



ROTARY CLUB OF GREENSBURG, PA.

CENTENNIAL MOMENTS

1916 – 2016

Number 10 **July 23, 2013**

Happy Birthday to Rotary Flashes

“Rotary Flashes” made its debut on July 23, 1934. The proud father was Frank Bossart, who, at the call of the club membership, won a contest to rename the Club’s “**Weekly Letter.**” Frank’s suggestion, “**Rotary Flashes.**” won him a Rotary Lapel pin.

The Student Loan Fund

“To Those who are worthy – a chance to accomplish the best there is in them,”

So read the the intro to the Greensburg Rotary’s Student Loan Fund rationale. While the origin of the student Loan Fund is not clear from the available records, the record does show that it was in full swing during the years of the Great Depression. The importance of a Student Loan from the Club during the Depression is best expressed by Joseph H. Bair, Jr. a Freshman at Grove City College in the fall of 1934 when he wrote the following in a letter to the club: *“This loan was certainly all I could have hoped for in this period of depression when loans are more difficult to make than to ask for. It was my only hope, for without it, I couldn’t have attempted a year at college.”* Joe attended Grove City College where he received his master's degree in music. Mr. Bair, a U.S. Navy veteran, served during World War II. He later taught music in Greensburg and in the South Whitley (Indiana) county schools.

Joseph Bair and and other loan recipients had to convince the Loan Committee they were of sound *“character, scholarship, with a purpose in life and the ability and tenacity to do it.”* The students had to furnish the Rotary Club with a *“Life Insurance Policy...with the principal sum equal to at least the amount agreed to be loaned...the collateral assignment payable to the Club in the event of the student’s death.”* The policy was returned to the student when the loan was repaid. Miss Naomi True’s Loan account record from Nov. 1932 thru Nov. 1935 shows a balance of \$36.51, being the premium on the insurance policy which the club paid and added to her loan. Naomi had a long career as a teacher in the Hempfield schools.

Students were permitted to select the school of their choice *“provided said school is up to the standard set by the committee...”* It was expected that *“students would work at school, during spare time, and during vacations and in the summer to earn their way to a good extent. . .”* Student were required to report progress on a regular basis and schools were requested to furnish transcripts.

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|-------------------|----------|
| Total amt of loan | \$236.51 |
| Principle on loan | |
| 1932 - | |
| Aug. 12 - | 25.00 |
| Oct. 30 - | 25.00 |
| Feb. 27 - | 25.00 |
| Apr. 7 - | 25.00 |
| June 9 - | 25.00 |
| Aug. 30 - | 25.00 |
| Oct. 4 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 11 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 14 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 16 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 18 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 19 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 21 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 22 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 23 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 24 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 25 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 26 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 27 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 28 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 29 - | 25.00 |
| Nov. 30 - | 25.00 |
| Total amt paid | \$200.00 |
| Balance due | \$36.51 |
| Nov. 19, 1935 | |



Among the many students assisted by the Club were J. Regis Walthour, recognized for his long-time participation in local civic and charitable organizations, and President of Greensburg’s First National Bank, and brother Rotarian Kenneth P. “Ken” Rutter, civic leader and long-time minister of Greensburg’s First Methodist Church. Joseph Bair, Naomic True, J. Regis Walthour and Ken Rutter were indeed shining examples of one of the Loan Fund’s goals, to “give those who are worthy, an opportunity to accomplish the best there is in them.”



ROTARY CLUB OF GREENSBURG

CHARTERED 1916 NO. 828

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PAUL J. ABRAHAM
VICE PRESIDENT
RAYMOND W. ROBINSON
TREASURER
JOHN H. MILLEN
SECRETARY
RAYMOND W. ROBINSON
BANK & TRUST BUILDING
TELEPHONES (OFFICE 224)
RESIDENCE 108-51



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J. PAUL HARMON

GREENSBURG, PA.

July 20, 1933

Dear Rotarians

HERE WE ARE back on the job after a brief sojourn up in the wilds and we find that President Paul has started his administration off with a couple of bangs. The Council met on Monday evening and approved a series of programs that will make you sit up and take notice and come back for more. Plenty of entertainment and recreation is included so keep your eye peeled for future announcements. A day at Pike Run, a meeting at the SILVIS FARM, the Children's Home Picnic, Kiwanis-Rotary Golf match, et cetera are in the offing. How's that? And the committee chairmen are all steamed up ready to go when their turn comes and all in all it looks like a great Rotary year.

RIGHT OFF THE BAT Paul has launched a drive for new members and the return of old members to the fold. Well, Leon S. Smith is the first to respond to the call to SERVICE and resumed membership last week. It sure seems good to have L.S. back with us and we know that he's just as glad to be back. And this is only the beginning. Watch the membership committee's ankle when they get into action.

YOU ARE INVITED to come to Camp Wesco on Friday evening, July 28, to visit the Boy Scouts and enjoy the camp fire. You will be served with good eats at 80 cents per but you must let John Kunkle know next Tuesday how many plates you want reserved. Here's your opportunity to see the Boy Scout Camp in action, enjoy a good feed, and encourage the boys as well as those in charge of the work. All you got to do is to tell John next Tuesday of your intentions and he'll take care of the rest. Let's Go!

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE as one phase of the SERVICE being rendered by the schools in the county got a big boost last week when Ray Siemens told us all about his job and presented an interesting exhibit. Ray sure knows his onions and all the rest of the agricultural products but some of the Rotarians (names withheld by request) showed an ignorance that was refreshing. Other features of the program included a scholarly treatise on agriculture by Charley Maxwell in his introductory remarks and a vivid account of a visit to the World's Fair by Max Woodruff.

THE FIRST official letter from District Governor Lee has been received and from it we quote, "Rotary is a bigger thing than local conditions or world wide depression. Each man at his own helm, doing his part is one of the features of Rotary, and this will out-ride any storm. With humility, but with enthusiasm, I undertake the work which you have honored me with this year. Heavy tasks, business burdens, uncertainties for the future,--all these beset us. But despite this situation, Rotary must hold up its head, move forward, act as a force of inspiration to its members, and keep its outlook undimmed." And nor there's just room enough to say that a fine program awaits you at the next

REGULAR MEETING-ROTARY CLUB OF GREENSBURG
PENN ALBERT HOTEL-TUESDAY, JULY 25 at 12:10

Rotarily, "Ray"

ROTARY FLASHES

XVIII. Greensburg, Pa., July 23, 1934 No. 4

FLASH !!!!!!! THE COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS announce that they have been able to secure the services of one CARL G. KOPPITZ to speak at the next

REGULAR MEETING -- ROTARY CLUB OF GREENSBURG
Penn Albert Hotel: Tuesday, July 17, at 12:10

Mr. Koppitz will give from an engineering point of view a description of the Boulder Dam, he having just returned from the Dam where he has been making some tests for his company.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM was a very interesting one, with Homer Bair giving a learned dissertation on the finances of the City of Greensburg. Quite a number of the City officials were present as our guests. Last week's meeting had almost as many guests as members present. We are always delighted to see a large guest list.

THE COMMUNITY PICNIC was a huge success, and Max Woodruff, John Woodruff and Jake Silvis played active parts in making it a success. Rotary is glad to have had a part in a movement such as this.

THE BOY SCOUT CAMP DEDICATION was held according to schedule on Thursday evening, July 19th, and an exceptionally large crowd was present. A delightful program was rendered and among the speakers were Major Lynn G. Adams, Superintendent of the State Police, and our own Doctor Reeves, who delivered inspiring addresses. John Kunkle, Jr., President of Westmoreland County Council, and his aides are to be congratulated upon the success of this dedication.

CHRISTENED AT LAST!! No longer is this sheet un-named. It may be unwanted, but at least it has a name - ROTARY FLASHES. Although Frank Bossart didn't think very highly of the pin awarded him for naming the sheet, he will have to be recognized as the "papa" from now on.

AND GET THIS!! So that Mahatma Gandhi or Babe Ruth or Mae West - or some other big shot will have no chance to sue for libel after seeing his-her-their name at the bottom of the next few issues of ROTARY FLASHES, we announce that the editorship of coming issues will be as follows:

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|-----------|---------------|
| July 23 | Paul Abraham |
| July 30 | Frank Bossart |
| August 6 | Parson Strock |
| August 13 | John Millen |

OUR GENIAL SECRETARY, immediately after his entrance upon his duties of office, has done a "Jimmy Walker" and is now touring the State of Pennsylvania on a vacation. He will spend two weeks of his time at the National Guard encampment and the rest of the time, through compromise with Mrs. Harmon, will be devoted to places in which she is particularly interested. Jud may be in command of things spiritual

