



Herman Michaelis

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COMMUNITY SERVICE — WE BUILD

A WEEKLY BULLETIN LETTER

of

THE KIWANIS CLUB OF DEARBORN, INC.

CHARTERED MAY 1928

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DISTINGUISHED KIWANIAN

HERMAN (HAM) MICHAELIS

"Ham" Michaelis was born in River Rouge, Michigan during the first decade of the twentieth century, the oldest of six children. He made his way through the school system in that city, graduating from River Rouge High School in 1926. He was president of both his junior and senior classes. He also found time to play on the school football, basketball and baseball teams.

In 1928 he went to work for the Dwight Lumber Company, one of the largest in Michigan at that time, which was the beginning of a 53 year association with the lumber industry. He joined the General Hardwood Company in 1941 where he remained until retiring in 1976. It took only 30 days for Ham to determine that retirement was not for him and he joined Beyster Inc. where he is still employed.

He joined the River Rouge Kiwanis Club in 1935, took an active roll in all phases of the Club's activities and eventually served as Club President in 1942. In 1948 he was elected Lt. Governor of Division 10, consisting of 12 clubs, one of which was the Kiwanis Club of Dearborn. He moved his family, consisting of his wife and daughter, to Dearborn during 1948 but continued his membership in the River Rouge Club while he served his year as Lt. Governor.

He joined the Kiwanis Club of Dearborn in 1949 serving as Chairman of various committees, 2nd vice-president, 1st vice-president and elected to the position of Club President in 1972.

Although his 46 years of outstanding service would permit him to rest on his laurels, he has continued to be a most active member of the Club. Since his presidency he has assumed the responsibilities of Chairman of various committees and perhaps his most outstanding contribution to the Club has been the major contribution he has made to the new member recruiting program over the past few years.

His activities outside Kiwanis are numerous and varied. He has been associated with numerous lumber industry organizations, a 40 year member of the Elks, a 38 year association with the Masonic order and for 30 years has enjoyed playing golf, his first love among his sports activities, as a member of the Dearborn Country Club.

"Ham" is one of the elder statesman of our Club and his presence is a vital living example of the breed of man that makes Kiwanis the greatest service organization in the world. He stands as an inspiration to all members of our Club, but especially the newer ones, and is richly deserving of the designation "Distinguished Kiwanian".