



WHAT IS ROTARY?

Information Packet

Rotary Club of Livermore, California
District 5170

March 2008

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Rotary International is a volunteer organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotary club members belonging to more than 32,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries. Founded in Chicago in 1905, Rotary celebrated 100 years of service in 2005. The Rotary Foundation has awarded more than \$1.6 billion in grants, which are administered at the local club level.

What is the purpose of Rotary?

Rotary clubs exist to improve communities locally and around the world. Rotary also encourages high ethical standards in business and professions. Rotary clubs work to advance international understanding by partnering with clubs in other countries.

What do Rotary clubs do?

Rotary clubs address critical issues in communities worldwide. Examples of Rotary's focus areas include:

Polio Eradication - In 1985, Rotary International created PolioPlus – a program to immunize all the world's children against polio. To date, the PolioPlus program has contributed more than \$620 million to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries. Working with the national health ministries, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Rotary's funds are providing much needed polio vaccine, operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment and educational materials for health workers and parents.

Peace - In an effort to educate tomorrow's peacemakers and ambassadors, Rotary launched the Rotary Centers for International Studies in 2002 at seven prestigious universities worldwide. The program provides master's-level education in conflict resolution to groups of 60 Rotary World Peace Scholars chosen annually.

International Education - Rotary is the world's largest privately-funded source of international scholarships. Each year, about 1,000 university students receive Rotary scholarships to study abroad. Rotary clubs also coordinate a high school-age student exchange program that sends nearly 8,000 students abroad for three months to a year.

Humanitarian Projects - Rotary clubs initiate thousands of humanitarian projects every year. These projects address problems that create instability and trigger conflicts --hunger, poverty, poor health, and illiteracy.

Literacy - Rotary clubs are engaged in the fight against illiteracy worldwide.

BENEFITS OF BEING A ROTARIAN

NETWORKING - Members meet periodically and enlarge their circle of business and professional acquaintances. As members of the oldest service club in the world, Rotarians represent a cross-section of their community's business owners, executives, managers, political leaders, and professionals – people who make decisions and influence policy.

SERVICE - Club members have many opportunities for humanitarian service, both locally and internationally. Service programs address concerns such as health care, hunger, poverty, illiteracy, and the environment. Rotarians regularly experience the fulfillment that comes from giving back to the community.

FRIENDSHIP - Rotarians enjoy camaraderie with like-minded professionals, and club projects provide opportunities to develop enduring friendships.

FAMILY - Rotary sponsors some of the world's largest exchange and educational programs. Rotary clubs provide innovative training opportunities and mentoring for young leaders, and they involve family members in a wide range of social and service activities.

ETHICS - Encouraging high ethical standards and respect for all worthy vocations has been a hallmark of Rotary from its earliest days. In their business and professional lives, Rotarians abide by The Four-Way Test:

Of the things we think, say or do

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

LEADERSHIP

Rotary is an organization of successful professionals. Team-building, fundraising, public speaking, planning, organization, and communication are just some of the leadership skills that club members can exercise and enhance. Being a Rotary leader provides further experience in motivating, inspiring, and guiding others.

QUALIFICATIONS

Prospective members must

- Hold (or be retired from) a professional, proprietary, executive, managerial, or community position,
- Have demonstrated a commitment to service through personal involvement,
- Be able to meet the club's weekly attendance or community project participation requirements,
- Live or work within the vicinity of the club or surrounding area.

Rotary Club of Livermore

The Rotary Club of Livermore, also known as the Livermore Rotary Club, was chartered on 20 February 1947 with 19 members. Today the club has about 150 members representing virtually all professions in the community.

The Rotary Club of Livermore believes in and practices the Rotary motto of “service above self.” It is active in supporting both the local and global communities.

Club Service

There are several “Avenues of Service” in the Livermore Rotary Club. Community Service involves projects that help people and organizations in Livermore. These are usually work projects for Club members. International Service Projects are worldwide and are frequently in under-developed countries.

Ongoing Community Projects

- Conduct the annual Livermore Rodeo Parade (since 1978),
- Sponsor Interact youth service clubs in local high schools,
- With another local club, manage the Rotary Foundation of Livermore which provides over \$50,000 per year to fund local projects,
- Provide vocational scholarships for local students,
- Recognize outstanding students and educators,
- Conduct a speech contest for local high school students,
- Sponsor an annual dinner dance for Livermore seniors,
- Provide every 3rd grade student in Livermore with an illustrated dictionary,
- Purchased a medical van to provide services to needy families,
- Sponsor an Interact Service Club at Livermore High School,
- Provide Holiday baskets for needy families.

International Activities

The club participates in International projects mostly through donations to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International and providing operational support to the projects by club volunteers. Some of the projects are:

- Annual Rotary Scholar Weekend, where visiting students from the U.C. Berkeley International House are hosted by club members for a weekend stay in Livermore,
- Participated in the establishment in Santiago, Chili, of the Coaniquem Burn Center for poor children in South America,
- Provided medical equipment and supplies to a children’s shelter in Nepal,
- Helped to provide \$2 million in cardiac monitoring equipment to a hospital in Ulan Bator, Mongolia and similar equipment to a hospital in Ankara, Turkey,
- With support from the Wheelchair Foundation, sent wheelchairs to Kathmandu, Nepal and to India,
- Provided funds to build low cost homes in Navsari, India,
- Helped to provide medical equipment to the Mother Teresa Wing at the Mission of Mercy Hospital in Calcutta, India,
- Helped to provide funds for nine full perimeter neo-natal/pediatric cardiac care monitors for the Pediatric Teaching Hospital in Pecs, Hungary.

Additional projects were sponsored in Hungary, St. Vincent, Guatemala, Honduras and Lithuania with more being planned each year.

Mini-Grants

Four times a year the Club gives grants of up to \$500 to various groups and activities in Livermore. Each application for a Mini-Grant must be sponsored by a Rotarian. The Livermore Rotary Club does not give grants to individuals but to groups such as the School District, Boy Scouts, Senior Center, etc.

Rotarian Foundation of Livermore

The Rotarian Foundation of Livermore is an endowment, 501(c)(3), set up by the two Rotary clubs in Livermore. It gives grants to worthy local programs that benefit a wide spectrum of individuals from youth to the elderly. Donations are accepted at any time.

Rotary International Foundation

The Rotary Foundation is an educational and charitable endowment established by Rotary International for the purposing of furthering world understanding and peace through international humanitarian and educational programs. You are encouraged to contribute to the Rotary Foundation each year. Once you have donated or had donated in your name, \$1,000 to the Foundation, you will be recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow. Paul Harris was the founder of Rotary.

Meetings

All Rotary clubs meet weekly. The Livermore Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at noon at the Doubletree Club Hotel at 720 Las Flores Road in Livermore. An attendance record of 50 percent is required to remain an active Rotarian. Any missed meeting must be made up within 14 days before or after the regular meeting. To accommodate busy schedules, there are various opportunities to make up missed meetings. All Rotarian are welcome and encouraged to attend any of the 30,000 Rotary Clubs in 200 countries around the world. The Rotary International web site and any club secretary has a list of these clubs which includes the date and time of these meetings. Local clubs and their meeting days and times are as follows:

Livermore Valley Rotary	Tuesday-7:00 am	Beeb's, Las Positas Golf Club
Pleasanton Rotary	Thursday-12:15 pm	Pleasanton Hotel
Pleasanton North Rotary	Friday-12:15 pm	Hilton at the Club
Dublin Rotary	Tuesday-12:15 pm	Radisson Hotel, Regional St
Tri-Valley Rotary	Tuesday-6:30 pm	Girasole Rest., Pleasanton

Missed meetings can also be made up by attending a District Event, an Interact Club meeting, a service committee meeting, Board of Directors meeting or a current service project. Lunch starts at 12:00 noon and continues with fellowship until 12:30 at which time the business meeting begins. Business is completed by 1:00 pm and is followed by a 30 minute program.

Responsibilities

Members are expected to attend weekly club meetings. They must pay annual dues which include club, Rotary district, and Rotary International obligations, and they're expected to participate in local or international Rotary club activities or projects. Clubs encourage members to aspire to club leadership or committee roles.

DUES – Dues are paid to Rotary International, District 5170 and the Club. They are currently \$205 per year. Club members are billed for their annual dues in July, the beginning of the Rotary fiscal year. You are expected to pay these dues promptly.

FINES – Members of the Livermore Rotary Club may be fined by the President for various events in their lives. Such things as a new car, a trip or some other event may be considered worthy of recognition. This is usually done with humor and is completely voluntary, although each club member is expected to pay at least \$50 per year in fines to support the operations of the club. This money supports the club's office expenses and various club activities such as mini-grants.

PRESIDENT'S CLUB – Many members decide to join the President's Club. This requires a payment of \$300, with \$100 going to the Rotarian Foundation of Livermore, \$100 to the Rotary International Foundation, \$50 to the club and \$50 to a charity of the members choice, such as Polio Plus (an effort to eradicate polio~we're almost there); Mobile Health Unit; Nepalese Children's' Fund; Dictionary Project (we give a dictionary to each 3rd grade student in the Livermore School District) and the Music Scholarship program.

OTHER DONATION REQUESTS – From time to time a hat may be passed for donations to various causes. A collection is usually taken at Christmas for the wait staff who serve our lunch. If a club member has a baby, the hat is passed and the new parent member is expected to open a savings account for the child with the money raised plus his/her own matching donation. Sometimes worthy projects come up that were not anticipated in the club's budget, for which the hat will be passed. Donations to these special appeals is strictly voluntary.

EVENTS

The Livermore Rotary Club has many events and activities throughout the year. As a member you are expected to participate in the Club and attend those events that appeal to you and are convenient for you to attend.



Rotary Theme for 2008/2009

MEETINGS

Place: The Livermore Rotary Club meets at the Doubletree Club Hotel at 720 Las Flores Road in Livermore

Cost: A buffet lunch is provided for \$13. If you choose not to eat, the price of the meeting is \$6.00. For your first three meetings, before you become a member, you will be the guest of your Rotary host.

Agenda; 12:00 Lunch and fellowship begin
 12:30 The formal meeting begins, dealing primarily with club business; announcements, awards, recognitions, etc.
 1:00 The program starts.
 1:30 Adjourn

If you should miss a meeting and not make it up at another club from two weeks before to two weeks after the regular meeting of the club, you will be charged for the cost of the meeting, \$13.

PROGRAM

Lunch is followed by speakers on topics of local and international importance. Speakers are often club members but can also come from other areas, including foreign countries and have often included the District governor and even the President of Rotary International. Topics have ranged from where Livermore obtains its supply of water to the experiences of being a Superior Court Judge to the partition of India.



ROTARY

- AN ORGANIZATION OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERS
- UNITED WORLDWIDE
- 1.2 MILLION MEMBERS
- MORE THAN 200 COUNTRIES AND GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS
- PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

BUILDING GOODWILL AND PEACE IN THE WORLD



The Rotary Foundation



Rotary Centers for
International Studies



Mobile Health Unit