

LAKE PLACID NEWS

ROTARY CLUB NEWS: Rotary Club members answer the question, ‘Why Rotary?’



Ben Kernan (Photo provided)

In July, the Rotary Club of Lake Placid hosted 10 visitors from central India as part of The Rotary Friendship Exchange. Our guests watched the fireworks at Mid's Park on Independence Day. Members of our club and the Rotary Club of AuSable Valley hosted the five couples in their homes.

The Rotary Friendship Exchange is a longstanding tradition in Rotary International where members of a club or two band together in groups of 10 to visit members of other clubs somewhere else in the world. They then trade visits with the clubs they visited.

Visiting guests stay in people's homes and are treated like family. It works because everyone feels passionately about certain basic human concerns that span across cultures. Rotary International's core motto – *“Service Above Self”* -exemplifies this value.

Around the world, Rotary International is a group of business people and individuals of a community working to make a difference.

Our guests from India shared some of the work their clubs do that impacts tens of thousands of poor people, dispensing polio medicine and helping with eyesight disorders. Helping people is a deep theme of Rotary.



Tina Leonard (News photo — Andy Flynn)

No matter whether we're from – Ontario, Bhopal or Lake Placid – as Rotarians we subscribe to a basic ethical code of four points, the “Four Way Test” that is:

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?

I recently asked Lake Placid Rotarians why they belong to Rotary. Most said they were a part of Rotary because they like helping people.

Here are more perspectives from two Lake Placid Rotarians, Tina Leonard, a veteran member, and Ben Kernan, a new member.

Tina said she is a Rotarian “because of the friendship and support you get at personal, local and international levels. That friendship and support is what gives us all the energy to fulfill the items of the Rotary 4-Way Test.”

Ben said it is because “Rotary seemed like a good crew to join where I could pull an oar making a difference in the community. Education is a bellwether issue for Rotary, and this appealed to me.”

If making a difference in your community, and/or in the world, is something that motivates you, you are invited to come and see what we are all about.

The Rotary Club of Lake Placid meets every Thursday at 7:20 a.m., usually at the Courtyard by Marriott. Please check in before attending because sometimes we meet elsewhere. All are welcome.

Learn more at www.rotarylakeplacid.org. Or find us on Facebook.
