



# New Member Applicant Information Packet

**Are you are interested in being considered for membership in the Pagosa Springs Rotary Clubs?**

## **Benefits of Membership**

**All Rotary clubs aim to serve their community and those in need throughout the world. Through club service projects, members learn more about local and international issues, and can volunteer their time and talents where they are most needed.**

**Club meetings give members the opportunity to build friendships, enrich their professional and personal knowledge, and meet other business leaders in their community. Club meeting times vary to accommodate members' family and professional commitments. Some clubs meet at lunchtime, while others meet in the early morning, after work, or in the evening.**

**Members are welcome to attend meetings at any Rotary club - a practice that guarantees Rotarians a warm welcome in communities around the world. You can even meet online through a Rotary e-club. Find meeting places and times through the online Club Locator tool or the free mobile Rotary Club Locator app.**

The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club has a rich tradition of volunteer work and providing financial support for local, state, national and international service projects. As a local group of dedicated Rotarians, we are looking for qualified business and professional leaders who are interested in and committed to advancing the mission of Rotary.

**A Rotarian has seen in you the qualities that are a worthy representative of your vocation, your interest in the ideals of Rotary, and your willingness to do your share in translating these ideals into action.**

**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

There's something that all Rotary club members have in common: We take action. As community volunteers, we reach out to neighbors in need. We build, support, and organize. We save lives. We work locally and globally.

Around the world and around the corner, the 1.2 million men and women of Rotary

- Get involved in their communities
- Connect with other professionals
- Share their time and experience with young people
- Support global causes, such as eradicating polio
- Use their skills to help others

## Membership Expectations:

**As with any endeavor worthy of such high accomplishments – there are expectations of a New Member Applicant and those expectations are detailed in this Information Packet.**

As you are considering New Membership Application Packet, it is important to remember that you are considering becoming a part of an International group of professionals who strive for the highest ethical behavior in their personal life and career. As a new Rotarian, you may find that enhanced business relationships develop in the course of building friendships through common goals and service projects; however, that should not be your primary purpose in considering membership.

The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club maintains that in order for you to be of the most service and gain the most *satisfaction* from service – active *participation through attendance* is necessary. If you are not present and involved, the entire objective of Rotary is challenged! *Attendance* is considered to be, primarily, through attendance of our club's weekly meetings. Occasional absences can be offset by Make-up attendance. Any of the following actions can count as a make-up for a missed meeting.

- Participation in a Board of Directors (BOD) approved or supported service project or community event
- Attending a BOD approved committee meeting, such as membership, casino, scholarship committees
- Attending a Rotary BOD meeting
- Attending a regular meeting of another Rotary club (you would be introduced as a visiting Rotarian)
- Participation in a Rotary web site interactive activity
- Serving as a RI official or on a RI committee
- Attending a Rotary district event
- Any of the examples listed in the Rotary International Standard Bylaws, Article 9, Section 1

A member's absence can be excused by the BOD if it is for reasons considered to be good and sufficient and not longer than 12 months. A member can request a leave of absence for up to six months if the situation prevents normal involvement and attendance.

Overall, considering all of the above options – there is an expectation of not less than 60% attendance.

Remember – we are more than a “meet and eat” club. The true benefits of becoming a Rotarian are much more than attending a weekly meeting – but rather being involved in the rich experience of the Club's efforts and accomplishments! We need you to *BE THERE* to be a part of each new event being planned, or effort being pursued! That is what makes a successful effort that ***CHANGES COMMUNITIES AND THE WORLD!***

## Cost of Membership:

- There is a one-time induction fee of \$85.00. This fee is paid to Rotary International for registration.
- The quarterly dues are \$60.00 (\$240.00 annually) plus \$12.00 a year for the Rotarian Magazine.
- Colorado Club Insurance – annual amount varies, currently \$3.97 billed annually.
- Council on Legislation Levy - \$1 billed annually.
- Further contributions are voluntary and may be billed on your quarterly dues invoice.

## The Membership Process:

Membership is not automatic – The Pagosa Springs Rotary Clubs follow a Membership Protocol that indicates:

- The Rotarian that has recommended you for membership is your Sponsoring Member. The Sponsoring Member shall introduce you at weekly meetings as his or her guest for at least three meetings. This is your opportunity to get to know the membership and for them to get to know you as well as to learn about the Club's current service opportunities.
- If you are interested in membership, your Sponsoring Member may propose your name to the Board of Directors for membership. Once a name is submitted, the Board of Directors will vote on the acceptance of the proposed member and if the decision of the Board is favorable, the prospective member's name will be announced.
- The membership will be encouraged to submit any concerns or comments regarding your proposed membership in writing to the Board President. This process encourages communication and signifies the general membership's opinion regarding your proposed induction into the Club. This process underscores the commitment that you, as a proposed member, are making, to encourage and support the membership in a mutually agreed upon effort. You can count on Rotarians...and they are going to count on you!
- The Membership Chair will arrange for a mini-orientation with one or more Membership Committee members, the sponsor and the proposed member to fully orient the proposed member of the privileges and responsibilities of membership.
- If no concerns are raised by the membership and the proposed member has paid his or her induction fee, the proposed member will be inducted into the Club at a regular meeting.
- Your fellow-Rotarians will all stand and welcome you into our efforts. Many hands make small work – and we welcome your hands for there is a lot of work to be done in our community, our state and our world!
- During the first 6 months of membership, the new member will wear the red temporary Rotary badge.
- Through the International Innovation and Flexibility Program (through June 30, 2017) – spouses or family members can apply for membership and pay for only one membership per family.

## As a New Rotarian:

- A Special Training for Action in Rotary (STAR) program is scheduled about twice a year, depending upon the needs of the membership, to provide a more in-depth look at the Committees and Teams that provide structure and leadership to the Rotary Club. ***You will be encouraged to select a Committee*** that is of particular interest or where you can offer some unique skills or experience. Our Club operates the most efficiently when individual members take ownership of a particular project or area of service. As a new Rotarian, you can expect that the more experienced Rotarians will make every effort to help you become acquainted with all the various aspects of the Committees and prepare you for a position of leadership.

- ***You will have the opportunity to participate in the many national and international efforts of Rotary through the Rotary Foundation.*** Rotary was founded on February 23, 1905, by Paul Harris, a young lawyer, in Chicago, Illinois. On that day he met with three other businessmen – a coal dealer, a mining engineer, and a tailor in the tailor’s office – the first ever Rotary Meeting. From those humble beginnings new Rotarians join with local Clubs and those Clubs belong to Rotary International (RI). The Rotary Foundation of RI is a charitable organization supported entirely by voluntary contributions. The Foundation’s mission is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through projects that improve health, support education, and help alleviate poverty.

**Grants:** The Foundation provides grants that enable Rotarians to increase their support of local and international service projects. Clubs and districts use Foundation grants for projects that provide essentials to people in need in Rotary’s six areas of focus, such as drilling water wells, setting up a medical clinic, or providing literacy classes.

**PolioPlus:** Eradicating polio is Rotary’s top priority. The PolioPlus program provides funding and support for the final stages of global polio eradication. Rotary is a spearheading partner with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in this initiative.

As a result of our efforts, over two billion children under age five have received the polio vaccine, five million people who might otherwise be paralyzed are walking today, 500,000 new cases of polio are prevented each year, and the number of polio cases has declined by 99 percent worldwide.

**Rotary Peace Centers:** The Foundation supports Rotary Peace Fellows, who are chosen from around the globe based on their ability to have a significant, positive impact on world peace and conflict resolution during their careers. Studying at one of the Rotary Peace Centers, Fellows earn graduate degrees or professional development certificates in international relations, public administration, sustainable development, peace studies, conflict resolution, or a related field.

**Financial Support:** Every dollar contributed to the Foundation funds its humanitarian and educational programs and program operations. The Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative encourages annual per capita giving worldwide of \$100 or more to support these vital Foundation programs.

The Rotary Foundation has three main funds:

- Annual Programs Fund, which provides grants and scholarships
- Permanent Fund, an endowment that ensures the long-term viability of the Foundation
- PolioPlus Fund, which supports Rotary’s goal of a polio-free world

### **Pagosa Springs Rotary History and Character:**

The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club is one of 57 in the State of Colorado that make up Rotary District 5470 and our Club is assigned the number 1179. The Pagosa Springs Rotary Club was chartered on May 31, 1979 and was sponsored by the Durango Club. We have been serving our community for 40 years!

The Club is managed by Officers and Directors, elected to serve on the Board of Directors for alternating three-year terms. The Club’s fiscal year runs July 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Types of Membership:**

- Active – Rotarians of good character and good business or professional reputations, who hold or have held an executive position with discretionary authority in any worthy and recognized business or profession who live or work in Archuleta County or the surrounding area.
- Honorary – People who have distinguished themselves by meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals may be elected to honorary membership.

## **Membership Classifications:**

- Each active member of the Pagosa Springs Rotary Club is classified in accordance with the member's business or profession. A classification describes the principal and recognized activity of the firm with which an active member is connected or the member's principal and recognized business or professional activity.

## **Other Fun Stuff:**

Rotarians like to have *FUN* – bring your sense of humor each week! They also are all about raising funds for the projects that are important to the community. *FINES*, while somewhat about the *FUN* of it, also help the Club accomplish its fund raising goals.

- Always wear your Rotary Pin or experience the FUN of a \$1 FINE
- Call fellow members by their first names and shake hands with everyone – one of them may be the Secret Person and if so – that will be another \$1 FUN FINE
- Cell phones should be turned off or to silent during the meetings – you guessed it – another cause for celebration and a \$5 FINE
- Make sure your attendance is properly recorded at the check-in table and if you are bringing a guest please register them as well
- Try to sit at a different table each week – get to know your fellow Rotarians!
- Take time to read the Rotarian magazine and keep abreast of all the happenings in Rotary
- Although we don't always sound great, we like to sing and enjoy moaning about how we sound – we appreciate the help of our song leaders!
- Live the 4-Way Test of the things we think, say and do!