

A HISTORY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF POMPANO BEACH

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR...

In approaching the job of preparing a history of our Rotary Club, I took on the task with great trepidation. Being a fledgling member of some three years affiliation, I have experienced but a fraction of the half century of service and community involvement of which our club was so intimately a part. Unfortunately, in gathering materials for this history, it was discovered that approximately 25 years worth of meticulously kept records and photographs had been inadvertently discarded and so it is hoped that major points of significance of our Club's progress have not been left out by this writer.

Special thanks are extended to our most senior members: Gene Smith, George Hamilton and Bob Pool, in providing interview time to this writer, for it is in part through their sterling recollections that this history of our club was made possible.

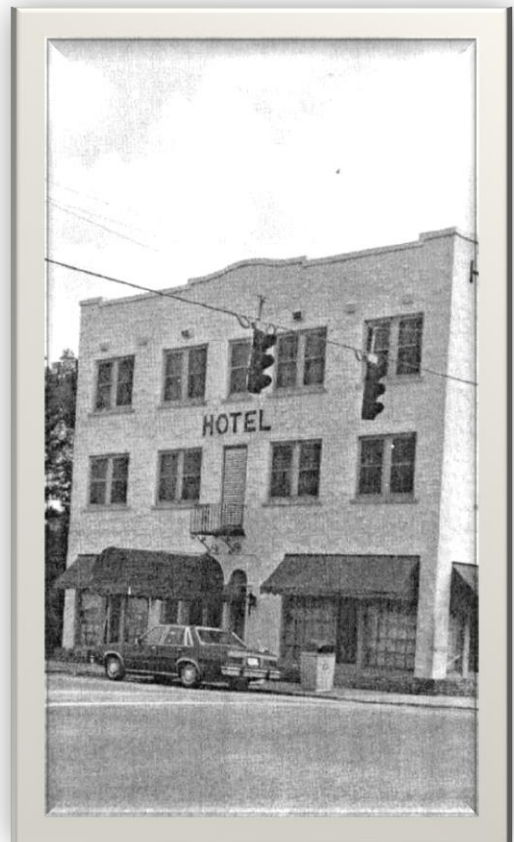
The appendix were prepared in a fashion in order to supplement this Club history and, hopefully done in a method not to disrupt its continuity.

Lastly, this job could not have been made possible were it not for the patience and technical assistance of my wonderful secretary, Eleanor S. Jadwin.

Depression! Yes sir, depression. That's the way our Club was born in the throes of our country's greatest depression. The year was 1930 and the place was Pompano Beach, Florida. The setting was a small agricultural community located some 35 miles north of Miami on Florida's east coast. Pompano's first residents located in this area in the year 1896. Legend has it that Henry Flagler, on one of his early trips through this area, observed the name Pompano written on an early survey map prepared for him by one of his early track-laying crew foremen who had eaten the fish known as a pompano (African Pompano) which was caught in our local waters and so the name stuck. Our town was incorporated in the year 1908 and, between the years 1900 and 1922, the local economy was strictly agriculturally based with a small number of stores and shops located in what is now known as "Old Town Pompano" on Northeast 1st Street and along Flagler Avenue, which parallels the Florida East Coast Railroad tracks. In the early 20s, the land speculators came in to this area and began promoting real estate as an investment for northern dollars as our country's overall economy began to boom. As the 20s progressed, large tracks of land in the general Pompano area were platted, and subdivisions, sidewalks and street lights were fabricated and placed in areas just west of Dixie Highway in the Avondale area to the south and the Monticello Park area to the north. The land speculators sold and resold the properties as the values continued to increase and then double and then triple during the early and mid-20s. Tourism as we know it today had not yet arrived in Pompano.

Just a few months prior to October, 1929, real estate speculation in south Florida began to burst. Prices dripped and in the end the very lots that had sold for hundreds and thousands of dollars in our community, would soon not bring enough interest speculators at tax sale.

It was in this climate that the Rotary Club of Pompano Beach first drew breath. Unlike our sister Clubs in Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Lake Worth, who were all born during boom times, our Club received its charter in the teeth of the depression. Those who had invested in and speculated in real estate in our community were long gone by 1930. That hardy group of early residents decided that, if our community was really going to survive and amount to anything, they had all better joining together in a band of common concern and camaraderie if they too were going to survive. It was



an outgrowth of this “all for one and one for all” spirit which drew together our charter members.

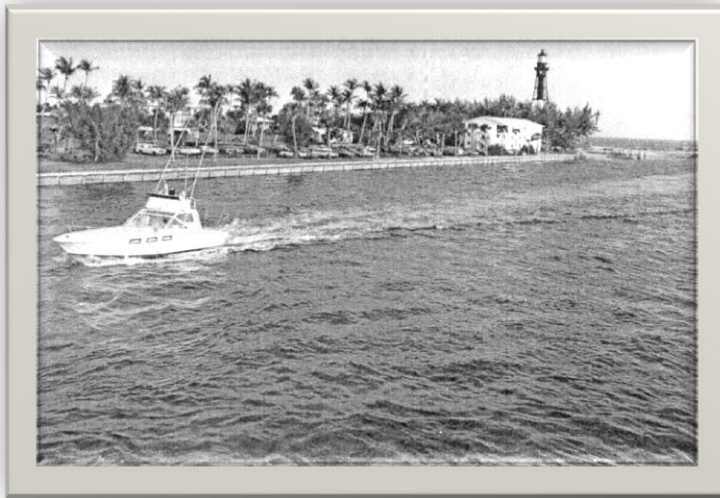
Some members of the Miami and the Fort Lauderdale Rotary Clubs felt that Pompano was too small to support a Club that would survive the test of time. Those doubters among those early Rotary members in south Florida were soon proven wrong.

In February 1930, some of our founding members met in the lobby of the Walton Hotel for the purpose of gauging community interest in a Rotary Club. With the assistance of the Fort Lauderdale Rotary club, as it was then known, H.M Sours, Roland Hardy, J.W. Walton, H.L. Malcolm, S.C. Fox, H. Elmo Baker and others applied for a charter from Rotary International in Chicago.

The first official organizational meeting was held on March 20, 1930, at the Walton Hotel and a committee made up of S.C. Fox, Alto Deal, R.H. Stevens and H.L. Malcolm was appointed to plan the program for the charter presentation to the Pompano rotary Club No 3313, Pompano Beach, Florida.

It was originally decided that H.M Sours would be president with Roland Hardy to be vice-president and J.J. Hayes to be secretary/treasurer. The banquet was scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 1930, and all arrangements were finalized for the program to be held at the Hillsboro Club, then owned by H.L. Malcolm.

The Hillsboro Club located at the mouth of the Hillsboro Inlet, Hillsboro Beach, Florida, the home of our social functions between 1930 and 1950.



On the morning of the installation and charter presentation ceremony, H.M. Sours passed away to everyone's great sorrow. Some thought it best to reset the installation date, but after a hurried meeting among the charter members, it was decided to proceed with the ceremony.

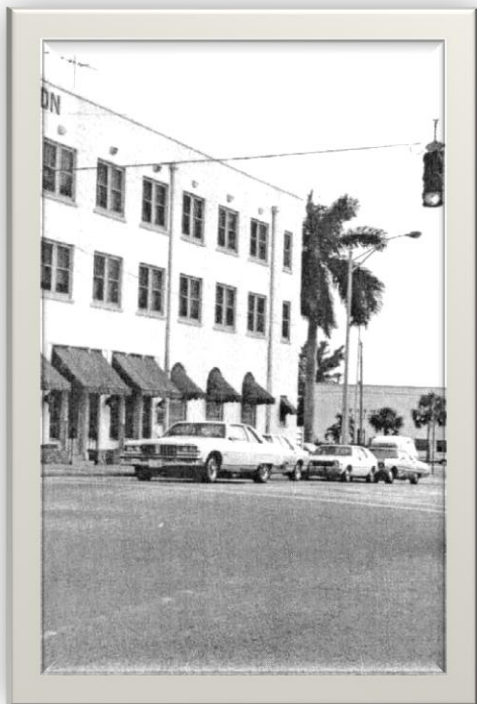
The following, therefore, were duly installed by Mr. J.A. Raymond, who was appointed special commissioner and presiding officer for the ceremony,

by the Fort Lauderdale Rotary Club, our sponsor. Installed that evening were Roland Hardy, president, C.H. Cates, vice-present, J.J. Hayes, secretary, and present were charter members Alto Deal, W.W. Bauder, H. Elmo Baker, W.A. Williams, S.C. Fox, J.L. Warren, H.H. Powers, H.L.

Malcolm, J.W. Walton, F.A. Windsor, R.H. Stevens, William P. West and H.P. Chambers (see Appendix A, Complete List of Club Presidents).

If you think we eat well at our installation banquets, just look at the menu that was served for that first Rotary meeting: grapefruit halves on ice, consommé Royale, broiled mackerel, cucumber relish and tartar sauce, celery hearts, tree-ripened olives and sweet gherkins, roast young turkey, thyme dressing and cranberry sauce, pimientoed mashed potatoes, buttered cauliflower, glazed sweet potatoes, fresh green beans, fresh moquin salad, French dressing, butterflake rolls, fresh strawberry shortcake, coffee, after-dinner mints and mixed nuts. Yum! Yum!

The birthplace of our Club at the intersection of Northeast 1st Street and 1st Avenue, Pompano Beach



The invocation that evening was led by Reverend E.J. Sellard with a vocal solo by Mrs. E.J. Sellard, Earl's Rotary Ann, up to Pompano that evening from Hollywood. There was a special dance performance by Miss Marion Robinson and a special address by Mr. James Donn, Sr., president-elect of the Miami Rotary Club with his topic, "What is Rotary?" That is the same James Donn, Sr., who later owned and founded Gulfstream Raceway in Hallandale, Florida. Following Mr. Donn's address, there was a clarinet solo by Miss Faith Forbeck and a presentation entitled "A Bit of Harmony" by Miss Peggy Marker and Mrs. T.K. Ulrich. Opening remarks were made by Mr. John A. Raymond, special commissioner, and presentation of the charter was made by Howard Selby, District Governor, District 39, and a short address by our first club president, Roland Hardy, followed.

This evening's program was closed by a vocal solo from Mr. T.N. Alexander, later to become one of our club's most cherished members. Roland served as president for one year and then became vice president, starting a tradition which lasted for many years. Each president, after serving his term of office, then became vice-president.

From its inception, the original Board of Directors sought to build quality rather than quantity in the membership of the Club. The Club was slow to add new members, with each prospective candidate carefully screened and reviewed by the Membership Committee, then made use of the Board of Directors, usually for a period of up to six months before that individual was asked to join our Club. The philosophy was to have no more than 25 active members in participation at

any one time. So careful were the early Board members, that the next member to join the Club was our own C. Eugene Smith whose classification was Seeds & Bulbs and was admitted in June of 1933. Seeds & Bulbs may seem like a strange classification, but it was typical of the type of agricultural classification and businessman one would find in Pompano in the 1930s. Roland Hardy at that time was appointed permanent secretary of the Club and served for many years in capacity. The population of Pompano at that time was approximately 3,000, but would swell to 3,500 during "bean picking time." Alto Deal was the proprietor of the Walton Hotel and, since that was the largest and most predominant facility in town, the meetings through the 30s and early 40s continued to be held there.

The socials, of course, were held at Bert Malcolm's Hillsboro Club. It was through Bert Malcolm and his connections that a great many of the programs for Club meetings were arranged. Mr. Malcolm, from time to time, had many of the top entertainers who came to perform in Miami and Fort Lauderdale during the early 30s and 40s booked into the Hillsboro club as entertainment. So it was a natural, at our Friday meetings for Bert to bring the entertainer from the Club to Rotary to add some zest to our meetings.

So careful was the Board of Directors in admitting members that our own George Hamilton's wife, Mrs. Corrie Lou Hamilton, played piano for the noon Friday meetings for approximately three years before George became a member of the Club.

Next admitted for membership were Dr. George McClelland (our own Bull McClelland's father), who was admitted in July of 1933. In 1935 Bob Pool and George Pugh were admitted. Bob, of course, under the classification of Jeweler, and George under the classification of Electrical Lighting. In 1936 saw C. George Hamilton and W. Marion Walton admitted into membership in our Club under the classifications of Druggist and Attorney-at-Law, respectively (J.W. Walton's son).

A typical meeting in the 1930s began with our usual introductory song followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and our invocation and then an additional round of singing with any many as five or six additional tunes which whetted everyone's appetite sufficiently for the luncheon served by the hotel. Our own present host, George Harris, might take special note here that lunch was served for fifty cents, which, although not much by today's standards, was a lot for some of our members to come up with at the height of the depression. Dues were \$10.00 per quarter. Our Club was very fortunate at that time to have as one of its members, Burward Brunson, one of the executives of the Florida East Coast Railway, who arranged many of our programs.

Generally, he or Bert Malcolm brought a state legislator, senator, university president, governor or some other dignitary to be our guest speaker. It became difficult for our Farmer classification members to make the meetings and through the 30s and early 40s there was quite a turn-over under than classification.

Our Club's first real project of note was the founding of the first public library in the City. That project came to fruition with the opening of the library about 1936. The library's first location

was on Dixie Highway directly next door the present Badcock Furniture, which at that time was Pompano Motor Company. It was later moved to the Bailey Hotel, 51 Northwest 1st Street. Powell Brothers Ford was located next to the Farmers Bank of Pompano (now Pompano Office Supply) in what is the Army/Navy Store, directly north of the Walton Hotel. Mr. Ian Powell became a member of our Club in 1936.

After the library project was well underway, the Club next decided that our community's youth needed a Boy Scout troop and so, for the first time in our area, the community, thanks to the Pompano Beach Rotary Club, had a Boy Scout troop. Troop #31. Responsibility for the Boy Scout troop was shared later with the First Methodist Church. Everyone in the Club contributed \$10.00 to the troop initially. Our own Bob Pool was Scoutmaster for a number of years.

The Club continued to have projects from time to time, but during the late 30s and early 40s, most of the members participated on an anonymous basis in altruistic endeavors as the philosophy was one of quiet service to the community without a lot of fanfare for our Club. Wherever there sprang up a need in our community with an organization or an individual or his family, our Rotary Club pitched in and lent a hand or gave financial assistance on an individual member basis.

Just to the right of Badcock Furniture stood a two-story masonry building, the home of the first town library.



On November 13, 1936, thanks to the assistance of our member, Jay Jones, the first official organ of the Pompano Beach Rotary Club was published. No one at that time could agree upon a name for the publication, so the first issue, Volume 1, No. 1, came out with the title, "Nameless." At the next meeting the membership could still not get together on a name, so the

second issue was entitled "Still Nameless" and that was published on November 20, 1936. By the next meeting, a name had still had not been selected, so the third issue was entitled "No Name Yet." Finally, by the fourth issue, which was published on December 4, 1936, the name "Bean Strings" was finally chosen. The format of the Bean Strings was similar to the format of today's bulletin. The first page generally was a recitation of the previous meeting's activity, with the second and third pages containing our membership and attendance standing along with the other Clubs in the area; those being Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Miami, Homestead and Key West, and then several anecdotes, with the back page containing a "bio" of the then present members (see Appendix B, Thumbnail Sketches of Club's Charter Members).

With such small and select membership, there was a great feeling of togetherness, camaraderie and love between the members of our club. There was a lot of humor and good natured ribbing then as our Club enjoys today. There are a number of anecdotes which are still famous. Of those members who were often times the butt of jokes, George Pugh stands out head and shoulders above all others. George was a fun-loving guy and added a great dimension to our Club. One of the stories that is told about George concerns his occupation as manager of the local F.P. & L. Office. At that time the office consisted of the manager, one lineman and a bookkeeper, who doubled as an iceman and sold ice out of a tin building behind the office. As the story goes, there was a young couple who lived in a Kester cottage on Atlantic Boulevard and who had just had a new baby and things were financially rough for them. Apparently, they had gotten behind in their power bill and the lineman had terminated their service. When George heard about this, he decided to go out to the home and turn the power back on. He approached the back of the house and was trying to restore service, when the young husband came running out the back door and tried to poke George in the nose and chased him off the premises. The man was so mad about the power having been turned off, he didn't wait to hear George's explanation as to why he had come to than man's home in the first place.

In the December 11, 1936, edition of Bean Strings there appears a notation that George Pugh was going to try to secure a new piano for the meetings. It was later reported in the February 5th, 1937 edition that George started out to get the piano, but instead "got a new wife." It appears that George went to Fort Lauderdale in search of a new piano on behalf of the Club, and in answer to an ad in the newspaper visited a lady who had one for sale. George didn't get the piano, however, the lady soon became Mrs. George Pugh.

Each Bean Strings was a gem. The following are two of some of the many poignant advices which appeared in Bean Strings through the years.

An editorial appearing in the August 20, 1937, edition was true then and it's true today:

HOW TO KILL A CLUB

1. Don't attend meetings, but if you do, always arrive late.
2. Be sure to leave before the meeting is closed.
3. When present, vote to do everything, then sit and do nothing.

4. Take no part in the business affairs of the organization.
5. Be sure to talk to your friends while the program is in progress.
6. Get all the organization offers, but give nothing in return.
7. Never ask anyone to join the Club.
8. Talk cooperation, but don't cooperate.
9. If asked to help, always say, "I haven't time, too busy."
10. Never accept an office; it's much easier to criticize than to do things.
11. If appointed to a committee, pay no attention to it.
12. Don't bother about the secretary's please for dues; let him worry.
13. Never read anything pertaining to the organization; you might become interested.
14. Shun your fellow members, especially if you have business in their line.

Summer vacations were really something in 1937 – take a glance at the back page of Bean Strings for July 30, 1937:

STRICTLY PERSONAL

Colonel George McClelland is in Wellborn for a rest which Rotary Ann Novice is resting at her home here in Pompano.

* * * * *

Secretary Hardy in is Macon visiting relatives and, we hope, the Macon Rotary Club.

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George Pugh's doctor told him he needs only a mineral oil lubrication, not a general overhaul as he feared.

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Joe Hayes and Lawrence McAllister have ended their vacations, taken in Gawjah, of all places.

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Bob West is back after spending several weeks in Pennsylvania. Bob's vacation attendance isn't anything to brag about.

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Gene Smith is still sweltering over on the West Coast.

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Brunson, Oldfather and Spencer, the D.E.C. train crew that makes a meal stop here every Friday, missed connection last week.

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Who would have thought that Art Griffith would choose New York for a summer vacation? Or, that a newspaper man could afford to travel that far from home?

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Editor Jones spared no one especially Adolph Hitler as is attested by the following recitation in Bean Strings August 27, 1937:

“ROTARY BANNED BY HITLER”

“At last the expected has happened. Rotary has been told to get out of Germany. The Austrian-born house painter who has taken complete charge of that once great nation has decreed that any German who following the teachings of Rotary is a traitor.”

“It is to be regretted that the teachings of Rotary, the unselfish principles it inculcates in its membership, should be barred from any nation, particularly one where they are so much needed as in Germany. But, of course, a dictator that would try to banish the teachings of the Nazarene carpenter and persecute the Jews as Hitler has done could not be expected to have much sympathy with anything or any organization that teaches unselfish service to others.”

“It is hardly to be expected that German Rotarians will offer any real resistance to this latest outrage against their once-proud boast of personal and national liberty. The Germans are following close behind the Russians in their mad plunge to national destruction, and just behind them are the Italians. Is the United States in the line farther back? Will the communistic, nazi and fascist rats that are gnawing at the foundations of our government finally wreck our freedom? The issue is now clearly joined. In Germany we see what can come to pass here. It can happen here.”

“The nations that forget God shall suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy, says the Holy Writ. History is filled with confirmation of this fact, but the procession towards destruction goes on.”

“It is not surprising that Hitler sees no good in Rotary. ‘Service Above Self’ can have no part in the exploitation of Germany by Hitler and his gang.

It makes one proud, after reading that editorial, to be a member of the Rotary Club of Pompano and to know our forefathers had the courage to call a spade a spade. And, Editor Jones didn’t waste any time taking a swat at golfers, reference the following statement appearing on the back page of October 8, 1937, Bean Strings: “Do you know what happens to little boys who use bad words while playing marbles?” “Yessir, they grow up and play golf.” Again we find little jewels of wisdom sprinkled between the pages of Bean Strings when we examine the September 24, 1937 issue and find the following quotation, “Many a man thinks he is thinking when he is only rearranging his prejudices.” Without the Bean Strings, lost forever would be such traditions as the presentation of a silver drinking cup to each member who had a child

born to him. Honors for the first cup go to Brother Eugene Smith with the birth of his son, Charles. It seems a shame that over the years this tradition has gone by the wayside.

Bean Strings, like all good things, as it seems at times in life, came to an end abruptly in 1940. It seems that Brother Jones attended a Rotary Convention in St. Petersburg, Florida, and, while there observed that one of the Rotary functions there were politicians soliciting Rotarians' votes and they had brought along some "ladies" to spice up the entertainment feature of their presentation. When Brother Jones got back to Pompano he made certain editorial comments, as he was known to do, but this time apparently stepped on some political toes in Rotary and elsewhere and so the directors decided they would sit and review each forthcoming issue of Bean Strings as a board of censors. Mr. Jones was crushed by the thought of the Bean Strings being censored and so immediately resigned as editor and it wasn't until 1956 that our organization again had a bulletin.

By 1940 the economy in Pompano had somewhat revived itself and the population was on an upswing. There were approximately 5,500 residents at that time, but the Pompano Rotary Club still maintained its posture of having only 25 members. A typical social program for this era would be the Rotary Ann Night held at the Hillsboro Club, Pompano Beach, Florida, on Friday, December 6, 1940:

PROGRAMME:

President Horace in Charge Song, "America" and Salute to the Flag (all standing)

Grace George A. Foster

Song Session

(a) Rotary Marching Song

..... No. 11

(b) "R-O-T-A-R-Y"

..... No. 15

Introduction of Rotarians, Rotary Anns, visiting Rotarians and Guests ... Secretary Roland

Welcome to Visitors and Guests ... President Horace

Song Session

(a) "Smile, Sing a Song" No. 1

(b) "God Bless America,"

Group of songs by Hammonville Colored Quartet in the Lounge –

Miss Lois Wilson (twelve years of age) pianist, of Boston, Pupil of Cyrus Ullian

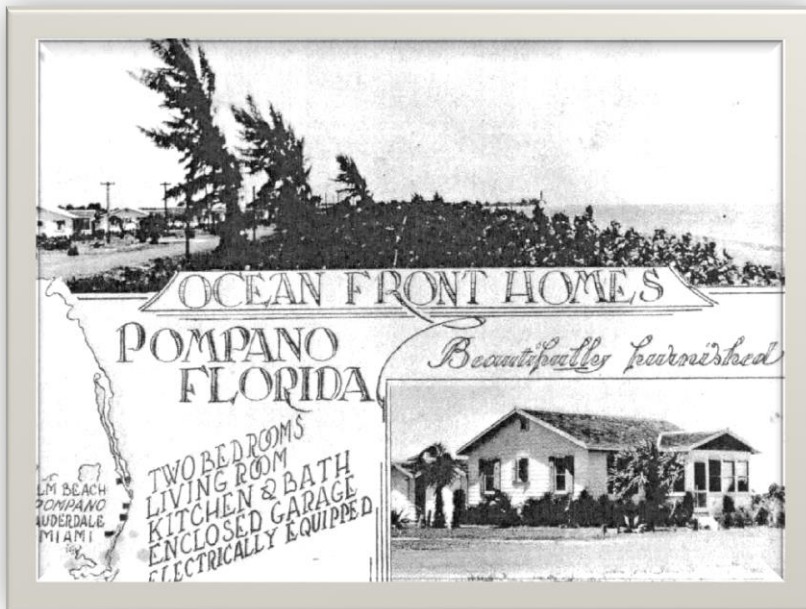
1. Waltz, E flat Chopin
2. Romance Sibelius
3. Etude Sibelius
4. Prelude in E minor
Mendelssohn

In the Dining Room –

Dancing, Bridge, Music by Johnson-Brinson Orchestra

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Soon the Second World War had begun and life for our Rotarians was about to change again drastically. Most had sons or nephews who were joining the war effort and leaving town and so our Club undertook several projects to do its part for the war effort by having its members volunteer for participation in Red Cross and bond drives, assist with gas rationing, and actively participate at night with the sub watches on the beach and in the daytime with air raid watches from the towers which the Air Force erected at the Pompano Air Field, in the daylight hours. During the early 40s with some of our membership leaving to serve actively in the armed forces, our Club dwindled to 13 or 14 members.



William Kester's promotional literature - the first for our area as seen looking north up A-1-A

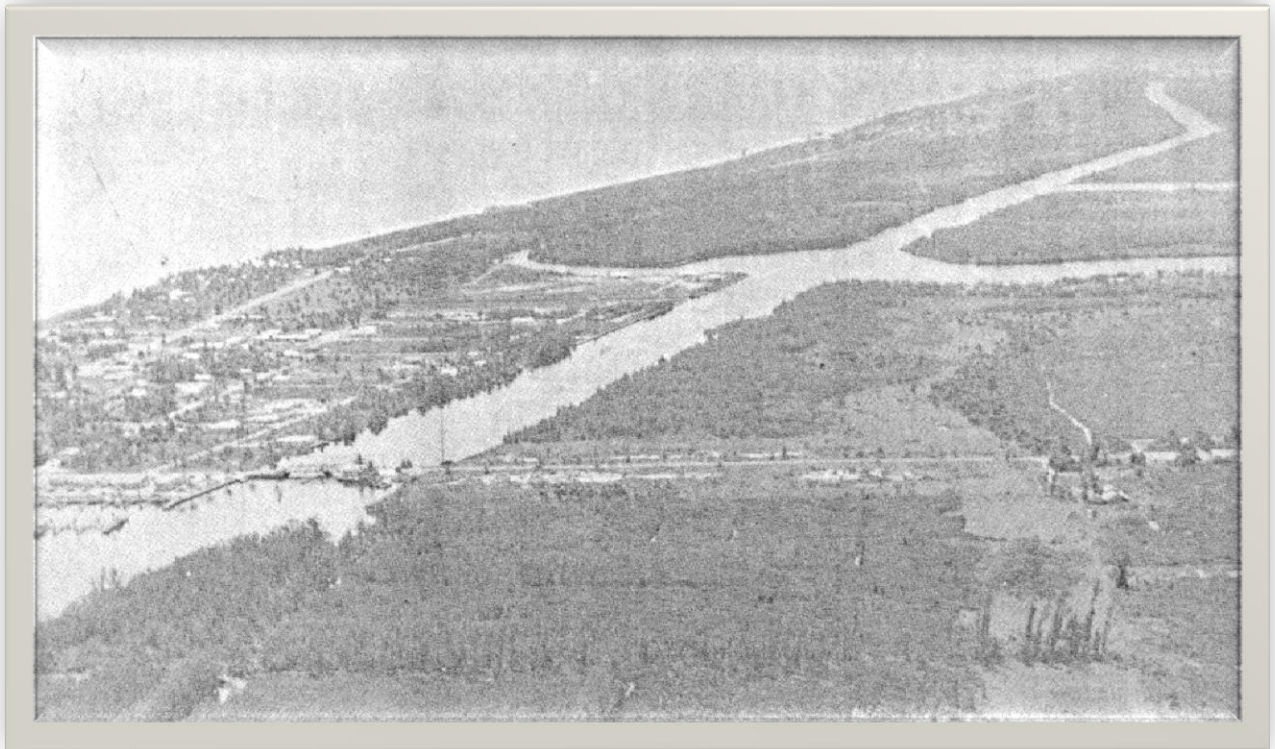
As soon as the war was over, the membership in the club returned to its 25 or so member level. It was at this time, in the late 40s, when the population of Pompano began to increase again, for the first time an active effort was made to solicit tourists and draw them to the Gold Coast area. Our own Bob Kester's Uncle Bill Kester began advertising his now famous Kester Cottages by mailing out post cards as a promotion of early Pompano.

It was about this time that things began to change politically in our community and our Rotary leaders

were at the forefront of this activity. There began a movement to incorporate the beach area into the City of Pompano Beach and those in the Town of Pompano decided that it would be better to reincorporate the City and file a new charter. To promote this effort, the Rotary Club of Pompano started the Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce. Our club dipped into its treasury and hired a man by the name of Bill Cousins to serve as interim secretary. Mr. Cousins drove up from Miami on a regular basis for the grand total of \$35.00 per month and helped organize a small nucleus of businessmen with

our Rotary Club paying his salary. It was soon after that that Claude DeGraw became the fulltime secretary of the Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce and by that time it had grown so that the membership fees to the chamber were sufficient to pay Mr. DeGraw's salary. At this time the new charter application for the Town of Pompano Beach was approved by the legislature and the City of Pompano Beach, Florida, officially received its new charter in late 1947. This effort joined the beach area (Yankeeland) with the "no man's land" (between the Intracoastal and Federal Highway) and the area west of the "Mason-Dixon Line," (Federal Highway) and brought our community together as we know it today.

Photo courtesy of Hugh Stillman. Looking south over Atlantic Blvd. Bridge and the Intracoastal in 1948; the site of Harbor Village Shopping Center



During World War II our Club changed its meeting place from time to time from the Walton Hotel to a restaurant in downtown Pompano by the name of Angelo's (presently the location of Gus's Clam House at Northeast 2nd Street and Flagler Avenue) and then moved over to the casino.



After several months there, the Club moved to the building now occupied by The Flaming Pit (formerly a different restaurant) on Federal Highway. It remained there for a couple of years until our good member, Tommy Chapman, one day got up and criticized the menu (which deserved criticism at that time), and the owner got his nose out of the joint and we were asked to leave.

Next our Club met at the Pompano Beach Hotel for about twelve years (the Pompano Beach Hotel used to stand

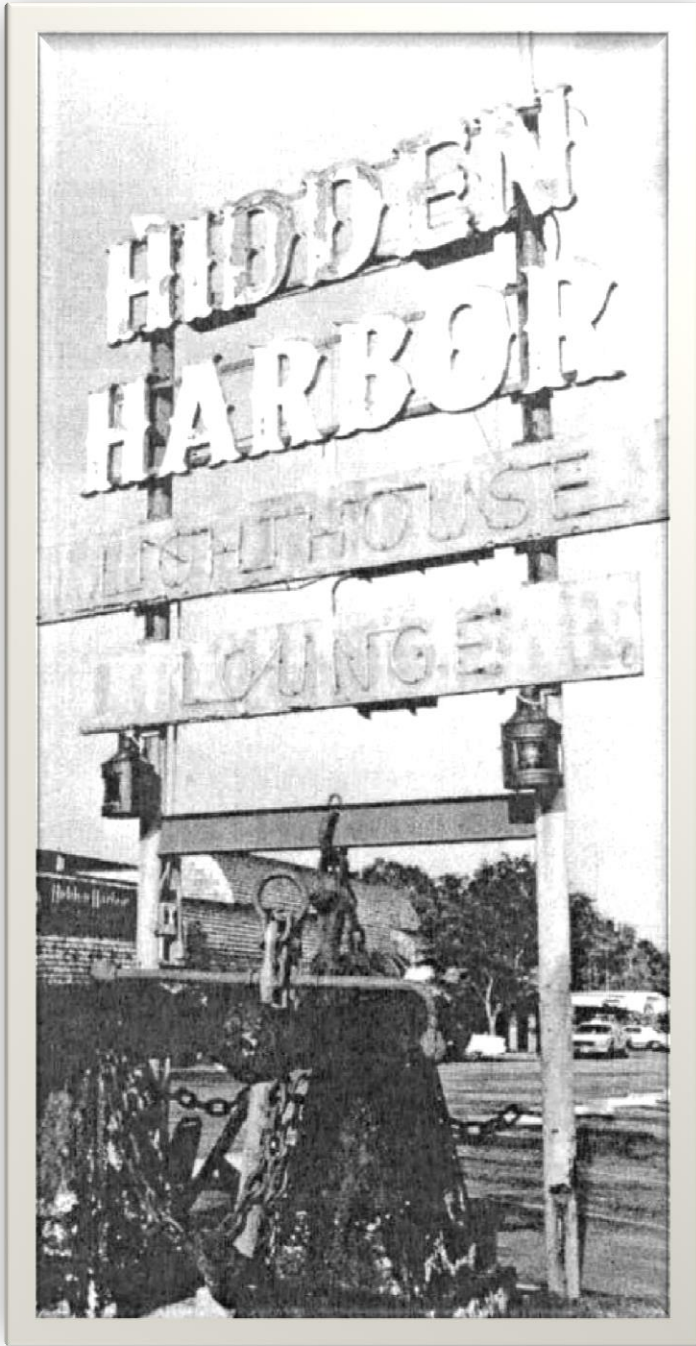
where Don Tuggle's Long John Silver now stands at Atlantic Boulevard and Northeast 23rd Avenue). In the late 50s our Club moved to what was then the Coach House Harbor (now Hidden Harbor) which was operated by Jack Pearsall, at that time a member of our Rotary Club. Our Club met at that location until 1959, when Sam Harris, George's father, opened Harris Imperial House. Our Club immediately shifted over to Harris Imperial House, but Sam, could not make a financial success of his restaurant at that time sufficient to have the dining room open for lunches at noon during the summer, and, therefore, could only offer sandwiches. The membership voted to move back to the Coach House Harbor, which it did, for approximately the next seven years and then moved back to Harris Imperial House and has remained there ever since.

Once our Chamber of Commerce got into full swing in the early 1950s and the Gold Coast of Florida, through the efforts of the Miami, Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale Chambers of Commerce, began to receive some national publicity, our economy started a natural shift towards tourism for the first time in the serious sense of the word. It still took a back seat to agriculture.

As the 50s progressed, and as our area became more populated with the development of Lyons Park, the beach, the area north of Pompano and

Lighthouse Point, the Board of Directors had noticed that the local Lions Club and other like organizations were beginning to give our Rotary Club some stiff competition for membership to 25 select members was reviewed and a change of direction took place with emphasis on building Club through membership. Through the wisdom and foresight of our past presidents, James E. Folsom, R.J. Kraeer, Fred W. Applegate and Dr. Revis B. Cheshire, during the middle and late 1950's, our membership grew from a lowly 40 to over 100 members. With the added strength of quality numbers, our Club





began to embrace a new phase of its development that of the International's programs such as the Paul Harris Fellows, Rotary Foundation and our own scholarship program and began a more active participation in District competitions and functions.

During Dr. Jim Folsom's term (1956-57), he reinstated our house organ once again and the Pompanotator was born. A note of interest is that the name, Pompanotator, when the ballots were counted, won by only one vote. The other names that were suggested for the bulletin were The Arch, The Big Wheel, The Keyway, Wheeltracks, Rotary Table Talk, The Rotary Roll Call, The Rotary Record, The Rotary Recorder, The Rotary Heave-Ho, The Pompano Beach Rotarian, The Tachometer, Rotariantics, and Bean Strings. With a well prepared bulletin as an effective tool of communication, a new interest in building a progressive Rotary Club, one that was ready to embrace the booming Florida 60s, was a great asset.

With new membership, our Club began its first scholarship program recognizing needy and deserving high school students. The community Christmas tree program, which

involved a parade through town ending

at Kester Park with goodies for all children in the community who attended, and a program of lectures which consisted of a travelogue series to students at the Pompano Beach High School met with tremendous success.

A review of Appendix D is indicative of the broader base our Club had by the late 50s and the number of varied occupations and professions which were newfound resources from which our Club drew added strength in its service to the community.

In the later 50s, during Jay Kraeer's term, we still had the tradition of allowing the president to become the vice-president and so Dr. James Folsom was Jay Kraeer's vice-president and then Jay Kraeer was Fred Applegate's vice-president, and so on.

As a review of the roster for that period shows that Ken Walker, Bill Cheshire, George Hamilton, Bob Pool, Edgar Smoak, Bernard Millman, James Folsom, Fred Hyde, Fred Applegate, and R. Jay Kraeer were members of the Club and active at that time and are still with the Club today. This is typical of the 60s and 70s membership turnover which our Club has had and is directly attributable to the extremely transient nature of South Florida as a whole.

Some of the additional activities which our Club engaged in during the later 50s, were an Arbor Day ceremony which took place at the new Pompano Beach High School with the planting of trees and the attendance of our City Commission. Another major project was the preparation during Fred Applegate's term as president, of the first photographic roster of our Club. Also during Fred's term (1958-59), our Club began the morning breakfast meetings of the Board of Directors, which practice is continued today.

During the year 1958 our City celebrated its Golden Anniversary (technically of the Town of Pompano) and our Club got behind this celebration in a big way. Not only did we contribute financially to the Golden Anniversary of the Pompano Beach Committee, but our members participated in all other phases of that celebration. Our members grew beards, organized the parade with the help of the Chamber of Commerce, helped plan the evening of celebration which capped a week of various events and tributes to our early pioneers held at the High School football field, and helped in the promotion of souvenirs and commemoratives marking this auspicious occasion for our community.

By the mid-1960s our Club had really started to build in numbers. By the end of Doc Edwards term of office (1966-67), the Club had 112 member (reference Appendix E). We were still meeting at this time at the Coach House Harbor Restaurant and, with its spacious grand room, the Club had some of the largest numbers of visiting winter Rotarians in our Club's history. It was not unusual to have in excess of 250 visitors. In fact, with its dockage facilities, a number of our members would arrive at the Friday noon meetings by boat.

In 1968 our Directors embarked upon a new method to broaden the avenues of service of our Club through increased activity in the scholarship area. The Rotary Fund, Inc., a separate not-for-profit, wholly owned subsidiary was formed by our Directors to serve as a vehicle and conduit through which monies for scholarships and direct financial grants to deserving students in our community could be made. During the succeeding years, since its formation, many thousands of dollars have been contributed to The Rotary Fund, Inc., by our individual members and through our Club's corporate giving.

One of the highlights of the year 1969 was the seminar in Basic Human Relations sponsored by our Club. This is a program put on for business leaders of the community and it was so well received, our Club sponsored a second seminar in the spring of 1970.

From time to time our Club had difficulty meeting its budgetary obligations and so one of the first grand attempts at fund raising was a hole-in-one golfing competition sponsored by our Club through the efforts of the late Bud Boyer. With the help of the Sun Sentinel as a sponsor and Harbor Chrysler-Plymouth, which donated the first prize – a 1971 Plymouth automobile, it was a terrific financial success.

There were over 1,500 participants who competed for the 48 prizes, including the automobile, and our Club was many thousands of dollars ahead at the end of the 3-day competition.

As usual, our Club was generous with our earnings and in 1971, of the 60 Clubs in District 699, our Club alone gave over 10% of the contributions that were made that year to the Rotary Foundation from our district. In 1972, our fund raiser concerned itself with an effort entitled "Friends 100" which raised many thousands of dollars for our scholarship program, the Rotary Foundation, and our park project that year. Our own Bob Bunn was the Chairman of the Special Activities Committee and, for a \$100.00 donation to Rotary Fund, Inc., the donor was entitled to a gourmet dinner with all the trimmings at the LeDome Restaurant of the Four Seasons, which was held on April 9, 1972. By 1974 our giving to the Rotary Foundation was 1,400% and by 1977 we had surpassed the 2,000% mark.

1974 found our Club hard at work in various areas. That year we received Position #2 of Clubs of 56 members and up for our bulletin in District 699, and we were #2 in attendance awards for the district as well.

The first issue of the Pompanotator to have an occupational roster was that of October 17, 1975.

That year, through our sponsorship and the direction of Grey Webb, The Interact Club at Pompano Beach High School had its most successful fund-raising drive, with the proceeds going to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation.

One of the social highlights of 1975 was the first fellowship held at Ocean Reef. Through the efforts of George Guest, over 25 of our members and their Rotary Anns ventured down to this beautiful resort in Key Largo for a weekend of sun and fun. There was golf, tennis, swimming, dancing, and a great weekend had by all.

Doc Strawbridge, Jim Murrell and Jerry Bowman kick off our first Annual Antique Show, 1977



With our Club aggressively on the move, we entered a new era of effective fund raising for our various philanthropic projects in the late 70s. 1977 saw our first annual antique show, which was held at the Pompano Beach Recreation Center. Little did our members realize at that time that we were at the forefront of something

really spectacular as far as fund-raising projects.

In the fall of 1976, with the first committee headed by Doc Strawbridge and John Nickola, planning began for our first show. It was held with great success in February of 1977 and our Club netted some \$5,600.00. Building on that first success, the show was again repeated in February of 1978 and we netted \$8,400.00. The 1979 show was a further success with a net of over \$10,000.00 and our 1980 show exceeded the \$13,000.00 level.

By now the list of projects which our Club sought to sponsor through its community service arm had grown to the following: The Rotary Foundation (where we are now at 2500% and growing), The Boys Club of Pompano Beach, The Pompano Beach Police Educational Endowment Fund, The Pompano Beach Public Library (remember that we founded same), Alsdorf Park, The Boy Scouts, the Lighthouse Point Tigers, the Economic Educational Conference, our program of yearly scholarships to deserving seniors, The Salvation Army, the Policeman of the Month Award, the Gold Coast Shrine Club Crippled Children's

Santa and a group of boys in fine suits ringing the bell for The Salvation Army



Fund, the Pompano Beach Recreation Department Christmas Party for Kids (first started by us in the 50s). Additionally, we make substantial contributions yearly to the American Legion Boys State, the Pompano Beach High School Band, Junior Achievement, Cystic Fibrosis, Hollis Serratan, Royster's Boarding House, the Pompano Beach Recreation Center, plus many other specific grants and bequests.

A typical example of the Club's generosity and one that still stands out in the community by virtue of its size, is the bus which was donated to the City of Pompano Beach Police Department Community Relations Division.

Our club has always been one known to take care of its own. In the mid-1970s we established a blood bank for our membership and each year the Club has an annual blood drive under which, fortunately for us all, each member of the Club and his family is covered with as much blood as that member or his family would require through the forthcoming year.

Thunderthroat gives a pint to save a life



During the mid-70s, on the lighter side, through the efforts of George Guest and John Nickola, our Club again embarked on a new venture – one destined to bring fine social fellowship and lots of fun to all. This new enterprise was entitled “Rotary Club of Pompano Beach Terminal Tourz.”

Terminal Tourz apparently was the outgrowth of a planned outing which flopped due to lack of enthusiasm and, therefore, through the genius of the Messrs. Guest and Nickola, they felt a catchy gimmick was in order.

One of the largest gifts (by its size) which our club has made to the community



With the founding of the Terminal Tourz, whose motto is “Going Nowhere Can Be Fun,” a groundswell of enthusiasm was invoked. Since its inception, Terminal Tourz and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Rock-of-Ages Airline, Andrea Dorea Steamship Company, Bacadabus Motor Coaches Inc., Frantic Films, Fattening Foods, Broken Racquet Tennis Club, Liquid Center Golf Association (the members not the balls), S.O.C. (Slightly Off Center) Recordings, and other ad hoc affiliates, planned many successful

weekends of recreation and entertainment for our members, which is the quintessence of Rotary fellowship. The only requirement for membership is that one be a member of the Pompano Beach Rotary Club and keep in mind "You must be present to attend."

Doc Strawbridge, George Guest and the Cannon Crew prepare to blast off on another Terminal Tourz adventure



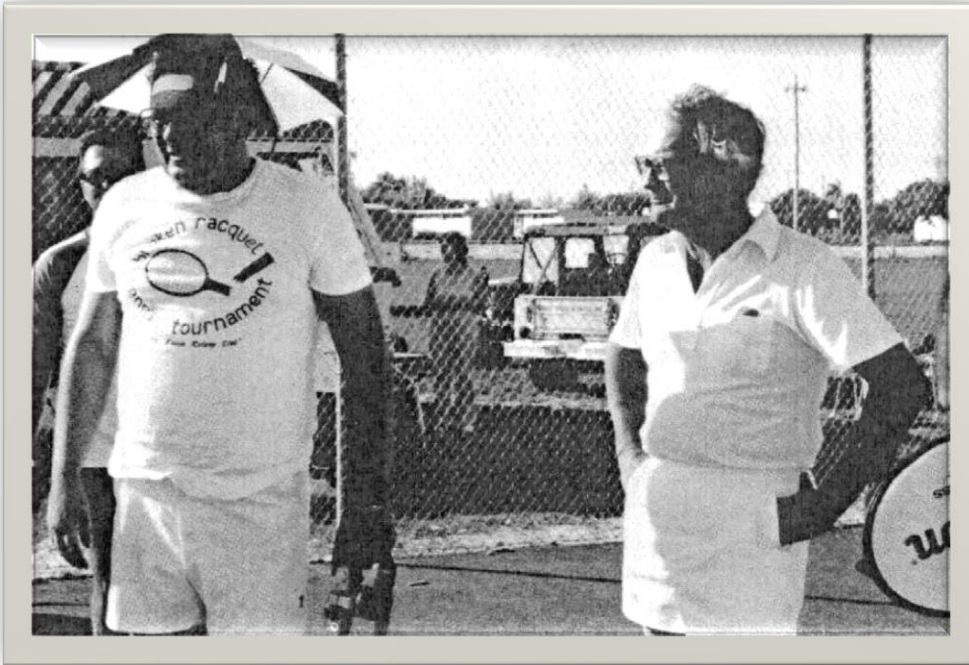
Among the many activities which have been planned by Terminal Tourz and enjoyed by all have been the many "fly ins" for breakfast and lunch and the initiation in 1979 of the first Annual Broken Racquet Tennis Tournament and Horseshoe Pitching Contest.

By the middle of 1977, our social

programs had expanded to include participation by our members and their Rotary Anns in the King Orange Parade, two trips to the Ocean reef Resort, a formal dinner party at LeClub Internationale, our annual antique show, our ladies' recognition day, our installation banquet and, of course, something special for each Christmas program.

As our activities expanded, the 70s saw the addition of our amiable newsman, whose nickname "Thunderthroat" does him proud. Thunderthroat is our beloved Jack Swart, who brings us the news of the day in an interesting and informative fashion at the beginning of each program. Jack's news team in the late 70s expanded with the addition of Peter Vaka and Don Tuggle and more committee members, who have memorialized in photos, beginning with the April 1977 edition of the Pompanotator, each week's programs. By 1979 the Pompanotator had grown in stature to such an extent that it won the District competition. This is something of which we can all be proud and it would not be possible without the support and direction of our great Senior Editor, Ken Tipper.

Table Messers Birschbach, Spieker (with the umbrella hat) and Dygert in a stop action photo at the Annual Broken Racquet Tennis Tournament



Of our many members who have served our Club faithfully over the years, none has contributed more with his loyalty, time, dedication and service, than our own George Hamilton, who in 1977 was honored by our Club with a

presentation and sponsorship as a Paul Harris Fellow for his over 40 years of perfect attendance and distinguished service to our Club (see Appendix C, Paul Harris Fellows and Sustaining Members).

The 1980s, with the celebration of our 50th year in service to this community, dawns a new era and opportunity for our club to spread the message of Rotary and the service which it inculcates. Our future as a Club lies in the destiny of tomorrow, but our past 50 years through its trials and tribulations, successes, and failures, and over-riding bonds of brotherly love, should make each member of our Club proud that he is a member of this organization whose motto is not just words, but is truly "Service Above Self."

Thomas A. Johnston