

GRADUATE COURSE
THE HISTORY OF ROTARY
FACULTY GUIDE

Goals of the Session:

1. Explore the influences existing during the decade of Rotary's founding and the relationship between those influences and Rotary's Five Avenues of Service.
2. Discuss the contributions of the early personalities of Rotary, their place in the Rotary story, and their importance to the early direction and doctrine of Rotary.
3. Develop a working timeline of Rotary's history, and explore the milestones, programs, trends, and relationships revealed by the timeline perspective.
4. Begin to establish a personal relationship with the heritage and legacy of Rotary, increasing your pride in being a Rotarian and your ability to enhance the development of your Club.

Resources:

Carvin, Fred. Paul Harris and the Birth of Rotary, 2011
Dochterman, Cliff. The ABCs of Rotary, 1999
Forward, David. A Century of Service, 2003
Rotarian Magazine, December 2011 (articles)
www.rotaryhistory.org

Suggested Timeline (half day):

10 minutes	Introduction and Course Overview
20 minutes	First Reading: Formative Influences
40 minutes	Participants Report - Flip Chart of Five Avenues of Service
15 minutes	Break - Facilitator Prepares for Timeline Exercise
20 minutes	Second Reading: Key Personalities
30 minutes	Participants Report - Timeline of Personalities and Key Events
45 minutes	Timeline Exercise: History of Cumulative Accomplishments
15 minutes	Summary and Evaluations

Course Outline:

I. Introduction and Course Overview

a. 1900's

- much different world than we live in today
- seldom studied in school curriculum, tend to skip from Civil War to WW I
- unique and transformational period: a bubbling cauldron of influences that set the stage for the development and growth of Rotary

b. Overview

- Formative influences: select readings and study of early 1900s US and Chicago; discussion of social, economic, and political conditions giving rise to the formation of Rotary; and an analysis of those conditions through the prism of Rotary's Five Avenues of Service
- Key personalities: study and timeline exercises on the key early personalities of Rotary and their often forgotten contributions to our organization
- History of cumulative accomplishments: an additional timeline exercise to develop more fully our understanding of the cumulative nature of Rotary accomplishment over the past hundred-plus years

Section I - Formative Influences

- Hand out book A Century of Service to participants
- Tell participants they each have a different reading and each will have 20 minutes to read and take notes on their section. Each will get to report back to the group. Each reading concentrates on a separate influence during the 1900s or a specific influence on early key builders of Rotary. Assign readings.
- Readings (COS = Century of Service)

Reading A: Paul Harris' unsettled childhood and family (COS 11-16)

Faculty Notes: Founder of Rotary came from a broken home, was abandoned by his parents, was raised by his grandparents. Father was a business failure, Grandfather instilled work ethic, education, and tolerance. Club: healthy relationships, friendships. Vocational: business success/failure, work ethic. Community: education, grandfather built school. Youth: education, nurturing children.

Reading B: Paul Harris' travels as a young man (COS 16-19)

Faculty Notes: Traveled the world and worked his way through five years of this travel. Developed tolerance and love for travel. Saw disasters and suffering, felt loneliness. Club: friendship, acceptance. different kinds of people. Vocational: dignify each profession, work ethic. Community: saw needs in many places where he visited. International: travel, tolerance.

Reading C: Paul Harris' loneliness in the city (COS 20-21)

Faculty Notes: Greed of city experienced, loneliness, religious tolerance and experimentation, saw small town business relationships as preferable. 21% population growth, migration to city from farms, new century, unsettled lifestyles, US emerging as a world power, imperialism, Teddy Roosevelt's "Big Stick" diplomacy, distinctly American art and literary styles emerge, writers Theodore Dreiser and Upton Sinclair chronicle gritty underbelly of society and despair. Club: need for friendship and support. Vocational:

small town business relationships beneficial. Community: needs of those living in big city, poverty. International: immigration, tolerance with ethnicity of business friends. Youth: unsettled families, lack of support.

Reading D: Chicago: city of corruption, greed, and exploitation (COS 19-21)

Faculty Notes: Paul Harris' law practice represented victims of fraud, embezzlement, and bankruptcy. Pioneer mentality and caveat emptor philosophy. Rise of "big business", urban elite, class conflict, political machines, populist protests. Club: relationships with ethical people. Vocational: ethics, stand behind your work. Community: service to others vs. every man for himself. Youth: effect of corruption on families and children.

Reading E: Early women in Rotary (COS 181-185)

Faculty Notes: Women formed Clubs based on Rotary, but were not allowed to join. Club: fellowship did not include women, reflective of society and women's role. Vocational: men did business with men, women were not a factor.

Reading F: Chicago business environment; consumer protections (COS 149-155)

Faculty Notes: Early Rotary leaders cited the "golden rule", 1912 The Rotary Code of Ethics, supported consumer protection and employee protection laws. Herb Taylor's Four Way Test in 1930s. Club: relationships with ethical people. Vocational: ethical performance of your profession, stand behind your word. Community: service to others vs. every man for himself.

Reading G: Racial and civil unrest (COS 104-111)

Faculty Notes: Perceived connections to Freemasonry, Vatican bans, discrimination against Negroes, Cold War blockage of Rotary, "Babbitt". Club: no racial diversity in early Clubs, reflection of community mores. Vocational: working with different others. Community: acceptance, discrimination, how outside events can shape your Club.

Reading H: The first Rotary convention (COS 47-55)

Faculty Notes: agenda and accomplishments, first Board of Directors, first newsletter, transition from Paul Harris. Club: building camaraderie and cohesiveness, communication needs: newsletter, membership qualifications. Vocational: building a supportive professionally-run organization.

Reading I: Evolution of Rotary philosophy (COS 58-65)

Faculty Notes: Constitution and bylaws, Object of Rotary, shift toward service and ethics. Club: governance documents, rules of conduct, start of Districts, adoption of core values. Community: Rotary seen as standing for something, promotion of service. Vocational: promotion of the business interests of members and of honorable business practices.

Reading J: Admission of women (COS 187-189)

Faculty Notes: Changing attitudes, court battles, Duarte case, Supreme Court decision. Club: female members, increase in membership, vitality, more hands to do the work. Vocational: women as professionals, equality in work-place. Community: women as equals, compassion for projects. Youth: inspiring girls.

- d) Flip Chart divided into fifths, one part labeled with each of the Five Avenues of Service (Club, Community, International, Vocational, Youth). As each participant reports, place influences under appropriate Avenue. Example: under Vocational column, list work ethic from Reading B.
- e) Conclude this section and spark interest in the next section on Key Personalities Break.

Section II - Key Early Personalities

- a. During the break, prepare the timeline materials. Use a standard 11" wide roll of white shelf paper. Tape an 8 foot piece to the wall. Use marker to write dates across the bottom, starting with 1905, every 5 years till 2000.
- b. Assign Select Readings to participants.
- c. Tell participants that they each have a different reading and each will have 20 minutes to read and take notes on that section. Each will get to report back to the group. Each reading concentrates on a separate early personality in the Rotary movement. They need to summarize each person's contribution to Rotary's development and the dates of their contribution for the timeline.
- d. Readings:

Reading 1: Sylvester Schiele (COS 26-29)

Faculty Notes: Coal dealer, second Rotarian, first Rotary Club President (RC of Chicago). Tell the early Rotary story through him, instead of through Paul Harris. 1905

Reading 2: Harry Ruggles (COS 28-31)

Faculty Notes: Fifth Rotarian, printer, first Club roster (bulletin), introduced Singing to Rotary ("Hell, fellas, let's sing!"), survived Paul Harris. 1905-59

Reading 3: Donald Carter (COS 32-33, 138-139)

Faculty Notes: RC of Chicago, "Father of Community Service", 1907- First community service project

Reading 4: Homer Wood (COS 36-40)

Faculty Notes: "First Missionary of Rotary", started second Rotary Club (RC of San Francisco, 1908). Corresponded frequently with Paul Harris,

then started the RC of Oakland in 1908, Seattle in 1909, and Los Angeles in 1909. Contrast competing "National Rotary Clubs" and race to trademark the Rotary name to beat out "for profit" Clubs. 1908

Reading 5: Ches Perry (COS 46-50, 54-55)

Faculty Notes: "The Builder of Rotary International", planned the first National Rotary Convention in 1910, elected Chair of the convention, then "temporary" Secretary of the National Association of Rotary Clubs (NARC), International Association of Rotary Clubs, and later RI for 32 years. Distributed The National Rotarian and later The Rotarian. Workaholic for Rotary. 1907-1960

Reading 6: Stuart Morrow (COS 79-80)

Faculty Notes: "The Runaway Irishman". Organized RC of Dublin (1911), first overseas Club, and failed to advise headquarters. Organized RC of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Liverpool, and London. Discredited due to retention of "finder's fee" from initiation dues. 1911-1912

Reading 7: "Big Jim" Davidson (COS 82-87)

Faculty Notes: "The Marco Polo of Rotary". By request of IARC, this Canadian Rotarian established Rotary in Australia's four largest cities (1921). Mandate to add missing Rotary links in the chain between Europe and Asia. Established Rotary Clubs in 50 new countries in four continents. 1921-1933

Reading 8: Leland D. Case (COS 109-111)

Faculty Notes: Editor of The Rotarian, convinced public critics of Rotary about the valid purpose of the organization and that they didn't just "meet and eat" like Sinclair Lewis' "Babbitt" character in the book by the same name. Prominent writer critics later wrote articles for The Rotarian. 1922-1932

Reading 9: Arch Klumph (COS 114-117)

Faculty Notes: "The Father of the Rotary Foundation". President of RC of Cleveland 1912, President of IARC 1917. Proposed at the 1917 convention that an endowment fund should be started to do good in the world, and \$26.50 surplus was donated at the end of the convention. 1928 convention changed name to The Rotary Foundation. Also wrote new Rotary Constitution, established Districts, Governors, and District Conferences. TRF funds develop with the death of Paul Harris (1947) and development of the Paul Harris Fellow, 1957

Reading 10: Edgar F. "Daddy" Allen (COS 170-172)

Faculty Notes: Toledo, Ohio Rotarian, founded predecessor to Easter Seals, encouraged Clubs to support crippled children, President of Easter Seals 1915-1922.

e. As participants randomly report, have them briefly write their subject's contributions on the timeline at the appropriate date.

Section III - History of Cumulative Accomplishments

- a. Hand out randomly arranged timeline cards, taken from A Century of Service, pages 290-326. The landmarks, highlights, and awards should be photocopied, cut out, and taped onto 3 X 5 cards.
- b. Have participants stand in front of timeline. As you randomly call out year, RI President, themes, membership numbers, anniversaries, beginning of Polio Plus, etc, participant holding that card will chart it on timeline. Neatness is not key.
- c. Get as much done as possible, while leaving 10-15 minutes for participant's comments, debriefing, and evaluations.
- d. Tell participants: The base of this course is from A Century of Service by David C. Forward. There is also a lot of history at www.Rotaryhistory.org.
- e. Key Wrap-up Point: not to remember every detail, but to develop a solid overview of the beginnings and development of our organization, the oldest, largest, and most successful service organization in world history.