

Rotary Club of South Haven **Orientation for New Members**

Rotary is a service organization with a variety of both local and international projects. Rotary members share a passion for and commitment to enhancing communities and improving lives locally and around the world. Being a member is an opportunity to take action and make a difference. We are an inclusive organization with a goal to achieve a membership that is reflective of our community.

A current club member will set up time to sit down with you to go over important information about our local organization and Rotary International including how we interact with that organization, our local organization, how to contact Rotary members, setting up a My Rotary account, calendar of events and expectations as a Rotary member. Much of this information will also be in your membership package, on the Rotary International website or our local website.

Rotary International

Rotary is an International Organization with groups in over 250 countries and geographical areas. While each club is autonomous all clubs are part of Rotary International. The core values of Rotary include integrity, diversity, service, leadership and fellowship.

The organizational structure:

- Rotary International
- Regional Zones- 34
- Districts- 530
- Local clubs- over 35,000

You can learn more about Rotary by taking courses on Rotary's Learning Center

More information can be found in your membership packet in the Rotary Basics booklet or www.rotary.org

- You can create your own account by downloading: How to Create a My Rotary Account located on the rotary.com website.
- Be sure to check out Page 27 of Rotary Basics to learn how to Optimize Your Membership Experience.

District and Local Club

District

- Our Rotary club is part of district 6360 which has elected officers that support the clubs in our district. The district supports meetings and training for club officers.
- District 6360 also has a foundation separate from Rotary International from which we can apply for grants for local projects.
 - We contribute to this foundation by buying raffle tickets each year.
 - The district web-page is located at www.district6360.com where you can find additional information.

South Haven 6360

- Meetings are Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Currently we meet on Zoom.
 - Club members arrive beginning as early as 6:30 am. The meeting is called to order at 7:00 am and the formal portion of the meeting may start anytime between 7:00 and 7:10 We generally have a program that generally starts at 7:30 and ends at before 8:00.
- Our current board of:
 - President: Dan Thompson
 - President Elect : Bill Roberts
 - Secretary: Rhonda Wendzel
- Webpage: www.southhavenrotary.org
- Facebook: Rotary Club of South Haven, Michigan

Club Member Responsibilities

Financial obligation:

- Annual dues are \$50.00, a portion goes to run Rotary international and a portion goes to run our local club.
- \$100.00 goes to Rotary International
- Continental breakfast served at weekly meetings \$2 for coffee/tea, \$1 for roll
- Each member is invoiced four times a year for dues and fees.
 - The annual club dues and Rotary International yearly dues are invoiced in January of each year.
 - The Rotary Foundation \$100.00 contribution is assessed in \$25.00 increments each quarter.
 - \$100.00 annual contribution to the Scholarship fund in June
 - Meals you sign up for at other events.
 - At each meeting you'll have a chance to buy a 50/50 ticket \$1.00 for one or three for \$2.00. The club Sargent at Arms will draw the winning number for half of the pot and a second drawing for \$2.00.
 - If you have the winning number, you draw a card which gives you a chance at half the pot. You have a 2 in 7 chance of cashing. If you don't win the pot rolls over till the next meeting.
 - Fines are levied at each for things like having your picture in the

newspaper, or birthdays and anniversaries at \$1.00 for each one.

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Once you have become a member someone will reach out to you to go over the financial information.

- Attendance – Weekly attendance is strongly recommended. Rotary has a tradition of members attending a meeting no matter where they are in the world. If you are out of town use the Rotary International Website to find a meeting near to you.
- Meeting Greeter – Every July a new calendar comes out identifying two members are who are responsible to greet the membership at each meeting. If you are unavailable for the meeting assigned, please arranged to trade or have someone cover for you.
- Program Chair – Every July a calendar comes out identifying the program chair for each meeting. One member is assigned the responsibility to arrange for a program for each meeting. Your responsibilities are to identify someone from the community or other organization to come in and give a 30-minute presentation. You can even nominate yourself to be the speaker. If you are unavailable for the meeting assigned please find someone to trade program dates with. If you are unable to come up with a program, check with board members or other members for ideas.
- Fundraising projects –
 - o Sign-up sheets are sent around during our weekly meetings for you to indicate your interest in helping out.
 - o We distribute the proceeds to local organizations/non-profits as grantsKey fundraising events include:
 - Scholarship fundraiser in April
 - Blueberry pancake breakfast in July and August?
 - Haven Harvest in October
 - o Key service events:
 - o We provide information during meetings, on Facebook and in meeting minutes where volunteers are needed for other projects.

New member checklist:

- Complete application
- Initial meeting with mentor
- Meet with Paul Hix to understand financial obligations
- Attend a local board meeting
- Visit Rotary International website
 - o Looked through offerings on the Learning center
- Visit South Have Rotary website
- Create a My Rotary account
- Read the Rotary Foundation Reference Guide and Connect for Good