

A HISTORY

The Rotary Club Of South Haven

**Founding year – 1956
thru 2004**

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FOREWARD

This History of the Rotary Club of South Haven may appear somewhat incomplete, as total histories go but it is meant to be more an outlining of the traditions of this Rotary Club and the effects of some of the Club actions on the community life of South Haven. Hence the first year or so of the Club's life is delineated rather completely; that is when many of the traditions were set. From that time on the history is more sketchy, but laid down to establish a record of later traditions projects and the "whys" for the beginning of some and the abandonment of others. It is hoped that this will provide the Club with further incentive to serve the community and the members well, but to keep in mind that there is a time to start things, to carry on things, to turn things over to others and to abandon things as outmoded or useless. Mainly, it is intended to be some glue for our "esprit de corps".

Robert Winkel

It should be noted that the history has been updated a couple of times to bring it up through fiscal 1995-96. The original history and the first update which carries it through calendar year 1988 has been written by PDG Robert Winkel. The update from January 1989 has been written by Wib Lynam to bring the history of the club through June 30, 1996.

Wilbur Lynam

The Rotary Club of South Haven
-A History -

The Beginning.

Over the years several attempts were made to interest the business community of South Haven in forming a Rotary Club but the coming and going of several service clubs, and the presence of a strong Kiwanis Club seemed to deter the whole idea. This held true until early 1956, when two things combined to make an impact on the town's business and professional people that led to the formation of the Rotary Club of South Haven.

First in 1955 a Past District Governor of an Indiana Rotary District moved to South Haven to become President of the Citizens Trust and Savings Bank, and his continuing interest in Rotary led to his attendance at meetings of several area Rotary Clubs. Secondly, the Allegan Rotary Club took the hint and surveyed the possibilities of extending Rotary to South Haven, and found the climate healthy. So, while the Rotary Club of Allegan is the parent club, the presence of Past District Governor James Pence in South Haven was probably the catalyst that got the Rotary movement in South Haven boiling. Late 1955 saw representatives from Allegan surveying the business and professional community in South Haven to seek out potential Rotarians and Jim Pence was undoubtedly the first to sign as a Charter Member.

In January 1956 meetings of interested men were held with Past District Governor Vern "Red" Olcott and Charles "Chuck" Holland, of Allegan to determine how many would become Charter Members and to create a list of potential members from other classifications. By January 31 the list was firmed-up and on February 3 1956 an application for membership of the Rotary Club of South Haven in Rotary International was sent to District Governor George Dean, of Charlotte, along with Charter fees and the list of proposed members.

On February 7, 1956 the first meeting as a Provisional Rotary Club was held at Holly's Restaurant, on the corner of Center and Quaker Streets, under the auspices of the Allegan Rotary Club. Pat Scanlon, of Allegan provided a talk on Club Service; one of the "Four Avenues of Service" talks to be heard before becoming a full-fledged Rotary Club.

The membership voted that their regular meeting time should be Tuesday, from 6:30 to 7:45 P.M., and that Holly's Restaurant would be the meeting place of record. They elected the following officers and directors for the infant club:

President	Gene Rica
Vice-President	Theodore Nuoffer
Secretary	James Pence
Treasurer	Robert Winkel
Directors	Hilding Kilgren
	Leonard Naab
	Harold Wolf

During February meetings were held under the guidance of Rotarians from St.

Joseph-Benton Harbor, Saugatuck, Douglas and Kalamazoo; with avenue of service programs being given by Andy Pierce of Clark Equipment Company covering Vocational Service, District Governor George Dean, Charlotte, talking on Community Service, and Past District Governor Glenn Stewart, Kalamazoo, telling of International Service. Also during February, the provisional club was issued its Charter, and the date of March 6, 1956 was set as Charter Night.

The first editor of the club's weekly bulletin was P.D.G. Jim Pence, and his first bulletin was dated February 7, 1956. At that early date the bulletin had no formal name, but was an excellent publication, second to none in the District. Much of what is now Club History is from the pages of these bulletins, as well as from the records and minutes kept by the Secretary, and from memory and newspaper clippings.

March 6, 1956 was one of those "miserable" winter days that no one really wishes for. The weather combined every sort of winter time driving hazard that should keep sane people off the roads but three-hundred-fifty otherwise sane Rotarians braved the elements to get to South Haven to see the new Rotary Club of South Haven receive its Charter from District Governor George Dean, and to hear an address by the then Treasurer of Rotary International, Dick Verner. Local guests included the wives of the new Rotarians, the Mayor of South Haven and his wife, and Presidents of other local service clubs. It was a proud moment for 29 South Havenites when President Gene accepted his gavel and the stuffed stork signifying the Club's infancy in District 219; and the Rotary Club of South Haven was formally admitted to membership among the 8900 plus Rotary Clubs in 96 countries throughout the world.

Facts of note about the Rotary world on the evening of March 6, 1956 were these:

President, R.I.	A. Z. Baker Columbus, Ohio
Governor, District 219	George Dean Charlotte, Michigan
President Rotary Club of South Haven	J. E. Ricca

Membership, Rotary Club of South Havens:

Ernest Barth	Electrical Supplies & Contracting
Edward Bartl	Painting & Decorating
Thomas Brazill	Restaurants
Lauren Comer	Children's Ready to wear
C. B. Christian	Motor Freight Transport
John Daggett	Concrete Products Mfg.
Rodney Daggett	Concrete Products Mfg.
Irving Johnson	Hobby Shops

Julius Kastas
 Hilding Kilgren
 John D. Lewis
 Erle D. Miller
 Leonard Naab
 Theodore Nuoffer
 James R. Pence
 Tom Sampson
 Joseph E. Ricca
 William V. Shine
 Martin Sholes
 Clifford R. Spencer
 Ivan Stein
 L. H. Streeter
 Norbert Tamandl
 William T. Wank
 Garrett Weaver
 Romer Willobee
 Robert Winkel
 Harold Wolf
 Robert Woodley

Bottled Gas Distrib.
 Religion-Protestant
 Grey Iron Castings
 Electrical Coil Mfg.
 Playground Equipment Mfg.
 Wood Products Mfg.
 Commercial Banking
 Automobile Retailing (New)
 Window Glass Distrib.
 Building Contracting
 Dry Cleaning
 Rubber Products Mfg.
 Agriculture, Fruit Farming
 Collections & Credit Service
 Gas Mask Mfg.
 Household Furniture, Retail
 Shoe Repair
 Orchard Supplies
 Lumber, Retailing
 Motels
 Building Contracting

The first Sergeant-at-Arms of the new Club was Julius Kastas, and the first pianist was Erle Miller, with Irv Johnson as Song Leader. Within the first month the first make-up card from outside the U.S.A. was received from Bill Shine, from Havana Cuba. Also, ten Rotarians and their Rotary-Anns attended their first District 219 Conference at St. Joseph

Continuing a string of firsts -- the first gift to a guest speaker was a necktie, and the recipient was Fred Norlin, South Haven's Superintendent of Schools, on March 27: the first noteworthy community service by one of the members came about when Erle Miller got the city's short wave radio equipment into operation after a severe ice and wind storm in April. On May 15 Purlette Hinckley became the first new member inducted into the fledgling club, to fill the classification of Custom Furniture; Jim Pence performed the indoctrination honors. May 22, 1956 was the date of the club's first Ladies Night; and the week following brought the first 100% attendance meeting. On June 5, 1956 the club voted to put sufficient funds into the Rotary Foundation to make its contributions 100%. On June 12 President Gene suggested that all members wear ties, to better enhance their appearance; and on June 25 the club held its first "College Nite" to meet with and entertain returning college students, and to hear P.D.G. Glenn Stewart.

With the end of the last meeting in June the young club prepared to enter its first whole Rotary year, again under the guidance of President Gene Ricca and the same officers and directors that had taken it through the first five months of its Rotary life.

1956-1957

On July 1, 1956, District 636 came into being; District 219 having been split to make Districts 629 and 636. District Governor Frederick Hilbert, of Wayland, became the first Governor of District 636.

July 3 found the club meeting at the Golden Brown Restaurant since Holly's, due to prior commitments, could not take them during July and August. The new meeting space was so confining that no piano was available, so Erle Miller furnished accompaniment for singing on his accordion; and barely had room to stretch that.

In July the club had its first exposure to a Rotary Foundation program when John E. Gilbert, of Albion, told of his experiences as a Rotary Foundation Fellow studying in Scotland. August 22nd found nine South Haven Rotarians attending the chartering of the new Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club to present them with the "stork", symbol of the new Club's "junior membership" among the clubs in District 636. South Haven also provided them two bushels of Red Haven peaches, to remind all present that Rotary in South Haven was in the peach growing center of Michigan.

On September 4th the Club returned to Holly's Restaurant for their regular meetings and Erle to the piano. On November 13 the club hosted two Student Guests, Jim Force and Jim Hawkes; the first of many young men and women to be thus hosted during the school years to follow.

In January, 1957 the basics for the Club's first Post Prom party for High School Juniors and Seniors were organized. President Gene Ricca was named Chairman for the event a budget of \$1500.00 was set and it was officially called "The Post Prom Frolic". Credit for the germ idea must go to Mary and Jim Pence, while this initial try held smatterings of the thinking of all the Rotary-Anns and Rotarians in South Haven.

On April 16 the Club went on record, in a letter to State Representative Edson V. Root, Jr. as supporting "a lake shore state park between South Haven and Benton Harbor". The first Saturday night in May brought about the First Post Prom Frolic, held at the Elks Club; that it was truly a "community service" success was assured the young Rotary Club by the many letters of thanks from parents and students alike, and by the active support of the entire community. The Club had found "a need" and filled it.

The Club suffered its first loss in membership through death on May 23 when Norbert Tamandl died. On a happier note, the Club sent Dennis Appleyard to Camp Emery at Big Blue Lake; its first young man to attend the Youth Leadership Training Conference held annually under the auspices of Districts 629 and 636 and the Muskegon Rotary Club.

A final first in 1956-57 was achieved with a joint Rotary-Kiwanis Ladies Night meeting held on June 18 at Fidelman's Resort, at what was hope to be an annual event. The Club closed the 1956-57 Rotary year with thirty-three members.

1957-1958

On July 2, 1957, Ted Nuoffer became the second president of the club. On July 16 Dennis Appleyard, the Club's representative at the Youth Leadership Training Conference, at Camp Emery, gave an excellent talk on his experiences there. On that same date President Ted announced that George Dean, of Charlotte, would become Governor of District 639 replacing District Governor Elwyn Bodley who was moving from the District.

September found four South Haven Rotarians actively engaged in the local Little League Baseball program; these being Recreation Director Leonard Naab, League President Gene Ricca, Vice President Bob Dalby and Treasurer Orrin Ford. On November 14 Past President Gene Ricca chaired a very successful Fireside Visit at the home of Jim Pence. This was the first of a number of such meetings, and helped to bring Edwin Twitchell into membership in the Club.

Editarian Jim Pence turned writing of the Club bulletin over to Bob Winkel on January 21, 1958. On March 25 a Basketball Banquet was held as a regular meeting of the Club; Gene Ricca ably served as Master of Ceremonies, and Coach Don Roven, of Western Michigan University, was the speaker.

It was decided to let the Rotary-Anns plan a Ladies Night for themselves and Saturday, April 12, was set as a regular meeting held at Holly's, with dinner, a style show and a speaker; a 100% attendance was recorded.

Saturday, May 3, 1958 brought about the Second Annual Post Prom Frolic; this time held at the South Haven Armory, with a "Rodeo and Round-up" theme. Hard work by Rotary-Anns and Rotarians, and generous contributions by the public made this another good success.

Student Guest Night, another first took place on June 10, with all club offices being taken over by former Student Guests of the year, and the evening's program was provided by them. President for this first time meet was Gary Horton. Nearing the end of the 1957-58 Rotary Year, on June 22, the club met in a family picnic at the Wolf's Weinstein's Resort; another first to end a second full year of the Club's existence.

1958-1982

Throughout the first twenty-five years of its existence the Rotary Club of South Haven carried out a number of projects that left their imprint on the community and on other Rotary Clubs throughout District 636, and experienced the internationality of Rotary through participation in several Rotary Foundation programs.

The Post Prom Frolic project was carried out annually until 1973, abandoned only after state drinking laws lowered the age for use of alcoholic beverages and made control over the activities of the student guests quite impossible. Thus a most successful sixteen year project to keep local high school students in South Haven and out of harms way after their annual prom night fell to the questionable wisdom of a new law.

The practice of having Student Guests in each week during the school year was most successfully carried on for a number of years, as was the resultant annual Student Guest Night during which the student guests of the past school year ran the club for an entire evening. These fell to lack of interest both by club members and students but the project is still viable and worthy of continuation.

In 1968 the Club constructed a campers' cabin at the Van Buren Youth Camp, built with volunteer labor from the membership. Upon completion this building was dedicated to the memory of Robert Mueller, Jr., the young son of a Rotary Club member who was killed in action during the Korean conflict.. Maintenance was carried out by Club members on a voluntary basis for a number of years, but was later done with funds furnished by the Club to the Camp.

In keeping with the tenets of the Second Object of Rotary among which is "the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations" the Club, in 1973, approved the giving of Vocational Service Awards to outstanding students in the vocational programs at the L. C. Mohr High School during award ceremonies at graduation time. This program has been carried out each year since with the then president of the Club making the presentations.

One of the truly outstanding Community Service projects begun by the Club was the Youth Swimming Programs, consisting mainly of the sponsorship of the Rotary Age Group Swim Programs and Awards and sponsorship of the South Haven Rotary Invitational Swim meets. These programs, begun under the direct supervision of Rotarians and their Rotary-Anns, have contributed much to the building of the varsity swim teams in the South Haven schools, and have received district-wide recognition for their purpose and success. This in turn led to the contribution of poolside score boards and a touch-timing device to the school by the Rotarians, as evidence of their continuing interest in this water safety oriented program.

In almost every year the Club has sponsored one or two young men to the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference at Camp Emery on Big Blue Lake, and several Club members have served on the District Youth Leadership Committee over the years. The Conference has received high praise from the young men and most of the Club's conferees have received plaudits from the Conference staff.

Rotary Foundation interest has been at an excellent level throughout the years with financial contributions to The Foundation being well maintained. The Club has been fortunate in acquiring a number of Rotary Foundation Awardees as guest speakers, especially for Ladies Night programs, a practice guaranteed to stimulate continuing interest in all aspects of The Foundation. In 1972 the Club successfully sponsored Ed Pugh, a local resort manager, as a candidate for membership on a Group Study Exchange Team to Germany. In 1974 Rotarian Robert Winkel was the District Governor's Representative on a similar team traveling to District 268 in Australia. The Club has taken part in the entertainment and itinerary of every G.S.E. Team to come to District 636. In 1976 the Club sponsored John Patrick McGuire as a candidate for a Rotary

Foundation Graduate Award. John, being successful, spent a year of study at the Institute Bourguiba des Langues Vivantes in Tunis, Tunisia, in 1977-79.

Also, as further evidence of the Club's support of The Rotary Foundation, the following members were made Paul Harris Fellows, meaning that a contribution of one Thousand dollars was made to The Foundation in the name of each:

Erle Miller,
James Pence,
Ivan Stein,
Robert Winkel.

Ruth, Mrs. Ivan Stein, was also made a Paul Harris Fellow by way of a similar contribution made in her name by her husband.

Another continuing program of note has been that of providing and delivering Christmas gifts to needy children, the names of whom are supplied by the County Social Services Department. Funds for this come directly from the pockets of the Rotarians via a cash contribution from each. The gifts, purchased from a local merchant at discounted prices, are wrapped at a meeting just prior to Christmas and delivered before Christmas, or during the year-end holidays if the recipients cannot be located before then. The gratitude in the eyes and voices of the youngsters contacted provides ample reward to the surrogate Santa Clauses, and just cause for continuing the program.

While the Rotary Post Prom Frolics were financed by public contribution over the years it became apparent that some sort of fund raising program was needed by the Club. In 1971 a Dawn Patrol and Fly-In in combination with a Blueberry Pancake Breakfast was held at the South Haven Airport, Each year since the Club held this event, with a random sort of success depending on the vagaries of the weather. Incoming aircraft numbered from more than a hundred to as few as three, and the breakfast has managed to go from break-even to some considerable profit. As a reliable source of income it has been somewhat questionable, but it has created some good "esprit de corps" among the working membership, of which the club has always had a goodly supply.

An intermittent fund raising project has been in the form of community auctions, wherein Rotarians and friends contribute items, old and new, to be auctioned off. These have enjoyed moderate success from time-to-time.

Many projects of worth have been carried out throughout the first twenty-five years, their value and duration dependent on some "need of the moment". Among these have been sponsorship of an Auto Safety Check Lane in the Club's early years, a Centennial Ball (Blueberry Festival Ball), the contribution of Wolverine Conference Pennants for the High School gymnasium, assistance to the local Kiwanis Club in the construction of a Warmup House in Baer Park for use of ice skaters, assistance at High School Career Nights, and financial support of Project Vienna to send the High School Chorus to Austria. Financial support has also gone to the Community Scholarship Fund begun in memory of our third Club President's younger son, to Bluebirds groups, and a World-wide Poster Art Contest for Secondary School Students in 1969 in conjunction

with the Rotary District and Rotary International. Both financial and physical support have been given the Junior Athletic Association over the years, especially during their annual St. Patrick's Day Smorgasbord when many members join with other community service groups in a concerted support of this worthy endeavor.

During the first twenty-five years the Club contributed two District Governors to District 636, Robert Winkel in 1968-69 and Ivan Stein in 1981-82, and numerous officers and Committee Chairmen and members. In those same years the membership grew to a high of fifty, and the year 1981 began with a total of forty-six members. But regardless of the number of members the Club has continuously left its imprint on the community, and always for the better, and has been a constant help to Rotary programs in both the District and internationally.

In closing the books from March 6, 1956 to June 30, 1982 it was noted that five of the charter members remained as members of the club. They were C. B. Christian, Erle Miller, James Pence, Ivan Stein and Robert Winkel. All were Senior Active Members, and remained active in Club committees and affairs; and Erle Miller was still Club Pianist, a Job he took on in February, 1956, before the Club was officially chartered.

ROTARY CLUB of SOUTH HAVEN

CLUB HISTORY

Commencing July 1, 1982.

The first meeting of the 1982-83 Rotary year, July 6, found Vice President Don Downing presiding in the place of the new president, Glen Adkin, who was hospitalized. This situation presented a new problem to the club until the month of December, when Glen resigned as President and Don assumed that chair. James Downing, Club President in 1974-75, was elected Vice-President/President-Elect.

On July 13, during a joint meeting with the South Haven Chamber of Commerce, Rotarian John Doremus, a noted radio personality from Chicago, was the principal speaker. At the same event Rotarian Ed Stieve was named "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" by the membership of the Chamber.

In September Adreana Avellar, an Exchange Student from Brazil, gave a review of her year in "our town", and thanked her host families, the Chuck Steins, the Rus Hymas, the Don Woodhams and the John VerBeeks.

July 5, 1983, saw James "Jim" Downing assuming the presidency of the Club for his second turn at this office.

On August 7th the annual Fly-In/Pancake Breakfast at the South Haven Airport was a success, with good weather and approximately fifty incoming aircraft contributing to the project. During the same month the Board of Directors agreed that the Club would accept sponsorship of the Miss South Haven Queen Contest and related activities. Chuck Stein was appointed chairman for the first year.

President Jim and his Board found a number of activities for the Club to undertake, beginning with the announcement that members would ring bells and collect funds for the Salvation Army at Christmas time, and that weekly drawings for cash prizes would be conducted each meeting night. Two winning tickets would be drawn each week, to split 40% of that night's "pot"; the balance going to the Club Projects fund. Notice was also given that the Club would serve a breakfast during "Oktoberfest", on October 8, from 7 to 11 AM, at Clementine's tent in the downtown area.

During October a Ladies Night dinner was held at Gaslight Haven, during which C.B. Christian was presented a Paul Harris Fellowship Award, and "We Care" was given a check for \$700, the proceeds from the 1983 Pancake Breakfast/Fly-In. The first Annual Oktoberfest Pancake Breakfast at Clementine's Beer Tent was a success, in spite of poor weather, and about 290 persons were served. Proceeds from this event were aimed at local charities.

In November Doug Leins, Club Treasurer, presented High School Athletic

Director Michael Oakes with \$500 to become a part of the Ratcliffe Field Scoreboard Fund. Later that month the fund raising activities for the Miss South Haven Queen Contest were revealed.

December was a busy month beginning with a joint Kiwanis-Rotary Ladies Night at the Red Carpet, with Roger Dehn's High School Choral furnishing entertainment. Also in December, the members carried out their Salvation Army bell ringing project and collected over \$850, which was later presented to the local Salvation Army representative. In mid-December Christmas gifts were brought by Club members for contribution to the We Care Inc. Christmas Sharing program. This latter marked a departure from contribution and delivery of gifts under the guidance of the County Social Services Department.

In January, 1984, plans were initiated for the Club to supply the South Haven float for the Blossom Parade; Jim Starks was appointed chairman for that project. Later that month President Jim announced that the Club would serve breakfasts at Clementine's Beer Tent on June 23 and 24, during the 2nd Annual Clementine's Hobie Cat Regatta. It was also noted that the Club had contributed \$250 toward Christmas decorations for the downtown area. Later that month the Club heard former Mayor Tim Horan III announce his intention to explore possibilities for becoming a Republican candidate for the 4th Congressional District seat in opposition to current Representative Mark Siljander. The Club sponsored South Haven Queen Contest took place that month at the Listiak Auditorium, with several Rotarians acting as ushers and in other capacities.

January brought another first for the Club when it was disclosed that Debbie Renner, daughter of Tom and Carole Renner, had been selected as an Exchange Student to spend a year in South Africa. Another first occurred when the Club was visited by the new Miss South Haven, Delani Holmes, to thank the membership for their sponsorship.

In mid-February Don Moore, Vice-president of the Community Hospital Board, told of an idea for a survey of representative community groups regarding their thoughts concerning the hospital, its direction, goals, services and needs. On February 28 nine Rotarians served as the first "trial panel" for such a discussion/survey. The meeting was considered a success by all participants, and the Hospital Board planned more with other groups for further input.

March 6 found the Club celebrating the 28th anniversary of its Charter Night with only the collection of "birthday bucks" for its Club Projects Fund marking the occasion. On St. Patrick's Day a number of Rotarians assisted at the annual JAA Smorgasbord, as did members of other service organizations. A joint Kiwanis-Rotary Ladies Night on March 20th brought out excellent numbers from both clubs.

In April a decision was made to discontinue the Annual Fly-In/Pancake Breakfasts at the Airport due to wanning interest of a number of members, and the fact that the "down-town" breakfasts seemed more certain of success. Also, the South Haven float to carry Queen Delani Holmes and her court was completed, in readiness for the Blossom Parade.

At its first meeting in May the Club met Outbound Exchange Student Debbie Renner and her parents, and heard of her preparations for the year ahead in South Africa. On May 12th Don and Dorma Woodhams took Debbie to the District 636 Conference at the Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, to be introduced to the Conference and to meet Exchange Students in attendance from other lands. Later in May, Bob Irwin brought Hugo Hall, of Windoes Travelogues, Ind., before the Club to tell of travel shows as a fund raising project. Before the end of June President Jim appointed a committee of three to survey the membership for their opinions about carrying on a travelogue project, and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

In early June the membership of incoming Vice-President/ President-Elect Fred Brownfield was dropped due to lack of attendance. The Board of Directors elected Alfred Hawkins to fill that vacancy. June 23 found four South Haven Rotarians attending the District Assembly at Olivet College, while others served pancake breakfasts to Hobie Cat enthusiasts and other visitors to "our town". The breakfast was repeated on the 24th, and while business on the 23rd was disappointing, the 24th brought out many customers, and showed the value of aggressive advertising.

Late June brought word that the Club was losing another of its Charter Members and its pianist of 28 years standing as Erle Miller made plans to leave South Haven. Total membership of the Club at the end of the 1983-84 Rotary year was 38, several members having been eliminated for improper attendance.

On July 3, 1984 Dr. Tom Lorenz took the helm of the Club for the beginning of the new Rotary year.

Early in July Kirk Fruithof told of his experiences at the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference, at Camp Emery. Afterward he was presented a check for \$50.00 to compensate him for wages lost during his time at the Conference. A later Sunday found members serving pancake breakfasts at Clementine's Beer Tent, feeding about 500.

In early August members washed car windows at MacDonald's "Golden Arches", to earn about \$128 for "Jerry's Kids" Muscular Dystrophy Fund. Later David Bolt, son of Rotarian Art Bolt, presented the Club a pennant from the Rotary Club of Gent Nort, Belgium; received while an exchange student that summer. At that same time Don Woodhams brought a message from Debbie Renner, our exchange student in South Africa; one of the many she was to send during her year there.

October 6 and 7 found the Club serving two pancake breakfasts at the Clementine's Beer Tent, raising funds for worthy causes. On the 20th of that month a Rotary Swim Meet was held at the L.C. Mohr High Pool. Insufficient Rotary help made it necessary to enlist students to help run the meet; a message that more advance planning was needed for this sort of project.

During November two-times President Jim Downing was made a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of his many services to the Club.

In December members raised \$733.17 for the Salvation Army, ringing bells at various business places about town.

In mid-January, 1985, the Club received greetings from former Brazilian exchange student, Adriana, by way of Don Woodhams. Later that month Miss Cheryl Brenneman was selected as Miss South Haven during the Club sponsored Queen Contest. The following week Miss Brenneman and her court, plus Merna Llorens, co-chairperson, visited the Club to express their thanks.

On St. Patrick's Day the Club assisted other organizations in working at the annual JAA fund raiser smorgasbord. Late in March the Club was visited by David Tate, Director of the Van Buren County Library System, who was to go to Norway as the Club's nominee to the District Group Study Exchange Team.

April was building time for the Queen's Float. As the summer went by this was to appear in six parades about South Western Michigan. This float took second prize for originality in the Twin Cities Blossom Parade, a nice plug for the Club and for the community.

On June 24th Debbie Renner, our exchange student recently home from South Africa, spoke to a Ladies Night gathering of her experiences while away there.

Alfred Hawkins became President of the Club on July 2, 1985, and at the following meeting spelled-out his goals for the year to come.

A pancake breakfast was held at Clementine's Tent on July 21, proceeds to go to the Alan's Van Fund, sponsored by the Casco Methodist Church. A check for \$1,500 was given to the Fund as a result. On the 23rd our G.S.E. representative, David Tate, spoke to the Club of his experiences during his trip to Norway through our sponsorship. Steve Siler, our representative to the Youth Leadership Conference at Camp Emery, told of his experiences there. In another International Youth Exchange program, Dawn Downing, daughter of Don and Judy Downing, told of her exchange experiences in the Netherlands.

On August 13 the Club met at the South Haven Community Hospital to test that establishment's eating and meeting facilities, anticipating a move from the Red Carpet. This move did occur during the following November, having been voted to do so in September.

During September Travelogue tickets were distributed for advance sale. In recognition of Youth Activities Month, a \$200 grant was made to the Rotary Swim group to support their activities.

October was a busy month, featuring an Oktoberfest Breakfast at Clementine's Beer Tent, the first travelogue of the season, a Rotary Swim Meet for girls, and the contribution of \$500 to Dr. Bill Austin, Muskegon, toward construction of an activities building at Camp Emery.

In November the Club moved its meeting place to the Community Hospital, gave \$250 to Project Business at the South Haven Schools, and \$400 to Project Identification being sponsored by the South Haven Police Department. Later that month our Editarian, Wib Lynam, was presented a "Key Member" award by District Governor Tom Sullivan, during his official visit.

Bell ringing in December netted \$650 for the Salvation Army in a project that had become an annual event.

As of January, 1986, it became policy that members would no longer pay for meals missed at missed meetings not made-up.

At the South Haven Queen Contest held in February, Miss Stacy Torp was crowned Queen. The following week she and her court, along with co-chairpersons Merna Llorens and Louise Ford, visited the Club and expressed their thanks for our sponsorship. Later a Ladies Night, under the chairmanship of Jim Davis, was held at Gaslight Haven, with progressive seating changes for each course. It was deemed a great success by all who attended; an excellent mixer.

On March 4th the members quietly celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the chartering of the Club. On St. Patrick's Day members assisted the JAA during their annual smorgasbord.

Later that month Secretary Keith Stoner announced his resignation as Club Secretary, due to poor health. Jack Underwood agreed to assist Keith in his work, and to take over as Club Secretary at the end of the year.

Construction on the Queen's Float was farmed-out in view of the small work force that had been turning out to work on it. This float was destroyed by fire after the first parade, arson was suspected, and left the Club unable to till commitments for other parades during the summer, 1986.

In May the Club met Damen Dunmire, a local High School student who was to travel to Japan as a short term exchange student in the summer.

On June 22 the first of three successful pancake breakfasts was held at Clementine's Beer Tent, in conjunction with the local Hobie Cat Regatta. Others were to follow in July. Also during June, it was noted that the Travelogue series, which drew raves from those attending, was more a "community service project" than a financial success. However, it was voted to try it for one more year, in hope of making it a worthwhile venture financially.

In retrospect, it should be noted that the policy that members would no longer pay for meals during meetings missed and not made-up seems to have had an adverse affect on both make-ups and on the financial picture of the Club; both worthy of future consideration.

On July 1, 1986, President Jim Starks took charge of the Club for what was to prove a busy year. Advertising posters for the '86-'87 season's Travelogues were distributed to give an early start toward ticket sales. The two pancake breakfasts in July proved very successful, with approximately 600 served at the second. In spite of excellent programs, the summer attendance was not good. Possibly a result of the earlier decision to forgive the cost of meals at meetings missed and not made-up.

In September co-chairpersons for the 1987 Queen Contest were named: Mrs. Louise Ford, Judy Hiatt and Chris Hinz. Club contributions of \$250 were made to each the Warren Center and the Maritime Museum by the Directors. A number of members contributed \$12.00 each, the equivalent of \$1.00 per month for one year, toward the Polio-Plus program.

A proposal to change the Club's meeting time to either noon or breakfast was defeated during an early November meeting.

In early December a joint Kiwanis-Rotary Ladies Night meeting was enjoyed by both organizations. The annual Salvation Army bell-ringing drive, that month, netted \$878.00. In addition to this each member contributed \$5.00 toward We Care's Christmas gifts program.

At the last meeting in December the incoming officers for 1987-88 were elected in the persons of Ralph Frost, President, Wib Lynam, Vice President, Jack Underwood, Secretary, Doug Leins, Treasurer, and Directors Charles Soukup, Don Behrenwald and Jim Starks.

A unique program took place on January 6, 1987, when the meeting was reconvened at the 7th District Court West to witness the swearing-in of fellow Rotarian David Grier as District Court Judge. Following a brief ceremony Judge Dave hosted the members in a guided tour of the facility; a Vocational Service program much enjoyed by all.

To support the Queen Contest in 1987 it was decided to solicit contributing "patrons" rather than sell advertising, a change that proved very successful.

February 10 brought about a prospective member visit night that found 8 prospects hosted by various members. As a result of that effort three new members were gained. On February 17 Kim Puckett, the new Miss South Haven, was introduced to her sponsors; Queen Kim, in turn, introduced her court.

In March the Directors voted a contribution of \$100 to a 6th Grade Outdoor Education Program, and turned down two other more substantial requests from other educational departments. The Club also learned that Clementine's Beer Tent would not be available for pancake breakfasts in 1987, necessitating a change of location for future such fund raisers.

It was reported, in April, that the Club had lost \$1,042 in the Travelogue venture, but did take in \$2,163 from the Queen's Contest contributions.

The wee hours of Sunday, May 17, found several members serving a Post Prom Breakfast to a number of Junior-Senior Prom guests and their hosts at the High School cafeteria. While the turnout was small, the hour being very late, it could be a harbinger of things to come, with sufficient, earlier planning; a reminder of the Post Prom Frolics of the '50s/60s.

June found a number of Rotarians motoring to the Van Buren Youth Camp to put new roofing on the Rotary Cabin, built in 1968 by Club members as a memorial to the son of a former member. It was learned, too, that the season's only fund raising pancake breakfast would be held under a tent at the Yacht Club parking area on Sunday, July 19.

The year ended with a membership of 36, four of whom were Charter Members. Ralph Frost became Club President on July 7, 1987, beginning his year with a club assembly. The Queen's float, furnished by the Club, took part in the 4th of July parades of both South Haven and Bangor, and in four other parades throughout the summer. The appointment of Louise Ford as General Chairperson for the 1988 Queen Contest was announced, as was the appointment of Don Behrenwald as advertising chairman; an excellent, early start.

1987's only pancake breakfast, on July 19, was a smashing success with between 700 and 800 being served; the best to-date. The site for the breakfast, at the Yacht Club parking area, proved an excellent choice.

Louise Ford and Hollis Hiatt were named Honorary Members of the Club in recognition of their services in connection with the Queen Contest and related projects.

On August 18 Kazuro Tanita, a Japanese exchange student visiting the Dunmire family, spoke to the club and presented club banners from his home district. On August 25 the official meeting place of the Club became Dee's Landing, formerly the Red Carpet and earlier home of the Club. At this meeting the club heard Karen Schloemer, who had been an exchange visitor to Japan, tell of her visit there; an excellent complement to the exchange talk of the previous week.

In September the Club enjoyed a unique Ladies Night meeting, turned into a most interesting Vocational Service program with a tour of the new quarters of radio station WCSY, the world's only combined radio station and wine cellar.

A financial report in early October revealed that the July pancake breakfast had netted \$1,190, the Queen Contest \$1,040, and the final travelogue tally, a loss of \$902. \$415 had been accumulated for the Polio-Plus program through members' contributions.

District Governor Bill Menser made his official visit on November 17. Also in November, it was voted to increase our Board of Directors to nine (9) members. These would include a President, Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer,

three elected Directors, and the out-going President as a fourth Director.

On December 12th members rang bells for the Salvation Army. With the smallest number of "bell ringers" ever, almost \$1,100 was taken in, the best results ever enjoyed.

The following were elected, on December 15, as Club Officers for 1988-89: Wilbur Lynam, President, Charles Soukup, 1st Vice-President, Douglas Leins, Second Vice-President, Jack Underwood, Secretary, Don Behrenwald, Treasurer, and Directors John VerBeek, Jim Dissette, Ted Weber, and Ralph Frost, outgoing president.

In January, 1988, Al Hawkins accepted the chairmanship of the Club's Polio-Plus campaign, and work on the Miss South Haven Pageant got under way. On January 30th Miss Kerry Kahne was crowned as Miss South Haven,

The new Miss South Haven visited the Club on February 2, accompanied by her court, whom she introduced, and by pageant committee members Louise Ford, Judy Hiatt, and Chris Hinz. At that same meeting Larry Wittkop presented the Club \$311, proceeds from the two Rotary Swim Meets the Club had sponsored. A ladies night was held later that month, with Mark Holden relating his experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines.

Total income from the Queen Contest was approximately \$6100, with outstanding bills still to be paid, and the float still to be built. February found Club members selling tickets for a Junior Athletic Association fund raising effort; a departure from JAA's former St. Patrick's smorgasbords.

In early March Club members sold tickets for a new St. Patrick's Day Smorgasbord for the benefit of the South Haven Educational Foundation. Members also provided physical help for this, as they had for the former JAA programs.

On April 5 the Club was joined by its first lady Rotarians; Carolyn Bradford, proprietor of Petal Palace Florist Shop, with the classification of Florist, Retail, and Mary Brinks, Trust Operations Supervisor of Citizens Trust and Savings Bank, with the classification of Banking, Trust Services.

On April 12 the Club heard a program concerning a Kids' Corner Playground, proposed to be built at the City's Monroe Park Playground, following plans by a professional consultant. A large force of volunteers was to supply labor; public contributions were to supply funding. As a result of this the Club volunteered to hold a pancake breakfast, proceeds to be its contribution to the Playground funding.

In early May a number of members were in attendance at the District Conference, held at the new Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Holland. During this Conference Bob Winkel was elected the District's delegate to the 1989 Council on Legislation to take place in Singapore in late January, 1989. Also in May, during the Twin Cities Blossom Parade, the Club's Queen's float was awarded the Harvest Trophy, and later participated in the Holland Tulip Festival Parade,

In mid-May the Club lost C.B. Christian, its oldest Charter Member, at the age of 93 years. C.B. had also been one of the Club's Paul Harris Fellows.

The Club's first "Spouses Night" took place at Ruppert's on May 24, and was also the occasion for presenting Paul Harris Fellow Awards to Claude Mann and Edwin Twitchell, in recognition of their many years of service to the community and the Club. These surprise presentations brought the number of Paul Harris Fellows from our Club to nine.

In June the Club sent Steve VanderRoest to the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference at Camp Emery. Later that month the Club held its first 1988 Pancake Breakfast at the former site of the Village Market; this to raise funds for the Kids' Corner Playground. Playground Committee members volunteered clean-up help, and made advance ticket sales; both a most welcome help. More than 450 breakfasts were served that morning.

In closing-out the 1987-88 Rotary year, it was noted that seventeen continuing projects were being carried on by the Club.

Wilbur "Wib" Lynam became President of the Club on July 1, and on July 2 and 3 several members, the new President included, collected approximately \$600 toward the Club's Polio-Plus fund, ringing bells at several locations about town. On July 5 the Club's delegate to the Rotary Youth Leadership Conference, Steve VanderRoest, made an enthusiastic report of his participation there. On July 12 President Wib announced that \$1,000 would be added to the Kids' Corner Playground Fund, the result of the earlier pancake breakfast.

During July much discussion took place concerning a possible change of meeting day, time, and place. A questionnaire was sent each member to help formulate a picture of the majority's desires; the results to be considered by the Board of Directors and the Club at a later date. It was noted by President Wib that the Club had excellent representation in District affairs, with Jim Davis serving as Chairman of the Youth Leadership Committee and as a member of the Community Service Committee; PDG Ivan Stein serving on the District Nominating Committee and as co-Chairman for Annual Giving; PDG Bob Winkel acting as District Rotary Foundation Chairman.

Early in August the Queen's Float participated in the Coloma Glad/Peach Festival Parade. Later that month, on August 21, the Club participated in the dedication ceremonies for the rebuilt main runway at the South Haven Airport; holding a pancake breakfast in conjunction with a fly-in sponsored by the Airport Authority. Don Woodhams was program chairman for the Authority's events of the morning. More than 700 breakfasts were served, as an estimated 1,000 people attended the dedication festivities.

The month of September was notable for some changes in the Club's routine, voted in by the Board of Directors and the Club. Beginning on September 27 "SPOKES",

which had been delivered to the members' homes since the Club's beginning, was to be handed out at meetings, except that those for absentees would be mailed. From October 4 the meetings would begin at 6:00 PM, in order that members could attend other meetings that began later on those nights. Also, meal prices advanced to \$6.00 each, except that members with Attendance Waived and those making-up missed meetings would be given credit for such meals; all others would pay for meals for all meetings.

During the same month the Rotary Club float participated in the Kalamazoo Winefest Parade. Also in September, the Club was invited to serve a pancake breakfast at the South Haven Airport during a fly-in scheduled for August 20, 1989. Nominated by the Club to be a candidate for the Nominating Committee for Director, Zone 3 (USCB) was PDG Ivan Stein.

On October 11 a fireside visit was held at the home of President Wib Lynam; the first such in a very long time.

In early November young ladies were invited to vie for the honor of becoming Miss South Haven in the Club sponsored Queen contest, and on Sunday, November 6, a get-acquainted party was held for interested girls and their parents at the Warren Center. Later in November the Board voted to purchase a new Colorado Timing System Electronic Starter for the High School Swimming Pool, at a cost of \$540.00. In the interest of improving the Club's singing, Dottie Lynam, wife of President Wib, began sending taped piano accompaniment to the Club meetings; a much appreciated innovation.

On December 6 the Club enjoyed a Spouses Night during which Don Downing was honored with the presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow Award in recognition of his many services to the Club; especially as chairman for the many successful pancake breakfasts for which the Club had become known. Miss Lori Wilson, a local High School student who entertained at that meeting, was presented \$150.00 to help defray her expenses for an upcoming tour of Europe with the Blue Lake Music Camp Choral.

December 17 found Club members ringing bells for the Salvation Army at locations throughout the city. In spite of only having five locations to work from, very bad weather, and a limited number of bell-ringers, the effort netted \$866.20.

At the meeting of December 20 the following were elected Club Officers for the 1989-90 Rotary year: President - Charles Soukup, 1st Vice president - Douglas Leins, 2nd Vice president - Ted Weber, Secretary - Jack Underwood, Treasurer - Mary Brinks, and Directors Jim Disette, John VerBeek, Dave Freeman and Wib Lynam.

In January, 1989 Rotary Awareness Month was duly recognized by the showing of two VCR tapes at the meeting of January 3. "The Bill Moyer Story" and a tape of "Rotary In Action" showing the efforts to combat polio and other childhood diseases in Africa were borrowed from the District Library in Lansing. On January 10, a club assembly and forum was held and the plans and objectives of the club were reviewed and updated.

A happy occasion was held on January 20 when several members of the club met for a luncheon with Jerry and Shirley Basel of South Africa along with Carol Renner, mother of Debbie, our club's former Rotary Exchange Student to South Africa. Debbie stayed with the Basels when she was in their country. It was a real opportunity for us to thank for the hospitality shown to our exchange student.

In February the Board agreed to join with other service organizations of the area to purchase a pitching machine for the ladies softball program at the local high school.

In February another successful Miss South Haven Pageant was sponsored by the club and members of the club were kept very busy in the preparations and the presentation of the pageant. This pageant will be remembered as a tragic time for the club even though the program went off very well. On the night of the pageant, the club member who served as chairman of the pageant, Jim Downing, suffered a heart attack at his home and later passed away in the hospital. A memorial fund was collected from club members and with a further contribution from the Board \$1,000 was sent to The Rotary Foundation Unrestricted Funds in Jim's memory. Jim Downing had in previous years served as President of the club in 1974-75 and again in 1983-84.

During the month of March the club met at a new location on a trial basis. For the month the meetings were held at G.J. Platters Restaurant. At the end of the trial period a vote was taken and members voted to return to Dee's Landing for another try.

The club was advised on March 1 that PDG Ivan Stein had been declared a member of the nominating committee to select a nominee from Area B of Zone 3 for election to the R. I. Board of Directors.

During May the Miss South Haven float was completed and was entered in The Blossom Parade in St. Joe and Benton Harbor and in the Holland Tulip Festival.

Club members participated in a community cleanup program at Stanley Johnston Park on May 13. Our participation was larger than any other of the service clubs in South Haven.

On the 4th of July the Queen's Float took part in both the South Haven and the Bangor Independence Day Parades.

The first club meeting of the 1989-90 fiscal year was a club assembly presided over by new president Charlie Soukup.

On July 23rd the club served 880 people at a pancake breakfast at the Blueberry Festival.

At the August Board Meeting the Board voted to contribute the sum of \$500 to the South Haven Save The Catwalk Fund.

"Fulfillment, Fellowship, and Fun" the District 636 theme for the year was

enjoyed at a Spouse's Night on August 8 with the visit of District Governor Frank Traviglia and his wife Linda. Jim Davis was given the Paul Harris Fellow Award by the club with District Governor Frank Traviglia making the presentation.

Several members of the club were again appointed to District Committee Posts.

During the summer months the Queen's Float participated in parades for the Coloma Glad/Peach Festival and for the Kalamazoo Wine Fest.

Programs of note in August featured a 2 part video tape history of South Haven from the time of the Algonquin Indians to the present and a program presented by PDG Bob Brickman of Palatine, Illinois on the experience of arranging for the housing and care of 160 Soviet Union leaders during their visit to the Chicago area.

A pancake breakfast was served in the fall for the Maritime Museum at which over 700 customers were served.

The club voted in September to discontinue the sponsoring of the Miss South Haven Pageant. It was decided that we had been the sponsoring organization long enough and that it was time someone else came forward to take over this task. The club also voted in September to go back to mailing the news-letter to all members instead of handing them out at the meetings.

Michigan State Representative Mick Middaugh was the speaker at our meeting of September 26. Mick's reports from Lansing are always timely, factual, and informative.

At our October 24th meeting our speaker was Miss Miskako Korichi, a Rotary Exchange Student from Moriyama, Japan. Mikado brought to us a banner from the Moriyama club and accepted one of ours to take back to Japan.

On December 26 the annual election of officers was held. Elected to office were Doug Leins, President, Ted Weber 1st V. P., Jack Pettet 2nd V. P., Jack Underwood Secretary, Mary Brinks Treasurer, and Board Members Art Bolt, Jim Disette, John VerBeek, and Charlie Soukup.

Our January 16 meeting was a participation in a "Town Meeting" held by U. S. Congressman Fred Upton. Fred attended our meeting for dinner, then we traveled to The Warren Center to be a part of Fred's "Town Meeting."

The Board of Directors voted to continue providing a \$500 scholarship for Miss South Haven even though we no longer provide sponsorship for the pageant.

On March 6 we celebrated the 34th anniversary of the chartering of our club. District Governor Frank Traviglia honored us with a visit for the occasion. South Haven Mayor Dave Paull was also present at the meeting and brought along an official proclamation from the City Council declaring the date as Rotary Day in South Haven in honor of our anniversary. Also attending the meeting was the club's first president, Gene

Ricca. Bob Winkel represented the three remaining charter members of the club while the other two, Ivan Stein and Jim Pence were still vacationing in the South.

On May 22 District Governor Frank Traviglia made his 3rd visit of the year to our club by bringing Rotary Exchange Student Tim Lynam from Zimbabwe, Africa to be our speaker.

On May 31 at the South Haven High School Awards Night our club presented Vocational Awards to 6 students for outstanding work in their chosen fields of training. At the same awards presentation PDG Bob Winkel presented the Paul Harris Fellow Award to Michael "Mike" Listiak, long time instructor of instrumental music and band and orchestra director for the school. Mike was also made an honorary member of our club.

On June 26 Charlie Soukup passed the gavel to incoming President Doug Leins.

To open our 1990-91 fiscal year U. S. Congressman Fred Upton spoke to us at our July 3 meeting. It was a fitting address for our 4th of July Eve. Once again Fred provided us with factual information about the working of the Congress and also inspired us with a patriotic message.

On July 22 we served pancake breakfast to 580 patrons at the Blueberry Festival. Poor weather conditions prevailed for the festival but the turnout for the breakfast was considered as a good one considering the conditions.

The club was challenged by PDG Bob Winkel, District Foundation Chairman, to have each member support the Rotary Foundation by contributing at least \$52 during the year for this very worthy cause.

Terrible weather conditions prevailed for the Fly-In Breakfast at the South Haven Community Airport on August 19. Even with the poor weather conditions, 599 customers were served breakfast.

The club was presented with a pennant from Warsaw, Poland in August, thanks to Jack Pettet's visit in Poland while working on an exchange teachers program. Jack and his wife Jeannie provided the club with some interesting programs showing slides of this distant land in the Eastern Bloc of nations.

We also were privileged to receive banners from Mabalacat in the Philippines and from Carrum, Victoria, Australia thanks to visitors this summer.

Another pancake breakfast was served on Labor Day Weekend for the Crafts Fair in Johnston Park. 450 hungry customers were served at this event.

District Governor V. M. "Vic" Mishra visited the club on October 2. During the Governor's visit 2 new members were inducted into the club.

The club sent \$400 to the disaster relief fund in the Philippines for the volcano that destroyed so much. We worked through our contact club of Mabalacat to help in the relief effort.

At the December 18 meeting officers for fiscal year 1991-92 were elected. Chosen for office were Ted Weber -President, Jack Pettet -1st V.P., Alan Mannik -2nd V.P., Jack Underwood -Secretary, Mary Brinks -Treasurer, and Art Bolt, John VerBeek, Jim Dissette, and Doug Leins as Directors.

On December 22 the bell ringing for the Salvation Army brought in well over \$1,000.

Another banner from another country was presented to the club on February 26 by member John Keckler after his visit to Cozumel Island, Mexico.

The club celebrated its 35th anniversary on March 5. Several members again helped out at the annual St. Patrick's Day Smorgasbord fund raiser for the South Haven Education Foundation.

On May 16 the club attended the Kalamazoo Civic Theater's presentation of "A Chorus Line." This event was preceded by dinner at Chaps On Main. The highlight of this Spouse's Night meeting was the presentation of the Paul Harris Fellow Award to Art Bolt.

On May 21 the club changed its location for meetings to G. J. Platters Restaurant.

On June 25 the gavel changed hands and was turned over to incoming President Ted Weber from Doug Leins.

The Blueberry Festival Pancake Breakfast was served on July 21 under the "big top tent" at the Yacht Club property. Once again the weather was very poor with lots of rain. Servers and customers stood under umbrellas in the serving line. Still, in all, over 500 patrons were served.

In August a more successful breakfast was served at the South Haven Community Airport. For the Fly-In 1,245 patrons were served breakfast by the club.

Still a 3rd breakfast was served for the Crafts Fair at Stanley Johnston Park on September 1. A total of 400 patrons were served at this event.

PDG Bob Winkel was named as Chairman of the Governor's Legislative Advisory Committee and a member of The Rotary Foundation Committee on Foundation Information.

District Governor Karl Sandelin visited the club on September 24. Governor Karl described the District's program to assist the small country of Belize, especially in the field of education.

The club again agreed to award a \$500 scholarship to Miss South Haven for the annual pageant.

State Representative Paul Hillegonds addressed the club on November 12 and explained the differences between the tax-reform plans that are being considered in Lansing.

U. S. Congressman Fred Upton was our speaker on December 3. As always, Fred brought the club up to date on the happenings in Washington and pulled no punches in doing so. Congressman Fred is a good friend of our South Haven club and his visits are always enjoyed.

A Spouse's Night was held on December 10 at the Chart Room of Friendship Inn. A good turnout of members and guests were treated to some excellent Barbershop Harmony by a quartet known as "The Class Reunion." At the meeting the club presented The Paul Harris Fellow Award to long time community leader Ray Holden. Ray has served the City and its environs for many years in many capacities.

At the December 17 meeting announcement was made that PDG Bob Winkel has been selected by the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation to receive The Rotary Foundation Citation For Meritorious Service. It was fitting that at the same meeting the club recognized the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Bob and his wife Trudy. Trudy, too has served long and hard in the service of Rotary.

Also at the December 17 meeting the annual election of officers for the following fiscal year was held. Elected to office were Jack Pettet as President, Alan Mannik as 1st V.P., Larry Wittkop as 2nd V.P., Wib Lynam as Secretary, Mary Brinks as Treasurer, and Ted Weber, Art Bolt, Jim Dissette, and John VerBeek as Directors.

Bell ringing for the Salvation Army was held on December 21 with over \$1,000 being collected.

Our first speaker of 1992 was State Representative James "Mick" Middaugh. Once again Mick brought the club up to date on legislative happenings in Lansing.

On February 11 the club was honored by a second visit by District Governor Karl Sandelin who came to tell us of the District's project for Belize. Governor Karl and 36 other members of District 6360 journeyed to Belize where they distributed 28 tons of goods donated by members and friends of District 6360. Governor Karl stated that another shipment is being prepared. He also previewed the upcoming District Conference which will be held in Kalamazoo.

March 17 saw the St. Patrick's Day Smorgasbord held by the South Haven Education Foundation declared as our official meeting for the week with many of our Rotarians participating in the serving of this event.

A second Spouse's Night was held on April 28 at the Chart Room at Friendship Inn. The Club enjoyed hearing about and eating Black Angus Steaks prepared to perfection.

A new event was inaugurated this year. A Harbor Fest was held at which our club served a pancake breakfast on June 21. This festival opened and dedicated the new River Front Park and Transient Marina with its Riverfront Pavilion. The festival is scheduled to become an annual affair.

At the June 30 meeting Ted Weber thanked all members for their support during his year as President and turned the gavel over to incoming President Jack Pettet.

On July 7 President Jack began his year as President by requesting that we close each meeting by reciting together "The Four Way Test." Jack gave credit to the Allegan Club, where he had attended recently, for this idea. It should be noted that the Allegan Club was sponsoring club for the South Haven Club when our club was organized back in 1956.

The club was honored by the official visit of District Governor Dick Rosenfeld and District Governor Nominee Bob Henning at the July 28 meeting. In addressing the club Governor Dick stressed that Rotary is a SERVICE ORGANIZATION and he cited many of the ongoing service projects of the District and of the club. Gov. Dick used the R. I. Theme for the year, "Real Happiness Is Helping Others" to point out the joys of being a service group. To commemorate the visit Pres. Pettet announced that a check in the amount of \$50.00 was being presented to the local Habitat For Humanity in the name of Dick Rosenfeld.

Early in the year 2 new grills and a new table were purchased to add to our equipment and were put to work at our pancake breakfasts for the Blueberry Festival on August 9 and the Fly-In at the airport on August 16.

In September members attired in work togs helped inland-scaping a new house for Habitat For Humanity in lieu of a program at the meeting.

Also in September the club donated \$250.00 to assist the victims of the devastating hurricane in Homestead, Florida.

Congressman Fred Upton spoke to the club on September 29 and reviewed the work of the U.S. House of Representatives. Fred still maintains his perfect attendance and voting record in the House and had to make special arrangements for an early flight back to Washington in order to address our club.

October 21 saw 3 members of our club attend the District 6360 Foundation Meeting in Portage. The speaker at the meeting was Past Rotary International President Dr. Carlos Consecro. Dr. Consecro was also the leader of the R. I. Polio Plus Program and the district was honored to have such a distinguished speaker. The District's Caravan to Belize was also in attendance at this meeting and displayed the 5 ambulances, 1 fire truck,

and 7 school busses that they would drive to, and present to Belize.

On October 25, 24 members and guests attended the Victor Borge performance at Miller Auditorium in Kalamazoo.

A Spouse's Night was held on December 15 and the members and guests enjoyed a sampling of the annual high school Madrigal Dinner when eleven members of the high school choir, recently returned from a trip to Vienna, Austria, performed numbers from the dinner in their Madrigal costumes.

The annual bell ringing for the Salvation Army was done on December 19 and a total of over \$1,100 was collected.

The club was saddened in December by the death of longtime former member and Past President Al Sankofski. Officers were elected for the 1993-94 fiscal year at the December 22 meeting. Alan Mannik was elected to the office of President, Larry Wittkop as 1st V. P., Bob Vincent as 2nd V.P., Wib Lynam as Secretary, Mary Brinks as Treasurer, and Art Bolt, Al Hawkins, and Belinda Sherman were elected to the Board.

State Representative James "Mick" Middaugh was the speaker at the December 22 meeting. Mick reviewed the happenings in the legislature for us and previewed things to come. Mick still maintains his perfect attendance record in Lansing.

On February 2 the club was given a tour of the new ten million dollar Baseline Middle School. Not only was a beautiful new building shown to us but we also learned about many new concepts in education.

District Governor Dick Rosenfeld paid the club a second visit on March 3 to issue an invitation to members to attend the District 6360 Conference in Jackson in May.

At the April 6 Board Meeting the Board agreed to enter into the Belizerve Program by adopting a school in Belize.

At the April 20 meeting President Jack Pettet presented a check in the amount of \$4,500.00 to South Haven Community Hospital as our contribution to the hospital building fund. Our contribution was to be used towards the purchase of furniture for the waiting room at the hospital.

At a Spouse's Night meeting at The North Beach Inn on May 11 Paul Harris Awards were made to Mike and Vincent DeGrandchamp in recognition of their many contributions to the community. The program for this meeting was presented by the High School Jazz Band.

May 18 the club toured Palisades Nuclear Power Plant to learn about and see first hand the dry cask storage of spent nuclear fuel. Consumers Power Public Relations Director for the plant, Mark Savage, explained the complicated program to us and we were shown the storage site at the plant.

A tour of The South Haven Daily Tribune's new building was made on May 25 with new member Michael Eastman as our tour guide.

In May the club agreed to the hosting of a Rotary Exchange Student for the coming school year. Non-club members Wendy and Dave Halperin have volunteered to be the Host Family for at least the first half of the school year for a young man from France.

On June 20 over 700 customers were served pancake breakfast at the second annual Harbor Fest.

At the meeting of the club on June 29 the gavel was passed from Jack Pettet to Alan Mannik.

At the first meeting of fiscal year 1993-94 members Jack Pettet and Larry Wittkop accepted appointment as Co-chairmen for an Adopt a School program for the District's Belize project.

We were pleased to be visited by District Governor Bob Henning and Dist. Gov. Elect Clyde Carnegie at our July 27 meeting. Governor Bob addressed the club and presented the Past President's pin to Jack Pettet. Gov. Bob also stated his appreciation to PDG Bob Winkel for serving on the Governor's staff this year and for serving as head of the District Scholarship Committee. Our support of the Belize Project was noted and an invitation to join the Belize Caravan was given. As Gov. Bob says "to get to Belize you just drive through Mexico and turn left."

On Sunday August 15 the Annual Fly-In Breakfast was served at the South Haven Community Airport with between 1,250 and 1,300 breakfasts being served. A highlight of this Fly-In was the sky diving of member Mary Brinks who thrilled the crowd and made a perfect landing right in front of the hangar. Later in the year Mary presented a program to the club telling of her free fall from 10,000 feet to 5,000 feet and then the floating down on the parachute the rest of the way. This program was illustrated by video tape made from a camera strapped to the back of one of the sky divers.

We also attempted to hold a benefit pancake breakfast for the Maritime Museum. Twice we were prepared and ready and twice we were completely rained out. Both July 18 and August 29 proved to be washouts of the benefit breakfast for the Museum.

On August 31 the club invited the local Kiwanis Club to join us for our meeting to hear the address of our distinguished speaker Congressman Fred Upton. The Chart Room at Friendship Inn was filled with the members of the two clubs along with other guests and Congressman Fred provided much information concerning the happenings in Washington.

Our Rotary Exchange Student, Alban Vizier from Lyons, France attended our meeting of September 7 and brought along some fine pictures and brochures from his

home town. He shared some thoughts with us and presented Pres. Alan Mannik with a fine tee shirt from France.

On October 12 the club meeting was spent in boxing supplies for shipment to Belize. Books and other school supplies had been gathered at Covert School and following our dinner at Platters the members traveled to Covert to spend time in packing these supplies in banana boxes for shipment to Belize. The supplies were transferred to Sherman's barn until the 29th when they were reloaded and taken to Three Rivers as the assembly point for final loading for Belize. The District's Belize Project was the subject of a fine article in the Rotarian.

On December 21 the Annual Christmas Spouses Night was held. At the dinner a presentation of The Paul Harris Fellow Award was made to a very surprised Wib Lynam. President Alan Mannik made the presentation. The program for the evening featured an address by Rev. Jeffrey Dick of the Congregational Church and songs by Tracey Davis.

On December 28 the club was saddened by the death of Charter Member and PDG Jim Pence. Jim was one of the prime movers in getting the South Haven Rotary Club organized and chartered. He had been District Governor of District 225 in Greencastle, Indiana before coming to South Haven and his continuing interest in Rotary helped him to get the Rotary movement going in South Haven. Jim served as the first secretary of our club and was its first Editorian.

Also on December 28, officers for the 1994-95 fiscal year were elected. The slate offered by the nominating committee were elected as follows: President - Larry Wittkop, 1st Vice Pres. - Bob Vincent, 2nd Vice Pres. - Tom Petersen, Secretary - Wib Lynam, Treasurer - Mary Brinks, and Board Members Art Bolt, Al Hawkins, and Belinda Sherman.

On January 15 the club once again sponsored the Rotary Invitational Swim Meet at L. C. Mohr pool.

January 18th meeting was cancelled due to a "white out" snow storm. This was thought to be a first cancellation of a meeting in our club due to weather conditions.

State Senator William Van Regenmorter spoke to the club on January 25 explaining a very complicated school finance reform package that was being considered by the State Legislature.

On February 22 another State Legislator honored our club as our speaker. Representative James "Mick" Middaugh brought us further information regarding the ballot proposals for the school finance reform program being considered.

On Sunday, March 6, the caravan to Belize set out from Kalamazoo. Our club was very proud to have in the caravan a school bus which was purchased by the club and reconditioned by club members to be a part of the caravan and to be presented to a school in Belize. On the bus were club members Art Bolt, Mary Brinks, John Ver Beek, and

Don and Judy Downing. The caravan members returned home by plane 2 weeks later and reported on the thrills of having made the caravan.

A return visit to the club was made by District Governor Bob Henning on April 26 to bring us a special invitation to the District Conference in Coldwater on May 6 and 7. Gov. Bob entertained the club with a few magic tricks in keeping with the theme of the conference "The Magic of Rotary."

At the District Conference our club was represented by several members and PDG Bob Winkel was presented with The Distinguished Service Award of The Rotary Foundation. This award is only presented to about 50 Rotarians throughout the world and our club is honored to have one of those recipients. The plaque did not arrive in time for the conference and was presented to Bob during the visit of the District Governor in July.

During the month of May two programs were devoted to the trip of the Caravan to Belize. Mary Brinks and Art Bolt gave reports to the club and on May 17 District Governor Nominee for 1995-96, Len Stuttman, was present to show a film of the caravan's trip.

On June 19 the club served a pancake breakfast in conjunction with the Annual Harbor Fest of the City. Between 750 and 800 were served at the event.

At the June 28 meeting President Alan Mannik turned the gavel over to incoming President Larry Wittkop. A standing ovation was given to President Alan to thank him for his services.

Fiscal year 1994-95 started off with the visit of District Governor Clyde Carnegie, District Governor Nominee Len Stuttman, and the District Governor's Representative for Group 9, Denny Harold. Governor Clyde presented Alan Mannik with the Past President's pin. The Governor then presented PDG Bob Winkel with the Distinguished Service Award of the Rotary Foundation. This award was only given to 50 Rotarians throughout the world so it is a distinct honor to have PDG Bob recipient of this prestigious award.

The club contributed the amount of \$500 to Habitat For Humanity to assist them in their building of a home for a local family.

President Larry Wittkop announced that during this year all members would be asked to give a brief biographical sketch of themselves at the weekly meetings, one member per week. To show leadership Larry started off the project by giving his own biographical sketch at the July 19 meeting.

A check for \$3,000 was presented to The Michigan Maritime Museum, the proceeds from a successful pancake breakfast which was held on July 3.

On August 12 a special meeting was held at the Legend Theater at Sleepy Hollow. Dinner and a theater presentation was enjoyed by several of the members and their

spouses.

Pancake breakfasts were served for the Blueberry Festival and for the Annual Fly-In at the airport on August 14 and on August 21.

An outstanding program was presented to the club on September 20. Nationally known and respected Craig MacFarlane came to our meeting and presented a very inspirational program about overcoming physical handicaps. This wonderful young man was blinded in an accident when only 2 1/2 years old and succeeded in overcoming this handicap by becoming a super-athlete in many sports including golf, horseback riding, waterskiing, wrestling, running, and skiing. His story was spellbinding and showed how perseverance and tremendous effort can overcome any difficulty, even blindness. His achievements were recognized by President George Bush and by such athletic greats as Walter Payton and Gil Patrick.

At our October 25 meeting State Representative Paul Hillegonds and State Senator Bill Van Regenmorter were on hand to present a Certificate of Tribute to member Jack Pettet for his community service as a teacher, counselor, and advisor to students for the past 30 years.

The Christmas Spouses Night was held at The Three Pelicans Restaurant on December 13 and was well attended. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Paul Harris Fellow Awards to members John VerBeek and Alfred Hawkins. The program for the evening was presented by the High School Chorale who presented us with a mini-version of their annual Madrigal Dinner performance.

At the December 27 meeting the nominating committee presented the slate of officers for the 1995-96 fiscal year. Motion was made and carried that a unanimous ballot be cast for Robert Vincent, President - Tom Petersen, 1st Vice President - Mary Brinks, 2nd Vice President - Wib Lynam, Secretary - Ron Overhiser, Treasurer - and Art Bolt, Al Hawkins, Alan Mannik, and Past President Larry Wittkop as Directors.

Once again a \$500.00 scholarship was authorized for the new Miss South Haven.

Certificates of award were presented to deserving students at Covert High School and those students were invited to attend our meeting on January 24. A mentoring program was also begun at Covert Schools with some of our members serving as mentors to Covert students.

A Spouses Night was held on Valentine's Day, February 14. It was agreed that this is an event that should be recognized by the club and should be made an annual event.

At the District 6360 Conference held in Lansing in May the World Service Award was presented to PDG Bob Winkel. Our club was also presented with the R. I. Presidential Citation Award at the Conference.

At the June 27 meeting a Distinguished Service Award was presented by our club

to retiring South Haven Township Supervisor Raymond Gunterberg. Ray served his community long and well and his retirement deserved recognition.

Also at this meeting outgoing Club President Larry Wittkop thanked the members for their support during his year as President and turned the gavel over to incoming President Bob Vincent.

On Saturday and Sunday July 1 and 2 the club served pancake breakfasts during the craft fair in conjunction with the Michigan Maritime Museum and a total of about 1600 customers were served.

There was no meeting of the club on Tuesday July 4 due to the National Holiday so the first meeting of the new fiscal year was held on July 11.

A foursome from the club attended the District Golf Tournament at Three Rivers and captured fourth place out of about 30 teams entered. The foursome consisted of Doug Leins, Alan Mannik, Ted Weber, and Larry Wittkop.

On Sunday August 20 a pancake breakfast was served for the Annual Fly-In at South Haven Community Airport and more than 900 people were served. It was a cloudy and rainy day so many of the activities of the Fly-In couldn't take place but the breakfast was well attended.

The club was pleased to host a Rotary Exchange Student this year. Mauricio Cruz from Brazil came to South Haven and was a guest of Mary and Denny Brinks. Mauricio joined right in with club activities and helped out at pancake breakfasts and proved to be a fine representative of his country as he took part in school and community activities throughout the school year.

District Governor Len Stuttmann was scheduled to visit the club on August 29 but for some reason missed the date and had to reschedule his visit. His visit was rescheduled for October 24 at which time Governor Len did come and gave a fine presentation to the club. Governor Len recognized members of our club that have played important parts in Rotary. He pointed out that we have two Past District Governors in Bob Winkel and Ivan Stein, he recognized the members of the club that made the recent trip to Belize with the District to present a school bus to that far off land and he particularly pointed out that our Honorary Member Bob Brickman, who is an Active Member of the Palatine, Illinois Club, although he attends our club regularly and participates in our activities, will soon be named as a Director of Rotary International. Governor Len outlined his hopes and plans for his year in office.

On September 3 the club served a pancake breakfast at the Maritime Museum during the Annual Art Fair and a total of 707 patrons were served. As a result of the Craft Fair and the Art Fair breakfasts that we served a check was presented to the museum in the amount of \$1,600.00. This represented 1/2 of the net proceeds of the breakfasts served there.

In September the club was presented with a Rotary Banner from tiny Norfolk Island in the South Pacific. Secretary Wib Lynam had served as the only American service man on the island during WWII and recently established contact with the Rotary Club there and brought about an exchange of banners.

An unusual program was presented on September 26 by local businessman Al Rupert. Al owns and operates Clementine's Restaurant in South Haven and is in the process of building a new 18-hole golf course north of South Haven in the Casco Township area known as Hawkshead. The club was privileged to be given a preview of this new golf club which will be a big addition to the community.

On December 5 Art Bolt gave the club a report on his recent trip to Nicaragua in preparation for the upcoming project being undertaken by District 6360 along with Rotary International to provide Clean Water to this Third World Country and also to help in providing materials and manpower to clean up and fix up an orphanage in this little country.

The Annual Christmas Spouses Night was held at The Three Pelicans Restaurant on December 12. The program once more was given by the South Haven High School Chorale with a miniversion of their Madrigal Dinner presentation. A fine turnout of members and guests enjoyed the evening.

Election of Officers was held on December 19 and those chosen were as follows: Tom Petersen - President, Mary Brinks - Vice President (President Elect), Kevin Marken - 2nd Vice President, Ron Overhiser - Treasurer, Wib Lynam - Secretary, and Directors - Bob Vincent, Al Hawkins, Art Bolt, and Alan Mannik.

Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army brought in a total of \$1,300.00 on December 23.

At the January 26 meeting Art Bolt presented the club with a banner from the club at Managua, Nicaragua. Art had made several trips to Nicaragua already and will be making several more to handle the Clean Water Project sponsored by R.I. and District 6360.

February 13 was the date of the Annual Valentine Spouses Night. At this dinner Mary Brinks was called upon to give a report on the orphanage project in Nicaragua. Mary and Art Bolt had just returned from their trip. Mary gave a report of wonderful work having been done in restoring the orphanage and of how much the work was appreciated. Also at this Spouses Night the program was provided by singer Pamela Chappell. Pam is a former South Havenite who has recently released a popular recording of her singing. Members were pleased to have Pam as the entertainer for the evening. Pam sang and played guitar on several popular songs along with some of her own compositions.

On February 27 a follow-up program on Nicaragua was presented by Art Bolt. Art described the work that was progressing in well drilling to provide clean fresh water

for the little country. Art had made several trips already to the site and will be making more as time goes on.

On March 5 the club celebrated the 40th anniversary of being chartered in Rotary. A commemorative cake was provided for the occasion and was served as the dessert for the dinner. A further celebration was observed as the official date that Honorary Member Bob Brickman received notification of his nomination to the Rotary International Board of Directors. Our club felt deeply honored to have Bob, as such a regular attendee, to be chosen for this distinguished post.

At this same meeting the club was informed that the Board had authorized the contribution of \$1,000.00 to be given towards the cost of a new scoreboard at Ratcliffe Field in honor of former coach Craig Leins who recently passed away.

A change in ownership of our meeting place was made at the end of February but no change in our status was anticipated. The new owners expressed the desire that we continue in our meeting at the facility.

On Saturday, March 23, Mary Brinks served as hostess for 9 of the Rotary Exchange Students that are attending schools in the area this year. Mary reported that all students seemed to enjoy visiting the city and seeing our beaches and other points of interest.

During the month of April our program chairman, Jim Davis, made plans that our club members learn more about local industry so he had his program committee arrange for us to hear from representatives of local industries telling us about their companies and the products they manufacture and/or sell. During the month we learned about Wyckoff Chemical Co., Systems Components, Do-It Corporation, Quality 4 tool and Die, and Lovejoy Flexible Couplings. These 5 local industries provided us with much information about their industries and their products and the club members learned much about South Haven industrial plants. A few weeks later we were treated to a tour of the new Pullman Industries Plant on Stieve Drive where we saw and heard much about essential parts for the automobile industry.

Four of our members attended the District Assembly at Albion in April and learned much about the workings of the District.

On May 21 the club was privileged to hear from Tami Martinez from Andrews University who was a member of the outbound 5 member team that visited Finland early in the year. Tami gave us much insight into this small country with her words and with the use of slides. It is hoped that the inbound team from Finland, that will be visiting our district's area, will include South Haven in their travels.

Mary Brinks was selected to be the Youth Exchange Outbound Chairperson for District 6360 for the upcoming year and at our June 4 meeting Mary presented us with a program telling us how the Youth Exchange Program works.

On June 18 we were honored to have a speaker from South Africa, Brian Gold, who stopped by for a visit with Bob and Gail Brickman en route to the R. I. Convention in Calgary. Brian provided us with information on present day South Africa and brought back memories of our having sponsored a Youth Exchange Student to South Africa back in 1984.

President Bob Vincent was unable to attend his last meeting as President so President-Elect Tom Petersen presided in his stead and took over the gavel a week early.

The first meeting of fiscal 1996-97 was a picnic for members and their families and was held at the new shelter house at the South Beach. It was a cold and windy night but 30 hearty souls were in attendance. At this meeting the club was pleased to present the Paul Harris Fellow Award to club member Mary Brinks in recognition of her Service to the club and to Rotary. The club was also honored to welcome home from the International Convention in Calgary, Canada newly elected member of the R.I. Board of Directors, Bob Brickman. Bob is a member of the Palatine, Illinois Rotary Club but attends our meetings regularly and has been made an honorary member of our club.

July 7 saw the club serving its first pancake breakfast of the season and 750 customers were served. The breakfast was held at the Maritime Museum.

At the July 9 club meeting the club bid farewell to our Rotary Exchange Student from Brazil, Mauricio Cruz. This fine young man accepted a banner from our club to take back to his home club in Brazil.

District Governor Jim Alden along with his wife Marguerite and Governor's Rep. Dave Moss attended our July 16 meeting. Gov. Jim gave recognition to PDG Bob Winkel and recognized him as the senior active PDG in District 6360. The Governor also gave recognition to Mary Brinks and Art Bolt for their service on the Belize and the Nicaragua projects. The Rotary Theme for the year "Build The Future With Action and Vision" was prominently displayed on a banner stretched across the front of the room for this meeting.

At the July 30 meeting President Tom presented the Past President's Pin to Bob Vincent and thanked him for his service to the club. Bob had been away on business and had not been available to be given his pin and our thanks earlier.

On Sunday August 11 we served the Annual Fly-In pancake breakfast to a record breaking 1,470 customers. This was our 25th time to serve at this event and it was truly a memorable one.

The club participated in the building of another Habitat For Humanity house by providing the material and the labor to insulate the new home.

On September 23 we were honored to have as our speaker General Counsel for Rotary International, Mark Garavaglia. Mark was introduced to us by R. I. Director-Elect Bob Brickman. The meeting was also attended by Dist. Gov.-Elect Dave Groner and Governor Alden's Representative, Tom Dalton.

At the October 22 meeting our speaker was State Representative The Honorable James "Mick" Middaugh. Mick brought us up to date on the goings on in Lansing and told of upcoming legislation. We were honored to have Mick as our speaker again.

Dawn Grove of The City Parks Department, Mary Brinks, and Art Bolt were presented with Distinguished Service Awards by the club at the October 29 meeting. Dawn started her service with the City as a volunteer worker and was later hired to work full time in beautifying the City Parks. Art and Mary were recognized for their ongoing work in Nicaragua.

The club was truly saddened by the death of Charter Member, Past President, and Past District Governor Ivan Stein in early November. Ivan set an example for all members of the club that is not likely to be equaled. He will be sadly missed by the club, the district, and R. I.

A joint meeting and Spouse's Night was held with the Kiwanis Club on Monday December 9. This was the first meeting the 2 clubs had shared for quite some time and it is planned to be made an Annual Event.

The election of officers for fiscal year 1997-98 was held at the December 17 meeting. Elected to office were Mary Brinks as President, Kevin Marken as Pres.-Elect (1st V.P.), Art Bolt as 2nd Vice Pres., Wib Lynam as Secretary, Ron Overhiser as Treasurer, and Al Hawkins, Bob Copping, Ken Johnson, and Tom Petersen as Directors.

State Senator William Van Regenmorter came to speak to the club on January 21, 1997 and told us of his work with the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Early in February we were saddened by the death of another long time member, Ed Stieve. Ed was always ready, willing, and able to provide cheerful, friendly, and helpful service whenever and wherever needed.

PDG Bob Winkel was given another Rotary Task when he was declared a member of the Nominating Committee to nominate a Director from Zone 28 to be elected at the 1998 Convention of R. I.

Bell ringing for The Salvation Army brought in a record amount of over \$1,500 this past December.

Valentine's Day Spouse's Night was held on February 11 at Phoenix Inn. The group was treated to a program on flower arranging given by Karen Parrish from The Flower Peddler.

The club assisted in "Super Shot Saturday" at South Haven Community Hospital where some 90 kids were brought up to date on their immunization. This was 1 of 9 sites in 3 counties of S. W. Michigan where a total of over 1,000 kids were given their shots.

The club noted the passing of PDG John Hungerford from Kalamazoo in April. John was a well known and well liked Rotarian and an especially good friend of our club.

At the start of May the club was again mourning, this time for long time member, Past President, and Paul Harris Fellow Ed Twitchell. This has been a year of loss for our club and Ed Twitchell certainly will be missed by all who knew him. His service to the club, to Van Buren County as a past Supervisor, and to the entire community will long be remembered.

The club earned the Rotary Presidential Citation again this year and it was received at the District Conference.

The fiscal year ended with President Tom passing the gavel to incoming President Mary Brinks. Tom was given a rousing round of applause in thanks for his service this past year.

At the July 1 meeting President Mary presented her goals for the year. Mary also paid tribute to new Rotary International Director Bob Brickman, our honorary member. Bob is a member of the Palatine, Illinois Club but maintains a regular attendance at our club having established residence here. We are honored to have Bob in our club and we were pleased to have him give us a direct report of the R. I. Convention which was held in Glasgow, Scotland.

Our pancake breakfast held in conjunction with the Art Fair was a rousing success. We served a little over 1,000 at this breakfast.

34 people attended our Annual Picnic at the South Beach shelter house on July 15. The cast from the local production of "The Music Man" provided our entertainment for the evening.

At the July 22 meeting we were visited by Rotarian Gerhardt Bruckner from Vienna, Austria. Gerhardt presented us with a Rotary banner from the Wien Sud Club of Austria and took one of our banners back with him.

August 5 was a special night highlighted by a visit from District Governor Dave Groner and the presentation of awards to 3 Paul Harris Fellows. The 3 recipients of the awards were Elmer Hartgerink of Wyckoff Chemical, members Ed Stieve, and Don Woodhams. The award to Ed Stieve was presented post-humously to Ed's widow, Eleanor. The awards were presented by District Governor Dave. At this same meeting new member Craig Massey was inducted into the club by PDG Bob Winkel.

The Annual Fly-In Breakfast was served at the airport on August 10. With cloudy and overcast weather the activities at the airport were heavily curtailed but even so we served 1,070 breakfasts.

Exchange student Christiano Moraes from Brazil was welcomed at the August 19 meeting. Christiano will be spending this school year with host parents Roman and Mary

Rydecki under the sponsorship of our club.

Once again our club helped out Habitat For Humanity to provide another new home in the city. We again accepted the responsibility of providing and installing the insulation in the new home and this job was completed in late August and early September.

The week-end of August 30 and 31 saw the serving of pancake breakfasts in conjunction with the Annual Craft Fair. A total of about 1,200 customers were served during the week-end. District Governor Dave Groner and wife Barbara were on hand to assist in the serving.

The club sponsored 3 representatives to the Life Leadership Conference in Hastings. The 3 were Christiano Moraes, our Exchange Student from Brazil, Christine DeHaven and Cindy Rohrig. A report was given by the 2 young ladies at our October 7 meeting.

During the week-end starting Friday October 24 our club members were engaged in hosting 12 guests from Russia. A buffet dinner was served on Friday night at the Yacht Club for the visiting Russians, local dignitaries, host families, and club members. On Saturday tours and sightseeing filled the day with most attending the Casco Harvest Dinner in the evening. On Sunday farewells were exchanged with the Russian guests and they departed during a semi blizzard.

Pastor Bob Linstrom from the First English Lutheran Church provided our Thanksgiving Message at the meeting of November 18.

On December 4 we held a joint meeting with the local Kiwanis Club for the Annual Christmas Party. A total of 64 people were in attendance at the Yacht Club for the festivities. Entertainment was provided by the L. C. Mohr High School Chorale under the direction of Cole Tyrrell. The group previewed their upcoming Madrigal Dinner and were in full costume. Also at the dinner our club collected \$150 and some personal care items for We Care, Inc.

District Governor Dave Groner paid his official visit to the club on December 16. He had been scheduled for an earlier date but circumstances forced him to change to this date. Unfortunately this date coincided with South Haven Schools Music Collage which kept many members from attending the meeting. Governor Dave gave our club much credit for the International Service we have helped with in Belize and in Nicaragua.

Once again the club participated in Bell Ringing for The Salvation Army and our collections amounted to \$1,110.00.

Election of Officers was held on December 30 with 3 Past Presidents comprising the nominating committee. Their choices of nominees met the approval of the members in attendance and the following were elected to serve as officers for fiscal 1998-99:
President - Art Bolt, First V. P. and Pres.-Elect -Ken Johnson, Second V. P. Phil Ranck,

Secretary - Wib Lynam, Treasurer - Ron Overhiser, and Directors Al Hawkins, Bob Copping, Tom Fleming, and Mary Brinks.

This year's Board of Directors suddenly found itself short by 2 members due to the moving away of Kevin Marken and the resignation of Tom Petersen. To fill the vacancies Pres. Mary appointed Tom Fleming and Phil Ranck. The appointments were approved by the club in business session.

We were saddened by the death of long time member Claude Mann. Claude was a Paul Harris Fellow and a Past President of the club and will be greatly missed.

In February we again wished "God-Speed" to Pres. Mary and Pres.-Elect Art as they again winged their way to Nicaragua along with other members of District 6360.

A "Spouses Night" was scheduled for Tuesday March 10 to be recognized as the Birthday Party for the club. Our club was chartered on March 6, 1956 so this was to be our 42nd Anniversary. Sad to say the Weatherman turned against us and it was decided that it was too risky to hold the dinner due to a raging blizzard. Members were advised that the Anniversary Party was postponed until a later date. The new date turned out to be April 14 and the party was held at The Lakeside Entertainment Center. At that meeting District Governor Dave Groner was on hand and made the announcement that Honorary Club Member Bob Brickman has been appointed as R. I. Vice President for 1998-99. Bob was in attendance and was given a standing ovation by the assembled gathering. Also at this meeting Governor Dave presented a Paul Harris Fellow Award to long time member Judge David Grier. The address of the evening was given by The Honorable James "Mick" Middaugh, State Representative for our Congressional District.

President Mary Brinks made another trip to Nicaragua the end of March and took with her 3 high school students. The 3 were Lillie Klug, Faith Fickett, and Julie Schewe. Upon their return the 3 girls came to our meeting of April 7 and provided our program.

We changed meeting places again on April 28. We were suddenly given notice that C.T.'s Restaurant would be closed for remodeling and we would have to relocate, at least until they were ready to reopen. Arrangements were made and we moved our meetings to Lakeside Entertainment Center.

On June 2, our exchange student Christiano Moraes was our speaker of the evening. Christiano received his diploma as a member of the graduating class from L. C. Mohr High School this past Sunday. He thanked us for our sponsorship and now will be returning home to Brazil.

District 6360 held its District Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana in conjunction with the R. I. Convention in that city. Our club was once again presented with the Presidential Citation, the club was presented with a plaque of appreciation from the District Youth Exchange, and President Mary Brinks was honored with her second Paul Harris Fellow Award by District 6360. At the R. I. Convention our Honorary Member Bob Brickman was officially proclaimed R. I. Vice President for the coming fiscal year.

On Tuesday June 30 the fiscal year came to a close and with it the gavel passed from outgoing President Mary Brinks to our new President Art Bolt. Mary was given a standing ovation and round of applause for a very eventful and very successful Rotary Year.

Art Bolt got his year off to a fine start on July 7, 1998 with our meeting being held at the Warren Senior Center and with our U. S. Congressman Fred Upton as our speaker of the evening. Many guests including retiring State Representative Mick Middaugh and his lovely wife Mary Ann, who will be running for the office being vacated by her husband, were on hand to hear Congressman Fred's report on the activities in Washington.

The following week we were privileged to have R. I. Vice President Bob Brickman describe for us the inner workings of the R. I. Board of Directors at the International Board Meetings. It is a distinct honor to have the R. I. Vice President as our honorary member.

South Haven was visited by 8 beautiful Tall Ships for a period of 4 days the latter part of July. Our club was called upon to provide pancake breakfasts for the community on 3 of the 4 days, July 25, 26, and 27. We were helped by several PDG's from our District and a few other visiting Rotarians. It is estimated that more than 200,000 people visited South Haven during the visit of the Tall Ships and the entire program was carried off in grand style.

District Governor C. Donavon Carl came to South Haven to meet with the Board Members at Pres. Art Bolt's home on Monroe Boulevard on Monday August 3. Governor Carl tried a new tactic this year by having business meetings with the Boards of the various clubs prior to having his regular round of club visits.

The Annual Fly-In at the South Haven Airport was held on Sunday August 9 under less than favorable conditions. The weather was rainy and cloudy so that very few airplanes were able to visit the airport and most activities had to be curtailed. The breakfast went fairly well, however, and a total of about 1,200 patrons were served.

On Monday August 10, our club hosted the District 6360 Golf Outing at the Hawkshead course where several foursomes from all around the district gathered for a fine day of golf and a fine dinner following. One of two teams from Charlotte won the championship followed by the team from Benton Harbor Sunrise. Our own club sported two foursomes in the outing and a very good time was had by all.

Tuesday August 11 saw the club relocated once again. The meeting location was changed from Lakeside Entertainment Center to The Warren Senior Center at 540 Williams Street. The change provided us with plenty of room and quiet surroundings for our meetings. Arrangements were made with two catering services to alternate in providing the dinners for our meetings.

Labor Day Week-end saw the club again involved serving pancake breakfasts for the Annual Craft Fair. Breakfasts were served both Saturday and Sunday and a total of about 1,200 were served at our location in the parking lot of the Maritime Museum.

The club again participated in helping Habitat For Humanity by providing and installing the insulation in the new house built this year.

In October a very important resolution was presented for the club to vote on. PDG Bob Winkel presented a resolution submitting the name of Past President Mary Brinks as nominee for District 6360 Governor for the year 2001-2002. The resolution passed unanimously and was forwarded to the District Nominating Committee. The resolution was accepted and subsequently approved by the District and Mary was designated District Governor Nominee for the year 2001-2002.

Once again the club was well represented in Nicaragua. Pres. Art Bolt and DGN Mary Brinks traveled to this little country and surveyed the damage done by a recent hurricane. Much of the country was devastated and much of the work that has been done in the past will need repeating and much more needs to be done. R. I., the District, and our club will continue to support the efforts.

A new project was undertaken this year. The Methodist Church has established a program called The Open Door, which is project to provide dinners for unfortunate and needy people. Our club has been asked and has agreed to sponsor one or more of these dinners at the Methodist Church. Our first attempt at this was on December 15 at which approximately 40 guests were entertained and provided with a fine dinner and program. 23 of our members were also on hand and a very enjoyable evening was had.

The Annual Christmas Party held jointly with the local Kiwanis Club was held at The South Haven Yacht Club. At this gala affair our club was proud to present 2 Paul Harris Fellow Awards to deserving recipients. Rotarian Ralph Frost and Kiwanian Richard Barden were recognized for their Service to the community and were presented the awards by Pres. Art Bolt.

Bell ringing for the Salvation Army was again performed by club members on Saturday December 19 and once again a very satisfactory amount was accepted and forwarded to this worthy cause.

At the December 22 meeting the slate of officers for the 1999-2000 year was presented by the nominating committee. No further nominations were offered and the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the following: President, Ken Johnson, Pres. Elect (1st V.P.), Phil Ranck, 2nd V. P., Bob Copping, Treasurer, Mary Brinks, Secretary, Wib Lynam, and Directors Al Hawkins, Tom Fleming, Ron Overhiser, and Art Bolt.

A spouse's night Valentine Party was held at the Yacht Club on February 10. PDG Dave Groner and his wife Barbara presented the program telling the assemblage about their recent trip to India where they participated in the polio immunization of

thousands of children. It is now hoped and anticipated that the eradication of polio will be completed when Rotary celebrates its 100th Anniversary in the year 2005.

Pres. Art Bolt along with 14 others from District 6360 again visited and worked in Nicaragua helping hurricane victims and starting a building project to provide homes for many. A grant is being applied for from R. I. to build a Rotary Town in this impoverished country.

District Governor C. Donavon Carl along with several PDG's visited the club on March 2. The visit was twofold in that it was the official visit to the club by Governor Don Carl and his wife Linda, and it was also a congratulatory visit by the Governor and the PDG's to salute DGN Mary Brinks for her nomination to be our District Governor in 2001-2002.

The second of our "Open Door" meetings was held at the Methodist Church on March 30. Approximately 20 members and alike number of guests were on hand for the dinner.

At the May 25 meeting of the club we were pleased to make our 3rd Paul Harris Fellow Award of the year. A very surprised and very pleased City Manager, Alan Vanderberg was presented with the award in recognition of his Service to our City over the past 8 years.

The club was again awarded the R. I. Presidential Citation at the District Conference held in Jackson the week-end of June 4, 5, and 6. DGN Mary Brinks and PDG Bob Winkel were our official delegates at the conference.

On June 29 President Art Bolt presided over his last meeting as our President and presented the gavel to incoming President Ken Johnson. A revue of the past year and a prevue of the coming year was given by Art and Ken to conclude another Rotary Year.

The new year started with a "Bang", so to speak, with the serving of 972 breakfasts at the Maritime Museum for the annual Art Fair, on the 4th of July. We were helped at the breakfast by many of the wives of club members along with some very ambitious students from Covert High School. We also appreciated and were honored to have District Governor Bill Dimond and his wife, Mary Lee, serving with us.

On August 15 we served breakfast for the Fly-In and must have broken all records when we served a total of 1,508 happy people. It was a fine event with a reported 300 planes in and out of the airfield and over 300 people taking plane rides to view our fair city from the air.

On August 17 we were honored to have State Representative Mary Ann Middaugh as our speaker. Mary Ann, following husband Mick as our Representative, proved to us that she will be serving us well in the State Legislature. At this point she has been present for all 801 roll call votes since taking her office.

On August 24 the club visited the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum on South Bailey Avenue and we were greatly impressed to see all that has been done in improving and preserving this home of Dr. Bailey. Dr. Bailey was a world renowned botanist and horticulturist and South Haven is proud to have been his home.

September 4 and 5 saw the club serving breakfast again for the Labor Day Weekend Craft Fair at which a little over 1,100 breakfasts were served during the 2 day event. Again we had help from far and near as visitors to club members joined in and assisted us in handling the serving.

The club staged its own golf outing on September 14 with two foursomes challenging the course at Hawkshead. Following the golf game, the club meeting was held in the dining room at Hawkshead with an informal evening entertaining spouses and friends in this lovely setting.

The club sponsored four young men from Covert High School at the Life Leadership Program at Hastings this year and they reported back to us at our meeting of October 5. All four young men gave excellent accounts of their experiences and proved to us the value of our participation in this event. We also received comments from other clubs in the District about how well our participants had impressed others at the sessions.

October 9 saw club members hard at work insulating another house for Habitat of Humanity. Again we were assisted by the young men from Covert High School.

New City Manager, Kevin Anderson, was our speaker on November 2. We were happy to welcome Kevin to South Haven and to have him tell us of his background and his plans for the future of South Haven.

The club became actively involved in the "Read To Me" program by having several members serving as readers at Lincoln School. Each week members shared in the opportunity to visit Lincoln School first and second graders and read to them. The club had no problem in getting members to fill the posts and all who participated reported back that they enjoyed the program at least as much as the kids. The program started out with Rotarians reading to one first grade and one second grade class, then later another class invited our readers in and for the balance of the school year readers were provided for the program.

Our Thanksgiving message was brought to us by the Rev. Chuck Williams from the First Baptist Church and he brought to us a very inspirational program.

November 30 was the official visit of District Governor Bill Dimond to our club. Bill had visited us before but this was the date of his official visit and he brought to us much information and encouragement. Bill recognized our club for our participation in the Life Leadership Program and was particularly pleased by our "Read To Me" activities. Bill was very instrumental in getting the "Read To Me" program started in our District and especially in Kalamazoo and he encourages us to continue in the program.

On December 9 the annual Joint Christmas Party with Kiwanis was held at Tello's Restaurant and was attended by a total of 67 Rotarians and Kiwanians and spouses. It was an evening of visitation between the 2 clubs and their spouses. An evening of congeniality and friendship was enjoyed by all present.

Once again much time and thought was put into how to attract more members into the club. President Ken Johnson passed out a letter to all members urging consideration as to how best to address the situation. Consideration was again given to the idea of changing to a breakfast meeting rather than an evening dinner meeting and a club assembly was held to discuss the pros and cons of making a change. A vote was taken and once again the outcome was about 50/50 as to which would be better.

On December 18 we again served as bell ringers for the Salvation Army and another successful project was accomplished.

On December 21 the club again served the Open Door Dinner at the Methodist Church which was attended by about 60 guests. A joyous evening was spent in entertaining the folks who appreciate having an evening together with a fine dinner.

December 28 was our club assembly and the election of officers for fiscal year 2000 - 2001. The nominating committee presented the following slate to the membership: For President- Phil Ranck, 1st V. P. (Pres. Elect) - Steve Pannill, 2nd V.P. - Bob Stickland, Secretary - Art Stieve, Treasurer not filled as yet, and Directors - Tom Fleming, Al Hawkins, Chuck Stein, and Ken Johnson. There were no other nominations made from the floor and the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the above named.

The year 2000 came without any disasters taking place and we entered into a new century looking forward to further SERVICE as a thriving Rotary Club.

At the first meeting of the new year the nominating committee reported that it had succeeded in completing its job by placing the name of Jim Davis in nomination to be our new Treasurer. No further names were offered and again the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Jim Davis as Treasurer.

At our February 1 meeting Art Bolt gave us an update report on the progress that has been made on the Nicaragua project in which our club and the district have been actively involved. District Governor Bill Dimond was also on hand to report to us the progress being made to activate the Grant from the Rotary Foundation in the amount of \$449,000.00 which has been allotted for building of houses in Nicaragua. Art Bolt reported that 50 - 75 volunteers from our district have participated in the Nicaragua project over the past 5 years and that 15 to 20 trips have been made to Nicaragua by these volunteers. Our club is very proud to be a part of the project and recognizes the efforts of Art Bolt and Mary Brinks in particular for their many trips and many efforts on our behalf. On February 29 another of the world wide projects of ROTARY was emphasized when PDG Dave Groner reported on a recent trip to India to help with the immunization of 1,600,000 children against polio in a matter of 24 days. The Polio Plus program is

continuing with its efforts to rid the world of this dread disease.

Our club's 44th anniversary as a member of Rotary was celebrated on March 7 with the induction of two new members. PDG and Charter Member Bob Winkel served again by inducting the new members into the club. PDG Bob also provided our program of the night by reviewing the Charter Night of our club.

On April 4 the club went visiting. We were treated to a tour of the South Haven Area Emergency Services Building on Blue Star Highway where we were shown the many pieces of equipment that are used in the protection of our lives and property in the South Haven, South Haven Township, Casco Township, and Geneva Township areas. Fire Chief Randy VanWynen explained to us the uses of the various types of protective and life-saving devices used by the department, then conducted us on a tour of the various fire engines, pumpers, aerial trucks, ambulances, and even the new fire boat. It was impressive to see the amount of equipment available and the trained personnel to operate it. Our area is well protected, it appears.

With our "Read To Me" program proving to be a success we were pleased and surprised to have the tables turned and have the first and second grade students from Lincoln School attend our meeting and read to us. On April 11 five of the students along with their two teachers came to our meeting and provided our program by reading to us. The students not only read regularly published books to us but even provided us with stories that they had written themselves.

April 25 saw the club once again providing the "Open Door Dinner" at the Methodist Church. We were honored to have 44 guests participating in the dinner and once again we had hosted a successful project.

On May 2 our Spring Spouses Night was held at the Three Pelicans Restaurant on North Shore Drive. We were especially pleased to have as guests at this meeting five German Group Study Exchange visitors who provided us with a very interesting program telling of their homeland. The visitors had been visiting in some of the members homes during the week and the experience was one that will be long remembered. At this meeting the club also made presentation of 2 Paul Harris Recognitions. Member Bob Stickland and our long time piano player, Dottie Lynam, were honored with this recognition.

District Governor Bill Dimond again visited the club a tour meeting of May 16. Governor Bill honored us with the presentation of the Rotary Presidential Citation for our accomplishments during the past year. The Governor also encouraged all members to consider becoming benefactors in The Rotary Foundation.

As the fiscal year drew to a close preparations were underway for the serving of a pancake breakfast for the Annual Art Fair to be held on July 2. With our regular meeting date falling on July 4 it was decided to hold off on the transfer of the gavel to the new president until July 11 and the July 4 meeting was cancelled due to the National Holiday.

Our first meeting of the new fiscal year 2000-2001 was held on July 11. Incoming President Phil Ranck announced that we served 980 breakfasts at the Maritime Museum on July 2 for the Annual Art Fair. This was considered a new record for this event.

At the July 11 meeting a Club Assembly was held for "the changing of the guard" as the gavel was passed from Ken Johnson to Phil Ranck. Outgoing Pres. Ken thanked the members for his having had the opportunity to serve and especially thanked his Board of Directors for their help and support during the year. Outgoing Secretary Wib Lynam was recognized for his several years in that post and he was presented with a plaque commemorating his service to the club.

New President Phil Ranck then thanked Ken for his service as President and presented him with his Past President' Pin. Art Stieve was recognized as the new Secretary of the club.

The Annual Fly-In at the airport was held on August 13 and once again a fine turn-out was served pancake breakfast by our members. At the Fly-In we served about 1,400 breakfasts for another very successful project.

We were honored to have a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, Themba Mkhise from Richards Bay, South Africa as our speaker at our August 29 meeting. We entertained several guests at this meeting as well as hearing about far off South Africa. Themba was accompanied by his wife Lundi and his son Lwazi. Themba showed a fine video tape of Richards Bay along with his fine presentation.

On Labor Day week-end we served a two day pancake breakfast for the Craft Fair. Pres. Phil announced that we served 425 breakfasts on Saturday and 510 on Sunday for this event. It was a rainy and windy Sunday but we were able to operate successfully under the tents.

On September 5 we were able to hear from a team member of the Group Study Exchange group that visited in Germany this past summer. Aaron Winters from Charlotte, Michigan came and told us about the American team and their experiences in Germany.

We were proud to send 5 young men to Life Leadership Camp at Hastings this year. Four of the students were from Covert and one from South Haven. On September 26 these fine young men reported back to the club and presented our program for the evening. All five were very enthusiastic about their experiences and all expressed much appreciation for the opportunity.

Once again the club participated in the "Read To Me" program and several of our members took part in reading to the students at Indiana Avenue School. 4 different classes at this school were served by the program this year.

On November 28 the club journeyed to the Van Buren Intermediate School District Technology Center at Lawrence for our meeting. With member Tom Ruesink as

our host the group toured this fine facility and were served a delicious dinner prepared and served by the students thereof. We were also shown a video tape telling of the training courses that are offered by the Center and were given a fine description of how the Center operates. All who attended were greatly impressed by this facility that is available to area students.

December 6 was the date of our combined Rotary/Kiwanis Christmas Dinner Party. Our club served as host for this year's party and it was held at the South Haven Yacht Club. A total of about 70 people were in attendance. The High School Chorale provided our entertainment for the evening with a sampling of the program that they will present at the Annual Madrigal Dinner. A basket was passed around for contributions to We Care, Inc. and a total of \$263 was collected.

We rang bells for The Salvation Army again this year on December 23rd. This year was a little different in that the Kiwanis rang the bells on Saturday the 16th and challenged us to try to raise more on the 23rd than they did. The losing club was to serve dinner to the winner at a later date. As it turned out Kiwanis took in about \$700 while we Rotarians took in over \$800 and we were happy to have members of the Kiwanis Club serve us at our dinner on January 23rd.

On December 26 the club met at The Methodist Church to host the "Open Door" dinner for all who chose to come. It being the day after Christmas attendance by the public was not as large as usual but a good time was had by all in attendance.

January 9 saw the club traveling to Covert to attend the basketball game between the Covert Bulldogs and the Watervliet Grace Christian team. Covert's fine team performed up to expectations and defeated Grace Christian 81 to 35. We were also served a fine dinner prior to the game and Coach Sam Cornett told us about the Covert team and his hopes for the future. We also saw the J.V. game preceding the Varsity game and that was also an impressive victory for Covert. It should be noted that the Covert Varsity continued on through a very successful season and were crowned the Class D State Champions later in the year.

On January 16 we were happy to see PDG Bob Winkel make a special presentation to member Ted Weber of a Paul Harris recognition. Ted had, himself, contributed the \$1,000.00 to The Rotary Foundation to become a Paul Harris Fellow. The club was pleased and proud to offer our congratulations and our thanks to Ted for this contribution.

It was on January 23rd when three members of the Kiwanis Club came to serve our dinner in recognition of our successful bell ringing for The Salvation Army. These fellows proved to be good sports and served us well.

District Governor Don Humphreys made his official visit to the club on February 6. Gov. Don present us with a very interesting program telling us of his many adventures at the R. I. Convention in Buenos Aires. Gov. Don also explained the meaning of the many badges he wears on his Governor's blazer with particular emphasis on his Paul

Harris Fellow Pin with 3 jewels meaning that he has contributed 4 times to the Rotary Foundation in the amount of \$1,000.00 . He told us of the District Conference that will be held at the Soaring Eagle Casino in Mount Pleasant in June and urged all of us to attend.

February 17 various members of the club took part in collecting for the "Warm The Heart" project for We Care, Inc. In 19 degree temperature our members stood on the bank corner and collected a total of \$160.00 for this program. The cold blustery weather kept many people away from the downtown we can be sure our collection might have been much larger.

On February 27 District Governor Elect, Mary Brinks modeled for us her new blazer that she will be wearing as our District Governor this next fiscal year. Mary had just returned from the Governor's training meeting in Anaheim, California, and is all ready to serve her term as Governor of District 6360. Our club is very proud to have our own Mary take over this prestigious position.

March 6 was the 45th anniversary of our club's charter. No particular fan-fare or celebration was held for the occasion but we are very proud of our many years of SERVICE.

At the March 13 meeting President Phil announced that Secretary Art Stieve has found it necessary to present his resignation from the club due to his recent change in employment which requires him to be on the road every week. Former Secretary Wib Lynam has agreed to again take over the post and finish out Art's term.

New members Phillip Snowden and Jim Spitters were inducted and welcomed into the club on March 27. The induction was conducted by District Governor Elect, Mary Brinks. Mary also presented a fine video entitled "This Is Rotary" which proved to be an excellent introduction to Rotary for our new members and a fine review for all members present.

April 24 was a meeting at which we were honored to have the Class D Basketball State Champion Covert Bulldogs as our guests. Not only were they our guests but they provided us with our program for the evening with Coach Sam Cornett introducing the team members and telling us of their terrific year.

On May 8 Past President Art Bolt brought us up to date on the District Nicaragua Project. Art had just recently returned from his latest visit to Nicaragua and he gave us a report on the current conditions there and reviewed the project from its start back in 1995.

An important Club Assembly was held on May 15. At this meeting many important items were brought up. Pres. Phil reported that the Board had allotted \$2,000 for Paul Harris Recognitions, \$800.00 for a wooden boat kit which will be built during the Wooden Boat Festival at the Maritime Museum, and \$300.00 donation to the local Skate Park. Dates for this year's pancake breakfast have been approved for July 1, August 12, and September 2. A reminder that the club will be hosting the Group Study Exchange team from Mexico in June was given. A much delayed report of the Nominating

Committee for the officers for fiscal year 2001-2002 was presented. The slate offered was Pres. Bob Stickland, 1st V.P. (Pres. Elect) Chuck Stein, 2nd V.P. John VerBeek, Secretary Wib Lynam, Treasurer Jim Davis, and Directors Al Hawkins, Bob Copping, Tom Fleming, and Phil Ranck. With no nominations from the floor the above were duly elected to office. A questionnaire was issued to all members concerning the possibility of changing location and time of our meetings in order to improve membership and attendance.

At our June 5 meeting another new member was inducted into the club by District Governor Elect, Mary Brinks. Ralph Bergstrom became our newest member and was also given his first installment towards becoming a Paul Harris Fellow by PDG Karl Sandelin, who was present at the meeting and is a long time personal friend of Ralph and of Ralph's father. The Sandelins and Ralph came to this country from Finland.

June 12th our meeting was held at The Three Pelicans restaurant with the hosting of the Group Study Exchange Team from Mexico. Also at this meeting Paul Harris Recognition was presented to two outstanding citizens of the community, Roger Dehn and Raymond Gunterberg.

Roger was recognized for his many years as vocal music instructor at L. C. Mohr High School and years of service as choir director of his church. Ray Gunterberg was recognized for his many years as Township Supervisor of South Haven Township and especially for helping to bring about the water and sewer agreement between the City of South Haven and South Haven Town-ship. The presentation was followed by a fine program given by the Group Study Exchange Team from Mexico.

A change in the By-Laws of the club was voted at the June 19 meeting. This change was made to change the time of meetings, effective July 17, 2001 to 7:10 A.M. The new location for the club meetings was subsequently made to Lighthouse Inn of Guesthouse Inns, Inc. on Phoenix Road.

June 26, 2001 was the final evening meeting of the club and at that meeting it was announced that there would be no meeting on July 3 due to the City Fireworks display being held that night. The meeting of July 10 was also changed to Wednesday, July 11 to be held at The South Haven Yacht Club as the District Governor Changeover Dinner in honor of new District Governor Mary Brinks.

Our first meeting of the new fiscal year was held on Wednesday, July 11 at The South Haven Yacht Club. This was a District Governor Changeover Meeting at which our own Mary Brinks became District 6360's first female governor as she took over the post from now Past District Governor Don Humphreys. Club President Bob Stickland presided over his first meeting as President and welcomed the many Past District Governors and other guests. One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the District's Red Rose Award to two very deserving Past District Governors. The presentation was made by Past District Governor Dave Groner to PDG Stuart (Stu) Bearup and in absentia to PDG Bob Winkel. Bob was unable to attend tonight due to illness and his award was later delivered to him by Pres. Bob Stickland. The awards were

made in appreciation for the long and faithful service given to our District and to R. I. of these 2 fine gentlemen.

Outgoing Governor Don Humphreys addressed the group and reviewed his successful year as our Governor. Don particularly remembered the work of the Nicapartners during this past year. He then passed the Governor's Pin to new Governor Mary and she, in turn, presented Don with the Past District Governor's pin.

Governor Mary then addressed the group and thanked all present for attending. She thanked the South Haven Club for our support as well as thanking the many PDG's who helped prepare her for her year as Governor. She told us of her goals for the year especially to increase membership, increase contributions to the Rotary Foundation, and to encourage increased club attendance throughout the District.

Pres. Bob Stickland closed the meeting by congratulating Mary and assuring her of the full support of our club during her year as Governor.

Our first early morning meeting was held at Lighthouse Inn on July 17. Attendance was very good at this meeting and all seemed pleased with the location and the new meeting time. At this meeting we had the passing of the gavel from Past President Phil Ranck to new President Bob Stickland. Phil spoke to the club and gave a review of the past year's achievements. Many things were accomplished in the past year and Phil thanked the club members for their help and support during the year. Pres. Bob then took over and thanked Phil for his leadership during the past year. Bob presented Phil with the Past President's pin. Bob then told us of plans for the coming year and stated his hopes for improving the membership of the club with the change of meeting time from evening to morning. Bob noted that our pancake breakfast that was served on Sunday at the Art Fair was very successful and that between 700 and 750 people were served.

At the July 31 meeting we were happy to have a young lady from Nicaragua visit us. She is Exchange Student Ana Hazell Caldera who is visiting with Art and Cindy Bolt and we were pleased to have her with us.

August 7 we were honored and pleased to have Former State Representative Mick Middaugh as our speaker. This is the first time Mick has been back to speak to us since leaving the post of Representative and we were happy to hear what Mick is now doing. He certainly has not retired from public service and he gave us an interesting review of his new position on the State Judicial Tenure Commission. Mick also told us that his very capable wife, Mary Ann, is serving us well in Lansing after being elected to take Mick's place in the Legislature.

On Sunday August 12 we served breakfast at the Annual Fly-in to a record number of 1,575 happy people. The Fly-in was a huge success with more than 200 planes on hand for the event and the show was excellent. The weather was fine and all who attended were treated to a very fine day.

At our meeting of August 21 Dr. Richard Pappas, President of Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor came to tell us about the Lake Michigan College Annexation Proposal for Western Van Buren County which will be voted on September 11.

New member Dr. Stephanie Burrage was inducted at our August 28 meeting and Kevin Anderson was inducted into the club on September 4. Stephanie is the new Superintendent of Covert Schools and Kevin is the South Haven City Manager.

We were privileged to have a member of the G.S.E. team that visited Mexico as our speaker on September 4. In this way we heard "the other side of the story" after we were pleased to have entertained the visiting team from Mexico this past spring.

September 18 was the Official Visit of District Governor Mary Brinks to her "Home Club." It was with a great deal of pride that we welcomed Governor Mary back to our club. Mary gave us an inspiring talk featuring the Rotary International theme for the year "Mankind Is our Business" and asked for our support to help her carry out that theme.

Don Hixson was inducted into the club as our newest member on September 25. Don was inducted by PDG Bob Winkel and carries the classification of Industrial Sales.

On October 9 we once again hosted the Open Door Dinner at the Methodist Church. Once again we were pleased to see many guests in attendance and an enjoyable evening was held.

Once again our club provided the insulation and the labor to install it for the Habitat For Humanity's latest home in South Haven. This task was carried out on October 16 at the corner of Kalamazoo and Cable Sts.

New member Dale Lewis was inducted into the club on October 23. District Governor Mary Brinks was on hand and performed the induction ceremony.

On October 30 we held our meeting in the evening as a "Spouses Night." It was scheduled to be held at Hawkshead Inn but it turned out that the Inn was not open for business that night so we held the meeting at Clementine's in downtown South Haven instead. A very good time was had by all in attendance.

Another new member was inducted and welcomed into the club on November 20. Kevin Cooney became our newest member on this date. Kevin had previously been a Rotarian in Fremont, Ohio and we were very happy to have him come into our club. Kevin is no stranger to South Haven and his wife, Mary, is a local girl, the daughter of Ken and Jean Shinske.

On November 27 another new member was inducted into the club. Jerry Gruber, former owner and operator of Macdonald's Drug Store was inducted by Fellow pharmacist Jim Davis. We have all long known Jerry and know he will be an asset to the club.

December 12 was the annual Christmas Party and Joint Rotary/Kiwanis meeting. This year Kiwanis served as hosts for the party and it was held at The Sea Wolf Restaurant. A very fine turnout was on hand and a wonderful time was had by all.

Once again we hosted the Open Door Christmas Dinner at the Methodist Church on December 18. The buffet dinner was well attended and was considered as another successful project for the club.

We closed out the calendar year by Ringing The Bells for the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 22. Another successful day was spent in collecting funds for this fine organization and we were pleased to be able to do our part.

Dr. Richard Pappas, President of Lake Michigan College came before us again at the January 8 meeting. The proposal for building a campus to cover all of Van Buren County in South Haven was defeated at the election in August and the college is now proposing to build a campus for the South Haven School District. The previous proposal was approved by the voters of the South Haven School District but turned down by the other areas of the county. Dr. Pappas explained that a new vote will be held on January 23rd to annex the South Haven School District to the Lake Michigan College Community College District. It should also be reported that the January 23rd vote was successful and the new college will be built in the South Haven Industrial Park.

A belated report from the nominating committee was presented at the January 8 meeting and the election for fiscal 2002-03 was then held. No nominations were made from the floor and the slate as presented was unanimously elected. Serving will be President - Charles (Chuck) Stein, Pres.-Elect (1st V.P.) - Karl Henkel, 2nd V.P. - Ralph Bergstrom, Treasurer - Jim Davis, Secretary - Al Hawkins, and Board Members - Bob Copping and Tom Fleming. This leaves one position on the Board open to be filled at a later date.

At the meeting of January 15 it was announced that the nominating committee was presenting Wib Lynam as the nominee for the final vacant spot on the Board and with no other nominations being presented a unanimous ballot was cast for the nominee.

On March 5 two new members were inducted into the club. Steve Goforth and Barry Winkel were welcomed into the club and were inducted by their sponsors Ken Johnson and Chuck Stein respectively.

Saturday, March 9 saw our club taking an active part in the "Warm Your Heart" project for We Care, Inc. Club members collected funds for this program at downtown locations throughout the day and a successful collection was made.

The club was saddened by the announcement from PDG Bob Winkel of the death of Past District Governor Ken Beagle of Grand Ledge, Michigan. Ken was our District Governor in 1961-62.

Another new member was inducted into the club on March 26. Richard (Dick) Averill was inducted by his sponsor, Don Hixson under the classification of Engineering - Stamping.

April 23 saw the club meeting at Blue Star Music Camp on Eagle St. This visit to the relatively new establishment was arranged so that we could see how the old Bohn Aluminum Factory Building has been converted into a theatre and teaching area for music students. Club members were pleased with what we saw and heard at this morning meeting. At a later date the Board authorized our granting a scholarship to be given to a deserving student to the music camp.

On May 7 the club again went visiting. This time we journeyed to the new Covert Generating Plant being built by Pacific Gas and Electric Co. We were hosted by Manager Rick Grubb and were served breakfast and then treated to a guided tour of the facilities. The new plant is being built to generate power to be sold on the open market.

May 14 saw us back at Lighthouse Inn where our program was introduced to us by District Governor Mary Brinks. Mary brought to us Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Troy Hendricksen who was sponsored in the Ambassadorial Scholar Program by the Paw Paw Club. Troy enjoyed his scholarship opportunity in Perth, Australia and he gave us a very interesting program telling of his experiences.

A Spouses Night was held on May 21 at The Three Pelicans Restaurant. At this meeting the club was pleased to honor two local citizens as Paul Harris Fellows. The recognition was given to one Rotarian and one non-Rotarian tonight. The non-Rotarian honored was Robert McClendon, long time contributor to our community in many positions, serving as City Council-man, member of the City Planning Commission, the Board of Public Works, and many other boards and commissions. From our own club we were happy to recognize member Robert (Bob) Copping who has served our club and the community in many capacities. Bob has long been chairman of our Fellowship Activities Committee and has arranged for many of our Spouses Night meetings. He has also served the community in many ways having been the driving force for the SHOUT organization and a very active member of The South Haven Foundation.

At the May 28 meeting the club was informed that we have been granted a District Grant for a "Classic Films" section for the South Haven Public Library. The grant will be in the amount of \$1,000 and will be used to purchase video tapes of classics to become available to the public through the library.

We were happy and pleased to welcome another new member into our club on June 4. Actually it was to welcome the return of a former member into the fold. Michael (Mike) Degrandchamp was reinducted into the club this morning by his sponsor, Jim Davis. Mike has long provided the delicious blueberries that we serve at several of our pancake breakfasts and we were happy to have him return to membership.

As we approached the end of the fiscal year Pres. Bob Stickland reported that the Board has approved the amount of \$1,000 to be donated to the SHOUT organization

towards the clock that will be installed at the foot of North Shore Drive at sometime in the future. Another \$500 was also given to the Michigan Maritime Museum in appreciation of their participation in our club's pancake breakfasts that are held on their property during the Art and the Craft Fairs.

Fiscal 2001-02 was completed with a Club Assembly on June 25 at which time retiring Club President, Bob Stickland reviewed the accomplishments of the past year and congratulated outgoing District Governor Mary Brinks for her year in office. Bob completed his year by passing the gavel to incoming President Chuck Stein and Chuck, in turn, presented Bob with his Past President's Pin and thanked him for his very fine year of Service.

On Sunday July 7 we served 906 happy customers at our Art Fair Pancake Breakfast. We had several spouses and family members assisting us in the serving at this event and their assistance was certainly appreciated. We also were fortunate to have the students of Covert High School haul in and out the chairs and tables needed for the breakfast. A few of them also helped on the serving line. Jim Davis who is in charge of the mixing of the pancake batter told us we used 160# of batter mix at this breakfast.

At the July 9 meeting Past R. I. Vice President Bob Brickman was our speaker and Bob gave us a fine program updating us on the status of the Polio Plus project. Bob showed us a video tape telling of Rotary's commitment to eliminate Polio by the year 2005 which will be the Centennial Year of Rotary. Rotary has done a fine job of fund raising for this program but still more is needed. Rotary has committed to raising another 80 million dollars to finish the Polio Plus project and we are all being asked to contribute all we can. To encourage our group Bob has pledged that he and his wife will match individual contributions of our club members up to a total of \$5,000.00.

July 23 we had immediate PDG Mary Brinks report to us on what it was like to be Governor of District 6360 this past year. During the year Mary traveled 20,000 miles in Rotary Service. She visited every club in the district and some more than once. She concluded her year as Governor with the Annual District Conference which was held in Battle Creek. Our club is proud to have had four District Governors from the club during our tenure.

August 11 our pancake breakfast team was once again called upon to serve for the Fly-In at the South Haven Community Airport. A total of about 1,600 customers were served at this event for which our receipts amounted to a little over \$6,600. Once again thanks was given to our many helpers from the club, our spouses and family members, visiting Rotarians and the kids from Covert High School.

At the August 20 meeting President Chuck Stein announced that our meeting the following week would be held on Thursday August 29 rather than our regular Tuesday time and would be held at Tello's Restaurant and The Legend Theatre. The group would enjoy the production of "Foxfire" at the theatre. Also at the August 20 meeting we were honored to have District Governor Jim Goodwin present and have him present Ted Weber with his new Paul Harris Fellow pin with 3 jewels, Ted's 3rd Paul Harris

recognition. Gov. Jim also provided our program at this meeting using the Rotary Theme for the year "Sow The Seeds of Love." Gov. Jim gave us a very inspiring and informative program for which we are grateful.

September 1 we served our third pancake breakfast of the year. This one was for the Annual Craft Fair and we served at the Michigan Maritime Museum. Once again a good turn-out was on hand for the event. 780 customers were served at this breakfast.

At the September 10 meeting President Chuck Stein called upon member Larry Wittkop to give us a profile of himself. Larry was the first of our members to be called upon but we will be hearing from a different member each week as the year goes on so that all members will be able to learn about the other club members.

The City of South Haven celebrated its centennial this year and held a week long celebration of the event. As a part of this celebration our club was asked to put on a pancake breakfast the the new Public Works Building on 8th Avenue. This was on Saturday October 5 and we served about 240 people at this event.

At our November 26 meeting Chad Adamik, Intern Pastor at Peace Lutheran Church brought to us a very spiritual and influential Thanksgiving Message. In a serious yet humorous vein Chad read an essay written by Garrison Keelor, the famed Minnesota Philosopher of radio and book writing fame. The message pointed out differences in attitudes of people in different parts of the country and emphasized how important it is to be thankful for what you have in your own area.

The joint Rotary/Kiwanis Christmas Party was held on Thursday December 5 at The Three Pelicans Restaurant with a fine turnout of both Rotarians and Kiwanians. Our club was host this year and was opened by President Chuck Stein giving a few words of welcome to all present. This was followed by comments from Kiwanis President Paul Layendecker. Once again the High School Chorale provided entertainment by presenting a prevue of their Madrigal Dinner event performing in beautiful costumes and providing fine music and entertainment.

On December 10 at our regular meeting two new members were inducted into the club. Pdg Bob Winkel inducted new member Arthur (Art) Clarke III and Dick Averill inducted Thomas (Tom) Erdmann. Bob and Dick were the proposers of the 2 new members and did a fine job of inducting them. Also at this meeting Bob Copping made a presentation of a classic video collection to The South Haven Community Library by presenting it to Librarian Marty Gray. The collection is valued at \$1,500 and was made available by a grant from District 6360 of \$1,000 and \$500 from our own club.

Tuesday December 17 our club meeting was once again held in the evening being the "Open Door" dinner at the Methodist Church. 48 guests along with 14 Rotarians and 4 spouses were on hand for the evening dinner. This being at Christmas time the tables were decorated with Christmas motif and the guests were treated to a Christmas dinner.

Saturday December 21 we rang the bells for the Salvation Army again. Members

were at Wal-Mart and in the downtown location in front of Shoreline Bank and The Golden Brown Bakery. Another fine collection was made for this worthy cause.

On December 24 our meeting was called into business session for the election of officers. Bob Stickland as chairman of the nominating committee presented a slate calling for Karl Henkel as President, Steve Goforth as 1st Vice President (President Elect), Jerry Gruber as 2nd Vice President, Al Hawkins as Secretary, Jim Davis as Treasurer, and for directors Chuck Stein, Phil Ranck, Art Bolt, and Don Hixson. There were no nominations from the floor and motion was made, seconded, and carried that the above named be declared elected for fiscal 2003 - 2004.

At the January 21 meeting we started a new program of having a hot breakfast catered once a month. It was decided that the hot breakfast would be served on the second meeting of each month in place of the "continental" breakfast that is provided by the Lighthouse Inn. Jay Marcoux of Phoenix St. Cafe was selected as the caterer for the hot breakfasts and the first one was served at this meeting. It was declared as a success and a big improvement and will be a welcome change.

Following the January 28 meeting a short Board Meeting was held at which approval was given to provide the sum of \$500 to L. C. Mohr High School towards the purchase of a new diving board for the school swimming pool.

Member Stephanie Burrage reported that the new Interact Club is getting started at Covert High School. This club is under our sponsorship and we look forward to working with them to see that they are successful.

On February 1 several of our members assisted in collecting funds for the We Care Warm Your Heart Program. This program raises funds for the needy to assist them in paying for the heating of their homes during the winter months. Our members collected the amount of \$810 on Saturday for this program.

February 4 was an informational meeting to provide Rotary Information to prospective new members, as well as to refresh our regular members on the workings of Rotary. We were honored to have as speakers at this meeting a Past Vice President and Director of Rotary International, a Past District Governor, and two Past Presidents of our club. These four presented us with many interesting facts and figures concerning Rotary and following their presentations other club members joined in and told of unusual experiences as Rotarians.

Past District Governor Jim Alden visited the club on February 18 and presented a very informative program about inoculating some 30,000 to 35,000 Nigerian kids against Polio. Jim just recently returned from this successful endeavor and brought to us much interesting information about the country and especially about the Polio inoculation. It is with much pride that we acknowledge the Service of the many members of District 6360 that have joined Jim Alden, Dave Groner, and Bob Brickman in carrying out the process in many countries.

On Thursday, February 27, eight couples from our club journeyed to Vicksburg to attend the annual Vicksburg Show Boat. A fine dinner and show was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Jay Marcoux our "hot breakfast caterer" and owner/operator of Phoenix St. Cafe was inducted into the club as a new member on April 8. Jay was inducted by Past President Phil Ranck who proposed Jay for membership. Phil stressed to Jay and the club members the importance and meaning of The Four Way Test.

At the April 29 meeting we were privileged to welcome 10 members of the Covert Interact Club to our meeting. Each of the students introduced themselves and told us a little about their school activities. Stephanie Burrage told of the club's activities and their plans for the future. Also at this meeting we were pleased to have the induction of another new member to our club, Matt Petter. Matt was introduced by his proposer, Ron Overhiser. Ron then asked PDG Mary Brinks to conduct the induction ceremony and Mary followed the official guide to inductions in doing so.

To better facilitate our pancake breakfast functions the club has now purchased a trailer along with 25 new tables and 140 chairs so that we can transport our equipment and have our own seating for the breakfasts. This will certainly make for an easier and more convenient way of equipping the breakfasts for the future.

At the May 13 meeting Al Hawkins presented a letter of resignation from the Secretary position for the next year. Al will be away for several weeks during the winter months and will be unable to fulfill the duties. Tom Erdmann was nominated for the position and has agreed to accept it. At the May 20 meeting a special election was held officially naming Tom as our Secretary for the next fiscal year.

A spouses night was held for the meeting of May 27 at Phoenix St. Cafe. A fine turnout of members, spouses and guests were in attendance. At this meeting Paul Harris Recognitions were presented to 2 very surprised and very deserving people. These were presented to Trudie Winkel, wife of PDG Bob and to Past President Phil Ranck. The presentations were made by Assistant District Governor Dick Sammis. In his presentation Dick described some of the projects that the money from the Paul Harris Fellow contributions to the Rotary Foundation are used for and told that \$1,000 is presented to the Foundation for each Paul Harris recognition.

The final meeting of the fiscal year was held as a Club Assembly at which outgoing President Chuck Stein reviewed the past year of South Haven Rotary. Many accomplishments were made during the year and Chuck thanked all the members for their support during his year as President. Chuck also was pleased to announce that our contributions to Polio Plus will amount to about \$175 per member for which he is grateful. Chuck called forward incoming President Karl Henkel and passed to him the gavel of authority. Karl then presented Chuck with the Past President's Pin and thanked him for his service.

For the Club Year Ending June 30, 2004

SOUTH HAVEN ROTARY CLUB FINAL REPORT 2003-2004

I would like to thank all of you for your participation during this 2003-2004 Rotary Year, and mention that you should all take great pride in the accomplishments of both Rotary International and the South Haven Rotary Club.

This year's theme has been "Lend a Hand", and Rotary International President, Jonathon B. Majiyagbe asked at the beginning of this Rotary Year that we all do this in the four following areas: Increase and Retain Membership; Alleviation of Poverty; Health Concerns; and Literacy and Education. I would like to report that our Club has done very well in each of these areas.

- We began the year with 38 members, but lost three. Long time member and immediate Past-President Chuck Stein passed away suddenly, and two other members resigned. We have inducted 9 new active members this year, representing a 26% increase. That is not too bad for a small town club with lots of competition from other service clubs and organizations in the area.
- With our contributions of either money or time to Habitat for Humanity, NicaPartners, UMC Open Door, Phoenix St. Café's "Back Door", We Care, Inc., and the Salvation Army kettle program, we have certainly been participants in dealing with the poverty issue.
- Regarding Health Concerns, the R.I. Polio Eradication program, thanks to a generous matching gift from Bob and Gayle Brickman, received contributions of approximately \$10,000 from the South Haven Rotary Membership. Dick and Carole Averill participated in a "National Immunization Day" Polio eradication project in India, with the Dave Groner, District 6360 Group. And Art Bolt made yet another trip to Nicaragua distributing eyeglasses, plus dealing with other humanitarian issues.
- Literacy and education received attention from our club as we supported Life Leadership, Reading is fundamental, Youth and Co., the Blue Star Music Camp, The "Read to Me" Program with the Lincoln Elementary Rotary Readers, and scholarships for LMC and World Affairs Seminars.

Including the R.I. Polio Eradication project, we have, this year, contributed nearly \$27,320.00 directly to those programs I just mentioned, as well as to the following organizations: Southwest Michigan Boy Scouts; Covert Interact Club; Light Up the Lake fireworks display; Girl Scout Troop 139's "Adopt a Platoon" project; Michigan Maritime Museum; South Haven High School Post Prom Party; The Rotary Rose Parade Float; South Haven City Band Concerts; and the South Haven High School Swimming Awards. The Rotary Foundation also received an additional \$4,000.00, as we presented four Paul Harris Fellowships, bringing the total to nearly \$31,270.00. In order to support these activities, we had some very successful fund raisers and each was supported by the active participation of the membership. I believe everyone who was physically able was willing to "Lend a Hand". We began the year with three Pancake Breakfasts which netted nearly \$9400.00 and a lot of good will from the community as well as from our many summer visitors. In

addition, we sold knives which provided \$1500.00 for The District International Service Project "NicaPartners", and motorcycle raffle tickets, which provided an additional \$1950.00. It was a great summer! Our spring fund raiser, the "Rotary Scholarship Auction Event: *Hats Off to South Haven!*" for LMC Scholarships, was a real surprise. We were hoping to raise \$3500.00, in order to provide seven \$500.00 scholarships, but managed to net approximately \$9000.00. The truly great surprise, for all of us, was that The Whirlpool Corporation will match up to \$25,000.00 over a five (5) year period, which means that an additional \$5000.00 should be added for an earnings total of \$14,000.00 for this event. Our total income, for these events, amounts to \$26,850.00. If our weekly 50/50 raffle and fine receipts of nearly \$2300.00 are included, plus the \$10,000.00 for Polio Eradication, the total is \$39,150.00. If the proceeds from our participation in the Salvation Army and We Care are included, the total is \$ 41,650.00. *What a year!*

One of the things that make our club very special is our members' hands-on involvement with a number of agencies and projects which add to the betterment and quality of life in our community. This year we have instituted four new service projects: the Lincoln School "Read to me" program; LMC Scholarships; the LMC Emergency Fund; and the Phoenix St. Café "Back Door" meals program. Each required active member participation, and we certainly got that, willingly. A fifth new project, our Rotary "Warming Hut" Centennial Project, is due to be completed for next winter's skating season. We have seen some of the preliminary design drawings and we will be hearing more about that in the months, to come. I am confident that the membership will be willing to "roll up its sleeves" and make this project a success. Other ongoing projects, such as our support for Habitat for Humanity, Salvation Army bell ringers, the UMC "open Door", and the We Care, "Warm Your Heart" fund, found active participation by many club members.

In addition to those projects just mentioned, we reinstated our Club's flower fund, and donated two new club banners, one in support of the Covert High School Interact Club, and another honoring South Haven Paul Harris Fellows. We developed a new Club directory and a new accompaniment tape for our music program, which expanded our group of "old chestnuts" along with some additional Rotary songs. Finally, we began the e-mailing of Spokes to as many members as desired to receive it that way, and saved a substantial amount of money budgeted for postage. Except for a "glitch" with a computer virus, the system seems to be working satisfactorily.

Not all of our efforts met with success, however. For example, we made an attempt to better publicize our Club's activities, but we ran into problems getting our activities printed in our local newspaper. Hopefully we'll keep on trying, and have better luck next year. We also attempted to donate a decorative "flower tree" to the City of South Haven, but the City Council, to which we sent a request, referred us to the Parks and Recreation Department, and I believe we're now somewhere in Limbo" on that issue. Again, maybe this will be resolved during the coming year. At any rate we accomplished a great many things this past year and all that need be said is "*What a Club!*"

In order for our Club to have accomplished all these things, we have had outstanding individual and committee effort, and I would like to mention the following individuals and highlight their contributions:

Bob and Gayle Brickman, for example, did a fine job of providing our new club directory, and we certainly do appreciate their work. In addition Bob and Gayle donated matching funds for the Club's support of the R.I. Polio Eradication program. *A big thank you goes out to them.*

Dick Averill's Community Service project for Habitat for Humanity is an example of a Rotarian's concern for his fellow man. He and his "Committee of Rotarian Carpenters" demonstrated, to the community, the special effort that our club makes of donating both funds and volunteer help for this outstanding program. Once again, Dick, along with wife Carole, traveled to India as part of Rotary International's Polio Eradication, National Immunization Day program.

Art Bolt continues to support the NicaPartners International Service Program. Over the years, Art, along with both local and District Rotarians have dug fresh water wells, built homes, delivered school busses, ambulances, a fire truck, school supplies, and more. Unfortunately, we seldom hear about his activities, as Art continues, in his own quiet way, to serve the people of Nicaragua, and truly

exemplify the Rotary Motto of "Service above Self".

Ralph Frost again chaired the Rotary Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army and we managed to collect about \$800.00. It's often very cold out there, but, as usual, many of our members participated in this annual program.

Tom Erdmann chaired the "Warm Your Heart" project, and again Club members managed to collect nearly \$1700.00, for this annual We Care, Inc. program.

Don Hixson, in addition to his Rotary Foundation Committee duties, spearheaded our Club's project to send a local South Haven High School student, Miss Stephanie Fitton, to a World Affairs Seminar in Whitewater, Wisconsin.

Stephanie Burrage continued her work with the Covert Interact Club, and has revived our club's participation in Life Leadership. This summer, we will be sending four Covert students to this worthwhile program.

Jay Marcoux has proved to be a real asset to Rotary and the City of South Haven. He has demonstrated his Rotary spirit and his willingness to "Lend a Hand" by establishing the "Back Door" program at the Phoenix St. Café. And the best thing is that he has given our Club an opportunity to participate. In addition, he managed to provide us with some fine Tuesday morning fare, along with catering our Spouse's Night dinners, and some terrific hors-d'oeuvres for our Scholarship Auction Event. *Well done, Jay!*

Steve Goforth, our 1st Vice-President and President-Elect, managed to keep our Club meetings going during February and March, while our Club President was resorting in the South Carolina Low Country, at Hilton Head Island. In addition to arranging meeting agendas and club programs, he took the lead in the planning and development of our new spring fund raiser for LMC scholarships.

Our 2nd Vice-President and President Elect Nominee, Jerry Gruber, who should be recognized as Mr. Enthusiasm, performed Yeoman-like service for our Club. He began the year as Pancake Breakfast Chairman, coordinating and scheduling work assignments, and adding a few new twists to these fund raisers, such as breakfast appreciation bell and a number of display props publicizing our Club's activities. He was the driving force for making the LMC Scholarship Auction Event such a success. I know many others contributed, but it seemed that our "ball of fire", Jerry was coordinating all facets of the activities, such as establishing committees for procuring auction materials, coordinating LMC volunteer workers, entertainment, food and beverages, decorations and ticket sales. And just prior to the event, when the reported ticket sale numbers were quite low, Jerry, always Mr. Optimist, took a rather dejected Club President aside and gave him a good "pep-talk". For that, I will be eternally grateful. One would think Jerry had done enough, but not so. He took the lead for our proposed 2004-2005 Centennial Project, and arranged for preliminary design renderings and drawings for the city ice rink warming hut. With Jerry leading the way, I'm certain we will be able to successfully complete that community project. *What a Rotarian!*

Wib Lynam gave us his usual superb effort as Editarian & Club Historian. And thanks also must go to Charley Soukup who did a fine job as Wib's stand-in during a brief period of illness. Wib, along with his wife Dottie, made a new accompaniment tape for our music program. A special thank you goes to Dottie as our fine accompanist, as well as to Wib for his recording engineering efforts.

Ron Overhiser was called upon for some extra effort on the one man Membership and Classification committee due to this year's membership "explosion". Once applications were received, they were processed in a timely manner so that we were able to facilitate the member induction process. Once again, we have nine new members.

Our Spouse's Night Fellowship events are always fun for Rotarians and their family members. This year Bob Copping, once again arranged for some fine dining and entertainment. We had a fall

awards night at The Blue Star Theatre and made long-time resident R.S. Griffin a Paul Harris Fellow. We all had a great time that evening and enjoyed the festivities. R.S. was a very proud Paul Harris recipient and we were all saddened to learn of his recent passing. The Phoenix St. Café was the venue for our spring awards dinner and a posthumous Paul Harris Fellowship was presented to Past-President Chuck Stein. His wife, Jean, after accepting on Chuck's behalf, was totally surprised, when she too, was made a Paul Harris Fellow. It was an emotional, but fun filled evening, as Floyd Hubbard treated us to some audience-participation fun. We met with Kiwanis for our annual holiday event, coordinated by President-Elect Steve, and finally, Kevin Cooney arranged for a golf outing at Hawks Head. We were joined, afterward, by our spouses for drinks and a fine dinner. We hope to have more of these golf events in the future.

John VerBeek and the members of the Chaplin's Committee provided our invocations, some often inspiring, and song leaders Larry Wittkop and Jim Davis, along with our new accompaniment tape, got our Rotary spirit going at 7:00 AM. Your President made an attempt to inject more fun into our meetings by telling a weekly story or two. It seems, however, that most of his efforts were met with audience "groans", and loud cheers when it was announced that there would be no weekly tale. *I'm not exactly certain about the success of that effort.*

We were dually fined by Sergeants-At-Arms Tom Ruesink, Jerry Gruber, and occasionally, Mr. "Irish" himself, Floyd Hubbard, which lightened our pockets, and provided funds for our Club's contributions to the Rotary Foundation and, in turn, kept the fun going.

Both Tom Erdmann as our Secretary and Jim Davis as Treasurer did fine jobs making certain that club supplies were procured, District and Rotary International reports filed and club bills paid in a timely manner. In addition, Tom helped to implement a new accounting system which has greatly simplified our reporting process.

It takes a lot of dedicated people to make a successful Club such as South Haven Rotary. So let's take a look at a profile of our membership, and see that over the years, our Club has had an active group of members who believe in the spirit of Rotary. Secretary Tom Erdmann reports that we have 44 active members. Four are female, 40 are not. Nine members are classified as "exempt", which means that because they each have an aggregate number of age and years of Club service equal to, or greater than 85, they are excused from weekly meeting attendance. However, we still see many of them here each week. We have one member who has been a Rotarian for 50 years, four have forty plus years, four have been Rotarians for more than thirty years, twenty year members number five, and eight have been meeting with the Club for 10 or more years. Twenty of our members have five or less years with South Haven Rotary. Our oldest member is 93 and our youngest 27.

We have three Past District Governors, one former Rotary International Vice-President and thirteen, soon to be fourteen, Past-Presidents, who are still active members of this Club. We also have Bob Winkel, who is a South Haven Club charter member. When we less experienced members need to know how to get something accomplished, PDG Bob is always available for consultation. *Again, that's not too bad for a small Southwest Michigan Town.*

Our Club's future looks bright. Our incoming President, Steve Goforth, brings great leadership skills and fresh ideas. Our President-Elect, Jerry Gruber, will be putting his array of talents and abundant energy to work for our Club. Please support them and your new Board of Directors with the same enthusiasm that you have shown me, and thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Karl P. Henkel