

Holyoke Rotary Club News

Issue: April 2019

10 things we can all do to grow Rotary

By Gary Bennett, past president of the Rotary Club of Kelown

I read with great interest what President-elect Mark Daniel Malonev had to say about growing Rotary in the March issue of The Rotarian. He is spot on. Healthy membership is the life blood of any organization and Rotary is no exception. Because we all benefit from a thriving membership, all of us share a responsibility to help grow Rotary and bring in new members. President-elect Mark's emphasis on growing Rotary is a welcome reminder of our opportunity to help.

When you think about why people stay or go, it really isn't that complicated. People have many competing commitments in life. No one is required to be a Rotarian; it is voluntary. People will seriously consider joining if they perceive the net benefits they receive exceed the costs. Members will stay if that experience proves true. And it follows logically that the reverse is true. A person will not join if they think the net experience will not be positive, and they will leave if the experience has not been beneficial.

Fortunately, The Four-Way Test and the Rotary Code of Conduct, can help us in building that positive experience. They are all about treating people fairly, building better friendships, and creating goodwill. These principles go far beyond Rotary. They are the backbone of judicial systems around the civilized world and the envy of anyone living under totalitarian rule. These are the things people are drawn to. If our clubs are perceived to operate under these principles in our community, people will be drawn to us.

Imagine for a moment what Rotary clubs could look like in the future. Clubs that could change their meeting schedule and format, can relax attendance requirements, and offer multiple membership types.

Here are ten things every member can do to create a positive experience:

1. Apply The Four-Way Test and Code of Conduct in your lives and in your club proceedings. Before judging or expressing a point of view, sending an email, taking any action, find out the facts of a situation. After doing that, determine if an action is fair to all, will build goodwill and better friendships, and will be beneficial to all concerned. If not, don't act.

- 2. Become an advocate for policies and practices that are based on truth, fairness, inclusivity, and diversity.
- 3. Always greet members with warmth and interest.
- 4. Treat members with the respect you would like to get.
- 5. Take the time to listen and evaluate diverse opinions and defend the right of members to express a view different from yours.
- 6. If you have a concern with another member, speak to them personally. Don't send a complaining email.
- 7. Before you send an email or communicate with others. make sure the assertions you are making are based on fact. Always use an appropriate tone. Ask yourself, is it fair and will it build goodwill and better friendship?
- 8. Get involved and spread the news about Rotary's good work.
- 9. If someone expresses a concern about Rotary, listen and see what you can do to correct the situation.
- 10. None of us are perfect. We all can display poor judgment at times. If you find you've made a mistake or offended someone, apologize as soon as possible. Not only will your action be good for Rotary, but you will gain respect for doing

The above is not an all-inclusive list; you may have ideas to add to it. Share your ideas with others.

Member Birthdays

Lumbra, Jon Hazen, Thomas Glanville, Dan Perkins, Jacob Moriarty, Michael

Rotary Anniversaries

Baran Barbara Florio Helene Jendrysik, Jim Perkins, Jacob

13 years 17 years 24 years 6 years

Apr 01

Apr 02

Apr 05

Apr 11

Apr 13

Upcoming Meetings

April 2, 2019

Marian Poe-Heineman INVOCATION: 5:30 - 7:00 PM at Slainte **EVENING MEETING:** Christine Burns, Assitant PROGRAM SPEAKER: District Governor, Changes in Rotary the will affect our Club.

> April 9, 2019 DATE:

INVOCATION: TBD

Jacob Perkins PROGRAM CHAIR:

PROGRAM SPEAKER:

TBD

April 16, 2019 DATE:

INVOCATION: TBD

Venus Robinson

PROGRAM CHAIR: PROGRAM SPEAKER:

Venus Robinson, Past

President of Club, Rotary programs and her experience with

the Group Study Exchange

April 23, 2019 DATE:

INVOCATION: Tom Accomando Bonnie Randal PROGRAM CHAIR:

PROGRAM SPEAKER: Sarah Tsitso, Executive

Director, Forest Park Zoo. The Forest Park Zoo and some of

it's attractions

April 30, 2019 DATE: INVOCATION: Deb Buckley CLUB ASSEMBLY

Upcoming Program Assignments

May 7 Evening Meeting May 14 Ed McCarron

Marian Poe-Heineman May 21 May 28 Peter Rosskothen



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2018/2019

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The club meets Tuesday, 12:15 p.m. at the Delaney House, north on Rte. 5, Holyoke

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 GOODWILL and BETTER FREINDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



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