



The Minneapolis University Rotary Club Membership Information

www.mpls-university-rotary.org

The Minneapolis University Rotary Club

Our club is a diverse, caring and energetic group of 30+ business and professional leaders and community volunteers with a global perspective who are connected to each other and to the communities we serve. We invite you to join us as a member so that together we can make a difference in our Minneapolis-St. Paul community and in countries around the world through our service to people in need.

Chartered by Rotary District 5950 in February, 1991, we meet weekly from noon to 1:15 p.m. at the Radisson University Hotel-Minneapolis, 615 Washington Avenue S.E. adjacent to the University of Minnesota East Bank Campus.

Rotary International

Rotary International, founded in 1905, is the world's first service club organization. Its more than 1.2 million members volunteer their time and talent to further the Rotary motto, Service Above Self. Rotarians provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace around the world. See website at www.rotary.org.

Rotarians serve through participation in club activities, involvement in local and international service projects and support of The Rotary Foundation. At the club level, members contribute to the Minneapolis University Rotary Club Service Foundation to help fund its service projects.

Why Join Rotary?

Rotary was founded on ***fellowship and networking***, an ideal that remains a major attraction of membership today. Professional networking offers the opportunity to enlarge our circle of acquaintances and to meet and work with service-minded people from throughout the community. Speakers at weekly programs keep members informed about what is taking place in the community, nation and world.

Many members of the Minneapolis University Rotary Club are associated with the University of Minnesota while others represent a cross-section of the business and non-profit community throughout the greater metropolitan Twin Cities region. In addition, our diverse membership includes many individuals who bring **an international perspective** through their country of origin, engagement in international work and frequent travel around the world. One of Rotary's highest objectives is to build goodwill and peace throughout the world.

Often the dynamic interaction and camaraderie experienced at Rotary leads to enduring **friendships**. Minneapolis University Rotarians participate in social activities, many including family and friends, throughout the year; those who travel have friendly contacts in almost every major city in the world.

The opportunity to **make a difference through humanitarian service programs** is one of the most attractive features of Rotary providing members with hands-on service experiences to broaden their knowledge and commitment to make a difference in the world. .

Our club supports the **Twin Cities community** through our engagement with the Jeremiah Program which provides transitional housing and support services to single mothers and their children, donations of hats and gloves through Rotary's annual Warm Hands, Warm Heads, Warm Hearts outreach and by providing small grants from the Minneapolis University Rotary Club Service Funds to support projects initiated by club members. In 2008 and 2009, our club collaborated with other Twin Cities Rotary clubs on the Taste of Lake Street for Minneapolis Hunger Relief to raise much needed dollars for local food shelves. In addition, we provide scholarships to students from North High School to attend annual Rotary youth leadership weekend programs: Camp Enterprise and Camp Ryla.

Members of our club also have the opportunity to become involved in **international service** that address such concerns as hunger, poverty, health care, illiteracy, and education. Minneapolis University Rotarians have participated in international projects in many countries including Chile, India, South Africa, Ecuador and Peru. Recent projects have focused on building a Children's Village for Rwandan orphans, bringing sanitation and clean water to a community in Uganda and providing hearing aids to children in India. The Rotary Foundation provides funding opportunities for matching funds for these projects and many members plan their vacation travel to support or visit club service projects.

Rotary provides opportunities to exercise and **enhance leadership skills** including team building, fundraising, public speaking, mentoring, planning, organization and communication. Being a Rotary leader provides experience in motivating, inspiring and guiding others in an **ethical environment** reflecting Rotary's tradition of encouraging high ethical standards in businesses and professions. In their professional and personal lives, Rotarians abide by the Four-Way Test:

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the TRUTH?
- 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3) Will it BUILD GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

What are the criteria for Rotary membership?

Minneapolis University Rotary offers several membership options in addition to the traditional Individual Memberships which include the vast majority of Rotarians. Members contribute their time and professional skills and resources to community service, participate in a spirit of fellowship, are committed to ethical behavior in both their private and public life and are willing to attend club meetings regularly and meet participation guidelines:

- Attend at least 50% of weekly club meetings to enjoy fellowship and networking, enrich their professional and personal knowledge and meet other leaders in our community. (Attendance requirements can be met, when needed, with make-up credits for committee meetings, attendance at other Rotary clubs, Rotary District events, etc.)
- Help the club meet its financial obligations by paying club dues and meal costs in a timely fashion
- Serve on a club committee
- Volunteer time and talent to participate in a minimum of one Community or International Service Project each year
- Participate in at least one Fellowship Event each year
- Introduce potential new members to Rotary and the club
- Contribute to the Annual Campaign of The Rotary Foundation each year and to the Minneapolis University Rotary Club Service Foundation.

Membership Categories

Individual membership is open to men and women of good character and in any worthy business, non-profit, academic or other occupation or profession as well as to those who have retired from such positions.

Shared memberships are open to two individuals who, due to business travel or other long-term commitments, have difficulty meeting the attendance requirements.

- The *Professional Shared Membership* is for two individuals who work for the same organization and share the same professional classification.
- The *Household Shared Membership* is available to two individuals from the same household.

Associate membership is available to emerging professional, business or community leaders who meet any of the following criteria:

- Age under 30 years
- Enrolled as a full-time graduate student
- Within the first five years of full-time employment

Non-resident membership is open only to an active member of the club or to a participant in a Rotary program sponsored by the home club, such as the ambassadorial scholar program who has relocated to another region for an extended but temporary period, wishes to continue active participation in club activities from a distance or has a compelling reason to maintain membership in a Rotary club that is distant from their current residence. This adaptation recognizes the increasingly global activities of its members.

Honorary membership is awarded for meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals.
What is the Cost of Rotary Membership?

	Individual	Shared(2)	Associate	Non-Resident
Dues (a)	\$ 220	\$ 325	\$ 110	\$ 220
Meals (b)	\$ 650	\$ 650	\$ 650	-0-
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	\$ 870	\$ 975	\$ 760	\$ 220

- (a) **Dues** are billed quarterly at \$55 for Individual and Non-Resident Members, \$81.25 (or for Shared Memberships and \$27.50 for Associate Members
- (b) **Meal charges** are based on actual cost of \$13 each for 50 meetings. Billed quarterly at \$162.50. Individuals with shared membership pay the \$650 meal charge plus the standard \$13 meal charge for those meeting where both members attend. Non-resident members are billed for the \$15 guest meal charge for meetings attended.
- (c) **Contributions** -- members are expected to contribute voluntarily, but generously according to their means, to the Minneapolis University Rotary Club Service Foundation and to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. These dollars support local and international service projects.
- Members contribute to the **club foundation** at weekly meetings by contributing dollars (or Brag-A-Bucks) in return for the opportunity to share personal news, plaudits or stories with fellow club members, by bidding on items offered by members (event tickets, travel souvenirs) for "auction" at club meetings, in memory of birthdays, anniversaries, etc. as well as direct tax deductible contributions.
 - In addition, our club has been a strong supporter of **The Rotary Foundation** and its Paul Harris Fellow program recognizing those who have contributed at least \$1,000.

Membership Classifications

Upon admission to a Rotary Club, new members are "loaned" a classification that identifies his or her profession, occupation, or business. The classification system is intended to promote vocational diversity, assuring a wide range of resources through the membership for achieving the service objectives of Rotary.