



ROTARY CLUB OF TALLAHASSEE

We would like to welcome you to the Rotary Club of Tallahassee! Please read the information enclosed. You will find that it contains a wealth of information.

As a prospective new member, you may find that you have many questions. Please do not hesitate to ask the Membership Chairperson, your sponsoring member, or any Rotarian for help.

Being involved with Rotary can be a wonderful and meaningful experience. We are certainly glad you are considering membership in The Rotary Club of Tallahassee!

The Contents of your packet include:

- A Brief History of Rotary International
- What is Rotary?
- About the Rotary Foundation
- Responsibilities of Membership
- History of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee
- Glossary of Terms
- What is Expected of a Member of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee
- New Member Proposal Form

My membership in Rotary is based on a deep sense of pride that our primary goal is service to others, that Rotary reaches around the world, and that Rotary is a family tradition, since both my grandfather and father were lifelong members.

Marjorie R. Turnbull, member since 1992

A Brief History of Rotary International

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA, was formed on 23 February 1905 by Paul P. Harris, an attorney who wished to recapture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. The name "Rotary" derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

Rotary's popularity spread throughout the United States in the decade that followed; clubs were chartered from San Francisco to New York. By 1921, Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents, and the organization adopted the name Rotary International a year later.

As Rotary grew, its mission expanded beyond serving the professional and social interests of club members. Rotarians began pooling their resources and contributing their talents to help serve communities in need. The organization's dedication to this ideal is best expressed in its principal motto, "Service above Self." Rotary also later embraced a code of ethics, *The Four-Way Test*, which has been translated into hundreds of languages.

In 1985, Rotary made a historic commitment to immunize all of the world's children against polio. Working in partnership with nongovernmental organizations and national governments through its PolioPlus program, Rotary is the largest private-sector contributor to the global polio eradication campaign. Rotarians have mobilized hundreds of thousands of PolioPlus volunteers and have immunized more than one billion children worldwide.

As it approached the dawn of the 21st century, Rotary worked to meet the changing needs of society, expanding its service effort to address such pressing issues as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger and children at risk. The organization admitted women for the first time (worldwide) in 1989 and claims more than 215,000 women in its ranks today. Following the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Rotary clubs were formed or re-established throughout Central and Eastern Europe. Today 1.2 million Rotarians belong to some 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries.

I originally joined Rotary for the business contacts. I am a Rotarian today because I want to make a difference in the world and the wonderful fellowship that being a Rotarian brings.

Brett Ketcham, member since 2001

What is Rotary?

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian services, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 34,000 Rotary clubs, located in over 200 countries.

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races and creeds.

Rotary offers unlimited opportunities of service to others, especially in the international area. Fellowship with Rotarians of high ethical, moral, and professional standards is also very rewarding. I feel blessed to be a Rotarian.

C. Wayne Edwards, member since 1982

The main objective of Rotary is service – in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. They also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers, and other professionals, and vocational career development. The Rotary motto is “***Service Above Self.***”

Although Rotary clubs develop autonomous service programs, all Rotarians worldwide are united in a campaign for the global eradication of polio. Thanks to Rotary and our international partners, the number of polio cases has dropped 99 percent worldwide since 1988. But as long as polio threatens even one child, children everywhere are at risk. Rotary has contributed more than US\$1 billion to the fight to end polio. Rotarians work tirelessly to leverage this investment, acting as advocates among communities and with government leaders to keep them focused on eradication. Rotary's partners include UNICEF, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

I joined Rotary for the fellowship and business exposure. I became more involved after seeing firsthand all of the service we provide.

George Avant, member since 1987

About The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is a not-for-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and cultural exchange programs. It is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of TRF who share its vision of a better world.

The Foundation was created in 1917 by Rotary International's sixth president, Arch C. Klumph, as an endowment fund for Rotary "to do good in the world." It has grown from an initial contribution of US\$26.50 to more than US\$106 million contributed in 2003-04. Its event-filled history is a story of Rotarians learning the value of service to humanity.

The Foundation's Humanitarian Programs fund international Rotary club and district projects to improve the quality of life, providing health care, clean water, food, education and other essential needs primarily in the developing world. One of the major Humanitarian Programs is PolioPlus, which seeks to eradicate the polio virus worldwide. Through its Educational Program, the foundation provides funding for some 1,200 students to study abroad each year. Grants are also awarded to university teachers to teach in developing countries and for exchange of business and professional people. Former participants in The Foundation's programs have the opportunity to continue their affiliation with Rotary as Foundation Alumni.

For more information on current Foundation program awards and financial status see the Rotary Foundation Fact Card and the Rotary Foundation Annual report, both of which are available for download at www.rotary.org.

I became a Rotarian because my law partner, Will Owen, invited me. I remain a Rotarian after 21 years because I believe in its principles and I enjoy the friendships forged. Rotary offers so many opportunities to be a better person, and to leave this world a little better place.

Terry Lewis, member since 1984

Responsibilities of Membership

Members are expected to attend weekly programs of the club. Opportunities to make up attendance include attending the regular meeting of another Rotary club, attending various other Rotary meetings, participating in a club service project authorized by the club board of directors, or online makeups. Members are required to pay annual dues to their clubs, their districts, and to Rotary International. Members are expected to participate in local or international activities or projects of their Rotary club. Clubs encourage members to aspire to leadership or committee roles within their clubs.

Meeting Makeup

One of the many benefits of Rotary club membership is the luxury of being able to travel the world and never miss a weekly meeting. Club members are welcome and encouraged to visit clubs while traveling to make up the meeting missed back home.

Rotarians often ask what options exist if there is not a club in the area of travel or if the member is home, but an emergency causes him or her to miss a meeting. One option is to attend a regular meeting of a local Rotaract or Interact club, Rotary Community Corps, or Rotary Fellowship. According to Article VIII, Section 1A of the Standard Rotary Club Constitution, attending one of these meetings counts as a makeup. Another option is to spend 30 minutes participating in an interactive activity on a Rotary e-club Web site. Rotary international has approved the request of 27 clubs to form virtual or electronic locations. A visit to one of these e-clubs will satisfy a club member's make-up requirement. Also read "E-clubs forge new path for Rotary," a Web exclusive feature story about Rotary e-clubs and their members.

<http://www.rotaryclubone.org>

<http://www.rotaryclubny1.com>

<http://www.rotaryclubsouthwest.org>

<http://www.rotaryclub7890.org>

<http://www.rotaryclub3310.org/index.asp>

<http://www.rotaryclubzante.gr> (Greek and English)

<http://www.rotary4500.org.br/html> (Portuguese)

Club Dues

Dues vary from club to club depending on the type of club. Rotary has breakfast clubs, lunch clubs, and after-hours clubs. The Rotary Club of Tallahassee is a lunch club. We meet every Wednesday; the buffet opens at 11:30 and the meeting is 12:15 - 1:15. Our meetings are located in the Grand Ballroom of the FSU Alumni Association building. **Dues are \$800 per year, billed semi-annually, at \$400, which include weekly lunches. Automatic Debit installment payment options are also available.**

History of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee

The following is an excerpt from “*Tallahassee Rotary Club, The First 75 Years*” by David A. Avant, Jr., which every new member receives as a welcoming gift. It is taken from the foreword by Dr. J. Stanley Marshall:

“The fabric of our lives contains the threads of many organizations which engage us along the way – houses of worship, clubs, fraternal organizations, college and university alumni associations, community volunteer groups. They often influence us in important ways, even as they reflect the values and beliefs of their members.”

Such is the relationship of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee and its members. Our club, by the judgment of many people – both members and non-members – occupies a special place in this community. It is the oldest and largest service club in Tallahassee; but more to the point, it reveals through its long record of service what is important to its members and to their view of the community and its needs.”

The Rotary Club of Tallahassee was chartered on November 10, 1922, with the following officers: President, Dr. Fred C. Moor; Vice President, John G. Kellum; Secretary, F.B. Winthrop; Treasurer, John Choate. Early members included such well-known names as R. A. Gray, J. W. Collins, Dr. W. E. Van Brunt, R. W. Gramling, Lewis M. Lively and L.A. (Steve) Yates. From the time it was built in 1927 until the move to the Civic Center in the early ‘80s, Rotary meetings were held at the Floridan Hotel.

Today’s members hold a wide variety of classifications in many different vocations: teachers, doctors, lawyers, merchants, ministers, government officials and judges to name a few.

The following quote is from the same source and by the author in his introduction:

“I would have never become so intimately acquainted with so many fine people in so many diverse and interesting fields, had it not been for Rotary. ... I look forward with keen anticipation to the future. Each new day is the greatest day of my life.”

I urge you to read the entire book to better understand the heritage you as a new member are inheriting. You will be better equipped to help build the future that David Avant looked forward to so keenly.

I joined Rotary because I felt I could add to the efforts to improve the lives of those less fortunate than most. I have since found the opportunities to do this unlimited. Beyond that, the fellowship, level of talent, and diverse professional backgrounds are perhaps unparalleled in any similar organization.

Leon Gilchrist, member since 1984

Glossary of Terms

- **Rotary International** - Home office for Rotary located in Evanston, Illinois.
- **Badge** - Name tag worn during meetings, which should not ever leave meeting place.
- **Classifications** - Identifies Rotarians business or profession.
- **RYLA** - Rotary Youth Leadership Awards – In an informal atmosphere, groups of outstanding young people in the 14-30 age range spend a week in a challenging program designed to enhance personal development, leadership skills, and good citizenship.
- **Rotaract** - College-level Rotary club
- **Interact** - High school-level Rotary club
- **Four-Way Test** - A 24-word code of ethics for all Rotarians to follow in their business and professional lives.
- **Club Assembly** - A special meeting usually held quarterly where club business is conducted.
- **New Member Orientation** - A meeting of club officers with incoming members as a formal introduction to Rotary.
- **Board of Directors** - Consist of officers and directors of the club. In the Rotary Club of Tallahassee, officers serve a one-year term and are selected by the President. Directors serve a two-year term and are elected by the membership.
- **President** - Conducts weekly meeting and is an elected position.
- **President-Elect** - President for the following year and board member.
- **Secretary/Treasurer** - Keeps membership records, records attendance at meetings, sends out notices of meetings of the club, board, and committees, records and preserves minutes of the meetings.
- **Sergeant-at-Arms** - Helps maintain orderly and effective Rotary club meetings and works to prevent any occurrence that might detract from the dignity or prestige of the club.
- **Five Avenues of Service** - Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, International Service, and New Generations Service.
- **Directors** - Board of Directors is its governing body and is comprised of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and a number of other club members representing avenues of service as specified in club bylaws.
- **Rotodome** - Weekly bulletin, containing the biography of the day's speaker, a list of upcoming presentations and events, and other items of interest to the membership.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A MEMBER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF TALLAHASSEE

The Rotary Club of Tallahassee was founded in 1922, it has 220 members, and it is the largest service club in the Greater Tallahassee Area. Rotary was founded on the idea of bringing a diverse group of community and business leaders together regularly to help each other and to serve others, always following Rotary's simple Four-Way Test: **Is it the TRUTH? Is it FAIR to all concerned? Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?** This is the model our club follows with an emphasis on having a variety of talents, skills, knowledge, and vocations gained through education and experience.

Being invited to become a member of our club is a privilege and with it comes the responsibility to lead in all family, social, and work relationships by following the Rotary Four-Way Test. Every member of our club enjoys attending weekly lunch meetings, developing new friends, gaining knowledge from our weekly programs, and actively helping with the club's service projects. All those proposed for membership in our club must undergo a thorough review to determine their good citizenship, good character, good reputation, and leadership position in their chosen vocations.

Our club has a vision that each member is a self-motivated leader, which results in 220 people who are goal-oriented, who are naturally active members in our club, and who meet the following expectations:

Regularly attend weekly meetings or make up missed meetings - you will be given instructions on the variety of ways to make up missed meetings;

- **Volunteer to serve on at least one (1) club subcommittee;**
- **Say "yes" when asked to help with a Rotary project;**
- **Become a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) by contributing \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) within 5 years of your induction into our club;**
- **Continue supporting The Rotary Foundation after achieving your first PHF by contributing at least \$100 per year to the TRF;**
- **Contribute to our club's annual fundraiser;**
- **Contribute generously to fundraising drives approved by the Board;**
- **Payment of club initiation fee of \$100 upon approval of membership and payment of dues within 30 days of due date (Jan 1, \$400 and July 1, \$400) each year for a total of \$800 per year.**

Rotary Club of Tallahassee officers, directors, and members will be happy to meet with you to talk more about our club and what it means to be a Rotarian. For further information about our club, and our membership chairperson's contact information, please visit our club website at www.tallahasseerotary.org



ROTARY CLUB OF TALLAHASSEE – MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL FORM

Proposed Member's Contact Information – Home: _____
Work: _____
Mobile: _____
FAX: _____
E-mail: _____

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

I propose: _____
(Please **PRINT** Full Name)

Business Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Spouse, if applicable: _____

Classification (Leave line below blank – to be determined by Rotary Classification Subcommittee):

Has proposed member ever been a Rotarian or a member of any other service club? _____ If YES, provide name of club, city, and dates.

Name of business or profession (If retired, list information regarding last position held):

Proposed new member's current position of responsibility:

What is the principal and recognized activity of proposed member's firm, company or institution?

Give such detail as necessary for use by Rotary Classification and Membership Subcommittees in answer to the following:

1. What services to society does proposed member's occupation render? (Examples: Environmental Protection; Healthcare Management; Financial Advising; Fund Raising; Retail Store Management):

2. Has proposed member been a resident of Tallahassee for at least six months? _____ If NO, has proposed member held a responsible position in the proposed classification for at least six months prior to becoming a Tallahassee resident? _____ If YES, what position, with whom, and where?

3. List proposed member's home address for the past two years.

4. Has proposed member been with current firm for at least two years? _____ If NO, list previous employment.

5. If applicable, name the proposed member's immediate supervisor in the business he/she will represent.

Signature of Proposing Rotarian

Date

Print Name of Proposing Rotarian

The undersigned hereby acknowledges that his/her name has been submitted for consideration of membership in the Rotary Club of Tallahassee.

The proposed member consents to the Club Membership Qualification Subcommittee obtaining information related to the proposed member, which will include a background check at the Club's expense and other information as deemed necessary and appropriate for membership in the Rotary Club of Tallahassee. By my signature below, I consent to preparation of background reports by a consumer reporting agency and to the release of such background reports to The Rotary Club of Tallahassee for the purpose of assisting the club in making a determination as to my eligibility for membership.

By my signature below, I also certify the information I provided on and in connection with this form is true, accurate and complete. I agree that this form in original, faxed, photocopied or electronic (including electronically signed) form, will be valid for any background reports that may be requested by or on behalf of the Rotary Club of Tallahassee.

The undersigned also acknowledges that he/she will be responsible for \$800 biannual dues (payable on July 1 and January 1) in the amount of \$400 per dues period and a one-time only \$100 initiation fee for those who are not former members of a Rotary club.

Signature of Proposed Member

Date

Please e-mail signed application to: Maribel Parzych, parzych@emiarch.com

Do not write below this line.

Application Received by Club Secretary: _____

Board Action (Yes/No) _____ Date: _____ Proposer Notified by Club Secretary: _____

Proposed Member Notified by Club Secretary: _____ Date Member Inducted: _____

Signature of Club Secretary

Date