

Background Information

Mission: The Rotary Club of Neenah is a service organization of business and professional men and women united in fellowship who conduct local and international humanitarian projects, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and work toward understanding and peace.

Our Values:

- ***Service above self***
- ***Living the Four-Way Test***
 1. ***Is it the truth?***
 2. ***Is it fair to all concerned?***
 3. ***Will it build goodwill and better friendships?***
 4. ***Is it beneficial to all concerned?***
- ***Hands-on projects & services***
- ***Intergenerational - Being open to other diverse ideas and learning***
- ***Building caring relationships: professional, family and friends***

Rotary International History:

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, was formed on February 23, 1905 by Paul P. Harris, an attorney who wished to capture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. The Rotary name derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

Rotary's popularity spread, and within a decade, clubs were chartered from San Francisco to New York to Winnipeg, Canada. By 1921, Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents. The organization adopted the Rotary International name a year later.

As Rotary grew, its mission expanded beyond serving club members' professional and social interests. Rotarians began pooling their resources and contributing their talents to help serve communities in need. The organization's dedication to this ideal is best expressed in its motto: ***Service Above Self***.

By 1925, Rotary had grown to 200 clubs with more than 20,000 members. The organization's distinguished reputation attracted presidents, prime ministers, and a host of other luminaries to its ranks — among them author Thomas Mann, diplomat Carlos P. Romulo, humanitarian Albert Schweitzer, and composer Jean Sibelius.

Today, over 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 35,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Literally, the sun never sets on Rotary.

We are proud of our efforts to eradicate polio throughout the world and have eradicated polio in 125+ countries. We have two countries (Afghanistan and Pakistan) to go and hope to accomplish our goal in the next few years.

The Four-Way Test

Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor created The Four-Way Test (previous page), a code of ethics, in 1932; Rotary adopted it in 1943. Neenah Rotarians live by the four-way test and recite it at every meeting.

About Our Club

The Rotary Club of Neenah was chartered on April 29, 1925. More than ninety years later, we are proud of our caring members and many accomplishments in our community.

We strive to improve the quality of life through our five areas of service:

- Community Service
- Vocational Service
- International Service
- Club Service
- New Generations

Meetings are held at noon every Thursday at the Riverwalk Hotel in Neenah. Attendance at every noon meeting is encouraged. Upon joining, you will be invoiced for annual club dues of \$270 plus meal costs of \$10 for meetings. Your invoice can be paid annually as billed or in other frequencies. Rotarians can also plan to be involved and active in committees and events.

The Rotary Club of Neenah generates support for our service through three main fund-raising events:

- Uncorked and Uncapped – a wine and beer tasting event in January
- Rotary Golf Classic – a golf outing and dinner in May
- Seafood Fest – a food and music festival in September

Here are ways we put “service about self” in our community through:

- Scholarships for local high school and college students.
- Grants to local non-profit agencies which conform to our basic grant guidelines.
- Local support to community events that have included: Fox Cities Marathon (water station sponsor), highway cleanup, park builds, Habitat for Humanity and more.
- Youth Exchange with an inbound student living in the community for the school year and hosted by club member families on a volunteer basis.
- Leadership and success through STRIVE and STRIVE 2B programs in our local high school and middle school.

Invitation

We invite you to join the Rotary Club of Neenah to promote Rotary’s “Service Above Self” values in our community and the world. Please consider completing a Membership Proposal and returning it to the Rotarian who invited you to visit or join our club.