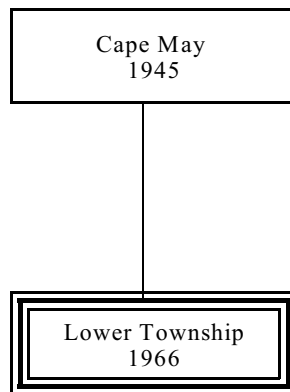


Chapter 45

Rotary Club of Lower Township, N.J.



75th Anniversary History of District 764

Lower Township, NJ

Chapter 45

Chartered	September 6, 1966	Meets:	Thursdays at 6:30 pm at Layres Lighthouse Inn, Del. Pkwy & The Bay, Villas, NJ 08251 (609) 886-5153
Sponsored By	Cape May		

Charter Members

OFFICE	NAME OF MEMBER	CLASSIFICATION
President	William C. Larnon, PDG	Household Furniture Retailing
Vice President	Robert Moffa	Education-Music
Secretary	Charles Rupinski	Aluminum Fabricating
Treasurer	Rexford Brigham	Real Estate Agency
Director	Thomas Brodesser	Construction (Bulk Heads)
Director	Frank Church	Nurseries-Growing
Director	Edward Gordon	Insurance-Life
Director	Floyd Langon	Drugs Retailing
	Thomas Ackroyd	Plumbing
	Robert Brigham	Painting and Decorating
	Robert Conroy	Lumber-Retailing
	John Fisher	Carpentry
	Warren. Garretson	Advertising Service
	Eugene Grassi	Italian Pizzeria
	Dwight Holzmer	Hardware Retailing
	Benjamin Levinson	Delicatessen
	Carl T_ Mitnick	Land Development
	Jonathan Munson	Insurance-Casualty
	H. David Peters	Baking-Retail
	Robert Renza	Osteopathy
	William I. Roberts	Protestantism-Methodist
	Charles Sheets	Refined Oil Products-Retailing
	Lee Sleat	Luncheonette
	Vincent Smith	Well Drilling-Water
	Harold Thomas	Groceries-Retail
	Charles Woolson	Barber

Lower Township Will Celebrate 25th Anniversary During '91

Lower Township Rotary Club was chartered as the Rotary Club of North Cape May on Sept. 6, 1966. Sponsored by Cape May Rotary, the new club held its charter night Nov. 10, 1966 at the Mariner Inn in Wildwood Crest, with William C. Lamon, Sr. installed as charter president. Lamon actually served consecutive terms as president when the club organized, and in 1975-76 served District 764 as governor.

The charter program included remarks by PDGs Frank J. Quigley of Atlantic City and Robert Adams of Palmyra-Riverton, and the keynote address by R.I. Director J. Lewis Unsworth.

Much of the credit for the formation of the club is given to Cape May's hard-working and skillful Dr. Carl Records, who helped organize local business and civic leaders in July of 1966.

Lower, celebrating its 25th anniversary during 1991, traditionally has been among the most civic-minded clubs in District 764. These are just a few of their countless, fund-raisers, community projects, and other endeavors:

Lower Rotary held an annual Country Breakfast, with members serving as waiters and funds donated to charities such as the Special Olympics.

A Country Jamboree featured top performers in the world of country music. Proceeds were designated for the club's scholarship fund.

Other Lower money-makers have included Bond-A-Month, a Cadillac car raffle, and an auction.

One of the club's mainstays in the civic arena has been its annual Lower Township Rotary Christmas Parade. The club has held the event since 1981 with considerable member energy being directed to make it one of the best in South Jersey.

Each Christmas the club takes part in the tree lighting ceremony at the township hall.

In 1969 the club built a memorial to those lost in Vietnam - a rock and 6foot-high Blue Atlas Cedar. The project hit close to home because a club member's son was among those killed in action. When the township built a new hall in 1980, the Rotary plaque was relocated there. Then, in '82, the tree was moved to the new location, too. It wasn't easy. By now the tree weighed two and a half tons.

The club built a Little League field in the township and also sponsored a Little League team. Lower is now a 22,000 percent plateau Foundation club.

Each Christmas the club donates a tree to the local K-Mart and the names of underprivileged children are tagged to the tree- Customers purchase gifts for the youngsters, who receive them at a Christmas party.

1980, Lower sponsored a Special Olympics track and field meet and supplied box lunches for the participants.

It has supported "Nope to Dope," scholarships and RYLA for local students, and has been highly active in the Student Exchange Program, sending Shannon Devine to France and sponsoring Corrine Lewis from Australia.

Other projects have included the Ferry pavilion; a horse show with proceeds turned over to the Lupus Foundation; the construction of a park, building and pavilions at other parks, and bus shelters; toys and money to help expand a toy library for handicapped children, and a piano for the Special Services School; the North Cape May Monument; hot dog stand at the ball field; lamb sale at the 4-H Fair; donation to Burdette Memorial Hospital; donated and trained K-9 dogs for the police; and variety show.

Besides its hard work, the club has plenty of fun with its family picnics, progressive dinners, ski trips, square dance, drum fishing trip, house warming parties, trips to baseball games and races, and much more. The club also worked hard in the late '70s to overcome the one problem it had, sagging membership.

Lower recognizes the importance of Rotary spouses by holding a monthly Ladies' Night dinner. The ladies take an active part in many Lower Rotary projects.

The club has a strong tradition of members becoming Paul Harris Fellows. The count is up to 25.



Presidents

1966-68	William C. Lamon, PDG	Nov. 76-Mar. 79	Vince Smith
1968-69	Bob Moffa	Mar. 1979-81	Frank Church
1969-70	Tom Brodessor	1981-83	Bud Langon
1970-71	Vince Smith	1983-84	Chuck McCarty
1971-72	Jon Munson	1984-86	Bob Smith
1972-73	Bud Langon	1986-87	Marty Franco
1973-74	Frank Church	1987-88	Roy Litton
1974-75	Mike Brigham	1988-89	Doug Smithson
1975-76	Bob Brigham	1989-90	Steven Church
1976-Oct. 76	Ed Holmes		



The Lower Township club spent time building pavilions near the Cape May-Lewes Ferry for the community to enjoy.