

Rotary Membership Minute

October 2015 | Ideas for strengthening membership

JOIN ROTARY



Rotary is a community of friends who are committed to creating positive change in the world. Find out how joining your local club can enrich your life and improve the lives of people living in your neighborhood and across the globe.

JOIN US!

Tell us why you're interested in joining a Rotary club and we'll connect you with our global network of community volunteers.

I'm interested in:

- Select -

New process for prospective, referred, and returning or relocating members

Your online connection to membership leads

We are excited to introduce a new process for collecting and communicating online membership leads that will make it easier for club officers and district leaders to follow up on leads, and for prospective members to join a club. Prospective members who visit Rotary.org and select the “Join” button will provide their information using an online form. That information will be sent to Rotary, where the candidate will be screened for basic membership qualifications before being forwarded to district governors and district membership chairs to assign to clubs for

clubs or seek out a new club for themselves. All of these leads will be readily available when you sign in to My Rotary.

Watch for this new process to be launched in mid-November.

Resources for new members

Welcome kits now available

Rotary is developing new resources to help support clubs' efforts to strengthen their membership. Visit shop.rotary.org to order welcome kits to share with new members. Customize your kits with a club brochure, personalized member certificates, and ID cards available in the [Brand Center](#).

Member spotlight

Why this polio survivor became a Rotarian

During Membership Month in August, we asked members to [share the reasons](#) they joined Rotary and why they remain members. We enjoyed reading your responses, which are as diverse as Rotary's membership. To mark World Polio Day, 24 October, we'd like to share the response we received from David Harris, a member of the Rotary Club of Grand Island, Nebraska, USA.

"I have polio. I've had it for 70 years. The first couple of years were the worst – I wore pajamas for nearly two years. At the age of 12, on the threshold of becoming a teenager, it struck me and tore my body and my life apart. I prayed to God that He'd take me, but He didn't.

Now, I'm a doddering old man, bedeviled with some of the very same symptoms I shared with stricken kids in the children's hospital ward many years ago.

When I see pictures of kids suffering with polio in the few countries that unfortunately still have the disease, what do I feel? I cannot begin to describe how I cry for them. Is there anything I could do to give them back their lives or, better yet, prevent them from ever experiencing the horror in the first place? When I first heard, some years ago, of an



organization [dedicated to eradicating polio], did I want to join? With a passion! Here's one thing I could do and support to somehow make up for the suffering of many years."

SUPPORT MILES TO END POLIO

On 21 November, Rotary General Secretary John Hewko and a team of Rotary staff members will bike in El Tour de Tucson to raise funds for polio eradication. The Miles to End Polio team goal is \$3.4 million. Districts can support the team with Designated District Fund donations. The district that gives the most will get a visit from Rotary President-elect John Germ. Donate today!



- [Support Rotary staff riders with a contribution](#)
- [Learn more about Miles to End Polio and meet the team](#)

UPDATED LEAD YOUR CLUB SERIES NOW AVAILABLE

Check out the updated manuals in Rotary's Lead Your Club series, which provide vital information about the role and responsibilities of the club [president](#), [secretary](#), [treasurer](#), and recommended [committees](#).

Rotary Global Women of Action

Honoring women who exemplify Service Above Self

Six women have been chosen as Rotary Global Women of Action from more than 100 Rotarians and Rotaractors nominated by district governors in response to a request from RI President K.R. Ravindran. These [six women](#) are leaders in their respective communities, have achieved a high degree of professional success, and engage in volunteer activities that exemplify Service Above Self. They will be honored during Rotary Day at the United Nations on 7 November in New York City.

Resources & reference

[Strengthening Your Membership: Creating Your Membership Development Plan](#)

[Rotary Brand Center](#)
[World Polio Day 2015](#)

Membership Minute is a bimonthly newsletter that provides the latest membership trends, strategies, best practices, and resources to help strengthen membership in your clubs. To subscribe to Membership Minute, sign in to [My Rotary](#) and visit the [Newsletters](#) page. To subscribe to Membership Minute, sign into [My Rotary](#) and visit the [Newsletters](#) page.

Send questions or comments to membership.minute@rotary.org.

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