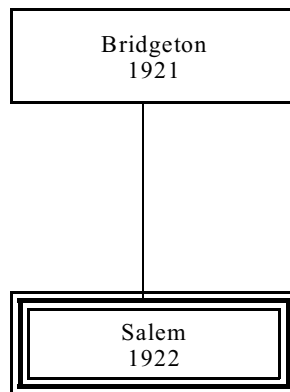


# Chapter 7

## Rotary Club of Salem, N.J.



Organized	March 8, 1922	Meets : Wednesdays at 6:15 pm at
Chartered	May 1, 1922 Charter No. - 1155	Salem Country Club
Sponsored By	Bridgeton	Elsinboro, NJ 08079
Clubs Sponsored	Penns Grove, Pennsville	(609) 953-1603

### Charter Members

OFFICE	NAME OF MEMBER	CLASSIFICATION
President	William H. Chew	Newspaper
Vice President	J. William Gaynor	Glass House,
Secretary	James H. Mecum	Lawyer
Treasurer	Hubert C. Berry	Electric Car Transportation
	Charles P. Acton	Insurance
	William H. Andrews	Drug Store
	Charles H. Ayars	Glass House
	Franklin H. Church	Physician
	A. Ralston Green	Family Practioner
	J. Carll Harris	Real Estate
	Howard B. Newkirk	Gift Store
	J. Emmor Robinson	Sheriff
	Isaac C. Smashey	Shoe Store
	John D. Summerlin	Insurance
	J. Otis Wheeler	Jewelry
	James S. Wheeler	Jewelry
	Philip H. Wood, Jr.	Tire Store



The Salem Rotary Club collected, packed, and sent 33,000 used books to Rotary District 935 in South West Africa for the teaching of English in their schools in the summer off983, Left to Right: Bob Burse, President; Fred Peterson, Vice-President, Ben Rainear; Dick Bardsley, DG 82-83; and B, Harold Smick, Jr., DG 84-85,

## **Salem Made Bush a Paul Harris Fellow, Is Vibrant Leader**

It shouldn't come as a great surprise that the brainstorm to make President George Bush a Paul Harris Fellow is credited to B. Harold Smick, Jr., Salem Rotary's hard-working and innovative past district governor. President Bush received his honor from Rotary International President Royce Abbey in Washington, via Salem Rotary, on March 17, 1989.

It's not a surprise because Salem Rotary has taken an aggressive and positive stance as an active club throughout its history. Chartered May 1, 1922 as the seventh club in what is now District 764, Salem not only is recognized for its longevity but for its proud and inspiring commitment to the lofty ideals of Rotary International. Its support of countless community projects, its resolve to back Rotary Foundation and Polio-Plus, and its impressive lineup of Paul Harris Fellows all are indicative of Salem's fervent belief in "Service Above Self."

Sponsored by Bridgeton, the district's fourth oldest club, Salem was presented its charter by Ed Bartlett, past president of Philadelphia Rotary, at Salem Country Club. There were 17 charter members who had conducted their first meeting on March 8, 1922 at the shoe store owned by charter member Isaac Smashey.

Early meetings were held at the White Palace Restaurant, Chamber of Commerce, YMCA, country club, and New Johnson Hotel. For a period of 16 years from 1930-46, meetings alternated between the Nelson House and YMCA during the winter and fall, and the country club in the warmer months.

In ensuing years, other meeting sites included the Salem Apartments Tea Room, Atlantic City Electric Co. office, a side room of the old courthouse, Morrison Post Home, Mannington Grange Hall and Richman's Ice Cream at Sharptown. The Grange Hall was an especially popular meeting location because of the country-style meals which were served. Members were disappointed when past president Benjamin Rainear announced the decision to vacate the Grange because officials could no longer find people to continue serving the meals. At the last Grange meeting, Salem Rotary presented a gift and resolution to Grange members.

After starting with 17 members, Salem grew to as many as 75, making it one of the largest in the district. But as a rule, Salem has maintained average attendance in the 45-to-50 range.

Salem has sponsored its neighboring clubs in Penns Grove and Pennsville. Pennsville, in turn, was responsible for organizing Woodstown Rotary.

The club has been a leader in the district. As examples, three Salem Rotarians, a rarity, have served as district governors: Rev. Thomas V. Wingate in 1938-39, John H. Hassler in 1962-63, and Smick in 1984-85.

In the nearly 70 years of its existence, Salem Rotary has placed its support behind many worthwhile projects to enhance the quality of life in the community.

Salem has awarded numerous scholarships, operated a student loan program, founded and equipped Rotary Park in Salem City, and recognized outstanding students at Salem High School for their academic and athletic achievements. A long-time Christmas Eve tradition was the distribution of candy and oranges by club members.

The club's fund-raising venue has included minstrel shows, suit clubs and pancake and sausage breakfasts for the support of foreign exchange students, group study exchange teams and many other projects to assist youth.

Among many others designated for Salem Rotary support: Ranch Hope for Boys, Memorial Hospital of Salem County, YMCA, Salem Little League, Salem Free Library, Boys State, 3-H (Health, Hunger and Humanity), Eyeglass, Ivan Crouse Fund and senior citizens. The club provided park benches for the streets of Salem.

The club's internal esprit de corps is well known throughout the district. Many recall the popular and widely-known Salem Rotary Quartet of Smitty Davis, Clinton D. Nelson, Jr., Walter Miller, and Ralph (Doc) Newkirk who were regular performers at district conferences and community functions.

The club has had a history of producing successful baseball and bowling teams. It has surpassed the 10,000 percent plateau in Rotary Foundation giving, is fourth in District 764 in per capita giving of more than \$25,000 to Polio Plus, and has 3S Paul Harris Fellows with all other current club members showing sustaining status, not to mention a United States president.

Clem Renouf, a former president of Rotary International who became chairman of trustees of the Rotary Foundation and lives in Queensland, Australia, was hosted by Salem Rotary on Nov. 2, 1983. It was a gala ladies' night attended by Rotarians from four other Salem County clubs and also featured the installation of new member Edward Magee not only by Renouf, but by then District Governor Donald J. Yeager and governor nominee Smick of the host

Salem club. Few new Rotarians are accorded the honors Magee did that day.

When Smick served his year as governor in 1984-85, Salem Rotarians and their wives responded admirably while hosting the district conference in Hershey, Pa.

A week after the conference, Champ Coles, editor of Salem's weekly bulletin "Oak Spokes," wrote this tribute to Smick:

"...Gov. Smick is fresh from the triumph of a district conference that was the very essence of matchless success. Harold has blended the qualities of a dedicated Christian character, Rotary principles, love of his fellow man, and unimpeachable business integrity into an impeccable personality devoted to Service Above Self. In this rests his success. "

### **Presidents**

1922-24	William H. Chew	1957-58	C.D. Nelson, Jr.
1924-25	William H. Andrews	1958-59	Charles F. Baese
1925-26	John M. Gayner	1959-60	Robert M. Smick
1926-27	Hubert C. Berry	1960-61	Thomas C. Crossland, Jr.
1927-28	William M. Waddington	1961-62	John S. Madara
1928-29	Clement G. Lippincott	1962-63	Eugene R. Taylor, Jr.
1929-30	Charles R. Hires	1963-64	John W. Cawman
1930-31	Thomas V. Wingate, PDG	1964-65	B. Harold Smick, Jr., PDG
1931-32	Harold A. Stanton, PDG	1965-66	Robert F. Gardner
1932-33	David A. Mulford	1966-67	John S. Sowers
1933-34	William H. Evans	1967-68	Edwin F. Bacon
1934-35	Howard B. Keasbey	1968-69	Elwood R. Smith
1935-36	Roy C. Patrick	1969-70	Ivan H. Crouse
1936-37	Halliday R. Jackson	1970-71	M. Gene Lankenau
1937-38	Thomas C. Summerill	1971-72	Norman B. Kellow
1938-39	Allison R. Bryan	1972-73	Edmund A. Krause
1939-40	Gilbert G. Andrews, Sr.	1973-74	Benjamin F. Raineau
1940-41	Isadore Gecenok	1974-75	Robert J. Woolford
1941-42	George I. Ball	1975-76	Randy Harbaugh
1942-43	Smith B. Davis	1976-77	Alden L. Snyder
1943-44	Lewis F. Gayner	1977-78	James Garrett
1944-45	Charles M. Hagen	1978-79	George Hart
1945-46	Edwin F. Hawn	1979-80	Ernest Henderson
1946-47	W. Russell Bone	1980-81	Norman L. Patrick
1947-48	Joseph Ayares	1981-82	Weston H. Denman
1948-49	Paul C. Wolcott	1982-83	George L. Hill, Jr.
1949-50	Rulon P. Ayars	1983-84	Robert Burse
1950-51	S.I. Callahan	1984-85	Fred W. Peterson, Sr.
1951-52	Earl M. Waddington	1985-86	Robert Roselle
1952-53	Ralph S. Newkirk	1986-87	J. Sherwood Brown
1953-54	Edgar W. Sayre	1987-88	Champion C. Coles
1954-55	Paul Erhardt	1988-89	John R. Bollar
1955-56	George W. Cawman	1989-90	John Dague
1956-57	John Hassler, PDG		