

## Rotary Club of Motorcycling Rotarians to Charter on July 2, 2018

By Gerry Jackson, PDG



After a long learning and growing process, District 6380 is proud to announce the upcoming charter of its first e-club – the Rotary Club of Motorcycling Rotarians. First conceived over two years ago and launching its provisional status in March of 2017, the club has now grown to 25 active members. Our active members are from all over the USA and Canada and with the exception of me, Gerry Jackson, all the rest of the active members physically reside outside of our district. Thus on July 2, our district will immediately grow by 24 Rotarians.

Our “community” is our love of motorcycles as most (but not all) of these Rotarians actually have and ride a motorcycle. Of the 25 new active members: six (6) are new Rotarians for the first time (although one is a former exchange student from our district), eight (8) are former Rotarians and the remaining eleven (11) are transferring their memberships from another club.

Under the new provisions of honorary membership in a club, our club has established a specific sub-category of honorary membership the club-specific category of “associate members.” By our definition, these are existing Rotarians that want to maintain their active membership in their current club, yet also participate in the activities of this new club. So in addition to our 25 active members, we are chartering our club with an additional 27 associate members, including 4 other PDGs, for a total of 52 members. One of our associate members, Paul Schissler, is also from our district. We are pleased that our associate members include Rotarians from USA, Canada and the Honduras. Several of these associates, have committed to transfer their active membership in our club at the end of this calendar year.

We are also very excited that we are in the midst of funding our very first international project. You might recall District 6380's rather large 3H grant (spearheaded by Linda Eastman of the Rochester Rotary Club) from several years ago whereby through that grant the district was able to fund the education and assignment of a native Mayan to become the nurse practitioner that runs the day to day operations of Casa Colibri (the medical mission clinic in northwest Guatemala which we largely associate with Rochester Rotarians Dr. Jay and Linda Eastman).

Mateo, the nurse practitioner that runs the clinic, must travel a great distance from his home village to our clinic each Monday and return to his home each Friday relying on a long and arduous trip by public transport or a dangerous trek through the mountains on foot. Our club has taken on the task of providing Mateo with a refurbished 4WD truck which we expect he will have use of by the end of this summer. Any donations to help us with this project would be graciously accepted.

As you can quite imagine with this a one-of-a-kind club in our new Rotary world, we have gone and continue to go through many new experiences at letting Rotary excel in this new way. Now our district is also challenged to learn and transform in new ways to be able to support the club and these new style of Rotarians.

Please join me in congratulating my new club, the Rotary Club of Motorcycling Rotarians. While you are at it, consider a makeup at one of our Tuesday evening e-meetings (connection info located on our website: [motorcyclingrotariansclub.org](http://motorcyclingrotariansclub.org)).