Rotary
Club of Waterville

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION GUIDE

Welcome to the Waterville Noon Club!

Mail: 50 Elm St, Waterville ME 04901
Meeting: Mondays at noon
Best Western Plus
375 Main St,
Waterville ME 04901

Don't forget to download the ClubRunner app to stay connected!

Rotary
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CLUB #6317, DISTRICT 7790, CHARTERED 1918

- Rotary International (RI) is the world's first and largest membership organization
- Rotary was founded in 1905; after a Supreme Court decision, women were allowed to join in 1989.
- Rotaract allows members of all ages as of 2021
- You are joining a global organization of community volunteers.
- We have approximately 1.2 million Rotarians organized into 36,883 clubs throughout more than 200 countries and geographical areas.
- This Global organization is known as: Rotary International (RI).
- Our club was chartered in 1918, and currently has over 50 members.

MEETINGS

Monday, Noon to 1:15 pm
Best Western Plus, 375 Main St. Waterville
Lunch is optional @ $18.00
Meal Cards good for 10 lunches are available for prepurchase

Cups & Happy Dollars: a tradition of most Rotary Clubs, these donations are a way to support local community & international projects; many of which offer first hand participation from Rotarians. Consider attending the weekly meeting to share news, network and hold each other to a standard of selfless service!

Cups: contributions are used for local Community Service projects and International service projects (recommended donation $1 or more)

Happy Dollars: $1 or more; share a personal happy moment!

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

$150 semiannual ($300 annual). Rotary is on a fiscal year and dues if paid semiannual are due July 1 and January 1. Dues cover: Rotary International dues, District dues and Club dues. Lunch is purchased separately; however, each member's dues include coffee and dessert at each meeting.

Club members will also receive ***The Rotarian***, a monthly magazine published by Rotary International providing ideas for club engagement, fundraising and community & global projects.

FOUNDATION

A Rotary International goal is for every Rotarian to give $100 to the Rotary Foundation every year. This can be accomplished by writing a single check or going on-line and setting up a monthly, quarterly, semi or annual payment.

The Rotary Foundation is a global initiative for giving. Clubs can receive matching funds for local as well as international projects. The money you give comes back to the District after 3 years for matching club grants, and District grants. *Rotarian giving is a source of club solidarity and pride; it strengthens both our local and global communities.*

- **Sustaining Members:** give $100 or more/yr to the annual SHARE
- **Paul Harris Fellows**: When club members have accumulated giving of $1000 to the Annual Fund (SHARE) or Polio Plus, they are recognized as Paul Harris Fellows (PHF); many members have multiple PHFs. It is an honor and privilege to be a Paul Harris Fellow. Members can accumulate additional PHF increments with each additional $1,000 recognized with special pins with sapphires and then rubies.
- **Major Donors:** this designation is achieved when you become a Paul Harris Fellow +9 (accumulated giving of $10,000+)
- **Paul Harris Society** members: commit to donating $1,000 each year
- **Bequest Society**: provides $10,000 in their estate plan to The Foundation

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COMMITEES

Every club member is expected to join one or more committees to work on issues of specific interest to them. Our club has 8 committees:

- **Public Relations & Marketing**
- **Club Administration (meeting set-up & speakers)**
- **Community Service**
- **Membership**
- **International Service**
- **Ways & Means (fundraising)**
- **Vocational & Youth Engagement**
- **Foundation**

FUNDRAISING

Our club holds 2 major fundraising events: **The Fall On-line Auction and the Spring Social & Auction**. The goal from these 2 events can exceed $25,000 with the money earmarked mostly for local community projects. Our club also has a history of participating in global projects. These 2 fundraising events (and even smaller fundraisers) require "all hands-on deck." Fundraisers are a great way to get to know your fellow Rotarians and your community.

WATERVILLE RIVERWALK at Head of Falls

In celebration of our Club's 100th anniversary in 2018, we contributed $150,000 to support the Waterville Riverwalk initiative. We provided the seed money for this community project; one to be enjoyed by all!



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WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Our Club maintains a website where new membership forms can be found as well as a calendar of our speakers, board of directors listing and other important information. We maintain a presence on many social media outlets, including Facebook and Instagram.

Do you want to know the weekly speaker schedule?
Forgot the holidays that we don't meet?
Visit our Club's website to learn answers to these questions and more.

Remember to add Facebook to your likes and look for pictures from our Club's activities! www.watervillerotary.com and on Facebook: watervillerotaryclub

Find, Follow & Like Us!

CLUBRUNNER

Create your password to access ClubRunner-our membership software, the "machine" that drives member access to our club reports & member information.

ClubRunner allows you to:

- View member directory profiles
- View and contact our club/district executives and directors
- View posts on our Website: watervillerotary.com
- Learn more about upcoming events and speakers

Rotary INTERNATIONAL



Founded by Paul Harris in Chicago in 1905

- Rotary International is governed by a president and board of directors
- from all over the world
- More than 220 Countries/34 Zones/ 529 Districts
- 45,00 clubs worldwide/ over 1.2 million members

Zones: There are 34 Rotary Zones grouped into **17 pairs**. Each pair of zones elects one director to serve a two-year term on the Rotary International Board of Directors, totaling 17 directors.

Districts: There are 529 Rotary Districts. Our District 7790 is in **Zone 28** which includes 20 Districts, 1055+ clubs and over 33,000+ members. Zone 28 includes most of Canada, parts of Washington state, parts of New York, parts of Michigan and parts of Maine.

District 7790: There are 58 clubs in our District:, 26 in Quebec, 30 in Maine; and 4 Rotaract Clubs. Each District has a District governor (DG) elected annually. In our District, the DG is represented every other year from Maine, then Quebec.

Areas: Clubs are organized by Areas within the District and each area has an Assistant Governor (AG) assigned to it to assist clubs in finding answers to Rotary questions.

Area 12: Our Club is in Area 12 and includes Unity, Waterville Noon, Waterville Sunrise and Augusta clubs.

Each club is an autonomous group but adheres to the ethical standards adopted through Rotary International (RI). There are many opportunities for club members to become involved at the District and Zone levels through various committees; including attending District and RI conventions held annually

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Rotary "Fellowships:" Do you have a special interest in an activity such as camping, traveling, beer, whisky, wine, magic, golf, tennis etc.? There are local and international clubs that anyone can join to meet more fellow Rotarians with the same interest.

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THE OBJECT OF ROTARY

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the idea of *"service above self".*

SEVEN AREAS OF FOCUS

Rotary is dedicated to seven areas of focus to build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever.

Promoting peace

Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.

Fighting disease

We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases like **polio**, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. We improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in developing areas.

Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene

We support local solutions to bring clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to more people every day. We don't just build wells and walk away. We share our expertise with community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed long-term.

Saving mothers and children

Nearly 6 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronge

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Supporting education

More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.

Growing local economies

We carry out service projects that enhance economic and community development and create opportunities for decent and productive work for young and old. We also strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished communities.

Protecting the environment

Rotary members are tackling environmental issues the way they always do: coming up with projects, using their connections to change policy and planning for the future.

You can join Rotary Action Groups (RAG) that work together globally to solve problems in each area of focus (Google search WASH as a good example!).

FIVE AVENUES OF SERVICE

Although Rotary is an international organization, Rotary also exists to benefit its members who live and work in local communities.

Following are the 5 Avenues of Service to promote the ideals of Rotary:

1. The Club- the opportunity to network with community leaders
2. Vocational services- using Rotarian skills to benefit the community
3. Community services- to initiate projects & events to better the community
4. Youth services- produce programs to benefit youth such as Rotaract, Interact, youth exchanges, career fairs, etc.
5. International services- to develop projects and relationships with our global neighbors

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THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do …

One of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics in the world is the **Rotary 4-way Test.** It was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy.

He drew up a 24 word code of ethics for all employees to follow in their business and professional lives. The 4-Way Test became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to this simple philosophy.

Herb Taylor became president of Rotary International in 1954-55. The 4-way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943 and has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways.

Of the things we think, say or do…

1. **Is it the TRUTH?**
2. **Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
3. **Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
4. **Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

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"Service Above Self"
(The Motto of Rotary International)

Our members are passionate about serving others in our local community and across the Globe. The following is a partial list of projects and organizations that we have supported in recent years:

In our local community:

- Rotary Centennial Trail in Benton
- Walk-in Freezer for Senior Spectrum
- NICU at Maine General Medical Center
- Little Free Libraries
- River Walk in downtown Waterville
- Waterville Opera House
- High Hopes Clubhouse
- Food insecurity grants
- Scholarship Grants
- Waterville Children's Discovery Museum

Across the globe:

- School of Social Work: Haiti
- Guatemala City Dump Programs: Guatemala
- Building Latrines: Guatemala
- Library Projects: Dominican Republic and Ecuador
- Water projects (wells, pumps and storage tanks): Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Guatemala
- Ambulance project in India
- Sewing machine project in Chile
- Malaria nets in Malaysia
- Women & children's health in Guatemala

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Benefits of Rotary Membership

The opportunity of friendship with leaders
...in our community
...in neighboring cities
...all over the U.S.A.
...in all parts of the world

- The opportunity of Giving Service to Your Community
- The opportunity of Helping Develop International Peace, Good Will and Understanding
- The opportunity of Helping Build Higher Ethical Standards within Your Profession

What you will get out of Rotary:

- Social networking & friends around the world
- Satisfaction of service to your local & global community
- Learn more about the community and the world
- Develop leadership skills (enroll in The Leadership Institute)
- Choose projects that interests you (RAG- Rotary Action Groups) can be found in My Rotary
- Rotary Magazine; find interesting articles and what other clubs are doing around the world
- Visit other clubs in the district or anywhere in the world to broaden your network professionally and socially
- Fellowship Groups to meet like minded people. Fellowships are "clubs." Enjoy wine, beer, traveling, hiking, golf, RV travel, quilting? There are Fellowships for almost every interest.
- Rotary is a Toastmaster's Club affiliate

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Responsibilities of Rotary Membership

Participation
To be a Rotarian you must give of your time and talents; participate
...in community work projects
...in Club and District activities
...in social functions
…in Club fundraising endeavors *(100% member participation is expected)*

Attendance-*Regular meeting attendance is urged in Rotary.*

- You should try to attend most weekly meetings.
- If you can't make a meeting in person, our club meetings are available on Zoom
- If you miss multiple meetings in a row the membership committee will check to make sure everything is ok.

- **Other ways to keep engaged**:
  - join more than one committee
  - attend District and other Rotary Club events
  - and volunteer your time in the community!

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Our club has more than a century of service to our local and global communities…
Our club has raised and distributed over $5 million during our 100+ years of service!!

- The President of the Waterville Noon Club serves for one year and is supported by the Board of Directors.
- The President appoints the Board of Directors and they serve as Committee Chairs and/or "members at large."
- There typically are 15 Board of Directors and the President.
- Committee chairs are asked to serve for 3 years.
- The current Board of Directors and their positions can be found on the Waterville Rotary website.

CLUB COMMITTEES

The expectation is that every club member will serve on at least one committee. This is the best way to keep engaged, to network, to do great community work and to meet new friends.

Some of our Club members have served for many years and are in the "85 club."
This means that they may be exempt from serving on committees.
To be eligible a Rotary member's age plus years of service must total 85 or more

Public Relations & Marketing: Are you a social media user? Do you enjoy writing and "spreading the word?" This committee gets the word out about all the amazing things we're doing here at Rotary Club of Waterville. As a PR Committee member, you'll help your fellow Rotarians strategize about the best way to increase awareness of the Rotary Club of Waterville. You'll help write press releases, reach out to the media, take photos of Rotarians in action, and help keep our Facebook Page and website up-to-date. These efforts will help our Club get in front of new members, have more successful fundraising events, aid the efforts of our various Committees and also show our current Rotarians just how much we appreciate all they do for our community. They would love to have you join them!

Club Administration:
What makes a Rotary meeting fun? The traditions that we love, and the surprises that delight us! The Club Administration Committee performs the logistical tasks that make our Club meetings interesting and inclusive, shaping a Rotary experience that others want to join! This committee finds speakers, topics, and discussions that appeal to and invigorate the membership. We also focus on strengthening fellowship among members through procuring delicious meals and organizing our annual committee sign-ups.

Community Service:
The committee is responsible for planning and carrying out successful service projects that utilize funds and club members' time to benefit those in need. We plan projects, carry them out and evaluate them during the course of the year. We partner with other organizations, volunteers, and committee members in the community to maximize the impact of our projects. We are responsible for the Cups & Fines as it relates to which non-profit organization will benefit from these funds. And we make recommendations to the club for District grant projects.

Membership:
Play a part in building the Club, our network and our impact! The role of the Club Membership Committee is to actively recruit, retain and engage members to develop a vibrant sense of purpose for each member and the club. It is the task of the Committee to ensure our Club reflects the diverse professions and cultures of our community. We also plan fun fellowships!!

International Service:
Our Club has a long history of supporting our Global Community as well as our local community. Matching money for Global grants is available from RI as well as the District. Certain criteria apply to each type of grant. We also have partnered with other Clubs in and outside our District for projects abroad. Not only are these projects rewarding, but they offer an opportunity to travel and participate in the projects.

Ways & Means (Fundraising):
The Fundraising Committee is charged with coordinating and executing all of the fundraising events for the Club. Funds raised through specific events include the Rotary Online Fall Auction and the Spring Social Auction. The funds that we raise are put back into the community to support various projects. We ask that all Rotarians participate in the two major fundraising events:

- **Rotary Fall On-line Auction** *With COVID, the 60+ year live radio auction event transformed to an on-line auction. The items for auction come through the generosity of retail & service businesses in the community...many who have supported our auction for 60+ years!!*

- **Spring Social & Auction** *This fundraiser has evolved from a live pig-roast & auction that was held in the fall. The Spring Auction is unique in that it showcases auction items and events donated (made or led by) fellow Rotarians. And of course, it provides an evening of food and entertainment for Rotarians (past & present), their families and close friends.*

Vocational & Youth Services:
Vocational Service comprises many aspects of Rotary and helps develop future leaders within our community. The Club seeks to encourage learning at all levels and to provide the training and opportunities for future leaders to grow and enhance their skills. The Vocational Service Committee promotes high ethical standards in businesses and professions, recognizes the worthiness of all useful occupations, and fosters the ideal of service in the pursuit of all vocations.

This committee seeks candidates for RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership attendees) each fall. They develop leadership skills at a center in northern Maine where they join counterparts from Quebec.

This committee also promotes **Rotaract** and **Interact Clubs** (young professionals and High School clubs respectively).

The Mert Rowe Scholarship Fund: Not every Rotary Club is fortunate enough to have an educational scholarship fund. For years the proceeds from the Annual Pig Roast &Auction (now the Spring Social & Auction) were designated to grow and support a scholarship fund to local high school students who further their education at an accredited post-secondary school.

The goal was set for $100,000 to be invested with the earnings to be withdrawn for area scholarships. The goal was achieved in the mid 1990's. Mert Rowe was a long-time member, past president and secretary of the club. When he passed away in 2011 at the age of 92, his family requested that donations be made to the Rotary Scholarship Fund. We changed the name, in his honor, to the Mert Rowe Scholarship Fund at that time. Today, each year four scholarships are made to high school students for $1,500 each. The high schools in Waterville, Winslow, Fairfield and Oakland each receive one scholarship for a student of their choice. For more than 30 years of the scholarship's existence, students have received more than $100,000 from the Mert Rowe Scholarship Fund.

Interested in this program? you can serve on the Youth Services committee to help award scholarships to selected students each year.

Foundation:

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) makes service projects possible. Through Rotary grants, the Foundation funds projects that ultimately advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The Committee is charged with increasing awareness in the Club of the Foundation's work, to identify the true purpose of the Paul Harris Fellow Award, to solicit Sustaining Member Giving, and to achieve the yearly EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) goal of each Rotarian donating $100. Rotary is unique in that the money raised by individuals, Rotarians and clubs come back to districts to be used to fund Club projects that are deemed viable.

…so what committee(s) do you want to join??

