

# Welcome to Rotary



***Membership Orientation***  
***Lincoln South Rotary Club***

# We are so happy to have you as a member of Lincoln South Rotary . . .

- ▶ This orientation Power Point is designed to help you know more about your Lincoln South Rotary Club.
- ▶ We want you to feel welcome, feel at home, and feel a part of the club.
- ▶ You will also learn a little bit about the Rotary International organization and our District organization.
- ▶ So let's get started . . . .



# Rotary is an International Organization . . .

- ▶ When you joined Rotary, you became a member of a much larger organization.
- ▶ We have 1.4 million members who are in 46,000 clubs in over 200 countries around the world!
- ▶ Rotary is broken up into Zones and Districts – your club is in District 5650 which covers eastern Nebraska and southwestern Iowa.



**In everything we do as Rotarians, we are guided by the Rotary motto of . . . .**

***“Service Above Self”***

Our club members Jenny Cardwell and Vi See assisting refugees from the Ukraine who had escaped to Warsaw, Poland.



# What does Rotary do?

Rotary is dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever.

## Rotary's Causes

Promoting peace

Fighting disease

Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene

Saving mothers and children

Supporting education

Growing local economies

Protecting the environment



# Ending polio forever . . .

- ▶ Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for over 35 years.
- ▶ We are almost there!
- ▶ Today, Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only countries where polio remains.
- ▶ Each week our club donates its “Happy Dollars” to help in this fight to eradicate polio.
- ▶ In addition, we have other events during the year that support this program, such as a Salt Dogs fundraiser, and bike rides.



To learn more about your Rotary International organization, we encourage you to go to the web site at

**[Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org)**

You will also receive a subscription to the Rotary International magazine.

Look it over to find out what Rotary is doing around the world.

# How Lincoln South Rotary began . . .

- ▶ Lincoln South Rotary was chartered on 4/30/84.
- ▶ It was sponsored by the Lincoln Downtown Rotary Club #14.
- ▶ We are now a club of about 50 members.





# You are part of an award winning club!

- ▶ From Rotary International, we have received the Rotary Citation for Outstanding Club almost every year for over 25 years.
- ▶ For over 25 years, we have been one of the top clubs in the district in per capita giving to the Rotary International Foundation.
- ▶ In the past decade, eight times our club has ranked 1<sup>st</sup> place in the District's Top Ten Clubs.



- ▶ In the last decade, three times our club president has been recognized as the top president in the district – Clay Ehlers, Kay Wunderlich, and Suzanne Tyrrell.



Clay Ehlers



Kay Wunderlich



Suzanne Tyrrell

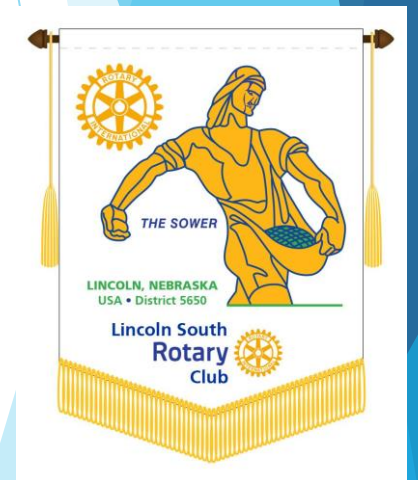
# The Cadwallader Award . . .

- ▶ This award is presented by our Rotary District 5650 to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Rotary – who represents the embodiment of Rotary.
- ▶ Seven of our club's members have received this honor: George Lytton, Nicki Klein, Bill Schmeeckle, Joe Roberts, Tom Cardwell, John Herdman, and the latest winner, Clay Ehlers in 2020 (pictured here receiving his award from District 5650 officer, Gary Bren).
- ▶ And this is only a small listing of the huge amount of awards and recognitions that have been given to our club and to a number of our individual members.
- ▶ You are part of an award-winning club with a strong commitment to the ideals of Rotary.



# Rotary Lincoln South

- ▶ Be sure and go to our club's web page at [lincolnsouthrotary.org](http://lincolnsouthrotary.org).
- ▶ You will find our newsletter, dates of meetings, articles, our history, a listing of all our honors and awards, upcoming events, photos, and all kinds of information about the club. Take a few minutes to browse and explore it and click on the various links to give you more information.
- ▶ Be sure to “like” our Lincoln South Rotary Facebook page. It, too, will keep you up-to-date on what is happening.



# How can you get involved? . . . .

- ▶ The purpose of being involved in Rotary is to utilize your *time, talent, and treasure*.
- ▶ Each of us determines how to make the best contributions of those three things.
- ▶ There are plenty of opportunities at Lincoln South Rotary.
- ▶ You might choose to be involved in “special projects.” Or perhaps you would prefer something that is regular and continuing.
- ▶ Whatever it is you prefer, ***here are some ideas . . .***



# Help at our weekly meetings . . .

- ▶ Help with the weekly set-up and take-down (banners, plaques, etc.).
- ▶ Help collect money and do check-in (either regularly or as a substitute).
- ▶ Select and read the invocation from the samples provided.
- ▶ Collect Happy Dollars.
- ▶ Be a greeter at the door.
- ▶ Assist with technology.
- ▶ Contact the program chair and volunteer to get a speaker for an upcoming meeting.



# Help with our club's projects . . .

- ▶ Assist with delivering “Meals on Wheels” – either regularly or as a substitute. (Here are some of our club members receiving recognition from Tabitha for their help with this program.)
- ▶ Help with the annual Dictionary Project. (Once a year, just a few hours.) Help put on book labels and pack the books – a group effort that takes about an hour. You can also help deliver the dictionaries to 4th graders in schools across Lincoln



▶ Assist with planning and attending our periodic Strike Out Polio with Rotary and the Saltdogs event.

▶ Join those who go on bike rides to end polio.

▶ Help with the annual scholarship awards we give to students going on in higher education. This is once a year – you read scholarship applications and help make the selection.

▶ Help with the club's annual holiday party held in December. Volunteer to host it --- or help the host with set-up and clean-up.





- ▶ Assist with the annual Salute to Business put together by all the Rotary Clubs in Lincoln. Help with the event planning. Or assist the day of the event – helping with registration, serving as a greeter or usher.
- ▶ Serve with our club members who regularly clean up one of the trails in Lincoln.
- ▶ Support our weekly club meetings – try to attend as regularly as possible.
- ▶ Invite friends, family members, and business associates to one of our club meetings – ask them if they are interested in joining our group.



# Help with the club's special events and projects . . .

*Every year, our club does some special events and short-term projects giving members many opportunities to participate at a variety of levels. Here are just a few of the many examples from the past years . . . .*

- ▶ Held an event at Kuck Motorsports raising funds for Clinic with a Heart and for our club's scholarship fund.
- ▶ Conducted annual food drives to support the Food Bank of Lincoln.
- ▶ Provided a contribution to the Food Bank's capital campaign to expand their facilities and capabilities.
- ▶ Did a Tribute to First Responders with contributions made to Shop with a Cop, Safe Kids of Lincoln-Lancaster County, and Crime Stoppers.



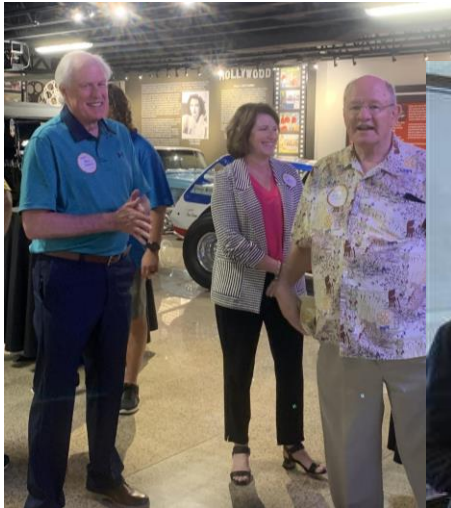
- ▶ Supported Community Action's Head Start program by donating commercial strollers for transporting kids.
- ▶ Did a blanket drive for the People's City Mission.
- ▶ Provided supplies to veterans facing hard times.
- ▶ Provided supplies to the Little Pantry to give food assistance.
- ▶ Have provided health care and food to the rural areas in the country of Georgia.
- ▶ Provided trees to Habitat for Humanity homes.
- ▶ Have actively participated in providing assistance to war-torn Ukraine.
- ▶ Donated used eyeglasses for an eye clinic in Kenya.

***And these are just a few examples of a variety of our club's special events and projects!***





***You will have many opportunities to participate at whatever level you choose and in activities that are of interest to you.***



# Two Rotary Foundations – both are important!

## *The Rotary International Foundation*

- ▶ The Rotary International Foundation supports the work of its areas of emphasis around the world as shown earlier in this Power Point.
- ▶ You can participate in these international endeavors.
- ▶ One way is to become a **sustaining member** which is a contribution of \$120 per year. (This can be made as a one-time gift or you may pay automatically on your credit card at \$10 per month.)
- ▶ When a Rotarian has contributed \$1,000, they become a **Paul Harris Fellow** and are given special recognition including a special pin.
- ▶ **Important:** Eventually, half of what you give comes back to our Rotary District – and then becomes available to our clubs to provide grants for the things that are important to us!



# *Lincoln South Rotary Club Foundation*

- ▶ Our Lincoln South Rotary club has its own Foundation (“LSRF”).
- ▶ This Foundation is run by a separate Board of Directors.
- ▶ You can support it by a one-time gift. (Suggested amount of \$30 – but any amount is appreciated!)
- ▶ You can also support it by attending and contributing to any special event that its Board holds – usually one or two events per year.
- ▶ Grants are then made into our community from the Foundation.
- ▶ The emphasis of these grants is often related to children’s issues in our community. (Pictured are the Boy Scouts receiving a grant for one of their projects.)



# Supporting these two Foundations . . .

- ▶ At various times throughout the year, you will be asked to consider supporting each of these two foundations and the work they are doing.
- ▶ You will also be asked to make suggestions of various causes and groups that you think would be worthy of receiving one of the grants that are distributed through these foundation channels.
- ▶ Your participation is important – and always appreciated!



# Now just a little bit about our club's leadership . . .

- ▶ What makes Rotary so successful is the dedication of a group of volunteers that have the “heart” for service . . . a true commitment of ***Service Above Self***.
- ▶ Here are your fellow members who have taken on those responsibilities for this 2024-2025 Rotary year under the leadership of our President, Suni Kasibhatla.





# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Here is your Board leadership team for 2024-2025 . . .*

Suni Kasibhatla

President

Srini Ampavati

President-Elect

Mary Gilbride

Immediate Past President

Nicki Klein

Secretary, Executive Director

Audrey Richert

At Large

Nikki Isemann

At Large

Clay Ehlers

At Large

Corey Vandewege

Treasurer, non-voting

# LINCOLN SOUTH ROTARY LEADERSHIP

*Here is the club leadership team for 2024-2025 ---  
volunteer and help them out!*

Bob Vrana, Tom Hyde

Clay Ehlers, Srimi Ampavati, Bobby Cunningham

John Herdman

Suzanne Tyrrell

Syd Widga

Matt Horak

Nicki Klein

Joe Roberts, Scott Delisi

Clay Ehlers

DeEtta Vrana

Tracey McLain

Nicki Klein

Service Team

Technology

Photography

Membership

Program/Speakers

Scholarships

Public Image

Rotary International Foundation

Youth Services

Club Service Projects

Lincoln South Rotary Foundation

Executive Secretary

# To get the most out of your Rotary membership, do these 3 things . . .



- ▶ Contact our club's Executive Administrator, *Nicki Klein*, at [nklein2@neb.rr.com](mailto:nklein2@neb.rr.com) to help you set up these three things:
  - 1) Create your Rotary International membership account – [Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org).
  - 2) Create your club membership account – [lincolnsouthrotary.org](https://www.lincolnsouthrotary.org).
  - 3) Download onto your smartphone the app for [Rotary ClubRunner](#).
- ▶ These three items will give you a wealth of information and serve as great reference tools.

# Miscellaneous Information . . . . .

## . . . . . but it is all important!

- ▶ We **meet** from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. each Friday at The Venue Restaurant (in person or via Zoom).
- ▶ **Meeting fees** are \$17, and that includes your lunch. (Meeting fees are required whether you eat or not – they cover the cost of providing lunch for our guest speakers and other related costs.)
- ▶ Weekly **attendance** is not mandatory – we know business and personal issues are a reality that can conflict with a meeting. But we hope you enjoy the meetings enough to want to come if possible – and it is certainly a courtesy to our speakers.



- ▶ The **Rotary year** runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. You will receive an annual billing statement for your dues in late spring of each year for the upcoming Rotary year.
- ▶ You can **visit any Rotary club** in any part of the world – and you will always be welcomed!
- ▶ **Invite** your friends, family members, and business associates to visit our club and consider becoming a member of our wonderful group. (Your spouse or partner is a good place to start as we have many couples as members of our club!)



- ▶ You will be given opportunities to attend a **Rotary Leadership Institute** (“RLI”) to learn more about Rotary and being a leader. It is a wonderful program worthy of your time and your registration fees are paid by our club.
- ▶ As a Lincoln South Rotary club member, you will have access to the **club roster** with the names and pertinent information of all our members. This information is not to be used as a list for your business, organization, or nonprofit, and should not be used for fundraising or advertising. If your organization has a special event coming up that you would like to announce to the club membership, you are welcome to do an announcement while making a contribution to Happy Dollars during the club meeting where the donations go toward Polio Plus.



# Completing your orientation and new member expectations . . . .

- ▶ You will have received a single sheet called ***New Member Welcome and Expectations***.
- ▶ Once you have completed the four things listed there, you will have completed your entire orientation process to our club and will be a ***Member in Good Standing***. With that done, you will also be eligible to serve on our Board of Directors.
- ▶ Once you ***complete the four tasks***, send the form to Nicki Klein, our Executive Administrator (2831 Kipling Circle, Lincoln, NE 68516).

Rotary Lincoln South  
New Member Welcome and Expectations

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to Lincoln South Rotary. We are delighted you have joined our organization and share the common bond of Service Above Self. Our Club is casual with a wonderful, light-hearted camaraderie. Perhaps you have joined us as a first time Rotarian. Or maybe you are someone who has some family members who were Rotarians. Maybe you are coming to us as a Rotary member from another Club and are now joining Lincoln South Rotary. Whatever your history with Rotary, we are delighted to have you in our Club.

It is important for all of us to get to know each other better. We know people come from a variety of situations in their lives, so we try to make things easy and flexible. You would not have joined Rotary if you did not have a desire for service and have within you a charitable heart. But we also know how each person pursues those gifts can be different. Everyone has different demands in their lives, both personal and professional, and we recognize and appreciate that.

To help new members get better acquainted, and to assist them in learning about our club and about Rotary in general, we ask new members to participate in a few activities. These expectations are listed below.

As you get involved with Rotary, please review this list. We know you will want to be more involved than the minimum requirements outlined on this list – that is why you joined our club! But we also know that personal schedules, time demands, and preferences are also part of our Rotary members, and we try very hard to accommodate that.

Mark off as you complete the various activities. After your list is completed as outlined, turn it in to our Executive Director (Nicki Klein) at one of our Club meetings. She will then inform the Membership Chairperson that you have completed your tasks. If you have any questions as you go, please feel free to ask your sponsoring member or Nicki and they will be happy to assist you.

**New Member Expectations**

- View the club orientation Power Point to acquaint yourself with Lincoln South Rotary and the specific focus and activities of our Club. Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_
- When asked, make a brief presentation during a "new member moment" at a club meeting, telling a bit about yourself and your career. Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Assist as a Club Service Team member during one of the meetings (giving the invocation, introducing visiting Rotarians and guests, or collecting Happy Dollars.) Dated completed: \_\_\_\_\_
- Participate in one of the following events.
  - A community service activity (such as delivering Tabitha Meals on Wheels; helping with the dictionary project, etc.)
  - Attend one of our Club's social events.
  - Assist with or make a contribution to one of the Club's fundraising activities. This includes contributions to our own Lincoln South Rotary Foundation.
  - Attend one of the Club's Board meetings. (Ask the club President for the date and time.)
  - Attend a Rotary District annual meeting, conference, or one of the various training sessions.

Item chosen: \_\_\_\_\_ Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

# Here are your four tasks to complete . . .

- ▶ **First:** View this club orientation Power Point. (You are already completing one of the four expectations!)
- ▶ **Second:** When asked by the club President, make a brief 2-3 minute presentation during a “new member moment” at a club meeting, telling a bit about yourself and your career.
- ▶ **Third:** Assist as part of the Club Service Team during one of the meetings (give the invocation you have selected from the samples provided or collect the Happy Dollars).





- ▶ **Fourth:** Participate in **one** of the following events:
- A community service activity (such as delivering Tabitha Meals on Wheels; helping with the dictionary project, cleaning up trails, etc.); **or**
  - Attend one of our Club's social events; **or**
  - Assist with or make a contribution to one of the Club's fundraising activities. This includes contributions to our own Lincoln South Rotary Foundation; **or**
  - Attend one of the Club's Board meetings (ask the club President for the date and time); **or**
  - Attend a Rotary District annual meeting, conference, or one of the various training sessions.





**We just want you to know we are delighted you are part of our Lincoln South Rotary Club!**



# The guiding principle of everything we do in Rotary is the “Four Way Test”

Of the things we think, say, or do . . .

- 1) Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2) Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4) Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

# We are so delighted to have you as a member of Lincoln South Rotary!

- ▶ If you have any questions about anything in this orientation Power Point, or about any other aspect of your Lincoln South Rotary Club, feel free to contact any of the following people. Also, if you have an area of interest where you would like to be involved, share it with them. They will be happy to help you.
- ▶ **Suni Kasibhatla**, Club President for 2024-2025, Sunitha.Kasibhatla@gmail.com.
- ▶ **Nicki Klein**, Club Executive Administrator, nklein2@neb.rr.com.
- ▶ **Suzanne Tyrrell**, Membership Chair for 2024-2025, sutyrrell2@gmail.com



**We are Rotary . . . .**

*Consider all the possibilities of what  
Rotary can do around the world!*