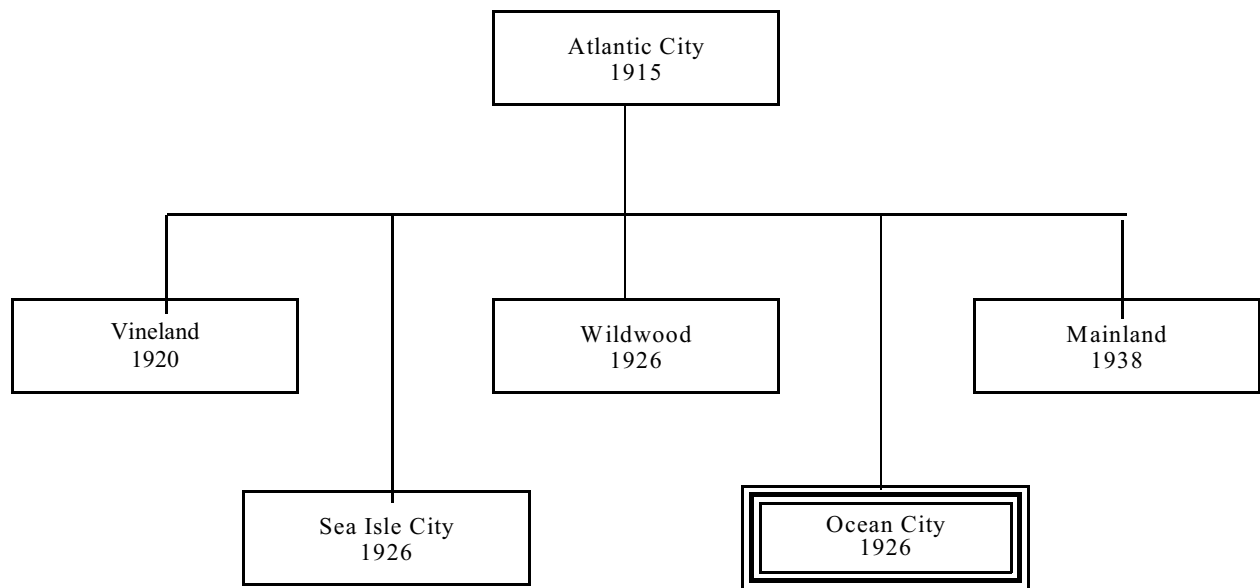


Chapter 16

Rotary Club of Ocean City, N.J.



75th Anniversary History of District 764

Ocean City, NJ

Chapter 16

Chartered	December 1, 1926	Charter No. - 2439	Meets :	Thursdays at 6:30 pm at
Sponsored By	Atlantic City			Mac's Restaurant
Clubs Sponsored	Somers Point			908 Shore Rd,
				Somers Point, NJ 08244
				(609) 927-2759

Charter Members

OFFICE	NAME OF MEMBER	CLASSIFICATION
President	J. Thornley Hughes	Pharmacist
Vice President	Aldrich C. Crowe	Physician
Secretary	F. Leroy Howe	
Treasurer	J. Howard Sharp	Dentist
Director	Lewis R. Hogan	
Director	Leonard P. Murphy	
Director	C. Walter Shelly	
	James B. Bevill	Boat Builder
	Russell H. Crane	Florist
	George R. Greis	
	Reeves Hildreth	
	Leslie Hughes	
	Harold D. Powell	Garageman
	Walter Sack	
	Jacob C. Schuff	Electrical Dealer
	Abner F. Smith	
	Theophitius V. Townsend	Heating & Plumbing

Ocean City Proudly Boasts a Long Litany of Civic Service

It wasn't just another Christmas holiday week in Ocean City in 1926. For 17 local men, Dec. 29, 1926 was the charter date for the new Ocean City Rotary Club - it's Ocean City-Upper Township Rotary today - which would become one of the busiest clubs in District 764.

Harry E. Smith, a past president of Atlantic City Rotary, second oldest among the current 64 clubs in 764, was the primary Ocean City organizer.

Highlighting the charter night dinner - featuring Roast Charlevoix Turkey - at the Hotel Fleetwood was music by The Seven Camels of Syncopation and the Ocean City Kiwanis Club quartet; brief presentations by visiting Rotarians including a keynote address by Woodbury Past President Dr. Duncan Campbell; and the presentation of Rotary charter #2439 by Gov. Charles T. Puff to Ocean City's first president, Dr. J. Thornley Hughes, who served a year and a half. Hughes owned Hughes Central Pharmacy at 8th St. and Wesley Ave. Among those offering greetings was Joseph Champion, Ocean City mayor.

(In 1958, the 11 surviving charter members held a meeting which reproduced their charter night program. Charles Puff presented the charter, just as he had in 1926.)

The new Rotary club wasted little time getting involved in civic activities by launching a project to assist the local Boy Scouts. It also was quick to align itself with district-wide activities, holding an interclub, meeting with Sea Isle City and Wildwood. It began publishing its first newsletter which it called, appropriately, "Sands." It conducted some of its earliest dinner meetings at the Yacht Club.

In 1937, the Ocean City Daily Sentinel-Ledger published a series of Rotarian biographies and photographs "introducing, citizens who have contributed to Ocean City's progress."

Among club activities during the early years were bowling matches with the Kiwanis Club.

The club's fund-raising, endeavors and community programs have run a wide gamut. One of its first was a candy and cake sale held each Christmas and Easter. A ticket raffle for a trip has been a popular annual event, evidence the \$3,000 profit for one recent effort-

Others have included the sale of tickets for the baby parade on the Boardwalk; hot dogs and soft drinks sales at the spring and fall rummage sales; pancake breakfast each Saturday of Memorial Day weekend; a golf tournament; a circus; Larry Ferrari concerts at Music Pier; and exemplary support of Polio-Plus.

In recent years, the club board has endorsed CARA (Coalition Against Rape and Abuse) as its annual Christmas project. Christmas, in fact, is always a big time for Ocean City-Upper Township Rotary. Each holiday season, the Rotarians entertain their children and grandchildren at a gala party. They once conducted Christmas Eve carol sings at Music Pier.

Among numerous other community ventures, Ocean City established a blood bank at Shore Memorial Hospital; a student loan fund; entered the city's ever-popular "Night in Venice;" held an antique car rally; sponsored a Little League team; supported Deborah Heart and Lung Hospital; an overseas orphan; offered scholarships for local high school students, and assisted countless cultural and social aid agencies.

In 1988, Rotarian Ron Small spent several months working with Rotarians in Thailand. The same year, Dr. Robert Mohr donated his dental services to the youngsters living in the Dominican Republic orphanage which has become a district-wide project.

Ocean City sponsored the formation of the Somers Point Rotary May 15, 1972. It also sponsored Upper Township in 1976. But the Upper Township club had its difficulties and during 1988 was incorporated into the Ocean City club.

In 1988, Ocean City also held its 62nd anniversary banquet - a well-attended annual event - in the Garden



From Ocean City's 1989-90 Installation Dinner, left right : Warren Landi, Sgt.-At-Arms; Vaughan Paynter, Secretary; Herb Budd, Jr., DG; Bob Mohr, President; Clyde Fenstermacher, 1st Vice Pres.; John Pruitt, 2nd Vice Pres.; Rich Wingate, Immediate Past President; and Ken Moore, Treasurer.

Room of the Flanders.

Rotarian Joe Irvine received a Rotary International Polio-Plus appreciation award for a significant donation. Four club members received perfect attendance awards including Bob Garrett, who reached the 25-year perfect attendance plateau.

Walt Smith won the "Rotarian of the Year" award for his leadership efforts with the Washington District Conference and the string band charity concerts at Music Pier.

But the highlight of the anniversary program was a memorial for long-time popular Rotarian G. Clark Crosby. His widow, Mildred, was presented Clark's badge along with a certificate acknowledging his 33 years of perfect attendance. It also was announced that Crosby during his final days had made a donation to Polio-Plus and had asked that Paul Harris Fellowships be awarded to two he named: His wife Mildred and Don Charles.

Then came the announcement that brought down the house. Rotarian Clark had left \$10,000 to the club he loved, and supported, for so many years.

It was wonderfully ironic that when the evening came to a close everyone recruited the year's Rotary International theme, "Put Life Into Rotary - Your Life."

A subsequent letter to the club from Mildred Crosby included these words: "To be made a Paul Harris Fellow is, indeed, an honor. I'm so grateful to Clark for suggesting me."

Ocean City has also supported 3 district governors. George Brown 1936-37, Osborne Nicholson 1960-61, and in 1988-89, Kenneth Thorpe.

Presidents

1926-28	J. Thornley Hughes	1959-60	Scott Willis
1928-29	Aldrich C. Crowe	1960-61	J. Brinton Young
1929-30	James B. Bevill	1961-61	David N. Blyler
1930-31	J. Howard Sharp	1962-63	Richard Kabat
1931-32	Arthur W. Shoemaker	1963-64	Edward Feldman
1932-33	French B. Loveland	1964-65	Forrest Bridegam
1933-34	Harold D. Powell	1965-66	John Lambert
1934-35	Georue. E. Brown, PDG	1966-67	Robert E. Maurer
1935-36	Edwin R. Stiles	1967-68	Harry E. Blackman
1936-37	J. Prescott Cadman	1968-69	Robert F. Garrett, III
1937-38	Lawrence P. Lunny	1969-70	Daniel A.F. Schwenk
1938-39	Gunar Knudson	1970-71	Warren E. North, Jr.
1939-40	Norman W. Campbell	1971-72	George Bailey
1940-41	Martin L. Leach	1972-73	Thomas H. Heist, III
1941-42	Harold I. Prentiss	1973-74	Paul L. Tapp
1942-43	George W. Grace	1974-75	S. Glen Johnson, Jr.
1943-44	Roy E. Darby, Sr.	1975-76	Oliver Mu- slay
1944-45	Fred R. Woodruff, Jr.	1976-77	Ed Boyer
1945-46	George Fischer	1977-78	Joseph Paone
1946-47	Franklin E. Jeter	1978-79	Robert Goudie
1947-48	Edward R. French	1979-80	Michael Scioli
1948-49	Ray Turner	1980-81	Walter Smith
1949-50	Joseph F. Talese	1981-82	George Hansel
1950-51	C.D. Longenecker	1982-83	Richard Carter
1951-52	Robert French	1983-84	William Workman
1952-53	Herman Laier	1984-85	Kenneth E. Thorpe, PDG
1953-54	Norman Stull	1985-86	Ormond Hampton
1954-55	Lemuel Hires	1986-87	Thomas E. Shaw
1955-56	Osborne Nicholson, PDG	1987-88	Martin L. Wismer
1956-57	W. Earl North, Sr.	1988-89	Richard C. Wingate
1957-58	Herbert L. Godfrey	1989-90	Robert Mohr
1958-59	Samuel R. Smith		