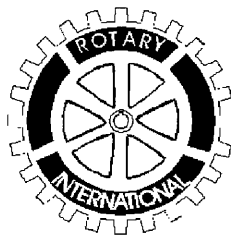


# The first 25 years of The Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls



Compiled and written by

Charles McInnes, 1968



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## 1943 History of the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls

(Retyped from the original that is believed to have been prepared by Charlie McInnes, Charter President, in 1968)

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1943 the Rotary Club of Lindsay held their regular meeting in the "Mansion House" Fenelon Falls, with a view to forming a Rotary Club here.

Present at the meeting were Mr. Harmon Rice of Huntsville, District Governor of this district, ex-District Governor Dan McQuarrie, Lindsay; Harry Stone, President of the Lindsay Club and Frank Weldon, Secretary of the Lindsay Club.

The District Governor outlined the aims and objects of Rotary and explained the various steps in the formation of a club. The members from Lindsay offered to assist us in any way possible in the formation and start-off of a club in Fenelon Falls.

After a pretty frank and thorough discussion, it was decided to go ahead and form "The Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls." A considerable amount of spade work had already been carried out before this meeting and the following had agreed to join if a club were formed, this list became the Charter Member list.

### *Charter Members List*

George Allen	Max Brandon	Rev. M. E. Burch
Thos. E. Carr	James H. Curtis	A.J. Gould
Foster M. Graham	G.C. Graham	W. S. Havery
Harry Kriger	John McGibbon	Charles R. McInnes
Thomas H. Moffatt	Wellie McFarland	Mossom Robson
David A. Scott	Alfred E. Tiers	Earl Vanatter
Albert C. Welk	Wm. J. Moore	Morris C. Mills

From this list the following officers were chosen to head up the new club: President, Chas. McInnes; Vice Pres., Max Brandon; Secretary, Albert Welk; Treasurer, Wm. J. Moore; Sgt. At arms, J. Curtis; Directors, G. C. Graham, Geo. Allen, Foster M. Graham, M. W. Robson.

Meetings to be held in the Mansion House at 6:45 p.m. each Thursday. Nominations to be held the first Thursday in April and elections the second Thursday. So ended the Inaugural Meeting of the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls. The initial spin was given the new Rotary wheel. How long would it keep going? The answer lay in the future.



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The first project that was undertaken by the Club as a means of introducing ourselves to the public, was a skating carnival held on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1944. In charge of arrangements for the carnival were Monty Robson and Max Brandon. Right here the club showed its keen perception in picking these two members, whose enthusiasm and sense of showmanship along with the full and active cooperation of the rest of the club guaranteed a first class show.

The net proceeds of the carnival amounted to over two hundred dollars and we were on our way. Grants to the skating rink of sixty-five dollars and the Red Cross Society twenty-five dollars were the beginnings of our charitable works.

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944 at the nomination meeting it was moved by Alf Tiers, seconded by Wellie McFarland "That the same slate of officers as at present continue in office for the next Rotary Year". This motion carried with the result that the officers then holding office did so until the end of June 1945, or almost 19 months.

*Charter Night - April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1944*

1944

We purposely record the minutes of this meeting in red ink because this was truly a Red Letter Day in the life of our Club.

At 6:45 p.m. our regular dinner hour, the largest concourse of Rotarians ever assembled in this community together with many local citizens, gathered at the United Church and partook of an outstanding dinner prepared by the Women's Association of that Church.

In due time, feeling pounds heavier, due to the hearty meal, years younger due to the Rotarian Fellowship that seemed to permeate the very atmosphere, and with lighter hearts due to the hope of a brilliant future dawning for our Club and a better village in which to live on account of the creation of Rotary in Fenelon Falls, we confidently and with much joy gathered in the town hall for the evening's program.

Rotary Club 5,718 was officially ushered into this world and christened and given its charter by Governor Harmon E. Rice of Huntsville, and the right in the great name of Rotary for us to "do onto others as we would have done onto ourselves".

To say that this meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem would not be strictly correct. It closed with many a hearty handshake of new-found friends and with a very much greater understanding on the part of our members of the true ideals of Rotary and Rotary Fellowship, and a great yearning for more.



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*Sky Queen Day -- June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1944*

For about a year prior to this date, an intensive drive had been put on to have the school children of Victoria and Haliburton buy enough War Savings Stamps to purchase a "hurricane" service aircraft for the use of the Canadian Air Force, which was to be called "The Sky Queen". This objective had been attained and a monster celebration was in order.

Dan McQuarrie, Chairman of the County committee suggested that this celebration be held in Fenelon Falls and that our Club sponsor and take charge of this activities. We agreed to do so.

By ten o'clock school children under the guidance of their teachers began to arrive, and from then on it was a steady stream of children, parents and teachers coming into the village.

The parade formed at the old Public School and moved off at 1:30, headed for the old fair grounds south of the village. The parade was headed by the RCAF band from Trenton. There were over a thousand children in the parade, waving flags, carrying their school colors and banners, the like of which had never been seen before in the village of Fenelon Falls.

Among the speakers were Hon. J. M. Gibson, minister of Internal Revenue of Canada, who spoke on the success of the children's work and what it meant to the Government to know that the children are well as the adults were behind the war effort.

During the program a Hurricane and a Lancaster bomber made repeated fly-pasts over the grounds. After the speech-making the children had their fun, sports and races as well as hot dogs, pop and lemonade were served.

The day came to an end. The last car moved out of the grounds, but it was far into the night before the receipts were counted. After supplies were paid for and prizes given to the schools with the largest percentage sales of War Savings Stamps, the net profits on the day amounted to almost \$2,000.

This day really set the Club up in business financially. Small wonder that at our next meeting a vote of thanks from the club was passed to Dan McQuarrie our "Fairy God-Father", for having brought us this bonanza.

The next highlight was the official visit of Thos. Rogers of Toronto, District Governor, on August 30, 1944, who inspired us with a sense of our obligations to Rotary in particular and mankind in general.



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Then came our first "Ladies Night" which was held at Lindsay in St. Paul's Parish Hall, with the Lindsay Club as our hosts. This was a completely enjoyable affair.

We have had a fine group of speakers during the year, from such widespread places as China, Cuba, Trinidad, and the United States, as well as several "Classification" talks by our own members. We also purchased a Gestetner for publishing our bulletin "The Scratcher". We made donations to the Rink Committee, the Red Cross, the British War Victims Fund, the Canadian Legion Cigarette Fund and the Juvenile Hockey Club.

After over on year and six months the final meeting of the Charter President was a Ladies' Night held at Byrnell Manor which unfortunately came to an abrupt end. After proposing a toast to Rotary International, the Rev. W. T. Roberts collapsed and passed away. Everyone was deeply shocked and saddened as Mr. Roberts was an outstanding Rotarian of long years before coming to Fenelon Falls. A most sincere man whose concluding remarks to his audience were to place service above self and endeavor to bring happiness into the lives of others. He had carried out this principle himself to the very end.

#### President George Allen

1945

President George got his year off to a good start with two street dances. The first was on July 6<sup>th</sup> and the second on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The net profit on these two dances was \$530. Street dances were quite popular in those years.

On September 6<sup>th</sup> the District Governor, W. G. Hetherington of Quebec visited the Club. He seemed to think we were making excellent progress for such a young club.

Later in the same month we entertained the Kinsman Club of Bobcaygeon at Cedar Villa Lodge. The speaker of the evening was a Kiwanian from New York; this was rather unique, a Rotary Club entertaining a Kinsman Club with a Kiwanian as guest speaker. Our horizons were being rapidly broadened from a service club point of view.

Owing to the distress in Great Britain and Europe caused by bitter storms and floods a request came to us to supply quantities of clothing for the needy. In conjunction with the Women's Institute we gathered, cleaned, packed and shipped 88 cartons of good clothing totaling 760 pounds.

Under the chairmanship of Monty Robson we held for the first time what was called a Rural-Urban night. Each member brought a



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farmer friend, and the evening was so well received it was at once decided to make this an annual affair.

Thirteen members attended the Charter Night of the Orillia Club, and helped welcome Orillia into the widening fold of Rotary.

The club at this time decided to become a member of the Ontario Society for Crippled Children through a membership fee of fifty cents per member. This was brought about by a very persuasive talk to the club by Miss Ross of the Society.

As a move toward attracting tourists to the area, the club arranged with the village council to employ the town clerk to manage an information bureau for the summer months.

A 3-day chest clinic was held April 11, 12, and 13<sup>th</sup> at which 1781 examinations were made; one active and two inactive cases ( of TB) were discovered. Again the Women's Institute played a very active part in this joint effort.

Municipal Night, another innovation, at which the club played host to the various municipal bodies and boards of the village – Council, Water Light and Power, Library, School Board. The guest speaker was the Hon. Leslie Frost, Provincial Treasurer whose topic was "Mining in Ontario."

Other guest speakers during the year were: Ernie Chapman from Camp Kagawong on Boy's Camps; Cecil Frost on what to do with post-war Germany; Lieut. Col. Lambert on rehabilitation of handicapped returned soldiers; Dr. George Johnstone on service with the Canadian Army Medical Corps during which he had the honour of patching up General Bernard Montgomery.

Another pleasant affair was the presentation of a coffee table to our own Max Brandon in honour of his marriage to Miss Betty Hughes of Peterborough.

Looking back over his year, president George has every right to take pride in the accomplishments of the club under his guidance. On the last meeting in June, George handed over the gavel to Dr. Grattan Graham, the incoming president for next year.

## 1946 President Grattan Graham

In October we moved our place of meeting from the Falls Hotel (formerly the Mansion House) to the Hearthstone Lodge with Mrs. F. Holliday as hostess.



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On January 31<sup>st</sup> we held our second winter carnival. The Oshawa Skating Club provided the majority of the entertainment. Unfortunately the weather failed to cooperate. Many of the side-roads were blocked with snow, and had it not been that we had a good pre-sale of tickets we could have gone in the hole pretty badly. However with receipts of \$736. And expenditures of \$519. We still showed a fair profit, and put on an excellent show.

As a service to the people of the area we purchased a number of hospital beds and steel chairs which were soon in use. No charge was to be made for their use but invariably when a bed or chair was returned a good donation was received. This was a very much appreciated service to the community.

Another service which received ready acceptance was the "Green Benches" placed around the town where one could take a bit of a rest and watch the world go by.

Monty Robson was elected president for the coming year and in May was presented with a coffee-table in honour of his marriage to Miss Beulah Hanthorn. There goes the last of our bachelors.

Interesting speakers during the year were Dr. Malcolm McEachern; his Honour Judge McGibbon of Lindsay; Commander Jas. Alley of the U.S. Navy who had left Japan just five days before; Syl Appls of Maple Leaf hockey fame who spoke to a very appreciative group of our guests from our juvenile hockey team; Mr. Clyde Gregory of Cuba, builder of sugar refineries in most countries of the world where sugar is grown; Ken Munnings of Ontario Hydro, on his training as a navigator in the Canadian Air Force during the war.

One more service which the club provided this year was the installation of a number of pieces of playground equipment in the market square for the benefit of the younger children of the village. Swings, slides, teeters, sandboxes and so on were all provided which proved very popular with the young folk.

So ended the third year of Rotary, a year of which any president might well be proud. In his closing address of the year, president Grattan remarked that one of the finest things he had found was the readiness of all members to work harmoniously together once a worthwhile objective had been established.

#### President Monty Robson

1947

One of the most important projects ever undertaken by the club, and one with the most far-reaching effect undoubtedly was the



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“Swimming Instruction Classes” known as the “Red Cross Water Safety Program.”

The initial impetus was given by Mr. Gordon Minty of Peterborough who had been associated with this program for some time. He brought with him Mr. Bill Lech a qualified instructor. They pointed out to us the advantages of such a program, situated as we are with a lake above and one below us with a river and a canal joining the two flowing right through the town.

It did not take long for the club to decide to inaugurate such a course and engage Mr. Lech as instructor for the season. No charges were made by the club for this service to the community, yet no project launched by the club has given greater satisfaction. The Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls is certainly indebted to Gord Minty and Bill Lech for their efforts in persuading our club to sponsor this activity.

In the late autumn a series of disastrous floods struck Great Britain which was just beginning to recover from the effects of the war. A relief agency was set up in Toronto known as the Ontario British Flood Relief Plan. To this fund we sent a cheque for \$244.41 the results from a hurriedly organized dance.

On the other hand, Ernie Chapman, owner of Camp Kagowong presented us with a substantial cheque for our Crippled Children’s Work, the proceeds of their annual carnival.

President Monty had the honour of being guest speaker at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Minden at Ellencliff Lodge in September and from all reports acquitted himself nobly.

Our club sponsored a Sunday afternoon band concert at the lakeside park by the Peterborough Brass Band which was a very popular event. We just do not have enough of this sort of amusement these days. Band music is the sort of entertainment that everyone seems to enjoy.

District Governor Ken Smith of Leaside who had just returned from a rotary International conference in San Francisco gave us a very complete report of it and told us how very impressive it was to one who had never had that privilege before.

August 6<sup>th</sup> was water sports day with a dance at night all of which turned out very well as a crowd pleaser as well as financially.

The District Conference was held at the Royal York in Toronto, April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Our club was well represented by a good delegation all of whom came home with the firm resolve to make Rotary in Fenelon





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Falls even more meaningful than in the past. R. E. was represented by Daniel L. March, President of Boston University.

Our meetings are being held at the Hearthstone Lodge with Mrs. Gred Holliday as hostess. The place is bright and cheery and the food good.

One of our many outstanding speakers this year was Col. Eberlee, Principal of Lindsay Collegiate, who presented a very fine address on "Education as taught in the Army Overseas". This was a real revelation to us all.

Dr. Foster Graham was elected president for the coming year. Jim Thomson treasurer and Chas. McInnes secretary. Another year in the life of the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls has rolled by. A year of Achievement and progress, on which has been satisfactory to both the club and the President.

President Dr. Foster Graham

1948

One of the important problems facing any incoming president is always the matter of finances. Prior to taking office the president sets up his working committees for his year, and among those committees the one concerned with the finances of the club – The Ways and Means Committee – is of utmost importance.

With this in mind this committee chose August 11<sup>th</sup> as a "Bid Day". First a parade, then a baseball tournament, a draw for a boat and motor, games and races, and finally a street dance to finish off the day. Committees were set up to look after each activity.

One of the pleasant things in being a tourist centre is the large number of visiting Rotarians who attend our meetings in the summer season. At one meeting in August we had as visitors two from Byertown Pa., two from Cleveland Ohio, one from Lorrain Ohio, one from Cambridge Mass., two from Buffalo N.Y., two from Toronto, one from Camberwell Club of London England, one from Leaside and one from Harrow Ontario. This all has the effect of making us conscious of the world-wide concept of Rotary International.

Some of our outstanding speakers during the year were, Hon. David Croll M.P. for Windsor, Rev. Col. Sydney Lambert, and the champion plowman of Canada, Mr. Alvin Mark of Cameron who had just returned from taking part as Canada's representative at the World International Plowing match in Ireland.

In a speech by Mr. William Bain (who later became a member) he brought up the idea of a recreation field for the area with such compelling

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logic and persuasion that in a few short weeks we had rented with the option of buying a five acre property from Max Brandon at the north end of the village. This was later graded and leveled and seeded the following spring and officially opened on July 1.

It is not every president who has the privilege of inducting his own son into Rotary, but this was the case when President Foster inducted his son Dr. W. M. Graham into the club nearing the end of his year.

The president attended the Rotary International Convention in New York city in June and brought back an enthusiastic report of what goes on at one of these important affairs and the inspiration it brings to anyone attending such a convention.

To end his year the retiring president said, "Each year Rotary has contributed much for the betterment of our community and each succeeding year is a challenge to greater service."

## 1949 President Earl Vanatter

The official opening of our new sports field took place on July 1. Weather was perfect, crowd was huge, and after speeches by Premier Frost, Syl Apps and past-president Foster and President Vanatter, baseball got underway, races and games took up the rest of the afternoon. A dance at the Cameo Dance Pavilion operated by Jack Marshall finished off a very important and profitable day to start President Vanatter's year off properly.

This year was marked by an unusual number of outstanding speakers. One of the first was Mr. Frank C. Irwin, Canadian Commissioner of "Boy Scouts of Canada." John Knox mining engineer who spoke on "Labrador Explorations" was also appreciated. Mr. Jack Beardall of Chatham owner of the Radio Station there spoke on the operation of Radio Stations as well as their construction. Squadron leader John Gellner spoke on the threat of Communism to the western world. Russell Hartill of Cambridge Ohio was another speaker. Edger Harrison, vice-president of the Aluminum Company of Canada pointed out that Canada had supplied 40% of all the aluminum used by the Western Allies in the last war. Rev. G. A. Sinclair of Gulfport Florida formerly of western Canada spoke on "The Trail of '98". Mr. Lou Pierce of Myrtle Point Oregon a former Fenelon Falls boy presented the club with a gavel made from myrtle wood. Mrs. Frank Weldon of Lindsay spoke about the Grenfell Mission of Labrador and the work being carried out there by Sir Grenfell. Annis Stukus spoke of the founding of the Edmonton Eskimo football club. Mrs. Thelma Thompson of Lindsay (Lawyer) addressed the



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club on the necessity of making one's will and various points of law with regard to succession duties.

Another new feature was established in the introduction of an "Octogenarian Night" when the club played host to all the men in the village of 80 years or more. These included Messers A. E. Minthorne, Issac Naylor, William Hetherington, James Lamb, William Reid, James Havery, William Graham, Robert Moffatt, Martin Haskell, John Hand and Walter Everson. Naturally, stories and yarns about the "Good Old Days" were the entertainment features of the evening.

A second father-son combination was established when Bill Allen joined the club as second active to his father, George.

Others who joined the club this year were Carl Hepburn, Bill Murchison and Walter Gamble whose chief aim in life is to make the lot of crippled children a little happier.

## 1950 President Milburn Kelly

One of the first activities of the club for this year was a Regatta on Cameron Lake. Sea-fleas, powerboats, water skiing, trick canoeing, swimming races and a race across the lake all added up to a lot of fun and entertainment. Good weather and good crowds also helped make the day a real success; not the least of which was the net proceeds of over \$400.

The club now decided to take up the purchase option on the Recreation Field rather than continue to pay rent.

Youth Night was held in December at which 20 of the youth of the village were entertained. Guest speaker for this occasion was Mr. Fulton Stewart Photographer of Lindsay.

Early in the new year we moved to the Cameo Tea Room where Jack and Jean Marshall made us very much at home. Jack's piano playing ability added a great deal to the entertainment side of our meeting.

Bruce Armstrong manager of the Bank of Montreal a very valuable member, having been moved; his successor Lyle Cordick was soon received into the club along with Burnie Bell and Jack Barrett.

Once again our Rural Urban Night brought out about 30 farmer guests who were addressed by R. Ross Strike MLA, vice chairman of the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario. Mr. Ross dealt with the problem of trying to keep the supply of power ahead of the ever increasing demand within the province.



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Elections for the following year took place in March and resulted in the election of Dr. Bill Graham president, Herb Townley vice president, C. McInnes and Jim Thomson to carry on as secretary and treasurer respectively, and directors Bill Allen, Walter Gamble, M.W. Robson and Ron Ritchie.

The president attended the Rotary International Convention in Atlantic City in June and came back with a glowing account of the satisfaction felt in attending such a worthwhile conference.

District conference was held in Toronto in May, and was attended by Bill Allen and Bill Graham who had also visited R. I. Headquarters in Chicago earlier in the year where they were made aware of all the services that R.I. could provide for all clubs.

One of the outstanding speakers in the early part of the year was Mr. Bill Hetherington, C.A. another local boy who made good, speaking on the Pitfalls Surrounding Small Business, a very appropriate subject for a small town.

Henry Brandonice of Frederickton Pa., spoke on the Coal Mining Industry in Pennsylvania: from first-hand experience

Mr. F. H. Keast, design engineer with Avro Engine Company, Toronto spoke on the design and development of jet engines in a way the layman could understand.

Rev. Max V. Putman, Presbyterian Minister talked to the club on The Handling of Criticism.

Bob Duncan was our high school student chosen this year as representative student for "Adventure in Citizenship".

District Governor Arthur Ferguson of Gravenhurst paid us his official visit and congratulated us on our club spirit and progress. Arthur is the type of District Governor who could inspire any club to give of the best within its power.

1951

President Bill Graham

On July 26<sup>th</sup> District Governor Ken Partridge of Brampton paid us his official visit, and in his speech entitled "The significance of Rotary" pointed out that Rotary was not a charitable organization even though it did considerable work along that line. It was not just a luncheon club, nor was it a business club; Rotary is a Service Club, providing fellowship as a means to service.

August 8<sup>th</sup> was selected as the date of another of our annual Big Days. George Allen was appointed coordinator of the affair and chairman

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of various activities were: Monty Robson, Jack Marshall, Herb Townley, Mark Fell, and Wilfred Jackett. Once again fortune and the weather smiled on us and another successful event chalked up to our credit.

The deal for the recreation field was finalized and paid for in the amount of \$3500.

Dr. L. C. Kitchen, professor at MacMaster University just back from a sabbatical year spent in India and Pakistan gave us a first hand version of the troubles besetting these unfortunate peoples.

An inter-city club meeting was held in October when 20 members of the Rotary Club of Toronto attended our meeting. Guest speaker was Bert Cowan of the Toronto Club, while Frank Oldfield, famous baritone and member of their club provided the musical part of the program. This was a meeting to be remembered.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, a service in memory of King George VI was held, with Rev. Max V. Putman in charge of the service. He paid fitting tribute to a great man.

A coffee table was presented to Al Graham on the happy occasion of his marriage to Miss Hazel Cunningham – the lucky guy.

Dr. Bill Service a recent addition to the Lindsay medical profession who was born in China and was the son of a Missionary, now a member of the Rotary Club of Lindsay spoke to us on China and the Orient – Yesterday and Today.

Theatre Night was our next big effort with a show at 7:00 and a second one at 9:15. Tickets for this event were all sold out beforehand.

Alex Reid of Niagara Falls Radio Station and a member of the staff at Camp Kagawong acted as MC and entertainer and that burly Scottish member of the Toronto Police Force, Hunter Murchison in full kilted regalia kept the toes all tapping with his rendition of Harry Lauder's and other songs dear to the hearts in the theatre that night. This along with other talent and the clubs own choruses of "Let's all Get Together", "Roll Rotary", "Smile and the World Smiles with You", and "R\*O\*T\*A\*R\*Y" provided a very successful evening's entertainment. And nobody asked for their money back.

Dr. Grant Hines of Ryerson Institute of Technology spoke to the club on Education, the Universities and Technical Schools.

Ladies Night was held in March, dining, dancing and music by Jack Marshall all amounted to an excellent evening.



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Once again election of officers for the coming year rolled around resulting in the election of Herb Townley as incoming president and Bill Murchison as vice-president.

About this time the school board began looking around for a location for the proposed new school. It was thought that our new Recreation Field would answer their purpose very well; a number of meetings took place between the club and the school board but the final decision was for the club to retain possession of this property as a recreation field.

An inter-city bonspiel and banquet was attended by three rinks from our club, all report a good time but no prizes.

Our Bulletin Committee for this year deserves a maximum mark for effort: our "Scratcher" has been everything a good bulletin should be. Take a bow, Mil Kelly, Lyle Cordick, Bill Bain and Walter Gamble.

Miss Jane Hepburn, daughter of our Sergeant at Arms, Carl was chosen for "The Adventure in Citizenship" at Ottawa this year and came to the club with a glowing report of her exciting time there.

A resuscitator for first-aid in drowning or electric shock cases was purchased by the club for use locally and placed in the charge of the Ontario Hydro staff.

So ended the year of Bill Graham: a year of many important decisions, a year of service to the community; of such things are Rotary Clubs made.

## 1952 President Herb Townley

The gavel, symbol of authority, having been handed over the past-president Bill Graham at the last meeting of the year to Herb, it was soon evident that we were in for another year of activity. No sooner was the new president installed than another Rotary sponsored Sports Day was being arranged. The date was set for August 6<sup>th</sup>, with a wide ranging group of activities to take place.

Once again the day was crowned with success. Total receipts were \$1520 and expenditures were \$511 leaving a nice substantial profit of just over a thousand dollars – not bad for a start. However, it just goes to prove that with the support of the whole club and that of the public who have come to realize that "if it is put on by the Rotary Club it has to be good", almost anything can be accomplished.

On a beautiful evening in early September, through the courtesy of Jim Curtis, with his big cruiser we held our meeting at Marshall



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Manor, Ball Point, Sturgeon Lake. After an excellent dinner and some good entertainment the trip home under a full harvest moon was something to be remembered.

District Governor Stan Everson of Oshawa paid us his official visit in October. His theme was "Fellowship is the motive power that activates the Rotary wheel." Once again our club was warmly congratulated on our enthusiastic progressiveness by the District Governor.

Also in October we entertained the Senior Baseball Club who showed their appreciation of the Rotary Ball Park by presenting us with a substantial cheque. Members of the club present were: Jack Vanatter, Albert Jackett, Keith Parkin, John and Lorne Robinson, Lloyd Worsley, Walter Brown, Joe Gamsby, Mel, Junkin, Verne Sheehy, Bill Bryana and Rev. M. V. Putman, along with their secretary, Mrs. Mattie Harding.

Jack Marshall, after a terrific selling job, talked the club into a Turkey Draw some months before Christmas. It was a "pay what you pull" type of draw. Every member had to sell a certain number of books OR ELSE. Well the result turned out much better than the skeptics anticipated. Our profit amounted to \$405 and Jack never once said "I told you so."

In December we visited Haliburton Club once again and heard first hand from Max Litner of Lindsay a pretty realistic account of the work of the British Intelligence.

The club gave a dinner for 25 children just before Christmas. The guest speaker was Pete McGillen, outdoors editor of the Toronto Telegram, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present.

Jim Allen was chairman of our Theatre Night this year and once again with an afternoon show for school pupils and two evening shows we cleared over \$400.

In June the usual Ladies Night was held at the Cameo Pavilion. Lindsay club members and their wives attended and the guest speaker was Dean Hurst of the College o Pharmacy, Toronto.

Elections produced the following results for the coming year: President – Bill Murchison; Vice-president – Bill Allen, Secretary – Jim Allen, Treasurer – Jim Thomson. Directors for one year were Bill Palmer and Carl Hepburn and for two years they were Lyle Cordick and Bill Bain. Obviously this was a good strong slate of officers.

Among some of the outstanding speakers we enjoyed hearing during the year was Rev. C. J. MacKay, Presbyterian Minister at Knox-



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Crescent Kensington Church Montreal whose subject was "Life's Windows."

Another rather unusual speaker, Mr. Khalid Butt of Pakistan, who had only been in Canada 18 months and yet was able to give us in fluent English a vivid description of his homeland.

Another year in the life of Rotary drew to a close. President Herb can well be justifiably proud of the progress made by our club under his capable guidance.

## 1953 President Bill Murchison

On taking over the gavel from past-president Herb Townley, President Bill called on the club members to try and accord him the same whole-hearted support that the previous presidents had received, and he promised to do all within his power to make this a productive year for the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls.

As usual one of the first activities was another Sports Day to be held on August 5<sup>th</sup>. He appointed Jack Barrett as coordinator of all committees, the result was once again a fine instance of everybody working together, and tremendous support from the people. Expenses were not too high and the gross take amounted to over \$1200.

Past District Governor Ken partridge of Brampton gave us an excellent report on the R.I. Convention which had been held in Paris, France. Also a congratulatory letter was received from past District Governor Stan Everson on our having attained a one hundred percent attendance record for the month of June.

In September we purchased two more Hospital beds and another wheel chair to supplement those already in use as more and more seem to be required.

A great deal of discussion took place about the Club's taking over and operating the skating rink. It was finally decided to go ahead with this project as it seemed difficult for the village to find anyone to carry it on and it was felt this was a service we could undertake for the benefit of the children and young people of the village. Lyle Cordick was appointed chairman of the Rink Committee, and arrangements were made to carry out this operation. Mr. Morgan Robinson was engaged as ice maker and we were away.

District Governor Ray Jessop of Sudbury visited the club in October. He gave us a very inspiring talk on the Four Avenues of Rotary. Ray is the type who can provide the necessary inspiration to any club. He presented the Charter President on behalf of our club with a Lighter set,

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in acknowledgment of his services to the club for nearly 10 years. The senior baseball club members were also guests of the club that night.

A report on the conference held in Sudbury on September 27, 28, 29<sup>th</sup> was given not only by the President, but by Bill Allen, Jack Barrett, Foster Graham, and Abe Consky. Fenelon Falls had the largest representation of any club of its size at the conference. President Bill expressed his satisfaction at the number of members who attended, and the pleasure it afforded him to head such a delegation.

A picture of the Queen was presented to the new Public School by the president and Jack Barrett presented one to the Club; also the club gave one to the High School.

At the end of December the president reviewed the first six months of his Rotary year, and asked the club for its continued fine support.

A tenth anniversary of the club was held in December with guests from the Lindsay-Peterborough, Minden and Haliburton clubs. The charter president presided over the meeting and Dan McQuarrie regaled us with his earliest recollection of Chicago, the birth place of Rotary. It was a night to be remembered. Monty Robson then handed over to the charter president the Deed to the Recreation Park on behalf of the Sports Field committee.

Going back over the past ten years of the Club's existence it was found we had spent over \$15000 under the following chief headings: Crippled Children, Hospital beds and wheel chairs, resuscitators, playground equipment, green benches, sport field, skating rink, swimming instruction, etc. This alone fully justifies the feeling that the club has been a very important and useful asset to the village of Fenelon Falls.

Election of officers took place in March and the following slate will take over on July 1<sup>st</sup>: President – Bill Allen, Vice-president – Carl Hepburn, Secretary – Bill Shosenberg, Treasurer – Jim Thomson, Directors (1 year) – L. Cordick, Bill Bain (2 years) W. Palmer, C. McInnes.

In an attendance contest with the Lindsay club we were the winners. They very graciously entertained us to a dinner and evening's entertainment at Gilmar Lodge, Sturgeon Lake, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Another milestone in the life of our club drew to a close. It was a year in which much had been accomplished. The president had the



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satisfaction of handing over to his successor a club filled with vigor and enthusiasm and ready for action of any kind.

## 1954 President Bill Allen

We seem to be subjected to Ministerial speakers this year. First we had Rabbi Baskin from Hamilton introduced by Harry Kriger. His subject was "The ten noblest and wisest sayings ever written by man -- Ancient and modern."

The next minister was the Rev. Bill Patterson, United Church, whose subject was "Words". Then Father Coughlan of Kinmount spoke to the club and just to keep things in balance the next was the Rev. Harod James, Baptist, who spoke on south Africa.

A demonstration by the Bell Telephone Company at the High School of what was called a "Mirror Phone" proved very interesting and rather deflating of our respective egos when we heard what our voices really sounded like to other people.

The club decided to take on the Easter Seals campaign in the month of March for the first time. The results were very satisfactory for a first attempt. We mailed out to our area 3280 letters and received back 540 returns with a total of \$1484. This was divided half and half with the Ontario Crippled Children's Society and half to ourselves, for use in our own area for crippled children.

As 1955 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Rotary by Paul Harris in Chicago, it was felt that some special projects should be undertaken, so it was decided to clean up and improve Lakeshore park, especially where the swimming instruction takes place.

District Governor Basil Tippet of Toronto paid us his official visit in October and kept everyone on their toes. His talk was on the Fourth Object of Rotary, International Service.

March 30 was Variety Night once again, and as usual it turned out quite satisfactory. The whole club was involved.

We had a visit from the Haliburton Club at which Past District Governor Arthur Ferguson of Gravenhurst was guest speaker on the subject "Youth and Rotary".

In early April one of our Charter members, Max Brandon, passed away. He was a real asset to the club throughout his Rotary career.

Ladies Night was held in June at Edinborough Manor, Sturgeon Lake. Our old reliable quartet plus solos by Gwen White and Lillian Devitt as well as June Armstrong's report on her Adventure in



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Citizenship at Ottawa and an excellent dinner gave us all a comfortable feeling of another fine evening's entertainment.

Jack and Jean Marshall moved to Peterborough. We had lost our Pianist. Everyone felt bad as Jack's ability to play for our sign-songs was always one of the bright spots of all our meetings.

The club presented Jean with an Oil painting in recognition of her service to the club as our hostess.

A plaque in honour of the late Harry Kriger was placed in our meeting place by the club.

Twenty-five village boys were in attendance at a Christmas banquet in their honour given by the club. The speaker for this occasion was Rev. Bill Patterson one of our members whose subject was the word "Courage."

Bill Murchison was nominated our candidate as a governor of the Ross Memorial Hospital and at their annual meeting, elected.

Election of officers resulted in Carl Hepburn – President, Burnie Bell – vice president, Bill Shosenberg – secretary, Jim Thomson – treasurer. New directors were Al Graham and Jim Allen.

Copies of "The Four Way Test" were presented to both the Public and High Schools.

And so the yea drew to a close, another year of progress and expansion with continued success assured. It was a year of action.

### President Carl Hepburn

1955

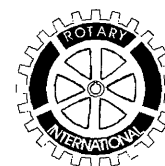
July 1<sup>st</sup> – a new year for the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls. A new president takes over and we are away. The very first day was another celebration put on by the club that evening, quite successful in the brand of entertainment and financially very gratifying. Net proceeds amounted to \$453.

Bill Peace, Mr. Rotary to our club, and now one of our members gave us a very interesting account of the early history of the Rotary Club of Toronto of which he was Charter President.

A very successful Aquatic Sports Day was held on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Boat and canoe races, power boats, water skiing, swimming races, all helped to make a very enjoyable and entertaining afternoon.

"Emergency" – The new management at the Cameo decides they will no longer accept our patronage. After a hasty bit of consultation we dined at the skating rink, mostly on ham sandwiches. However we were

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guests of the Lions Club at Coboconk the following week. Then for a few at the Alpine Hotel but as it is only a summer hotel we finally moved to Jim's Grill Restaurant on the main street.

A golf tournament at Byrnell Manor in September was very well attended.

November saw three new members inducted in one night. Gil Widdick (formerly with the Bert Niosi Orchestra) classification entertainment, Clint Thompson, High School Principal, Howard McInnes (Insurance - Industrial) were all inducted.

Miss Carol Anne Webster who had been our swimming and water safety chief instructor during the summer reported that out of 160 pupils enrolled, 140 of them passed their exams, which speaks well for her ability as an instructress.

Bingo at the rink which really got down to business with a \$250 jackpot as bait paid off pretty well this summer. Bill Palmer the main spark-plug showed a net profit of \$1565 for the season.

A father and son or daughter night was held at the United Church with about 35 boys and girls present to hear Dr. F. M. Graham tell about his trip to Northern Canada on the supply ship C. D. Howe.

Herb May is a well known radio announcer now with station CKLY in Lindsay. He gave us an outline of the trials and difficulties encountered in the building of the Lindsay station.

Miss Rudd, R.N. addressed the club on behalf of the Ontario Society for Crippled Children, making us aware of all the services provided by the Society.

As the facilities at Jim's Grill were not adapted to gatherings such as ours, we moved in February to the Penguin Restaurant, further up and on the west side of the main street. This later on became the Dutch Windmill under new management. Fred Webster and Rev. Tom Gault were inducted on our first evening in our new home. Shortly after this Mendham Platten the new funeral director in town was also inducted into the club.

While our Variety Show was quite successful from the point of attendance and entertainment the costs seem to be rising very rapidly. We took in \$975 but expenses amounted to over \$700 so our net profit was not enough for the work put into it. Some changes will have to be made.



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Municipal Night, Ladies' Night, and Rural Urban Night, were all successful. Our club hosted the Rotary Club of Haliburton and the Lions Club of Coboconk. Miss Pat Scobbie, our student in Adventure in Citizenship in Ottawa, entertained us with a very complete account of her experiences there.

After winning an attendance contest with Haliburton we were royally treated to a very enjoyable banquet, as well as some excellent entertainment. The trip was made by bus and certainly a good time was had by all.

Election of officers for the coming year produced the following results: President – Burnie Bell, Vice-president – Bill Bain who later resigned and was replaced by Jack Barrett, Secretary – Bill Shosenberg, Treasurer – Howard McInnes who replaced Jim Thomson after many years of service as a most capable treasurer.

One more year of satisfactory progress under president Carl drew to a close. It was a year of many varied achievements of which any president could be proud.

### President Burnie Bell

1956

We are still making The Penguin our meeting place. It is being operated by Evelyn and Fay Jackett who really make very excellent hostesses. However they later sold out to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bos, Dutch people who immediately changed the name to "The Dutch Windmill".

When the year started we all knew that with Burnie Bell at the helm, with his quick wit and his powers of persuasion, we were in for a busy, active year. So the first thing on the program was an Aquatic Sport Day held on August 8<sup>th</sup> and a show at the skating rink at night, along with square and round dancing on the concrete floor, but with lots of corn meal to keep the dust down, good music, and a good amiable crowd, everything went off well.

Our membership at this time was hovering around the fifty mark so there was always ample help whenever anything special was going on. Bingo was carried on every Friday night and turned in a nice profit once again.

The club committed itself to raising a total sum of \$3000 at the rate of \$1000 per year for three years toward the new wing to be added to the Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay. This commitment was subsequently honoured to the full as well as giving \$100 toward the furnishing of a room.



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A golf tournament was held at Byrnell Golf Course in September and the dinner at the Alpine Hotel followed with the usual prize-giving by President Burnie. Henry Popert had the best score for the day and a Lindsay foursome was tops.

Dr. Matthew Dymond of Port Perry, Minister of Health and Welfare in the Provincial Cabinet, a Scottish Presbyterian, gave us a very interesting talk on "Our Way of Life." Bill Elliott a vice-president of Jones & Laughlin Steel Company of Cleveland Ohio also provided us with a thought provoking speech on "Industrial Relations in Industry."

The District Conference was held at North Bay, reports from which were given to the club by Jack Barrett, Bill Graham, Wilf Jackett, Bill Palmer and President Burnie himself. Our newly-formed Hobo Band played a leading part in the entertainment there and went a long way toward putting Fenelon Falls Rotary Club on the map.

Ladies Night was held at Huntingdon Inn on Sturgeon Lake hosted by Bert Rasmussen one of our members. Speaker of the evening was Rev. H. Marsh, Lindsay on "The Successful Life."

A going away presentation was made by the club to one of our staunchest members – Lyle Cordick. As manager of the Bank of Montreal he was being transferred to Wallaceburg.

Another Octogenarian Night was held in the fall. Our guests were. Chas. And Martin Haskell, Bob Cochrane, G. Metcalfe, H. Stroud, Lou. Manning, Fren Warren, W. Sims, Ernie Hand, Bob Eyres, T. Moffatt, Alf Tiers, P.C. Deyman, Vince Dewell, Tom Patton and J. Campbell. Ernie Hand former Editor of the Gazette told about the early history of the village. Jessie and Bob Hetherington did the musical entertaining.

Harry McLean, newly arrived bank manager was soon a member of the club, and a very active one too. He was willing to do his part in anything that came along and it wasn't long in coming. That was our first Minstrel Show. Gil and Ruth Waldick were naturals as directors for this show and the practices soon got underway. These were held in the High School where the show was to take place. Ruth who directed the dancing showed unlimited patience with her mostly left-footed dancers while Gil not so endowed with patience looked after the musical numbers and the balance of the show. Come the night of the show, everything seemed to smooth out and everyone played their respective parts with a show of confidence which they did not feel. The response from a sold-out house for both shows was terrific and the results financially gratifying. We also put the show on at Haliburton, Omeme, Woodville and Bobcaygeon. It was fun, even if it was a lot of hard work.



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Another Ladies' Night was held at the Legion Hall at Bobcaygeon. As a bit of a change Vi Smith presided in a completely acceptable manner. Guest speaker was also a lady, Miss Ada Greaves of Lindsay, who was also Warden of the county.

Officers elected for the coming year were: President – Bill Palmer, Vice-president – Jack Barrett, Secretary – Bill Shosenberg, Treasurer – Howard McInnis, new directors Hugh Dixon and Ken MacArthur.

In April we had our Municipal Night which was addressed by R. Hall the county assessor on the subject of "Equalized Assessment."

Next it was the official visit of District Governor George McArthur of North Bay who gave us a more comprehensive understanding of "The Four Avenues of Service", as well as a few pats on the back for our activity and marked progress.

Shirley Jackett our Adventure in Citizenship student came back from Ottawa with a fine report on her journey there.

Another Golf Tournament in June finished off a year that was replete with action. The president is to be congratulated on piloting us through a very excellent year. Good Old Burnie.

### President Bill Palmer

1957

a new method of raising funds was started this year. It was the brain-child of Mendham Platten, and it was an Auction Sale.

The Rotary Foundation fund which had been set up by R. I. In memory of Paul Harris the founder of Rotary appealed to each club for funds. As a means of raising this money it was decided by the club that each member on his birthday contribute one dollar and his seat mates at the meal fifty cents each. This certainly made for a lot of amusement when you happened to sit beside some poor unsuspecting club mate on your birthday, but it provided enough money to keep our club in the two-hundred percent bracket.

District 168 was split into two this year and we became a part of district 701. This was rather disappointing.

Bingo brought a net profit this year of \$1289 and once more our control of the skating rink paid off. It needed to because of our commitments to the Ross Memorial Hospital and the skating and winter activities there were usually in the red.

Our costs for swimming instruction were going up thanks to an increasing registration each year and the necessity of having to hire instructors.



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Our golf tournament was held at Sturgeon Point Golf club and then we went on to Gil Waldick's for a real dinner and a good time.

Around the first of November we moved back to the Cameo Tea Room. The Marshall's had returned and we were quite happy to get back there once again. They had added a good-sized dining room and it was a pleasure to get back to our sing-songs with Jack in charge of the piano.

Bob Johnstone and Lionel Byrne two of our senior high school students were the guest of R. A. McKay, Canada's representative at the United Nations, and both gave us very informative talks on their experiences there.

Bert Horton of Huntsville, the District Governor visited us in November. Bert had been here both at our Inaugural meeting and our charter night. Needless to say he was quite proud of the club he had helped to form.

Fred Webster was appointed secretary-treasurer of our Crippled Children's committee and also Easter Seals.

Minstrel Show rehearsals are again the order of the day and everyone seems to be involved in some phase of the work or other which is as it should be. Besides we have to live up to the standard we set last year and that will take a lot of doing.

Rev. Bill Patterson, Minister of the United church and one of our very active Rotarians is leaving for another change. On his departure we presented him with a Four Hundred Day Clock. Wonder if he ever forgets to wind it.

In February we entertained the Coboconk Lions club and their wives. Gordon Beaton of Markdale, former director of R.I. addressed the gathering. His talk was entitled Rotary and the World.

Elections resulted in this very capable slate of officers for the incoming year: President – Jack Barrett, Vice-president – al Brokenshire, Secretary – Bill Shosenberg, Treasurer – Howard McInnis, and new directors, Harry McLean and Mendham Platten.

Miss Miller, R.N. spoke to us on Merrywood Camp for Crippled Children, our guest that night were Bill (?), Bonnie and Murray Coy and Brian Kennedy.

Miss Isabel Isaac went to Ottawa as our student and was greatly impressed with what she saw and experienced there.

Easter Seals campaign brought in slightly over \$1500 all of which was very gratifying and the date for another auction sale has been set for





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July 5<sup>th</sup>, with lots of articles coming in already. Bingo has started again, and the year of Bill Palmer draws to its close. It was a most satisfying year from everyone's point of view.

## 1958 President Jack Barrett

Without fanfare of any kind, but with a determination to make his year effective, President Jack got right down to business after taking over the gavel, his symbol of authority.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> was his first meeting. The guest speaker was Rev. Gordon Mellish, a returned missionary from Liberia who was sent out by the Baptist Church. His description of the life and conditions there was most interesting.

Two days later we were holding our second annual Auction sale. There were more goods for sale, more people to buy them and a professional Auctioneer. In our initial effort last year we cleared just over \$500 and this year our net return amounted to \$835. It was quite an appreciable jump and a good financial start for the year.

One of our favorite visitors from Toronto Club who has a summer place at Rosedale, Walter Elliott, who heads a market research firm in Toronto gave us a very illuminating talk on that subject.

Albert Welk, our original charter secretary paid us a visit in the summer and had a lot of satisfaction in viewing the results achieved by the club he had helped to found.

Our swimming instructor in chief this year is Miss Eleanor Standish of Peterborough, who reported a registration of over 250 pupils of whom 47 non-swimmers learned to swim and 97 out of those who tried their exams passed.

Golf this year was held at Byrnell Manor with Dr. Ted Cragg of Peterborough heading the best foursome and Sandy Flemming, also of the same team turning in the best score for the day.

Our second payment of \$1000 was made in the month of September to the Ross Memorial Hospital Building Fund. One more thousand to go to fulfill our pledge.

A very amusing evening for the club was when Mark Fell and Harry Moore entertained us with a vivid description of their trip to Great Britain and Europe, complete with pictures and interlocking running commentary of what they thought they saw there.



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The president had the pleasure of presenting to Miss Joan Webber of the High School the Rotary Award for general proficiency in her final year there.

The question of renovations at the skating rink provided a lot of discussion before it was finally decided to go ahead and completely renovate the front of the rink with a two-story structure. The cost was estimated at about \$6500 plus the necessary plumbing and heating. This was started as soon as the season's skating was over. A lot of hard volunteer work was put into this project and it was ready for occupancy by the next fall.

An addition to the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto was pledge \$1200 by our club to be paid in three installments of \$400 each year. This was practically all paid for from the profits of the booth at the rink each year, under the guiding hand of Walter Gamble whose unflagging interest in crippled children was one of his outstanding characteristics.

A Valentine Party for our wives on February 12<sup>th</sup> was enlivened by the presence of two famous Radio entertainers, Laddie Dennis and Mike Fitzgerald. This was arranged through the good offices of one of our members, Jack Prat.

Once again rehearsals for the Minstrel Show were in order and once again the show as a success from every point of view except financially. Our costs seemed to grow greater every year.

Our attendance started to slip a bit so we arranged an attendance contest with the Rotary Club of Campbellford. In the words of our voluble secretary, "We lost". As a result, we entertained them at dinner.

Election results held on March 19<sup>th</sup> produced the following: President – Al Brokenshire, Vice-president – Murray Smith, Secretary – Bill Shosenberg, Treasurer – Howard McInnis, Directors Guy Graham and Eric Leach.

Ralph Locke, the district Governor for this year, paid us his official visit the evening we entertained Campbellford. District Governor elect Harold Black of Haliburton also spoke to us the same evening.

The Easter Seals campaign was ahead of last year having amounted to over \$1700.

The year was drawing to a close but the really BIG EVENT was yet to come: The first of July celebration.



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The year came to an end in a blaze of glory. The July 1<sup>st</sup> Celebration at which a tremendous crowd not only watched the various aquatic spectacles in awe and wonder, but also ate its way through more "Turkey on a Bun" than any equal crowd ever did before or since.

## 1959 President Al Brokenshire

One only need look at the organization set up for our July 1<sup>st</sup> Celebration, to realize the amount of planning that went into this event. In the end it paid off handsomely. The total gross receipts for the day amounted to \$2896 from which we had to deduct expenses for prizes, food, advertising, etc to the amount of \$1526 leaving a net profit of \$1379. It was a pretty healthy lift for the treasury.

The Sports Day (July 1<sup>st</sup>) was not the only successful venture at the beginning of the year. The Auction Sale returned a good round sum of \$740 net. It was held on July 10<sup>th</sup> and what with a promising summer's bingo in the offing our finances should be pretty well taken care of.

District Conference was held at Haliburton with Minden and Fenelon Falls Clubs taking their share of the duties of host.

Dr. John Hastings from Camp Kagawong, a member of the World Health Organization, who had just returned from Japan gave us a word picture of conditions there as to health, economics, religion and politics.

Swimming classes this year under Miss Standish and Miss Jessie Hetherington are once again filled to overflowing with over three hundred registrations of which 156 earned promotions and 86 were given the Award of Merit.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> we had a Past President's Night, when every Past President except Herb Townley (who was ill at the time) was in attendance. The Charter President was in the chair and each president in turn gave a resume of his year in office. Guests were there from Haliburton, Lindsay, and Minden as well as several District Governors of former years. All in all it was a pretty wonderful evening and in order to preserve the occasion for posterity we had our pictures taken.

Harold Black, District Governor for this year from Haliburton after thanking the club for their part in the District Conference (especially Jack Marshall) and the dancers and whistlers, complimented us on our liveliness and good fellowship. His advice to us regarding the sports field was to turn it over to the village and take on some other project for the benefit of the community.



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Dr. Bob Stewart one of our members who is a development engineer for Union Carbide gave us a very interesting talk on the Plastics industry.

Larry Skitch also a member and Physical Education teacher at the High School spoke to us on the value of both physical education and physical training for students.

Rural Urban night, well attended by our farmer friends was treated to a fine address on milking machines and practices by Henry McCabe, sales manager of the DeLaval Company while Dr. Bill Graham, Art Bell, Cam Kerr and Larry Skitch rendered soothing melodies as a quartet.

At the end of December president Al reviewed the events of the first six months of his year and submitted his plans and aspirations for the balance of his term as president.

A suggestion that the rink be opened Sunday afternoons for skating for children was defeated on the grounds it would cause disruption or disturbances to the Salvation services across the street.

As of this date the renovations at the rink have cost us \$10422.90 of which we have paid \$8491. Estimated costs always seem to have the habit of overrunning.

Mr. Ball has been appointed chairman of the Fenelon Falls branch of the Canadian Cancer Society. He is an excellent choice.

Our show this year is to take the form of a Gay Nineties affair instead of a minstrel show type. Gil and Ruth Waldick are going their best with the material they have to work with to whip the show into shape. Rehearsals are taking place twice a week and it looks as if it is going to be pretty good. It is really surprising the varied talent that exists in our club.

A skating carnival under the joint sponsorship of the club and Patsy Gillogly skating instructor turned out quite successfully and brought in a net of \$175 and a lot of fun for the participants as well as the spectators.

The Easter Seals Campaign is on again and the big show is to take place April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Elections took place in March with the following results: President – Murray Smith, Vice-president – Bill Shosenberg, Secretary – Bill Allen, Treasurer – Al Graham, new directors Art Bell and Clare King.



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Harry McLean of the Bank of Montreal has been moved to Tweed and we certainly will miss him.

The show turned out very well. This was the story financially: sales of program advertising, \$200, costumes -- \$158, net profit \$882. It was a pretty satisfactory return on our effort.

Ladies night we entertained the Kinmount Lions and their wives. The guest speaker was Mrs. Eileen Holt of Peterborough, a delegate to the United Nations who gave us her impressions of the work being carried on there. Bill Scott MP from Kinmount voiced the thanks of the visitors in his usual affable manner.

Easter Seals brought in over \$1400. Premier Leslie Frost spoke to a joint meeting of Fenelon, Minden and Haliburton and another good year came to a close this the installation of the new president, Murray Smith. It was a busy and satisfactory year.

### President Murray Smith

1960

July 1<sup>st</sup> always seems to be a pretty significant day in the life of our club. It's the day the new president takes over his duties for the year and also our usual big sports day. This year was no exception. It started off with a very full program of water sports, air show, swimming races, midway, band concert, folk-dancing, dog-derby, crazy-boat parade, boat races of all classes and kinds, barbecue supper at the beach, and a monster bingo in the evening.

The weather as usual was kind to us and it was a real big day. The take for the whole affair was \$2211 with expenses of \$641 showing a profit of over \$1500.

The Auction sale came next and had to be carried over to another day because of the great amount of goods to be sold; but the proceeds certainly showed the result. The total receipts were \$1133. This was helped out by the donation of a car (old but serviceable) from Camp Kagawong.

Rev. Stan Parkhouse, Chaplain in the Royal Canadian Air Force, spoke to us of the place of the chaplain in the armed services as guide, counsellor, advisor, and priest.

Merril Zavitz from the Department of Lands and Forests directed our attention to the pollution that is taking place in our Great Lakes and inland waterways. It is serious threat to our most valuable asset, the tourist business.



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A Fenelon Falls foursome won the Golf tournament held at Byrnell Manor course, followed by the usual banquet and prize-giving at the Cameo.

District Governor Dooley Greer on his official visit on November 24<sup>th</sup> had high praise for our club. The club assembly held after the regular meeting was well attended and every chairman of committee gave a full and comprehensive report on the work done and contemplated.

Mr. Hunter Smith and Miss Lynn Hebel, two high school students, as representatives of the Student Council gave a report on a seminar on United Nations held at Queens University Kingston, recounting the various venues of action being taken by that organization.

Our club was both shocked and grieved on the passing of two of our Past Presidents and charter members. Dr. G.C. Graham and Dr. Foster Graham died this year.

Our first meeting in January was a one hundred percent meeting attendance-wise.

On February 15<sup>th</sup> the Lindsay club held a joint meeting in St. Mary's Auditorium in honour of a visit from R.I. President-elect Joseph A. Abey of Reading Pa. This was attended by clubs from Minden, Haliburton, Peterborough, and our own club. It was a very inspiring address we heard from President elect Joe. His year as president starts July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1961. This was a distinct honour for this area to have in our midst such a distinguished personality in Rotary International.

Our annual Rural Urban night was addressed by Don Kidgdon of Peterborough, of the Lake Ontario Developers Association, an organization devoted to improving our image as a tourist area.

Another successful Easter Seal Campaign was carried out again this year.

Preparations are well advanced for our Variety show of the year. A show-boat type of show with a bit of International flavor is planned. Monty Robson is chairman and part of the entertainment will be folk-dancing by members of the Dutch community near Lindsay.

April 13<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> meetings both were 100% attendance, which must be a record for us.

The Variety Show turned out very well and enriched our coffers to the amount of \$526.



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Election results were: President – Bill Shosenberg, Vice –Eric leach, Directors – Clare King, Orrie Childs, Art Bell, Larry Skitch. Secretary, Bill Allen, Treasurer – Al Graham.

Ladies Night was held at Royal Cabins Lodge on Balsam Lake and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The guest speaker for the occasion was Bill Dahl of the Lindsay club, who had just returned from a very interesting trip to the Scandinavian countries.

For the month of November our club topped the whole district 701 in attendance having an average of 95.69%. It was the first time we had attained this honour.

Our Christmas tree sale brought in over \$100 which we donated to Cystic Fibrosis fund.

Other guest speakers during the year were: Rev. Paul Field of Streetsville, Fulton Steward, Lindsay, Ted Sanger (classification talk) vice-president of Schultz Die-casting, Lindsay, Peter Hill – aluminum Company of Canada, and Bill Brown of Readers Digest.

New Members inducted this year were Mel Fisher, Bill Schroeder, Cam Kerr, Errol Wilson, Art Long, Brig. J. Porter (S.A.). Clint Thompson left the club on moving to the London district. He was presented with a Barometer prior to his leaving.

And so a very productive year came to its end. Plenty of activity took place. There was lots of work, and it was a year of continued progress which is what gladdens the heart of any president. On June 27<sup>th</sup> president Murray handed over the gavel, our symbol of authority to president elect Bill Shosenberg with thanks to the club through a good year.

## 1961 President Bill Shosenberg

After having served as a director, as secretary for several years, and as vice-president one year, there was no doubt that with such a background, Bill's year as president would be one of action and progress. With his ready wit and drive we could look forward to a lively year.

The financial report for the year July 1<sup>st</sup> 1960 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 1961 as submitted by Al Graham treasurer and audited by Carl Hepburn and Clare Irwin, showed total receipts of \$10,402 and expenditures of \$13,633 but with a surplus carried over from the previous year of \$3,702 we still had our heads above water.

Unfortunately our Sports Day on July 1<sup>st</sup> was not too successful but once again the Auction Sale made a substantial profit.



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Al Brokenshire, program chairman for this year, outlined to the members when each one would be responsible for a program, thus giving lots of time to make the necessary arrangements.

Milt Schmidt, coach of the Boston Bruins National Hockey team and Alf Pyke of the New York Rangers team who were coaching at Frank Stukus' hockey school, gave us their respective views on Hockey as played in the NHL interspersed with some humorous anecdotes of bygone days.

Rev. George Bell now serving as minister in the Baptist Church here but lately returned from China and Tibet where he had been a missionary, told of the sufferings of Christians in China after it was taken over by the communists.

Dr. John Hastings who had just completed a tour covering Britain, Scandinavia, Russian and India for the World Health Organization made us aware of the methods of handling health and welfare in those countries, in comparison with what we do in Canada.

Ted Reynolds of Washington D.C. who had spent several years in Tokyo Japan told us about that country as seen through the eyes of a Foreign Office Diplomat of the USA. John Robertson of Haliburton who had attended the Rotary International Convention in Tokyo that year gave his version of conditions in Japan as seen by an ordinary layman.

Bob Coppenrath who summers on Pidgeon Lake, a nave of Belgium, councillor of foreign trade for Belgium in Canada, gave us a fine talk on his native land, "Belgium: Land of Peace and Work."

Carl Hepburn was appointed our representative to the Historical Society and Museum Board; to which we made a donation of one hundred dollars at this time.

Harry Moore told us about the trip to Alaska he and Charlie Gray had made in the summer. He mention his troubles with a war surplus air mattress, and the speed with which his tires wore out on the gravel of the Alaska Highway, so that instead of returning over this road they shipped their car by boat back to Vancouver.

Bob MacLelland, our new dentist who took over Dr. Foster Graham's practice was inducted into the club. Looks like he should be a real asset to our membership.

A presentation to immediate Past President Murray Smith who is leaving Fenelon Falls was made on behalf of the club.





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Rural Urban Night was addressed by Murray Smith of Woodville. He had just returned from England as a representative of the Junior Farmers of Ontario.

An effort to sponsor a Rotary Club in Woodville met with very little success and was abandoned after several attempts.

An International contact was made by letter to Jack Barrett from South Korea, and a donation sent to a school there which was sorely in need of funds.

Once again we had the pleasure of listening to Miss Hanna, RN of Peterborough speaking on behalf of the Ontario Society of Crippled Children prior to the Easter Seals Campaign. Miss Carson of the Commercial Department at the High School also attended. She has been of inestimable help every year in this work.

The elections produced the following slate of officers: President – Eric Leach, Vice – Al Graham, Secretary – Bill Murchison, Treasurer – Art Long, Directors Hal Garner and Art Taylor.

Ken Sangster was inducted into the club also Glen Wood. Ken was immediately given the job of Sales Manager for 1000 pens inscribed (I gave a dollar to the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls), at the price of one dollar each. He handled this very nicely by giving each member twenty pens with order to sell them "or else" -- the else being put up the twenty dollars yourself. It worked.

Al Graham, on his return from a trip to Mexico told us about the four clubs he had visited there. He said that while he had no understanding of the Spanish language he nevertheless felt quite at home as Rotary is fundamentally the same all over and he was welcomed right royally.

Stock and Sports car racing on the lake was tried out this winter in March. This brought out a good crowd, just for the novelty of seeing what could happen when the cars took the corners and curves. It was a pretty thrilling thing to watch. Art Taylor was responsible for arranging the affair. It was the first of its kind around here.

Mr. T. H. Palmer District Governor from North Bay met with us and used as his theme "Rotary is International". He then held the usual club assembly, and congratulated us on various phases of our activities.

Father and son night was addressed by Rev. Bob McLean a member of the Lindsay club. He is the Minister at Cambridge St. United Church. His humor and ability to entertain an audience is always something worth while.



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Ewart Udall of the Victoria and Grey Trust spoke to the club on the making of wills.

The variety Show depicting "The Roaring Twenties", got an excellent reception, thanks to Gil and Ruth Waldick again.

Another successful year has gone by, of which these lines only tell a very small part. It was a year of accomplishment and progress and what must have been one of keen satisfaction to our president Bill.

### President Eric Leach

1962

At his last meeting in June, past president Bill handed over the gavel to president Eric and wished him well. Bill gracefully retired to that limbo to which all past presidents are consigned.

Another year was underway. Eric responded to the challenge and announced his committees for the coming year and made it plain to the members that it would require the combined efforts of not only the president and his executive but every member as well to make it a successful year.

A recording by the president of R.I. was played in which he stressed the four avenues of service by means of which each Rotarian discovers himself.

The thanks of the club was extended to Ernie Smith for the use of his bowling alleys for the Bowlerama put on by the club, and also to Art Taylor and Stan Ellis for lining up prizes for this occasion. Net proceeds from which amounted to over \$100.

Rev. Max Putnam of Kingston, summering at Sturgeon Point, spoke to us on the activities of the Church Hockey League in Kingston, pointing out the stipulation that each member of the league must be a member of a Sunday school and attend there each Sunday.

Dr. Doug Warren of Sarnia, (Imperial Oil) and a native of Fenelon Falls gave us a very interesting talk on the place of the Doctor in Industrial Medicine.

The history of the Township of Fenelon from its inception to the present day was very ably presented by Bill Found who came to us through the good offices of Bill Chapman of Camp Kagawong.

Bingo for the summer brought in over \$1400 and even the annual Golf Tournament showed a profit of \$50 this year which is a bit unusual. Over 60 golfers took part.



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Bruce Porter of the Ontario Water Resources Commission gave us a lot of information regarding the Water Resources Act.

Joe Caulder, long a member of the Toronto Club addressed a joint meeting of our own and the Lindsay club.

Rural Urban night once again was a very enjoyable occasion. The speaker of the evening was Al Byers of the John Deere Company on "Old Days on the Farm". He compared past with present farming.

Art Long, our treasurer, has been appointed to the District High School Board. This is a signal honour to Art and indirectly to us as well. It is a recognition of the caliber of some of our members at least.

Profit on the sale of Christmas Trees this season amounted to \$200 – a pretty satisfactory return on a bit of extra work.

Mr. Keith Oglesby, who had graduated in Engineering in England, and now resident engineer here for the Trent Waterways spoke on the rebuilding of the locks in the village. He have us a very complete picture of this project which will be of great value to our tourist industry. The job was completed and the new locks officially opened by Miss Pauline Jewett MP in on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

A carnival held in February netted a sum of \$300 for our efforts.

Another joint meeting with the Haliburton and Minden clubs was held in Bonnie View Inn, Haliburton at which the guest speaker was Mr. B. Seminob, of the Russian Embassy in Ottawa.

The Cameo has now been taken over by Vic Gingerich, who also have become a member. Jack Marshall has taken over the Shell Service Station.

Jim Allen of Allen Toys and Wood Products provided us with a very interesting account of conditions in England and Germany having just returned from a business trip there.

Cowden Whitfield of Orillia, the District Governor for this year paid us his official visit in March. Most everything pleased him with the exception of our attendance record which left a good deal to be desired. Otherwise he said he was quite happy.

Elections for the coming year were held March 28<sup>th</sup> with the following result: president – Al Graham, Vice – Bob MacLelland, Secretary – Bill Murchison, Treasurer – Art Long, and two new directors, Wilf Jackett and Dr. Bill Schroeder. It was a pretty competent slate of officers.



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Bill Perkins, principal of the High School spoke on "The Crisis in Education" as it exists today. This is a pretty serious problem and can have very far-reaching effects on the future of Canada.

As a gesture to International relations, our club at the suggestion of Jack Barrett, chairman of International contacts, decided to adopt five Korean children of school age and pay part of costs of their education. Letters of appreciation have been received from them expressing their gratitude for our thoughtfulness.

Ladies night was held this year at Cedar Villa Lodge with a goodly turnout of wives for this popular affair. The occasion was honored by having a guest speaker, Miss Betty Kennedy, the very attractive lady panelist on T.V.'s Front Page Challenge.

No auction was held in the year but it was announced that it would take place July 13<sup>th</sup> as a start for Al Graham's year.

Larry Skitch gave a demonstration of the effects of tobacco as it was smoked and Burnie Bell, Chairman of the local Cancer Society branch showed films on the deleterious effects that cigarette smoking had on various parts of the body.

Another year in the annals of Rotary in Fenelon Falls eventually drew to a finish. It was an interesting one, a year of plenty of good programs, and plenty of hard work, but one of satisfaction from the point of view of both the club and president Eric.

## 1963 President Allan Graham

At the beginning of his year president Al had his program chairman Bob MacLelland outline to each committee chairman the duties expected of his committee. Special attention would be paid throughout the year to the work of each committee and its effect on the year's programs. Undoubtedly the health of any club is in direct ratio to the effective work of its committees.

Mr. Eric Freeborn, the Administrator of the Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay, gave us a very interesting look at what was entailed in the administration of a hospital.

The club was shocked to learn of the death of Bill Palmer early in August. He had been one of our most valuable presidents.

Rev Paul Field U.C. minister at Streetsville who has been coming here for some years on his holiday spoke to us on his avocation, as a minister of the Gospel.



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The annual Golf tournament was held on the Sturgeon Point course, and though a number of balls went into Sturgeon Lake no one seemed to mind too much. Dinner was at Gil and Rith Waldicks and some weird and wonderful prizes were handed out by that past master prize giver outer Burnie Bell and everyone went home happy.

Joe Caulder of the Toronto club in a splendid talk on what Rotary meant, urged everyone present to be sure and come to the R.I. Convention to be held in Toronto in June. Over 14,000 reservations had already been made for this International Convention at which one of the guest speakers would be the Prime Minister of Canada, Hon. Lester B. Pearson.

District Governor Errol Young paid us his official visit in October and expressed his pleasure at our activities but was inclined to think our attendance record was not one of which we could be very proud. We agreed with him and admitted our attendance was our favorite weakness.

Mr. Bill Breese, principal of Lindsay Collegiate spoke on "The Importance of Communication" and past District Governor Art Ferguson gave us a resume on Rotary Foundation as it now stands.

Rev Jas. Harrison, Anglican Minister here, Bill Perkins the new principal of the local High School were inducted into the club and Lorne Northey re-admitted after having been away for some time.

The death of President John F. Kennedy shocked the world in November. Rotarians everywhere with their high ideals of service appreciate the loss of one who stood fearlessly for human rights and betterment.

Stan Pitts, Industrial Commissioner for Lindsay addressed us on his favorite subject – bringing industry to your town.

After having won an attendance contest with the Lindsay club for the months of November and December we journeyed there as their guests on February 17<sup>th</sup>. All 36 of us had a wonderful evening. A good dinner, some musical entertainment with Jack Marshall at the piano, trios, duets, and quartets where all presented, then the real "Piece d' resistance", the debate. Resolved that Rotary as performed by many clubs is falling far short of the goals intended by its founders". Lindsay club represented by Jack Lightbody, Jim Rankin, and Frank Weldon took the affirmative while our own club represented by Monty Robson, Bob MacLelland and Chas. McInnes chose to handle the negative side of the argument. The respective presidents of the two clubs acted as judges. They very wisely called it a draw after the dust settled and the smoke cleared away and all arguments had been submitted. The purpose of the



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whole thing was to stir up a little fun and it certainly achieved the desired result.

Once again something new was introduced to the club, and the District when Art Taylor talked the club into sponsoring an M.G. Car-club race on the lake.

At an inter club meeting at Deer Lodge in Haliburton with Minden, Haliburton and ourselves, the guest speaker was Monsieur Chas. De Pompelonne of the French Embassy in Ottawa.

Elections resulted in the following officers for the coming year: president – Bob MacLelland, vice – Orrie Childs, secretary – Mel Fisher, Treasurer – Art Long, directors Don Bigley and Gord Lowe.

The twentieth anniversary of the club was celebrated well and truly on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. Suffice it to say it was a highlight of the writer's career and one which will never be forgotten.

Ladies night was a distinct success. It was held at Cedar Villa Lodge. Bill and Eve Graham had just returned from a whirlwind trip overseas. They didn't have slides, they just had word pictures of everything they heard and saw there.

This pretty well brought to an end a year filled with plenty of action. I have purposely left out figures as far as club finances are concerned. As they become pretty repetitive year after year after year after year after year. You see what I mean.

Anyway, president Al had a fine year. He gave it the best he had and that was a great deal. We are sure it was with a feeling of intense satisfaction at our accomplishments that Al handed over the old gavel to incoming president Bob MacLelland at the last meeting in June.

### President Bob MacLelland

1964

To start his year off on the right foot president Bob had one of our favorite speakers, Dr. Bill Service of Lindsay who came to acquaint us with the efforts being made to save the old Academy of Music in Lindsay as a Cultural Center for the whole county.

Bruce Harris, area supervisor for the Red Cross Water Safety Program, after looking over the registration of our swimming classes, recommended securing the services of another instructor along with the two we now have. This was done shortly thereafter in the person of Miss Valerie Beynon.



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Dr. Doug Warren of the Industrial Medicine Department of Imperial Oil gave us a very illuminating address on the Petro-Chemical Industry.

A full report regarding Easter Seals up to the end of 1964 was given by the treasurer, Fred Webster, and should be worth repeating here. In 1964 the club mailed out 3000 envelopes and received back 579 returns which yielded \$1868.97. In the past ten years the local Rotary club has taken part in these campaigns which has resulted in donations amounting to \$15,611.92 being received. Half of this amount goes directly to the Ontario Society for Crippled Children, the other half is retained by the club for work among local crippled children. This is kept in a separate trust account and not one cent is spent on anything other than crippled children's work. A gift of \$300 was left to the club for crippled children's work by Miss Nie estate.

The auction sale netted us over \$400. The summer Bingo brought in \$1308. A raffle made \$300 and Christmas tree sales made \$180. Even our bonspiel showed a profit of \$106 which is a bit unusual. These efforts fairly well took care of our finances for the year.

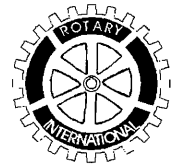
Our very efficient secretary, Rev Mel Fisher brought us a fine Christmas message, December 17<sup>th</sup> then after some hearty Carol singing we packed about a thousand bags of candy, crackerjack and peanuts for the children after the Christmas parade, as well as packing some into ourselves. It was a good evening.

A letter of resignation from Monty Robson one of our charter members and a past president of the club was received and regretfully accepted. Monty was a real tower of strength to the club from its inception. The writer is now the only charter member left in the club.

At an inter-club meeting with Minden and Haliburton in the Legion Hall in Haliburton, the speaker was Mr. Paul Richards (Coloured) from South Africa. He gave us a very impressive address on human relations with particular references to prejudices.

A variety show under the direction of Gord Lowe, Al Brokenshire, Gil Waldick, Clare King, and Bill Murchison was a terrific success and a lot of hard work. Of course Ruth Waldick had a good share in the direction of all the dances. The show was held in June and was a credit to all the participants as well as the directors.

The club decided to continue its membership in the Ross Memorial Hospital Association and nominated Al Graham to another term on the Board of Governors of which he later became chairman.



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In April Jerry and Aileen Keast took over the Cameo and shortly thereafter Jerry was inducted into the club and placed on the Crippled Children and Easter Seals Committees on which he is a very active and interested member.

Thirteen members and wives attended the District Conference in Rouyn Noranda Quebec which from all reports must have been a District Conference to end all conferences. President Bob in his report to the club insisted in giving it in what was alleged to be French, and even yet in time of great stress or emotion still returns to French (as he speaks it).

Ed Taylor, the new owner of the Warren store and Gord Cawker, rancher, fur farmer, hardware merchant (ex), both were inducted into the club.

Once again it was election time and the club was faced with the problem of selecting officers for the coming year. After much thought and careful consideration the problem was resolved in the following manner: president – Orrie Childs, Vice – Wilf Jackett, secretary – Rev Mel Fisher, treasurer – Art Long, directors (2 years) Don Bigley and Gord Lowe.

Mary Rose Gault, our “Adventure in Citizenship” student at Ottawa this year gave us a glowing report on that adventure.

Miss Gladys Suggitt who has completed a history of the area from the rural point of view royally entertained the club and our wives at our Ladies night at Cedar Villa.

On June 24<sup>th</sup> the president handed the torch to president-elect Orrie Childs, and thanked the club for its cooperation and support during his year. Secretary Mel Fisher in his proverbial “Few well chosen words” voiced the thanks of the members to the outgoing president for the great amount of work he had put into his year as well as the faithful leadership he had shown. As secretary Mel finished his eulogy the whole club rose as one man and gave the retiring president a standing ovation.

### President Orrie Childs

1965

To start his year off properly the new president had the pleasure of having three new members inducted the very first night. The service was conducted by past president Bob MacLelland, assisted by Bill Shosenberg, Harry Moore, Bill Schroeder and Ed Taylor. The new members were Jerry Jenkinson, Jerry Keast, and Don Phillips.

The guest speaker this evening was Mr. McAdam who provided us with a lot of wry humor from Watson Kirkconnell’s poems, more particularly “The Drover’s Tale”.





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Director of R.I. and past District Governor Art Ferguson presented Bob MacLelland with his past president pin and then gave us a masterly address on honesty as individuals and club members.

Our much heralded Sports Day on July 31<sup>st</sup> complete with barbecued pig unfortunately failed to gel. Even the pig failed to cooperate. Despite the immense amount of work and planning that went into this affair and a perfect day weather-wise the crowds we expected stayed away in droves. A post-mortem was held and many reasons were given for the let down but in the final analysis it was felt that the day of the Sports Field attractions was getting to be a thing of the past.

The annual Golf Tournament at Sturgeon Pint however was very successful. Sixty-five golfers took part and a terrific dinner followed at Gil Waldick's Champlain Room and the inimitable Burnie Bell handed out the prizes which made for a completely satisfying day.

Hockey the previous winter had been rather profitable and resulted in Dr. Bill Graham on behalf of the hockey team, presenting us with a cheque for \$200. This was a bit of a switch.

Bingo brought in \$1569; the auction sale made \$880. Our Variety Show though well attended and an excellent show only netted us \$116.14 because of the high costs entailed in the production, costumes, advertising, rentals and etc. These costs seemed to run up despite our attempts to keep them down to a reasonable figure. A new feature was added at this show when our Rotary Anns took an important part in the choruses and dances with good effect. However, I hasten to add it was no reflection on their participation that the profits were so small.

Charlie Heels an old railroader from Lindsay entertained us with a history of railroading there in the early days of this century.

An attendance contest within the club headed by Al Brokenshire and Jack Barrett resulted in Al's group having to pay for a steak dinner for Jack's gang while they had to be satisfied with the regular fare. There was a lot of groaning by the losers.

Dr. Bill Graham gave us a talk on Medicare, a subject of pretty intense interest at that time. Obviously Bill was not enamored of the idea from his point of view.

District Governor Rod Vaillant accompanied by past District Governor Bert Horton visited us in January. His theme was the treasure which Rotary membership conferred on the members and its privileges as well as its obligations. Rod has a Master of Science degree and is a Sales Representative for the Chemical Institute of Canada. He was rather



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critical of our attendance and the drop in membership, partly attributable to curling and a lack of good programs of interest.

February 2<sup>nd</sup> saw our initial bonspiel for our own trophy set up for annual competition. Fortunately for the writer, he along with Al Brokenshire, Bill Shosenberg and Bill Murchison as skip, managed to win the bonspiel.

Wilf Jackett resigned from the Club. He was vice president at the time so Ross Stewart was put in to take his place.

Gord Innes one of our high school teachers with the help of slides and specimens gave us a lesson on the geology of Labrador and parts of northern Alberta which proved quite fascinating.

A motion was placed on the books to raise our fees from \$15 to \$20 annually and also initiation fees will rise from \$10 to \$15.

Our club attendance contest resulted in our standing second in District 701, having been beaten only by the Stirling club with four 100% meetings.

A large addition was being built at the High School at this time making it a composite school. Principal Ross Sturgess spent an evening outlining the design and uses of the various new rooms and the courses that would be available when the school was completed.

The sale of Christmas trees was again a profitable venture as reported by chairman Harold Garner showing a net profit of nearly \$200. This was better than the sale of the new Canadian Flag we attempted, although we finally got rid of them after a struggle.

Elections held March 30<sup>th</sup> resulted in Ross Stewart for president, Art Long for vice-president, George Hoyle secretary, Gord Cawker treasurer, Bill Schroeder and Al Brokenshire Directors.

Swimming classes the summer before had run up costs of nearly \$900 so it was decided to start making a charge for registrations from now on. This brought in about \$400 and helped reduce the costs to quite an extent. This was the first time we had made any charge for swimming instruction from the time of its inception in 1947 under Monty Robson's presidency.

Kirkland Lake was the scene of the spring District Conference at which a number of members attended. Ladies night was at Gil Waldick's Champlain Room where we were treated to a thoroughly fine meal and a good evening's entertainment.



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The meeting on June 30<sup>th</sup> saw president Orrie review the year just past: its Ups and DOWNS, but concluded all in all it was a pretty satisfactory year. Which it was.

1966

### President Ross Stewart

As the fishing season (for Bass and Lunge) had just nicely started it was only right and proper that we have an evening's fishing on film. That is just what Clare King figured when he brought Bill Dixon of Outboard Marine, Peterborough, to show us colored films on how and where to catch the big ones.

Once again we had the pleasure of listening to Bill Hetherington, "Local boy makes good", on the various angles of Chartered Accountancy. Bill is treasurer of the Chartered Accountants Association and very easy to listen to.

Harry Moore who had just returned from one of his world-girdling tours, including Hong Kong where he had a suit made to order overnight gave us a word picture of "Far away places" and he doesn't miss much.

Mr. Gray, Artistic Director of the Academy Theatre provided a good evening with his outline of projected theatre events which will be produced there in Centennial Year.

Miss Della Watson one of our own daughters now on furlough from Missionary work in Nigeria under the auspices of the Sudan Mission showed pictures of that land and the people she worked with there. She is a very dedicated young lady.

Just so Della would not feel too uncomfortable among so many males, we also had as guests our three swimming instructors, Misses Valerie Beynon, Janice Pogue, and Susan Reia, all of whom were congratulated on the work they are doing and the success on their classes.

For our Rural Urban Night we had Mr. John Moles, Director of Farm Sales with Ontario Hydro. He told us some plain facts about what we can expect to see regarding our Agricultural Industry in the future.

Drs Pat and Bill Schroeder just returned from a holiday trip to Germany and they entertained us with a resume of their sojourn there in word and picture. Of particular interest were the pictures of the Berlin Wall, an ideological reminder of man's inhumanity to man.

The really big affair in President Ross's year was the District Conference held in Lindsay September 29, 30 and October 1<sup>st</sup>. Stan Pitts was chairman of the conference and anything Stan takes on has to go or



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else. The affair was graced with the presence of R.I. President's representative Matt Caparas of the Philippines, District Governor Bert Horton, past District Governors Ray Jessop of Sudbury, Art Ferguson of Gravenhurst, and Governor-nominee Lloyd Simpson of Sudbury, as well as Mayor John Eakins, President Rex Thomas and Stan Pitts of the Lindsay club. Fenelon Falls under President Ross had the honor of hosting the midday luncheon at the legion hall on Friday September 30<sup>th</sup>. The hall was filled with Rotarians and their wives. There was fine entertainment, good, interesting speeches and excellent Rotary fellowship.

In view of the fact a Recreation Commission had been formed in the town, a motion was passed that the club turn the skating rink over to this commission.

Dave Valentine, County Roads Engineer, detailed to us the growth of that system since its inception. Expenditures the first year were \$600 in 1917 and in 1965 this figure had climbed to a million dollars.

District Governor Bert Horton while on his official visit pointed out that we were now a 200% club in regard to the Rotary Foundation Fund. He was rather disappointed that our numbers had dropped somewhat and suggested various ways in which we might improve our position. Other wise he was quite proud of the club he had helped form.

A program of a centennial character was put on by Mendham Platten in March in which each member brought any article that was in use a hundred years ago. This provoked a lot of interest in many of the articles which were a complete mystery to some of our younger members. This was a real museum-piece exhibition which was thoroughly enjoyed by the club.

Our first and up to now last snowmobile rally was held at the fairgrounds in which a goodly number of machines took part. However, the turnout of spectators was very disappointing.

Mr. Eric Ferdinand, a native of Trinidad, and now a teacher at Coboconk, gave us a very fine talk on his native land.

Elections resulted in the following slate of officers: president – Art Long, vice-president – Bill Schroeder, secretary – Gerry Jenkinson, treasurer – Gord Cawker and new directors Gavin Clutton and Don Phillips.

The annual inter-club meeting between Haliburton, Minden and Fenelon Falls was hosted by our club at the Cameo. The great speakers were the Mexican Consul and Trade Commissioner from Toronto,



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Messers Lara Verae and Luis Villisanti. Both of these men gave us a pressing invitation to visit Mexico.

Gord Cawker gave us a very realistic appraisal of his attendance at the R. I. Convention held in Nice, plus an extended tour of other parts of the European continent.

Our Easter Seals campaign this year topped the \$2000 mark for the first time which is a real source of satisfaction to the club and for which the committee and president Ross may well be proud.

And so ended another year in the amazing history of the Rotary club of Fenelon Falls. The gavel goes to Art Long.

### President Arthur Long

1967

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1967 will be looked back upon for many years to come as the culminating point of the Centennial celebrations in Fenelon Falls. Probably the most outstanding part of the whole thing was the Parade. Not the least of which was the good ship Wacouta, built by members of the club, mounted on a long float and manned by a number of intrepid Rotarian sailors. She was a thing of beauty and wonder.

Bill Anglin, Fred Webster's son-in-law with the Ontario Department of Education spoke to us about the part that New Math is going to play in that branch of education in the future.

Mr. Dave Sutherland from Sir Sandford Fleming College of Applied Arts outlined to us the courses that would be taught in this new college in Peterborough. The Forestry Branch is to be located in Lindsay.

The new manager of the Bank of Montreal, Dave Goldsmith, and Doug Wright a retired Mining Engineer who spent some of his early years in Fenelon Falls joined the club early in the Rotary year. It looks like they will both be a real acquisition to the club.

Our auction sale once again turned out very successfully showing a profit of more than \$1100 which is about the best ever. The work of getting the articles cleaned up, repaired where necessary, and arranged attractively for sale fell on several shoulders but Mendham Platten, Jack Barrett, Gavin Clutton deserve special mention for the success of this effort.

In a thoughtful speech, Rev Paul Field pointed out that minding one's own business is not necessarily a virtue and in answer to the age-old cry of Cain "Am I my brother's keeper?" the truth is, we are. That is one of the important tenets of Rotary.



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Bob Copenrath one of our regular visitors who came out from Belgium not too many years ago told us about the trials and tribulations of an immigrant coming to Canada.

Some of our fall activities were the Golf Tournament at Sturgeon Point, and the Fish Derby on Cameron Lake which was won by Art Bell with three fish weighing a total of almost half a pound. I just was not a good evening for fishing, but it ended up great at Clare King's Marina.

John Sobko, owner of the IGA store, Bob Shields, farmer, and Russ Baptiste of Firestone Tire were inducted into the Rotary membership of the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls with due ceremony, pomp and circumstance.

At a father and son (or daughter) night, Mr. David Logan of Lindsay, on very short notice addressed the gathering on the subject of "Youth Today."

The Fenelon Falls Rotary club was well represented at the Sudbury Conference, September 28, 29, 30<sup>th</sup>.

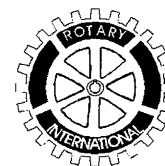
Jim Webster second active to Al Graham joined the club. As well, Hugh Dixon returned after having been away for some years.

The club was shocked to learn of the passing of Gord Lowe while on a trip to the Caribbean. Ever since joining the club Gord had taken a very active part in all the club activities as well as originating many activities himself. In particular a variety show which he directed with excellent results was a favorite at the club. Two carloads attended his funeral at Oakville. The sympathy of the whole club goes out to his family.

The skating rink which had now been taken over by the Recreation Commission opened its doors January 3<sup>rd</sup> with its artificial ice surface. This was a gala occasion for Fenelon Falls and something which had been looked forward to for a long time. It had taken a tremendous amount of hard work on the part of a lot of deeply interested people of the community and one of those was our own Doug Wright along with several other members.

"Estate Planning" was the title and theme of a very interesting talk given by Mr. R. Gorwell of the Lindsay law firm of Frost Inrig and Gorwell.

John Stevens of Atomic Energy of Canada, gave us some idea of the complexity of an Atomic Energy Plant.



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Elections came along again in March with the following people being entrusted with the guidance and direction of the club for the 1968-69 year: President – Bill Schroeder, vice-president – Gavin Clutton, Secretary Dave Goldsmith, treasurer Ed Taylor, and new directors Doug Wright and Hugh Dixon.

Easter Seals were very successful going over the \$2000 mark for the first time on our own part and that total swelled by the efforts of a Walk-a-thon put on by a number of High School students at the urging of Miss Judy Switzer. These kids waked to Lindsay, after having arranged their own sponsors, and raised around \$1700 all for the benefit of crippled children. "We walked that they might walk" was their motto. Another lift given us was by Mrs. Bill Eyres of Cameron whose grandchild was helped by our work. She decided to make a quilt and have us raffle it off. This brought in another \$200 so our Easter Seals Campaign was pretty fruitful.

Our third annual bonspiel saw the trophy brought home again from Ajax by a rink composed of Doug Wright, Andy McNab, Bill Shosenberg and Burnie Bell. Rinks were present from Ajax, Lindsay, Peterborough, Haliburton, Whitby, Cobourg, Oshawa, Toronto and Willowdale.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> we took a bus to Locarno-on-the-lake to the inter-club meeting hosted by the Minden Club. After a wonderful banquet we were treated to a particularly fine address by a lady from Yugoslavia.

District Governor Lloyd Simpson of Sudbury was very kind in his remarks about our club but as was usual our attendance record was bad.

Mr. Tom Gunton was given honorary membership in the club in recognition of his great work as coordinator of the Centennial celebrations in Fenelon Falls.

Ken MacArthur and Myrt had just returned from a trip to Hawaii. They had taken a wonderful lot of slides of the Islands and we spend one very fine evening just admiring the breathtaking sights and colors of those romantic isles.

Dave Goldsmith gave his classification talk on Banking, and Doug Wright his experiences as a mining engineer embellished with a few "true" stories.

Our student to the Adventure in Citizenship in Ottawa was Miss Carol Jamieson of Coboconk who brought back to us a keen appreciation of all that the trip had meant to her.



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And so ended the year of president Art Long. It was a year of accomplishment and progress. What more could a president ask? Another service that had been rendered to us by the Long family and one of vital importance had been that of Peg, Art's long-suffering wife. For a number of years Peg had gotten out the Scratchers for us. This has been a service which merits the thanks of the whole club and one which we seem to have taken for granted.

Here ends this short history of the Rotary Club of Fenelon Falls from its inaugural meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1943 to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1968. I trust the club will appoint a Historian to carry on from here and that a more reliable set of minutes be kept from now on and that they be kept as a permanent record in a regular minute book.





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- 1968 President Bill Schroeder
  - 1969 President Gavin Clutton
  - 1970 President John Sobko
  - 1971 President Doug Wright
  - 1972 President Art Bell
  - 1973 President Bob Clayton
  - 1974 President Ben Jowitt
  - 1975 President Russ Baptiste
  - 1976 President Don Folkes
  - 1977 President Brian Devan
  - 1978 President Dennis Wyatt
  - 1979 President Gord Goddard
  - 1980 President Andy McNab



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- 1981 President John Cawker
  - 1982 President George Traill
  - 1983 President Jerry Jenkinson
  - 1984 President Deane Sumler
  - 1985 President John Houghton
  - 1986 President Chuck Skiles
  - 1987 President Gord Innes
  - 1988 President Bill Cragg
  - 1989 President Gord Mitchell
  - 1990 President Rick Dunsford
  - 1991 President
  - 1992 President



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- 1993 President Gord Innes
  - 1994 President George Wilson
  - 1995 President
  - 1996 President
  - 1997 President
  - 1998 President
  - 1999 President
  - 2000 President
  - 2001 President
  - 2002 President
  - 2003 President
  - 2004 President