

Over-Seventy Club of South Side Never Had Officers Nor Rules and Wants None

The Over-Seventy Club of Columbus has finally found a permanent meeting place—after several years of being pushed around the South End of Columbus.

It's a peculiar club, and in spite of the fact that it is 44 years old, it's never had a president or any other officers, there aren't any dues, there's no club history in writing, and there are no membership requirements (except age) nor membership roll.

Briefly, the Over-Seventy Club is composed of a few old residents, mostly retired, of the South Side who like to get together in the afternoons, spin raies, swap tobacco, and play a few hands of euchre, pedro or pinochle.

Their present clubroom is in the basement of the Schiller Park Shelter House, a cool, airy room which is being cleaned and made liveable by Ray Dietz, city superintendent of parks and forestry. And there they'll stay, says Mr. Dietz, as long as he can make it possible.

Nobody knows much about the start of the club, except that it began around 1900, and was believed to have been started in a saloon owned by John Unverzagt at City Park Av and E. Whittier St. It was then named the Schiller Park Club.

The first photograph of the club was taken in 1904, and was recently presented to the present members by Mrs. James Bratz, 1356 City Park Av, daughter of Balthaser Stocklin, one of the original members. In the group are: Mr. Stocklin, age 76; Fritz Dreher, 81; Lorenz Herboltz-heimer, 64; John Gockenbach, 78; Philip Schlaefer, 74; Adam Koenig, 70; Capt. Charles Selbach, 71; Matthias Loew, 89; Cornelius Bohler, 70; Jacob Leukhard, 77, and John Link, 88. Mr. Unverzagt is the coatless man in the back row. Total ages of the men was 832 years.

In the photograph of the present members, taken in their new clubroom, are these men: J. A. Miller, 74, of 874 Wager St; John Bopley, 73, of 39 E. Columbus St; Edward Hibbler, 75, of 827 S. 3rd St; Frank A. Matthews, 74, of 1221 Bruck St; Emmett Taylor, 71, of 336½ S. 4th St; P. W. Altman, 70, of 1156 Ellsworth Av; O. E. Myers, 73, 227 Thurman Av; Adam Falter, 80, 484 Gates St; Edward Mills, 73, 122 E. Kossuth St, and Joe Straub, 70, 85 Meadow Av.

Their ages total 732 years, but of course, all the members weren't in the photograph. The men say that the present membership is 25, or maybe 30; they never had a formal meeting and don't know.

The men used to have a clubroom on the first floor of the shelter house, but it was converted into an air raid shelter. So they tried a room in the attic, and another room in the basement, and even in a corridor. At one time they even had to meet out on the lawn.

But now they have a permanent home, and they're pretty happy.



THE OVER-SEVENTY CLUB TODAY



FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF OVER-SEVENTY CLUB

Sandusky's Private Auto Is Operated on New Gas Rations

The private auto of Sheriff Jacob E. Sandusky, which members of the Linden Ration Board said would be immobilized as the result of revocation of Mr. Sandusky's A and C gasoline ration books, is now being operated on new gasoline rations issued by the Linden Ration Board, it was disclosed Saturday.

Records in the Auto Title Department at the Court House revealed Sheriff Sandusky transferred the car to his son, Lt. George Sandusky, Thursday, and although two high ranking members of the Linden Board indicated they had no knowledge of new rations being issued, new rations were granted to Lt. Sandusky.

This fact was verified by the lieutenant's mother who said Lt. Sandusky left for Great Falls, Mont., Saturday where he will be stationed with the Ferry Command.

Admits Rations Issued

Mrs. Sandusky said the rations were issued on the grounds that the car will have a new permanent address and that Lt. Sandusky was entitled to gas to travel to his base.

Before Mrs. Sandusky verified the issuance of new rations, O. S. Ward, chairman of the Linden Ration Board, indicated he had no knowledge of any details of

such a transfer and issuance of new rations under such circumstances, Mr. Ward said the board once before had a similar case and had been advised by District Office of Price Administration to issue the rations to the new owner.

"That case," said Mr. Ward, "involved a boy whose rations had been suspended. He transferred the car to his mother and we didn't know exactly what to do. State headquarters told us it would be proper to issue rations to the mother."

Dudley Horn, chairman of the Linden Ration Board's gasoline panel, likewise indicated he had no knowledge of the transfer and issuance of new rations when he was contacted prior to verification by Mrs. Sandusky.

He advised that Willard Piper, board clerk, be contacted. Mr. Piper said: "No comment."

Books Were Suspended

Sheriff Sandusky's A and C ration books were suspended for a four-month period Wednesday night at a public hearing scheduled to determine whether the sheriff had used rations illegally in a trip to Mesa, Ariz., where his son was graduated into the Royal Air Force.

Mr. Sandusky did not attend the hearing personally. Only evidence before the board at the