

## Rotary Classification Talk

A “classification” describes the principal activity of the company or business with which a Rotarian is connected. For example, a police officer could be classified as “law enforcement”, a school principal as “public education”. The reason for classifications is to ensure a well-balanced club with members of many vocations.

One of the ways Rotarians get to know their new club members, is through a “Classification Talk”. Each new member completes one in the early days following his or her induction in the club. This talk is required in order to move from the “Red Badge” to the “Blue Badge” status.

The following is a guideline for giving a classification talk:

1. State your name, where you currently work, and what you do there.
2. Give a brief history of yourself. This can include where you were born, childhood interests and family statistics, where you attended school, major life events, spouse and children, and what brought you to Juneau.
3. Talk about your work history, training and education. You can briefly describe what your company does, and what your position is within the company. This can include why you chose your profession (or perhaps why it chose you). Please keep this at a reasonable length and no business materials can be distributed
4. You can share your present hobbies and interests.
5. Tell us why you joined Rotary, what you hope to gain from it, and what you feel you can contribute.

Finally, the best part, it should take no more than 5 minutes. It is a great opportunity to share information about yourself, but keep it brief. Make sure you relax and enjoy!

### Hints:

1. This is the only time you can talk about your specific business/company in Rotary without getting fined. The price for standing up and “advertising” your company during a meeting (other than during your talk) is \$25. The price for someone else standing up and mentioning your company (other than a thank you for your contributions, etc) is \$5. You may also buy the no-fine pin when it is up for monthly auction, and take 2 minutes at each meeting during your “no fine month” to feature something that you want to about your company. Remember that BUSINESS is not discussed after the rotary bell has rung, until the meeting is adjourned.
2. Unique to Glacier Valley Rotary is the *requirement* that you bring some kind of candy (it seems that chocolate is particularly popular) to place at each table, so that it is a kinder gentler audience during your talk. If you forget the chocolate, your sponsor will be fined big time!!!