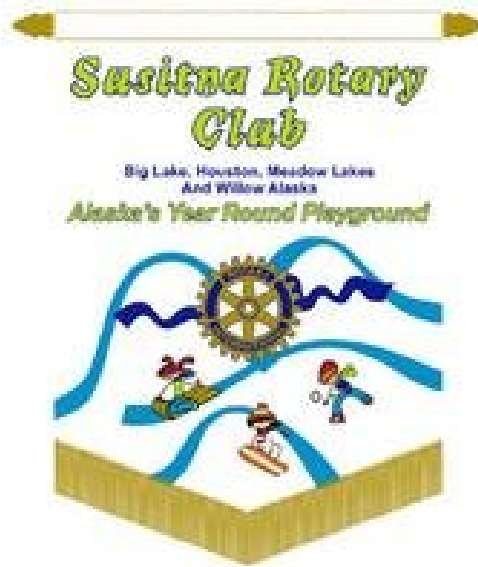


ROTARY CLUB OF SUSITNA

2007 - 2019



NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Updated 3/28/2019

Welcome to the Susitna Rotary Club!

The day you join the Susitna Rotary Club, it suddenly becomes a new club since your distinct personality, ideas, and participation give our club a new character and collective personality. The Susitna Rotary Club is composed of highly distinct individuals who, when they come together as Rotarians, create something special. When we lose a member, we all feel a loss and when we gain a new member, we are immediately aware of a significant new addition that will impact our club.

Each member has a great opportunity to bring new ideas and enthusiasm to our Rotary club. Your membership will further strengthen Susitna Rotary and we eagerly look forward to your active participation.

This "guide" will help orient you to club activities and describe the many facets of Rotary.

How You Were Selected

A current member who knows you as a friend or business acquaintance proposed you for membership. That member is your sponsor and will be responsible to help you become involved in club activities. Ask the member to assist you whenever you have questions about Rotary. All members have been informed by special notice of your proposed membership.

Rotary cannot be likened to a country club or a fraternal lodge. There are responsibilities and opportunities far beyond those of simply "belonging" and attending occasional luncheons with a congenial group of men and women. You will find your horizons broadened as you make new friends who are active in a wide variety of occupations and professions around the Mat-Su Valley.

A Word about "Classification"

A member holds a "classification" which is the business or professional designation for your vocation. You are regarded as an outstanding representative of your vocational classification in our community to merit membership. Rotary strives to have a wide variety of classifications represented among its members.

Mission

The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders. [See the RI Strategic Plan.](#)

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- **FIRST.** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND.** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- **THIRD.** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH.** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Service in Rotary

Service is the all-important Rotary principle. You will hear these mottoes many times: "Service above Self" and "He Profits Who Serves Best."

Rotary clubs exist for the purpose of giving men and women an organized outlet to do something for others in their community in an organized manner, which could not be done as well by the individual working alone. You become a member of Rotary Club, which in turn, is one of over 34,000 clubs worldwide in over 164 countries with total membership exceeding 1,200,000. Rotary International is headquartered in Evanston, Illinois.

As a Rotarian you will enjoy both the company of other men and women in your own community and the pleasure of working with them for the good of your community.

And Most Important of All: The Four-Way Test

The essence of Rotary is summed up in the famous "Four-Way Test":

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?

If we abide by this test in whatever we do in our personal lives and in our chosen vocations, we will be well on our way toward leading productive lives that are sensitive

to the needs and feelings of our fellow men and women. You are now a member of an organization that is attempting every day to raise the standards of conduct between human beings. We enlist your participation and support in this endeavor.

Avenues of Service

For years, Rotary's commitment to Service Above Self has been channeled through the Avenues of Service, which form the foundation of club activity.

- **Club Service** focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club. Learn about effective club service in [Membership](#) and [Training](#).
- **Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards. Observed each October, [Vocational Service Month](#) spotlights Rotary club projects related to this avenue, offering opportunity for clubs and districts to use their professional skills in service projects.
 - [An Introduction to Vocational Service](#)
 - [Model Project Submission Form](#)
 - [Vocational Service PowerPoint presentation](#)
 - [Rotary Code of Conduct](#) (formerly called: *Declaration of Rotarians in Business and Professions*)
 - [Vocational Service Speeches - International Assembly 2003-2011](#)
- **Community Service** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.
 - [Community in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects \(605A-EN\)](#)
 - [Community Assessment Tools \(605C-EN\)](#)
 - [Community Service PowerPoint presentation](#)
 - [Rotary Community Corps](#)
- **International Service** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace. Rotarians can support International Service by sponsoring a project in another country, seeking international project partners to support projects in their own communities, or by personally volunteering at an international project site. Visit the [ProjectLINK](#) database to post a project in need of assistance, find projects to support, or learn about successfully completed projects to replicate.
- **New Generations Service** recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities as [RYLA](#),

[Rotaract](#) and [Interact](#), service projects, and creating international understanding with [Rotary Youth Exchange](#).

You will have an opportunity to serve in one or more of these areas. You need not wait to be asked--you may volunteer at any time. Part of your responsibility as a Rotarian is to participate.

The Susitna Rotary Club serves its community in many ways including awarding scholarships to local students, Houston Founder's Day, Coats for Kids, lake and creek cleanups, school supplies, Salvation Army bell ringing, building a pavilion at Palmer Hay Flats, international service projects and more.

Welcome to the Susitna Rotary Club! We look forward to your active participation.

Fundraising

Each year we host the Little Su Float Classic and Clean-up, conduct auctions, or some other event to raise funds for our service projects. These require many hours of work on the part of Susitna Rotarians. They will provide an excellent way for you as a new member to become involved in your club and to meet fellow members.

Club Organization

Each Rotary Club is an independent organization, which meets the standards of Rotary International by complying with requirements for charter organization and bylaws. We conform in all of the basic requirements in order to maintain our association with the thousands of other Rotary clubs throughout the world. In all local matters we are an independent, democratic group.

Our club officers are much as other clubs: We have a president, vice-president/president-elect, secretary, and treasurer. Our Board of Directors is composed of the above officers, our immediate past president and one or more directors for each of the Avenues of Service. The officers are elected annually each December, and they take office at the beginning of the Rotary Year on July 1. Thus, all the new officers and directors know in what capacity they will serve months before they take office, so they can prepare for their responsibilities.

The Board of Directors meets monthly immediately following the club meeting on the last meeting of each month. Board meetings are open; any member may attend and contribute his ideas. Attending board meetings is an excellent way of informing yourself about club activities and finding activities in which you can participate.

Our Rotary District 5010

Rotary worldwide is divided into over 520 districts, with an average of 45 clubs in each district. Our district has 40 clubs and stretches from the Yukon Territory of Canada and throughout Alaska. We have over 1,700 members in our district. All club meeting times and locations are listed in this guide.

There is a district governor for each Rotary district. He/she is an outstanding Rotarian with many years of service who has been honored by the clubs in their district by their selection as governor for one year. They have a very responsible job to promote the well being of every Rotary club in their district. The district governor visits every club in district 5010 during their one-year term and also serves as an official delegate at the annual Rotary International Convention.

Conferences, Conventions, and Institutes

District 5010 holds a district conference each spring. It is a practical and inspirational exchange of ideas. The incoming president is required to attend each year and all members are encouraged to attend. A training institute called the District Assembly is usually held the day before the conference, providing the opportunity to learn more about Rotary and to work with fellow Rotarians from around the district. There is also an annual convention of Rotary International held in the different countries each year.

Membership

Effective with the 2016 Rotary International Legislative Session, there are two types of memberships in Rotary:

1. Active; and
2. Honorary.
3. Associate
4. Corporate
5. Family or other type

One of the great truisms of life is "no man was ever honored for what he received; he is honored for what he gave." Thus, in Rotary, memberships are not had for the asking; they are earned.

The only mandatory qualifications for membership are that Rotarians must be adults who have demonstrated good character, integrity and leadership; have a good reputation in their business, profession and community; and are willing to serve in their community and around the world.

An Honorary Member is a person who has distinguished himself by service to Rotary, and who resides within the territorial limits of this club. The Board of Directors elects honorary Members to this status on an annual basis.

Dues, Fines, and Initiation Fees

Membership dues consist of RI per capita dues, subscription fees to The Rotarian or Rotary regional magazine, district per capita dues, club annual dues, and any other Rotary or district per capita assessment. Club annual dues are \$200 per year and covers the above mentioned RI dues, district dues and the Rotary Magazine Subscription. Members under 30 and 65 years of age and older will pay \$100 per year. Those who join July1-Dec 1 will pay prorated dues. Those joining Jan1-July1 pay prorated dues.

Dues may be paid in full by July 1st of each year or split in two payments the first being due July 1st and the second by Jan. 1st of each year.

Locally, our dues income pays for club supplies, social meeting costs, and a variety of minor club necessities, which do add up over the course of a year. Additional small amounts help cover the expenses of Rotary headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, and our district office expenses. Dues not used for these purposes are saved for charitable contributions given each year to international and community activities sponsored by the club.

One of the time-honored traditions in many Rotary clubs is fining fellow members for just about any reason; i.e. late arrival at meetings, cell phone going off (or even worse, being answered) at a meeting, forgetting to wear your Rotary pin, etc. It's simply a humorous and highly effective way of building the club treasury so the club can support numerous civic activities, exchange students, and the Rotary Foundation. "Fine money" goes to worthy causes. Fines are usually modest and no member is fined frequently. We do encourage you to wear your Rotary pin every day and share "happy bucks" at the club meetings. Our club encourages "Happy Bucks" which sometimes are a self-fining donation, if you are late, etc. but some Rotary clubs do have "fines". All are done in good spirit and none are excessive.

Classification Talks are a frequent feature at club meetings during the year. As a new member, you will have a chance to give a short (2-5 minutes) talk including some comments about yourself and family, and especially about your occupation. Why you wanted to join Rotary and how the 4 Way Test influences your life decisions.

Club Roster

Our club maintains an online Membership Roster containing each member's photograph, their home, business addresses, telephone numbers, emails, names of spouse and children (if applicable,) and their interests. Members are encouraged to go to the [Rotary Club of Susitna](#) website and login to keep your profile updated, access your attendance record, club roster, and more. Corrections to your listing may also be giving to the club secretary.

The club roster is never used by any member as a mailing list to promote their business. Rotarians are not banded together for the purpose of trading business.

Naturally, business does flow from one to the other simply because it is natural to do business with those you know and trust. However, Rotary membership does not presume that you will or must do business with fellow Rotarians. Use your roster so that you can recognize members in the club and make friends faster.

Communications

A part of your dues also pays for your subscription to the official magazine of Rotary, the ROTARIAN. It describes the many activities of Rotary International and also contains many good articles on timely subjects of general interest.

Your club bulletin is published weekly and tells of happenings and events in the club, news of new members, programs for forthcoming luncheon meetings and other special announcements. The bulletin editor is always pleased to receive items from you of interest to the general membership. Please contact them regarding your reactions to the bulletin and any news items you think should appear in it. Also you can get information from Susitna Rotary's Facebook page : https://www.facebook.com/SusitnaRotary/?ref=br_rs

Why Attendance is Important

One of your responsibilities of membership is faithful attendance. Regular attendance is a direct measure of how important Rotary is to you. You are extremely important to Rotary or you would not be a member in the first place. Regular attendance by almost all of our members is why we have an interesting and worthwhile association with each other.

Our monthly Program Chairs provide a wide variety of stimulating speakers from a wide cross section of the Matsu Valley and Alaska. In fact, we make a special effort to hear from people of all walks of life so we can learn more about our community, its problems, and its opportunities. In this way, Rotary serves each one of us by broadening our horizons.

Speakers want to talk to you and they appreciate the fact that you are an "exclusive" representative of your business or profession. If you do not attend, you are missed, and you miss an opportunity to learn more about Matsu and Alaska.

Make your Rotary attendance a good habit. Sure, sometimes it is difficult to get away from a busy day's work but make Rotary an essential part of your week. Place it on your schedule as you do other appointments

Attendance is considered so important that Rotary International has a regulation providing for the automatic suspension of any member after they miss four consecutive meetings, unless specifically excused by the local club's Board of Directors.

"Make-ups"

You will hear a great deal about "make-ups." "Making-up" means that you attend another Rotary club meeting when you must be absent from a regular Susitna Rotary Club meeting. If business commitments, travel or illness prohibit you from attending our regular Wednesday evening meeting, you have the privilege to make up by visiting at a regular meeting of another club. We will "bank" your make ups so that when you are ill or go on vacation, we can apply those make ups to your missed meeting. You may also make up meeting by attending an meeting of the Rotary E Club. Go to <http://www.rotaryclub5010.org/Stories/welcome-to-our-new-website>, click on the meeting tab and follow the prompts. Remember to put your club info in to get credit for the meeting.

Matsu Valley Club Meetings

TUESDAY

Wasilla Sunrise Jack White Bdge. Seward Meridian , Wasilla 7:00 am

WEDNESDAY

Wasilla The Grill, Wasilla 12:00 Noon

Susitna Sky Lounge, Extreme Fun Center, Wasilla 6:00 pm

THURSDAY

Palmer Palmer City Ale House , Palmer 12:00 Noon

Eagle River Area Piccolino's, Eagle River 12:00 Noon

Eagle River Area Bear Mt. Grill, Eagle River 7:00 am

ALASKA-YUKON SCHEDULES www.rotary5010.org

College	Location:	Raven's Landing	Monday 12:00 PM
	Meeting Time:	Monday 12:00 PM	
	Meeting Place:	1222 Cowles St. Fairbanks, AK 99709-4619	
Kenai	Location:	Ididarod Cafe	Tuesday 12:00 PM
	Meeting Time:	Tuesday 12:00 PM	
	Meeting Place:	205 S. Willow St Kenai, AK 99611	
Anchorage Russian Jack	Location:	Westmark Anchorage	Tuesday 7:00 AM
	Meeting Time:	Tuesday 7:00 AM	
	Meeting Place:	720 W. Fifth Ave Anchorage, AK 99501-2118	

[Wasilla Sunrise](#) Location: Jack White Building Tuesday 7:00 AM
Meeting Time: Tuesday 7:00 AM
Meeting Place: 865 N. Seward Meridian Pky
Wasilla, AK 99687

[Whitehorse Rendezvous](#) Location: Yukon Inn - Alder room Tuesday 7:00am
Meeting Time: Tuesday 7:00am
Meeting Place: 4220 4th Ave.
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1K1
Canada

[Anchorage](#) Location: Dena'ina Center Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 600 W 7th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99501

[Juneau](#) Location: Baranof Hotel Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 127 N. Franklin St
Treadwell Room
Juneau, AK 99801-1222

[Ketchikan 2000](#) Location: Cape Fox Lodge Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 800 Venetia Way
Ketchikan, AK 99901

[Kodiak Noon](#) Location: Best Western Kodiak Inn Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 236 W Rezanof Drive
Kodiak, AK 99615-0652

[Seward](#) Location: Breeze Inn Tuesday 12:00 PM
 Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:00 PM
 Meeting Place: Marathon Meeting Room
 1306 Seward Highway
 Seward, AK 99664

[Sitka](#) Location: Westmark Sitka Tuesday 12:00 PM
 Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:00 PM
 Meeting Place: 330 Seward St.
 Sitka, AK 99835

[Fairbanks](#) Location: Golden Heart Running Club Tuesday 5:30 PM
[Golden Heart](#) Meeting Time: Tuesday 5:30 PM
 Meeting Place: Westmark Hotel
 814 Noble St.
 Fairbanks, AK 99709

[Kenai River -](#) Location: Nikko Garden Restaurant Tuesday 6:30 PM
[Soldotna](#) Meeting Time: Tuesday 6:30 PM
 Meeting Place: 36100 Kenai Spur Highway
 Soldotna, AK 99669

[Kodiak](#) Location: Best Western Kodiak Inn Wednesday 7:00 AM
[Morning](#) Meeting Time: Wednesday 7:00 AM
[Rotary](#) Meeting Place: 236 W Rezanof Drive
 Kodiak, AK 99615-6044

[Anchorage](#) Location: Hilton Hotel Wednesday 12:00 PM
[East](#) Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:00 PM
 Meeting Place: 500 W. 3rd Ave.
 Anchorage, AK 99501

[Juneau-Glacier](#) Location: Alaska Room, Juneau Intl. Airport Wednesday 12:00 PM
[Valley](#) Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:00 PM

Meeting Place: 1873 Shell Simmons Drive
Juneau, AK 99803

[Nome](#)

Location: Airport Pizza
Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: Bering and Seppala
Nome, AK 99762

Wednesday 12:00 PM

[North Pole](#)

Location: Mt. McKinley Bank
Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 45 St. Nicholas Dr.
(907) 488-4438
North Pole, AK 99705

Wednesday 12:00 PM

[Petersburg](#)

Location: Salvation Army Hall
Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:00 p.m.
Meeting Place: N. Second Street and Fram Street
PO Box 1172
Petersburg, AK 99833

Wednesday 12:00 p.m.

[Wasilla](#)

Location: The Grill
Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 2900 E. Parks Highway
Wasilla, AK 99654-7358

Wednesday 12:00 PM

[Whitehorse](#)
[Midnight Sun](#)

Location: Alder Room - The Yukon Inn
Meeting Time: Tuesday 12:10 PM
Meeting Place: 4220 4th Ave.
Alder Room
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 1K1
Canada

Tuesday 12:10 PM

[Barrow Nuvuk](#)

Location: New Top of the World Hotel
Meeting Time: Wednesday 5:30 PM

Wednesday 5:30 PM

Meeting Place: Barrow, AK 99723

[Anchorage
Midtown](#)

Location: Kay's Restaurant
Club: Anchorage Midtown
Meeting Time: Wednesday 6:00 PM
Meeting Place: 3002 Spenard Road
Anchorage, AK 99503

Wednesday 6:00 PM

[Homer
Downtown](#)

Location: Land's End Dining Room
Meeting Time: Tuesdays 6:00 PM
Meeting Place: Homer Spit
Homer, AK 99603

Tuesday 6:00 PM

[Susitna](#)

Location: Settler's Bay Lodge
Meeting Time: Wednesday 6:00 PM
Meeting Place: 5801 South Knik Goose Bay
Wasilla, AK 99654

Wednesday 6:00 PM

[Anchorage
Hillside](#)

Location: Doriola's
Meeting Time: Thursday 7:00 AM
Meeting Place: 510 West Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503

Thursday 7:00 AM

[Juneau-
Gastineau](#)

Location: Prospector Hotel
Meeting Time: Thursday 7:00 AM
Meeting Place: 375 Whittier St.
Juneau, AK 99802

Thursday 7:00 AM

[Ketchikan
First City](#)

Location: Cape Fox Lodge
Club: Ketchikan First City
Meeting Time: Thursday 7:00 AM
Meeting Place: 800 Venetia Way
Ketchikan, AK 99901-5633

Thursday 7:00 AM

[Anchorage South](#)

Location: Aladdin's Restaurant
Club: Anchorage South
Meeting Time: Thursday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 4240 Old Seward Highway
PO Box 100624
Anchorage, AK 99510-0624

Thursday 12:00 PM

[Eagle River Area](#)

Location: Piccolino's 12 noon Eagle River
Meeting Time: Every Thursday at 12:00pm
Meeting Place: Satellite Club meetings 7am-8am at Bear Mountain Grill
(12300 Old Glenn Hwy)
12801 Old Glenn Hwy
Eagle River, AK 99577

Every Thursday at 12:00pm at Piccolino's (12801 Old Glenn Hwy). Satellite Club meetings 7am-8am at Bear Mountain Grill (12300 Old Glenn Hwy)

[Fairbanks](#)

Location: Westmark Fairbanks Hotel
Meeting Time: Thursday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 813 Noble St.
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Thursday 12:00 PM

[Homer-Kachemak Bay](#)

Location: Bidarka Inn
Meeting Time: Thursday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 575 Sterling Hwy.
Homer, AK 99603

Thursday 12:00 PM

[Palmer](#)

Location: Turkey Red
Meeting Time: Thursday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 550 S. Alaska Street Suite 100
Palmer, AK 99645 - 6930

Thursday 12:00 PM

[Soldotna](#)

Location: Mykel's Rest., Soldotna Inn
Club: Soldotna
Meeting Time: Thursday 12:00 PM
Meeting Place: 35041 Kenai Spur Hwy.
Soldotna, AK 99669

Thursday 12:00 PM

Girdwood	Location: Challenge Alaska Meeting Time: Thursday 7:00 PM Meeting Place: 426 Crystal Moutnain Road Girdwood, Ak. 99587	Thursday 7:00 PM
Fairbanks Sunrisers	Location: Carlson Center Meeting Time: Friday 7:00 AM Meeting Place: 2010 Second Avenue Fairbanks, AK 99701	Friday 7:00 AM
Anchorage Gateway	Location: Denny's (Across from Eastside Costco) Meeting Time: Friday 12:00 PM Meeting Place: 3950 DeBarr Road Anchorage, AK 99508-3112	Friday 12:00 PM
Anchorage International	Location: Coast International Inn Meeting Time: Friday 12:00 PM Meeting Place: 3450 Aviation Avenue Anchorage, AK 99510-0516	Friday 12:00 PM
Whitehorse	Location: Westmark Whitehorse Hotel & Conference Centre Meeting Time: Friday 12:10 PM Meeting Place: 201 Wood Street Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2E4 Canada	Friday 12:10 PM

If you are traveling in Alaska or "Outside," go to directory of Rotary club meetings at [Club Locator](#) to find Rotary in virtually any part of the world. This can also be downloaded as an app on your smart phone. You will be warmly welcomed whenever you visit another Rotary club. Make-ups bring you a richness of Rotary experience and an opportunity to make friends, which you could find in no other way. A final reminder: It is your responsibility to be sure that our club secretary is informed of your make-up.

Be sure to register properly when you attend another Rotary luncheon meeting. In this way, you will be properly credited for your attendance.

Early Leaving

Members are expected to attend the entire meeting. If for some reason you must leave early, by all means avoid walking out on the speaker. This is a discourtesy and is a Rotary "no-no." If you must leave early, please leave just prior to the speaker's program. In this manner you will receive credit for attendance (by attending at least 60 percent of your club's meetings).

Our dinner meetings extend for about one hour and normally conclude at 7:00p.m. However, there are a few occasions when the program will extend a few minutes longer than anticipated. We realize that we all work long and busy days, so Rotary tries to make efficient use of our time.

Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation is a charitable organization supported solely by voluntary contributions. Managed by a Board of Trustees and trustee chair, the Foundation provides financial support to help Rotary clubs and districts work together on meaningful, sustainable service. The object of the Rotary Foundation is to further international understanding and the friendly relations among people of this nation through projects of an educational nature.

The Foundation grants graduate fellowships, undergraduate scholarships, technical training awards, and it finances transportation for group study exchanges. Total grants involve millions of dollars and affect thousands of lives every year.

One of Rotary's distinct honors is the Paul Harris Fellow Award (Paul Harris founded Rotary in 1905). A member can become a Paul Harris Fellow by contributing \$1,000 or more to the Foundation. This does not have to be made all at once. A member can make individual contributions or may be honored by being designated a Paul Harris Fellow by their club. One member may honor another by making them a Fellow. Many Rotarians will make their family members Paul Harris Fellows as well. You do not have to be a Rotarian to become a Paul Harris Fellow.

Members are encouraged to become Paul Harris Sustaining Members by contributing \$100 per year to the Rotary Foundation.

Student Exchange Program

The Susitna Rotary Club participates in the Student Exchange Program by assisting other Mat-Su Valley clubs with hosting students and inviting exchange students to local activities. Each year an inbound high school student from another nation visits the Matsu Valley and lives with the families of several of local Rotarians.

Other families help provide stimulating educational opportunities for the inbound student on occasional evenings and weekends.

Also, each year local high school students are selected to go abroad, attend high school in a foreign nation, and live with Rotary families. The Student Exchange Program is an outstanding example of Rotary's emphasis on youth, education and international understanding.

New Member Activities

As a new member of the Susitna Rotary Club, you will be assigned a club mentor and are encouraged to become active in Rotary by completing the following within the first six months of membership:

1. Assist with a club meeting. Perform one of the various activities involved in running weekly meetings. These include leading the Pledge of Allegiance, giving the Thought for the Day, and leading members in reciting the Four Way Test at the end of the meeting.
2. Serve as a greeter welcoming members to the meeting.
3. Attend a Board of Directors meeting. These are scheduled immediately following the Club Assembly on the last meeting of each month.
4. Give a Classification Talk at our club. The talk, about 3-5 minutes in length, should cover both personal and business aspects of your life.
5. Participate in a club service activity.
6. Attend at least one meeting at a different Rotary Clubs. This may be a "make-up" meetings or in addition to your regular attendance at our meetings.
7. Participate in Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) by donating to the Rotary Foundation. You are encouraged to become a Paul Harris sustaining member by contributing \$100 to the Rotary Foundation.
8. Create a "My Rotary Account" on the RI Website
9. Join a committee
10. It is your responsibility to keep track of your fulfillment of the above requirements. You can do so at each weekly meeting by checking the box corresponding to the requirement you have met on the new members program on our Susitna Rotary Website. After logging in, go to member area, and under "membership management" click on New Member Program, and there you will find your check off sheet.

Rotary has a number of seminars and conferences that are held at both the state and national levels. You are encouraged to attend either in person or via the closed-circuit broadcasts held locally when available. These seminars and conferences are a great opportunity to become familiar with Rotary's functions and programs, as well as meet Rotary members from other clubs who share your interests.

History of the Susitna Rotary Club

The Susitna Rotary Club was chartered on January 7, 2007. It was sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of the Mat-Su Valley. The following Rotarians were charter members of the club:

Scott Norman – President

Dale Adams
Ruth Blanchard
Suzi Bock
Rosemary Burnett
Ralph Buzard
Joe Cassidy
Gladys Chambers
Thom Dowell
Steve Frost
Robert Hall
Carla Hendrix
Nora Hull
Jimmy Hull

Mitch Hull
Nola Kurber
Keith Kurber
Cherie LeBlanc-Shu
Sherry Mulhaney
Rolf Numme
Roger Purcell
Angela Rojas
John Root
John Shue
Chuck Tanner
Jack Timm
Kathy Timm

The meetings of the new Susitna Rotary Club began at the Houston Lodge, held at noon on Wednesdays. The club changed its meeting venue in 2009 to the Mid Valley Senior Center. In 2012, the Susitna Rotary Club became an evening club and began meeting at Piccolino's Restaurant from 6:00pm – 7:00pm every Wednesday. In 2016 we moved to Settler's Bay Lodge.

A brief history with the corresponding club president, district governor, and Rotary International President and "theme" for the year is shown below:

Charter Year: January – June, 2007 "Lead the Way"

Club President: Scott Norman

District 5010 Governor: Gayle Knepper (Anchorage East Rotary)

RI President: William B. Boyd (Auckland, New Zealand)



Susitna Rotary Club Charter President was Scott Norman, whose goal it was to start a Rotary Club in the North Valley area. He approached Jack Timm, who lived in the area, with the idea and Jack agreed to help him. Scott was president from 2006 when potential members first started meeting through January 2007 when the club was officially chartered but unfortunately had to leave a couple of months before his term was over.

2007 – 2008 “Rotary Shares”

Club President: Jack Timm

District 5010 Governor: Maynard Gross (Homer-Kachemak Bay)

RI President: Wilfrid J. Wilkinson (Ontario, Canada)

Jack Timm’s year focused on the Houston, Big Lake, and Willow areas. Susitna Rotary started the "Kids Don't Float" and the Lake and River Clean-Up Projects (see photo pulling paper boxes out of lake) that year. We also had a major presence at The Relay for Life MatSu with our club running the auction. We helped with the Houston Founder's Day event, held a VPA Christmas event, helped at Willow Health Fair, and a Luau in November. After his year as president, Jack was recruited by Assistant District Governor (ADG) Sandra DeLucia and to serve as ADG for 2009-2011.



2008 – 2009 “Make Dreams Real”

Club President: Mitch Hull

District 5010 Governor: Clyde Boyer (Wasilla Rotary)

RI President: Dong Kurn Lee (Seoul, Korea)



Mitch Hull took over as president for 2008-2009. His projects included Relay for Life, Christmas Friendship Dinner, Kids Don't Float, Willow Winter Carnival, and Drunk Driving Awareness Classes at Houston High School (photo).



2009 – 2010 “The Future of Rotary Is in Your Hands”

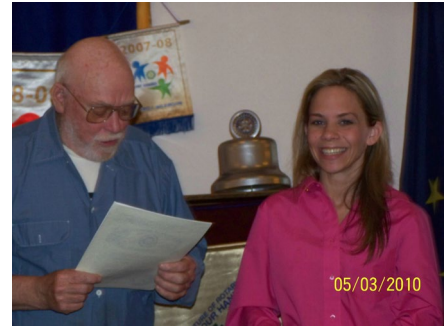
Club President: Ralph Buzard

District 5010 Governor: William Hopper (Anchorage Rotary)

RI President: John Kenny (Grangemouth, Scotland)

In addition to existing club projects, Ralph Buzzard added Coats for Kids and Reading in the School at Big Lake Elementary to the club’s community service.

Club President-elect Kathy Timm was District Literacy chair during this year and the club received the Zone Award for Literacy at the District Conferences in 2010 and 2011



2010 – 2011 “Building Communities – Bridging Continents”

Club President: Kathy Timm

District 5010 Governor: Jane Little (Homer Downtown Rotary)

RI President: Kay Klingensmith (Missouri, USA)

During Kathy's year, the Susitna Club focused on literacy projects including:



- Reading in the classroom at Big Lake Elementary
- Donors Choose
- Advocating for the Big Lake Library,
- Donating books in the name of guest speakers to Big Lake Elementary
- Supported Tapriza School in Nepal
- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- Held a Book Fair in the parking lot of Gorilla Fireworks in conjunction with a “tent” sale

In the international community, the club began the Belize project to supply emergency, medical and fire equipment to the town of Placencia, Belize. Susitna Rotary bought a large metal connex and began to fill it with supplies to ship to Belize. This would be an ongoing project.

We continued with our donation of Coats for Kids and filled the lake kiosks with Kids Don't Float life jackets. That year, we hosted our first exchange student, Zarina Massanova who came to us from Kyrgyzstan, and club members helped with the Willow Health Fair. The club raised \$3,000 from a “Duck Race” and Silent Auction at the Houston Founders Day, and over \$2,000 at a Luau, which has become an annual event.





The Little Su Float Classic, a day long float down the Little Su River, complete with poker run and BBQ was held again and members elected to make it an annual event. These events helped sponsor the Literacy, Youth Exchange and other projects around Meadow Lakes, Big Lake, Willow and Houston.

Last but not least, during Kathy's year we were looking for a project that would leave our mark as Susitna Rotary Club, on the Valley, and so the idea

of an Educational Pavilion was born. It is an ongoing project that will be finalized in 2013.

2011 – 2012 “Reach Within to Embrace Humanity”

Club President: Marty Metiva

District 5010 Governor: Ted Trueblood (Anchorage International Rotary)

RI President: Kalyan Banerjee (Gujarat, India)



The goal in Marty Metiva's year was to grow the club by attracting new members, increasing attendance at weekly meetings, and encouraging all members to participate in several club projects during the year. Susitna Rotary was ultimately changed to a dinner meeting on Wednesday evenings at Piccolino's Restaurant on the Parks Highway. This gave Mat-Su Valley Rotarians three distinct options for meeting times: a morning meeting (Wasilla Sunrise Rotary), lunch meetings (Wasilla Rotary, Palmer Rotary, Eagle River Rotary), and a dinner meeting (Susitna Rotary). The new meeting time proved to be a very popular change and a good recruiting tool for new members.

Susitna Rotary took a leadership role organizing the annual Mat-Su Valley Dinner entitled “Time, Talent, & Treasure” benefiting The Rotary Foundation. All the Valley Rotary clubs participated in this very successful fundraiser, which raised money through a silent and live auction, raffle, and dinner.

In addition to the club's ongoing local community service projects, members provided international service by hosting another youth exchange student and continuing the project in Palencia, Belize. Susitna Rotary was again recognized with the District 5010 Literacy Award for its many projects focused on improving literacy.

The “Rotary After Work” and monthly Saturday breakfast meetings were also initiated in Marty's year to offer Valley Rotarians additional meeting options and encourage fellowship with Rotarians from other Mat-Su Valley clubs.

2012 – 2013 “Peace Through Service”

Club President: Stan Mitchell

District 5010 Governor: Peggy Pollen (Fairbanks Rotary)

RI President: Sakuji Tanaka (Saitama, Japan)

2013 – 2014 “Engage Rotary, Change Lives”

Club President: Cherie LaBlanc-Shue

District 5010 Governor: Sue Foley (Anchorage East Rotary)

RI President: Ron D. Burton (Oklahoma, USA)

Under Cherie Le Blanc Shue's year we finally finished the Palmer Hay Flats Pavilion, which was a big project, cleaned up the Big Lake Library for the United Way day of caring, bought a freezer for the Upper Susitna Food Bank, with the guidance of Marty Metiva, the club helped sponsor the first E Club in Alaska (which is also a big win) We had a successful Little Su Float Classic, and got the Little Su River cleaned up again. The club sponsored the Trapiza School in Nepal once again, and the Mayan coffee project with the Homer Club. We rang the bells for the Salvation Army for Christmas, cleaned up after the Christmas Friendship Dinner, supported local teachers through Donors Choose, contributed to the Special Santa program, and raised money for PolioPlus through an Iditarod Party...just to name a few service projects. We are a small club, but seem to get much done in the community.

2014-15 "LIGHT UP ROTARY"

Club President: Eric Morey

District 5010 Governor: Dick Sutliff (Homer, AK)

RI President: Gary C.K. Huang (Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan)



During Eric Morey's year, we again cleaned up the Big Lake Library for United Way day of caring, we once again had a successful River Clean up during the Little Su Float Classic. We sponsored the Trapiza School and gave a \$1k scholarship to Amanda Carver, one of our Houston High School students. We helped again to clean up the kitchen after Christmas Friendship Dinner, supported Donor choose , maintained the Kid's Don't float kiosks, a RYLA student, and brought Josh the Otter (our new service project of water safety and literacy) to Alaska.

2015-16 "YOU ARE A GIFT TO THE WORLD"

Club President: Phil Horton

District 5010 Governor: Brad Gamble

RI President: Ravi Ravindran Colombo, Western Province, Sri Lanka





During Phil's year, we held two joint fundraisers to support our service projects with Big Lake Lions, applied for and got a grant to take our Josh the Otter water safety and literacy project to all of the Mat Su Borough kindergarden kids. Cleaned the Little Su River and the Big Lake Library Grounds. We increased our support of Donor's Choose by supporting 4 different School projects in the community, once again cleaned up after the Christmas Friendship Dinner, increased our donation to Friends of Dolpa, and helped with the Rotary 5k race to be held in April. Our club in addition is playing a major part planning the District 5010 annual conference to be held May 12-15 in Talkeetna, with 9 of our members on the committee.

2016-17 "ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY"

Our president is Ret. Brigadier General Charles Foster (Chuck)

Club President: Chuck Foster

District 5010 Governor: Michelle O'Brien

RI President: John Germ/ Chattanooga, Tennessee



During Chuck's year, we again held two joint fundraisers to support our service projects with Big Lake Lions, applied for and got a grant to take our Josh the Otter water safety and literacy project to all of the Mat Su Borough kindergarden kids and the Kids Don't Program by erecting a new loaner board on Prator Lake. We cleaned the Little Su River and the Big Lake Library Grounds. We again supported Donor's Choose and Kiva, and once again cleaned up after the Christmas Friendship Dinner, donated to Friends of Dolpa, and helped with the Rotary 5k Running Dead race with the Wasilla Noon Club. We supported scholarships once again, and donated a freezer to the Upper Su Food Pantry. We participated in the Rotary Winterfest to host activities for Kids in the

Valley during Winter break, supported Coats for Kids and Shelter Box.

2017-18 “ MAKING A

DIFFERENCE”

Club President :Cheryl Metiva
District 5010 Governor: Harry Kieling
RI President : Ian Riseley/ Victoria, Australia



During Cheryl's year,we once again held a joint fundraisers to support our service projects with Big Lake Lions, applied for and got a larger grant to take our Josh the Otter water safety and literacy project to all of the Mat Su Borough kindergarden kids and begin pool sessions at Ak. Club and Palmer Pool. We again cleaned the Little Su River and the Big Lake Library Grounds. We supported Donor's Choose and Kiva again cleaned up after the Christmas Friendship Dinner, made our donation to Friends of Dolpa, and helped with the Rotary 5k race with the Wasilla Noon Club. We chaired the Foundation Fundraiser at the Valley Cinema and with the help of the Valley and Eagle River clubs, raised \$33 k to send to the Foundation. In addition, we supported Polio Plus at the Iditarod Party that is held yearly by Kim and Tryg Erickson on Long Lake. Our club in played a major part planning the District 5010 annual conference in Seward, with Cheryl and her Husband Marty again being MC's. A new Fundraiser with the Rotary 5010 E club was well attended. “The French Connection” was held at the Grandview Inn and jointly raised money for both clubs' service projects. We had a big group of members who helped with Literacy by listening to Big Lake and Willow Elementary Kids read weekly, and donated speaker books to Big Lake School Library. We distributed coats to Meadow Lakes School and Supported the Imagination Library. The club built and installed a handicap ramp for a disabled woman in Willow. We supported the district's Kids Care Program, building backpacks for Foster Care kids in Alaska and donated \$1000 for scholarships.

2018-19 “ BE THE INSPIRATION”

Club President: Jack Timm
District 5010 Governor: Diane Fejes
RI President : Barry Rassin/ New Province, Bahamas



During Jack's year, we applied for and got a grant to build a roof over the gas meter at Wasilla Senior Center in addition to putting snow stops on the roof to make the walkway safer. We applied for and got a grant to continue with our Josh the Otter Program and water safety programs. We erected new Life Jacket Loaner boards at Prator Lake, Lalen Lake and continued to stock the other 6 life jacket stations that we have erected in the past. In Jack's year, we dove into Youth Exchange and welcomed our student, Sally, from South Korea in August. Our club again will take the lead on the Foundation Fundraiser in Nov. , begin reading in the classrooms, hold a Luau to raise funds for service projects, continue supporting Tapriza School, Donors Choose, Kiva, Rotary Cares for Kids, the Imagination Library, RYLA, Scholarships. and will clean up the Little Su in May or June