

EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEW CANAAN

65th Anniversary

1952 - 2017



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We lost our dear friend Vance Ward this year. Vance exemplified what it was to be part of The Exchange Club. He will be remembered for his family values, integrity, community dedication and intellect.

RICHARD VANCE WARD
1929-2017



My very good friend and Past President Bob Shafter introduced me to Exchange. That was nearly 15 years ago in May 2000. What a great experience this has been.

I believe in and I am committed to our core mission, the prevention of child abuse. At the same time, I feel that we have developed a wonderful blend of volunteer service and financial support to a broad range of community activities. We are very good at fundraising, like Christmas trees and golf outings, projects that are fun and rewarding.

We all understand that it is our duty to hump trees and I'm getting a little older and cannot work the tree lot any more. However, I can still find ways to contribute: I organize and participate in our Santa program, which is definitely fun and, during the year, I am now arranging for our Lunch Bunch gatherings at Gates on alternate Tuesdays. And, I enjoy being on the Donations Committee.

I think I can speak for all past presidents when I say that the commitment level and dedication of our members is excellent. We now have 112 members who are always willing and available when we need them. Sure made my job easy. As many of you know, I have been going through a pretty rough time over the past two years. The support I have received from our membership has been wonderful and I am very grateful.

"I think I can speak for all past presidents when I say that the commitment level and dedication of our members is excellent." I have thoroughly enjoyed my membership in Exchange. Thank you all."

- Vance Ward, 63rd President, 2011 – 2012



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It was an honor to serve as President in 2016-17 and I truly enjoyed it. It was a very rewarding and fulfilling year. We have a great club with great people. We care for each other and for people in need. With our strong fund raising efforts – notably the Golf Outing and the Christmas Tree & Wreath sales - we are able to support many well deserving organizations to make our community a better place. We enjoyed a net growth in our membership of 10 members to 117 and found a spacious new home for our dinner meetings at Woodway Country Club, which enables us to further grow our club. Congratulations to each one with our 65th year anniversary and I am confident that we'll remain a blessing for our community in many years to come.”

- Hans Dijs, 68th President, 2016 - 2017

INTRODUCTION

Welcome as we celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the founding of the Exchange Club of New Canaan in this compilation of the history of the Club. For those readers whom may be less familiar with the Club, we want to share with you more information about our mission, values, and how we serve our local community in both our fundraising and volunteer efforts. We hope you enjoy some of the anecdotes from Club members, photos of our events along the way, and perhaps inspire you to both support and become more involved in leadership positions.



ABOUT US

THE EXCHANGE CLUB IS A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WHO WANT TO MAKE OUR COUNTRY AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE FOR EVERYONE.

We “exchange” our time and talent through programs of service in Americanism, Community Service, Youth Activities, and our national project, the Prevention of Child Abuse. Philanthropically, we contribute our own financial resources and organize fundraising events to support local charitable causes.

We are involved in several of social events such as our semimonthly dinner meetings at a local restaurant with a guest speaker from the community. It has also been our tradition to have a dinner with spouses or significant others on the last dinner meeting in June to thank our departing board members for their service and welcoming new directors and officers as they begin their terms.

Our Christmas Dinner at a local golf club replaces the one of the usual December dinner meetings and is a very enjoyable social evening with joy in the air.



ABOUT NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB

Charles A. Berkey is credited with the founding of this great organization. At his suggestion, the name “Exchange” was selected because the group wanted to exchange ideas and information with like-minded individuals about how to better serve their communities.

The first local Exchange Club was formed in Detroit, Michigan, in 1911. The second was the Exchange Club of Toledo, Ohio, formed in 1913. Subsequently, two others were organized in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Cleveland, Ohio. These four clubs were the first to be chartered by The National Exchange Club after it was organized as a nonprofit, educational organization in 1917.

Exchange Clubs sponsor activities under the organization's Programs of Service – Americanism, Youth Programs and Community Service – as well as its National Project, the prevention of child abuse. Each year, communities benefit from the promotion of pride in our great country, college scholarships, youth mentoring, service to the underprivileged, and other services tailored to serve the needs of its citizens.

In addition to these programs, The National Exchange Club has been at the forefront of significant developments in American history, including the early days of aviation progress. The spirit of patriotism, along with a desire to heighten awareness of our rich religious heritage, placed Exchange in a position of leadership with other organizations that led to the addition of the words “Under God” to the Pledge of Allegiance in 1954.

Exchange is “America's Service Club”. From the organization's earliest days, Exchange Clubs have been selflessly serving their communities.

“

Remember the movie “The Blues Brothers” with the quote “We’re on a mission from God?” Well, we [the New Canaan Exchange Club] are too! Please think of ways to improve our results [as good as they are]. What can each of us do to be even more supportive?”

- Marty McLaughlin, 50th President, 1998 - 1999



I am very proud to be a member of a Club that has achieved so much over the years and has so many distinguished members. The recent leadership has been excellent and it is wonderful to see the continued advancement in all of our endeavors. It has always been a great group of guys, who are a joy and honor to know and be around. I encourage the newer members to ask a bit more of themselves and get involved in the leadership of the Club and the town, as they will get far more out of it than they can imagine.

My presidency followed George DeLage and preceded George Bakes both of who were fine presidents and good friends. This was the period that we clearly separated the foundation's finances from those of the Club.

During my presidency, we installed a Freedom Shrine at one of the schools; we put up Exchange Club street signs on Route 123, South Avenue and near Exit 36. We sold 1,321 Christmas trees and had only four remaining and we set a record for money raised (long since eclipsed). We also began the Christmas Store as I got a hardware store to donate their unsold Christmas items and we began using electric chainsaws at the tree lot.

We had a golf Bulls-eye tourney at Waveny Park organized by Ron Zitani and Craig Lyons (remember them?), which was fun but not financially worth the effort (it might be considered sort of a precursor to Bob Butman's Golf Fundraiser that followed but that would be a stretch). We held a successful auction banquet dinner, all of our bi-monthly meetings were well attended and fun, including a joint dinner with the Rotary Club, which was a big success. We had good membership growth with four prospective members with applications in the hopper, which I handed off to George Bakes when my term expired.

This was around 15 years ago but, obviously, I still take pride in what we accomplished during my term. By the way, I believe that George and I were the two youngest presidents during the last twenty years. (Editor's note: while it is impossible to verify the ages of presidents when they took office, our current records indicate that Ian Duplock was 40 when he was sworn in.)

- Keith Richey, 52nd President, 2000 - 2001

FORMATION OF EXCHANGE CLUB OF NEW CANAAN

The Exchange Club of New Canaan, a 501c(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, chartered on September 27, 1952 as a local chapter of the National Exchange Club, founded in 1911, which is the oldest service organization in the country. We represent a wide range of professions, most of whom remain active in their careers while others have retired but remain active in the pursuit of the Club's service projects and fundraising activities.

Members of the Exchange Club of New Canaan are drawn together by shared basic attitudes: our love for our families and our country; our respect for human dignity and one another; and our compassion for our fellow man. We strive to make our community a better place to live through selected service projects, learning more about our community from our bi-monthly guest speakers and the camaraderie in the spirit of service that forms the basis of Exchange.

The Exchange Club of New Canaan serves the community in many ways. We donate to other local nonprofit charities and service organizations, support many of their fundraising activities, and participate in community events. While we provide support for many local charitable organizations and causes, our central focus is support for the prevention of child abuse. In particular, we provide financial and volunteer support to the Exchange Club Parenting Skills Center in Stamford, CT, and raise awareness in the community of the tragedy of child abuse and the urgent need to fight it.



“

My first thought when Randy Dalia and Bob Clay approached me about the possibility of becoming President-Elect was ‘I wonder how many other guys have already turned them down’! Actually, I was very honored and as promised by Randy, it was in fact a terrific experience.

One of the many benefits of being president is the opportunity to get to know many more members of the club. At the board level, everyone is like-minded in how we can better serve the community with our service projects and fundraising that supports numerous local non-profit organizations. As president-elect, I could always count on Randy and Bob for sound advice whenever the need arose. During my year as president, Bob acted as a mentor who never let me forget it was time to do this, that, or other – a real time reminder calendar! It has also developed into a close friendship that I will always cherish.

As President-Elect, we formed a marketing committee to increase awareness of the tree lot with social media and local on-line news sites; (Darryl Glatthorn’s infamous suggestion to have live reindeer at the tree lot, an idea that we have never let him forget!). We decorated the ‘Lou Moreno’ spruce tree at Kiwanis Park for a tree lighting ceremony that started a new tradition to kick-off tree sales. We set a goal to sell 100+ more trees than the previous year, which we exceeded.

In a collaborative effort with the VFW Post 653, we erected six bronze plaques in the new Town Hall to honor New Canaan residents who served in every conflict since the American Revolution.

My advice to other members is to raise your hand to lead any one of the numerous community service and fundraising events and, if asked, say “yes” to becoming president-elect of the club. You too will find it a rewarding experience.”

- Dan McEvoy, 67th President, 2015 - 2016

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The New Canaan Exchange Club Foundation generates funds by conducting fund-raising activities throughout the year. For the past 45 years the primary activity has been the sale of Christmas trees in December. This event is not only successful financially but “buying your tree from the Exchange Club” has become a family tradition for many New Canaan families. Other major fund raising events have included the Annual Golf Outing, wine tasting, restaurant hop, etc.



Christmas Trees & Wreaths

This is the flagship event for the Exchange Club. In order to practice our motto, “Unity for Service,” we ask each member to be involved in this event in any way they can. The assignments are plentiful and quite varied: tree manager, wreath manager, merchandise manager, cashier, promotion, Santa Claus and four sales teams to reasonably cover an entire weekend of sales.

It takes an entire Club of about 100 members almost an entire month to make this happen. We order about 1,250 trees (balsams, Fraser firs, and Douglas firs), wreaths of assorted varieties both decorated and undecorated, and various Christmas merchandise.

We have also contracted with the North Pole to have Santa Claus with us for the December weekends so our children will have a place to make their requests. We redesign the Merrie Bee Cabin into Santa’s workshop thus transforming Kiwanis Park into a true Christmas village.

In addition, we supply wreaths for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) to lay on veterans graves in New Canaan in the same tradition as occurs at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Golf Outing

In the fall, we organize our Golf Outing at the beautiful and challenging Country Club of New Canaan for a day of near-perfect golf. The day will begin at 11:00 a.m. with registration and a buffet lunch upon arrival. This is followed by a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. and 18 holes of golf with on-course refreshments. The day concludes with a cocktail reception, awards ceremony and an Exchange Club dinner meeting featuring the USO Show Troupe.

Wine Tasting

In the spring, the Exchange Club typically holds a social fundraiser to bring the community together in a fun environment. The evening may include live and silent auctions. In 2015, the Club leadership took part as guest bartenders at a local restaurant.



I am still planning my revenge for the guy who approached me to be President. I can't quite place him, but he had a Yankees cap on.

As you well know, agreeing to be "prez" is a three-year commitment, which sounds daunting but is in truth a blessing for many reasons both for the Club and the person. Whoever thought this up should have received a medal!

For the president-elect, the Christmas tree lot is the first challenge but like everything else I found that "many hands make small work" and that the organizational scheme of long standing and the men connected to the various functions made it a joy to be a part of it. (I had been selling trees before that for about a dozen years). My "finest hour" was a highly ceremonial visit to the lot on the afternoon of the day I had shoulder surgery. I knew at that point I was addicted to the job (and probably the pain killers), Kirsten, of course, did the driving and thought I was nuts. And one doesn't really run the tree lot except to make sure that Gus is in good health!

I remember the Inauguration Dinner. We had a packed house in the front dining room of the Roger Sherman Inn and it was very festive. Succeeding Kevin Hansley was easy in many ways because he was extremely competent, organized and diligent, so things were in great shape. Succeeding Kevin Hansley was on the other hand difficult for the same reasons. Slacking off was not a realistic option. There were a few challenges, but none too onerous. James O'Hara was in full flower as the speaker guru and I never had to worry about that issue. We consistently had interesting speakers whom members were eager to hear. Other officers also performed their tasks well. We ran into a bump when the Secretary unexpectedly re-signed, but Mark Markiewicz agreed to assume that role (not an easy job!) on short notice and continued to do it well for several years afterward. Things about which I am most satisfied: I enjoyed writing for the Exchange Express and tried to inject history and humor into it. A few members told me that their wives always read it! I never missed a meeting, which is either a sign of dedication or a pedestrian existence. I recall that all of our regular events were well managed, attended, and successful. I started a campaign to get rid of the old trailer at the tree lot - took a few years but we succeeded finally and now have the very nifty little Hedlund House.

...

Importantly, we continued our efforts to support the Exchange Club Parenting Skills Center of Stamford and many other important charities at significant levels. (I served then and now on the board of the Parenting Skills Center as do other New Canaan members and our presence in the communities we serve is as strong as it has ever been.) The Immediate Past President acts as the Chairman of the Grants Committee and each spring convenes a group of members to decide upon how our Foundation donates our "sweat equity." This is the third year of presidential obligation and while it only takes a month or two is very crucial and rewarding (pun fully intended). And at the end of the year I attended the next Inauguration Dinner to happily hand the gavel to Kevin McIntosh, the new President. I was the Mike in a Kevin sandwich! And my successor was as adept as my predecessor!

Being President was an honor. Being a member is too. We are 65 years along in New Canaan and are the largest Exchange Club in the state, one of the larger ones in the country. Being part of this endeavor has been a meaningful part of my life. I was a reluctant recruit to the Club by a neighbor and a friend, almost didn't stay on, started to settle in, chipped in here and there and am now one of the, shall we say, "veterans." We are in good shape; we are in good hands. There have been many before us and there will be many to come. You know, the guy in the Yankees cap wasn't such a bad fellow after all. I'm just thinking he needs a new hat. One with a "B" on it."

- Mike Gregorio, 61st President, 2009 - 2010



GRANTS & DONATIONS

Grants and Donations - The fundraisers are the sole source of income for the Foundation. Applications for grants or donations are accepted during a three-month window in the first calendar quarter of the year. The Board of Directors of the Foundation determines the amount of money that is available for gifting.

A Grants and Donations Committee is formed and chaired by the Immediate Past President of the Club. The Committee conducts an in-depth review of the organizations applying for help and determines how the Foundation funds will be dispersed. Applicants are required to provide an overview and mission statement of the organization, description of the specific project for which funding is sought, current financial statements, and evidence of 501 (c) (3) status.

We've given over
\$2 MILLION
to local charities over the past two decades



Thanks for the opportunity to address the Club.

As president of the Club in 2010 and continuing to the present, I am impressed with the dedication of each and every member. They each serve the Club in a number of capacities with conviction and elegance. Thinking back, it is always quite daunting to unload 1,200+ trees on a cold fall day and witness the Club pull together with "all hands on deck" and un-load, tag, price, move, sell, and attach to the roofs of cars those 1,200 trees. I'm proud to be associated with the membership and a member of the Club."

*- Kevin McIntosh, 62nd President,
 2010 - 2011*



COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

Clean a Mile

The Exchange Club has traditionally been assigned Lapham Road from Route 106 to the Merritt Parkway bridge to clean each year. We meet at the Wavery pool parking lot for coffee and doughnuts, take a trash bag and proceed to clean up both sides of Lapham Road from trash thrown by the wayside.



Homefront

As part of our service to the community, The Exchange Club has worked with the Homefront organization each Spring. Members spend a day painting, helping with yard work and doing other repairs for someone in the community in need of assistance. Our Spring project gives members a chance to join one another and directly impact the quality of life of one of our neighbors.



Memorial Day Parade

Americanism is a key pillar of the Exchange Club. We, as a Club, have been honored by the Town of New Canaan by being the only group to be allowed to distribute anything to the parade onlookers: small American flags. Each year, we distribute about 5,000 flags. We also have been honored to have a very favorable position in the parade's line of march. With the exception of Town officials and military personnel, we are at the front of the parade.



Historical Society Ice Cream Social

Over the years, we have been asked to assist the Historical Society distribute ice cream to the attendees. Unlike our involvement in the Family Fourth Celebration, this effort requires us to wear aprons and scoop loose ice cream from large containers.



New Canaan Family Fourth of July

At this event, we assist the Town of New Canaan by helping to sell packaged ice cream bars and soda to attendees usually on the Fourth of July. We also help with the takedown and clean up at the end of the event.



Freedom Shrines

As part of our focus on Americanism, we have installed Freedom Shrine displays in most of the schools in New Canaan. These are replicas of early American documents that serve to remind all of us of the great efforts that have been taken by these early American patriots to insure our freedom.



Waveny Seniors Christmas Luncheon

We have been supporting this midday meal for the senior citizens of New Canaan for a number of years. Currently, we contract with Susan Goodman to cook the meal at Waveny House, which is then distributed by volunteer service groups. As part of this celebration, a high school choral group entertains and our Santa Claus takes a short visit from the Christmas village at Kiwanis Park to distribute some goodies.



“

Several things I remember in my year as president-elect and as president namely I will never forget down at the tree lot before the pavilion was finished and before our tree area was completed making a complete mud zone and George Bakes wading through it and the trees which were all over the place. I think it was the year the Bridgeport construction guys had a good Christmas.

The other thing during my year as president when Mark Holland said to me do you think Stew's would let us buy from them. My reply was to go for it. They can't set the dogs on you. The rest is history and with that help, we increased our profit margins on the trees and wreaths. Christmas to me is made by my time on the tree lot and the same for many of our members.”

- Mike Law, 54th President, 2002 - 2003

Veteran's Honor Roll Bronze Plaques — Town Hall

D-Day: On June 6, 1944, Allied Forces landed in Normandy, France, led by Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force, for the invasion of Europe (codenamed operation OVERLORD). More than 100,000 soldiers swept ashore and nearly 10,000 died that first day. By June 22, the Allies had broken out of Normandy and were heading for Berlin. Several servicemen from New Canaan played a part in the operation that turned the tide of World War II:

COLONEL CHESTER ('CHET') HANSEN,

an aid to General Omar Bradley the Invasion Chief, went ashore on at least two separate occasions on that fateful day. Chet's role was so important that he was depicted in the movie "Patton" after the war

GABRIEL ('GABE') BARRALES

was in the first wave to hit Omaha Beach and was later awarded the Bronze Star for valor with eight battle stars

DOMINICK CASCIARI

was among thousands of paratroopers dropped behind enemy lines on the night before D-Day

CHARLES ('CHUCK') READY JR.

was a gunner on a bomber based in England and was later awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, one of the nation's highest military honors

These are only a few of the brave citizens from New Canaan whose first hand accounts of the battle are unimaginable to us today. After the war, many continued to serve the New Canaan community in positions such as policemen, Police Commissioner and members of Town Council.

During the period of World War II alone, 1,093 men and women from New Canaan served in the armed forces, representing nearly 17% of the town's population, the greatest percentage of residents among all towns in the State of Connecticut. Regrettably, 38 of these servicemen lost their lives.

In a collaborative effort, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 653 and the Exchange Club of New Canaan compiled a list of New Canaan residents who have served in every conflict since World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Operation Desert Storm, and the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars. Six bronze plaques were made with their names to recognize the sacrifices of these brave men and women who have valiantly served to make America the greatest nation on Earth.

The new plaques are permanently displayed in the entrance hall of the recently renovated Town Hall and where they are joined with two existing plaques that contain the names of 615 men from New Canaan who served during the American Revolution, Mexican War, Civil War and World War I. These two older bronze plaques were dedicated in 1924 as a gift from the citizens of New Canaan and placed in Town Hall.

The cost of the project, which included the renovation of the existing plaques and the casting of six new plaques (plus mounting and transportation), were raised by The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 653, members of the Exchange Club of New Canaan as well as private citizens of New Canaan.





ALBERT, ERNEST JR.
ALEXANDER, JAMES
ALEXANDER, JOHN
AMEN, JOHN
ANDERSON, EDWARD
ANDERSON, ELIZABETH
ANDERSON, FRANCES
ANDERSON, KARL
ANGIONE, ANTONIO
ANNUNZIATO, FRANK
BARNES, A. VICTOR
BARNES, WALTER E.
BARTOW, CLINTON C.
BECKMAN, DR. FENWICK
BEHRE, KARL H.
BENNET, DR. EDWIN
BENNET, ROBERT H.
BERNHARDT, OTTO
BISHOP, LEIGHTON W.
BLISS, ARTHUR C.
BLISS, GILBERT K.
BLOOD, GEORGE W.
BOSSA, HOWARD M.
BRADLEY, WILLIAM A.
BRANT, GEORGE G.
BRENNAN, JOHN M.
BRENNAN, PATRICK J.
BRINLEY, D. PUTNAM
BROADWAY, ROBERT S.
BROOKS, JOEL MYRON
BROWER, WILLIAM E.
BROWN, BENJAMIN H.
BROWN, FRED E.
BROWN, HOWARD E.
BROWN, NELSON
BUCCIARELLI, CARMINE
BURCHARD, PHILIP
BURKE, AL
BURR, HARVEY
BUSBY, DR. A. H.
BUXTON, HARRY S.
CAMPBELL, WILLIAM I. JR.
CARLSON, CARL J.
CARPENTER, JESSE O.
CART, WILLIAM H.
CARY, WILLIAM H. JR.
CASCARIE, DOMINIC
CASIOERRO, VINCENZO
CERRUTI, LUIGI
CHICHESTER, ROBERT G.
CLARK, DR. A. S.
CLARK, DR. FRED E.

CLARK, H. B.
COCKS, DR. GERHARD H.
COLBORN, PAUL
CONETTA, DOMENICO
COOK, HAROLD A.
COSTALES, CLARENCE
CURLEY, FERDINAND J.
DAVENPORT, JOHN E.
DAWLESS, FRED W.
DEAN, CASPER
DEMERRIT, HAROLD
DI MIKE, ANTHONY
DEROSS, EMILIO
DEVERILL, WALTER
DIETZKO, STEPHEN
DIGIDIO, MICHAEL
DOYLE, JOHN E.
DUNN, HARRY H.
EASLEY, RALPH
EASLEY, RONALD
EATON, HARRY T.
ELLINGTON, FERDINAND
FAIRTY, FRED R.
FAIRTY, HARRY C.
FALLON, HAROLD C.
FALLON, WESLEY
FARRELL, EDWARD C.
FEARHAK, JOHN D.
FIELDS, GEORGE W.
FINNEY, GEORGE A.
FLADD, CHESTER L.
FRAZER, GERALD
FROTHINGHAM, L. P.
GENERALLI, GUISEPPE
GIOIA, GAETANO
GODSOE, HELEN M.
GRAY, WILLIAM
GREEN, WALTER
GREENE, ERNEST JR.
GREGORY, GEORGE M.
GREGORY, MOSES G.
GREGORY, PERCIVAL R.
GRUPE, HOWARD
GRUPE, KENNETH S.
GUTHRIE, JOHN CHESTER
HALLER, JOHN J.
HALLER, WILLIAM S.
HALLETT, ALBERT F.
HAND, JAMES S.
HAUPT, WILLIS
HEROLD, JOHN C.
HOGAN, W. RILEY

HOYT, EDWIN
HOYT, JESSE
HOYT, PERCY W.
HULECK, LOUIS S.
HUTCHESON, JOHN
HYLAND, JOHN
JIMENIS, DR. ALBERT O.
KARL, JOHN M.
KARL, JOSEPH A.
KEATING, FRANK
KELLEY, FRANK B.
KELLEY, HENRY E.
KELLEY, JAMES J.
KELLEY, JAMES T.
KELLEY, JOHN
KELLOGG, GEORGE E.
KRAPOWICZ, CHARLES
KRUTTSCHNITT, JOHN
LAPHAM, JOHN H.
LAPHAM, ROGER D.
LAPPOLA, ANTONIO
LAWRENCE, EDWARD JR.
LEAHY, HILARY F.
LEEMING, WOODRUFF
LENT, WESLEY EDWARD
LESLIE, FRANK B.
LESLIE, JAMES
LIBERATORE, JOSEPH
LLOYD, DR. SAMUEL E.
LLOYD, SAMUEL E. JR.
LOTTERIO, JOHN
LOWNDES, WILFRED
LUCCIANO, LIBERATO
LUCIANO, MICHAEL
LUCKHURST, CHARLES A.
MADILL, JOHN J.
MAHON, GARRETT T.
MAHON, JOHN J.
MALVASO, ANTHONY
MARTIN, EUGENE A.
MCGRATH, JAMES E.
MCGRATH, WILLIAM C.
MCILWAINE, JAMES A.
MCILWAINE, WILLIAM
MACINTYRE, CHARLES T.
MCKENZIE, SCHUYLER
MCKERNON, DR. J. F.
MCQUEEN, JOHN
MERRITT, DEWITT R. JR.
MESSINGER, FARE E.
MESSINGER, T. HUBERT
MEYERS, JOHN T.

MILLER, CALVIN G.
MILLER, DR. JAMES A.
MILLER, JAMES F.
MILLER, WALTER K.
MILLS, WILLIAM H.
MORENA, PASQUELLE
MUCCI, GIOVANNI
NEBBITT, FRANK
NOBLE, ALBERT S.
ODDEN, CHARLES
O'NEILL, WILLIAM
ORELL, HARRY M.
ORFEO, DELBIANCO
O'SHAUGHNESSY, DR. E. J.
O'SHAUGHNESSY, T. E.
PALUMBO, NICOLA
PELOSA, PANTELONE
PHILAPICK, JOHN
PHILIPPOULOUS, THOMAS
POTTER, DR. ROGER W.
PREUSS, EMIL
RAYMOND, FREDERICK L.
READY, JOHN E.
REGHETTI, JOHN
RILEY, JOHN H. JR.
RITTER, EDWARD J.
ROCHE, CLAUDE J.
ROCHE, EUGENE A.
ROTUNNO, CARMINE
RUMBAUGH, ANNA
RUSCOE, FRED W.
RUTLEDGE, EDWARD C.
RYAN, THOMAS
SAMMIS, CLIFFORD E.
SCOFIELD, H. EVERETT
SCOFIELD, STEWART
SCOTT, JAMES J.
SEBELY, J. HOWARD
SHAW, RICHARD
SHAW, WILLIAM
SHERIDAN, PHILIP
SHERIDAN, STEPHEN T.
SHUTES, BERRIAN
SHUTES, FRANK A.
SLADE, P. ELMER
SMITH, CLARENCE M.
SMITH, EDWIN T.
SMITH, MATTHEW L.
SMITH, WALTER E.
SMITH, WILLIAM E.
SOCCI, GAETANO

SOCCI, GUISEPPE
SONNTAG, WILLIAM
SPERLING, HENRY
SPOONER, ROBERT
SPRAGUE, HENRY
STEARNS, MARSHAL
STEVENS, BIRDSALL
STEVENS, GEORGE E. JR.
STEVENS, STANLEY G.
ST-JOHN, LAURENCE D.
ST-JOHN, VINCENT S.
STORMS, EUGENIA M.
STOTTLER, MALCOLM
STRADINGER, LOUIS A.
STREIT, RAYMOND E.
TAGGART, RUSH JE.
TANGORRO, ROCCO
TAYLOR, ALFRED H. JR.
THAYER, JOHN A.
THOMAS, JAMES R.
THOMPSON, FRANK
THOMPSON, HAMPTON
TIBBITTS, CECIL
TOMPKINS, ALBERT
TOMPKINS, EDWARD
TOMPKINS, HAROLD R.
TOOKER, LEON
TORPEY, MICHAEL J.
TOTARO, PATSY
TOWNSEND, WALKER
TOWNSEND, WISNER R.
UNTERREINER, JOSEPH
VALENDORF, FRANK
VANSINDEREN, ADRIAN
VITTO, ANTONIO
VITTO, GUVANNO
WALTERS, GEORGE B.
WARDWELL, EDWIN H.
WARDWELL, GEORGE R.
WARREN, KEITH F.
WATTS, JOHN
WEED, CHARLES H.
WEED, FLOYD
WEED, WILLIAM
WEED, WILLIS A.
WEEKS, DR. WEBB W.
WESTERHOFF, CHARLES J.
WHITE, DR. R. L.
WILLIAMS, DR. F. H.
WOOD, DANIEL W.
WOOD, HAROLD S.

THIS TABLET ERECTED BY
THE CITIZENS OF NEW CANAAN
1923

“

On the Club's 65th anniversary, a few thoughts from an ex-President. Recently, I had some time to think about our Club – what we were, what we have become, what has been accomplished, and some personal experiences and observations. Many thoughts began to emerge... the Club's money raising efforts for 65 years (selling trees from an old run down trailer at Kiwanis Park), important donations to the Parenting Skills Center, interesting speakers, fun dinners at the Roger Sherman and now Woodway, Memorial Day Parades, handing out flags to kids, golf outings, Clean a Mile work, Home Front projects scraping paint, wine tastings.... Many nice memories for so many years.

As members, we participate in the Club's upfront fund raising and enjoy companionship and fun along the way. We often do not get a chance to see the real benefits from our fund raising activity. I have had the privilege of being involved with the Parenting Skills Center for a number of years. I can tell you for a fact, the Clubs donations have changed and saved lives helping young people move from terrible situations into positive space.

This little Club of ours has raised well over a \$1,500,000 and will break through the \$2,000,000 mark in the near future. Great work gentlemen – certainly you should be proud.

So a few personal thoughts on my nearly 20 years of membership in the Club. As we move through the years...building careers, raising children, business travel, sports events, etc. it can be difficult to develop close personal friends. The Exchange Club offered me a vehicle and an opportunity to build a long-term friend base. It was always refreshing to me that no one really cared what you did for a living, how much money you made, where you went to school... just attend some dinners and activities and be willing to work hard in December selling Christmas trees!

I hope you all think seriously about raising your hand to become an Officer or Director of the Club. I was reluctant to say yes when I was given an opportunity to be President a few years ago. Didn't want to make a time commitment, wasn't my type of deal, would I be good at it.... but I did finally say yes. It was one of the most interesting and rewarding personal experiences I have had in my life. I guarantee you will get much more personally from the experience that you put into the job.

So in closing, congratulations to the New Canaan Exchange Club and its members (past and present) for 65 years of dedicated fund raising, donations, and wonderful friendships.”

- Bob Clay, 66th President, 2014 - 2015

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

HERE ARE SEVERAL EXCERPTS FROM THE SEVENTIES CULLED FROM OUR NEWSLETTER, "THE EXCHANGE EXPRESS":

Many of you remember the trailer we used at the Christmas tree lot until recently, when it was replaced by the Hedlund House. It was a creaky old thing that we kept alive somehow. For many years we even towed it to the town dump. Well, turns out we bought it in 1972 for \$300.00. Worth every penny.

We had a golf outing in 1972. Not sure where. But the price was right: \$4.00 for greens fees, \$5.00 for a cart (caddy was \$6.00 for the high rollers) and a steak dinner was \$12.00. Inflation is a curse!!

At the July 5, 1972 meeting our new President, Syd Lebow, won the wine raffle! I wonder if that was unique.

Member Ralph Pereida was a very talented artist. In fact, he designed a new shoulder patch for the New Canaan Police Department, which was approved and put into use in 1972. How's that for community service! Ralph also designed the "Exchange Express" masthead in 1973 and we have been using it on our newsletter ever since.

We had a dinner/dance on Sept. 30, 1972 in Darien. Our advertisement said, "How about getting your wife all prettied up?" We had 69 attendees. Based on the odd number perhaps one wife refused.

YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP DEPARTMENT: March 1972. We cancelled a Boy Scout "Demonstration" (of what!) in favor of a "Dick & Jane Mc Vegas Night. It was not a success. Maybe we were not prepared.

We have been doing the Senior Citizens' Christmas luncheon since at least 1972, probably a lot longer. Exchange stalwarts George Delage and Bob Shafter ran it for many, many years.

On September 11, 1973 Dr. Richard Napoli spoke on "The Secret of Happiness". An auspicious date.

We did Clean A Mile in 1973 and still do it. These miles have a way of becoming unclean.

We participated in the District bowling tournament in 1973 and the District golf tournament too. We also held an inter-club dinner for all four service clubs in New Canaan.



“

I joined the Exchange Club not long after moving to New Canaan from England and was struck by how welcome I was made to feel. After a two-year stint on the board it was a real honor to be given the opportunity to take on the role of president. Although the 3-year role (president elect, president, and immediate past president) is a lot of work it is truly enjoyable, and made much easier by the commitment and enthusiasm demonstrated by all the members of our club. At the inauguration dinner that marked the end of my year as president, I read out a letter that had been received from the Exchange Club Parenting Skill's center in Stamford (the biggest recipient of the funds we raise). It was not a light read as it described in some detail the circumstances of one of the Center's clients before they received the help that the Center was able to provide. However it was a striking reminder of the huge amount of good that comes from our efforts, and that is something that we should all be proud of, whatever role we play in the club.”

- Ian Duplock, 64th President, 2012 - 2013

OUR NEWSLETTER TROVE DATES BACK TO 1970. THERE IS STILL A LOT TO REDISCOVER!!

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When my wife and I were settling in to Florida last October, I realized that something was missing in my life and eventually recognized that I was not involved with my community at all. I came to the conclusion that The Exchange Club of New Canaan taught me very carefully about service to others and has forever reformed my character. It taught me how to give without expecting anything in return and thus provided me with an immense amount of satisfaction that I am truly helping others. This change in me was entirely brought about by involvement in Exchange over the years and has, I believe, led me to my new endeavor as an ESL tutor for the Literacy Council Gulf Coast.

In short, Exchange has made me what I am today.”

- Jack Devlin, 59th President, 2007 - 2008

“

I would sum up my experience as president by saying that it was one of the great times in my life. To experience the camaraderie of the members would be enough for most. Add the energetic and enthusiastic response to events and service projects by the members made it invaluable. Make it all (primarily) for the support of The Parenting Skills Center where needy kids are the main beneficiary, being President was priceless!!!”

- Kevin Hansley, 60th President, 2008 - 2009

PAST PRESIDENTS

#	YEAR	MEMBER
1	07/01/52	Carlton S. Raymond, Jr.
2	08/07/52	Carlton S. Raymond, Jr.
3	06/01/53	Adam H. Oberheim
4	07/01/54	Reginald J. Reynolds
5	12/01/54	Miles B. Olson
6	01/01/56	Roger B. Kelley
7	01/01/57	Irving D. Lebow
8	12/01/58	Albert F. Behnke
9	12/01/58	William C. Frank
10	12/01/59	John D. Mimnaugh
11	12/01/60	Richard L. Ahearn
12	12/01/61	Edward J. Rabe
13	12/01/62	John Bach
14	12/01/63	Wesley B. Loveland
15	12/01/64	Walter J. Maquire
16	12/01/65	Harry M. Story Jr.
17	07/01/66	Harry M. Story Jr.
18	06/01/67	Walter Bloom
19	06/01/68	Louis J. Moreno
20	06/01/69	Jonathan Lonejoy
21	06/01/70	Richard I. Hornbeck
22	06/01/71	William C. Miller Jr.
23	06/01/72	Sydney M. LeBow
24	07/01/73	Chester R. Lewis Jr.
25	07/01/74	Frederick V. Hugo Jr.
26	07/01/75	Joseph W. Catharine Jr.
27	07/01/76	Fred Mazzella
28	06/01/77	Gilbert L. Kretzer
29	07/01/78	Ronald B. Neski
30	07/01/79	Paul Gadebusch II
31	09/01/80	Edward F. Knecht
32	09/01/81	G. Wallace Robb
33	09/01/82	Eugene T. Kallgren
34	09/01/83	Jess P. Lucas
35	09/01/84	Christopher S. O'Connor

#	YEAR	MEMBER
36	09/01/85	Robert L. Shafter
37	09/01/86	Lester J. Gilbert
38	09/01/87	Robert Starr
39	09/01/88	Russell H. Jones
40	09/01/89	Ronald F. Van Vactor
41	09/01/90	James D. Schlumpf
42	09/01/91	Fred Richards
43	08/01/92	John J. Byrne
44	09/01/92	Fred Richards
45	09/01/93	Donald Ambuhl
46	09/01/94	George Herhold
47	07/01/95	Arthur W. Berry
48	07/01/96	Richard W. Stone
49	07/01/97	Harold T. Lang
50	07/01/98	Martin P. McLaughlin
51	07/01/99	George Delage
52	07/01/00	Keith S. Richey
53	07/01/01	George D. Bakes
54	07/01/02	Michael R. Law
55	07/01/03	Thomas R. Cox
56	07/01/04	Mark D. Holland
57	07/01/05	Richard H. Edwards
58	07/01/06	Michael A. Allocca
59	07/01/07	Jack Devlin
60	07/01/08	Kevin F. Hansley
61	07/01/09	Michael Gregorio
62	07/01/10	Kevin P. McIntosh
63	07/01/11	R. Vance Ward
64	07/01/12	Ian Duplock
65	07/01/13	Randy Dalia
66	07/01/14	Robert Clay
67	07/01/15	Daniel J. McEvoy
68	07/01/16	Hans Dijs
69	07/01/17	Charlie Holmes
70	07/01/18	Jeff Platt*

* Currently, President-Elect



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This booklet is more than a reflection on the 65 years of the Exchange Club of New Canaan. It is a celebration of how community service can bring together a group of individuals who share in the collective purpose of volunteerism. Our members exemplify the “Spirit of Community.” The comradery and fellowship that permeates through the group in our shared purpose cannot be understated. The Exchange Club of New Canaan is itself a community. We are a community who have been blessed with abundant resources, time and energy. As we join together in our shared purpose of community service, every member, past and present, should take a moment and reflect on the good work done by our Club and the countless people in our community that we have helped over the past 65 years and those we will help in the decades to come.”

- Charlie Holmes, 69th President, 2017 - 2018

“

As I sit 37,000 feet in the air I have some time to reflect on our Exchange Club and the privilege and opportunity I had to serve as our president. While I do not miss the Friday press deadline for the President’s letter, I will say that the experience both far exceeded my expectations and that you certainly get everything out of the role that you put into it.

I look back at where we have come to during my relatively short tenure as a member to a vibrant and energized membership; to acknowledging service achievements of our long-serving members; to a new Freedom Shrine at Saxe Middle School and to Veterans Day participation there; to multiple years of over \$125,000 in annual grant awards – including continuous awards of scholarships; to many meetings with a wide variety of engaging speakers including some of our members; to many, many service and social opportunities for us as a Club; to our newest tradition of the Lou Moreno Tree Lighting; and to a broad and deep network of fellow members all of whom I consider friends.

I would hope to leave you all with the thought that if you have any interest or thought of “putting your hand up” for a leadership or Board role – you should talk to a former or current Board member and seriously consider the opportunity. I can assure you – as I complete my final year as Immediate Past President – that you will not regret the time you spend as a leader in perhaps one of the most special service opportunities and organizations you could be a part of.”

- Randy Dalia, 65th President, 2013 - 2014



EXCHANGE CLUB COVENANT OF SERVICE

The Club's Covenant of Service, eloquently expressing Exchange philosophy and ideals, was written in 1923 by Thomas L. Bailey, who later became governor of Mississippi and national president of Exchange. The Covenant first appears in the July 1923 issue of The Exchangite Magazine, and was officially adopted in 1927.

It is as follows:

Accepting the divine privilege of single and collective responsibility as life's noblest gift, I covenant with my fellow Exchangites:

TO CONSECRATE my best energies to the uplifting of Social, Religious, Political, and Business ideals;

TO DISCHARGE the debt I owe to those of high and low estate who have served and sacrificed that the heritage of American citizenship might be mine;

TO HONOR and respect law, to serve my fellowmen, and to uphold the ideals and institutions of my Country;

TO IMPLANT the life-giving, society-building spirit of Service and Comradeship in my social and business relationships;

TO SERVE in Unity with those seeking better conditions, better understandings, and greater opportunities for all.

