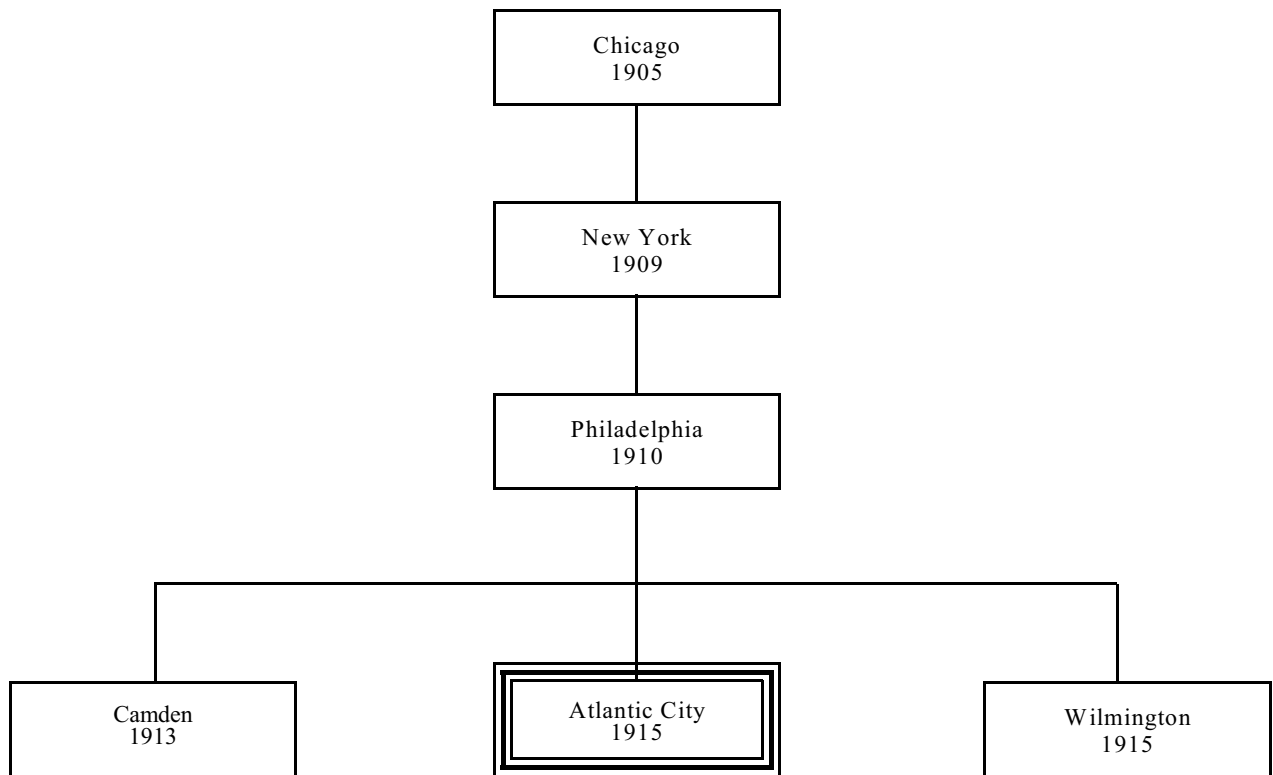


# Chapter 2

## Rotary Club of Atlantic City, N.J.



## 75th Anniversary History of District 764

Atlantic City, NJ

Chapter 2

Organized	December 3, 1914	Meets :	Tuesdays at 12:30 pm at
Chartered	February 1, 1915 Charter No. - 141		Showboat Hotel & Casino
Sponsored By	Philadelphia, PA		Delaware & Pacific Ayes.,
Clubs Sponsored	Vineland, Sea Isle City, Wildwood, Ocean City		Atlantic City, NJ 08401 (609) 343-4000

OFFICE	NAME OF MEMBER
President	Joseph A. McNamee
Vice President	Edward A. Wilson
Secretary	James E. Logue
	George H. Berke
	Ernest Beyer
	David Braunstein
	Underwood Cochran
	I.S. Cohen
	H.A. Coulomb
	Harvey Eaton
	H.D. Edwards
	Lester Farrell
	F.H. Golding
	Edward Guion
	Samuel H. Headley
	H.W. Hemphill
	Theodore J. Lapres
	Joseph I. Levy
	William Lewis
	John Lloyd
	Ernest W. Lord
	James S. Murphy
	H.A. Nelson
	Sigmund Ojserkis
	William S. Patrick
	William Riddle
	William B. Riebenack
	Elias Rosenbaum
	Joseph W. Salus
	Charles E. Schroeder
	.Harry Schwartz
	C.B. Smith
	Ernest F. Smith

### Spurned Luncheon Date Led to Founding of Atlantic City

Atlantic City Rotary not only is the second oldest club behind Camden in what today is District 764 - 75 years old this year - it historically has been one of the largest and unquestionably among the most active in terms of its civic commitment.

Dr. James S. Logue is credited with organizing the Atlantic City club after a reunion with an old college classmate from Seattle, Wash. in Philadelphia during a professional seminar in August, 1914.

Logue asked his friend to join him at lunch that day. His friend apologized, saying he had been invited to attend a Philadelphia Rotary Club meeting and, since he was a Seattle Rotarian, would be obligated to go.

It was the first time Logue had heard of Rotary. But when his friend described to him of the lofty ideals of the service organization and the close friendships that developed, Logue enthusiastically returned to Atlantic City and made some inquiries about starting a Rotary club in resort community.



Atlantic City club members with the District Governor at their 75th Anniversary Celebration on November 26, 1989 at Harrah's Marina Hotel. (Left to Right), Frank Quigley, PRID, Herb Budd, DG 89-90, Charles Carlino, President 89-90, Mary Dessner, and Ruben Blane, PDG 86-87.

Logue then contacted International Vice President Jack Berlet, a Philadelphia. Berlet discouraged Logue at their first meeting, noting that prior attempts to organize in Atlantic City had been defeated, but through their contact the foundation was laid for the birth of the new club.

Logue recruited Joseph A. McNamee and Edward A. Wilson as prospective members and they, in turn, came up with the names of about 10 others. Logue sent the list to Berlet, and within a few weeks Logue received a letter of approval from R.I.

Eight men attended the first official meeting, Dec. 23, 1914, with McNamee named president, Wilson vice president, and Logue secretary.

Logue

And when the club was chartered Feb. 1, 1915, there were 44 on the original roster.

The club struggled during its early days, during War I, but has survived two world wars and a near catastrophic depression to be one of the most successful in the district for three quarters of a century.

In fact, membership topped 100 during World War II even though six were on leave of absence and nine others serving in the armed forces.

Atlantic City has proudly supported four district governors: C. Edgar Dreher (1932-33), Arthur S. Chenoweth (1940-41), Francis J. Quigley (1954-55) and Ruben R. Blane (1986-87). Quigley went on to serve as a Director of Rotary International in 1976-78, the first in the District since Vineland's Charles Ackley in 1929.

The city, now the No. 1 tourist designation in the United States, also has hosted five International Conventions: 1920, 1936, 1946, 1951, and 1965.

Among the club's meeting sites through the years were the President, the Seaside, and Hackney's Restaurant. The club switched from the Seaside to the President in 1941 when all major beachfront hotels were appropriated by the Army Air Force. Atlantic City Rotarians spent many memorable years at Hackney's until the 1963 fire which destroyed all club records and other Rotary property and memorabilia.

Atlantic City has been a leader in community endeavors throughout the club's existence.

In the early days, the club helped create Camp Edge for the Boy Scouts; the new Union Railway Station; established the Student Loan Fund; and in 1919-20 presented an X-ray machine to the hospital. Thirty years later, the Rotarians proved they hadn't forgotten: They replaced the old X-ray machine.

Atlantic City continues to be a pacesetter. During Michael J. DeRogatis' year as president in 1987-88, for example, the club not only welcomed 16 new members but also added 13 new names to the club's long lineup of Paul Harris Fellows. That same year, Atlantic City's scholarship fund reached an all-time high of \$10,000 for the year, equating to five \$2,000 grants for area students.

And the club was able to provide assistance to more than a dozen local organizations such as the Atlantic City Education Foundation, the Police Athletic Club, the Atlantic City Rescue Mission, and the Boy and Girl Scouts.

But that's been true of every year. If there has been a worthwhile project to support, Atlantic City Rotary has been there.

Other examples:

Atlantic City has been a strong proponent of the fight against alcohol and substance abuse through an alliance with the Institute for Human Development and the Atlantic City School Age Substance Abuse Committee. Rotary underwrote the expense of this program at a cost of \$2,500, and as a result "Natural High" clubs were started in 10 junior high schools in Atlantic County - first of their kind and still in existence.

An art show fund-raiser netted \$5,000 for charity.

During Blane's year as district governor in 1986-87, Atlantic City hosted the district conference for 800 people at the Concord in New York

### Presidents

1914-17	Joseph A. McNamee	1953-54	Robert Nesbitt, Jr.
1917-18	Edward A. Wilson	1954-55	Paul L. Schaeffer
1918-19	James E. Logue	1955-56	Thomas J. Humphreys
1919-20	Leonard D. Algar	1956-57	Alex J. Bolduc
1920-21	Charles E. Godfrey	1957-58	Edward O.G. Doughty
1921-22	George W. Meredith	1958-59	Bertram M. Balch
1922-23	Arthur J. Purinton	1959-60	Vernon F. Stanton
1923-24	Albert J. Feyl	1960-61	Victor Newmark
1924-25	William E. Darnell	1961-62	Edward J. McNellis
1925-26	Harry E. Smith	1962-63	Frank A. Giordano
1926-27	C. Edgar Dreher, PDG	1963-64	George E. Fieldhouse
1927-28	Luther L. Jones	1964-65	Bernard H. Strouse
1928-29	Paul J. O'Neill	1965-66	James P. Hayward
1929-30	Edwin H. Harvey	1966-67	Harry C. Moore, Jr.
1930-31	J. Howard Buzby	1967-68	Robert W. Ivens
1931-32	Arch G. Rohr	1968-69	Raymond L. O'Keefe
1932-33	Constantine M. Koury	1969-70	Warren F. Taylor
1933-34	Walter Molineux	1970-71	Samuel M. Diskan
1934-35	Arthur S. Chenoweth, PDG	1971-72	Morgan Raughley
1935-36	William J. Wilson	1972-73	Paul C. Grant
1936-37	E. A. Lewis	1973-74	Thomas P. O'Neill
1937-38	Harry C. Moore, Sr.	1974-75	Fred G. Rishel
1938-39	Frank Flower	1975-76	Ruben R. Blane, PDG
1939-40	Charles Harp	1976-77	Rodney S. Kreisler
1940-41	Park W. Haverstick	1977-78	John C. Rowe
1941-42	James N. Butler	1978-79	William R. Israel
1942-43	Frank J. Shaner	1979-80	Joseph H. Readeau
1943-44	Arthur G. Broil	1980-81	H. Paxson Keates
1944-45	Lentz D. Gold	1981-82	Herbert B. Stern
1945-46	Walter E. Beyer	1982-83	William R. Ebensperger
1946-47	George W. Lawrence	1983-84	William C. Lowenstein
1947-48	William Swinton	1984-85	Daniel Modiano
1948-49	William Schneider	1985-86	Oscar P. Ernst, Jr.
1949-50	Charles E. Rupp	1986-87	Marvin Dessner
1950-51	Bruce Riddle	1987-88	Michael DeRogatis
1951-52	Frank J. Quigley, PRID	1988-89	H. Steve Norton
1952-53	Charles M. Hagen	1989-90	Charles Canino