

ROTARY CLUB OF HARRISONVILLE

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION



In the Beginning...

Rotary was founded by Paul Harris on February 23, 1905 in Chicago. Sylvester Schiele was selected to be the first president of this club. Even though Paul Harris was not the first President of this Chicago club he did become the first President of Rotary International in 1910. Rotary International has expanded into over 200 countries. The Rotary hierarchy consists of Rotary International, Districts, and then local clubs.

The Rotary Club of Harrisonville was chartered on March 16, 1977. Our club was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lee's Summit. The first president was Wendell Yeager. There are currently two charter members that are still active members today: Daryl Bohannon and John Foster. Our club is located in District 6080 which includes mid and south central Missouri. Our year runs from July 1 to June 30th.

Expectations....

- 75% attendance rate (in person or by visiting other clubs)
- Actively participate on at least one committee
- Participate in at least one Flag Day
- Participate in the major fundraiser
- Recruit new members
- Be as active in club projects as you can
- Provide one program each year

New member orientation program...

A new member receives a name badge and will be assigned a mentor. A red ribbon will be given to the new member during his or her induction to attach to their name badge. This red ribbon will be removed once they have completed the certain tasks. The mentor is in charge of keeping track of these as they are completed and submit the information to the club president so they know it is time to celebrate with our red ribbon removal ceremony. The tasks to be completed during the red ribbon initiation period are: attend one board meeting, be the secret greeter at one of our regular meetings, participate in one activity outside of our regular meeting, give a classification (this is just a short introduction of yourself), choose a committee to be a part of, create an account on rotary.org/myrotary, as well as review this information with their mentor.

Dues.....

You will receive an invoice quarterly via email. Each meal for our weekly meeting is charged at \$12.70. Meals are invoiced at \$165 per quarter. Your membership dues are \$30.00 per quarter. There is a one-time initiation fee of \$50 you will see on your first invoice. There is also an optional \$25 invoiced for your sustaining membership. This is submitted to the Rotary Foundation and put towards a Paul Harris Fellow (discussed further below). Throughout the year we hold a Christmas Dinner in December as well as an Installation Dinner in June. If you choose to attend either of these events you will be charged \$20 for a guest. We use the money billed for our lunch to cover the cost of food for each member that attends.

Local Projects...

In the past this club has bought and installed playground equipment at North Park, put in an outdoor classroom at the Harrisonville Elementary School, provided an exercise yard at the Animal Shelter, put in a staircase for the sledding hill at Lord's Park, constructed the shelter house at Lord's Park, and also constructed the Pergola and walking trails at the Hospital.

Annual Service Events....

We participate in many service events throughout the year. One of them is helping with the deliveries for the Just4Me program. This consists of delivering boxes to the children's homes during the summer. We also help by providing glasses for students in need. We make donations to the Library's summer reading program, Camp Wonderland, school foundation, Senior Mania, and Young Life. We sponsor teenagers so they can attend Boy and Girl State as well as Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA). We also award scholarships each year.

Our major fundraiser is our Flag Program. We will set up and take down flags on 6 of the major holidays for a nominal donation from businesses around town. The city is broken down into 4 routes. At 7am Rotarians will meet at our shed at Southland Storage to pick up the routes and flags. Two Rotarians share each route. Then at 5pm these Rotarians will go around and pick up the flags they set out that morning and return them to our shed. If you sign up for a flag day and can't be there, it is your responsibility to replace yourself. There have been times that a Rotarian can set out the flags but can't pick them up so they arrange for someone else to do the pickup. When you get your route sheet, there is a column that tells you whether or not you will need a ladder for each stop. If your route contains a stop that requires a ladder, please grab one from the shed. If all of the ladders are gone, you may want to go home and grab one.

One of our larger service projects is an annual food drive called Trunk or Treat. We work in conjunction with the school district for their annual food drive. Parks and Rec provide pumpkin painting and face painting just before as people line up. Businesses will be assigned spaces around the square. They provide a car decorated in a theme. The children bring up a canned good and then proceed around the square traveling from car to car in order to collect candy. Our club provides a car and hands out candy as well.

Every year we provide lunch for the employees of the CASCO work shop. We grill hot dogs, provide chips and drinks as well. This is called our CASCO picnic. It takes place during one of our weekly meetings and is scheduled around the end of Sept.

We will also be assigned a day each quarter to stuff back packs for the Food 4 Thought Backpack program. This program provides food for students over the weekend. We meet at the Harrisonville school districts administration office at 4 on these days.

We do have a Rotary Train that we use at different events. In some years, the train has a route at the burnt district festival. We usually provide this train for donations only if other organizations would like to borrow it unless a Rotarian is involved with driving it.

Every month we award a student at both the Harrisonville Elementary School and McEowen Elementary School with an award called Service Above Self. This award is given at their monthly assembly. One or two Rotarians go and present the award each month.

Rotary International sponsors a year-long youth exchange opportunity for students. High school students can apply through their local club and as well as through their district for this opportunity. The local clubs provide host families for incoming exchange students. Usually exchange students live with 3 different families throughout their stay. If you send a student, it is expected that the club host a student as well. Every now and then we will participate in this program.

Definition of Rotary.....

Rotary is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

Official Rotary Flag.....

An official flag was formally adopted by Rotary International at the 1929 RI Convention in Dallas, Texas. The Rotary flag consists of a white field with the official wheel emblem emblazoned in gold in the center of the field. The four depressed spaces on the rim of the Rotary wheel are colored royal blue. The name Rotary International printed at the top and bottom depressions on the wheel rim are also gold. The shaft in the hub and the keyway of the wheel are white. The first Rotary flag reportedly was flown in Kansas City, Missouri in January 1915. In 1926 a small Rotary flag was carried over the North Pole by Admiral Richard Byrd, a member of the Rotary Club of Winchester, Virginia. In 1920, the admiral carried a Rotary flag in his expedition to the South Pole. During Rotary's centennial year, 2004-05, Rotarian and Rotaract climbers carried flags to the summits of Mount McKinley and Mount Everest. The Rotary flag is always prominently displayed at RI World Headquarters and at all RI conventions and official events.

Rotary's Wheel Emblem...

A wheel has been the symbol of Rotary since our earliest days. The first design was made by Chicago Rotarian Montague Bear, an engraver who drew a simple wagon wheel, with a few lines to show dust and motion. The wheel was said to illustrate civilization and movement. Most of the early clubs had some form of wagon wheel on their publications and letterheads. In 1922, it was decided that all Rotary clubs should adopt a single design as the exclusive emblem of Rotarians. This in 1923, the present gearwheel with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by Rotary International. A group of engineers advised that the gearwheel was mechanically unsound and would not work without a "keyway" in the center of the gear to attach it to a power shaft. So, the keyway was added, and the design that we now know was formally adopted as the official Rotary emblem.

Object of Rotary...

The Object of Rotary is “to encourage and foster the idea of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.” The statement then lists four areas by which this “ideal of service” is fostered: the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society; the application of the ideal of service in one’s personal, business, and community life; and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional personas united in the ideal of service.

Rotary Mottoes....

The first motto of Rotary International, He Profits Most Who Serves Best was approved at the second Rotary Convention held in Portland, Oregon in 1911. The 1989 Council on Legislation established Service Above Self as the principal motto of Rotary, since it best explains the philosophy of unselfish volunteer service. In 2004, the secondary motto was changed to One Profits Most Who Serves Best. Our local motto is See the Need, Do the Deed.

The Four Way Test....

One of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics in the world is The Four-Way Test. It was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932. The Four-Way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943 and has been translated into more than 100 languages and published in thousands of ways. The message should be known and followed by all Rotarians; “Of the things we think, say or do we should always ask: 1. Is it the TRUTH? 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned? 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Tolerance of Differences...

Occasionally, there is a temptation to criticize the laws, customs, or traditions of another country that may seem strange or contrary to our own. In some instances, practices or customs that are illegal in one nation are completely lawful and acceptable in another. As members of an international organization dedicated to world understanding and peace, it behooves Rotarians to exercise restraint in judging our Rotary friends and citizens from their countries when their behavior seems unusual. A Rotary policy adopted in 1933 states that because some activities and local customs may be legal and customary in some countries and not in others, Rotarians should be guided by this admonition of tolerance: “Rotarians in all countries should

recognize these facts, and there should be a thoughtful avoidance of criticism of the laws and customs of one country by the Rotarians of another country.” The policy also cautions against “any effort on the part of Rotarians of one country to interfere with the laws or customs of another country.” As we strive to strengthen the bonds of understanding, goodwill, and friendship, these policies still provide good advice and guidance. Because Rotary includes many different people from many different backgrounds, it is in the policy and procedures manual that no Rotary club on any level can take a stance, politically or religiously together under the name of their club.

No Personal Privileges....

Frequently, friends ask whether Rotarians receive special business benefits from their Rotary membership. Should Rotarians expect a special discount or some preferential service just because they are dealing with a fellow Rotarian? The answer is clearly no. The RI Manual of Procedure expressly states the Rotary position on this matter. The policy originally approved by the RI Board in 1933, is that in business and professional relations, “a Rotarian should not expect, and far less should a Rotarian ask for, more consideration or advantages from a fellow Rotarian than the latter would give to any other business or professional associate...Any use of the fellowship of Rotary as a means of gaining an advantage or profit is contrary to the spirit of Rotary.” On the other hand, if new or increased business comes as a natural result of friendship that develops in Rotary—just as it may in situations outside of Rotary—it is not considered an infringement on the ethics of Rotary membership. It is important to remember that the primary purpose of Rotary membership is to provide each member with a unique opportunity to serve others and that membership is not intended as a means for personal profit or special privileges. This means that no member shall use Rotary as a means of direct soliciting.

Paul Harris Fellows....

Undoubtedly, the most important step to promote voluntary giving to the Rotary Foundation occurred in 1957, when the idea of Paul Harris Fellow Recognition was first proposed. Although the concept of making \$1000 gifts to the Foundation was slow in developing, by the early 1970s it began to gain popularity. The distinctive Paul Harris Fellow medallion, lapel pin, and attractive certificate have become highly respected symbols of a substantial financial commitment to The Rotary Foundation by Rotarians and friends around the world. In 2006, the number of Paul Harris Fellows reached the one million mark. It is the goal of our district that every member of Rotary become a Paul Harris Fellow. Your gift of \$1000 qualifies you for this achievement. That is why our club bills \$25 per quarter (\$100) per year for the sustaining member. This gift is given to the foundation to put towards your Paul Harris Fellow. The foundation has a new program where any amount can be automatically withdrawn from your

bank account monthly or quarterly. If you do this, they match your donation so if you donate \$500, then you are already qualified to receive your Paul Harris Fellow. Please get with the President or Board member if you would prefer this option. Rotarians can make a donation in honor of a family member or a friend and that person is recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow.

RI Website...

All members are encouraged to go to www.rotary.org and create an account. You can use this account to interact with members throughout the world. You can also keep track of our local club goals and your own foundation giving.

PolioPlus....

PolioPlus is Rotary's massive effort to eradicate poliomyelitis from the world. It was launched in 1985 with the goal of raising \$120 million to immunize the developing world's children against polio for five years. The PolioPlus fundraising campaign that concluded in 1988 raised a record \$247 million. In 2002, after a funding gap was identified as the most significant obstacle to global eradication, Rotary launched a new polio eradication fundraising campaign called Fulfilling Our Promise: Eradicate Polio, with a goal of \$80 million. Overall, Rotarian contributions to the global polio eradication effort will exceed \$650 million. Achieving eradication will be difficult (only one other disease, smallpox, has ever been eradicated) and expensive (estimated total cost is nearly \$3 billion). No other nongovernmental organization has ever made a commitment on the scale of PolioPlus. It may be considered the greatest humanitarian service the world has ever seen. Every Rotarian can share the pride of that achievement.

Secret Greeter....

Our Sergeant at Arms is assigned the task of assigning a secret greeter. The Sergeant at Arms contacts someone prior to each meeting and asks them if they can be the Secret greeter. This secret greeter counts the number of handshakes they receive. The 10th person to shake their hand is awarded a coin dollar.

Proposal of New Members....

The BI Bylaws clearly outline the procedure for proposing someone for Rotary club membership. The proposer or sponsor is the key person in the growth and advancement of Rotary. Without a sponsor, an individual will never have the opportunity to become a Rotarian.

Individuals must be asked to join Rotary; thus, it is every member's responsibility to identify and invite prospective members. Once a member has proposed a new member, the proposed new member's biography will go in the newsletter and will remain there for a few weeks. Once the proposed new member has attended as a guest 3 times, then the board of directors shall vote on the approval of the new member. All members have the right to voice their opinions regarding this new member. They need to let the board be aware of their opinions during the few weeks leading up to the next board meeting or at the board meeting (all members are allowed to attend board meetings). Once the board has approved the new member, the President and sponsor shall then induct this person into membership. The new member is assigned a mentor. It is the responsibility of this mentor to meet with the new member and go through this new member information packet with them.

Other Resources....

Here are websites that provide additional information on Rotary and our club.

www.Rotary.org

www.Rotary6080.org

<http://harrisonvillerotary.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisonvilleRotary>