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# *The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn*



## **Guest Information**

*Making a Difference in Our  
Community and in Our World!*

[www.glenellynrotary.org](http://www.glenellynrotary.org)

## *The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn History*

The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn was chartered on September 24, 1943. Members from the Rotary Club of Oak Park sponsored and helped form this club.

The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn has a continuous history of raising and donating funds to local charities, non-profits, and our two Glen Ellyn high schools. Its largest fundraiser is the Annual Citrus Sale. The Club, through our Foundation, contributes annually with student scholarships to Glenbard South and Glenbard West. Additionally, scholarships for students attending the College of DuPage, located in Glen Ellyn, are given annually.

The Club is active internationally by sponsoring grants to a school in Uganda, Africa to purchase a bus and truck, helping to provide fresh water to a village in South America and to needy children in India. The Club is committed to providing at least \$2,000 per year for the next two years to the **End Polio Now** campaign for children in Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Nigeria.

The Club hosts interesting programs and speakers for each weekly meeting.

Highlights of each meeting include 'Happy Fines,' an opportunity for members to share personal news with the rest of the Club. 'Fun and Frolic' with raffles and dollar fines are a part of every fun-filled meeting. The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn is a friendly organization that welcomes visitors and other Rotarians as their guest. Please feel free to contact any of the officers or directors for additional information.

The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn is an active participant in community activities such as buying groceries for needy families in the community and purchasing backpacks and holiday gifts for their children. The Club works as a team in projects such as cleaning up the Prairie Path, rebuilding a porch at a foster care house and walking and raising funds for the ALS Foundation (Lou Gehrig's disease).

*Enjoy your visit with us.*

## ***Historical Highlights of Rotary International***

### **The Early Years:**

**1905:** Paul Harris founded the first Rotary club in Chicago to foster professional networking and community involvement.

**1908:** Rotary expanded with the second club in San Francisco, and by 1910, 16 clubs formed the National Association of Rotary Clubs.

**1910:** The first Rotary convention was held in Chicago, marking a significant step in unifying the growing number of clubs.

**1912:** The organization became the International Association of Rotary Clubs.

**1919:** Rotary extended its reach to South America, Asia, and Oceania, with clubs chartered in Montevideo, Manila, and Melbourne, respectively.

### **International Growth and Focus on Peace (1921-1945):**

**1921:** Rotary reached six continents, leading to the adoption of the name Rotary International in 1922.

**1921:** Rotary prioritized peace, adding the advancement of international goodwill to its constitution.

**1945:** Rotary was present at the founding of the United Nations, solidifying its commitment to global cooperation.

### **Focus on Service and Eradication Efforts (1957-Present):**

**1957:** Rotary launched its first polio immunization campaign.

**1985:** The PolioPlus program was established, marking a major global effort to eradicate polio.

**1988:** Rotary joined the United Nations' Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

**2000s:** Rotary continued its focus on polio eradication, reaching milestones like the end of polio in India and ongoing efforts in remaining endemic countries.

**2020s:** Rotary adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to focus on areas like climate action and environmental sustainability.

# *Most Frequently Asked Questions about Rotary*

## *When, where, and by whom was Rotary organized?*

Rotary began through the efforts of four Chicago men. Each represented a different occupation: mining engineering, the coal industry, merchant tailoring, and the law. The attorney, Paul P. Harris, first conceived the idea of Rotary. To him is credited the vision which culminated in the worldwide Rotary movement. The first meeting was held in Chicago on February 23, 1905.

## *When did Rotary take on an international character?*

The international character of Rotary dates from the Duluth convention in 1912. At this convention Canada was represented by a delegation from the Winnipeg Club. During this convention, a cabled application was received from London, England. The official title adopted was the *International Association of Rotary Clubs*. This title was later changed to *Rotary International*.

## *Why was the name 'Rotary' adopted?*

In the beginning of the organization, the meetings were held in rotation at the offices of the members. Now the management of each Rotary Club “rotates” annually.

## *What is a Rotary Club?*

A Rotary Club is an association of persons united to practice the ideal of service; service to Rotary and to others on behalf of Rotary.

## *What is the principle of membership?*

Active membership in a Rotary Club consists of representation from no more than five persons in each classification of business or a profession.

## *What is the motto of Rotary?*

The motto of Rotary is *Service Above Self*.

## *What is the object of Rotary?*

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise as expressed through the Four Avenues, or opportunities, for service.

## *What are the Four Avenues for Service?*

Club Service  
Community Service  
International Service  
Vocational Service

## *How is Club Service defined in Rotary?*

Club Service in Rotary means those things that Rotarians do to help make successful Rotary Clubs. Rotarians serve their clubs by:

Developing acquaintances.  
Attending meetings.  
Participating in its fellowship.  
Taking part in programs.  
Assisting in welcoming new members.  
Serving on committees.  
Serving as a director or an officer.  
Paying dues.  
Representing the Club in activities outside of the regular meetings such as conferences or conventions.

## *How is Community Service defined in Rotary?*

Community Service is defined in Rotary as those things Rotarians do in their many community relationships, which demonstrate thoughtfulness and helpfulness. These acts may be performed by the Rotarian as an individual, or in conjunction with others, Rotarians and non-Rotarians. They vary greatly, according to local conditions. They include civic, educational, patriotic, and philanthropic enterprises on behalf of community children, youth, health, recreation, and many others.

In substance, Rotarians believe that if there is a job to be done in a com-

munity and there is no other organization to do it, the Club might take steps to get it started and build it into a Community Project. However, if there is a suitable organization to do it, then the Club might cooperate and strengthen the efforts rather than to duplicate those efforts.

### *How is International Service defined in Rotary?*

International Service is defined as those things a Rotarian can do to advance international understanding, good will, and peace. This can be accomplished by becoming acquainted with other people of other countries, and their cultures, customs, accomplishments, aspirations, and problems. Rotarians do this through personal contact in their own community, by travel and by attending Rotary meetings in other countries, by attendance at international conventions, through reading and correspondence, and through cooperation in all Rotary Club activities that will be helpful to those in other lands.

### *How is Vocational Service defined in Rotary?*

The obligation of holders of Rotary Classifications is to share with others the ideal of service in all the personal relationships in their business or profession.

### *What is “The Four-Way Test?”*

A convenient measuring stick for all human relations, consisting of four simple statements is Rotary’s “Four-Way Test”:

Of the things we think, say or do -

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

### *What are benefits a Rotarian derives from being a member of a Rotary Club?*

An opportunity to learn the true meaning of *Service Above Self*.

The opportunity to become better acquainted with outstanding persons in the community.

The development of many true and helpful friendships.

Stimulation of one's mind to travel in unfrequented channels of thought.

Obtaining enlightenment as to the work, problems and successes of others.

An opportunity to obtain a broad outlook on one's business or profession from the standpoint of its contribution to the well-being of its employees, customers, shareholders, and suppliers.

Receiving help and inspiration to participate more effectively in the activities, which make the community a better place to live.

### *What obligations do new Rotarians assume?*

To attend meetings regularly.

To do their part when called upon.

To be big-hearted, broad-minded, have energy and action.

To be active in support of those endeavors which make humans better.

To pay dues promptly.

### *Why is attendance at Rotary Club meetings so important?*

A Rotarian's interest in the Club and the Club's values as well as the Rotarian's value to the Club are in direct proportion to contact with fellow Rotarians at Club meetings.

### *Why does Rotary limit membership in a Rotary Club to representation from only five of each classification?*

The principal reasons for this limitation are:

It enables the Club to be a true cross-section of the business and professional life of the community.

It develops fellowship based on diversity of interest instead of similarity of interest.

It prevents the Club from being dominated by one business or professional group.

It makes a membership more valuable and enables the Club to demand attendance.

### *What are the kinds of membership in a Rotary Club?*

- Active
- Honorary

### *What are the qualifications for Active Membership in a Rotary Club?*

Each active member shall be an adult person of good character and enjoy business or professional reputation. They should be engaged as proprietor, partner, corporate officer, or manager of a worthy and recognized business or profession; or they should hold an important position in an executive capacity with discretionary authority in a worthy and recognized business or profession. In the last case, they should have entire charge of the agency or branch in an executive capacity. In all categories they must be personally and actively engaged in the business or profession, which the classification is granted.

### *Do membership classifications of members describe their positions with the firm, or the business in which they are engaged?*

Classifications held by Rotary Club members reflect either the primary activity of their firm or the work they do within the firm. For example, an accountant with a railroad could hold either the classification of 'Railroads' or 'Accounting.'

### *What is the understanding of Rotary on politics?*

Rotary is non-political and Clubs shall not endorse nor recommend any candidates for public office and shall not discuss at any Club meeting the merits of any candidate. The Club shall not take any action endorsing or condemning any measure, which is to be submitted to the vote of the people.



### *What is Rotary International and its purpose?*

Rotary International is an association of all the Rotary Clubs in the world. It is an organization comprised of 1.2 million volunteer business and professional leaders, united worldwide to provide humanitarian service and help build goodwill and peace.

About 32,000 Rotary Clubs in more than 200 countries conduct projects to address challenges including literacy, disease, hunger, poverty, lack of clean water, and environmental concerns, while encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations.

### *Is a Rotarian a member of Rotary International?*

No. The Rotarian is a member of a Rotary Club, and the Club is a member of Rotary International.

### *How is membership in Rotary International constituted?*

Rotary is usually restricted to one Club from each well defined local, political or governmental subdivision: city or county. However, when a city, borough, or municipal area already has a Rotary Club, but has a well defined commercial or trade center, an additional club or clubs may be formed. Each club's charter is approved by Rotary International.

### *Where is the International Headquarters of Rotary International?*

Evanston, Illinois.

### *Does Rotary International have any other offices?*

Yes. There are regional offices in Zurich, Switzerland; Stockholm, Sweden; Sao Paulo, Brazil; Sydney, Australia; Tokyo, Japan; Seoul, Korea; Delhi, India; Manila, Philippines; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and London, United Kingdom.

### *What is the emblem of Rotary International?*

A gear wheel with six spokes, twenty four cogs and a keyway, colors are royal blue-and gold, inscribed with the words: **Rotary International**.

*May Rotarians use the Rotary emblem on their business stationery, or in any commercial manner?*

No. The emblem must not be used in this way.

*What is the official magazine of Rotary International?*

The *Rotarian*, a monthly magazine, is the official magazine of Rotary International. The editorial and business offices are located in Evanston, Illinois.

*What is a Rotary District?*

Rotary International is divided into Districts for administrative purposes. Each District is presided over by a District Governor, nominated annually at the District Conference and elected at the next International Convention. The District Governor takes office on July 1st and acts under the direction of the Board of Directors of Rotary International.

As Rotary has grown in membership and the number of Rotary Clubs has increased, the number of Districts has also increased. The Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn is one of over 70 clubs in District 6440.

*What is a Rotary District Conference?*

It is a meeting of Rotarians held annually in each District. The purpose of the conference is to further the program of Rotary through fellowship, inspirational addresses, and discussions relating to District affairs and Rotary International generally.

*What is the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International?*

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International was established in 1917. It has as its basic objective the furthering of understanding and friendly relations between people of different nations. To achieve the objective, the Rotary Foundation conducts the following programs:

Educational Awards.  
Group Study Exchange.  
Special Grants of an educational or charitable nature.  
Worldwide health, hunger, and humanities projects  
(called the 3-H Program).  
Polio Plus – eradication of polio in the world.

### *What is the Glen Ellyn Rotary Foundation?*

The Glen Ellyn Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation. Its purpose is to accept gifts, contributions, bequests and other legacies for educational, charitable, and other benevolent purposes. This is the organization that is used to support the various projects sponsored by the Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn.

### *When does the Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn meet?*

The Club meets every Thursday at Barone's Restaurant at 475 Pennsylvania Avenue in downtown Glen Ellyn from 12:00 pm-1:20 pm (or ends sooner depending on the program).

### *Where can I learn more about Rotary International?*

For more information about Rotary International, visit **[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)**.



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