



Biographies of Past Presidents

Verdes Bryce White, 11th President 1938-39

Verdes Bryce White, the 11th President of the Vermilion Rotary Club, R.I. was born on December 15th 1903 to Jesse P. and Cloe (Herron) White at Sandusky, Ohio. Bryce's siblings consisted of one brother and two sisters. He spent his young life growing up in Sandusky and was a graduate of Sandusky High school. Bryce then went on to higher education by attending Oberlin College majoring in pre-med. He went on to attend and graduate from Kirksville Osteopathic Hospital in Kirksville, Missouri. Bryce and his wife, Betty Osberg White moved to Vermilion to practice his profession of Osteopathic Medicine and to raise their family which consisted of three boys, David, Bruce, and Stuart. Note: David was killed in 1967 at a very early age in the line of duty. He was a Lt. Commander in the US Navy and while flying his plane, crashed somewhere in the mountains of California. According to his son, Bruce, Bryce was an excellent athlete. He was a good tennis player and shot par golf. He was also Erie County horseshoes champion for many years. One time at the Erie County Fair Bryce beat the Michigan State Champion at this game. During one summer day on Lake Erie, Bryce saved a young drowning boys life. He learned to read "Braille" to make his finger tips more sensitive to help in his medical profession. He loved to play bridge and enjoyed Wednesday and Friday night boxing matches on television while eating his favorite ice cream. Bryce loved to go hunting with his Vermilion "cronies", especially deer hunting. But, according to his son, Bryce was especially known for being an avid bass and muske fisherman. Bryce and his friend would travel to East Harbor to try their luck at small bass fishing. The story goes they would bring their catch home in a milk can and deposit the fish in the local Fish and Game pond during his membership there. Bryce was also a community minded activist. He served on the Vermilion School Board, was the Vermilion Schools sports physician for many years, member of the Vermilion Fish and Game Association, member of the Vermilion Boat Club, member of the Ely Masonic Lodge 424, one of the original staff doctors at Sandusky Memorial Hospital, and lastly, a Vermilion Rotary Club member.

Sources: Bryce's son, Bruce White