



Fast Facts

- As a **Community of Leaders, Exchanging Ideas, and Taking Action**, Rotary is involved in making the world a better place. The Rotary Club of East Wichita specifically serves by distributing turkey dinners at Thanksgiving, volunteering during Riverfest, sending high school students to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), serving meals at The Lord's Diner, reading to grade school students through the public school OSCAR program, supporting young mothers in Gerard House and working with the youth at the Wichita Children's Home. "**Service Above Self**" is Rotary International's motto which reminds each of us that giving our time and resources to our community and the world is a priority.
- The Rotary Club of East Wichita was **chartered on March 6, 1984** with 35 members and was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Wichita (known as the downtown club). Our Club's current membership is over 100 and is one of over 33,000 clubs world-wide, with a combined membership totaling over 1.25 million Rotarians.
- Rotarians are **community leaders** including business owners, licensed professionals or key decision-makers from many sectors of the community - representing small business, corporations, legal and health-related services, education, banking and financial services, and non-profit organizations. Membership is by invitation to promote diversity of profession, gender and race.
- **Networking** with other Rotarians is an important part of, and a benefit of, membership. Rotarians are encouraged to use regular weekly meetings for introductions and to get to know other Rotarians. Monthly mixers, service projects and other social events also provide excellent opportunities for introductions and networking. Members should have no greater expectations for business networking reciprocation than they might from any other new contacts made through other means.
- Rotary and our Club embrace **diversity**. Women were first admitted as Rotarians internationally in 1989. Our Club has had five women Rotarians who served as presidents. Women comprise 25% of our membership.
- The Club **meets weekly**, Wednesdays at noon, generally at Wichita Country Club. (The Club does NOT meet during holiday weeks.) Members are highly encouraged to maintain attendance of 60 percent annually. Meetings offsite, referred to as "Firesides", are periodically hosted at a member's workplace, providing the opportunity to showcase his/her business.
- **Social events** are an important aspect of the Rotary experience and help to maintain a vibrant club. Monthly mixers, annual holiday party and special social activities are scheduled at various eastside restaurants or members' homes. These social gatherings give Rotarians an excellent opportunity for networking and fellowship. Spouses and guests are encouraged to participate. Social events also count toward attendance.
- EW Rotarians are very **generous with their financial support**, as well as giving greatly of their time. In recent years, our Club has donated over \$10,000.00 annually in grants to community endeavors/entities. In 2016-17, our Club contributed \$10,500 split evenly between EmberHope, Heartspring, and Starkey, Inc., the beneficiaries of our Kentucky Derby Party Fundraiser.
- **Rotary Club of East Wichita Foundation** was organized in 1999 to support the Club's philanthropy and service. A major emphasis is to award annual scholarships to area high school graduates attending Kansas colleges. To qualify, students must have a 3.0 GPA or higher, be active in their school and show evidence of need. Students may apply for the scholarships in successive years. Last year, we supported 17 students with a total of \$18,000.00 in scholarships.
- A large number of members support the **Rotary International Foundation**. These monies are used for projects worldwide, including the eradication of Polio. An added benefit is that money comes back each year to our Rotary District for local grants/projects. The amount provided to the District is dependent upon District giving. Our Club's membership contributed over \$6,100 in 2016-17 to the International Foundation.

"People of Action"