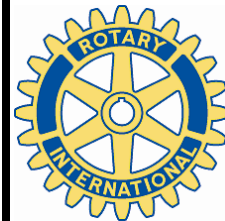




# The Rotary Big Wheel

Anderson, Ind.

Nov. 21, 2006



## Rotary Moment No. 500, read by Bob Shoemaker

Our club's Rotary Information Committee met in the fall of 1993 to discuss plans to provide Rotary information to our members. It was decided that infrequent programs on the subject had not been very effective.

The possibility of having short Rotary messages every week might be a better method. In addition, if these messages were to be controlled in length, it was felt that they needed to be written and read aloud to the club. Otherwise they might tend to be long and windy.

Rotarian Ann Shoemaker read Rotary Moment No. 1 on De-

ember 28, 1993. The subject was, "How Do You Call a Rotarian." It emphasized the traditional informality practiced by Rotarians in their relationship with each other. In following years dozens of other members have served Rotary well by reading weekly Rotary Moments.

The director of Rotary International for our zone is Bob Stuart, a member of the Springfield, Illinois club. Director Bob offered to provide the following special message for Rotary Moment #500:

*"Rotary's challenge remains to involve each member of a Rotary club—Rotary means something*

*entirely different to each one of us. An understanding and appreciation of Rotary comes to each of us when we become involved - whether through simple casual conversation and fellowship at the weekly meeting or project, sharing our reflections in an invocation, sharing elbow grease painting floors at a local Goodwill, reading to a child in school, comforting a lonely senior at a nursing home, raising funds at a bratwurst festival, delivering holiday baskets and gifts, building a habitat home, handing the 3rd grader a dictionary, guiding a young man or woman in how to interview for college or that first job, reaching out to the aspiring scholarship candidate, or piecing together water wells across the globe, providing a tent and food to the*

*starving in the Sudan, providing relief to those stricken by the tsunami, earthquake or hurricane across the globe or a tornado in our hometown, seeing the glow of a smile cross the face of the special needs child bonding with other children because of equipment or programs we provide, or the hug of a mother whose child will no longer bear the stigma of a cleft palate or face the scourge of polio, or in our daily lives as we provide the dedication of our very best in service ever day through our own professions and vocations.*

*"It is written that charity is love in action, to me Rotary is that love in action."*

----Bob Stuart

## Rotary Moment No. 500 1/2, "What About Bob?": Written and read by Keith Trent

**(You will notice that I am speaking closely and directly into the "Mike")**

I doubt seriously that Bob Shoemaker had any idea that we would one day be honoring him for his 500<sup>th</sup> Rotary Moment when the first one was read way back on December 28, 1993 by none other than his daughter Ann.

While many of the Rotary Moments have to do with what Rotary has done and is doing around the world, some of them pertain to particular historic moments in the life of our own club. I dare say that for most of us, we have learned more about Rotary around the world and in Anderson from Bob's moments

than we have from any other source. And we certainly have heard words that were outside of our vocabularies and learned of places in the world that are impossible to pronounce. A wise Rotarian who is asked to read the Rotary Moment always reads through it a time or two before coming to the podium just to make sure they can pronounce all of the words. Part of the fun in listening sometimes is to see whether or not the person can get through "the moment" without tripping up on the name of some remote village in South America. Just last week, Bill Surbaugh shared with us a story about Gallipoli (Gallip-o-lee), a Turkish peninsula along with a reference to the Rotary Clubs of Istanbul-Findikli (Fen-deek-lee). You may be asking yourself, "What kind of

person would take the time to research and write an article like this every week?"

To those of you long-time members who know Bob's Rotary credentials, imparting his knowledge of Rotary comes as no surprise. For you new Rotarians, I would like to just touch on the highlights of an illustrative Rotary career and also share some personal information about Bob that none of you may know.

Bob has been a member of the Anderson Rotary Club for 58 years, served as its first club bulletin editor, and, in 1958, began a 48 year record of perfect attendance. He was club President in 1965, chairman of the club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary cele

**Volunteer to read to a child for 20 minutes one afternoon a week.**

**Call Pam Storm, 641-2148.**

***"The more you read, the smarter you grow. The smarter you grow, the longer you stay in school. The longer you stay in school, the more money you earn. The more you earn, the better your children will do in school. So if you hook a child with reading, you influence not only his future but also that of the next generation."***

**~Jim Trelease**

*Good Fortune*

Example is better than advice.  
Patience is the ability to count down  
before you blast off!



**President**  
**Pam Coletti**

2006-2007 Officers  
President-Elect: David Porter  
Secretary: Dana Donahue  
Treasurer: John Kane

**50/50 Raffle**



Won by: **Betty Crum**  
Total collected: **\$105**

If you win, feel free to keep your winnings. There is no expectation that the winner should give back to the club. If you do wish to give back to either our club or Rotary International, you must write a check and give it to John Kane.

This is the only way to use it as a charitable gift tax deduction and the only way to give it to RI.

**November is Foundation Month!**

John Eddy is the chair of this campaign, and hopes to have at least \$100 per member, with 100% participation. Any contribution will count toward becoming a Paul Harris Fellow (when \$1000 is reached). Our donations go toward Polio Plus, voluntary service grants (for groups who go to foreign countries), and many other honorable causes.



- Erich Ewald Nov. 1
- Tonya Nichols Nov. 3
- Charles Rittman Nov. 9
- John Kane Nov. 12
- Michael Montgomery Nov. 16
- Nancy Taylor Nov. 20
- Debbie Stapleton Nov. 24
- Deanne Beard Nov. 24
- Bobbette Snyder Nov. 27
- Sarah Later Nov. 29

**Upcoming programs**

Middle East	Nov.
Carl Caldwell	21
Policeman of the Year	Dec.
	5
Vocational Talks/ Annual Meeting	Dec.
	12

**Make-ups**

Willie Kant  
Anderson Suburban

**Announcements**

If you have an announcement you'd like to have made during a Rotary meeting, kindly call President Pam at 631-0844 or e-mail your announcement to [pamcoletti@aol.com](mailto:pamcoletti@aol.com) by Monday evening preceding the Tuesday meeting.

- Please volunteer to ring bells for the Salvation Army. Our club has taken two days and we need to fill up all time slots. You may choose from Dec. 5 or 6, and we will be ringing at two locations—by Sears or MCL. Rob Loose is chairing this community outreach project.
- Congratulations to Athena Award winner, Mary Starkey!
- Congratulations to Jeanne Lee on being selected as this year's Distinguished Citizen!
- Charles Laughlin passed away Nov. 20. He was a former club president and district governor.

**Other Program Highlights**

**Invocation, Pledge and 4-Way Test: Pam Jones**  
**"500 Moments" Sing-along: Rick & Judy Kimmer**  
**Congratulatory letters to Bob:**

- from RI President, **Bill Boyd**, read by **District Governor Bing Pratt**
- from **Bob Geyer** of Attica-Williamsport, read by **Suzanne Shakleton**
- from **Gene Lacy** of New Castle, read by **Pam Coletti**

**Rotary Moment No. 500 1/2, continued from page 1**

bration, organized the Central States Youth Exchange program which became one of the finest in the country and organized the first Training Institute for Governors in 1979. Bob is a Rotary Foundation benefactor and he and his wife, Mary Ann, are both Paul Harris Fellows. He has made 16 trips to Brazil on behalf of the Rotary Youth Exchange program and has attended more than 60 RI conferences and more than 20 RI conventions. He took his family along to three conventions so that they could see what it was about Rotary that had so captivated him. His specific leadership activities and terms of office include the following: Governor of District 6560 (1971-72); Chairman of RI Youth Activities Committee, 1978-79 and 1982-83; Chairman of RI Youth Activities Consultative Group, 1978-79; Director of Rotary International 1979-81; (in the early 80's Bob was nominated to be President of RI but declined as it would require him to be away from his home and family for a year) Member of RI President Nominating Committee, 1984-85, 1989-90 and 1994-95; RI World Fellowship Activities committee member, 1976-78, Consultative Group Vice Chairman for USCB, 1981-82; Member of the Ad Hoc Committee to Study U.S. Zones in 1986; World Community Service International Institute Committee, 1988-89; Chairman of the Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Program, 1976-88; Brazil Correspondent for CSRYE, 1988-2005; Historian for CSRYE, 2005-present; District 6560 Protocol Officer, 1998-present.

Now for some personal things about Bob.

- Bob has had a lifelong interest in Scouting attaining the rank of Eagle Scout in 1937 at the first National Jamboree held in Washington, D.C.
- Whereas most children walk or ride a bus to school, Bob rode a pony to school in New Philadelphia, OH
- He was commissioned into the US Naval Reserve in 1942 and served with the Navy Underwater Research in Maryland and later on the escort carrier Corregidor during WW II.
- Bob graduated from the Harvard Business School; while at Harvard he was on the rowing team
- He was an official observer for the final nuclear weapons test in Nevada in 1955
- Served as Civil Defense Director of Madison County and built a bomb shelter for his family in their basement
- He was an official guest of NASA in 1968 and 1971 for the Apollo 8 and 15 moon launches at Cape Canaveral. According to Bob's son, Rob, a gentleman by the name of Al Worden was the reason Bob and Rob were invited to those launches. Mr. Worden had stayed overnight at the Shoemaker's when he was the guest speaker at the Anderson Rotary Club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in 1968. Worden's son was on the Apollo 15 flight. According to Rob, his father had no "compunction" about asking him for a favor in return for letting him spend the night in their home.
- Bob has been a HAM radio operator for many years and was using a phone in his car 20 years before cell phones were invented
- He loves all kinds of water activities, especially canoeing, and is currently putting a new engine in a jet ski
- Bob loves to fish and used to take his family to Wisconsin for vacation; some of them having been going back for over 40 years
- He can play one song on the piano, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and loves to sing although those closest to him say he can't
- Met the late Pope John Paul
- Has traveled extensively throughout the world and has come to love people of all races and religions
- He drank Dr. Pepper before it was popular and wore cargo pants before they were "cool"

In short, Bob Shoemaker has always been a man ahead of his time. On a personal note, some of you will recall that a picture of Colin and Wendy Parry along with me appeared in the Rotarian magazine with a story about our Centennial Project,

Peace Matters. Bob Shoemaker was the person who took that picture. Additionally, one of the goals of my Presidency, which went unmet, was to somehow get Bob's Rotary Moments bound into some kind of book that could not only serve as part of our club's history but also shared with other Rotary clubs.

Even though I was not successful in getting that done, it is a great honor for me to be able to participate in this special occasion to honor Bob for sharing his knowledge of Rotary with us in such a meaningful way. It is for this reason that I have affectionately referred to Bob as "Mr. Rotary" on many occasions. I know I speak on behalf of all Anderson Rotarians when I say "thanks for the memories *and* the moments." One of my favorite sayings is "It only takes a moment to make someone's day". Thanks Bob, for making our day. Let's now take a "moment" to express our appreciation to Bob for his 500 Rotary Moments.

**This has been Rotary Moment 500 1/2**

**Congratulations, Charles Rittman!**

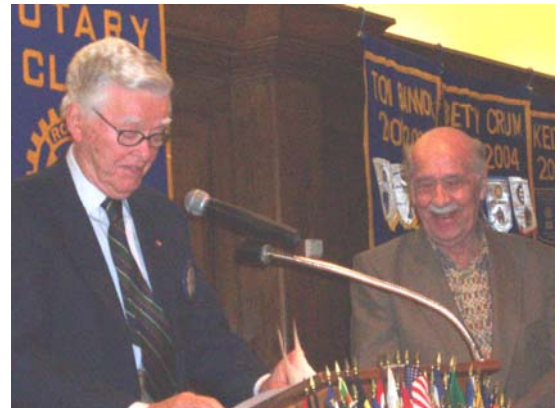
The Anderson Rotary Club honored 50-year member Charles Rittman on November 21 with the Half Century Award. Rittman joined the Anderson Rotary Club on April 19, 1956. He served as president from 1971-72 and attended the International Rotary Convention in Sydney, Australia in 1971.

Charlie joined his father in the KB Flower Shop after graduating from Ball State in 1937. In 1945 he opened the first Model Home Store in the north room of the Paramount Theatre building. As the business grew, he opened several other stores including one in the new Mounds Mall shopping center. In 1993, at age 78, Charlie closed the last Model Home Store at 14<sup>th</sup> and Main Street and retired.

After retirement, Charlie joined SCORE (Senior Core of Retired Executives), a service of the Chamber of Commerce. SCORE counsels business owners at no charge.

Charlie and his late wife Ruth were married for 59 years and were the parents of four sons—Jack, twins Bob and Bill, and Jim. His hobbies include traveling, bicycling and swimming. He has traveled to England, Ireland, Scotland, Netherlands, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Mote Carlo, Japan, Venezuela, Mexico and the Medeira islands. He still swims three times a week at the YMCA.

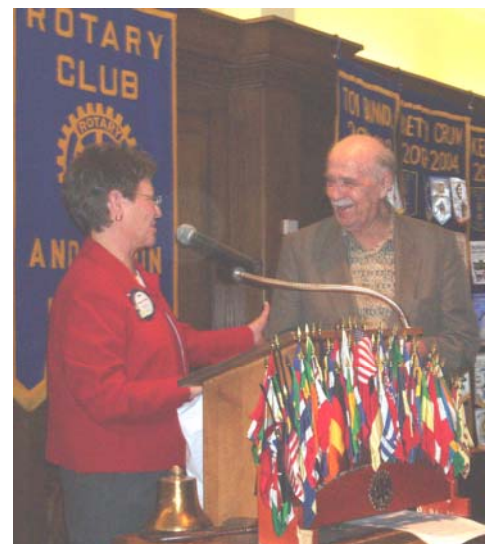
At age 91, Charlie has the distinction of being Anderson’s oldest Rotarian.



**Above:** Charles Dickmann presents the Half-Century Award to Charles Rittman for his 50 years in the Anderson Rotary Club. **Below:** President Pam congratulates Charlie. **At left:** President Pam presents Bob Shoemaker with a brass plate in recognition of 500 Rotary Moments.

**Family guests of Bob Shoemaker**

- Mary Ann Shoemaker, wife
- Sara Smith, daughter
- Reed Smith, grandson
- Janet Rutan, daughter
- Neil Rutan, grandson
- Craig Rutan, grandson
- Rob Shoemaker, son



**Visiting Rotarians**

- Judy Ford, Carmel
- Past District Governor Bill McFadden, Carmel
- Past District Governor Jerry Erskine, Lebanon
- Past District Governor George Dingley, Indianapolis
- District Governor Elect Jim Graham, Brownsburg
- Suzann Shackleton, Attica-Williamsport
- Past District Governor Martin Limbird, Muncie Sunrise
- Past District Governor Karin Blue, Greenfield
- Past District Governor Tom Branham, Indianapolis North East
- District Governor Bing Pratt, Zionsville
- Phil Roseberry, Indianapolis North East

**Other Guests**

- Troy Jones, guest of Keith Pitcher
- Randy Hammel, guest of Jack Keesling
- Don Young, guest of Jan Herr-Lukens
- Owen Brown, guest of David Welsheimer
- Tony Bagienki, Abby Buck and Kevin Rhodes, student guests introduced by Patty Kuhn