

Past RI Presidents from District 6860

Few Districts in the Rotary world count from their ranks three* Presidents of Rotary International. District 6860 remembers with pride the contributions of three of our very own, Frank Spain, Roy Hickman, and Glen Estess.

The service given by two of our districts' outstanding Rotarians has been memorialized in the Spain-Hickman scholarships, as well as in the "President's Room" maintained by the Birmingham Club at The Harbert Center.



GLENN E. ESTESS, SR.
President, Rotary International
2004-2005

Glenn Estess is past president of the Birmingham Sales & Marketing Executives Association and the Alabama Association of Personnel Consultants. He is a past chairman of the Baptist Medical Centers. Estess has been a Rotarian since 1960 and is a member of the Rotary Club of Shades Valley. He has served RI as District Governor, International Assembly discussion leader and moderator, committee member and chairman, Rotary information counselor, aide to the president, Foundation trustee, director, and vice president. He was chairman of the 2004 International Assembly Committee. He has received The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and Distinguished Service Award. Estess is serving Rotary International this year on the Governor's Council. [Spouse: Mary]



FRANK E. SPAIN
President, Rotary International
1951-52

Frank Spain's life was marked by outstanding service in a variety of fields. A lawyer, philanthropist, scholar, church and civic leader, world traveler and humanitarian, he managed to do many things with a degree of excellence that could only amaze men of lesser abilities. As the son of a Methodist minister, Frank was born into a tradition of service on October 11, 1891. Home for many years was a series of parsonages that stretched from Alabama to Texas, while his father, "a great church builder," ministered to many congregations and his mother played the organ and piano.

In 1917, he served as Birmingham's Assistant City Attorney, and after World War I, emerging as a second lieutenant, he returned to Birmingham to join what eventually became the prestigious Spain, Gillon law firm.

Elected to membership in the Rotary Club of Birmingham with the classification of "Insurance Law," he immediately became involved with the Club's many activities and served as Club President in 1942-43. So marked was his leadership that the District drafted him for Governor the next year. In 1951, Frank Spain became Rotary International President, serving with dedication and distinction and visiting Rotary Clubs all around the world.

Spain Rehabilitation Center in Birmingham, widely acclaimed for its medical-therapy services, is an active testimonial to a man, and his family, whose concern for the general welfare was apparently unlimited.



ROY D. HICKMAN

President, Rotary International
1972-73

A member of the Rotary Club of Birmingham, Roy Hickman's steady rise through the ranks of Rotary was a success story all its own. The man who was to become Rotary International's 62nd President was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, January 27, 1902. His mother was widowed when he was only two and, as the youngest of six children, he put his energy and initiative to work at an early age. In fact, his sales record as a door-to-door, store-to-store light bulb salesman won him the promise of a position with General Electric after college graduation. He entered the University of New Mexico with the intention of becoming an electrical engineer but soon switched to business administration. His commercial career was yet another success story. "Success" was a word that cropped up constantly when reviewing Roy Hickman's many ventures.

He became interested in Rotary in 1926 when he arrived in Birmingham as a salesman for Alabama Engraving Company, but it was not until 1935 that he became a member. His classification was "Printing and Publishing - Photo Engraving," but his influence was felt in a number of fields.

At Alabama Engraving, he advanced to Chairman of the Board. The company and its affiliate, Platemakers, Inc., grew under the guidance of Hickman and his partners, fellow Rotarians, Robert Faerber and Robert Monroe.

Only three years after becoming a Rotarian, Roy was elected a Director and, at age 39, became one of his Club's youngest presidents. In 1948-49, he served as District Governor, and he served as Aide to Rotary International President Frank Spain in 1951-52. Then, as the city of Birmingham celebrated its 100th anniversary, the "Magic City" became the fifth in the world to give Rotary two International Presidents.