

## **ROTARY CLUB OF BROWN COUNTY – THE BEGINNING**

**From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow. The seed for the beginning of the Rotary Club of Brown County grew from the fertile mind and yearning of a restaurant entrepreneur and business man, Delano (Del) Newkirk.**

**Del began selling his business holdings in 1991. That same year, he and his wife, Letty, moved to Brown County and began building a new home high in the Hills O' Brown where they "could be one with nature and enjoy the sunrises and sunsets."**

**Del had long envied the fellowship, community leadership and service of Rotarians but had never stayed in one place long enough to participate in Rotary. He set about to change that even though there was no Rotary club in Brown County.**

**With the help of people such as Past District Governor Orphie Bridges, District Governor Owen Hungerford and Brown County retiree Prof. Dick Hulet, a past president of the Normal (Illinois) Rotary Club, Del began recruiting for the county's first Rotary club.**

**By the fall of 1992, he and others had recruited 25 outstanding men and women, had drafted by-laws in accordance with Rotary International and District guidance, and presented themselves for chartering.**

**The new club was officially chartered November 2, 1992, and celebrated at a Charter Night gala Thursday, November 19, 1992, attended by more than 100 people including Rotary dignitaries from Rotary International and Rotary District 6580. Many of the District's clubs sent representatives bearing Rotary paraphernalia as gifts to help the fledgling club begin. Entertainment for the evening was provided by friends of Del -- Past Rotary District Governor John Egan and his wife Anne Marie, professors of music from St. Joseph College.**

**It was the first Rotary club in Southern Indiana to be named after a county. The first meetings were in Nashville's Artists Colony Inn, and the club has held its regular weekly breakfast meetings at that location every Thursday ever since.**

**District Governor Hungerford installed the club's first officers: Del as president; Dick Hulet, vice president; Bill Percifield, secretary; Kathryn Richardson, treasurer; Michael Chamblee, sergeant-at-arms, and Stewart Turner-Ball, chaplain. Directors were Jim Crane (community service), Yvonne Oliger (international service), Donna Stouder (vocational service) and Pamela Taylor (club service).**

**Del is the only club president to serve three terms, including the partial Rotary year following chartering. He is thought of as "the father of Brown County Rotary," a description well-earned with his active role in leading by example and practicing the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self."**

## ROTARY CLUB OF BROWN COUNTY -- HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

### Charter Members (Charter Night – Thursday, November 19, 1992)

Robert W. Barger  
Jay Carter  
Michael A. Chamblee  
William S. Cook  
James R. Crane  
Scott DeDomenic  
Robert C. Hale  
Brian Heller  
Richard E. Hulet  
Steven E. Kritzer  
Del Newkirk  
Yvonne C. Olinger  
Robert R. Ormiston

William L. Percifield  
Burton R. Perdue  
Jamie L. Pirtle  
Kathryn M. Richardson  
Martin K. Saari  
Patricia D. Setser  
Donna Stouder  
Kathy J. Strahm  
Pamela J. Taylor  
Stewart Turner-Ball  
Douglas E. Van Winkle  
George A. Warner

### Club Presidents

Del Newkirk	1992-1994
Jim Crane	1994-1995
Kathryn Richardson	1995-1996
Scott DeDomenic	1996-1997
Greg Marshall	1997-1998
Jim Allen	1998-1999
Dick Routh	1999-2000
Michelle Cohen	2000-2001
Dick Knobloch	2001-2002
Del Newkirk	2002-2003
Bob Kirlin	2003-2004
Diane Cantrell	2004-2005
Al Kosinski	2005-2006
Yvonne Olinger	2006-2007
Jaydene Laros	2007-2008
Pryde Bayliss	2008-2009
Bert Clemons	2009-2010
Sue Ann Werling	2010-2011
Richard Lawlor	2011-2012
Rod Russell	2012-2013
Richard Rhyant	2013-2014
Brandy Brandon	2014-2015
Larry Hanson	2015-2017
Al Kosinski/Jim Allen	2017-2018
Dwight Thompson	2018-2019
Beverly Teach	2019-2020
Robert Willsey	2020-2021

### Club Secretaries

William L. Percifield	1992-1995
Judy Brown	1995-1997
Charlene Kowaliuk	1997-1999
Aldea Cloutier-Hartung	1999-2000
Cynthia Thompson	2000-2003
Jaydene Laros	2003-2005
Suzannah Zody	2005-2007
Jane Gore	2007-2009
Teed Howard	2009-2011
Dennis Kubal	2011-2012
Pryde Bayliss	2012-2013
Larry Hanson	2013-2015
Jaydene Laros	2015-2016
Beverly Teach	2016-2019
Jim Tichenor	2019-2020
Beverly Teach	2020-2021

### Rotarian of Year

<b>Jim Simms</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>Cindy Rose Wampler</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Greg Marshall</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>Teed Howard</b>	<b>2008</b>
<b>Randy Snyder</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>Sue Ann Werling</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Jim Allen</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>Teed Howard/Ken Harker</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Kathy Strahm</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>Wanda Jones</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Bob Ormison</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>Jane Gore</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Bill Percifield</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Mike &amp; Jaydene Laros</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Diane Cantrell</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>Al Kosinski</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>John Kipp</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>Larry Hanson/Jaydene Laros</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Jim Reichert</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>Dick Routh</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Howard Hughes</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Mike Laros</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Jaydene Laros</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Beverly Teach</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Dick Routh</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Jaydene Laros</b>	<b>2019</b>
		<b>Dwight Thompson</b>	<b>2020</b>

### Rotary District 6580 Officers

<b>Yvonne Oliger, Assistant District Governor</b>	<b>2014-2016</b>
<b>Yvonne Oliger, District Secretary</b>	<b>2007-2010</b>
<b>Dick Routh, Assistant District Governor</b>	<b>2000-2004</b>
<b>Greg Marshall</b>	
• District Governor's Advisory Council	<b>1999-2000</b>
• Chair, Long-Term Youth Exchange Committee	<b>2000-2001</b>
<b>Bill Percifield, District Treasurer</b>	<b>1994-1997</b>

### Rotary District 6580 Awards

<b>District Citation Award</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
<b>Best Small Club</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>
<b>Best Small Club</b>	<b>2016-2017</b>
<b>Best Club Secretary (Teed Howard)</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>
<b>Best Small Club</b>	<b>2010-2011</b>
<b>Best Club Secretary (Jane Gore)</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>
<b>Most Outstanding Club</b>	<b>1999-2000</b>
<b>Best Club Secretary (Bill Percifield)</b>	<b>1993-1994</b>
<b>Numerous Best Club Spirit Awards</b>	

### Rotary International Awards - Numerous Presidential Citations