

How to Become a Member

Individuals interested in getting involved in Rotary are encouraged to start by attending three club meetings on Thursday morning (7:00 am) and at least one First Thursday speaker series (5:15 pm). This way you will get to know both the other members and what Rotary does in the community and beyond. After this, you are asked to submit an application, attend an orientation session and begin participating in club events and activities. With membership, you will be asked to commit to three areas where you will actively participate.

Membership Commitments

Attend 60% of the meetings

Pay annual dues

Buy coupons to cover the cost of morning breakfast

Participate in the weekly Thursday morning "Happy Thoughts" and raffle.

Arrange for two speakers during the course of the year for morning meetings

Serve as Sergeant of Arms and Greeter

Participate in three service activities and/or "behind the scenes" tasks like organizing an event, helping to manage the website, posting on Facebook, submitting publicity etc.



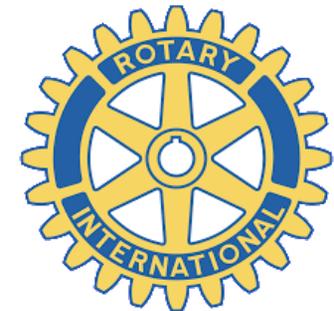
Youth Services

The Chester Rotary Club works with youth through an International Exchange Program. We welcome exchange students into our community and support three host families with whom the exchange students live. Exchange students have come from Spain, Ecuador, Thailand, and Brazil and have been great additions to our community. We also support GMUHS students who are interested in spending a year abroad through a Rotary program and guide them through the application and interview process. Rotarians provide coordination, counseling, and general support to both the exchange students and their host families.

Rotary also sponsors and works with Interact, a local service club at Green Mountain Union High School. Interact students attend Rotary meetings and provide support for our service projects including Fall Festival, Kurn Hattin Christmas Giving Program, Scholarship Auction, and the Golf Tournament. Likewise, we support their activities, help them with planning and publicity for their events and provide mentoring. Working with Interact students is a rewarding way to get to know some of the great high school students in Chester and to see the many ways they contribute to our community.

Rotary Club of Chester Vermont
Website
<http://portal.clubrunner.ca/2919>
Email
chestervrotary@gmail.com

Rotary Club of Chester, VT



Service Above Self

Brief History of Rotary

Rotary began in Chicago in 1905. Paul Harris, a young lawyer, invited three friends, engaged in different organizations, to form a club to promote friendship and occupational understanding. Originally, the meeting locations "rotated" among members' offices, hence the name "Rotary". By 1910, there were 16 clubs in the United States. Early mottos recognized Rotary's commitment to the idea of service, "He Profits Most Who Serves Best" and "Service Above Self." In 1989, the Rotary International Council on Legislation established "Service Above Self" as the organization's principal motto.



Welcome to Rotary International

Rotary is an International service association of more than 34,000 clubs in 180 countries around the world. Over one million men and women constitute the membership of these clubs which share the purposes of providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and building good will and peace in the world. They give life to the Rotary motto... *Service Above Self.*

Opportunities To Serve Through Chester Rotary

Fall Festival: Largest annual event in Chester featuring local artists

Kurn Hattin Gift Giving: Christmas gifts are distributed to one hundred at risk residential students

CAES Book Distribution: Personalized books are distributed to first graders at CAES

Easter Egg Hunt: Organization of Easter egg hunt for preschoolers and elementary aged children

Scholarship Auction & Dinner: Fundraiser for GMUHS scholarships

Herricks Cove Wildlife Festival: Hog Dog and Burger Sale: Sell hot dogs and burgers at largest nature event in the area

Golf Tournament: June alumni weekend

Picnic for Exchange Student & Scholarship Winners

Concerts on the Green: Five Outdoor summer concerts

Clam Bake: Fellowship for local Rotarians

Red Nose Fundraiser: Money raised to fight children's poverty in Chester

Rotary FAQ's

- Rotary's Wheel Emblem - The first design was made by Chicago Rotarian Montague Bear, an engraver who drew a simple wagon wheel, with a few lines to show dust and motion. The wheel was said to illustrate "Civilization and Movement." In 1923, the present gear wheel, with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by the "Rotary International Association."
- The 4-Way Test - The 4-Way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943.

"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?"
- Women in Rotary - Until 1989, the Constitution and Bylaws of Rotary International stated that Rotary club membership was for males only. In 1978 the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, invited three women to become members. The RI board withdrew the charter of that club for violation of the RI Constitution. The club brought suit against RI claiming a violation of a state civil rights law which prevents discrimination of any form in business establishments or public accommodations. The appeals court and the California Supreme Court supported the Duarte position that Rotary could not remove the club's charter merely for inducting women into the club. The United States Supreme Court upheld the California court indicating that Rotary clubs do have a "business purpose" and are in some ways public-type organizations. This action in 1987 allowed women to become Rotarians in any jurisdiction having similar "public accommodation" statutes.