



# WHITEHALL ROTARY CLUB

Rotary and Membership Information (as of 1/10/2022)

## What is Rotary?

Rotary is the world's first service club. Membership is by invitation and typically for a club our size, there will be only one business or profession type represented. This helps to maintain a good cross section representation of our community. Members can provide service to others in the following five areas:

1. CLUB – getting involved in your local club to help it run efficiently and in the spirit of fellowship.
2. VOCATIONAL – Using high standards of conduct in your business and professional life and showing young people the type of work and activities involved in various occupations.
3. COMMUNITY – Identify community needs and address these needs with club service projects.
4. INTERNATIONAL – Work with other Rotarians to build better understanding and peace by promoting goodwill between all people.
5. YOUTH – Provide support and development opportunities for youth.

## What are My Obligations if I Join the Whitehall Club?

Involvement: We like to have members attend at least 50% of our meetings. This is easy. We typically meet on the first and second Monday of the month. Holidays or other events may alter this. There are ways to “make-up” a missed meeting by attending a meeting at another club, attending a meeting of the Montana E-Club online, or participating in our club service projects. Keeping up regular attendance helps to keep us together as a solid group and the programs presented at many of the meetings can expand one's knowledge in a variety of areas.

Financial Obligations: As of January 1, 2022, the combined dues for our club, district and Rotary International membership are \$147.00 per year. This can be paid annually on January 1<sup>st</sup> or in two payments, one on January 1 and the second on July 1. If someone joins part-way through a year, the dues will be based on the actual number of months of membership for that first year.

At the meetings, we will have either a dessert or a meal. For dessert meetings, the cost is \$2.00 per person. Meals are typically \$5.00 each but may be higher when there is a special event, such as our annual picnic or the Christmas dinner. We ask that each member donate \$1.00 to the “tip” jar. This money is given to the Methodist Church to help cover the cost of our electric/water usage during meetings. There is also an optional 50/50 Wheel pot. This is \$1.00 for two “poker” chips. If your selected number comes up on the Wheel, you win one-half of the pot.

Members are encouraged to contribute to The Rotary Foundation in an annual amount comfortable for the individual. Those that can afford the annual \$100.00 are listed as Sustaining Members.

If a member will be involved in a service project where it is likely they will be alone with youth or other “at risk” individuals, a criminal background check will be required at a cost of \$20.00.

Help Increase Club Membership: If you know of a current or retired business owner or professional who would make a good club member, invite them to join the club. The club covers the cost of the first regular club meeting dessert or meal (special events are not covered by the club, like the picnic or

Christmas dinners). A prospective member may visit several times, but, after the first meeting, they are responsible for any meeting cost unless they have been invited to provide a program.

Participate when possible in Rotary activities outside of the club: The District Training Assembly, District Conference, the annual Peace Park Celebration and other Rotary functions are a great way to meet other Rotarians and learn more about Rotary.

## **WHAT THE WHITEHALL CLUB DOES**

Club Socials: Our annual BBQ picnic - friends, family and other local Rotary clubs are invited.

Special Dinners that include a spouse or friend. We have periodic group dinners during the year and an annual Christmas Dinner.

Club Fundraisers: Fish Food sales at the fishpond during the summer months; selling USA made dish cloths throughout the year; recycling aluminum cans from collection stations at the county dump site and at Jefferson Fresh Foods.

Service Projects: Highway clean-up on I-90 near town, usually in the spring and the fall.

Maintain the historic Fish Pond in the center of town and stock it with fish each summer.

Give two \$500 scholarships to graduating Whitehall High seniors in memory of Rotarian Stewart Way.

Staff the Whitehall Chamber information booth during Frontier Days and sell our dish cloths.

Sponsor students to attend Girls and Boys State each year.

Provide dictionaries and bicycle safety class for local third grade students.

Sponsor at least two sophomore high school students to attend the District's Rotary Youth Leadership camp (RYLA) each summer.

Sponsor a school Interact Club (a youth version of our club; currently on hold)

Our Wheelchair Award that recognizes local individuals, businesses and organizations for their service to our community. Money raised comes from a donation jar at the KFC/A&W.

Sell tickets at home games for various high school sports (volleyball, basketball, wrestling).

Staff a table at the Christmas Stroll where we sell dish cloths and Rotary cookbooks.

Quarterly Blood Drives in association with Vitalant (formerly United Blood Services).

## **EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS**

Service Projects and Fundraisers: Participate in at least 1 project and 1 fundraiser during each year.

Volunteer to serve and participate actively on at least one club committee.

Volunteer to be responsible to provide at least 2 dessert and/or meals during year.

Volunteer to be responsible to bring in at least one program during the year.

Programs: When bringing in a guest speaker for a program, keep the following in mind -

You are responsible for covering the cost of dessert, the \$1 for the Spin the Wheel chips, and \$1 for the tip for that person even if they are a member of the club.

If the program requires 2 presenters, the Club will pay for one of the two people. If there are 3 or more people in the program, the Club will assist with the cost; BUT on a case by case basis provided it is discussed with the club ahead of time.

If your speaker wants to bring their spouse, family member(s) or a friend, they are welcome to attend BUT the cost of their dessert (or meal) is not covered. They can pay or the member sponsoring the speaker may choose to cover that cost. PLEASE let the food chair know ahead of time if there will be extra guests.

The Rotary Foundation: We encourage each member to become a sustaining member by giving \$100 per year. If this is not possible, you may choose to donate a lesser amount to be included in Every Rotarian Every Year. One-half of the money donated to the Foundation's Share Fund comes back to our district to fund club projects around the state. We have benefited from this money in several recent grants.

### What Some of Our Members Do or Have Done in Service to Others:

Karen Burtch – Liturgical Church Musician at St. Teresa's. Past Junior Leader for 4-H

Erv Hedegaard – Past district Governor for Rotary District 5390 in 1999-2000. Past member of the Butte Rescue Mission board of directors, served on the Jefferson Valley Community Foundation, Lay Leader at the Zion Lutheran Church, member of the Copper City Bridge Club.

Joan Jones – Bridge Master, Accordion Player at numerous dances, First woman Rotarian in Whitehall, past Assistant Governor for District 5390, past Whitehall school board member.

Arlene Weber – Past District Governor for District 5390, 2011-12, served in numerous District level positions, board member and volunteer at the Jefferson Valley Museum.