

**San Marcos Rotary Club Members are working together to make a difference in our community and our world. Our club is always looking for service-minded people who are interested in serving our community and the world, making new friends and having fun. If you think you would like more information about how you can become involved please continue reading the information below.**

### ***What are the benefits of Joining the San Marcos Rotary Club?***

#### **Professional Networking**

A founding principle of Rotary was to meet periodically to enjoy camaraderie and enlarge one's circle of business and professional acquaintances. As the oldest service club in the world, Rotary club members represent a cross-section of the community's owners, executives, managers, political leaders, and professionals – people who make decisions and influence policy.

#### **Service Opportunities**

Club members have many opportunities for humanitarian service, both locally and internationally. Service programs address such concerns as health care, hunger, poverty, illiteracy, and the environment. Rotarians experience the fulfillment that comes from giving back to the community.

#### **International Awareness**

With more than 1.4 million members and over 46,000 Rotary clubs all over the world, Rotarians gain an understanding of humanitarian issues through international service projects and exchange programs. One of Rotary's highest objectives is to build goodwill and peace throughout the world.

#### **Friendship**

Rotary was founded on fellowship, an ideal that remains a major attraction of membership today. Club members enjoy the camaraderie with like-minded professionals, and club projects offer additional opportunities to develop enduring friendships. Rotary club members who travel have friendly contacts in almost every city in the world.

#### **Good Citizenship**

Weekly Rotary club programs keep members informed about what is taking place in the community, nation, and world and motivated to make a difference.

#### **Family Foundations**

Rotary sponsors some of the world's largest youth exchange, educational exchange, and scholarship programs. Rotary clubs provide innovative training opportunities and mentoring for young leaders and involve family members in a wide range of social and service activities.

## **Entertainment**

Social activities give Rotarians a chance to let loose and have fun. Every Rotary club and district hosts parties and activities that offer diversions from today's demanding professional and personal schedules. Conferences, conventions, assemblies, and social events provide entertainment as well as Rotary information, education, and service.

## **Ethical Environment**

Encouraging high ethical standards in one's profession and respect for all worthy vocations has been a hallmark of Rotary from its earliest days. In their business and professional lives, Rotarians abide by The Four-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?

## **Leadership Development**

Rotary is an organization of successful professionals and retirees. Team building, fundraising, public speaking, planning, organization, and communication are just a sampling of the leadership skills that club members can exercise and enhance. Being a Rotary leader provides further experience in learning how to motivate, inspire, and guide others.

## **Diversity in Membership**

Rotary's classification system ensures that a club's membership represents a variety of the community's professional men and women, including leaders in business, industry, the arts, government, sports, the military, and religion. Rotary clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

## **What is the commitment as a member?**

**Attendance:** To enjoy all the benefits of becoming a San Marcos Rotarian, it is important to attend club meetings and functions. We believe regular attendance and participation will help you enjoy your Rotary experience more. If you cannot attend your home club meetings, you are welcome to attend other club meetings. Once you join, you'll have access to the Clubrunner website, where you'll find all things Rotary.

**Financial Commitment:** While there are a number of opportunities for you to offer financial support to Rotary, the ones that are important to know about as a new member are:

1. The cost of weekly meeting lunches is \$25 each. You are also encouraged to support the scholarship fund by participating in the weekly Joker is Wild game as well as contribute to Happy Dollars, which "buys" you the opportunity to share something that's going on in your life with the members at the meetings. For lunch payment, it is

possible for you to be invoiced by the club treasurer so you can pay quarterly in advance instead of weekly at the door. Please ask the treasurer if you are interested in this option. If paid in advance and you miss a meeting, credit will be carried forward. Advance payments can also be used to cover the cost of bringing a guest. Lunches can also be paid for by using Zelle (through your Zelle account with your bank by sending the payment to sanmarcosrotary@gmail.com).

2. Annual dues are \$300. A portion of the dues pay for club operating costs and incidental expenses, a portion goes to District 5340 for administrative cost and foundation event support, and the remainder goes to Rotary International for administrative costs, the Rotary magazine which you'll receive monthly, and club event insurance. Dues are payable when your application for membership is approved and will be pro-rated from the date of induction thru June 30<sup>th</sup> of the current fiscal year.
3. You are requested to make an annual donation to the **San Marcos Rotary Club Foundation** in the *minimum* amount of \$100. The **San Marcos Rotary Club Foundation** is different than **The Rotary Foundation** mentioned below. The **San Marcos Rotary Club Foundation** is a 501C3 administered by San Marcos Rotary Club members and established to fund the charitable purposes of the club. These funds help make it possible to carry out our good works such as supporting local club projects, sponsoring community based events like fireworks and summer concerts, and providing scholarships for local high school and college students. Your donation may be made all at one time before June 30<sup>th</sup> in the year you join, or it may be paid in incremental amounts during the course of a year.
4. Club members are also encouraged to contribute to **The Rotary Foundation** (TRF). Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty. Each year the President of the club establishes a per capita contribution goal. The board members of the Rotary Club of San Marcos respectfully ask for a *minimum* commitment of \$100, and your donation may be made all at one time before June 30<sup>th</sup> in the year you join, or it may be paid in incremental amounts online during the course of the year.

**Fundraisers:** The club conducts fundraising events during the year and often conducts small club supported fundraisers as well. You will be requested to support the major fundraising events through various activities including selling tickets to the event, obtaining sponsorships, and serving on committees and/or helping at the events.

## How Do I Become a Member?

If you have not already done so, we encourage you to join us for lunch at one of our meetings. We host the first visit and if you would like to attend more meetings before joining you are certainly welcome to do so. Tasty lunch dishes are available for only \$25.

Membership in Rotary is by invitation. If you have decided you would like to join the Rotary Club of San Marcos, you are ready to take the next step.

Below you can download an application for membership You may give your application to the club president, the club treasurer or the membership chairperson in person or you may email it to membership chair [rodj@roadrunner.com](mailto:rodj@roadrunner.com). Processing your application may typically take about two to three weeks. If you wish you are welcome to continue attending meetings.

You will be notified as soon as you have been accepted and will be inducted at a meeting soon after when you will receive your membership materials and your annual dues will be collected.

If you have other questions or need clarification of any of the above information, please do not hesitate to ask the membership chair or any club officer. We look forward to receiving your application and starting the process to make you a San Marcos Rotarian.

San Marcos Rotary Club  
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[www.sanmarcosrotaryclub.org](http://www.sanmarcosrotaryclub.org)