

Suffern Rotary

New Member Manual

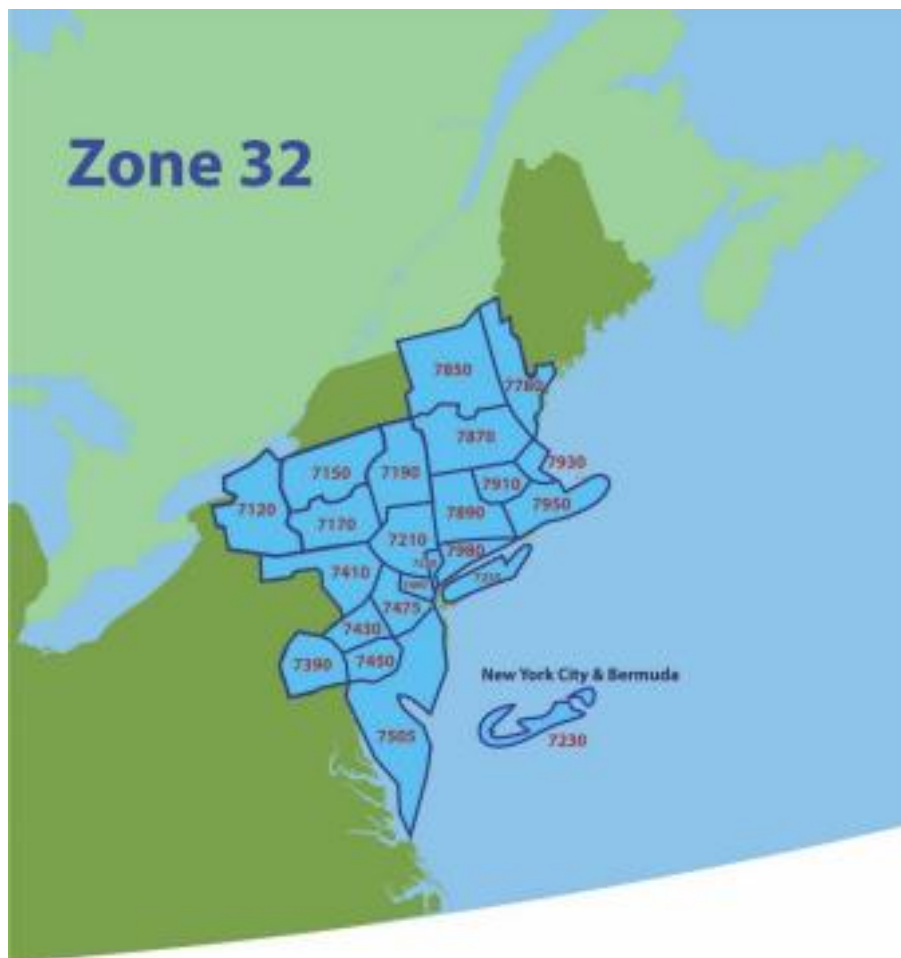
Organization and Structure

The Suffern Rotary Club is part of Rotary International, a 1.4-million-member worldwide service organization. Rotary is divided into 34 Zones. Zone 32, which covers the northeast United States, parts of Quebec, Canada and Bermuda. The Zone includes 22 Rotary Districts, including District 7210 of which our club is a member. District 7210 covers 8 counties of the Hudson Valley – Rockland, Dutchess, Columbia, Green, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, and Ulster.

The District was created on July 1, 1937 as District 173 which continued until July 1, 1954 when the current 8 county structure was created. It became District 256 which was renumbered 721 in the 1957-58 Rotary year and subsequently became District 7210 which is divided into eight regions and has over 1550 members (as of July 1, 2023) and 58 clubs. Our club is in region 8/9 of District 7210.

The zone 32 website can be found at

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50077/>



History of Rotary

The first Rotary Club was formed when attorney **Paul P. Harris** called together a meeting of three business acquaintances in downtown Chicago, at Harris's friend Gustave Loehr's office on February 23, 1905. In addition to Harris and Loehr (a mining engineer and freemason), Silvester Schiele (a coal merchant), and Hiram E. Shorey (a tailor) were the other two who attended this first meeting. The members chose the name *Rotary* because initially they rotated subsequent weekly club meetings to each other's offices, although within a year, the Chicago club became so large it became necessary to adopt the now-common practice of a regular meeting place.

The next four Rotary Clubs were organized in cities in the western United States, beginning with San Francisco, then Oakland, Seattle, and Los Angeles. The National Association of Rotary Clubs in America was formed in 1910. On November 3, 1910, a Rotary club began meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, marking the beginning of Rotary as an international organization. On February 22, 1911, the first meeting of the Rotary Club Dublin was held in Dublin, Ireland. This was the first club established outside of North America. In April 1912, Rotary chartered the Winnipeg club marking the first establishment of an American-style service club outside the United States. To reflect the addition of a club outside of the United States, the name was changed to the **International Association of Rotary Clubs** in 1912.

In August 1912, the Rotary Club of London received its charter from the Association, marking the first acknowledged Rotary club outside North America. It later became known that the Dublin club in Ireland was organized before the London club, but the Dublin club did not receive its charter until after the London club was chartered. During World War I, Rotary in Britain increased from 9 to 22 clubs, and other early clubs in other nations included those in Cuba in 1916, the Philippines in 1919 and India in 1920. In 1922, the name was changed to Rotary International.

History of Suffern Rotary

The Suffern Rotary Club was chartered on March 23, 1927 with 23 charter members. Suffern was the third Rockland County club and the tenth in the District. The club was sponsored by the Port Jervis club. Currently Suffern and has been the home club of three District Governors; William Miele (1971-1972), Thomas France (1994-1995) and Larry Palant (2022-2023). Suffern was the sponsoring club of the Spring Valley and Ramapo Valley clubs.

Responsibility of Members

New members of our club are provided with a new member orientation, ideally prior to their admission to membership. This orientation provides a chance to review the contents of this manual and the club bylaws as well as answer any questions the new members may have.

Members of the Rotary Club of Suffern are expected to:

- Regularly attend Club meetings
- Participate actively in Club service projects
- Promptly pay dues
- Contribute to Club charity undertakings to the extent they are financially able
- Propose new members to our club.
- Sell or purchase required tickets for the annual scholarship fund spaghetti dinner

New Member Responsibilities

New members are provided with a member name badge with a “New Member” tag attached. To have the tag removed the following is required:

- Sit with the treasurer at check-in to learn member’s names.
- Attend a regular Board meeting.
- Join a committee.
- Attend another Rotary Club meeting.

New Member Proposals

To propose a new member, an existing member must complete a new member form which can be obtained from the Club Secretary or Membership Chair. The completed application, signed by the existing member, is submitted to the Club Membership Chair. The Membership Chair notifies the Board who reviews the application and votes on the approval of the prospect and authorizes its release to the membership (normally within seven days). The Membership Chair then notifies the club members of the new applicant allowing them ten days to comment after which the Membership Chair contacts the new member to notify them of their approval/disapproval. If approved, the Membership Chair schedules their induction.

It is important while soliciting new members that you clearly communicate the costs associated with membership in our club. Members are billed on a semiannual basis for club dues which includes year-end Charter Night celebration, Rotary International fees, The Rotarian Magazine, and District fees.

Areas of Focus

Rotary International has identified specific causes to target our local and global impact via global grant distribution and other resources:

- Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution
- Disease Prevention and Treatment
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Maternal and Child Health
- Basic Education and Literacy
- Economic and Community Development
- Protecting the environment

Avenues of Service

Our commitment to service at home and abroad through five avenues of service, which serve as the foundation of club activity:

- Club Service
- Vocational Service
- Community Service
- Vocational Service
- International Service
- Youth Services

Community Service

As stated in the History of Rotary International, Rotary clubs everywhere have one basic ideal — the “ideal of service.” Our club shares that ideal and has consistently acted on it in many ways. Membership in our club requires active participation in service projects undertaken by the Club. While projects undertaken are at the discretion of the Club, they are typically focused in areas consistent with the Rotary Foundation’s seven areas of focus.

Examples of *some* of the Club projects undertaken include:

- Adopt-a-Highway and other local litter sweeps.
- Purchase and supply winter coats for Suffern Central School District (SCSD) students.
- Provide weekend meals in two elementary schools for food insecure children.
- Support of disaster relief charity ShelterBox
- Period Products Initiative (PPI) supplying feminine Hygiene item for area food bank.
- Bell ringing to support The Salvation Army
- Provide a sapling on Arbor Day to every elementary school child in SCSD
- Weekly distribution of Meals on Wheels meals to elderly
- Support of Christ Church Soup Kitchen along with Sloatsburg Food Pantry
- Installed a Little Free Library in Avon Park behind the gazebo.
- Provided community bulletin boards in Avon Park and Point Park
- Provide \$18,500 in scholarships every year for graduating SHS seniors.

- Added a fountain and constructed a stone patio at Good Samaritan Hospital's Garden of Hope.
- Support a school and library in Vera Cruz Mexico
- Participate in local roadway cleanup.
- Constructed and maintain a bus shelter on rt 59 by Airmont Rd.

Each year, Suffern Rotary participates in Rotary Day of Service – typically the third Saturday in May. Our club, along with 800 other Rotary clubs and 30,000 Rotarians perform local community projects.



The Rotary Foundation (TRF)

The Rotary Foundation is the charitable arm of Rotary International. It is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotary members and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world. This support is essential to make possible projects, funded with Foundation grants that bring sustainable improvement to communities in need. The Foundation manages three primary funds: The Annual Fund (the primary fund that supports the ongoing work of Rotary), the Polio Plus Fund (the fund supporting the Rotary initiative to eradicate polio), and the Endowment Fund.

The Foundation's priorities are currently:

- Eradication of the poliovirus from the face of the earth – the PolioPlus Program
- Funding fellowships to individuals to pursue a graduate degree in international relations, peace, conflict resolution, and related subjects, or a professional development certificate in peace and conflict studies at one of the six Rotary Peace Centers – Rotary Peace Fellowships
- Funding grants To local Rotary Clubs and Districts to address local community immediate needs – District Grants

To address large-scale international humanitarian projects, vocational training teams, and scholarships that have sustainable, measurable outcomes in one or more of Rotary's areas of focus. –

Global Grants. The Foundation has seven areas of focus:

- Peacebuilding and conflict prevention
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Community economic development
- Supporting the Environment

Contributions to The Rotary Foundation may be made by check, credit card, wire transfer, or through your Rotary club. Members are encouraged to become Sustaining Members of the Rotary Foundation by contributing at least \$100 annually to the Rotary Foundation. Presently, our club will match your first \$25 contribution each year.

Members can also make a one-time contribution or enroll in the Foundation's recurring giving program, Rotary Direct, by going to www.rotary.org/give.

Our Foundation is the engine that drives the Rotary machine. It gives us the chance to see and fulfill the opportunities for service both within our community and internationally. Your gift to The Rotary Foundation allows us to improve communities by promoting peace, preventing disease, bolstering economic development, and providing clean water and sanitation.

Special Recognition Opportunities

There are a number of ways in which both our club and individual members can be recognized for their contributions to the objectives of Rotary.

Club Recognitions

- *Every Rotarian Every Year Club (EREY)* recognizes Clubs that achieve the status of having every dues paying member contribute some amount to The Rotary Foundation.
- *100% Foundation Giving Club* recognizes Clubs whose members achieve an average annual donation level of \$100 per dues paying member.
- *100% Paul Harris Fellow Club* recognizes Clubs for which all dues paying members have achieved Paul Harris Fellow status.
- *Top Three District Club* recognizes the top three clubs in each district who achieve the greatest level of per capita giving to the Rotary Foundation in any given Rotary Year (clubs must reach an average per capita giving level of \$50/dues paying member to qualify)

Individual Recognitions

- The Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member — \$100 or more per year to the Annual Fund
- Paul Harris Fellow — \$1,000 or more to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus or an approved Foundation grant
- Multiple Paul Harris Fellow — \$1,000 or more multiple times. • Paul Harris Society — \$1,000 or more annually to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus or an approved Foundation grant
- Benefactor — \$1,000 or more estate plan donation to The Rotary Foundation Endowment Fund
- Bequest Society member — \$10,000 or more via your estate plans
- Major Donor – cumulative donations of \$10,000 or more
- Arch C. Klumph Society – cumulative giving reached \$250,000 or more.

District and Global Grants

Contributions to the Rotary Foundation are used to provide both District and Global funding grants. Typically, District Grants are short term in nature and support projects during a single Rotary Year (July 1 through June 30th of the following year). Local clubs request grant funding from their Rotary District and up to 50% of an approved project's cost can be funded District Grant funds, the remainder must be funded by the Club.

Global Grants are much broader in scope and often cover several years. The funding for these grants is more complex and is typically a combination of The Rotary Foundation along with District and local funds. Global Grants are intended to address needs in a country other than that of the originating club and require a partner Rotary Club in the benefitting country.

Club Meeting Format

Our club normally meets weekly from 12:15 to 1:30 on Thursdays at The Salvation Army College for Officers Training, 201 Lafayette Ave Suffern NY 10901. Due notice of any changes in or cancellation of the regular meeting shall be given to all members of the club along with posting on the club website.

Club meetings are held to one and a quarter hour in recognition of the business demands of our members, The normal order of our luncheon meetings is as follows:

- Club meeting Call to Order
- Repeating of the *Pledge of Allegiance*
- Invocation
- Rotary Minute
- Recognition of member birthdays and anniversaries
- Introduction of invited guests and visitors
- Club Announcements, RI Information, Correspondence, or Other Items of special interest to the membership
- Lunch
- Introduction of Program, Address, or other Special Agenda Item
- Happy Bucks (an opportunity for members to update the membership on special events in their lives –bucks are collected from each member who chooses to make an announcement)
- 50/50 drawing (see below)

50/50 Drawing

The Club 50/50 drawing is completely voluntary. It is a raffle in which tickets can be purchased on arrival at each lunch meeting for a chance to win 50% of the money that has accumulated from raffle ticket sales since a winner was last determined. The other 50% is contributed to the Club's Charity's Account. Hence the name, 50-50 drawing.

A person can purchase one or more tickets, and each ticket purchased equals one entry in the drawing. A single ticket is randomly chosen at the end of each luncheon meeting (the member who purchased the ticket must be present). That ticket holder is then given an opportunity to draw one card from a deck of cards in an attempt to pick the Queen of Hearts. If the Queen of Hearts is picked, the member is a winner and the funds accumulated from ticket sales are distributed as indicated above. If a winning card is not selected, the card drawn by the member is removed from the deck for the next drawing at the next Club meeting. In that way, the odds of selecting a winning card improve from week to week as the deck is reduced in size.

ROTARY TERMINOLOGY

Acronyms

RI - Rotary International

DG - District Governor

AG - District Assistant Governor

PDG – Past District Governor

TRF - The Rotary Foundation

RLI – Rotary Leadership Institute

PETS – President Elect Training Seminars

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

CC – Rotary Community Corps

VTT - Vocational Training Teams (Vocational training teams are groups of professionals who travel abroad either to teach local professionals about a particular field or to learn more about their own)

Club Assembly A club meeting to discuss the club programs and activities. Open to all club members. Clubs can incorporate club assemblies into their regular meeting schedules.

ClubRunner A web service that many clubs use in our district to host web sites and enhance electronic communication with District and International.

Club Leadership Training (fka) District Assembly An annual one-day leadership training with diverse seminars to select from, open to all Rotarians but of particular value to club leaders.

District Conference An annual motivational meeting that showcases club and district activities. Open to all Rotarians in the district and their families.

The Four Way Test Of the things we think, say, and 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?

Interact A service and social club for youth ages 12 - 18 which are sponsored by Rotary clubs.

PolioPlus The Rotary Foundation's program focusing on global and polio eradication efforts.

Rotaract Service and social clubs for young adults ages 18 - 30 that are sponsored by Rotary clubs.

Rotarian Action Groups International groups of individuals who share a passion for a humanitarian issue or service activity. An example is the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group.

Rotarian Community Corps (RCC) Groups of non-Rotarians who work on service projects for their communities. Organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs.

Rotary Fellowships International groups of individuals who share a vocational or recreational interest. An example is the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) The philanthropic arm of Rotary International that helps Rotarians advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through humanitarian projects and educational programs.

The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees 15 Rotarians who manage the business of The Rotary Foundation, led by the trustee chair. Appointed by the RI President, with agreement from the RI Board to four-year terms.

Rotary International (RI) Our international association comprised of approximately 46,000 Rotary and Interact clubs and 1.4 million members in nearly every country of the world. Headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, with international offices on four continents.

RI Board of Directors 19 Rotarians who set policy for Rotary International. Elected to two-year terms of office. The RI President is elected annually to preside over the RI board and to set international goals for the organization each year.

RI Convention An annual celebration of Rotary held in a different location around the world each year. Open to all Rotarians and their families.

Rotary Peace Centers Hosted by several universities around the world to offer advanced degrees and professional certificates in peace and conflict resolution.

Rotary Peace Fellow A recipient of a Rotary Foundation scholarship for study at one of the Rotary Peace Centers.

Rotary Youth Exchange (YE) A cultural and educational exchange for students ages 15 - 19, A chance to travel and live abroad for cultural exchanges. More than 8,000 students participate in this immersive program each year.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Rotary's leadership training program for teens that emphasizes social responsibility, global citizenship, and personal development.