

PETOSKEY ROTARY CLUB
ORGANIZED NOVEMBER 1, 1921

EARLY HISTORY OF THE PETOSKEY ROTARY CLUB

Rotary Club of Petoskey Report to Our Community

Summer 2008

In the summer of 1921, five Petoskey businessmen – Morgan Curtis, Norman W. Wells, George W. McCabe, Frank Quinn, and Homer Sly met with three Traverse City Rotarians and Rotary International District Governor George Barnes to discuss the possibility of forming a Rotary Club in Petoskey.

Over the next few months, they met and invited other businessmen to join them. On August 31, 1921, Homer Sly was appointed chair of the temporary Organization Committee by Rotary International President Crawford C. McCullough, with instructions to proceed with the organization of a Rotary Club in Petoskey.

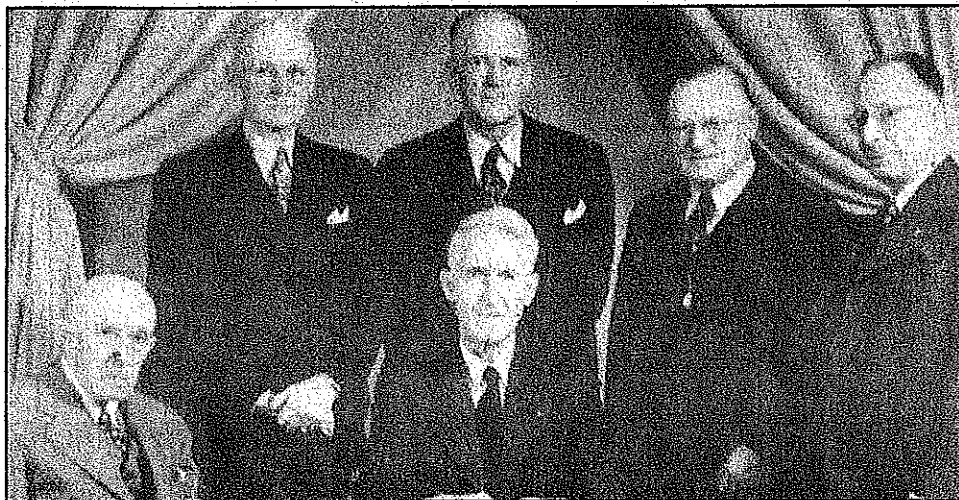
On October 31, the men named as Charter Members attended a luncheon meeting at Braun's Restaurant and adopted resolutions to form a temporary organization. On November 4, the rotary Club of Petoskey was made a permanent organization.

On November 17, 1922, Secretary General Chesley R. Perry gave notice that the Rotary Club of Petoskey had been formally voted into affiliation with the International Association of Rotary Clubs.

As of November 1, 1921, the Rotary Club of Petoskey became an official Club within Rotary International.

In 1921 as Today, the Occupations of the Founding Members Were Well Diversified:

Homer Sly, automobile dealer – President
George W. McCabe, hardware – Vice President
Norman W. Wells, gas service – Secretary
Morgan Curtis, lime manufacturing – Treasurer
Henry F. Breese, dry goods retail – Sergeant-at-Arms
George S. Danser, wholesale grocer
John L.A. Galster, cement manufacturer
Dr. Charles J. Gray, dentist
Dr. Ralph D. Engle, physician
Guy R. Hankey, flour miller
Dana H. Hinkley, newspaper owner
Benjamin H. Halstead, lawyer
Park G. Lantz, Superintendent of Schools
William G. McCune, insurance agent
George S. Rice, leather manufacturer
Chalmers Curtis, banking
Budd M. Salisbury, shoe retail
John A. Lake, grocer retail



Charter members living in Petoskey at the time of the Silver Anniversary were (seated from left) William McCune, and Homer Sly; and (standing from left) Chalmers Curtis, Dr. Ralph Engle, John Lake, and Dr. Charles Gray.