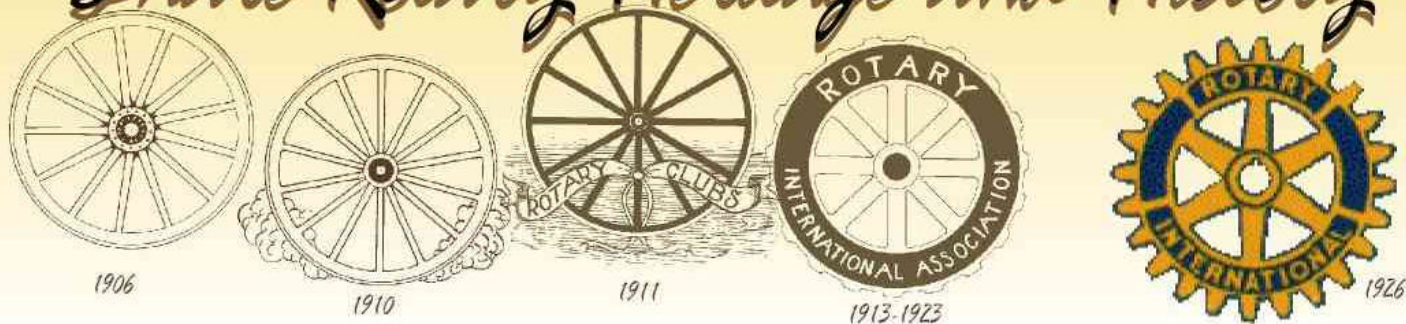


Share Rotary Heritage and History



Dedicated to the conservation and preservation of Rotary Heritage & History

Official Publication Rotary Heritage & History International Fellowship of Rotarians

Volume 13, Issue 2

2001-2002 (Rotary's 97th Year)

Jack Mayo, Editor-Publisher



Paul Harris was photographed during a Rotary committee meeting held at the home he called *Comely Bank*. (Notice his tablecloth pattern!) Donations to the "Paul and Jean Harris' Home Foundation" bring us closer to the day when Rotary clubs can meet in this room again. Turn to *Comely Bank Plaques* on page 3 for information.

Comely Bank is where Paul Harris and his friends discussed the future of Rotary. Now we are discussing the future of *Comely Bank*

Our fellowship's international chairman, Past R. I. Director Roy Troutt, encourages all RHHIF members — indeed all Rotarians — to get involved in the rare opportunity to acquire, restore and resume using the former residence of our Founder, Paul Harris.

To facilitate this project, PDGs Jim Alden, Dave Groner, Don Knapp, Jack Mayo and Fred Otto established a not for profit Illinois corporation known as the Paul and Jean Harris' Home Foundation.

A recent survey of Rotarians showed there was a strong desire to preserve Rotary history by acquiring the Paul Harris house known as "Comely Bank". The acquisition of Comely Bank completes the Rotary Heritage Trail. (*see box p 3) Funding the purchase and maintenance of Comely Bank could be done by commemorative plaques made from wood of the dead tree taken down from Paul Harris's cemetery site. The primary source for solicitations for these plaques would be the districts in Zone 27 and 28, which are the nearest to Chicago, Illinois. The secondary source for solicitations would be Rotarians who travel to Chicago for trade shows or visits and would want to tour the Paul Harris' house and the Memorial Walkway. The house would become a living museum and meeting place for all types of Rotary meetings and events as a living tribute to the ideals of the founder of Rotary.

Market Assumptions

Within 3 hours driving time of Chicago there are 66 clubs with less than 20 members, 242 clubs with 21-40 members and 286 clubs with over 40 members. These clubs would be most likely to travel to the Paul Harris house for

visits or meetings. In the surrounding districts within 4 to 5 hours driving from Chicago there are 60,000 Rotarians. Most of these Rotarians drive or fly to Chicago for business or trade shows, for transfer flights, or they visit Chicago for a vacation trip. A conservative estimate is that about 230,000 Rotarians visit Chicago for business and trade shows each year, which includes some 30,000 international visitors.

Description of the House

The house is located on the south side of Chicago in the area called Beverly on the ridge. The address is 10856 Longwood Drive. The site is a long narrow lot lying some 400 feet by 80 feet east and west with the front of the house facing east on Longwood Drive. A winding drive starts at the northeast corner of the property and runs along the north side of the lot to the front of the house turning south and then runs along the south side of the house to the rear. The drive is lined on both sides with large trees some two feet in diameter. Several trees are located very close to the drive and would cause an access problem with increased traffic. The yard and grounds have been maintained in keeping with the area. A single car garage is located some 60 feet to the northwest of the house and some 40 feet from the rear west lot line. The style of the house is English Tudor with wood siding on the lower half and stucco on the upper half. The house is approximately 2400 square feet not including the full basement. The house appears to be have been maintained in good repair on the outside.

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Affiliate Members of this Fellowship

Rotary clubs, districts, and other organizations are encouraged to apply to this fellowship for *Affiliate Member* status. In this issue, we spotlight the affiliated officers & directors of ...

RotaryHistory.org

also known as

rotaryfirst100.org

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Mission Statement

To accumulate and preserve the early history of Rotary on the internet.

Rotary's Global History Project maintains these additional web addresses:

www.room711.org (Where Rotary Was Born)

www.1905.info (The First Club)

www.paulharris.info (What Paul Harris Said)

www.findingpaulharris.org (All About Paul Harris)

www.earlyleaders.org (Those who created Rotary)

www.friendshiptrees.org (The Goodwill trips of Jean and Paul Harris)

www.jeanharris.org (Founder's Wife)

www.rotaryafrica.org

www.rotaryasia.org

www.rotaryaustralia.org

www.rotarynewzealand.org

www.rotaryeurope.org

www.rotarynorthamerica.org

www.rotarycanada.org

www.rotaryireland-uk.org

www.rotarysouthamerica.org

RHHIF Webmaster **Jari Palvola** invites you to visit the web site for dues-paying members of the Rotary Heritage & History International Fellowship,

www.rhhif.org

This Fellowship needs YOU!

Helping save *Comely Bank* begins by keeping the Rotary Heritage and History International Fellowship financially strong . Please send \$100 for six years dues, or \$20 for 2002-2003 dues.

Please renew Fellowship dues before 30 June

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SHARE ROTARY HERITAGE & HISTORY is published by the Rotary Heritage & History International Fellowship, referred to in this publication as *RHHIF*. The abbreviation "R. I." is added to indicate an officer of Rotary International; in its absence, references to Directors and Officers in *this publication* are officers and directors of *this fellowship*. Correspondence for the editor can be sent to: PDG Jack Mayo, PMB-164, 3300 Bee Cave Road, Austin, TX 78746-6663 USA or Email: jackmayo@bigfoot.com

Comely Bank (from page 1)

The current entrance to the house is at the rear or West Side through a 3-inch solid wooden door with a small metal sliding peep window. Entry is into the kitchen and family room with access to the front of the house through a narrow hallway to the living room, which has a fireplace, and opening on to an attached sun porch where Paul Harris spent many hours reading. Off of the hallway on the northeast corner of the first floor is an office partitioned off of what was a dining room and is now the family room. There is a half bath and entrance to the basement located on the south side of the hallway between the kitchen and living room.

Access to the up-stairs is by a two-segmented flight of stairs alongside the front entrance to the front of the house. The first landing has two offset large stained glass windows. Paul and Jean's master bedroom is in the northwest portion of the upstairs with two large windows overlooking the rear yard. Three smaller bedrooms and a full bath are located upstairs. The Beverly Historical Society provided original drawings of house. Some remodeling has been made to the inside of the house. The heating system has recently been replaced.

You can help!

Our goal is to identify a Comely Bank Rep in each Rotary District to encourage donations and take orders for Rotary plaques harvested from trees that shaded the Paul Harris grave site and adjacent President's Memorial Walkway. To be district rep, email jackmayo@bigfoot.com or to order one of the commemorative plaques use the coupon at right.

The \$1000 figure is certainly not a minimum amount a person might donate; it is the minimum for which a serialized and personalized plaque will be shipped. Donations of any amount are appreciated. US Dollar checks should be payable to the "Paul and Jean Harris' Home Foundation"

*** Rotary Heritage Trail**

Go to our web site rhhif.org for the Rotary Heritage Trail. Our map starts at the Racine Wisconsin birthplace of Paul Harris, then gives you a 90 minute drive south to the RI Headquarters to see Room 711 and Paul's law office (both are inside RI's Headquarters), then you drive past (and someday go into) Comely Bank, and finally down to Mount Hope Cemetery. The trip could be done in half a day, or enjoy each stop with a full day.



PHOTO: Paul Harris at his desk in the house "we named *Comely Bank* after the street in Edinburgh where [his wife Jean] spent the days of her childhood & youth."

Comely Bank Plaques

The plaques are made from trees that shaded the Paul Harris Memorial and Presidential Walkway at Mount Hope Cemetery, final resting place of Rotary Founder Paul Harris and his good friend Silvester Schiele who served as the first President of the first Rotary Club.

Plaques with serial numbers recognize those donating US\$1000 or more. Club plaques which will probably include the right to hold one club meeting per year at *Comely Bank* will be priced according to club size. For details, phone Jim Alden 616-623-5853, or email him at: jalden@prodigy.net

Please complete and return this coupon with your \$1000 check payable to the "Paul and Jean Harris' Home Foundation"

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Country/Zip _____
 Rotary Club of _____
 Mail to: PDG James M. Alden, PO Box 465,
 11382 E. Pointe Drive, Delton, MI 49046

Rotary Heritage & History

Hall of Fame

Nomination Form

I nominate a Rotarian who has served Rotary for 50 years or more for induction in the Rotary Heritage and History Hall of Fame. Nominee's name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Country _____

Nominee is a member of the Rotary Club of _____

If other clubs are included in continuous service, please attach a list of clubs and dates.

Nominator is: _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____
 Country/Zip _____
 Rotary Club of _____

Unless requested otherwise, the certificate is sent to the Nominator for presentation to the Nominee.

Enclose \$50.00 check payable to RHHIF

Send nomination form and check to:

RHHIF Hall of Fame Manager

Polly Smith

5009 Forest Grove

Loves Park, IL 61111

Email: post28@juno.com

Hall of Fame Policy

Any RHHIF member in good standing may nominate an eligible Rotarian for the Hall of Fame. The \$50 fee covers a framed certificate and shipping costs. The recipient is a lifetime "Hall of Fame Member" of this Fellowship.

Questions? Phone Polly Smith 815-877-4131 (Illinois, USA).

COUNT ME IN!

Rotary Heritage & History International Fellowship membership form.

I (signed) Rotarian _____ would like to become a member of the Rotary Heritage and History International Fellowship and participate in its objective – to advocate and promote the collection of Rotary heritage and encourage similar activity by others devoted to the preservation, growth and appreciation of the service club movement; keep alive the fellowship and mutual friendships created by Harris, Schiele, Shorey and Loehr who first met in Room 711 of Chicago's Unity Building on February 23, 1905; and, exchange information about Rotary club, district and international heritage and history through the fellowship's publication **SHARE ROTARY HERITAGE & HISTORY**.

Name (printed) _____ Address _____

City _____ State/Province/Country _____

mail address _____ Member in good standing of Rotary Club of _____

Enclose dues = US\$20 per year circled (\$100 = 6 years) 2002-2003 2003-2004 2004-2005 2005-2006 2006-2007 2007-2008

Mail to: Stuart B. Smith, Treasurer, 5009 Forest Grove, Loves Park, IL 61111 USA



Left to Right: Bill Sturgeon, Governor of District 5340; Dick Murphy, Mayor of San Diego; Rick King, President of Rotary International; Paul Hartley, President of the Rotary Club of San Diego; Ron Beaubien, R. I. Director-Elect (2003-2005)

the War Bond campaign, Rotarians were instrumental in bringing both a Navy boot camp and a Marine Corps Recruit Depot to San Diego; with defense industry jobs playing a major role in county's growth ever since.

The club regards children as its top priority. Club 33 members established the county's Boy Scout Council and its Big Brothers program. Club 33's Monarch High School has become a model for homeless youth education programs nationwide. Since 1976, Rotary Camp Enterprise has let high school juniors experience the opportunities and responsibilities of the American free enterprise business model. A Rotaract Club at San Diego State University and Interact Clubs in several high schools are sponsored and mentored by Club 33.

With approximately 550 members, the Rotary Club of San Diego is now larger than any other Rotary Club in California, including its "parent" in Los Angeles. A small group of Los Angelenos carried Club #5's Rotary banner south to San Diego where they were greeted by Ernie Shields and ten others. Meeting in the U. S. Grant Hotel's Bivouac Grill in September 1911, they elected Carl Heilbron their Charter President. The group had grown to 66 Charter Members by 2 June 1913 when they received their Charter from the world headquarters of a movement that had "gone international" in November of 1910 with a club in Winnipeg Canada, soon followed by clubs in Ireland, Great Britain and Europe.

In 1921 San Diego Rotarians sponsored a new club in El Centro which, in turn, sponsored Brawley and Calexico — Club 33's child and grandchildren, so the speak. Today thousands of Rotarians south of Los Angeles are part of the family, as shown in the chart (below) of club 33's "Family Tree."

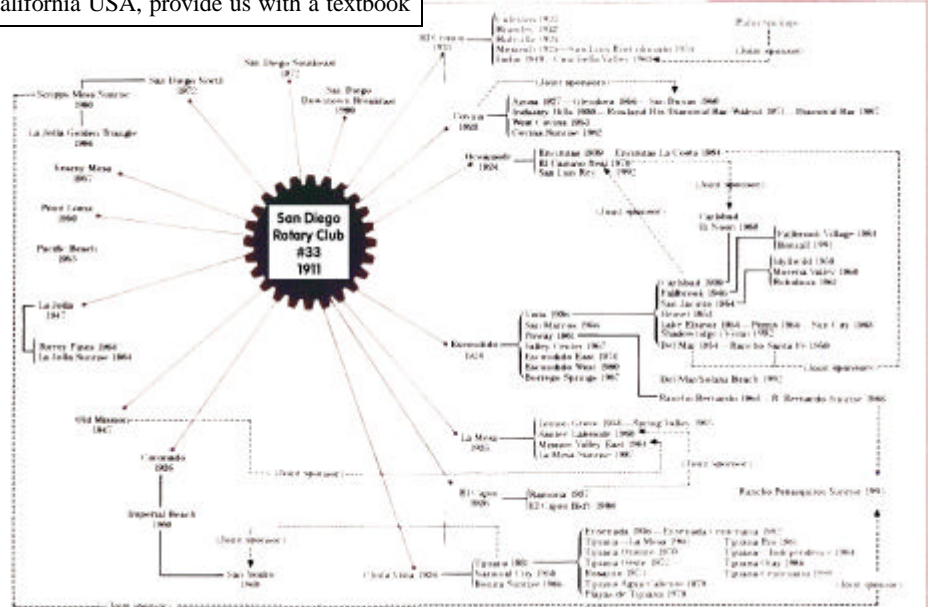
Club 33's 90th Anniversary

Anniversaries of nonprofit organizations create opportunities to publicize the accomplishments and contributions of the organization to its community. The ideal anniversary event shows how the passage of time has invested the club's corporate memory with the maturity and strength to deal with change, thus keeping the club in tune with the times. Good anniversary events use the club's heritage as a springboard to propel members into current and future community service projects.

President Paul Hartley, Executive Secretary Chet Lathrop, and their fellow members of Rotary's 33rd club, the Rotary Club of San Diego California USA, provide us with a textbook

example of how to do it. In addition to filling the city's largest ballroom for inspiring anniversary messages from Rotary International President Rick King and San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy; Club 33 produced both an anniversary book and a video cassette that will be valuable assets to both new members and to club outreach efforts. The wisely crafted message of both book and video is the story of the remarkable impact this club has had on both its local community and upon beneficiaries of their international service projects. Example: Mercy Outreach Surgical Teams known as Project MOST are held in high esteem on both sides of the United States - Mexican border for lives saved and enhanced.

Early members of Club 33 directed and promoted the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition that awakened and energized the city. Its nearly 4 million visitors foretold the city's future as a major tourist destination, and the Exposition site in Balboa Park is an enduring asset comparable to New York City's Central Park. Leading



FAMILY TREE: clubs sponsored by the Rotary Club of San Diego