

A Guide to Membership Retention











Retention of members is critical to Rotary's ability to meet the growing demand for humanitarian needs and volunteer services throughout the world.







Retention Pilot Program

The RI Board-approved Retention Pilot Program, which ran 1 July 2003 through 30 June 2006, determined effective activities that support and sustain membership retention at the club level. Seven action steps for successful retention were identified:

Seven Action Steps

- 1.) Identify
- 2.) Introduce
- 3.) Invite
- 4.) Induct
- 5.) Inform or Orient
- 6.) Involve
- 7.) Educate







<u>Identify well-qualified members</u> of your community. These individuals should be professional or community leaders of strong character who have a commitment to service. Ask them to be your guest at a Rotary club meeting.











jf2 Insert hyperlink to page 5 of the revised Membership Development Resource Guide, when it is posted to the Web. Jennifer Frisbie, 01/05/2008



Introduce prospective members to Rotary by informing them about Rotary International's programs and your club's service projects.







jf1 Insert hyperlink to page 11 of the Membership Development Resource Guide here, when it is posted to the Web. Jennifer Frisble, 01/05/2008



<u>Invite prospective members</u> to join your club with a personal visit. Highlight potential areas of involvement in the club and RI based on the prospective member's personal interests.









Induct new members in a dignified and meaningful manner. Invite spouses, partners, and family members to attend.









Inform new members about your club and RI by ^{jf3} focusing on:

- Opportunities for Service
- Rotary policies and Procedures
- Rotary history and achievements

Consider distributing the <u>New Member Information</u> <u>Kit</u> (426-EN) to new members.





jf3 Link to page 3 of New Member Orientation: A How-to Guide for Clubs Jennifer Frisbie, 01/05/2008



Suggested session outlines, resources, and action steps for conducting new member information programs are included in <u>New Member Orientation</u>: <u>A How-to Guide for Clubs (414-EN)</u>.









Immediately involve new members in:

- Club committees
- Service projects
- Weekly club meetings
- Social activities









There are two approaches a new member can take to acquire a Rotary education: self-education and continuing education offered by the club.









Self-education activities include:

- Informational reading such as
 - -*The ABC's of Rotary* (363)
 - -<u>Rotary Foundation Facts</u> (159)
 - -<u>THE ROTARIAN</u> or regional magazines
 - –Exploring club, district, and \underline{RI} Web sites
- Attending a board or committee meeting
- Attending a district meeting, such as a Rotary Foundation Seminar







A continuing education plan offered by the club includes

- Frequent communication of Rotary news and information
- Club programs focused on continuing education
- District-level seminars on continuing education







Resources

- <u>Welcome to Rotary</u> video
- •<u>New Members</u> Web page
- •<u>RI Programs</u>
- •The Rotary Foundation
- •Rotary E-Learning Center
- •<u>Shop.rotary.org</u>
- •<u>New Member Orientation: A How-to Guide for Clubs</u> (414-EN)
- •<u>Membership DVD Set</u> (427-MU)
- Prospective Member Information Kit (423-EN)
- •<u>Membership Development Resource Guide (417-EN)</u>



