**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SYLLABUS**

**July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017**

 Bill Comport, Club Trainer

This New Member Orientation Syllabus is required reading as a Red Badger member. It is an overview of Rotary International and it's Foundation, The Rotary Foundation (TRF), our District 5170, our Rotary Club of Saratoga and it's Foundation, The Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation (SRCF). **This will be** **supplemented by a short face-to-face meeting with me or the Membership Chair to answer any questions and to sign off on your Red Badge requirements form.**

## Rotary International

Paul Harris founded Rotary as a businessmen's networking group in Chicago in 1905. The Rotary wheel was chosen as its symbol because the members rotated the meetings from office to office. The present RI headquarters in is Evanston, IL. Rotary International consists of 1.2 million members in over 200 countries with 34,000 clubs. There is an annual Rotary Convention, held in Atlanta, Georgia, June 10 to June ,14 , 2017. You will receive Rotary International's monthly magazine, which features projects and people worldwide. Rotary International has it’s own foundation, The Rotary Foundation (TRF). The annual goal of Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY) means that every member is expected to make an annual donation to TRF.

## District 5170

The Rotary Club of Saratoga, chartered in 1955, is in Rotary District 5170, comprised of about 54 clubs in the greater Bay Area. Our subgroup is Area 8, and our club number is 511out of over 34,000 clubs worldwide. The District holds frequent workshops, an annual Conference and has a monthly Cabinet meeting, open to all.

## Philanthropy

The **Paul Harris Society** recognizes friends of the The Rotary Foundation, TRF, who annually contribute $1,000 or more to the Annual Programs Fund, Polio Plus, and other approved grant activities. Our District 5170 administers the Paul Harris Society.

**The Rotary Foundation (TRF):** TRF is Rotary International's worldwide foundation, a 501.c.3. It is recommended that members give $200 annually to TRF plus an amount to Polio Plus. TRF is **totally** separate from SRCF, our club foundation, so if you write a check to SRCF and meant it to go to TRF, tear it up and write it to TRF.

**Rotaplast International, Inc.** helps family's world wide to provide free reconstructive surgery to correct cleft lip and/or cleft palate, burn scarring and other deformities.

**Interact** is composed of students 12 through 18 years old. Their goal is to improve the community and the world around them.

**Inner Wheel** is the Rotary spouse’s service organization. We have a chapter.

## Saratoga Rotary Membership requirements:

Attend lunch meetings. **This is very important!**

Pay the one-time Initiation Fee plus the Annual Dues, currently $420. Our Club has a "Friendship Fund," used to pay a portion or all of a member's dues that are temporally experiencing a financial set back. It is expected the amount will be repaid to the club upon better times.

Join two committees, one of which is Membership.

Work on the Art Show, the first weekend in May. The 2017 Art Show will be May 6 and 7, 2017 at West Valley College. **Working Art Show weekend does not count as committee participation, as all club members must work or submit a letter, with rationale, to the club President or Art Show Chair asking for alternate service.**

Contribute to The Rotary Foundation (TRF). Our goal for 2016- 2017 is $30,000+. RI recommends $200 per member per year, but even $20 will help our club reach EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year). Also contribute to Polio Plus: club goal is $1,300+, about $10 each.

**Rotary Club of Saratoga's Charitable Foundation** (our 501.c3) is not to be confused with The Rotary Foundation (TRF), Rotary lnternational's 501.c3. The **SRCF** makes grants from the proceeds of the annual Saratoga Rotary Art Show, held the first weekend in May on the campus of West Valley Community College. A Board of Directors, including the current President of the Saratoga Rotary Club, manages the Charitable Foundation. With more than fifty years of service to the community, the Saratoga Rotary Club, through the SRCF, has distributed funding for grants in excess of $2,300,000.

**The Saratoga Rotarian** is the club bulletin, published at least monthly. It can be accessed via Club Runner at [www.saratogarotary.org](http://www.saratogarotary.org) and is sent automatically to all members. It contains lists of upcoming programs, weekly member assignments, club and committee calendars plus lots of information and photos of fellowship events, committee information, club projects, member news and more.

**Club Runner: How to log in your ID and password.**

## Go to www.saratogarotary.org and click on Member Login, on the upper right of the Home Page. On the displayed login window, click on the message on the bottom…. you will see a window to enter your email address. You will be sent an email. Click on the link in it and follow the directions to set up your access. Once on the club’s Home Page, click the Member area on the upper right corner that replaced the Member Login. In the member area, click on My Clubrunner on the menu bar, and then click My Profile on the 2nd menu bar. You will see your information already displayed. Click Edit to make any changes and then click Save at the bottom. Members access all information about the club and even use the Email Message Center to send an email to any or all of our members. Contact the Club Secretary (Debra Cummins at www.dc@debracummins.com)) if you need help.

**Art Show Weekend,** normally the first weekend in May, will be on May 6 and 7, 2017. There is always a Pre-Art Show party, or TGIF, on the Friday before the set up Friday on May 5, 2017. The date for the TGIF will be April 28, 2017.This is a fund raising event with a silent auction, so bring partners and friends! Set up for the Art Show is on the Friday afternoon before the show, May 5, 2017. You will be assigned a task for set up **and** take down and for a part day's work at the Art Show. **Attendance is required for all.** See the Art Show Chair or Club President for an alternate assignment if you cannot make either. Rotarians and spouses please wear your Rotary shirt for the Art Show. Take Down starts immediately after closing on Sunday, 5 pm, again attendance is required. Following tear down there is a Post Art Show Party, with libations at 6 pm outside and dinner at 7 pm at the Community Center, for members only. It’s very casual.

**Club Leadership for 2016-2017**

 President: Jitka Cymbal

 Past President: Dr. Julie Herndon

 President Elect: Dave Eshelman, 2017-2018

 Secretary: Debra Cummins

 Treasurer: Patti Workman

 Sargent at Arms: Mervyn Salt

**Committee Chairs**

 Art Show: Bill Comport

 Bulletin Editor:Bella Mahoney

 Club Service: Dave Eshelman

 Community Service: Shinku Sharma

 Fellowship: Venkat Tadinada

 International Service: Ketan Jasapara/ Sesh Ramaswami

 Membership: Marsha Hansen

 The Rotary Foundation (TRF): Terrie Creamer and team.

 Please note that this is the charitable foundation of Rotary International and

 is the focus of our annual giving drive starting in July. Our goal is $32,000+/year.

 Vocational Service: Gil Troutman

 Youth Service: Cathie Thermond

**Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation (SRCF) Board**:

 Bob Catalano, President and CEO, 2016-2017

 Ernie Brookfield, Treasurer, 2016-2018

 Evan Rohrbough, 2016-2018

 Bella Mahoney 2016-2017

 Steve Sabanovich 2016-2019

 Tom Collins 2016-2019

 Jitka Cymbal, Club President 2016-2017

 Non-Rotarian Board Members:

 Susan Long 2016-2019

 Jo Toy 2016-2018

 Paula Kraule 2016-2017

## Meeting Protocol

Pick up and wear your badge.

Check in with the Secretary

Pay for your lunch either by Prepaid lunch program or cash, check or credit card.

Introduce yourself to others. Be friendly! The first 6 months are critical to you for feeling you belong. We are a very friendly club! Initiate conversations!

**Lunch Meeting Agenda**

 12:15 Lunch is served.

 12:30: Meeting brought to order by President. Flag salute followed by Inspiration. You will periodically be assigned to do set up/Take down, Greeter Flag or Inspiration.

 12:35: Visiting Rotarians.

 Guests of Rotarians

 We Care

 Good News

Announcements: Includes fellowship events, projects, etc. This occasionally will include the birth of a child or **first grandchild.** If so, the pot is passed around the tables for donations to be matched by parents/grandparents for a baby gift.

**Rules/Attendance**

Preferred minimum attendance is 60%. A club meeting may be made up by visiting other Rotary Club meetings, attending a Club or District Committee meeting or project, or attend a social event sponsored by Saratoga Rotary.

## Club Activities

**Highway 9 Cleanup:** One of the best ways to meet new Rotarians. Meet in the parking lot next to Wells Fargo Bank at 9 am on the chosen Saturday. Break into 2-3 person teams and takes about 1+ hour.

**Breakfast with Santa:** Held on a Saturday morning in early December at Washington Elementary School in Franklin McKinley School District, is the most fun you will ever have at Christmas. Kindergartners and 1st graders come dressed in their best for breakfast, coloring, face painting, carols and even presents with Santa, Ms. Clause and Elves.

**Enterprise Leadership Conference (ELC)** is sponsored annually by partnering clubs in District 5170. The 3-day conference at Asilomar teaches kids how to run a business.

Other **Community Service** activities are **Stop Hunger Now** food packaging event, **Latimer literacy and Science**, **Music and Memory**, underwear, backpack, clothes drives, and much more!

**The Debunking,** usually held the last Friday in June, is the "roast" and dinner for the outgoing President. Definitely a must!

 The **Fellowship Committee** sponsors many activities throughout the year, such as: TGIFs, Bocce Ball, theme dinners, sporting events, Holiday celebrations, excursions, etc.

**District 5170 Activities**

**Annual District 5170 Conference** is in the spring and covers Friday through Sunday brunch. Multiple informative presentations, meals with engaging speakers, a Project Fair, and recreational opportunities are available. It's also a great place to purchase your Rotary gear.

**Avenues of Service (aka Rotary University)** conferences occur on a Wednesday from 4:30 to 9:00 pm. Usually you chose between 2 - 45 minute workshops of interest, then dinner and an excellent speaker. Very efficient!

**Camp RYLA** (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) for 14 to 17 year olds who have demonstrated leadership potential.

**International Convention:** The next RI convention is in Atlanta, Georgia, June 10 to June 14, 2017. If you become club President, you are expected to go the year you are President Elect, just before you are installed as President, July 1, 2017. Not great timing, so get your Board together before you go to plan your first Club Assembly mid-July, where new Committee Chairs discuss plans for the coming year..

## Your Place in the Club

What interests you? What committees are you interested in? How

can we help you find your place in Saratoga Rotary? Your answers to these questions will help you become comfortably integrated more quickly.

Submitted by:

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