

YANCEYVILLE ROTARY CLUB

In 1905 a few individuals committed to the ideal of fellowship and cooperation in business began Rotary in Chicago. Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, initiated the procedure of selecting leaders from the various business and professional men of an area to be members of a Rotary Club. A group of citizens from Yanceyville met in late 1936 to form an organization to develop and improve the community. Special committees were appointed to study the local situation and a compromised report was approved for the establishment of a Rotary Club with a special Industrial Committee. The Yanceyville Rotary Club was organized on March 16, 1937, sponsored by the Burlington Rotary Club, and was admitted to membership in Rotary International on May 7, 1937. Charter officers were: S.M. Bason, President, H.L. Gwynn, Vice-President, C.C. Cole, Secretary, C.L. Pemberton, Treasurer, and L.W. Lillard, Sgt. at Arms. Other charter members were: J.B. Blaylock, C.S. Buchanan, J.H. Gunn, J.O. Gunn, R.L. Hall, W.V. Hall, H.W. Hooper, W.B. Horton, H.M. Lilly, S.A. Malloy, W.L. Maness, Holland McSwain, G.C. Neal, H.H. Page, L.G. Page, H.P. Richardson, C.B. Rogers, H.L. Seagrove, E.J. Smith, T.E. Steed, E.D. Stephens, D.O. Sunderland, W.J. Swicegood, E.F. Upchurch, R.F. Warren, R.F. Whitley and D.W. Wright.

The Yanceyville Rotary Club was incorporated on March 29, 1945 for the purpose of forming a non-stock no-capital corporation to conduct a recreational and community center for the citizens of the county. The Board of Commissioners of Caswell on April 2, 1945 deeded 12.98 acres of land to the club for the sum of \$500.00. This parcel of land contained a Club House built in 1933 with WPA funds which had been somewhat of a liability for the county government. The Club House and lake have been used since 1945 by Rotarians, Fraternal and Civic Clubs, Scouts, church groups, families, and private parties. A caretaker's house was built in 1949 with the Rotarians contributing most of the labor.

The Rotary year begins on July 1, and many outstanding citizens have served as President of the Yanceyville Rotary Club. Following:

Sam Bason in 1937-38 — Clyde C. Cole, 1938-39; Erwin D. Stephens, 1939-40; Holland McSwain, 1940-41; Clyde V. McKinney, 1941-42; E. Fred Upchurch, 1942-43; John O. Gunn, 1943-44; Rev. Joyce V. Early, 1944-45; W. Richard Grey, Jr., 1945-46; J. Burch Blaylock, 1946-47; Thomas J. Ham, 1947-48; Rev. H.J. Womeldorf, 1948-