

The Founders

They were unusual men -- men with a burning zeal to better the world, themselves and their fellow men through the faith of the great Creator -- "Peace and Friendship" -- Their names will be enshrined in the hearts of all Gyro"



Paul Schwan

It was Paul Schwan's vision and his burning desire to do something practical about his idea, that brought about the definite organization of Gyro. On April 1, 1918, Paul left civilian life for Camp Sherman, Ohio, to become a private in the United States Army. On April 17, after only 17 days of army life, Paul Schwan passed away, a victim of influenza. It is right to say that Gyro is Paul Schwan's great monument.



Gus Handerson

As Founder Paul Schwan's was the vision and burning desire to retain his friendships through personal contacts, it was to Gus that the charter members looked for practical leadership - his push, pep and drive naturally made him the spark plug of the early years of Gyro - he was responsible for the first Club Bulletin, which he called The Gyroscope, and he helped it to become inter-club in scope in 1918 - these very characteristics led him to accept numbers of positions in each of which he was preeminently successful. His later years brought him back to old friends at home but for an all too brief a span of years - his health failed in 1941 and he retired to his southern home in Stuart, Florida, where on June 8, 1942, he died of a heart ailment.



Ed Kagy

Ed Kagy was affectionately known to thousands of Gyros as "the Grey Eagle." Ed was the Secretary Emeritus of Gyro International. For eleven years (1912-1923), following the organization of Gyro, he worked tirelessly and enthusiastically as a regular member of the Cleveland Club. In 1923, Gyro reached the point where the services of a paid Secretary-Treasurer became an obvious necessity. The unanimous choice was Ed Kagy. It took almost a year to persuade Ed that Gyro was his life's work. In 1923, Ed consented to accept the responsibility. As the mainspring of the Gyro organization, the work of the "Grey Eagle" was invaluable, yet his modesty was such that Ed, unmindful of his own efforts, was convinced that all he was and had, he owed to Gyro. Just what Gyro owed to him can never be measured in material terms. He lived in his home at Chagrin Falls, Ohio until his death in 1960.