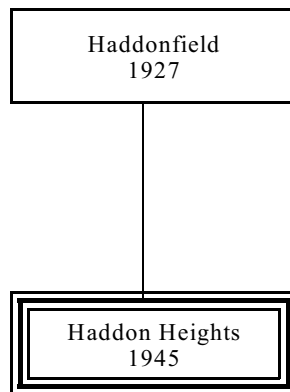


Chapter 26

Rotary Club of Haddon Heights, N.J.



Chartered	February 7, 1945 Charter No. - 5901	Meets :Thursdays at 6:15 PM at Tavistock Country Club, Tavistock Lane, Haddonfield, NJ 08033 (609) 429-1866
Sponsored By	Haddonfield	
Clubs Sponsored	Runnemedede-Bellmawr-Glendora	

Heights Club Has Been Very Supportive of Education

The Haddon Heights Rotary Club, which held its charter night on Feb. 7, 1945, closes in on its 50th anniversary celebration as one of District 764's most active and vibrant clubs. Formed through the efforts of neighboring Haddonfield Rotary, Haddon Heights met at the Friendly House Restaurant for 18 years prior to switching to its current longtime location at Tavistock Country Club.

Haddon Heights began its long and distinguished record of community involvement by sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 67. Its support of the public library also has been a lengthy and rewarding one and has included donations for books, furnishings for a new building, and an outdoor book return. The club in 1951 helped form the Haddon Heights Little League in a big way: Sponsorship of four teams, field preparation and maintenance, scoreboard installation, and even umpires for the games.

The club's allegiance to education also dates to its early years. Rotary's Student Loan Fund has assisted local students in college and graduate school. Two local high school graduates receive annual scholarships for best exemplifying the Rotary credo of "Service Above Self." The club works with the high school guidance department to aide students with career choice. Among numerous other school projects was financial support for Spanish language students who visited Mexico in 1952.

Haddon Heights Rotary in 1951 initiated a juvenile conference committee to work with families in which children had committed minor offenses. Under the direction of Rev. Bill Laird, Paul Gilson, Doc Robbins, Rev. Stanley MacCleave and others, the project was a state-of-the-arts concept which soon spread to other Camden County communities.

The club has played a substantial role in the betterment of its community. Some examples:
Leading citizens are awarded a Service Above Self plaque for serving the town and helping others.
The Rotary funds and plants trees along borough streets.

Among numerous other projects, the club has supported a Greek orphan, helped back a boys camp operated by former member Rev. Dan Hulitt; assisted the ambulance corps; provided funds for the scoreboard at the high school; contributed money to recreation room furnishings at Stanfill Towers, a senior citizens complex named for Rotarian Robert Stanfill; made available speech therapy equipment; provided two-way radios for Town Watch; backed Good Neighbors, a local emergency assistance group; and provided food baskets for the needy.

The club pays for Christmas phone calls exchange students make to their families.
Rotary once placed floats in the annual Fourth of July parade, and participates in the Renaissance Fair and Sidewalk Sale.

Haddon Heights Rotary has help many successful fund-raising events through the years.

A suit club at Charlie Ergood's men's store was popular for many years. Also successful have been flea market sales, sponsorship of Air Force Band concerts, poinsettia and cactus sales, and the sale of Bicentennial license plates. A Bermuda trip raffle was started in 1977 and is still a primary source of funds.

Haddon Heights contribution to Rotary Foundation reached 500 percent in 1950.

The club was a primary force in the establishment of the District Study Exchange Program.

Past District Governor Len Irwin chaired the committee which helped send six young men to represent the district on an exchange trip to Denmark. One of the six, Larry Lyford, is now a Camden Rotarian who chaired the 1989 exchange project.

Haddon Heights helped start the Bell maw r-Glendora-Runnemedede club to mark Rotary International's 50th anniversary.

Other club highlights have included Dr. Leonard Irwin's election as district governor. When Haddon Heights hosted the district conference in 1962, the event was switched from Haddon Hall to the Claridge in one

day because of a major storm which struck the East Coast.

The club has pledged more than \$5,000 to Polio Plus. Besides its plethora of community activity and fund-raising endeavors, Haddon Heights has always found ample time for the important social side of Rotary.

Fireside chats in Rotarians' homes are a long-standing Haddon Heights tradition. That's when prospective members hear about the values of Rotary from the veterans.

There's a Christmas gala with Rotary wives and an annual charter night which coincides with Valentine's Day and doubles as Ladies Night. An annual dinner at Tavistock features entertainment such as popular seashore comedian Cozy Morley.

The summers feature picnics which once were hosted by the club's "gentlemen farmers," Bill Neuber, Bill Davis and Dick Davis. In later years, Dr. Don Smith, Bill Steele and Dick Corbett took over. There also have been trips to the Phillies' game and golf trips to Myrtle Beach, S.C.

But perhaps the most memorable of the Haddon Heights trips have been the bus trips "to anywhere and everywhere within a 100-mile radius" - sites such as New York, West Point, Annapolis. Ron Shissler planned the trips with great precision.

But once, during a trip to northeastern Pennsylvania, Haddon Heights Rotarians had to get out of their stalled bus and push it up a steep incline in the coal region. It was all in the good spirit of Rotary, of course. It's always been that way in Haddon Heights.



Left to right, Haddon Heights Rotarians Ernest Smith, Bill Ezekial and Kenneth Wojtkowiak plant a tree,