

# Rotary & Kiwanis Clubs

## Clubs for Adults

	<b>Rotary</b>	<b>Kiwanis</b>
<b>Founded</b>	1905	1915
<b>Number of Clubs</b>	34,282	7700
<b>Number of Countries</b>	200	80
<b>Number of Members</b>	1,220,000	275,000

## Clubs for Ages 12-18

	<b>Interact</b>	<b>Key Club</b>
<b>Number of Clubs</b>	14,963	5000
<b>Number of Countries</b>	140	30
<b>Number of Members</b>	344,149	260,000
<b>Annual Dues in Ohio (2008)</b>	\$0	\$10

## Clubs for Ages 18-30

	<b>Rotaract</b>	<b>Circle K</b>
<b>Number of Clubs</b>	9,539	500
<b>Number of Countries</b>	178	17
<b>Number of Members</b>	219,397	42,000

## Helping Each Other to Help Those In Need

At home and around the world, Rotary and Kiwanis improve communities and assist victims of disasters, the sick, and the poor. The needs of the world's less fortunate are so large that there is no need for Rotary, Kiwanis, and the world's other service to compete. Instead these organizations encourage each other and on occasion they join forces and work on projects together.

Cooperation and encouragement between Interact and Key Clubs for middle and high school students is also common in schools with both clubs, often making both clubs more vibrant and dynamic. In addition to providing more and different approaches to helping others, schools with both clubs also double the number of service club leadership opportunities available to their students.

# Rotary Overview

*from wikipedia 14 September 2012*

## Rotary Philosophy

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
2. 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;
3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
4. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

This objective is set against the "Rotary 4-way Test", used to see if a planned action is compatible with the Rotarian spirit. The test was developed by Rotarian and entrepreneur [Herbert J. Taylor](#) during the [Great Depression](#) as a set of guidelines for restoring faltering businesses and was adopted as the standard of ethics by Rotary in 1942. It is still seen as a standard for ethics in business management:

The 4-Way Test considers the following questions in respect to thinking, saying or doing:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

## Rotary Organization and Administration

In order to carry out its service programs, Rotary is structured in club, district and international levels. Rotarians are members of their clubs. The clubs are chartered by the global organisation Rotary International (RI) headquartered in Evanston, [Illinois](#). For administrative purposes, the more than 32,000 clubs worldwide are grouped into 529 districts, and the districts into 34 zones.

### Club

The Rotary Club is the basic unit of Rotary activity, and each club determines its own membership. Clubs originally were limited to a single club per city, municipality, or town, but Rotary International has encouraged the formation of one or more additional clubs in the largest cities when practical. Each club meets weekly, usually at a mealtime on a weekday in a regular location, when Rotarians can discuss club business and hear from guest speakers. Each club also conducts various service projects within its local community, and participates in special projects involving other clubs in the local district, and occasionally a special project in a "sister club" in another nation. Most clubs also hold social events at least quarterly and in some cases more often.

Each club elects its own president and officers among its active members for a one year term. The clubs enjoy considerable autonomy within the framework of the standard constitution and the constitution

and bylaws of Rotary International. The governing body of the club is the Club Board, consisting of the club president (who serves as the Board chairman), a president-elect, club secretary, club treasurer, and several Club Board directors. In the majority of clubs, the immediate past president is also a member of the Board. The president usually appoints the directors to serve as chairs of the major club committees, including those responsible for club service, vocational service, community service, youth service, and international service.

## **District level**

A district governor, who is an officer of Rotary International and represents the RI board of directors in the field, leads his/her respective Rotary district. Each governor is nominated by the clubs of his/her district, and elected by all the clubs meeting in the annual RI Convention held in a different country each year. The district governor appoints assistant governors from among the Rotarians of the district to assist in the management of Rotary activity and multi-club projects in the district.

## **Zone level**

Approximately 15 Rotary districts form a zone. A zone director, who serves as a member of the RI board of directors, heads two zones. The zone director is nominated by the clubs in the zone and elected by the convention for the terms of two consecutive years.

## **Rotary International**

Rotary International is governed by a board of directors composed of the international president, the president-elect, the general secretary, and 17 zone directors. The nomination and the election of each president is handled in the one-to-three year period before he takes office, and is based on requirements including geographical balance among Rotary zones and previous service as a district governor and board member. The international board meets quarterly to establish policies and make recommendations to the overall governing bodies, the RI Convention and the RI Council on Legislation.

The chief operating officer of RI is the general secretary, who heads a staff of about 600 people working at the international headquarters in Evanston and in seven international offices around the world.

## **Programs**

### **Interact**



Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting.

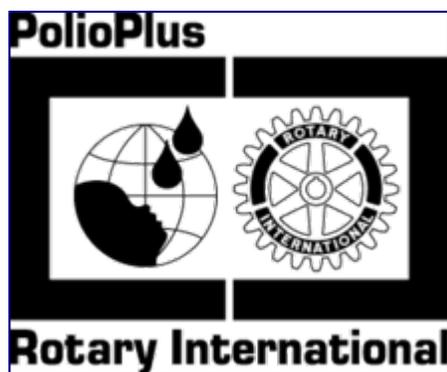
Club membership varies greatly. Clubs can be single gender or mixed, large or small. They can draw from the student body of a single school or from two or more schools in the same community.

Each year, Interact clubs complete at least two community service projects, one of which furthers international understanding and goodwill. Through these efforts, Interactors develop a network of friendships with local and overseas clubs and learn the importance of

- Developing leadership skills and personal integrity
- Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others
- Understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work
- Advancing international understanding and goodwill

As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service, with more than 14,700 clubs in 139 countries and geographical areas, Interact has become a worldwide phenomenon. Almost 340,000 young people are involved in Interact.

## PolioPlus



The most notable current global project, PolioPlus, is contributing to the global [eradication of polio](#). Since beginning the project in 1985, Rotarians have contributed over US\$850 million and tens of thousands of volunteer-hours, leading to the [inoculation](#) of more than two billion of the world's children. Inspired by Rotary's commitment, the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) passed a resolution in 1988 to eradicate [polio](#) by 2000. Now a partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) with WHO, [UNICEF](#) and the U.S. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), Rotary is recognized by the [United Nations](#) as the key private partner in the eradication effort.

In 2008, Rotary received a \$100 million challenge grant from the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#). Rotary committed to raising \$100 million. In January 2009, [Bill Gates](#) announced a second challenge grant of \$255 million. Rotary again committed to raising another \$100 million. In total, Rotary will raise \$200 million by June 30, 2012. Together, the Gates Foundation and Rotary have committed \$555 million toward the eradication of polio. At the time of the second challenge grant, Bill Gates said:

"We know that it's a formidable challenge to eradicate a disease that has killed and crippled children since at least the time of the ancient Egyptians. We don't know exactly when the last child will be affected. But we do have the vaccines to wipe it out. Countries do have the will to deploy all the tools at their disposal. If we all have the fortitude to see this effort through to the end, then we will eradicate polio."

## Exchanges and scholarships

Some of Rotary's most visible programs include [Rotary Youth Exchange](#), a [student exchange program](#) for students in [secondary education](#), and the Rotary Foundation's oldest program, [Ambassadorial Scholarships](#). Today, there are six different types of [Rotary Scholarships](#). More than 38,000 men and women from 100 nations have studied abroad under the auspices of Ambassadorial Scholarship, and today it is the world's largest privately funded international [scholarships](#) program. In 2006-07 grants totaling approximately US\$15 million were used to award some 800 scholarships to recipients from 69 countries who studied in 64 nations. The Exchange Students of Rotary Club Munich International publish their experiences on a regular basis on [Rotary Youth Exchange with Germany](#). In July 2009 the Rotary Foundation ended funding for the Cultural and Multi-Year Ambassadorial Scholarships as well as Rotary Grants for University Teachers.

Rotary Fellowships, paid by the foundation launched in honor of Paul Harris in 1947, specialize in providing graduate fellowships around the world, usually in countries other than their own in order to provide international exposure and experience to the recipient. Recently, a new program was established known as the Rotary peace and Conflict Resolution program which provides funds for two years of graduate study in one of eight universities around the world. Rotary is naming about seventy five of these scholars each year. The applications for these scholarships are found on line but each application must be endorsed by a local Rotary Club. Children and other close relatives of Rotarians are not eligible.

## Rotary Centers for International Studies



Starting in 2002, [The Rotary Foundation](#) partnered with eight universities around the world to create the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution. The universities include [International Christian University \(Japan\)](#), [University of Queensland \(Australia\)](#), [Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris \(Sciences Po\) \(France\)](#), [University of Bradford \(United Kingdom\)](#), [Universidad del Salvador \(Argentina\)](#), [University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill \(U.S.\)](#), [Duke University \(U.S.\)](#), [Chulalongkorn University \(Thailand\)](#) and [University of California, Berkeley \(U.S.\)](#) Since then, the Rotary Foundation's Board of Trustees has dropped its association with the Center in France at the Paris Institute of Political Studies and is currently ending its association with the University of California, Berkeley.

Rotary World Peace Fellows complete two year masters level programs in conflict resolution, peace studies, and international relations. The first class graduated in 2004. As with many such university programs in "peace and conflict studies", questions have been raised concerning political bias and controversial grants. As of August 2006, the Rotary Foundation had spent \$18 million on its "peace and conflict" Centers, and the average grant was about \$60,000 per enrollee in the two-year program.

In 2004, Fellows established the Rotary World Peace Fellows Association to promote interaction among Fellows, Rotarians, and the public on issues related to peace studies.

## Literacy programs

Rotary clubs worldwide place a focus on increasing [literacy](#). Such importance has been placed on literacy that Rotary International has created a “Rotary Literacy Month” that takes place during the month of March. Rotary clubs also aim to conduct many literacy events during the week of September 8, which is [International Literacy Day](#). Some Rotary clubs raise funds for schools and other literacy organizations. Many clubs take part in a reading program called "Rotary Readers," in which a Rotary member spends time in a [classroom](#) with a designated student, and reads one-on-one with them. Some Rotary clubs participate in book donations, both locally and internationally. As well as participating in book donations and literacy events, there are educational titles written about Rotary Clubs and members, such as *Rotary Clubs Help People* and *Carol is a Rotarian* by Rotarian and children's book author [Bruce Larkin](#).

## Rotaract



[Rotaract](#): a service club for young men and women aged 18 to 30 with around 215,000 members in 9,388 clubs in 176 countries. Rotaract clubs are either community or university based, and they are sponsored by a local Rotary club. This makes them true "partners in service" and key members of the family of Rotary.

## Rotary Community Corps

The Rotary Community Corps (RCC) is a volunteer organization with an estimated 157,000 non-Rotarian men and women in over 6,800 communities in 78 countries.