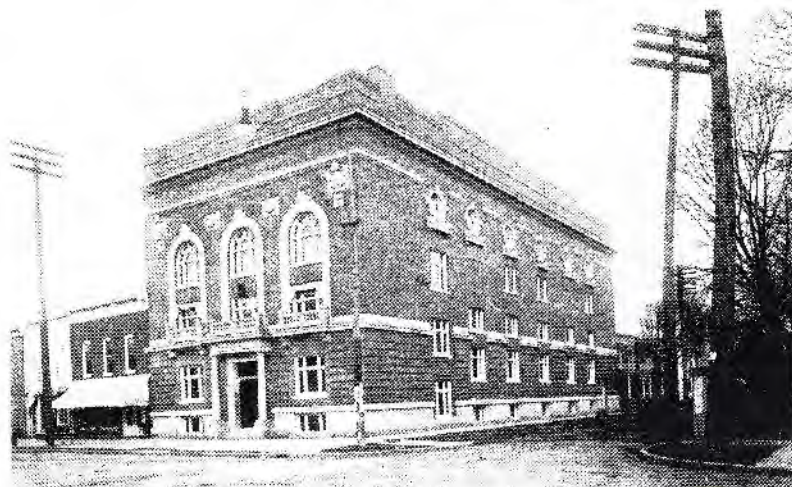
The club has continued to grow, and now numbers nearly 80 members, far more than any city of our size in the area.



# 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.



# 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 rota-

tion 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.



PAUL HARRIS

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 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.

## 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:

- 82-83 Eldred Toutant
- 83-84 Daryl Baker
- 84-85 Stuart Bearup
- 85-86 Gordon Sparks
- 86-87 Jo Johnson
- 87-88 Herbert Black
- 88-89 Jud Richardson
- 89-90 Darrell Cook
- 90-91 B. Phillip Brown
- 91-92 Stuart Graham
- 92-93 Robert Fulton
- 93-94 Frederick Darin
- 94-95 William Powers



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# The Rotary Foundation

**P**roposed 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.

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## Paul Harris Fellows

L. Daryl Baker  
Jean Bearup  
Stuart J. Bearup, P.D.G.  
John Beatty  
Herb Black  
B. Phillip Brown  
Z. William Colson  
Darrell Cook  
Richard Cooper  
Frederick Darin  
George Dean, P.D.G.  
John Dykstra  
Vincent Ferris  
Donald J. Fields  
Edward Foster  
Linda Foster  
Rice Fowler  
Clyde A. Fulton

Evelo Fulton  
Robert W. Fulton  
Malcolm Goebel  
Stuart Graham  
Harvey Holcomb  
John Hopkins  
Darrell E. Johnson  
Josephine Johnson  
Richard D. Johnson  
Elwood Larsen  
William C. Lowe  
Doug Lowe  
Ion C. McLaughlin  
Sandra Maatsch  
Justin Morrison  
Andrew Nicolaou  
Frank Pawli  
Greg Poole

William F. Powers  
Joseph Pray, Jr.  
Bart Rypstra  
Charles Schaefer  
Richard J. Shaul  
Ronald Sherman  
Donald Sovey  
Gordon Sparks  
Jo Sparks  
Dorothy Toutant  
Eldred Toutant  
Gary Webber  
J. William Webster  
Charles Edward Wiles  
Clayton O. Willits  
Donna and James Wood  
Roderick Yates



# District Conferences

Charlotte Rotarians have been active in District work since Charlotte first received its Charter. In June of 1921, just over a month after their Charter Night, over 41 men and women representing Charlotte Rotary attended the State Round Up at Michigan Agricultural College. At that time Charlotte was the baby club in the District, and therefore dressed for the part. The President of the club at that time, E. J. Elles, was dressed as a baby, and H. R. Sylvester was dressed as his nurse. Many of the other men wore baby bonnets and bibs, and the ladies carried their yellow, purple and green parasols. Needless to say, they took the prize. At that time Charlotte was part of District 35, which was an international District because it included Sault Ste. Marie, Canada.

In 1930 twenty Rotarians from Charlotte attended the District Conference at Manistee to nominate Paul Bond as District Governor. After Paul's name was placed in nomination he appeared on the floor of the Conference to withdraw his name and move that Eric Tassman of Lansing be unanimously nominated. The motion was carried without a ballot. Support for Paul Bond as District Governor continued, and again in May of 1932 twenty-two Rotarians attended District Conference in Grand Rapids and again placed Paul Bond's name in nomination. At this conference Paul was elected and became one of the youngest District Governors in the Rotary World. He was 34 years old.

In 1934 the Charlotte Rotary Club had 100% attendance at a District Conference in Traverse City. It is believed to be the first and only time that a Club has had 100% attendance at a District Conference.

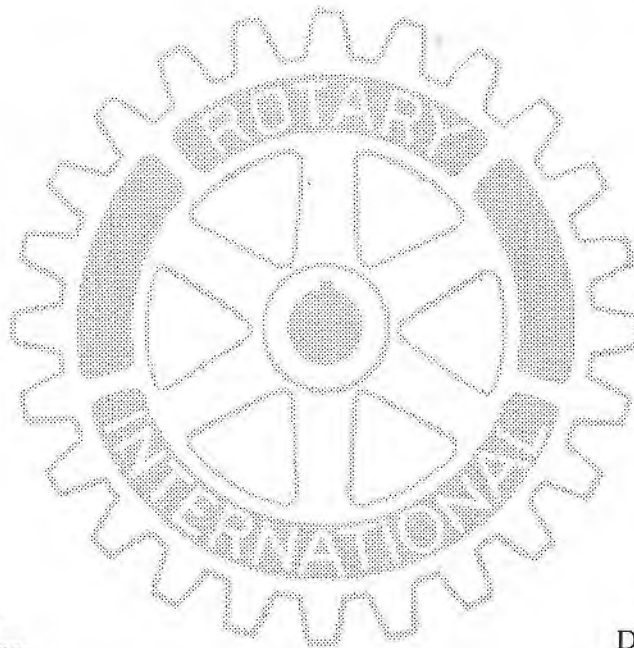
Over the years as Rotary Clubs grew in numbers, it was

necessary for the Districts to change. In 1937 Michigan was divided into three districts and Charlotte became part of District 151. Again in the late 40's it was necessary to divide Michigan into five districts and Charlotte became part of 219. It was then decided in 1957 that all district numbers in the United States would be between the numbers 500 and 800. Therefore, Charlotte became part of District 636. Then, in deference to the computer age, Charlotte became a part of 6360 in 1991-92.

George Dean served the District as Governor in 1955-56 and again in 1957-58 when Elwin J. Bodley, who was elected District Governor moved from the District.

George was the first man in the United States to serve two terms as District Governor.

6360



At the 1964 District Conference held at Benton Harbor St. Joe, the Charlotte Club presented a playlet entitled "Accepted With Regrets." Many Rotarians and Rotary Anns attended the Conference to help with or be a part of this play. Perhaps as a result of this, Charlotte won the men's and women's mile trophy, with 24 people at 105 miles each.

In 1966-67 Stu Bearup served as District Governor for District 636.

At his District Conference in 1967 thirty-eight members from the Charlotte Club attended at Lansing. This was the largest attendance for any Club other than the host club. This year's District Conference will be held May 17-18, at the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University.

Rotarians who return from District Conferences seem to have a renewed Rotary spirit. And since Charlotte maintains excellent record attendance at Conferences, it is no wonder that Charlotte Rotary remains strong.



# Attendance

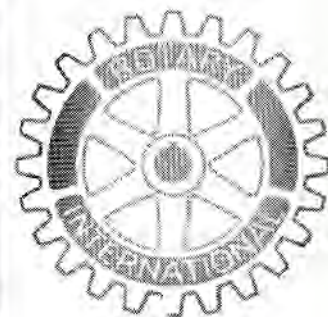
Attendance at Rotary meetings is an important basic part of the makeup of Rotary Clubs. The rule is "The membership of any active, senior active, or past service member, except as provided in this article, who is absent from four consecutive weekly meetings of this club shall automatically terminate, unless such absence is made up as hereinafter provided or he or she is excused by the Board for good and sufficient reason." Even with this rule, attendance at many clubs is poor. However, this is not a problem with Charlotte. The District Governor's letter each month lists the clubs by size and percentage of attendance during the previous month. Charlotte always ranks very high among clubs of its size. With the excellent system of make-ups in Rotary (which means that a Rotarian can attend a Rotary meeting at another Rotary Club during the two weeks before or two weeks after, and receive credit for his /her attendance) it is possible for a Rotarian to travel throughout the world and maintain his attendance record.

During the fifties, when Charlotte had about 80 members, there were many 100 percent meetings. In fact, in 1964 there were three 100 percent meetings during the year. However, as the club grew in membership, it was more difficult to reach a 100 percent level of attendance at

any one noon meeting. Still Charlotte has consistently maintained over 80% attendance at their weekly meetings. Our most recent 100% attendance day was August 22, 1995.

Over the years there have been attendance contests. Probably the most outstanding contest was in 1959 when Stu Graham's "Graham Crackers" and Charley Schaefer's "Bell Ringers" competed against one another. The "Bell Ringers" won and were promised a steak dinner, however, the steaks did not materialize, but there was a presentation of an empty giant bottle of "Old Grand Dad" instead.

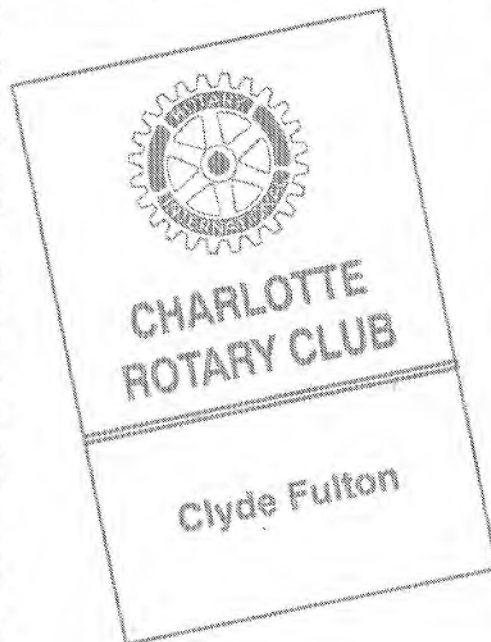
There are some members who do not need contests to maintain their good attendance records. In May of 1966, there was an attendance award meeting at which 21 members were honored for their perfect attendance. As of April, 1996, we have the following members with outstanding attendance records: Robert Fulton 40 years, Eldred Toutant 39 years, Rod Yates 36 years, Edward Foster 31 years, Chuck Grundstrom 23 years, Fred Darin 21 years and John Curtis 3 years. The record for the longest perfect attendance still belongs to George Dean, who passed away with 41 years of unbroken attendance at the Charlotte Rotary Club.





# Medallions and Junior Rotarians

Medallions, 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.

In 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.



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# Organizing Other Clubs and Our Mirror

Charlotte Rotarians had hoped for many years that a Rotary Club might be established in Eaton Rapids, but not until the fall of 1954 did the idea really begin to take form. At that time Charlotte Rotarian Stuart Graham asked for the privilege of organizing a club in Eaton Rapids, and received an official appointment from District Governor Ted Schmidt for the project. Mr. Graham devoted much time and effort in interviewing and enrolling prospective Rotarians, and was finally successful in obtaining 25 names which were 5 more than were needed to secure the Charter for the new club. It was extremely fortunate that one signer, Charles Henry, at that time manager of the V.F.W. National Home, had been a Rotarian in another state. His enthusiastic support added much impetus to the formation of the club. During this time, several informal gatherings were held with Past District Governor George Dean, and Charlotte Rotary Club President John Smith, acting as a panel to answer questions from the group.

On December 8, 1954, the organizational meeting of the new club took place at the Eaton Rapids office of Consumers Power Company. Chosen that night as the first club President was Charles Henry, with Dr. Bert VanArk as Vice President, and Tony Shad as Secretary-Treasurer. The Provisional Charter for the new club was soon granted from Rotary International and the first regular meeting took place on December 15, 1954, with the

V.F.W. Home Lodge as the official meeting place.

On the night of February 8, 1955, came the big, long-awaited event for Eaton Rapids Rotarians and the proud Charlotte sponsors, as this was their Charter Night. At the celebration, more than 400 Rotarians from all around the District attended the banquet. Many gifts were presented to the new club, speeches were made and the official welcome to the new club was given by the late Heileman O. Miller, then Mayor of the city of Eaton Rapids, and the main address was given by the past Secretary of Rotary International, Phillip Lovejoy, who was introduced by toastmaster Clyde Fulton.

Charlotte Rotarians take much pride in the fact that they sponsored Eaton Rapids Rotary, and that Eaton Rapids has become a fine addition to District 6360 of Rotary International. For many years Stuart Graham organized a group of Charlotte Rotarians to return to the Eaton Rapids Rotary Club and present them with a cake for their birthday celebration.

The Marshall Rotary Club was the sponsor of the Olivet Rotary Club, which was chartered on June 8, 1955, but many Charlotte Rotarians helped lay the groundwork. Since the Eaton Rapids and Olivet Clubs were being organized at about the same time, the Charlotte members knew "the ropes" and could help Marshall and Olivet in their work. For this reason close ties remain to this day between the Charlotte and Olivet clubs.

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Starting with the first organizational meeting of Charlotte Rotary, May 9, 1921, the Club Secretary kept minutes of each meeting. These minutes record the complete activities of the Club and its members until December of 1936, when the minutes were discontinued.

The first mention of the Rotary Mirror was in February 1932, although a mimeograph purchase was considered in September 1921, and in February 1926, a special sheet appeared in lieu of the Rotary bulletin.

It is not known who thought up the name Rotary Mirror, however the thought behind the name was that the Mirror would reflect the activities of the club.

From 1936 to 1947 there is little history available on the Charlotte Rotary Club, but starting June 30, 1947, we have a copy of each issue, giving us a complete record since that time of the activities of the club and its members.

Some of the early editors of the Mirror were Murl H. DeFoe; The Rev. Russell McConnell, who included a byline called "Parson Ips" during the 40's; Dr. Alton Vance, whose humor will always be remembered; Chet Wilcox; Don Fields; Bob Collins; Stu Graham; and Bill Webster.

In the early years only two people would write for the entire year, which became almost an unbearable chore. It was therefore decided to go to a system of six editors each year, each editor taking two months. It is still done that way today.

For years, the Mirror was delivered each Saturday morning by the son of a Rotarian to all of the members who lived in the city. In the outlying areas the Mirror was delivered by mail. The envelopes for this were typed for several years by a young crippled boy who was aided by the Crippled Children Committee of Rotary. The boy did this to show his appreciation for the help of Rotary and as an exercise for his crippled fingers. Today Mirrors are mailed weekly to members.

The Mirror not only keeps the Rotarian and their family advised of the programs and activities of the club, but copies are sent to neighboring clubs and to the District Governor to keep them advised on Charlotte Rotary and its members. Over the years we have maintained an outstanding quality in the printing and content of our publication. We can be justly proud of our reflections in our Rotary Mirror.



# Music and President's Day

From the earliest days of recorded history, music has contributed much to group activities. Nothing promotes good fellowship to a greater degree than singing together, whether it be at a campfire or around a luncheon table; and so it is no wonder that from the beginning of Rotary in Charlotte, music found a place in its weekly programs.

During the World War I period, which preceded the founding of Charlotte Rotary, group singing played a prominent part in every public meeting and the strains of "Over There" and "Keep The Home Fires Burning" were known to all. So when Rotarians gathered for the weekly luncheon, it became their practice to push back from the table and stimulate the enthusiasm of the group with two or three rousing songs of the day. Although during these fifty years, popular music has ranged from the ragtime of the 20's to the



Frank Pawli, Mr. Music

rock and roll of the 70's, the club has continued to enjoy the good old songs that have come down through the years and the strains of "My Wild Irish Rose" and "Home On The Range" still promote good fellowship with "Grand Old Flag" and "God Bless America" stirring our patriotic fervor. The strains of "Happy Birthday" ring out nearly every week for fellow members.

Each time a member becomes a grandfather or grandmother the occasion is honored by singing a special song. The grandparent song originally was "The Grandfather Clock," but Clyde Fulton felt this needed improving. He wrote one lyric after another, using music from the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and others, but settled on our present take off of "Hello Dolly." From the early days of Charles H. Carrick, an outstanding vocalist, and Paul Bond, an enthusiastic Rotarian, to the present song leaders, Frank Pawli, Bruce Smith, Jon Tomlanovich, Don Sovey, Jeannette Somner and Ed Atherton, the club has been fortunate in its music leadership. The leaders have been fortunate in the assistance of accomplished pianists such as Dr. Max Shuler (the first) followed by Ruth Marple, Opal Chilton, Helen Sherwood, Valdeen Roth, Pauline Shaul, Russ McConnell, Hazel Higby, Jerre Fredenburg, Darrell Cook and our present accompanist, Lucille Tuckey. These gifted musicians have made possible in our weekly meetings a period of relaxation and good fellowship that marks a pleasant break in the problems of the daily grind.

As an added feature of our musical program, we have soloists and ensembles from our community and from our outstanding high school Oriole Band, and Womens Club Chorus whose annual appearances at our meetings are always keenly anticipated by our club.

Yes, music is indeed a part of Rotary and we like to think that a few moments of song together helps to make even a gloomy day look just a little brighter.

The President's Day picnics were started on June 30, 1936, when the members and their Rotary Anns held a potluck dinner at President and Mrs. Allen Moyer's cottage at Wall Lake. On this occasion the Rotary gavel was turned over to President Byron Brown, a gift was presented to Pauline Shaul for her services as club pianist, and a Rotary pin was presented to Russ McConnell as Baby Rotarian.



From then until 1957, the last meeting of the year was held at a member's cottage at Duck Lake. Perhaps the most novel occasion was held on June 28, 1948, when Cash Beechler arranged to have Al Cudney fly his plane to Traverse City in the morning, for a supply of freshly

caught whitefish which were served to the members that evening. This was enjoyed so much by the members that it was repeated for several years. Starting in June 1957, and at the decision of the Board, the President's Day was held at the Temple. But all the enjoyment of these former occasions was not lost, as starting the next year the Rotary Anns began their famed chicken barbecues, the first being held at the Bart Rypstra's residence on West

Lawrence. We have continued this popular tradition of the President's Day barbecue to the present time. Each year the event is attended by Rotarians and spouses and is held in late June to mark the transfer of leadership to the new Charlotte Rotary Club President.



# Programs and Sports

If you were to ask each Rotarian what was the most outstanding program they had heard at Rotary, you would get nearly 100 different answers. As to be expected, some programs are better than others, but on



the whole the programs at Rotary are outstanding. From the early twenties into the nineties, Charlotte Rotary has been blessed with diverse, interesting and informa-

tive programs. Speakers have ranged from Jud Heathcoat of M.S.U. to Gov. G. Mennen Williams to State Representative Frank Fitzgerald and Lansing State Journal columnist John Schneider. Programs have included travel logs from around the world as well as focusing upon local business activities and local organizations.

With programs this diverse, it would be impossible to list all of the outstanding programs and perhaps the best

tribute to Charlotte Rotary and its programs and fellowship was taken from the Ledger, the Grand Ledge Club bulletin, of February 12, 1957--"If you have never made up a Rotary meeting at Charlotte, you have missed part of Rotary. You realize immediately why they have 80 members, when you sing along under the flailing arms of big Clyde Fulton doing 'Shortnin' Bread,' just after you have polished off a delicious steak and cherry pie. Then a smooth looking gent indoctrinates three new members to the club with a genuine William Jennings Bryan touch. You're just gloating inside that you are a Rotarian and musing over the terrific fellowship that surrounds you when someone puts out the lights and you are whisked off the runway at Willow Run, bound for the northern extremities of the Canadian Rockies. For the next hour you ride a horse for some 300 miles, sleep in a sleeping bag under British Columbian skies, eat big horn sheep steaks deliciously browned by your 21 year old blond cook, wander up and down unsurpassed scenic mountains and stream-filled valleys, dodge grizzly bears and completely lose your current problems in the vastness of the land, where time is measured with the shedding of moose antlers and the collections of pine cones by the sassy red squirrel."

Our program committee makes sure we are continually presented with fine quality programs.

On May 19, 1921, Charter Day for the Charlotte Rotary Club, after the noon meeting and the programs and the remarks, the guests were taken for a ride through Bennett Park, after which, sports were indulged in at the Park. Hastings won the ball game and the wheel barrow race and Detroit won the ball tossing contest.

From a beginning like this it is no wonder that Charlotte Rotarians have been very interested in sports. Their interest is varied and follows many channels. A group of boys and girls have been sponsored in the summer baseball program for many years. Our members have worked as coaches, and many members have sponsored teams individually. Rotary has had many champions in these leagues, the first one coming in 1965. The boys from that champion team were invited to the noon luncheon and introduced to the entire club. In 1966 the sports interest took a little different turn when it

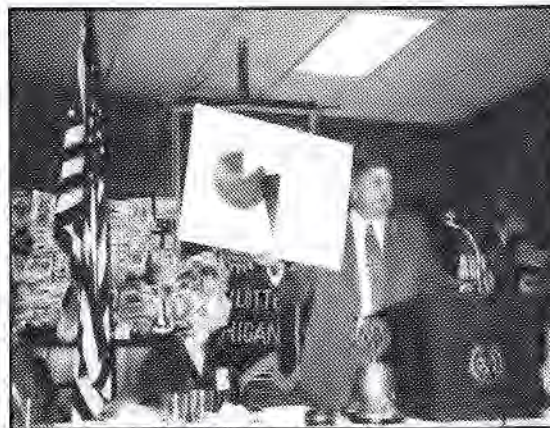
was decided to undertake a rifle range as a club project. There was a room in the new Junior High School which was long and narrow, suitable for a rifle and archery range. It was decided by the club to sponsor a Dale Carnegie Course and use the proceeds from this Course to

build a target for the rifle range.

All during the fall of 1966 Rotarians worked on this project, headed by Ted Johnson, who was Chairman of the Sports Committee.

Rotarians take part in athletic events as well as sponsoring them, and each June for the past several years there has been an inter service club golf outing sponsored by the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce at the Charlotte Country Club.

Each year there is a District Golf Outing and a District Bowling Tournament. Charlotte Rotary is always represented by a team or two at each event.





# Charlotte Rotary 25th/50th Anniversaries

The 25th Anniversary Banquet of the Charlotte Rotary Club was held May 22, 1946 at the Masonic Temple, with golf in the afternoon at the Charlotte Country Club. Rotarians and their Rotary Anns were present from Battle Creek, Marshall, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Ypsilanti and Detroit, and of the eleven Charter members still living of the original twenty four, four were in attendance. Mrs. Kate Dell, whose mother-in-law, Mrs. William Dell, served the Charter Day luncheon, was the caterer with high school girls as waitresses.

The dining room was elaborately decorated in Rotary colors with several Rotary banners placed around the room. The tables were set up as spokes in a wheel and the speaker's table was decorated with beautiful bouquets, the gifts of Rotarians and friends. Adding to the color were special light blue souvenir programs placed at each plate.

President Fred Murray was the presiding officer, Rev. Russ McConnell, a member since 1935 and a Past President, gave the invocation, and Ward Hynes directed

the singing, accompanied by Pauline Shaull, our main accompanist since 1936.

Dr. Arnet J. Garlinghouse, a Charter member and Past President, was the toastmaster, first introducing Mrs. Clyde Fulton, who sang three pleasing numbers, accompanied by Mrs. Ruth Marple, who was the club's accompanist on several occasions as far back as 1927. Edward J. Elles, a Charter member and the President for the first two years, reviewed the early history of the club. Paul Bond, a member in 1925, President 1929-30, and District Governor in 1932-33, represented the Past District Governors of the 151st District; and Ernest H. Chappell of Ypsilanti, also a member in 1925, President in 1927-28, Secretary from 1929-1932, and a Past District Governor of District 153, toasted the Past Presidents of the club. William W. Slocum, a Past President of the Detroit Rotary Club, which sponsored Charlotte Rotary, was then called upon to introduce the speaker, E. Roy Shaw, Past President of the Detroit Rotary Club and Past District Governor of the 153rd District.

The Charlotte Rotary Club went "all out" in its celebration, which was held on May 1, 1971, but planning started the year before on

August 2. The Anniversary

Committee was composed of 20 members and during the next eight months they held over 20 meetings. At the onset it was determined that the best possible celebration would be produced. As evidence

of that, the initial speakers list included

astronauts, Senators and Past Presidents of Rotary.

The final selection proved to be ideally suited to the occasion.

Dr. Andrew Holt, President Emeritus of the University of Tennessee and a Rotarian of prominence,

agreed to come but had to fit his appearance into a very tight schedule. His flight into Detroit was met by two Charlotte Rotarians, who immediately flew him to Charlotte. Later that evening he was driven back to Detroit.

Dr. Holt's appearance that evening was distinguished

by his easy humor and fitting remarks. He was introduced by Edward Elles, Past Club President and the son of the first club President, E. J. Elles.

Past President Lynn Fowler shared the platform as

Toastmaster for the evening. Many former club members and guests attended, including

Dr. Arnet Garlinghouse from Florida, who was a Charter member.

Two outstanding publications were produced by Rotarians for the occasion.

Guests were presented with copies and some were even sold on "Main Street" with proceeds going to the Foundation.

Perhaps nothing else in the last 25 years has so united our members or so involved them in a personal way.

Letters were exchanged, poems written, deadlines met. A local industry produced a quantity of commemorative glasses. Articles about Rotary appeared almost weekly in the newspaper. It was a busy, productive and satisfying year for Rotary in Charlotte.

## 50th Anniversary Song

To the Tune of "Step to the Rear"

Well, look over here.  
It has been fifty years  
for Charlotte in Rotary.  
Founded for service in old '21,  
our life had begun,  
not big but, dedicated.  
They met and they ate  
but, to participate  
was the purpose of it all.  
"To serve fellow man  
just as well as we can"  
they wound up with a charity ball.  
So everyone clap,  
they put us on the map,  
that we'd serve where duty calls.

Now everyone hear  
it's our fiftieth year  
and we hail to Rotary.  
For now half a century  
has passed in review,  
the old and the new  
the fun and the inspiration.  
Rotary ideals, like two cogs in a wheel,  
must be put to work to serve.  
We look o're the past and we review the cast.  
Its half hundred years full of lore  
of things that were done,  
by the all--not just one.  
Now let's go for 50 more.



# Rotary Projects

## 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 payment 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.





## 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 foot 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**

**A**drienne Simmons, age 16, is going 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.

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

### **FRONTIER DAYS**

**T**he 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.

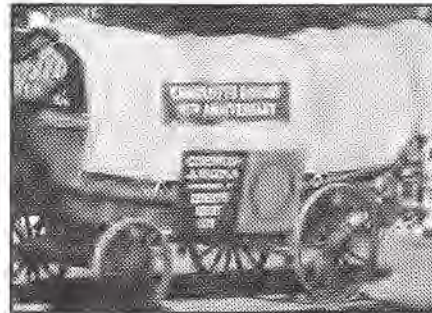
The Charlotte Rotary Club and its individual members have devoted countless hours over the years in making Charlotte Frontier Days one of the most successful and renowned festivals in the great State of Michigan.

### **THE CONESTOGA WAGON**

**W**hen Frontier Days was proposed by Rotarian Steve Musselman as a sustaining event in Charlotte, Rotarians had a dominant part in 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 Darin, 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 adage 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.





# Projects of Our Past

## BIG BROTHERS OF CHARLOTTE

**T**he 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

**D**uring 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

**F**rom 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.

### CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE PROGRAM

"The 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 Elleses 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 thru 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.

## Remembering When

**I**n 1921, Charlotte became Club #971 in the Rotary World. The Rotary district at that time ran from the Indiana border to Sault Ste Marie, Ontario. Today our district is compressed into the southwest corner of Michigan.

In the early days of Charlotte Rotary, the club secretary kept minutes of each meeting. This was discontinued in 1936. But to some extent this chore was taken over by the appearance of the Rotary Mirror.

The Charlotte Club has had basically only three meeting places since it chartered. First, were the Community Rooms over the present-day Custom Home Interiors. The second was the Carnes Hotel on the corner of Cochran and Lawrence. In 1944 the club moved to the basement of the Masonic Temple, where it continues to this day.

1936 Sponsored by Charlotte Rotary, football and band banquets were held for a number of years. It was an annual event and honored the efforts of both groups.

1924 District dues paid by Rotary clubs were \$1.50 per member. In 1996 they are \$14.50.

Newsboys (and later, newsgirls) were entertained as guests of the Club at Christmas time for a number of years.

For a brief period, our Tuesday luncheons were accented

by an in-house newscast provided by the local radio station.

1927 The Club voted to post Rotary road signs at the entrances to the City.

1926 The Club contributed to the cost of July 4 fireworks which were displayed by the Charlotte Firemen's Club.

At one time, the Club paid the Secretary a salary of \$20. and later, for a period of time, the Secretary was excused from paying club dues.

1928 Burt Cameron moved that flowers be sent only when a member of some of their family were seriously ill. Club Secretary was to be the final judge.

Up until about 1950, Charlotte Rotary frequently participated in joint meetings with Lions and Kiwanis. Usually preceded by a golf outing and dinner was held at the Country Club. Club members were asked to stand as roll call was taken.

1931 Burt Collins reported the results of the Charity Football game on Thanksgiving - kindly omitting the score. He suggested that a plate be passed for funds to take care of the tickets and advertising. The amount needed was raised.



**1926** Club voted to have the President appoint a Secret Steering Committee to handle unusual motions and various other matters.

**1933** Membership reached an all-time low of 26 members. They very nearly surrendered their Charter, but Reverend Alfred Way provided the inspiration to carry on.

**1921** At the first regular club meeting, the Board of Directors authorized ordering two dozen Rotary emblems.

**1925** Charlotte Rotary held crippled children clinics. In some cases, the child was driven to Ann Arbor.

The Club sponsored an entertainment held at the Congregational Church and presented by the Olivet Glee Club. The club paid the fee of \$50.

In the 1940's & 50's an annual picnic took the place of the regular meeting and was held at Duck Lake, primarily at the Beechler cottage.

During the 1950's when Charlotte had about 80 members, there were many 100% meetings. Charlotte consistently maintained over a 90% monthly attendance. In 1962 one member got up from his sick bed to make-up at a neighboring club, when he learned that Charlotte was close to reaching a perfect attendance.

**1954** Collected 500 lbs. of useful clothing and shipped it to the Rio Grande flood victims in Mexico. It is things such as this which exemplify the spirit of Rotary.

**March 1957** 100% attendance at Club meeting on the 12th!

**June 1958** Car safety check ends Saturday, June 14. Eldred Toutant, our representative on the Charlotte Safety Council, announces that four Rotarians are working three-hours shifts. This program to prevent accidents can be most beneficial to our community. Get your car safety checked.

**February 1961** Attendance report found our club in the "above average" section (15th for a 92.43% rating).

**December 1961** The annual Newsboy's banquet was a grand success! Fellowship was excellent, the food was delicious and the program fine.

**October 1962** A preview was given to Rotary on United Fund campaign. If Charlotte is going to reach its goal of \$25,292, it will mean we all have to dig a little deeper.

**May 1963** Chuck Grundstrom, May Junior Rotarian, is one of Charlotte's most outstanding students.

**October 1964** Important notice: New membership provision Article V, Section 9 of the Club Constitution provides that an active member at 65 automatically becomes Senior Active, if he has had five or more years active membership.

**May 1965** We hope by the time you receive this bulletin - or shortly thereafter - we'll have a new District Governor - - our own Stu Bearup. Regardless of the outcome we're mighty proud of you Stu!

**1965** Among the many community undertakings of Rotary was that of providing Big Brothers for needy boys. At one time there were 38 boys on the waiting list.

**March 1966** A panel of distinguished Rotarians, consisting of Robert Johns, Jerry Haskins, Ed Morey, and Robert Fulton will bring us up-to-date on the proposed increase in school mileage to be voted on soon.

**December 1967** Someone estimated the national deficit this year will be \$24 billion and it is presumed this means LBJ has quit turning off the lights in the White House.

**May 1968** A combined luncheon of all Charlotte Service Clubs and the Jaycees was held on the occasion of our annual Mayor's Exchange Day and Michigan Week program.

**June 1968** The Charlotte Rotary Ann's received honorable mention in the June issue of the Rotarian magazine on page 20 for telling their husbands some things they liked about the magazine.

**July 1967** The Ladies Annual Chicken BBQ was a big success with close to 150 present to enjoy the wonderful meal. Weather was very nice, somebody turned off the rain for the day. Thanks to Mungers for sharing their lovely yard with us for the occasion.

**October 1968** Chief of Police Bart Howe presented a very timely program on gun safety.

**May 1969** Aimed for a 100% meeting, after make-ups were in we had 97%.

**December 1970** Last week; what a line up! PDG Stu Bearup brought us up to date on the plans for the Golden Anniversary celebration. Clyde Fulton reviewed some of the trials, tribulations and highlights of the club's babyhood years; and PDG (twice) George Dean gave us a most enthusiastic push towards that 1100% plateau for the Rotary Foundation. Clyde's statement that we can look with pride at the club's accomplishments over the first "50" made most worthy the ambitious program outlined by Stu. Without question participation during the intervening months to May 1 should be the most rewarding experience for the present members of their entire periods with Charlotte Rotary. Such "high-priced" speakers deservedly warranted top introductions, which "Prexy" Bun graciously obliged.

**July 1970** Speaking of wild life: We note the City Fathers, including our Mayor George Dean and our City Manager Bob Lake, found it necessary to amend the City ordinances in order to control nighttime activities on Main Street in Charlotte. This is a far cry from the stray wild deer that tried to enter the Eaton Theater some time ago.

**January 1970** It was different and very nice meeting at Andy's Restaurant last week. Andy was gracious to help us and I'm sure it must have caused some problems for him. Thanks again, Andy.

**November 1971** Clyde Fulton was commended in the District Governor's October letter for writing our "Grandpa" song. It is also suggested in the letter that other clubs write us for the words. Perhaps we should have the whole thing printed up and sell it to the other clubs as a club project.

**November 1971** Miss Michigan State Highway will be our guest this week as we hear a program on the Interstate Highway program in Michigan. The official opening of the section of I-69 which borders Charlotte will take place at 11:30 on Tuesday and then the visiting dignitaries will join us and present our program. Lynn Fowler will handle the introductions. It will surely seem good to have the era of the by-pass come to an end.

**1971** Don Johnson and Bill Byland flew to Detroit to pick up the speaker for the 50th Anniversary dinner. It



was Dr. Andrew Holt, President Emeritus of the University of Tennessee. A pre-dinner reception was held at the home of Darell and Jo Johnson.

**August 1972** Quarterly Dues: Please peel off a few bank notes and press them in the Treasurer's palm as you enter the banquet hall.

**May 1976** The dear old rafters of the Masonic Temple again resounded last week to those well-known strains of the "Grandfathers" song as we sang to Jack Young, heralding the arrival of Jack Bushnell Young. The young man weighed in at 8 1/2 lbs. Congratulations and best wishes!

**December 1979** A certain Rotarian offered 100 bills if guest speaker Trooper Charlie Brown would clap the handcuffs on brother Rotarian Dallas Eaton. Which act was promptly accomplished. At the scene it was impossible to positively identify the gentleman who made such a generous offer, as he was not wearing his required Rotary identification badge. (picture looked like Doug Lowe, but with no name tag, who knows!)

**November 1978** Ring offs: Bob Leaser said he figures disco dancing is physical therapy for an ailing back.

**November 1978** Ring offs: Will politicians learn to spell tax relief. . . The trouble with jogging is that by the time you finally realize you are in no condition for it, you have a long walk back. . . The Junior Rotarians are Jancie Bowser and Mike Donley.

**June 1980** Annual Chicken BBQ at President Gary's is Tuesday, June 24. The chicken cooking committee will gather at 2:00 p.m. See you then!

**November 1981** Ring offs: Bill Colson says, if your trouble is deep-seated and of long standing, try kneeling.

**October 1992** Did you know???? It takes two to three hours to prepare each edition of the Mirror. It takes about four full legal size sheets of writing to fill the Mirror.

**September 1983** Ever wonder where your "bucks" that the local bandits relieve you go to? For the 83-84 year Rotary International has awarded 1151 scholarships, in 63 countries, to the tune of \$12, 282,000.

**March 1984** A record \$3 fine was levied against Don Hummel.

**August 1985** Our pianist, Darrell Cook, was on another assignment and Phil Brown did very well acappella.

**October 1986** Our board has voted to become involved in supporting the CROP Walk (a national program to fight hunger). October 18 is the event date.

**1987** Rotary International changed its constitution to provide for women to become members of Rotary. Susan Joostbern was later inducted as the first female Charlotte Rotarian.

**1988** Rotary Club bulletins from other clubs are always interesting to read. My vote for the best and newsiest three, (outside our own Rotary Mirror, of course!) are Olivet Rotolivet, the Grand Ledge Rotary Ledger, and the Eaton Rapids Rotary Spoke. All are well written and to the point! and easy to read, too.

**1989** From all reports by our Charlotte Rotarians, the 1989 District 636 Conference at Kalamazoo was successful in every way. Those attending were President Vince and Sue Ferris, Doug and Janis Lowe, Don and Ann Sovey, Ed and Linda Foster and Greg and Liz Poole. They reported excellent speeches, and inspirational meetings, fine food and outstanding entertainment.

**June 1990** This week will be our annual Club Assembly. Be sure to be there to firm up your committee assignments. Committee Chairpersons, be sure to have your reports in by the end of the week.

**February 1991** Keep the Art Auction in mind, March 2. Bring friends, relatives, even your mother-in-law! The art pieces will be marked for a minimum bid if applicable. Most pieces will most likely start below their market value.

**May 1992** Rotary Club member Stu Bearup was honored May 8 at the District Conference in Kalamazoo with the Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award. One Distinguished Service Award is given for each 23,000 Rotarians.

**September 1993** We participated in Rotary Quiz Bowl emceed by the Quiz Bowl master himself Fred Darin. Questions pertaining to Rotary were directed to the contestants. Ten points were awarded for each correct answer, 10 points were deducted for each incorrect. Team one was Ed Foster and Susan Joostberns, team two was Gail Williams and Don Sovey, team three was Sue Smith and Dick Dowling. Team one was victorious.

**February 1994** Rotary is attempting to help in this region through 3H (Hunger, Health & Humanities). Their current project is to supply the rural areas of Zambia with safe drinking water.

**February 1995** Fireside chat for Rotarians will be the 28th, at the Charlotte Country Club at 7:00 p.m. This is for new members, their spouses and the sponsoring Rotarian and spouse.



## 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Chuck Grundstrom and Fred Darin, Co-Chairpersons

The Charlotte Rotary Club gratefully acknowledges the outstanding efforts of Chuck Grundstrom and Fred Darin as Co-Chairs of the 75th Anniversary Committee. With their guidance and the generous assistance of many other committees we have had a very successful year of celebration. This commemorative booklet is a result of the combined efforts of our Historical Committee and the memories of many long-time Rotarians. Another fine example of Rotarian teamwork.

The 75th Anniversary Committee gratefully thanks Mrs. Jan Larkin for the design and contribution of the front cover.