

Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North
Member Handbook
2022-2023

The Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North (RCMN) was chartered with Rotary International on December 28, 1990. There were 25 charter members of which 8 are still members of the club.

Rotary International (RI) is an organization of members who demonstrate a commitment to service through personal involvement in their communities, provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Rotary International (www.rotary.org) is divided into Districts which is a group of Rotary clubs in a geographical area. The activities and organization of a Rotary district exist to help individual clubs advance Rotary goals. Our District 7390 (www.rotary7390.org) includes clubs in Dauphin, Perry, Adams, Cumberland, York, Lebanon and Lancaster Counties.

Rotary's guiding principal is "Service above Self" and as members we are expected to live by the 4-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 Friendships?
4. Will It Be Beneficial to All Concerned?

Objects of Rotary

The Objects of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- First.* The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- Second.* High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- Third.* The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- Fourth.* The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

In addition to eradicating Polio, Rotary International has 7 Areas of Focus that clubs are encouraged to support:

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

Rotary International 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.

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.

Making contributions is easy and can be done through <https://my.rotary.org/en> once a member logs in.

Purposes of RCMN

The purposes of this club are to pursue the Object of Rotary, carry out successful service projects based on the Five Avenues of Service, contribute to the advancement of Rotary by strengthening membership, support The Rotary Foundation, and develop leaders beyond the club level. As members of RCMN we are expected to give of our time and talents by participating in community work projects; fellowship and social functions; and club and district activities.

We do this through the Five Avenues of Service which are the philosophical and practical framework for the work of our Rotary club. Each Avenue of Service has multiple committees and members are expected to choose to serve on committees of interest. These include:

- 1. Club Service** focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.
- 2. Vocational Service** calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society. Learn more in [An Introduction to Vocational Service](#) and the [Code of Conduct](#).
- 3. 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. Learn more in [Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects](#).
- 4. 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.
- 5. Youth Service** (New Generations) recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as [Interact](#), [Rotary Youth Leadership Awards](#), and [Rotary Youth Exchange](#).

A description of committees and service activities can be found on pages 5-7. Committee and service activities are announced at meetings, via email communications and on the Club website. You are welcome to join a committee or project at any time by contacting the Club President.

Governance of the RCMN

The governing body of the club is the Board of Directors consisting of the president, president-elect, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president and directors at large who are elected in accordance with the Club's By-Laws.

The board is governed by the club's Constitution and By-Laws which can be found on the RCMN website at www.mechanicsburgnorthrotary.org. Each year the Board adopts a strategic plan and goals to guide the decision-making process.

The Board meets on a monthly basis and special meetings are called as needed. The 2022-2023 board members are as follows:

President	Dawn Sizer
President-elect	David Blain
Vice President	Dave Sizer
Secretary	Stephanie Acri
Treasurer	Brian Peters
Past President	Glen Osborn
Board Members	Steve Grubb Karis Hazam Rod Silvis

Meetings

Attendance at weekly meetings is a benefit of Rotary. RCMN offers an AM and PM meeting time. If you can't attend a regular meeting, you are encouraged to attend via Zoom or at another Rotary Club; participate in a District function or participate in club service projects and activities.

Any changes to the meeting schedule will be announced by the President at the regular meetings, through email communications and on the Club website.

A calendar of events is available on the Club website www.mechanicsburgnorthrotary.org

Membership

The RCMN has two kinds of individual memberships: active and honorary. Each member is assigned a classification that reflects the member's business, profession, or type of community service and is reflective of the activity of the firm, company, or institution with which the member is connected. A retired member maintains their classification.

Prospective members need to be sponsored by a current member or if transferring from another club can be sponsored by that club. Prospective member information, the process for proposing a new member and the sponsor's responsibilities can be obtained from the Club president, secretary or membership chair. Information can also be found on the club website. Corporate

Memberships, Alumni Memberships and On-line Memberships are also available. Contact the Club president, secretary or membership chair for information.

Financial Responsibility of Membership

The Club is dependent on dues and fund-raising projects. Members are expected to support and participate in the fund-raising projects and to pay quarterly dues (July, October, January, and April) within 30 days of receipt of the billing. The quarterly dues include per member dues and other fees that are assessed by Rotary International and the District as well as a voluntary donation to the Rotary Foundation. Quarterly billings may vary based on the inclusion of meal costs. **Consecutive non-payment of quarterly dues may result in termination from the club by the board.**

Leave of Absence

Upon application to the board, setting forth good and sufficient cause, a leave of absence may be granted excusing a member from attending the meetings of the club for a specified length of time. Members who are on a Leave of Absence are still considered Active Members through Rotary International and are responsible for dues assessed by the Club. Contact the secretary for information and a form to complete. Board approval is required.

Rule of 85

Members may apply for “Rule of 85” status if the aggregate of the member’s years of age and years of membership in one or more clubs is 85 years or more, the member has been a member of one or more clubs for at least 20 years, and the member has completed and submitted the form requesting Rule of 85 status. Board approval is required. Contact the secretary for information and a form to complete.

ClubRunner

RCMN uses ClubRunner © for our website. Anyone can view the website at www.mechanicsburgnorthrotary.org. Each member has a user name and password to login in order to access contact info for Rotarians, send group emails, view the member photo directory and edit personal and business contact information. To login click on the Member Login link located in the upper right corner of the website. Contact the club secretary if you have problems with the login process.

A nice feature of ClubRunner © is the ability to download a ClubRunner© app to a smartphone. That app will allow you to access contact information for all club members.

Rotary Club of Mechanicsburg-North Club Committees and Service Activities

Changes and updates will be announced at the meetings, via email communications and on the Club website. Members can contact the President or the Committee Chair to have their name added to a committee or project at any time.

- Adopt a Family - Each year during the holidays our club supports a family/families in need by helping to buy gifts and food. Donations are not part of a budget line item and are collected via a “pass the hat” at our club meetings, via check or another alternative.
- Adopt a Highway - As part of the PA “adopt a highway” program our club supports a fall and spring “highway cleanup” activity in the Orr’s Bridge Road area of Hampden Township. A club member works with the local township to get special vests for club members who pick up trash for several hours on a Saturday morning. The township collects the trash bags along the road.
- Beer and Wine Fest or Golf Tournament - This committee plans our club’s premier fundraiser for the year which typically occurs each September, and has subcommittees dedicated to each facet of preparations.
- Bethesda Mission - Members work with staff to serve food to Bethesda mission residents and those in need who are not residents. A sign-up with dates and times is sent to members via email.
- Communications - This committee develops and implements communications plans to promote activities and services of the club and Rotary International. Communication methods include social media, the club website and email.
- Local Projects - This committee evaluates proposals from the community for the completion of hands-on service activities and utilizes club funds approved by the club board to accomplish the projects.
- Membership - This committee develops and implements a comprehensive plan for the recruitment and retention of members. Activities include:
 - Developing new member and sponsor resources
 - Supporting new members through a Mentor program
 - Proposing and implementing board approved club membership models
 - Spearheading recruitment “mixer” events which introduce the public to our club
- New Hope Ministries - Club Members support New Hope Ministries food pantry located in Mechanicsburg on a Saturday morning by stocking shelves and assisting guests at the food pantry. Volunteers must go through an application process with New Hope including a background check to be cleared for volunteering. Volunteer dates are announced via email.

- Nominating - This committee is appointed by the club president on an annual basis and prepares a proposed slate of directors annually to be presented to the club membership no later than November 30th. A representative of this committee serves as the recipient of additional nominations from the club membership and presents the slate to the board of directors for their vote at the December board meeting.
- Philanthropy - This committee is the first point of contact for the club for philanthropic funding requests. The committee considers and submits recommendations to the RCMN Board of Directors for approval based upon established guidelines. The board approves on an annual basis the amount of money allocated toward funding requests.
- Rotary Foundation – This committee develops and implements plans to support the Rotary Foundation through financial contributions and program participation. Additional activities include recognizing individual members for levels of giving to Rotary International.
- Social Events - This committee plans and implements social activities for the club including but not limited to the holiday party, summer picnic and charter night.
- Speakers - A key component of every Rotary meeting is a presentation by a speaker. The chairperson seeks members to volunteer to acquire speakers for a given month and to introduce that speaker at the meeting. The names/organizational affiliations are posted on the RCMN website. Both the morning and evening venues have separate speaker chairs who fulfill this responsibility.

Youth Activities

- Fishing Derby - This annual event is conducted at the Conodoguinet Youth Park in Hampden Township and gives children the opportunity to fish in the Conodoguinet Creek and participate in games/prizes under the supervision of their parents and club members.
- Four Way Essay Contest - The club facilitates an essay contest centered around a topic relating to Rotary's Four Way Test. The contest is open to ninth graders at the high schools in the club's service area. A judging panel of Rotarians evaluates the submitted essays and awards prizes to the three best essays. The top three winning essays are read at a club meeting with the winning essay advancing to the District 7390 competition.
- Four Way Speech Contest - The club facilitates a speech contest centered around the Four Way Test. Contestants must be 10th, 11th, or 12th grade students. A Club contest is held to determine who advances to the mid-level competition. The winner of the mid-level competition advances to the District 7390 competition.
- Rotary Youth Exchange Program
Each year our club tries to sponsor an inbound/outbound exchange student or both (if available) from a foreign country. An inbound exchange student can live with multiple families during the school year each of which is referred to as a "host family". Inbound and Outbound exchange students are supported by "Counselors."

To serve as a “counselor” in the Rotary Youth exchange program criminal and child abuse clearances must be obtained through District 7390 in addition to successful completion of training.

- RYLA - RYLA stands for “Rotary Youth Leadership Awards” and is an annual program sponsored by Rotary District 7390. Multiple students, who have completed their junior year, are chosen to attend the program.
- Interact Club - The Interact Club is an RCMN hosted club of students at East Pennsboro High School. The club has a school contact and club contact who supports the activities of the club.
- Students of the Month and Scholarships - The Students of the Month program recognizes 2 senior students each month from Cumberland Valley School District, Cumberland Perry Area Career and Technical Center and East Pennsboro School District. Students are recognized at meetings during the months of October, November, January, February, March and April.

Each year a committee will review scholarship applications and award scholarships to a designated number of students from each school.

Note: Members can contact the Club president for information on who chairs each committee. Volunteers are always greatly appreciated!