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Information for New Members

**Membership Dues and Meals**

Annual dues are $200.00. Meals are $15.00 per meeting and are paid in advance with quarterly dues.

 Annual Rotary Dues: $200.00

 Meals ($15.00 X 44 meetings): $660.00

 $860.00 per year

The Club treasurer sends invoices to members each quarter. Invoices (dues and meals) are typically around $180.00. New members will receive free meals for the first quarter they are members. Members with questions about invoices may contact the treasurer.

**Meal Waivers:** If a Rotarian is unable to attend meetings for a length of time, they may request a meal waiver for up to two quarters. A written request must be approved by the Board.

**Rule of 85:** With Board approval, a Rotarian at least 65 years of age and with an aggregate of their years of service and their age being equal to or greater than 85 may be excused from attending meetings and paying for meals quarterly. Approved Rule of 85 Members must pay for meeting meals at the door.

**Grocery Grab:** Members are required to sell or donate 10 tickets ($10.00 per ticket) for this fundraiser. Members who do not sell tickets or turn in donations will be billed for tickets in the next quarterly invoice.

**Badges:** Each member receives a name badge that lists their professional “classification”, which refers to the distinct and recognized business or professional service that the Rotarian renders to society. Members must wear their badges during meetings, and can request to have their classification changed. If a new badge is needed due to a member request, the member pays for their new badge at the cost of $15.

**Meetings and Speakers**

Club meetings are held on Tuesdays from 12:00 - 1:00 PM at the Champion’s Landing. Members are encouraged to arrive at 11:45 to start eating lunch. Rotary does not meet during a holiday, Spring Break, or between Christmas and New Year. In July and August, Rotary only meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month.

**Programs/Speakers:** Members are responsible for arranging for meeting program speakers. Each program is about 15-20 minutes. Members may sign up to provide the speaker for a meeting at the beginning of the program year or may be asked to provide a program. The Rotary program calendar begins in July with the installation of officers and ends in June.

**Classification Talks:** Classification talks are opportunities for Rotarians to learn about a member of the Club. Classification talks are about 5 minutes in length and include information about the member, their profession, and why they joined Rotary.

**Happy Bucks:** During the meeting, a Rotarian may donate a dollar to share good news, such as personal announcements or promoting events. Proceeds are donated to charitable organizations.

**PolioPlus:** To support Rotary International’s efforts to eradicate Polio, the Club collects change from members at each meeting. Rotarians simply add change to the PolioPlus cups on their table.

**Greeters:** Members serve as greeters before the meeting to help take attendance, record guests and collect money for meals. New members are encouraged to serve as greeters for a month to meet other members.

**Volunteer Opportunities and Service Projects**

**Board of Directors:** One of the best ways to serve is to sit on the Board of Directors. Board members serve one-year terms that may be renewed annually subject to approval by membership. The Board meets monthly to discuss Club matters, plan events and projects, and approve charitable requests. Board officers are President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Foundation Chair. Presidents serve for one year and generally hold the following positions in succession: Vice-President, President-Elect, President, and Past President. Presidents run the Board and Club meetings.

**Interact Club:** Emporia Rotary Club sponsors the Interact Club at the Emporia Middle School. Interact Club provides opportunities for students who are interested in community service. Members of the Emporia Rotary Club can volunteer to help Interact members with projects and goals. Interact also helps with the Club’s dictionary project.

**Dictionary Project:** One of the Club’s longest-held projects is providing every third grader in Emporia with a dictionary. Members can volunteer to help label the dictionaries with the Rotary logo or to deliver dictionaries to the third-grade classrooms.

**Grocery Grab:** The Grocery Grab is the Club’s annual fall fundraiser benefiting a charitable organization. Members are required to sell at least 10 tickets. Purchasers are entered into a drawing for a chance to win a 5 minute shopping spree at a local grocery store. Members are encouraged to attend the event.

**District Grant Project:** Each year, Rotary Clubs can request matching funds from their Rotary Districts for a special project. Each year, the Emporia Club designates a nonprofit organization as a recipient partner for the district-approved project. Clubs are required to provide volunteers to complete the project.

**Additional Projects:**

* Pickleball tournament (Proceeds go to a local charity.)
* Canned food drive (Proceeds go to The Salvation Army.)
* Gardening and landscaping projects in downtown Emporia.
* Women’s professional clothing drives to benefit sexually exploited and trafficking survivors.
* Sending high school students to Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) at KU.

**Donation Opportunities**

**Rotary Foundation:** Rotary Foundation supports Rotary projects globally. Contact the Club’s Foundation Chair for more information. Rotary International recognizes members who donate: members donating $100 receive the Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member designation; members donating $1,000 receive the Paul Harris Fellow award.

**Rotary Club of Emporia Fund:** Rotarians and community members can make a tax-deductible donation through the Emporia Community Foundation. The purpose of the fund is to give the Club more opportunities to donate to charitable causes.

**Websites**

**Clubrunner:** <https://www.rotaryemporia.com>

The official website of the Club has the latest news including upcoming programs, speakers, and events. Members can use the link at the top of the page to sign in, create an account, or update member profiles, including contact information, employment, and classification. The Club directory is also located in the member area of Clubrunner.

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/rotaryemporia>
Check out and “like” the Club’s Facebook page to learn about the latest activities and speakers in our Club.