

The Rotary Club of Fairhope

A Few Tidbits from Our Archives



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

January 27, 2017 is:

- a) Scoggins Scholar Paris Odom's 22nd birthday.
- b) The 70th anniversary of the death of Paul Harris.
- c) The 79th anniversary of the chartering of the Rotary Club of Fairhope.
- d) All of the above.

Answer: (d)

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
CHICAGO, 35 East Wacker Drive
ZÜRICH, Börsenstrasse 21

21 JAN 1938	
210	219
FILE WHEELEY	

APPLICATION
For Membership In
Rotary International

The Provisional Rotary Club of Fairhope Alabama
(State, Province, Etc.)
hereby applies for membership in Rotary International.

This club was duly organized by an authorized representative of Rotary International on January 18th
1938, with 15 charter members, each representing a different business or professional service.

This club hereby declares that it has ratified the constitution and by-laws of Rotary International and that it subscribes to the understandings and agreements printed on pages 2, 3 and 4 of this folder.

The following documents required to complete this application are attached hereto:

1. List of charter (founder) members—dated and certified to by signatures of the president and secretary of the club.
2. Check for \$100.00 U. S. Currency—covering the charter fee as provided in Article I, Section 2 of the by-laws of Rotary International.

Officers: _____ Complete list of members of the board of directors: _____

Pres. <u>Burton L. Hoffman</u>	1. <u>Burton L. Hoffman</u>
V. P. <u>James W. Eberlein</u>	2. <u>James W. Eberlein</u>
Secy. <u>George W. Morgan</u>	3. <u>George W. Morgan</u>
Walter T. Dunn	4. <u>Walter T. Dunn</u>
_____	5. <u>George E. Fuller</u>
_____	6. <u>Joseph Pose</u>
_____	7. <u>James H. Bennett</u>

Regular weekly meetings are held:
Day Wednesday
Hour 12:30 P. M.
Place Old Spanish Fort Inn

MEMORANDUM FOR \$100.00 Check
Sent to Section of Accounts
By Incoming Member

Provisional Rotary Club of Fairhope, Alabama

Dated January 18th 1938

Attach: Geo. A. Morgan
Club Secretary
Fairhope, Alabama
Postal Address

Burton L. Hoffman
Club President
Box 667 Fairhope, Alabama
Postal Address

Application for Membership, January 18, 1938



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

REMITTANCE FOR \$/D.F. check
Sent to Section of Accounts
By Incoming Mgr

Officers:

Pres. Burton L. Hoffman

V. P. James W. Eberlein

Sec'y George W. Morgan

Treas. Walter T. Dunn

At A. _____

Regular weekly meetings are held:

Day Wednesday

Hour 12:30 P. M.

Place Old Spanish Fort Inn

Complete list of members of the board of directors:

1. Burton L. Hoffman

2. James W. Eberlein

3. George W. Morgan

4. Walter T. Dunn

5. George E. Fuller

6. Joseph Pose

7. James H. Bennett

Provisional Rotary Club of Fairhope, Alabama

Dated January 18th 1938

Attest: Geo A. Morgan
Club Secretary

By Burton L. Hoffman
Club President

Box 667 Fairhope, Alabama
Postal Address

Fairhope, Alabama
Postal Address

Our First Officers and Directors



Club of Fairhope, Alabama

THE FAIRHOPE ROTARY CLUB

January, 1938 - July, 1939

The Fairhope Rotary Club was established in January of 1938, and was presented its Charter at the Beach Hotel by George V. Klimes, District Governor. Joe Norton, from the Mobile Rotary Club was Governor Representative. Doug Harris of the Mobile Club was one of the main men responsible for organizing the Fairhope Club.

The Charter members of the local chapter, #4561, were: Rev. Burton L. Hoffman, President, who organized the club; George W. Morgan, Secretary; J. W. Eberlein, Vice President; Walter T. Dunn, Treasurer; James H. Bennett, Joe Pose, George Fuller, Directors; John T. Bradford, James J. Loftin, Owen R. Minnich, David R. Murphy, Robert Nahrgang^{Sr.}, Lee W. Schnitzer, Ed Tilton, and Raymond Wood.

The new club was honored with a marvelous banquet at the Battles Wharf Beach Hotel. One of the honored guests present was the District Governor, George V. Klimes, who presented the President and Secretary with gold emblems, which will be passed down to the successors of these offices.

A Stork Party was held in June of this year for "Ebby" Eberlein, and "Tappy" Bradford. Jimmie Eberlein was the first boy, and Susie Bradford the first girl born to Rotarians in Fairhope.

Charter Members

Rev. Burton L. Hoffman, president
J. W. Eberlein, vice president
George W. Morgan, secretary
Walter T. Dunn, treasurer
James H. Bennett, director
Joe Pose, director
George Fuller, director
John T. Bradford
James J. Loftin
Owen R. Minnich
David R. Murphy
Robert Nahrgang, Sr.
Lee W. Schnitzer
Ed Tilton
Raymond Wood



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama



DINING ROOM



Charter Night at "Battles Wharf Beach Hotel"



Old Spanish Fort Tourist Village, site of the Old Spanish Fort Inn,
developed by club director George E. Fuller



From 1939 to 1942, we met at the Fairhope Hotel. This building at Fairhope Avenue and Summit Street is Donnie Barrett's best guess for that location.



In 1943–44, we met in Comings Hall at the Organic School. Becky Jones said lunch was lettuce sandwiches.



THE COLONIAL INN, on the Bluff Overlooking Mobile Bay, FAIRHOPE, ALABAMA

From 1944 through 1951, we enjoyed the hospitality of
the classic Colonial Inn on Mobile Street



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

THE FAIRHOPE ROTARY CLUB

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The Charter members of the local chapter, #4561, were: Rev. Burton L. Hoffman, President, who organized the club; George W. Morgan, Secretary; J. W. Eberlein, Vice President; Walter T. Dunn, Treasurer; James H. Bennett, Joe Foss, George Puller, Directors; John T. Bradford, James J. Loftin, Owen R. Minnich, David R. Murphy, Robert Nehrigan^S, Lee W. Schnitzer, Ed Tilton, and Raymond Wood.

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First new babies born to Rotarians



Club Extension

- Robertsdale, November 23, 1948
- Atmore, December 16, 1948
- Bay Minette, April 21, 1949
- Foley, January 11, 1951
- Jackson, July 22, 1963
- Daphne/Spanish Fort, April 26, 1989
- Point Clear, December 18, 1995
- Fairhope Sunset, May 21, 2009



Bell given to the club in 1949 by extension clubs:
Robertsdale, Atmore, and Bay Minette



This building, located where the Fairhope Elks' Lodge now stands, began life as the Eastern Shore Yacht Club. After a brief existence as La Corona Café (where we met from 1951 to 1953), it burned down.



At "Dale's Restaurant" (still a mystery) in 1955

JULWIN'S RESTAURANT

Baldwin County's
Oldest Restaurant

The club met at Julwin's from 1963 to 1986 or 1987,
the longest we've stayed in one place (so far).



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama



Our 1977–78 officers: Can you identify them?



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

Fairhope Rotary Club

Fairhope, Alabama

May 5, 1986

Gene Brabston, DMB
Post Office Box 424
Montrose, AL 36559

Dear Gene:

We missed you today at our board meeting. The board has asked me to submit to you in writing a couple of topics for your consideration for the coming year. It was suggested that if the oncoming board and officers were to have a couple of items presented to them from the retiring board it could make things easier for you and them to start getting the ball rolling on certain projects.

The first area that this board has asked you to consider for the coming year is the possible relocation of our meeting place from the Julwin's Family Restaurant. I know this has been suggested and talked about for years, and it does seem that we are becoming large enough to warrant a more suitable location. The second item for your consideration will be worthy causes.

Gene, I know that you are going to make a great president for the coming year and I do appreciate you attending the workshop that was held in Bay Minette several weeks ago. I will ask that you call on me at any time to help you in the current year. There is still approximately seven or eight weeks left before you take office, but if you have any questions, please feel free to call and I will try to help.

Sincerely,


Ed Hilliard
President
Fairhope Rotary Club

EH:ja

In 1986, President Ed Hilliard wrote to President Elect Gene Brabston suggesting a change of meeting place.



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama



The result was a move to the Coach-N-Four. When it went out of business almost immediately, we moved again, to Gambino's, where we stayed six years, until 1995.



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

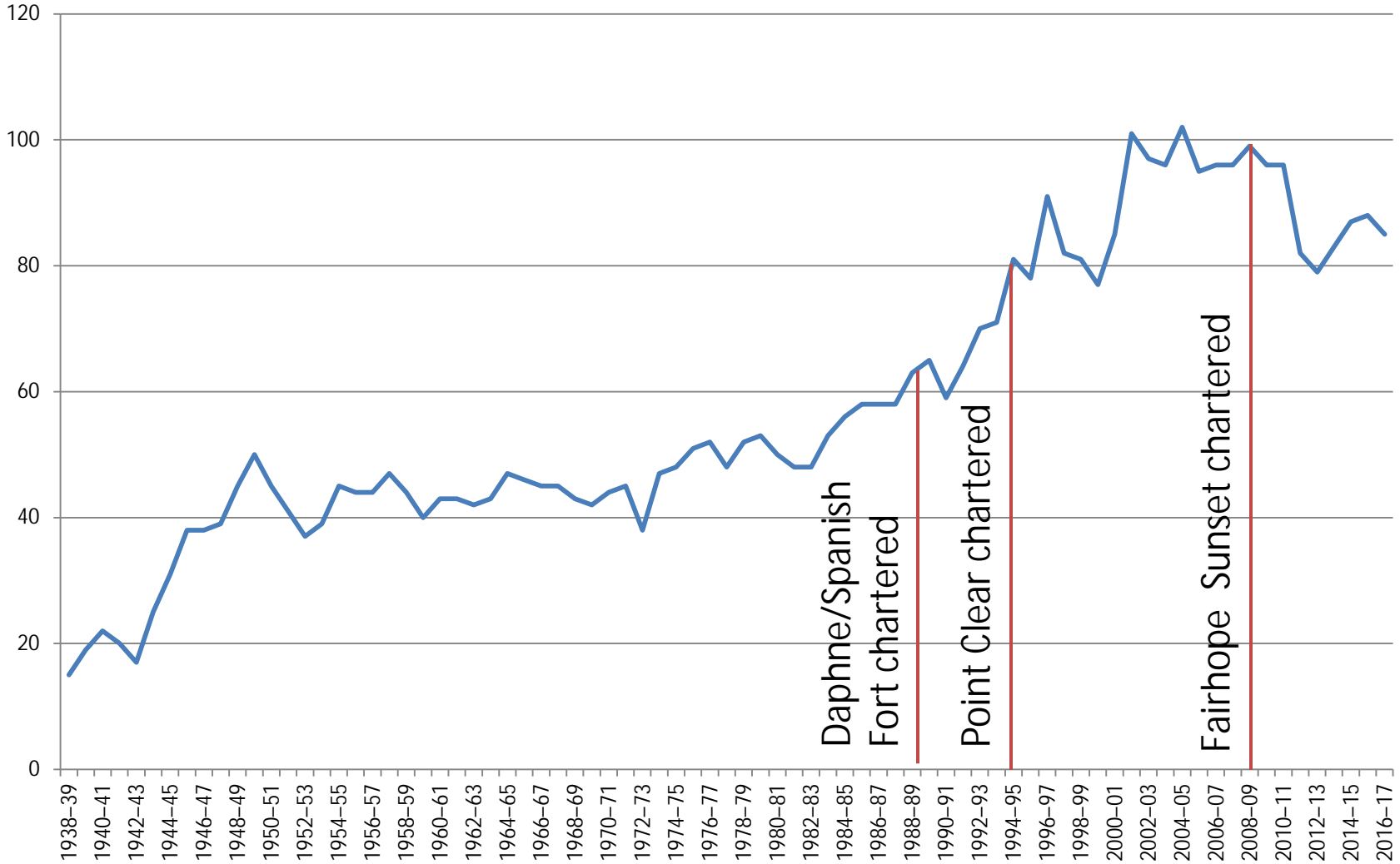


Our next move was to the old Fairhope Yacht Club, where we stayed until moving to the Victorian Inn/Homestead Village in December 2001.

Summary of Venue and Membership

Year	Meeting Place	Members
1938–39	Old Spanish Fort Inn	15
1939–1942	Fairhope Hotel	19–22
1942–43	Various	17
1943–44	Organic School	25
1944–1951	Colonial Inn	31–50
1951–1953	La Corona Café	37–41
1953–1962	Dale’s Restaurant	39–47
1962–1987	Julwin’s Restaurant	38–58
1987–1989	Coach-N-Four	58–63
1989–1995	Gambino’s	59–81
1995–2002	Fairhope Yacht Club	78–101
2002–2004	Victorian Inn	96–97
2004–present	Homestead Village	85–102

Club Membership



Club of Fairhope, Alabama

Early Service Projects

- 1939–40: Built a lighted softball field and gave it to the city
- 1940–41: Went to bat for better bus routes (talked to Greyhound)
- 1941–42: Were involved in plans for a new school, school bus shelter, pier
- 1942–43: Sponsored a Boy Scout troop, met with Greyhound again, helped with Alabama War Chest, scrap drive, library membership drive, Third War Bond Drive
- 1943–44: Helped with Fourth War Bond Drive, Red Cross Drive, provided volunteers to administer ration program
- 1952–53: Secured and moved a Scout Hut for the local Boy Scout troop
- 1953–54: Began a drive for funds for the rehabilitation of a building donated to the Boy Scouts by the Standard Oil Company





THE INTERACT CLUB OF
FAIRHOPE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION

ISSUED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF FAIRHOPE ALABAMA, SPONSOR

PRESIDENT

E. B. Gwin

E. B. GWIN

ROTARY CLUB OF FAIRHOPE, ALA.

PRESIDENT

Bill Smyer

BILL SMYER

INTERACT CLUB OF FAIRHOPE, ALA.

DATED THIS 27th DAY OF March 1963

In 1963, the year Interact was founded, we chartered an Interact Club at Fairhope High School.



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama



In fact, we were the first club in the district to do so.



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

Fairhope Rotary Club

Fairhope, Alabama

May 6, 1986

Gene Brabston, DMD
Post Office Box 424
Montrose, AL 36559

Dear Gene:

We missed you today at our board meeting. The board has asked me to submit to you in writing a couple of topics for your consideration for the coming year. It was suggested that if the oncoming board and officers were to have a couple of items presented to them from the retiring board it could make things easier for you and them to start getting the ball rolling on certain projects.

The first area that this board has asked you to consider for the coming year is the possible relocation of our meeting place from the Julwin's Family Restaurant. I know this has been suggested and talked about for years, and it does seem that we are becoming large enough to warrant a

more suitable location. The second item for your consideration will be to develop a fund raising project that will substantially add to the capital fund of our club. We all know that our club will never get physically involved in civic work, and our best method of making an impact on the community is through cash contributions and donations to worthy causes.

seven or eight weeks left before you take office, but if you have any questions, please feel free to call and I will try to help.

Sincerely,


Ed Hilliard
President
Fairhope Rotary Club

EH:ja

“Our best method of making an impact on the community”



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

Rotary Club of Fairhope, Alabama

Home About » Schedule » RI » District » Projects » Local Foundation » Donate »

Local Projects

Vehicles for myTeam Triumph

By combining a \$4,700 grant from District 6880 with \$5,300 in club funds, we were able to make a \$10,000 donation to myTeam Triumph / Southern Alabama for the purchase of two triathlon conversion racing chairs and one racing hand cycle. MyTeam Triumph is an athletic ride-along program for individuals with disabilities or special needs who would normally not be able to experience endurance events such as road races or triathlons. Individuals with muscular dystrophy, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, and other conditions are side by side with other athletes competing. The MyTeam Triumph / Southern Alabama Chapter includes the counties from Montgomery south to Mobile. Among others, the Southern Alabama Chapter of MyTeam Triumph participates in the Grandman Triathlon, Run Forrest Run 5K, Senior Bowl 10K, First Light Marathon, Joe Cain 5K, and the Spring Fever Chase.

Projects

- Highlights
- Rotaract Club
- Interact Club
- Rotary Youth Club
- Local Projects
- International Projects
- Volunteers at Work
- Photo Gallery – Projects

We have made large donations for several local projects.

International Projects

Honduras Clean Water Project

The club's earlier interest in Honduras, evidenced by collection of dental equipment and supplies that were shipped to Hospital Evangelico in central Honduras in 1999, came to fruition in a hands-on project in 2008.

In early 2007, some of our members who had been independently involved in non-Rotarian mission projects in Honduras brought to our attention the need for a water heater at the Our Little Roses girls' orphanage in San Pedro Sula. After a lot of research and planning and budgeting for this project, the lack of response from the orphanage led us to realize that hot water was not what was needed: in this subtropical climate, unheated water was acceptable; what was really needed was *clean* water.



By early 2008 we had changed our focus to providing water purifiers. For these projects, local volunteers performed the upfront site work (at our expense), and our project team then installed the equipment: a Maguire Filter Chlorinator, a 700-gallon storage tank, a tablespoon of salt, and a car battery. The **first trip**, to Ocotillo, Cortés, Honduras, was over Memorial Day weekend (May 23–26) in 2008, and the team was made up of **Bob Callahan, Gene Brabston, and Seth Moore**. Together they installed a water purifier that would run on an automobile battery and table salt.

Gene, the dentist who had spearheaded the earlier collection of dental supplies and equipment, also took dental instruments to perform some dental work.

- Projects**
- [Highlights](#)
 - [Rotaract Club](#)
 - [Interact Club](#)
 - [Rotary Youth Club](#)
 - [Local Projects](#)
 - [International Projects](#)
 - [Volunteers at Work](#)
 - [Photo Gallery - Projects](#)

But we also provided hands-on labor for several international projects.

Other Service Projects

- With encouragement from Howard Wulff, initiated tree planting in downtown Fairhope (1981)
- Provided furnishings for Fairhope Welcome Center (1993)
- Provided and helped plant landscaping of median at new Fairhope High School (1993)
- Provided and helped plant trees at Fairhoppers Community Park, plus other hands-on work at FCP (1994)
- Staffed Career Day at Fairhope High School 1993–2003
- Sponsored a College Night for high school students and parents 2000–2005
- Provided “vocational scholarships” to handicapped students 1996–2003
- Provided four-year, \$10,000 college scholarships to Interactors 2007–present

Roster		
Name	Classification	Committee
Alans, James	4 Life Insurance	
Alves, Rev Budge	89 Minister, Episcopal	Director, Vocational Service
Bailey, Ernest (Bill)	559 Senior Active	Community Safety
Baldwin, Bill	256 Retail Hardware	Membership Development
Barnhill, Ben C	411 Senior Active	Rural-Urban Relations
Barrett, James (Bill)	1 Agricultural Research	
Beasley, John	17 Bookkeeping	
Berglin, Marvin	1111 Senior Active	Youth
Bostrom, Fred	4 Clock Manufacturing	Sergeant-at-Arms
Bossford, Pat	2 Commodity Broker	
Burg, Dol	55 Retail Lumber Sales	Four-key Test
Clark, Claude	3 Senior Active	Scholarships, Awards, etc
Coma, Jerry	26 Senior Active	Club Bulletin Editor
Courow, Al	52 Fire Insurance	Club Vice-President
Crawford, Henry Jr	5 Beer Distributing	Fellowship Activities
Davis, Bob	183 Post Service	Classification
Dick, John	11 Law Practice, Gen.	
Dinning, Richard	462 CPA Auditing	Program
Field, Buford	45 Senior Active	Director, International Serv.
Ford, Mike	38 Real Estate Agency	Club President
Frederick, Dr Pierce	615 Senior Active	
Gaston, James E	1 Senior Active	
Godard, Dr Claude	758 Senior Active	Employer-Employee Relations
Gwin, F B	17 Senior Active	Magazine
Gwin, John	77 Department Store	Interact
James, Dr O O	7 Senior Active	Public Relations
Kilgore, Russ	7 Broadcasting Station	International Youth Projects
Leighton, Phil	11 Senior Active	
Lott, William	0 Land Developer	
Nelsoe, James	81 Extermination Service	Membership
Nurry, L C (Com)	17 Senior Active	Student Issues
Phillips, Rev James	14 Clergy	World Community Service
Moore, Jack W	25 Engineering	
Moyer, R Roy	0 Senior Active	Club Secretary
Nyrick, Mike	25 Communications	
Nimmeyer, C B (Brad)	0 Senior Active	
Nix, James	5 City Mayor	Interact
Nobles, William	2 Mens Clothing	Sergeant-at-Arms
Owens, Rev Charles	48 Pastor, Presbyterian	Director, Community Service
Pitman, Cecil	464 Senior Active	Attendance
Price, Donnie	16 Furniture	Crippled Children
Reischer, Dr Lamar	8 Pathologist	Club Treasurer
Roberts, Len	19 Graphic Designer	Occupational Information
Schermer, Alton	2 Senior Active	
Schindler, Dr Ross	127 Veterinarian	Director, Club Service
Sumner, Robert	1 Senior Active	
Varley, Hal	58 Senior Active	Biographer
Walker, Peyton	171 Senior Active	Rotary Information
Walters, Annie	1046 Senior Active	
Williams, Ed	26 Senior Active	Rotary Foundation
Woodward, Cleve	23 Senior Active	
Yates, Harold	11 Senior Active	

Corrected as of July 30, 1976

Past Presidents

1974-75	Geo Burton E Hoffman	1972-73	Orzo Brown	1966-67	Andie Walters*
1973-74	James E Bennett	1971-72	E L Russell	1965-66	Dob Sumner
1972-73	Lee W Schaeffer	1970-71	J D Foster	1964-65	James E Gaston, Jr*
1971-72	Tom J Klump	1969-70	Alton E Schermer*	1963-64	Ernest W Bailey*
1970-71	J J Pridgen	1968-69	Veckl Pittman*	1962-63	Peyton W Walker*
1969-70	Harold Newman	1967-68	Floyd J Hug	1961-62	Richard C Mace
1968-69	J S Gibson	1966-67	Ellis G Fickensky, Jr	1960-61	Claude Clark*
1967-68	Dr Claude C Godard*	1965-66	Harold Nelson	1959-60	Richard Manning*
1966-67	W Roy Moore*	1964-65	Marva D Berglin*	1958-59	Mike Ford*
1965-66	Ellen G Wickham, Jr	1963-64	Dr Ross J Schindler		
1964-65	Tom I Woodford*	1962-63	E B Gwin*		
1963-64	James E Gaston, Sr	1961-62	Dr O O James*		
1962-63	C J Nimmeyer*	1960-61	L C Moore*		
1961-62	Carl E Bladen	1959-60	Ben Barnhill*		

* Still holding membership in the Fairhope Rotary Club
 -- Past District Governor

1975-76 bulletin cover showing roster with attendance



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama



TO

Fairhope Rotary Club

Fairhope, Alabama

FOR

*Their dedication to the ideals of Rotary
and faithfulness to their Club*

**Award for
Highest Attendance
in District 688**

Mark S. Cannon

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

1966-67 Attendance Award



1962-63 Attendance Award



1967-68 Attendance Award
98.60%!



1976–77 Attendance Award



Attendance Awards from the 1980s
First or Second Place in Seven Years

J. E. Gooden, past President, expired on May 6, 1957;
thus Fairhope Rotary lost one of its most untiring workers.

This record is made possible by the work of Mr. William A.
Stallard, and his journalism class, who copied all newspaper
reports from 1938.

Mr. Tappy Bradford was instrumental in obtaining a written
report from each of the past presidents.

My thanks go to Miss Lorine Brown and Mrs. Jackie Long for
the typing of this paper.

I would like to suggest that in the future this club obtain
a steel filing cabinet with a lock on it, and that a record of
the meetings and other important papers be filed in this cabinet
for future use. In addition, I think that we should designate
one individual to write a complete report on each meeting and
put in this file, as a history of this town, in reality, is
fairly well covered by the things that occur in these meetings
week by week.

May 10, 1957

Recommendation for Maintenance of Club History Records



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

Historical Sources

- Official history: 1938–1957
- Club bulletins: July 1969–June 1971
August 1972–June 1973
July 1975–June 1976
Scattered 1977–1978
July 1985–August 1986
July 1987–present
Samples 1975–1976 through 1984–1985
- Board meeting minutes: August 1995–present



ED. L. HILLIARD
President Baldwin County
City Executive Officer

Sample

CENTRAL BANK OF THE SOUTH P.O. DRAWER 489 FAIRHOPE, ALABAMA 36533

July 16, 1986

Mr. John Duck
Post Office Drawer Y
Fairhope, AL 36533

Dear John:

I would like for you to help me on a project that I have been wanting to work on for quite sometime now, and that is the preservation of some of the history of the Fairhope Rotary Club. Specifically, documents, books, banners, flags, trophies, plaques, etc., that we have received over the years. I feel like each administration has probably taken and housed in separate places unique pieces of our history. What I am trying to do is consolidate all of this into one location, so that we can preserve it for future Rotarians to come. I have an excellent place, here on the second floor at the bank to house these archives, and plan on doing this as soon as possible.

proper display upstairs, and would hope that whatever material you have could also be placed in this room.

If you are in possession of any material that you think would be pertinent for our archive room, please let me know. I will be glad to pick it up, or you could drop it off at the bank and leave it with me or my secretary, Mrs. Antinarelli. You can call me at 928-9222, or at home 626-6670.

Sincerely,

Ed Hilliard

EH:ja

Request for Consolidation of Club Archives



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama



ROTARY CLUB OF FAIRHOPE

P.O. Box 741
Fairhope, AL 36533-0741

Rotary International Theme, 2009-2010

The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands

May 5, 2010

Dear Club Past President:

In looking into our club history, I discovered that the only formal documentation begins with our club's founding in 1938 and ends in 1957. As a start to documenting things from 1957 to present, I thought I would ask your help to do the following.

Please take at least your year and document in a paragraph or so the highlights that you recall occurring. The format is up to you, but I've enclosed the 1938-1957 history for you to review what was done in the past. I've also attached a list of past presidents. In the event the president(s) preceding or following your year are no longer around could you please also take a stab at what you recall from those years.

like or not. If you use the form, just send it back to me as a new MS Word document (Replace "BLANK" with your name as part of the file name).

Thanks again for being an integral part of what makes RCF such a great club!!

Sincerely yours,

Howard Eddy

HNE/s

Request to Past Presidents



Club of
Fairhope, Alabama

That's all Folks!