### The Rotary Club of West Kauai

***Invitation to join***



**The Club meets each Tuesday**

**from 5:30 - 6.30pm**

**At**

**The Grove Cafe ~ Waimea Plantation Cottages**

**9400 Kaumualii Hwy**

**Waimea, HI**

**Updated: 05/03/12**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of the Board of the **Rotary Club of West Kauai,** You are invited to attend our Club meetings as a prospective member.

We value our membership and offer it only to those we believe will help make our Club stronger. In our view, you are that type of person.

This Booklet has been produced to provide you with some basic information about Rotary. A second booklet outlines details of the Rotary Club of west Kauai and the obligations of members. They will be the basis for a discussion meeting with you if you agree to be proposed for membership.

Rotary Club membership gives some privileges, but places demands and obligations upon members. Therefore, we believe that should consider carefully the following information.

1. Invitation to Membership
2. Qualification for Active Membership
3. Rotary’s Principle of Membership
4. What is Rotary
5. Membership Obligations
6. Your Next Move

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President Date

1. **INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP**

Your invitation to consider membership is the result of the following:

* Your membership being sponsored by one of our members.
* The Club making a decision to extend to you the opportunity to become a member and your agreement to have your name published within the Club.
1. **QUALIFICATIONS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP**

Each Active Member will be an adult person of good character and business or professional reputation:

* engaged as Proprietor, Partner, Corporate Officer or Manager of any worthy and recognised business or profession, or
* holding an important position in an executive capacity with discretional authority in any worthy and recognised business or profession, or
* acting as the local agent or branch representative of any worthy and recognised business or profession, having entire charge of such agency or branch in an executive capacity, and
* Personally residing and/or personally and actively engaged in the business or profession in which you are classified and having your place of business located within the district of Kauai on the West Side.
* Additional Active Classification is available to one other person whose Classification shall be the same as that of the proposer.
1. **ROTARY’S PRINCIPLE OF MEMBERSHIP**

The Classification principle of membership is the foundation upon which a Rotary Club is established and maintained. It assures the membership is representative of the business, professional and institutional life of the locality in which the Rotary Club is established.

* Each Active Member of our Club shall be classified in accordance with their business or profession.
* The classification of each Active Member covers the principal and recognised activity of the firm, company or institution with which the member is connected, or if independently engaged in a business or profession, the classification covers the member’s principal and recognised business or professional activity.
* The active membership shall consist of not more than five persons from each classification of business or profession. There may be varying classifications within the Club which share a common profession but which specialise in different aspects of that profession.
* A classification is considered as loaned to an active member, and to any additional active member.

The classification principle contemplates that a Rotary Club will have an active membership so diversified that it represents a cross section of the business and professional life in the city and district.

The classification principle serves to facilitate discussion and fellowship that might otherwise be inhibited by the presence of business competitors.

1. **WHAT IS ROTARY**

Rotary International’s achievements and reputation, the Rotary Badge, the practice of membership only by invitation and the fact that Rotarians are seen to be leading business and professional people, have led many citizens to conclude that Rotary possesses a magical formula for success.

There is nothing magical about Rotary’s approach.

* Rotary is a Service Club – a human organisation in which people of like minds work together to serve others.
* The benefits of Rotary to you will be derived through *your interaction* with other Rotarians, in pursuit of common goals.
* Essentially, *Rotary is an ideal*, an ideal in action. To be a Rotarian is to affirm that ‘one should place **“Service Above Self”** in all that one does, and especially in our daily work’.
* In its short history, Rotary has built up a District and International organization, but that organization network is merely supportive of individual Rotarians and Clubs in their pursuit of the Rotary ideal.
* Rotary is a non-party political, non-sectarian organisation.
* Knowledge of Rotary’s structure is desirable for members, but not essential, nor expected of new members. The pathway to Rotary knowledge is through Rotary involvement.
* While a new Rotarian may be happy to consider Rotary an ideal, continued involvement will lead to an appreciation of Rotary as a special kind of experience. Interaction between Club members and Rotarians from other Clubs will expose you to people of different faiths, opinions and nationalities, but all growing in fellowship. You will find yourself discovering, with other Rotarians, your responsibilities to one another and the power of your combined efforts in purposeful action.
* Rotary is a means by which your individual skills may be enhanced, by joining them with those of other Rotarians to achieve a common purpose.
* What translates Rotary from an ideal into an experience is its ‘humanity’. Rotary is in the *people business*. Rotary is built around Club fellowship, through which members may express concern for one another, and out of which grows concern for others.
* Rotarians are encouraged to belong to their particular trade, commercial and professional organisations, but are urged to refrain from dividing their interest and energies by not accepting membership in other service clubs.

# MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

Rotary demands of one’s time, skills and, to a limited extent, money.

## **TIME**

* The Rotary Club of West Kauai. meets *weekly* and members are encouraged to attend every Tuesday at Waimea Plantation Cottages, in Waimea. Fellowship commences at 5:00pm, and the Dinner meeting starts at 5.30pm. Most Dinner meetings are concluded around 6:30pm.
* Each member should attend the Club’s regular meetings or make up at other Clubs or designated Rotary functions so that their attendance is at least 60% of the Club’s regular meetings in each half of the year.
* Just satisfying the attendance requirements are NOT helpful to either an individual member or the Club. If all Club members met the minimum attendance requirements only, your enjoyment of Rotary would be diminished and the Club’s performance would be significantly restricted.
* ’Make-ups’ – Provision exists for members to ‘make-up’ for absence by attending another Rotary Club within two weeks before or after a regular dinner meeting that they cannot attend at our Club.
* Projects – Members are often asked to devote time to Club Projects.

## **SKILLS**

* Our Club would expect that members give the Club the benefit of their organising, craft or other skills when appropriate.
* Since the Club Membership principle demands a high level of executive experience and since the Club organization depends on the sharing of skills and tasks, it is expected that any member will accept office or undertake other leadership tasks if requested.
* In other words, any person who joins Rotary should do so in the knowledge that a call may be made to accept leadership, or other, roles at varying times during membership.
* ***INFORMATION FORUMS***

During each year, District Committees conduct forums, meetings and conferences on aspects like the Rotary Foundation, Rotary Health Research Fund, International Service, Vocational Service, Youth programs. Your attendance is recommended at these gatherings to gain further knowledge and understanding of Rotary.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

A formal training program – The District Assembly – is also an important forum for gaining information on Rotary’s Programs within the District. It is often held on the days following the Presidents Elect Training Seminar (PETS), and provides the necessary training for members assuming Director or other Board responsibilities within their Club.

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Each year a District Conference is held within the District to further inform members about the programs of Rotary in an environment of fellowship, inspirational addresses and the discussion of matters relating to the general affairs of the Clubs within the District, and Rotary International.

# YOUR NEXT MOVE

* ***Review:***

 To this point:

* You have been invited to attend a number of Club Meetings as a guest of your proposer and of our Club
* You have received an invitation to join our membership
* We suggest you study the membership information
* Note any questions to be raised with the Club Representative who gave you this invitation, or the Club Membership representative
* You are encouraged to discuss your possible Rotary membership with your spouse or partner
* **Further Information:**

To provide you with more information a mutually acceptable time will be arranged for members of the Membership Development and Rotary Information Committees to visit you and your partner for an informal discussion.

* ***Decisions:*** You may now decide:
* To join Rotary
* To attend further Rotary meetings before committing to membership
* To further discuss and consider your membership
* To decline the invitation.
* ***Communication:***

Please convey your decisions above to the Club Representative who contacted you about membership, or during the “Further Information” visit.

If your decision is to join the Club, your proposer or the Chairman of the Membership Committee will contact you at an appropriate time after the processes of the Club member voting have been completed, to advise the date on which you may be inducted as a member of our Rotary Club.