

Dallas Kiwanians celebrate 50 years of service to area



PAST GOVERNORS—Four members of the Dallas Kiwanis Club have been Lt. Governors of District 15. They were honored with awards in 1973. Left to right are Leo Corbett, Harold Flack, past Lt. Governors; Angelo Grasso, Lt. Governor at the time; Marty Moore, president of Dallas Kiwanis; Charles Charles, Lt. Governor-elect; Al Ackerson and Atty. Mitchell Jenkins, past Lt. Governors. (Photo by Alex Re bar)



50TH ANNIVERSARY—Dallas Kiwanis Club is observing their 50th anniversary this year. The local club was founded as the Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club in 1927. Members of this year's club who are taking part in anniversary programs are left to right, George McCutcheon, district chairman of youth service; Bob

Lawhorn, secretary; Paul Hession, 2nd vice president; Robert Dolbear, past president; Walter Kozemchak, president; Arch Austio, one of early members. Reese Pelton, 1st vice president, absent from photo. (Photo by Charlot M. Demmon)

Balshaw directs Oratorio concert

Clifford Balshaw will direct the 90-voice mixed chorus of the Wyoming Valley Oratorio Society in music by Bach, Brahms and Kodaly on Sunday, Dec. 4, at 3:30 p.m. in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre.

Bach's Cantata for Christmas Day, No. 63, will open the program on a joyful note with the words, "Christians, mark ye well this day." Soloists will be soprano Joanne Herron, alto Helen Ralston, tenor Rev. Jack Keeler and baritone David Scott.

Two short choral works

by Brahms will be heard following intermission: "Nanie," a poem by Schiller, and Goethe's "Gesang der Parzen." Kodaly's rhythmic, exciting setting of the ancient hymn of praise to God, "Te Deum Laudamus" will bring the thirtieth annual December concert by the Oratorio Society to a close.

A resident of New Goss Manor, Balshaw is on the faculty of College Misericordia and is organist-choirmaster of St. Stephen's Church. This concert marks the beginning of his 26th year

as music director of the Oratorio Society.

Ferdinand Liva, also a resident of Dallas and member of the local college music department, will be concertmaster of the 40-piece orchestra supporting the chorus.

Contributor cards should be obtained in advance

from members of the chorus or board of directors, or at the office, 35 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre; none will be sold at the door Dec. 4. All seating will be reserved for card holders until 3:15, when others will be admitted to any remaining space.

Fifty years ago, 42 business men of the Back Mountain Area met at the Dallas Hotel and organized the Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club. The men represented the communities of Dallas, Shavertown, Trucksville, Huntsville, Harveys Lake, and Lehman.

The late Rev. H.F. Henry was named president of the club, Dr. G.L. Howell, vice president, A.L. Turner, district trustee, D.A. Waters, secretary and W.B. Jeter, treasurer.

The club was chartered May 31, 1927 and on July 20 of the same year, the Mt. Greenwood Kiwanis Club held its first Charter Night Dinner.

The name "Mt. Greenwood" was chosen because it was the best name available to represent the many towns, townships and hamlets within the area allotted to them. Their territory comprised the portion of Luzerne County which was west of Wyoming Avenue, Kingston.

The club's official address was Dallas since the secretary and treasurer resided in that borough. The president was from Shavertown, the vice president from Trucksville, and the directors and committee chairmen were picked from every town or township in the area.

The aim of the club was to become better acquainted with the people and conditions within the territory. Through the medium of Kiwanis ideals exemplified within the club, these acquaintances ripened into

friendships. These friendships made it a simple matter to carry out the Kiwanis slogan "We Build".

The greatest good for the greatest number, irrespective of locality, creed or color, was and still is today, the mutual objective of Kiwanis at all times.

The name of the club was changed from Mt. Greenwood to Dallas Kiwanis in 1941 when it was approved by Kiwanis International on April 16 of that year.

Charter members of the club are now deceased with the exception of Daniel A. Waters, who recently moved to Gettysburg to reside near his son.

Among the presidents still living are Edward V. Hartman, Harold E. Flack, Fred D. Woolbert, Kenneth Rice, Harry Peiffer, Frank A. Karweta, Franklin Gager, Robert S. Maturi, Merrill Faegenburg, William E. Guyette, Robert Dolbear, Dr. John Blase, Harry Lefko, Leo Corbett, George McCutcheon, Edward Wilson, Donald S. Anthony, Alfred H. Ackerson, Bernard C. Banks, Jr., Martin Moore, Leo E. Nuroth, Raymond H. Hillman, Walter D. Roberts and the present president, Walter Kozemchak.

Two of the past presidents, Atty. Mitchell Jenkins and Howard Isaacs, died recently.

Each year, the Kiwanis Club has a slogan for the year and implements it in their month-to-month program.

They have a strong youth program and coordinate youth activities through Key Clubs in the local high schools and through Circle K clubs at College Misericordia and Penn State's Wilkes-Barre Campus.

Until recent years, Dallas Key Club had a drill team which became well-known for its performance throughout the state. In 1962, the local club raised \$5,000 to send 33 of the members to perform at the International Convention.

Al Ackerson, former president, and Lt. Governor in 1962, has worked diligently in the club's programs and an Al Ackerson Award is presented to an individual student each year who is member of a Key Club or Circle K Club.

The local club takes an active part in community life and each year holds a Halloween Parade for youngsters in the Dallas area.

Dallas Kiwanis also presents the Festival of Music, a program they initiated about eight years ago. They are also involved with the Fall Fair and members donate their time and efforts annually to the Library Auction.

Each year they have a charity ball in July with proceeds used for their community work.

This Saturday, the club will hold its 50th Anniversary Dinner Dance at Irem Temple Country Club with cocktail hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Dancing will be from 9 to 1 a.m.

Gerald Grimaud heads environmental panel

Gerald C. Grimaud, of Tunkhannock and prospective candidate for the Pennsylvania State Senate from the 20th District, recently headed a panel discussion at an Environmental-Economic Conference held at the Wilkes-Barre Treadway Inn.

Panelists included Stanley Laskowski, chief of the five state Environmental Protection Agency Industrial Waste Permits Branch, Earnest Giovannitti, chief of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resource Division of Industrial Wastes, and Lynn Ratzell, environmental licensing engineer for PP&L.

Grimaud indicated "we are now going through a painful transition period transferring administration of environmental protection programs from federal to

state authorities," Ratzell took government to task for unnecessary bureaucratic delays in considering permit applications.

The conference was sponsored by the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Luzerne-Lackawanna County Environmental Council,

and Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

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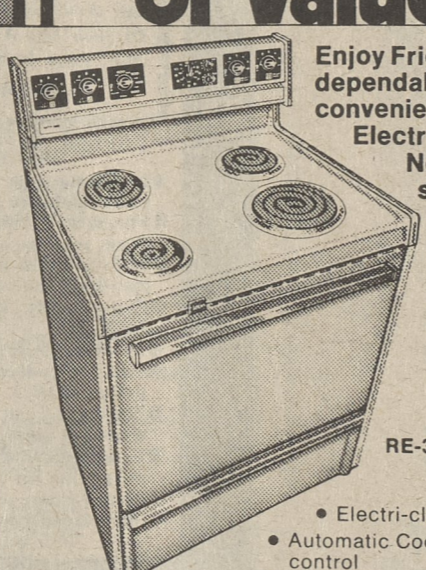
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