

Rotary Club of Springfield South FAQ's

If I miss a meeting, is there someone I should notify?

Although our meetings are so much fun you won't want to miss any of them, we don't have attendance requirements. There is no one to notify if you must miss a meeting. If you participate in a service project, attend a board meeting or deliver Daily Bread within two months of missing a meeting, it will offset an absence, just for record keeping purposes. You can even attend another club's meeting as a makeup.

Is there any harm to the club if I miss a meeting?

In 2017, Rotary changed the rules to focus more on accomplishment than attendance. The club positively benefits from your attendance and participation, but should you miss a meeting, there is no harm to the club.

Will I be billed for dues?

Yes, dues are \$50 quarterly, plus special meals. Your billing invoice will break out how much goes to Rotary International, the District, the club, Rotarian magazine and special meals (Rotary on the Road, all clubs meeting, etc.).

What is Rotary on the Road?

If a month has a fifth Thursday, we may meet somewhere other than our usual meeting location for a change of pace. Past Rotary on the Road meetings have been held at the Pillsbury Plant, Illinois State Museum Collection, Camp Illinek, the Mary Bryant Home, Rotary Park (to dedicate tree planting), and Mel-O-Cream.

How does the raffle work?

The tickets are \$1 each or three for \$2. If your number is called, you select a card. The ace of spades wins the pot. If you select a different card, it is removed from the deck and the pot grows.

What is the percentage of people who donate the money back to the club when they win?

This is a truly personal decision. It can depend on how much is in the pot— smaller amounts are usually donated to the club, and a member may choose to split a larger amount with the club or keep the entire amount.

What is the prize for winning the trivia questions?

The prize is the amount of money collected from those playing trivia on any given week, usually \$5 to \$12, Most often, the winner donates it back to the club, but it's yours to keep if you win.

What is Interact?

Interact is a high school club, a precursor to Rotary. Rotary South sponsors an Interact Club at Pawnee High School.

What is Rotaract?

Rotaract is a university club; in 2017, Rotary International changed the rules so that a Rotaract member can be considered a full Rotarian to facilitate a smoother transition into Rotary.

What is a Paul Harris Fellow?

Rotarians who donate \$1,000 to Rotary International become a Paul Harris Fellow for life. Every dollar donated counts as a point which can then be used toward an additional fellowship or donated to another member. Rotary South is committed to seeing every member become a Paul Harris Fellow in their first year and has points available to help members achieve this goal.

What is Every Rotarian Every Year?

The EREY distinction is awarded to a club that reaches the minimum Annual Fund contribution of \$100 per capita during the Rotary year, with every dues-paying member personally contributing at least \$25. Contributions to becoming a Paul Harris Fellow are considered Annual Fund contributions. We strive for members to donate \$100 a year, although each person has his or her financial situation to consider. We do not squeeze people like they are grapes:)

What is the Daily Bread Assignment?

Rotary Club of Springfield South delivers meals for Daily Bread (operated out of the Senior Services Center on Mason Street) every Thursday. Assignments are made twice a year, and two Rotarians are assigned every week. The assigned Rotarians meet at the Senior Center between 9:30 & 10:00 a.m. for the meals and route paperwork. Most teams can deliver the meals and make it for the start of our meeting. You can expect to have meal delivery two to three times per year, and it is up to you to find someone to sub if you cannot deliver meals on your assigned day. The meals are delivered to people who need this service, and most Rotarians find it very rewarding to perform such a needed task.

Who finds the meeting speakers?

Club members take turns finding interesting speakers for our weekly meetings. Twice a year, a schedule is made listing the Daily Bread and speaker assignments.

Does the club fundraise?

Yes, we conduct various fundraisers such as a beef raffle, Wreaths Across America, citrus sales, and trivia. The proceeds raised are distributed to local charities, non-profits, and international projects through our annual grant program.

What is the service commitment for members?

The club strives to complete one service project a month. Past projects include preparing a meal at the Ronald McDonald House, building a corral for the Refuge Ranch, landscaping for the James Project, building stages for an outdoor education area at Henson Robinson Zoo, providing a literacy motivational activity at a local school, and unpacking books for Reading Is Fundamental. Sign up sheets for the projects are passed around at our meetings, and participation is voluntary and highly rewarding.

Are there other service opportunities?

Sure there are: we collect pop tabs from aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House, plastic containers and grocery bags for St. John's Breadline, and toiletries from your hotel stays for Kumler, Douglas School, and others. Just bring these items to our weekly meeting, and the president will be sure to get them to the appropriate organization.

What's an All-Clubs Meeting?

Once a year, all five of the Springfield Rotary clubs hold an all-clubs meeting to share accomplishments and fellowship. This annual meeting replaces the regular club meeting for that week.

Is there a break in December around the holidays?

Yes, we usually have a holiday social sometime in December and take a break at the end of the year.

Rotary Acronyms

ADG - Assistant District Governor

DA - District Assembly

DG - District Governor

EREY — Every Rotarian Every Year

IPP — Immediate Past President

PDG — Past District Governor

PE - President Elect

PN - President Nominee (President Elect to be)

PETS — Presidents-Elect Training Seminar

RAA — Rotarians Against Acronyms

RI — Rotary International

RYE — Rotary Youth Exchange

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Award

VTT — Vocational Training Team