

(Part One)

## Compiled by: Rtn. Y.P. Gilra

(Member of Rotary Club Kotdwara, Rotary International District-3100, India)

Year	RI President Clubs Rotarians (figures at the start of year)	Important Highlights & Events During The Year
1868		19 <sup>th</sup> April- Paul P. Harris was born in Racine, Wisconsin USA
1896		Paul Harris settled in Chicago, Illinois, USA and began his practice of law.
1900		Paul Harris conceived the idea - to have a club of professional & business people for friendship.
1905	Clubs 01 Rotarians 12	Paul Harris First Four Rotarians First Officers of First Rotary Club Unity Building
		23 <sup>rd</sup> February- (Thursday): Paul Harris (Lawyer 37 years) met three young business companions- Silvester Schiele (Coal Merchant), Gustavus Loehr (Mining Engineer) and Hiram Shorey (Merchant Tailor) - in Loehr's office at 711, Unity Building, 127, Dearborn Street, Chicago, USA and explained his idea of a unique service and fellowship club, one in which the various businesses and professions of a community are represented. Rotary was born from this meeting on 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb, thus starting a movement destined to spread around the world.
		The original four Rotarians: (left to right) Gustavus E. Loehr; Silvester Schiele; Hiram E. Shorey and Paul P. Harris, founder.
		<ul> <li>Harry Ruggles joined as the 5<sup>th</sup> Rotarian of the club.</li> <li>The second meeting of the club was at Paul Harris's office at the Wolff Building on 9<sup>th</sup> March and had 7 members, the sixth and seventh being William Jenson and A.L. White</li> </ul>
	~(	The Rotary name was derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.
	VIIS	First officers of the first Rotary Club (left to right): Paul P. Harris, founder of Rotary; Silvester Schiele, President; William Jensen, Secretary and Harry Ruggles, treasurer.
1906	•	"Wagon wheel" design of Montague M. Bear adopted as emblem of the new Rotary Club
		Albert L. White, served as second president of the club
1907		<ul> <li>Rotary Club Chicago installs "public restroom" in City Hall- probably first example of Rotary Community Service</li> </ul>
		Paul Harris became President of Rotary Club Chicago.
1908	Clubs 02 Rotarians 200	<ul> <li>2nd Rotary Club organized in San Francisco (California) USA</li> <li>Rotary Emblem design was modified.</li> <li>Harry Ruggles introduced Chesley R. Perry as prospective member to the Rotary Club of Chicago.</li> </ul>
1909	Clubs	3 <sup>rd</sup> Rotary Club organized in - Oakland (California) USA
<i>***</i> ****		





Compiled by: Rtn. Y.P. Gilra

Year	Clubs Rotarians (figures at the start of year)	Important Highlights & Events During The Year
	06 Rotarians 510	<ul> <li>4<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club organized in - Seattle (Washington) USA</li> <li>5<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club organized in - Los Angles (California) USA</li> <li>6<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club organized in - New York (New York) USA</li> <li>Rotary extended from Pacific coast to Atlantic coast of USA, with organization of clubs in New York City and Boston.</li> </ul>
1910		Paul Harris marries Jean Thomson, a native of Edinburg, Scotland, on 2nd July 1910 in Chicago.
1910-11	Founder of Rotary  Clubs 16 Rotarians 1500	FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION  OF  OF AMERICA CHICAGO August 15th-16th & 17th 1910  The official picture of the first Rotary Convention- Chicago
		<ul> <li>RI Convention (1st): Chicago, Illinois, USA (60) (15-17 August 1910)</li> <li>Establishment of Rotary Year from convention to convention.</li> <li>Founder Paul Harris was elected as first President of this new Association.</li> <li>Chesley R Perry, who presided over the sessions, was elected as first Secretary of the Association at a salary of US\$100/- per month and US\$25 office allowance. The Secretariat was established on 18th August.</li> <li>At this convention, the National Association of Rotary Clubs is created from the 16 clubs of the United States.</li> <li>The figures of clubs and membership of Rotary represents clubs and members for the beginning of the year i.e. on 1st July of 1910, there were 16 clubs &amp; 1500 members.</li> <li>Five (05) Objects of Rotary formulated at this convention.</li> <li>Constitution &amp; Bye-laws of the association were adopted at the convention.</li> <li>In the Convention a Chicago business man &amp; Rotarian Arthur F. Sheldon gave an idea for business principals &amp; suggested "he profits most who serves his fellow best".</li> <li>Rotary becomes INTERNATIONAL, with organization of first club outside USA in Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA, in November 1910 (but not actually admitted until 1912),</li> <li>(1911 January) first Newspaper issue of "The National Rotarian" was published. It has 12 pages and its editor was - Chesley Perry. It contained an article "Rational Rotarianism" by Paul Harris, 4000 copies were printed in a press owned by Rtn Harry Ruggles. Circulation price was 25 cents.</li> </ul>

Compiled by: Rtn. Y.P. Gilra (page-3)

Histo
Year
1911-12
1912-13

## RI President Clubs Rotarians (figures at the start of year)

# Important Highlights & Events During The Year

### Paul P. Harris

RI Convention (2<sup>nd</sup>): Portland, Oregon USA (149) - 21-23 August 1911 Second Issue of Magazine "The National Rotarian" published in July 1911

#### Founder



Clubs 28

Rotarians

2500

- Paul P Harris elected as President of the Association, for a second term.
- Rotary crossed Atlantic with forming of clubs in Dublin, Ireland (organized March 1911); Belfast, Northern Ireland (organized August 1911), and London, England (organized August 1911).
- Rotary platform was adopted at the 1911 convention.
- "Service above Self" and "He profits Most Who Serves Best" formulated as Rotary Mottoes.
- In 1911, the second Rotary convention, in Portland, Oregon, USA, approved He Profits Most Who Serves Best as the Rotary motto. The wording was adapted from a speech that Rotarian Arthur Frederick Sheldon delivered to the first convention, held in Chicago the previous year. Sheldon declared that "only the science of right conduct toward others pays. Business is the science of human services. He profits most who serves his fellows best."

The Portland gathering also inspired the motto Service Above Self, suggested by Ben Collins, president of the Rotary Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA,

- Constitution of the Association was revived.
- Rotary world aligned into 8 divisions: 5 in USA; 2 in Canada & 1 in Great Britain and Ireland, for administrative convenience with vice presidents at the helm.

### Glen C. Mead



Clubs

44 Rotarians

5008

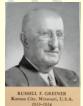
- Name changed to "International Association of Rotary Clubs".
- First Rotary emblem embodying a gearwheel adopted at convention
- At the Convention -Model Constitution and By-laws for a Rotary Club adopted &, was recommended to the Clubs for adoption with five (05) Objects.

RI Convention (3<sup>rd</sup>): Duluth, Minnesota USA (598) - 6-9 August 1912

- Paul Harris "retires" from active leadership and becomes president emeritus.
- The National Rotarian renamed "The Rotarian" (magazine launched).
- First Rotary club organized in Scotland at Glasgow.
- From 1910 to 1913, the new presidential year began with the convention. In April 1913, it was decided that the 12-month fiscal "Rotary year" would be from 1 July to 30 June.
- Starting with establishment of the Rotary Year the figure for number of clubs and membership of Rotary represents clubs and members for the beginning of that year.

## 1913-14

## Russell F. Greiner



Clubs 83 Rotarians

10000

- RI Convention (4th): Buffalo, New York, USA (18-21 August 1913) (930)
- RI Convention (5<sup>th</sup>): Houston, Texas, USA (22-26 June 1914) (1288)
- The Buffalo Convention in 1913 started the consideration of a "Rotary Code of Ethics", which was perfected in 1914 and 1915 Conventions.
- First large-scale disaster relief by Rotary Clubs, through contributions (more than US\$25000 sent to Rotary Club of Dayton, Ohio and other clubs for flood victims in the two Midwestern states Ohio & Indiana of USA.
- Rotarians of RC Syracuse, New York, USA were responsible for providing specialized surgery for a young disabled girl. It was one of the first such efforts for "Helping the disabled".
- First eight Clubs in Great Britain & Ireland organised themselves (GB & I) into British Association of Rotary Clubs (BARC). This association applied for recognition as a territorial unit under the provisions then existing and was given authority to organize accordingly.
- This association was recognised by a resolution at the Houston Texas Convention in June 1914, as "Rotary International Association for Great Britain and Ireland. Now called R.I.B.I.





Page 3

Compiled by: Rtn. Y.P. Gilra (page-4)

Year	RI President Clubs Rotarians (figures at the start of year)	Important Highlights & Events During The Year
		<ul> <li>The convention in Houston adopted a resolution to celebrate 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February of each year as "ROTARY DAY", by all affiliating clubs of the International Association.</li> <li>100<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club chartered in Phoenix, Arizona, USA.</li> </ul>
1914-15	FRANK L. Mulholland  FRANK L. MULHOLLAND Toledo, Oliko, USA. BIFF-BIS  Clubs 123  Rotarians 15000	<ul> <li>(Note):- The annual conventions during 1910-13 were held in August. In 1914, the convention was held in June. In 1915 &amp; 1916, it was held in June. In 1915 &amp; 1916, it was held in July. Although it appears that Frank L. Mulholland didn't have a convention, he was elected at the Houston convention in June 1914. It also appears that Russel F. Greiner and Arch C. Klumph each had two conventions, but those were shared with their predecessors and successors.</li> <li>Outbreak of war in Europe slows expansion of Rotary in that region.</li> <li>Clubs in Great Britain &amp; Ireland engaged in relief works, including housing of Belgium refugees, a fallout of world war.</li> <li>Official Rotary Flag adopted in November 1914. Design submitted by official flag committee (Chairman-Russell F. Greiner of Kansas City) (Main portion is white, emblemizing the banner of internationalism. Upon the centre of white flag appears the official emblem of Rotary worked out in gold &amp; blue containing the word "Rotary International").</li> <li>On 14th January, 1915, the first official Rotary Flag was unfurled on a flagstaff atop the Hotel Baltimore, in Kansas City, Missouri, USA.</li> <li>Gained 58 new clubs during the year ( 9 GB&amp;I, 10 Canada &amp; 167 USA= total 186 at the end of the year 1914-15 with a membership of 20,700)</li> </ul>
1915-16	Allen D. Albert  Allen D. Albert  Parin Ulicois U.S.A. 2515-2916  Clubs 186  Rotarians 20700	<ul> <li>RI Convention: (18-23 July): San Francisco, California, USA (1988)</li> <li>Rotary Clubs grouped into districts for first time.</li> <li>Standard Rotary Club Constitution and model bylaws adopted.</li> <li>Additional active membership established.</li> <li>Rotary "Code of Ethics" for business adopted.</li> <li>First Rotary club chartered in a non-English-speaking country (Rotary Club of Havana, Cuba).</li> <li>First Rotary club formed in the South Pacific (Rotary Club of Honolulu, Hawaii), which became the 50<sup>th</sup> state of the USA in 1962.</li> <li>Rotary Club number 200- organised at Columbus, Georgia USA</li> <li>"A Talking Knowledge of Rotary"- first comprehensive statement of Rotary Ideals and activities adopted &amp; published in a booklet form. (Author- Guy Gundaker)</li> <li>"Boys Work" initiated.</li> <li>War service of Rotary clubs in GB &amp; I intensified.</li> <li>"Kiwanis International" founded in 1915, in Detroit Michigan USA, the first of many service clubs to follow the pattern of Rotary.</li> </ul>





Compiled by: Rtn. Y.P. Gilra (page-5)

Year	RI President Clubs Rotarians (figures at the start of year)	Important Highlights & Events During The Year
1916-17	Arch C. Klumph  ARCH C. KLUMPPP Geveland, Ohio, U.S.A. 1916-1917  Clubs 247  Rotarians 27000	<ul> <li>RI Convention: (16-20 July): Cincinnati, Ohio, USA (3591)</li> <li>RI Convention: (17-21 June): Atlanta, Georgia, USA (2588)</li> <li>Atlanta convention elected first President of the International Association from outside the USA-*E. Leslie Pidgeon* of Canada</li> <li>300<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club organized at Huntington, Indiana, USA</li> <li>Crippled children's work started</li> <li>At the Atlanta Convention, outgoing R.I. President Arch Klumph proposed establishment of an endowment fund for the purposes of doing good in the world in charitable, educational and other avenues of community progress, which was forerunner of The Rotary Foundation. (Arch Klumph is regarded as Father of the Foundation.)</li> <li>Attendance Contest initiated</li> </ul>
1917-18	E. Leslie Pidgeon  LISLIF PIDGEON* Winnipe, Manioth, Canada 1971-1979  Clubs 311  Rotarians 32600	<ul> <li>RI Convention: (24-28 June): Kansas City, Missouri, USA (4145)</li> <li>Rotary Clubs in the United States embark upon many phases of war services. (Mobilization of schoolboys for farm work; 'Smileage Book' Campaigns for food; books &amp; magazines for use of service men at army training camps.)</li> <li>First Rotary Song Book published in response to requests by Rotary Clubs</li> <li>Rotary Club was organized in Cardiff, first to be established in Wales.</li> <li>First Rotary club organized in Puerto Rico at San Juan</li> <li>Lions International founded in 1917, the firsts of many service clubs to follow Rotary pattern.</li> </ul>
1918-19	John Poole	❖ RI Convention: (June 16-20) (Reg.3083): Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
	JOHN POOLF Washington, D. C., U.S.A. 1918-1919  Clubs 415  Rotarians 38800	<ul> <li>All members of the host club wore blue coats, white trousers, and white shoes in the convention.</li> <li>The Allied Rotary Club for Rotarian American Servicemen (forerunner of the Rotary Club of Paris, France, to be formed three years later) is formed.</li> <li>Rotary entered new country and a new continent- South America with launching of a club in Montevideo, Uruguay.</li> <li>Rotary entered new country &amp; a new continent Asia with launching of a club in Manila, Philippines</li> <li>First International Assembly held at Chicago, Illinois, USA. Since that time, the International Assembly has been held each year, in advance of the International Convention.</li> <li>Clubs cross 500 mark &amp; membership crosses 40000.</li> </ul>
1919-20	Albert S. Adams  ALBERT S. ADAMS- Allant, Grozeis, U.S.A. 8797-720  Clubs	<ul> <li>RI Convention: (June 21-25)         (Reg. 7213): Atlantic City, New Jersey,         USA</li> <li>In 1920, the Rotary Club of Chicago celebrated         its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The past presidents of the         club shown in this picture had watched Rotary         grow to 750 Rotary clubs comprising 56000         members in 15 counties.</li> <li>End of World War first, saw surge in expansion of Rotary through formation of clubs in Buenos</li> </ul>



530 Rotarians

45000

**Enjoy Rotary** 



Calcutta has the distinction to establish the first Rotary club in India that was on Sept 26, 1919

Aires, Argentina; Shanghai China; Calcutta India and Panama City, Panama.

Compiled by: Rtn. Y.P. Gilra (page-6)

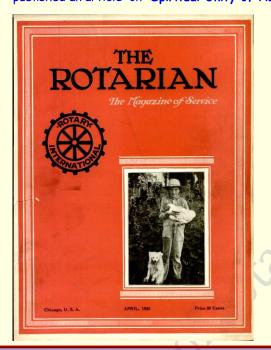
Year

RI President Clubs Rotarians (figures at the start of year)

# Important Highlights & Events During The Year

(I meeting at Pality Restaurant), though the charter was received by the club on January 1, 1920.

- At the Atlantic City Convention a "hospitality hut" was introduced, forerunner of the popular "house of friendship" initiated at the Toronto Convention in 1924 and held at all conventions.
- The April 2020 issue of "The Rotarian" (TR-official magazine of RI page 191, Vol. XVI, No. 4), published an article on "Spiritual Unity of Humanity" by Sir Rabindranath Tagore.



#### Spiritual Unity of Humanity

where the property company of applied and property of the East Asset and the property of the East Asset and the property of the second of the property of the

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



