

The Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North

Prospective Member Information

July, 2020

We are pleased that you are considering applying for membership in the Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North (RCMN). The following information is provided to help you learn about Rotary International (RI) and RCMN. Information is also available on our website <http://www.mechanicsburgnorthrotary.org>. If you have any questions, please contact our membership chair, president or secretary.

What is Rotary?

Rotary is a global network of neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves.

Rotary is commonly known for its work toward eradicating polio, but also makes global impact in these areas:

- Promoting Peace
- Fighting Disease
- Providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene
- Saving mothers and children
- Supporting education
- Growing local economies
- Protect and Conserve the environment (July, 2021)

Rotary's mission is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional and community leaders.

Rotary's guiding principle is "Service Above Self" and you will often hear Rotarians refer to the Four Way Test in all that we think, say and do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

These are adopted by all Rotarians around the world.

What is the Rotary Foundation?

The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The Foundation is not-for-profit and is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

What is a Paul Harris Fellow?

Donations of \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation or people who have that amount contributed in their name, can be recognized as Paul Harris Fellows. Paul Harris Fellows are recognized with a commemorative pin. Many of our RCMN members are Paul Harris Fellows.

What are the benefits of being a Rotarian?

- GIVING SERVICE to your community;
- DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL GOODWILL and UNDERSTANDING;
- NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES within the business community;
- PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT;
- CULTURAL AWARENESS AND CONTINUED LEARNING

What is a Rotary District?

A district is a group of Rotary clubs in a geographical area. The activities and organization of a Rotary district exist to help and support individual clubs advance Rotary goals. Our District 7390 includes clubs in Dauphin, Perry, Adams, Cumberland, York, Lebanon and Lancaster Counties. Each District is comprised of a District Governor and other Rotarians who provide training and fellowship opportunities, grants and funding, partnership opportunities with other clubs, and is a conduit between our club and Rotary International. Information can be found on the district website at www.rotary7390.org.

What is the RCMN's vision?

The vision of the Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North reflects the ideals of Rotary International which is to advance high ethical standards, international understanding, goodwill and peace through our common efforts and community involvement.

How is RCMN organized?

RCMN is governed by an elected Board. There is a Constitution and By-Laws to guide the Board in the decisions that are made.

There are Five Avenues of Service which help Rotary Clubs to organize their activities, programs and projects. Each Avenue of Service has multiple committees and members are expected to choose to serve on committees of interest. These include:

- Club Service - focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.

- Vocational Service - calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society.
- Community Service - encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life for people in their communities and to serve the public interest.
- International Service - exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding. We support this service avenue by sponsoring or volunteering on international projects, seeking partners abroad, and more.
- Youth Service - recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as Rotaract, Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, and Rotary Youth Exchange.

What are my responsibilities as a Rotarian?

Rotarians are expected to give of their time and talents by participating in community work projects; fellowship and social functions; and club and district activities.

Attendance at weekly meetings is a benefit of Rotary. If you can't attend a meeting you can make-up at another Rotary club meeting, attend a District function, participate in club service projects and activities or complete a make-up online.

The Club is dependent on dues and fund-raising projects. Rotarians are expected to support and participate in the fund-raising projects and to pay quarterly dues within 30 days of receipt of the billing. The quarterly dues include per member dues that are assessed by Rotary International and the District as well as a voluntary donation to the Rotary Foundation which is the non-profit charitable arm of Rotary. Donations are used to support Rotary projects throughout the world.

What is the process for becoming a Rotarian?

Each prospective member must be sponsored by a Club member or their former Rotary Club. Sponsors typically tend to be members who have invited prospective members to meetings. Not knowing a member however doesn't prevent someone from joining. We are happy to assign a club member as a sponsor. Next step is to complete an application, including the sponsor's signature and submit it to the membership chair, club president or club secretary. The Board and membership will approve or disapprove the application. If there are no objections a welcome letter will be sent by the secretary and upon receipt of the requested information, the prospective member will be considered as a member of the Club. If there are any objections there is a process for the Board to follow to address the objection(s).