

Membership Matters

Passport Clubs Reimagine Rotary For a Second Century of Service



The first Rotary Passport Club was chartered in Sacramento, CA (D-5180) in 2015 by then Governor Glenn Fong and Charter President Mike Reneiro. It chartered with 60 members, and grew to 90 within one year.

The concept? Remove barriers of time and expense to people who want to become Rotarians by offering greater meeting flexibility and lower costs. The Passport club encourages members to be engaged in service in ways that fit their time, talents and finances, and finds ways to encourage them to fit Rotary within their family, work and life commitments. The Sacramento club meets only four times per year, while other Passport clubs choose to meet monthly.

Passports clubs differ from e-clubs in that members live within a defined geographical region, so that members can get together for regular meetings — just not as often as traditional clubs.

Rotary Passport club members are full Rotary members, with the same privileges and rights as Rotarians in traditional clubs.

Why “Passport”? Membership in a Passport Rotary club is a passport:

- ◆ Into Rotary for people who have busy lives and other commitments.
- ◆ To other Rotary clubs by encouraging members to visit local Rotary clubs and to take part in their service projects, fundraisers and other activities;
- ◆ To the local community. Members who already volunteer in other community groups become Rotary ambassadors to those groups, and bring ideas for projects back to the club.

The target membership group for the Passport club are:



- ◆ Former Rotary members who are ready to rejoin
- ◆ Current or past members of the Rotary family, including Rotaractors and Rotary scholars and other alumni.
- ◆ Young people who are early in their careers and/or have young families and conflicting time commitments.
- ◆ Retirees who now have time and talent to give back to their communities.
- ◆ Anyone who wants to do good in the world

We now have three Passport Clubs in our Zones—the D-7040 Rotary Passport Club, the Scarborough Rotary Passport Club in D-7070 as well as the ninth Passport club in the world and also the newest — the Pacific Northwest Rotary Club in District 5050, which held its Charter Night in early March. The PNW Rotary Club was installed by Vice President Dean Rohrs and welcomed by special guest PDG Glenn Fong.

—PDG Sean Hogan, Zone 24 West Public Image Coordinator and charter president, PNW Passport Club

Public Image

These images and others that can be found throughout this newsletter were created by Sean Hogan, Public Image Coordinator in Zone 24 West, using the “People of Action” materials available on the Rotary website. You can make your own People of Action ads — starring members of your own club and district — via downloadable templates. Do it today!



Leadership in Action

Ready to make your own People of Action ads? Go to the Brand Center on rotary.org and follow the prompts. With the templates available, we can now make our own customized ads for print and social media at absolutely no cost — all it takes is a good action photo.



At top: President Ian Riseley and Juliet at the Vancouver Peace leadership conference; center: Vice President Dean Rohrs at World Polio activities in Seattle, and bottom: President-elect Barry Rassin at the International Assembly in San Diego.