

HISTORY OF THE COLDWATER ROTARY CLUB
COLDWATER, MICHIGAN
BY ERNEST LUSE

The history of the Coldwater Rotary Club covers a period of 58 years. Many changes have occurred during this period of time, but one fact remains- the four avenues of service have been the same, or improved upon.

The organizational meeting of the Coldwater Rotary Club was held on November 18, 1921, at St. Mark's Parish House, with a large attendance of visiting Rotarians. The Coldwater Club was sponsored by the Hillsdale Club.

Charter members were; (22)

George M. Branch	Edward G. Legg
C. O'Neill Carroll	Harrison L. Milnes
Hugh W. Clarke	Charles R. Osborn
Fred E. Chambers	Roy J. Shattuck
Oliver J. Deabler	Dr. Samuel Schultz
Edward C. Freeland	Herbert L. Sloman
Albert J. Fisk	Roswell B. Strong
Clarence C. Jones	Frank W. Treat
Ira F. King	John E. Thompson
Robert A. Kerr	Bert R. Warner
Harry D. Lansing	Frank Rowe

On January 5, 1922 the charter was presented to the Coldwater Club. George Barnes was District Governor, charter #1044 and located in the 9th district.

The original officers of the club:

President--Frank Rowe
Vice President--O'Neill Carroll
Secretary--Hugh Clarke
Treasurer--Rollo Thompson
Sargeant at Arms--Frank Treat
Directors--Herbert Sloman--Harry Lansing and Fred Chambers.

The records indicate that the Secretary prepared a summary of each weekly meeting. Warner Van Aken joined the club February 17, 1922. At the date of his death he had perfect attendance for a period of 59 years. There have been five secretaries to date-Hugh Clark-Chick Kennedy-George Pierce, Ernest Luse and Robert Rumsey.

Glen Cowell joined the club January 24, 1922 and is the only member from the Coldwater Rotary Club to be District Governor.

The following dates cover specific events:

February 3, 1925-Rotary Club Minstrel presented to children at State School

May 14, 1929-Ninety nine present for Ladies' Night.

1931 Club studying unemployment situation in Coldwater, conditions bad.

April 26, 1932-Gordon Schlubatis in charge and talked on the work of the 4H Clubs. Several farm friends were guests.

October 15, 1935-Meeting was dedicated to that game bird of game birds, The Ring Necked Pheasant.

December 1, 1936-First action in minutes that Rotary show be held.

February 9, 1937-Profit from Rotary show \$400.00 to \$450.00 for the benefit of High School Band Uniform Fund.

May 3, 1937-Charter night for newly organized Quincy Rotary Club.

1945-Beginning of Tri-State Rally at Potawatomi Inn.

Angola, Montpelier and Coldwater

The records indicate that the best known community projects cover

Rotary Show

Tibbits Theatre

Rotary Park

Various projects-Coldwater High School

Outstanding activities in service to Youth:

United Nations Assembly at Hillsdale

Wolverine Boys State

Camp Emery

Exchange students

Crippled Children Fund

Conservation Courses-3 in 1967

Boy Scout cabin

Our most effective International service projects consisted of assisting 2 boys from Mexico coming to U. S. for year of education and assisting in completing school house in Mexico.

The membership of the Coldwater Rotary Club as of October 1, 1979 is ninety nine, which is the highest in the history of the club. The age bracket is evenly divided so that it cannot be said that we have an "Old Men's Club"

The club throughout the years has had three regular meeting places: St. Mark's Church, Arlington Hotel and BPOE.

It is the hope of the present members that the Club will continue to increase and be of more assistance to the community.

COLDWATER ROTARY CLUB

Club Presidents

1921-22	Frank Rowe	1954-55	Ernest W. Luse
1922-23	Frank Rowe	1955-56	Torg Skabo
1923-24	Harrison L. Milnes	1956-57	Fritz Van Aken
1924-25	Robert A. Kerr	1957-58	Lester Wise
1925-26	Bert R. Warner	1958-59	Richard Biringer
1926-27	Sigmund L. Wing	1959-60	Harvey Bent
1927-28	Albert J. Fiske	1960-61	Donald Harris
1928-29	W. Glenn Cowell	1961-62	Duke Davidson
1929-30	Charles F. Ramsey	1962-63	John Dean
1930-31	Herbert F. Lee	1963-64	Clyde Williams
1931-32	Robert L. Wade	1964-65	Axner Olson
1932-33	Wm. H. Frankhauser	1965-66	Fred Culy
1933-34	John N. Hardy	1966-67	Fred Anderson
1934-35	Robert E. Sharer	1967-68	Robert Nagle
1935-36	Frank C. Mooney	1968-69	Doug Woodward
1936	Harry L. Taylor	1969-70	Godfrey Collins
	(Finished Mooney's Term)	1970-71	Robert Rumsey
1936-37	Roy D. Putnam	1971-72	Richard Moore
1937-38	Harold J. McKnight	1972-73	John Klein
1938-39	Herbert G. Hurrell	1973-74	Santford Jolley
1939-40	Norman G. Kohl	1974-75	Paul Thompson
1940-41	Carl F. Vinton	1975-76	James Lyon
1941-42	Frank K. Evans	1976-77	Hal Sexton
1942-43	John A. Kennedy	1977-78	Charles Geishert
1943-44	Frederick H. Weeks	1978-79	Richard Uhl
1944-45	Wayne R. Johnson	1979-80	David Rubley
1945-46	George E. Kershaw		
1946-47	Howard M. Teeter		
1947-48	Tom Shaw		
1948-49	Webster Treat		
1949-50	Kenneth Putnam		
1950-51	Mark S. Andrews		
1951-52	Robert Shaw		
1952-53	Charles Woodward		
1953-54	Edward C. Holtz		