Turn the RINOs into Rotarians!

<u>www.rotary.org</u> - Rotary International www.rotary6000.org - District 6000

Should the word **RINO** (*Rotarian in Name Only*) be stamped on the forehead of some of your club members? How do you turn RINOs into Rotarians?

All clubs have RINOs. Our goal is to minimize that number as much as possible.

True Rotarians see the big picture of Rotary and "get it".

- ✓ They know Rotary goes way beyond the greet, eat, and meet mentality.
- They are interested in what Rotary does on the district, national, and international levels.
- They get goose bumps when they hear of polio eradication efforts in India, a new school built in Mexico, indigent children in El Salvador getting cleft palate surgery, poverty stricken families receiving crude solar ovens to heat their food, children and adults being fitted with braces, dentures, and eye glasses. It's the proud feeling of seeing tiny villages get clean drinking water for the first time, books to start a small school library, or back packs filled with school supplies and hygiene products for impoverished children.
- Yes, being a Rotarian is much more than just attending weekly meetings. It's reaching out to others, giving generous support to the Rotary Foundation, attending district and international conventions to meet other Rotarians and have the passion to reach out and hold the Rotary banner high with pride.

It's typical for club members who attend an international convention or participate in a "sweat equity" district project to exclaim upon their return "*I left town as a club member and I return as a Rotarian!*" Participating in Rotary projects in other parts of the country (Hurricane Katrina), in neighboring countries (Xicotepec, Mexico) or attending international Rotary conventions (held annually) can have a significant impact along the journey to become a "real" Rotarian

One of the best ways to make full fledged Rotarians out of club members is to broaden their Rotary horizon by having guest speakers bring worldwide Rotary projects to your club meetings. Oftentimes this will result in just the spark a club member needs to take the initiative to get involved in Rotary on a larger scale.

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Rotarians from District 6000 are quite active on the international level. They would be happy to be a resource person to help arrange a Rotary program for you. Some of the topics of interest:

- **→** The Rotary Foundation
- ✦ Polio Eradication
- ★ FAMSCO (Fire and Medical Supply Company)
- → MOST (Miles of Smiles Team)
- → RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)
- → Youth Exchange
- → GSE (Group Study Exchange)
- **♦** Interact
- ✦ Rotaract
- → District and International Convention reports
- ★ Xicotepec, Mexico project
- ★ Rotary sponsored World Affairs seminars for youth
- ★ Rotary Fellowships (there are 87!)
- ✦ Rotary Exchange students

It's up to the local club to widen the Rotary horizons of it's club members. You'll see a big difference when RINOs become Rotarians!