**Rotary Club of League City**

**New Member Introduction**

The Rotary Club of League City, District 5910, prepared this new member introduction (This is NOT an official Rotary document.)

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**The Purpose of this Rotary information is:**

* To give you, a proposed member, a bird’s eye view of Rotary
* To let you know what you may expect of your membership
* To let you know what our club will expect of you as a member
* To answer any questions that you might have about Rotary in general and our club in particular.

**Rotary is an International Organization**

Paul P. Harris organized the first Rotary Club in Chicago in 1905. This club met in rotation at the offices of the members, thus the name Rotary. There are now more than 29,000 Rotary clubs with a total Rotary membership near 1.2 million men and women. As a Rotarian, you will be a member of the Rotary Club of League City, which in turn is a member of Rotary International. The free world is divided into territories within which a group of cubs is associated. These territories are known as Rotary Districts. There are 525 districts in the Rotary world (172 countries). OUR CLUB is in District 5910, which is comprised of 40 clubs. Total membership is over 2,500 Rotarians. Rotary International is governed by a president and board of directors elected from all over the world. Annually, each District elects a District Governor and each club elect its officers and directors.

**Our Rotary Club**

Each year we elect our officers. These officers conduct the general business of our Club. Our President, with the approval of our Board of directors, makes committee appointments based upon the following

Five Avenues of Service:

* **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.
* **Community Service** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.
* **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.
* **New Generations Service** recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities as RYLA , [Rotaract](http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/YouthPrograms/Rotaract/Pages/ridefault.aspx)  and Interact , service projects, and creating international understanding with Rotary Youth Exchange .

**Each Rotarian is expected to participate in one or more of the Avenues of Service** .

**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 the following:

* The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.
* High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of their occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
* The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to their personal, business and community life.
* The advancement of International understanding g9odwill and peace through a world of fellowship of business and professional people united in the ideal of service.

**We implement the Object of Rotary through the Five Avenues of Service**

* **CLUB SERVICE:** Promulgating membership through the maintenance of interesting programming and fun social events
* **VOCATIONAL SERVICE:** Recognition and awareness of all vocations in our community
* **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Working to improve the quality of life in League City
* **INTERNATIONAL SERVICE:** Working to improve the quality of life throughout the world and to aid in world understanding.
* **NEW GENERATIONS SERVICE:**

**The Rotary Foundation**

The goal of the Foundation is to further understanding and friendly relations among the world’s people by funding education and humanitarian programs. The Rotary Foundation is the oldest and largest private charitable trust in the world. It is also the largest educational exchange organization in the world. Annual gifts reach to over 65 million dollars. Through a unique three-year investment plan, 100% of donated funds are used for philanthropic endeavors. The investment earnings pay all administrative costs.

**The Four Way Test**

From the earliest days of the organization, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world’s most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics is The Four-Way Test, which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as Rotary International president) when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy. This 24-word test for employees to follow in their business and professional lives became the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to his simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary in 1943, The Four-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways. It asks the following four questions:

**“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?

**The Rotary Motto: Service Above Self**

The first motto of Rotary International, He Profits Most Who Serves Best, was approved at the second Rotary Convention, held in Portland, Oregon in 1911. The phrase came from a 1910 speech by a Chicago Rotarian, Art Sheldon, who said, “He profits most who serves his fellows best.” At about the same time, Ben Collins, president of the Rotary Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, commented that the proper way to organize a Rotary club was through the principle his club had adopted: Service, Not Self. These two slogans slightly modified, were formally approved as the official mottoes of Rotary at the 1950 convention in Detroit: He profits Most Who Serves Best and Service Above Self. The 1989 Council on Legislation established Service Above Self as the principal motto of Rotary, since it best explains the philosophy of unselfish volunteer service.

**Your Privileges in Rotary**

* The privilege of friendship with leaders in your community, in neighboring cities all over the USA and around the world.
* The privilege of giving service to your community
* The privilege of developing international goodwill and understanding
* The privilege of helping build higher ethical standards with your vocation

**Your Obligations in Rotary**

* **PARTICIPATION:** To be a Rotarian you must give your time and talents to community work, in social functions and in Club and District activities.
* **MEETING TIME AND LOCATION**:

**Every Thursday** **except Second** (see below) (except on Holidays or other pre-scheduled Rotary events)

12:00 Noon

Luna’s Mexican Restaurant

6555 South Shore Blvd

League City, Texas

**Second THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**:

Service Project at League City Elementary -Galveston County Food Bank Mobil Food Distribution

* **ATTENDANCE:** 100% attendance is urged and honored in Rotary.

Attendance Rules

* Must be in attendance at least 60% of a meeting to receive credit
* Must attend or make up at least 50% of the regular meetings of the club
* Failure to attend or make up four consecutive meetings automatically terminates membership

Make Up Meetings

* Within two weeks prior or two weeks following a missed meeting by attending a meeting at another Rotary Club
* Attend a District Institute, Assembly or Conference, or a rotary International Convention
  + - Online - go to leaguecityrotary.com and click on Make up a Meeting. This will take you to rotaryeclubone.org Follow directions for making up a meeting online.

**Your Financial Obligation**

New Member Fee $50.00

Quarterly Club Dues $140.00

Meals: $12.00 per meal

Club Fundraisers: Estimated $200 per year in ticket sales

Social Events: Estimated $15.00 - $40.00 per event per person

**Membership**

There are two types of membership in a Rotary Club. They are outlined below:

1. Active or Additional Active Members are selected for their leadership in the business of profession for which they are classified.
2. Honorary members are non-voting members elected because of distinguished service in furthering Rotary deals. They are ineligible to hold office; they must be re-elected annually for membership.

**Committees**

Every member is asked and/or encouraged to participate on one or more committees. Current standing committees include: Foundation, Service, New Generations, Membership, Public Relations and Club Administration. There are several sub-committees within each standing committee.

**Rotary Publications**

* The Rotarian – A monthly magazine published by Rotary International. Well worth reading, it contains news of Rotary around the world and interesting articles by outstanding writers on a variety of important subjects.
* Newsletter – Our District Governor publishes a newsletter which can be viewed at [www.rotary5910.org](http://www.rotary5910.org).
* Club Bulletin – Provided at each weekly meeting, it reports the news of our members and club activities, contains make-up information of nearby Rotary Clubs and contains a list of our members.

Sources:

League City Club Web Site [www.leaguecityrotary.com](http://www.leaguecityrotary.com)

District 5910 Web Site [www.rotary5910.org](http://www.rotary5910.org)

Rotary EClub Website [www.rotaryeclubone.org](http://www.rotaryeclubone.org)

to make up a meeting on line