

In January of 2015, the chair of our club's Centennial Celebration, Diane Donaher, used the Rotary International website contact form to ask the following question:

Could you provide the date of the official Charter presentation of the Bethlehem Club in 1916. Research shows an "accepted into membership" date and a June 1 date ...not sure which is the official charter date. We are preparing for our 100th charter celebration and want to be correct - thank you

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Donaher

Email: [donaher2@ptd.net](mailto:donaher2@ptd.net)

Phone: 610-42-8589

Club Name: Rotary Club of Bethlehem

District: 7430

Country: United States

What is your comment or question regarding? Other

Rotary International

[www.rotary.org/en/contact](http://www.rotary.org/en/contact)

The response – shown below, verifies our club's date of Charter as June 1, 1916.

**From:** [History@rotary.org](mailto:History@rotary.org)

**Subject:** RE: Other

**Date:** January 13, 2015 at 1:36:46 PM EST

**To:** [donaher2@ptd.net](mailto:donaher2@ptd.net)

Dear Diane,

Our records indicate that the Bethlehem, PA Rotary Club was accepted into membership on June 1, 1916. This is considered the official charter date for your club.

You may also be interested to know the date the club was organized, which was April 13, 1916. The Rotary Board of Directors voted to admit the club to membership on May 22, 1916.

But, for all intents and purposes, June 1, 1916 is the club's charter date.

Best,  
Erin

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Erin Matson  
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