



Fast Facts

The Rotary Club of East Wichita is a **Community of Leaders, Exchanging Ideas, and Taking Action**; serving by, among other things, distributing turkey dinners at Thanksgiving, delivering meals to seniors for Meals on Wheels, sending high school students to RYLA (Leadership Experience), packing food bags for the Kansas Food Bank, and working with the youth at Urban Preparatory Academy. We also participate in international programs, including Rotary Inter-Country Teacher Exchange (RITE) and Open World. **“Service Above Self”** is Rotary International’s motto which reminds us that giving our time and resources to help others 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). We began the Rotary year on July 1 with a membership of 69 and are one of over 46,000 clubs world-wide, with a combined membership totaling over 1.4 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. Occasional 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 six women Rotarians who served as presidents. Women comprise 30% of our membership.

The Club **meets three Wednesdays a month**, at noon at the Wichita Country Club, skipping the first Wednesday of the month to instead volunteer in the community and/or have a social event. (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. Occasional 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 to many different community-based non-profits, including Urban Preparatory Academy, the Robert Dole VA Hospital, and Head-to-Toe Hygiene Pantry.

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 or technical schools. 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. The Foundation will support 10 students receiving \$11,000 in scholarships during the 2023-24 academic year. An Endowment Fund was launched in 2022 to help ensure funding for future students in the community. Find pledge form and FAQ’s regarding the Endowment Campaign at www.eastwichitarotary.org.

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 \$13,600 in 2022-23 to the International Foundation.

For more information visit www.eastwichitarotary.org, our Facebook page. www.Rotary.org, or contact Kim Hurtig, Club Executive, at hurtigfamily@att.net

“People of Action”

OUR VISION

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.