



 **ROTARY CLUB OF GREENSBURG, PA.**

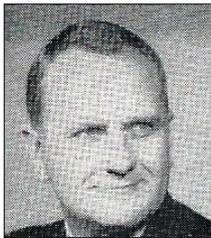
CENTENNIAL MOMENTS

1916 – 2016

Number 16 **July, 29 2014**

1954 - 1957

Loans and Scholarships



Albert Gallatin

The Club, now meeting at Mt. View Inn, and under the leadership of club president Albert Gallatin initiated the present day scholarship grants for high school students. While continuing the loan program for the time being, a newly formed scholarship committee presented the club with an annual scholarship program on March 16, 1956. Funded at \$1,000 annually, the scholarship program provided (1) “two annual \$500 scholarships to be awarded without regard for race, color, or creed;” (2) one scholarship would be awarded to a “male graduate of Greensburg High School;” (3) the other scholarship to be awarded to either “a male or female graduate of Greensburg High School entering the Westmoreland Hospital’s School of Nursing.” The scholarships were to be awarded upon the recommendation of the high school principal. The club also voted to continue the student loan program and assessed club members \$1.00 each to bolster the loan fund.

Minutes of the Board of Directors, March 16, 1956

“The mouse that roared.”

In 1976, the Duarte club of California, with only eight members, invited three women to membership, in deliberate violation of the Rotary International’s Constitution that forbade membership to women. With the support of their District Governor (now 5300), the club listed the women with only their initials for their first names when the club submitted their roster to RI – until the club’s 25th Anniversary celebration. In the presence of RI officials, who were present for the celebration, the three women were introduced as members. Expressing alarm at the presence of women in the club, RI repeated requests that the Duarte Club terminate their women members were rejected. After an unsuccessful appeals, the Duarte club charter was revoked by RI in March 1978. Undaunted, the club continued to meet as the “Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte” while filing suit in the courts against RI.



Not having found support in the lower courts, the suit made its way to the United States Supreme Court where the Duarte club, represented by an attorney from a neighboring club and the American Civil Liberties Union, was joined by the Rotary Club of Seattle, Washington, which by this time, had admitted 15 women. On May 4, 1987, the U.S. Supreme Court found, 7 - 0 that Rotary may not exclude women from membership. (Justices Sandra Day O’Connor and Harry Blackmun did not participate as O’Connor’s husband was a Rotarian and Blackmun, an honorary Rotarian.)

Now officially reinstated in RI, and in deference to the “roar” that their little club had created, the Duarte club chose the phrase “*The Mouse that roared*” to appear on their new banner.

In the spring of 1989, Rotarian Frank J. Devlyn, addressed the delegates saying, “The world of 1989 is very different from the world of 1905,” while introducing the resolution to amend RI’s Constitution to permit women members.

Rotary Global History Foundation
The Rotary Club of Duarte California website

