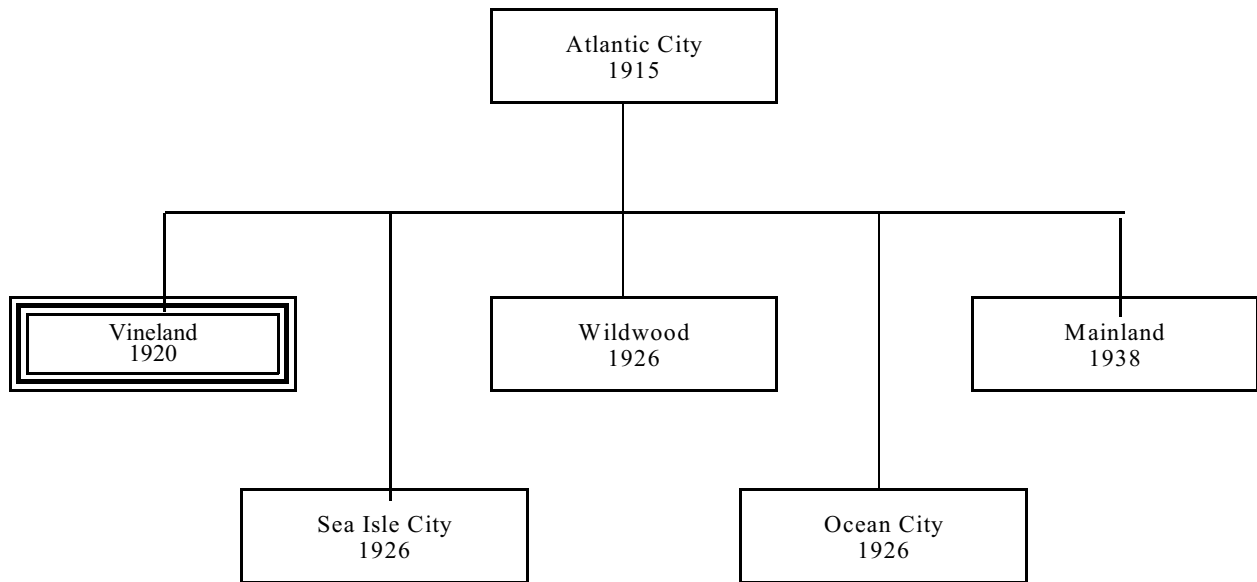


Chapter 3

Rotary Club of Vineland, N.J.



75th Anniversary History of District 764

Vineland, NJ

Chapter 3

Organized	October 15, 1920	Meets :	Tuesdays at 12:10 pin at
Chartered	December 1, 1920 Charter No. - 782		Masonic Hall,
Sponsored By	Atlantic City		1065 E. Landis Ave.
Clubs Sponsored	Bridgeton, Pitman, Millville		Vineland, NJ 08360 (609) 692-9889

Charter Members

OFFICE	NAME OF MEMBER	CLASSIFICATION
President	W. Howard Sharp	Fire Insurance
Vice President	Harry P. Sayford	Paper Specialties Mfg.
Secretary	Hal M. Spamer	Vineland Business School
Treasurer	Walter B. Matlack	Druggist
	Charles W. Ackley	Auctioneer
	George H. Blizzard	Basket Manufacturer
	Arthur R. Branson	Garage Proprietor
	Russell B. Cunningham	Dentist
	Evan E. Kimble	Chemical Glassware Mfg.
	Charles E. Nash	Training School Supt.
	Henry R. Powell	Osteopath
	Gustavus E. Smith	Printer
	Royal P. Tuller	Attorney
	Elmer H. Wene	NJ Experimental Station (Poultry)
	Arthur J. Werry	Fruit Grower
	Albert L. Williams	Postmaster



From Vineland Rotary's 35th Anniversary, December 1955 (from left to right), charter member Walter Matlack, charter president and former State Senator W. Howard Sharp, 1955-56 club president Dr. Walter Jacob, and charter members George Blizzard and Elmer Wene.

'Tiny Tim Fund' Just One of Many Vineland Civic Projects

The Rotary Club of Vineland, third oldest among the existing, District 764 clubs, was chartered Dec. 20, 1920. According to "Memories of Yesteryear" in the 50th anniversary booklet in 1970, that was when "...men believed that a war had ended all wars and that the world was on the threshold of lasting peace."

The International Association of Rotary Clubs held its convention in Atlantic City in 1920. Publicity attracted the attention of two young Vineland businessmen, Charles Ackley and W. Howard Sharp, who one day on the Wildwood beach decided to pursue a Rotary for their community.

Joseph A. McNamee, a member of the Atlantic City Rotary, which had received its charter in '15, was named the special representative of the 5th District governor who would assist in the Vineland organization. A charter list was prepared Sept. 1, formal organization took place Oct. 15 at the Hotel Maretti, and charter night was held Dec. 20 at The Palms. Sharp was elected president of a charter group of 16, and served two terms. Ackley followed Sharp as president.



Charles W. Ackley

Charles Ackley is remembered as one of the most prominent Rotarians in Southern New Jersey history. Not only did he serve as District Governor of what was then District 50 in 1928-29, he also was the only Rotarian in the area who carried PRIVP after his name. In 1929-30, Ackley was Third Vice-President of Rotary International, the highest position in Rotary ever held by a South Jersey Rotarian.

Membership grew steadily - today, Vineland is one of the largest clubs in District 764 - and so did the new club's commitment to community projects.

During the '20's, Vineland organized three other Rotaries: Bridgeton, Pitman and Millville. It started the Daddy Shack at Parvin's, initiated its Student Loan Fund, aided the Boy Scouts, formed its Harmonica Band, held inter-city Rotary meetings, supported community relief work, and held a testimonial dinner for Vineland High's title-winning football team.

Between 1930 and 1940, Vineland Rotary improved mail service through the postmaster, campaigned for shade trees on Landis Avenue, helped the YMCA, assisted in the organization of the N.R.A., bought toys for Christmas distribution, exchanged correspondence with a club in England, cooperated in community highway sign advertising, and held joint meetings with the Chamber of Commerce and other local service clubs.

In the decade of the '40s, Vineland Rotary canvassed businesses and industries for the Red Cross Roll Call, began its Student Guest program, helped form the Vineland Service Council, started the Institute of International Understanding, worked with Civil Defense, provided Christmas gifts for the community's servicemen, erected a community Honor Roll for those in the military, established a wayside shelter for service personnel, collected seven barrels of clothing for Rotarians in Finland, and held Christmas parties for children.

Vineland held its 20th anniversary Dec. 4, 1940 at State School with 235 in attendance.

As of Oct. 19, 1943, Vineland Rotary had nine sons and daughters serving in various branches of the military.

The club started its "Outstanding Citizen" award during the '50s. It also began holding career conferences for high school students, collecting books for the library, sponsoring an overseas student through the American Field Service committee, contributing to the Hospital Building Fund, providing a float for the Mardi Gras parade, and awarding cups to top scholars at Vineland and Sacred Heart high schools.

Vineland Rotary continued its heartfelt community commitment in the years to come including its Marine Band project, sponsorship of a migrant labor Boy Scout troop, a concert by Vineland High choral groups, Fathers and Daughters Day, the Vineland High After-Prom Party, YMCA day camps, assistance in the Vineland Centennial celebration, expansion of international contacts, an auction to raise money for welfare, and numerous others.

Starting in 1947 when the Rotary Foundation was established, Vineland Rotary was a pacesetter in member contributions.

In more recent years, Vineland Rotary continues to be one of the most active district clubs. Vineland is nearing 40 Paul Harris Fellows, one of the largest numbers of any club in 764. Its Polio-Plus campaign exceeded not only the Rotary International allocation figure, but the club's own goal as well. It holds a popular annual Christmas party for special children with more than 300 in attendance each year and many Rotarians generously giving of their time to help out. Its total cash disbursements budget for one year (1988-89) alone was nearly \$14,000, a figure which covered 30 different projects.

But no single project has brought the club more favorable publicity, nor meant as much to club and community spirit, as the Vineland "Tiny Tim Fund" which was started in 1946 by Betty Ells, wife of Rotarian Richard Ells.

In '46, a Vineland child - one of a family of 10 - needed an operation at Johns Hopkins Hospital which would cost \$500. Rotarians and others in the community raised \$1,000. In the meantime, another local baby was discovered to have the same medical problem, so the fund covered surgery for both.

The fund grew the following year, and just kept growing. Now Tiny Tim Night is a Vineland community tradition. On the second Tuesday of December, volunteer groups cover the entire city to raise funds. The Tiny Tim Fund, Inc. slogan is, appropriately, "No child in the greater Vineland area need be without medical care."

Through the years, the fund amazingly has financed medical care for 800 local children. In one recent year alone, it helped 60.

And Vineland Rotary, of course, has been a major part of the heartwarming success story. Its members have acknowledged only too well, "Service Above Self."

Presidents

1920-22	W. Howard Sharp	1956-57	Henry A. Garton
1922-23	Charles W. Ackley, PRIVP	1957-58	Sol D. Gosman
1923-24	C. Emerson Nash	1958-59	Arne E. Bernard
1924-25	Henry R. Powell	1959-60	Robert W. Hutchison
1925-26	Gustavus E. Smith	1960-61	William D. Winslow
1926-27	Alfred H. Otis	1961-62	Robert Apgar
1927-28	Arthur Branson	1962-63	Rudolph Foschi
1928-29	M. Benjamin Glover	1963-64	William H. Collins
1929-30	Burton S. Ells	1964-65	James R. Pepper
1930-31	Howard G. Kulp	1965-66	Arthur P. Schalick, Jr.
1931-32	Harry D. Doerr	1966-67	John B. Pagano, Jr.
1932-33	Elmer H. Wene	1967-68	Clarence E. Howe
1933-34	James J. Black	1968-69	Paul Chamming
1934-35	Lawrence M. Kimball	1969-70	Donald K. Harker
1.935-36	William Carew	1970-71	Philip A. Lirio
1936-37	H. Burton Walker	1971-72	Charles Cunningham
1937-38	Warren M. Maytrott	1972-73	Miles E. Drake
1938-39	Hartley C. Gove, PDG	1973-74	Bruce A. Middleton
1939-40	Fred D. Snyder	1974-75	Edward L. Bernhardt
1940-41	Howard M. Down	1975-76	Franklin T. Kershner
1941-42	Paul B. Brundage	1976-77	Tevis M. Goldhalf
1942-43	John C. MacMillan	1977-78	Lewis D. Demarco
1943-44	Joseph J. Truncer	1978-79	Henry R. Hansen
1944-45	Edgar W. Davies	1979-80	Otto Schwabe
1945-46	Edwin E. Tombleson	1980-81	G. Benjamin Laury
1946-47	Richard N. Shindler	1981-82	Dionisios Theokas
1947-48	Raymond L. Down	1982-83	Bruce Middleton
1948-49	John W. Wilson	1983-84	W. Earle Everett
1949-50	J. Robert Werry	1984-85	Paul A. Casacci, Jr.
1950-51	Howard E. English	1985-86	Charles A. Loyle
1951-52	Harry J. VanLier	1986-87	Robert J. Ponisi
1952-53	William F. Dudley	1987-88	Gerald J. Batt
1953-54	Ardah L. Donley	1988-89	Carl Kirstein
1954-55	Eldon J. Wainwright	1989-90	Glenn Kahley
1955-56	Walter Jacob		