

**TRACY SUNRISE
ROTARY CLUB
C.O.G.
INFORMATION
PACKAGE**

TRACY SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB
NEW MEMBER INFORMATION GUIDE

Welcome

We are pleased you have accepted our invitation to the Tracy Sunrise Rotary club. In order for you to get to know us and the organization better we have compiled some information for you. As a new member of this club you automatically become a member of the “COG CLUB”. Its purpose is to allow you to become familiar with the history and purpose of Rotary, our local clubs, and to get to know our members. It is also designed to allow you to quickly become an active member.

Responsibilities

THE COG CLUB.

I. Membership Requirements:

- A. All new members automatically enter COG status (could be as few as two members).
- B. Attend COG meetings, held 30 minutes before our regular scheduled meeting once a month for five months (maybe bimonthly).
- C. Act as a club greeter for at least one (1) month.
- D. Attend one board meeting within three (3) months of joining.
- E. Attend or make-up at one other club within three (3) months of joining.
- F. Attend one Interact meeting or function within three (3) months of joining.
- G. Hold a Rotary Information meeting for new members.

II. Leadership:

- A. The President Elect is Acting Chair for COG.
 - 1. Presides over COG meeting.
 - 2. Schedules meetings - notifies new members and Avenue Chair(s) of scheduled meeting and then contacts all person at least two (2) days prior as a reminder of the meeting.
 - 3. Post a schedule of COG meeting in the weekly bulletin, along with names of attendees.

III. Examples of Meeting Agenda:

- A. Attendees: COG members
- B. President Elect or Assigned Rotarian: Introductions
- C. Scheduled Chair: Avenue of Service (usually Club Service)
 - 1. Covers attendance, commitment to Rotary, classification, programs, historian, membership, club bulletin, and public relations.
 - 2. Explains our plans and goals and objective with club service.

History of Rotary

The Rotary movement was born on the evening of February 23, 1905. Paul Harris, a young lawyer who felt somewhat lost and alone in the sprawling city of Chicago, Illinois, met with three other men. They were Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer; Gustavus E. Loehr, a mining engineer; and Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor. They met in Gus Loehr's office in the Unity Building, which is still standing at 127 North Dearborn Street.

Paul's idea was that businessmen should get together periodically in the spirit of camaraderie to enjoy each other's company and to enlarge their circle of business and professional acquaintances.

Out of their discussions came the idea of a men's club whose membership would be limited to one representative from each member's place of business and profession. Weekly meetings were to be held at each member's place of business in turn. The rotation of the meetings was designed to acquaint the members with one another's vocations and to promote business. Hence, the name "Rotary" was adopted early on.

After enlisting a fifth member, Harry Ruggles, a printer, the group formally organized as the Rotary Club of Chicago. The first roster (1905) showed a membership of 30.

The new organization grew rapidly and became necessary to hold meetings at restaurants. The first community service project done in 1907 was the establishment of a "public comfort station" in the city of Chicago. It was the first facility of this type near City Hall.

Three years after the organization of the Chicago Club, a second club was founded in San Francisco, California. The following year three more clubs were founded. By 1910, there were 16 clubs with 1,500 members dotted across the map. The first international club was formed in 1911 in Canada.

"Service Above Self"

The service ideal began taking shape during the early years of Rotary. At Rotary's first convention in 1910 it was proposed that "He Profits Most Who Serves His Fellows Best," be the motto of the organization. The following year the importance of serving others increased and it was believed that a club should be organized on the principle of "Service Not Self." The Two sayings, modified to "He Profits Most Who Serves Best" and "Service Above Self," were quickly designated as Rotary mottoes at the 1950 Convention.

Rotary Emblem

Rotary's early emblem was a simple wagon wheel (in motion with dust) representing "civilization and movement." It was changed in 1923 when the present gear wheel with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted, and a keyway added to signify that the wheel was a "worker and not

an idler.” In 1929, Royal Blue and Gold were chosen as the official Rotary colors, and the flag of Rotary was designated as a white field with the Rotary Wheel emblazoned on its center.

Avenues of Service

In 1926 the Rotary Club of London, England contributed the idea of channeling their service into four (4) areas. Club Service, Community Service, Vocational Service, and International Service were the four adopted by Rotary International. Our club board of Directors is based upon those four (4) Avenues of Service.

Club	Attendance, Classifications, Programs, Historian, Membership, Club Bulletin, Public Relations, Fellowship, and COG
Vocational	Career Development, Vocational Awards, Vocational Awareness, Vocation at Work, Environment
Community	Handicapped, Youth, Senior Citizen, Interact, Roteract, Safety, Rural/Urban Affairs
International	Youth Projects, Rotary Projects, World Projects, World Community Service, Foundation Exchange Programs

Rotary Foundation

After World War II, building a better world through educational and charitable projects that further such international exchange and understanding was envisaged as being the primary objective of an agency Rotary called “The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International” which, among other achievements, has become one of the world’s largest foundations granting scholarships for international study. The Rotary Foundation was launched in 1917. The five (5) types of educational awards granted by the Rotary Foundation are: Graduate, Undergraduate, Vocational, Journalism Scholarships, and scholarships for Teachers of Handicapped. In addition, the foundation funds the Group Study Exchange program, Special Grants (to support worthwhile educational and charitable projects of Rotary Clubs and Districts); Grants for Health, Hunger, and Humanity (3-Hs) Program, and Grants for University Teachers.

Each member of this volunteers to become a Paul Harris Sustaining Member. This means you will donate \$100.00 per year for ten (10) years to the Rotary Foundation. After achieving \$1,000.00 you will become a Paul Harris Fellow.

How Our Club Operates

You may have observed that we do not conduct any business at our weekly meetings. This brings up the question, when do we get any work done? The work and decision making of the Tracy Sunrise Rotary Club takes place at our monthly board of Directors meeting. This meeting is open to all members of the club. Some but not all of the things done at the board meetings are:

- * Planning and scheduling of events
- * Approval of expenditures for club and service projects
- * Approval of new members
- * Development of club policies

If you have any suggestions for club projects or expenditures the board meeting is the place to bring them.

Weekly Club Meetings

Our weekly meeting is presided over by our club president. The meeting begins at 6:45 am, with a general fellowship period during breakfast. After this the meeting is formally opened by the President with the Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. What follows is generally up to the President to do what ever he or she wants. In our club the members introduce the visitors or guest at their tables. This promotes fellowship and insures that our visitors or guest are made welcome. Next up on the agenda are the Rotary announcements followed by the Presidents own special way of “fines”. After all other business is finished the scheduled program starts and will conclude at 8:00 am.

“Fines”

When you first visited our club you probably were surprised by our method of collecting funds referred to as “fines.” These are a fun way of collecting money pledged by our members at the beginning of the year. You will be required to pay all your fines within a two (2) week period. Fines are assessed when members have something significant happen or when they provoke the President. It should be pointed out that most all club presidents in our history have never really needed an excuse for fining a member.

Financial Obligation

As a member you will be responsible for the following obligation:

One time new member fee	=	\$50.00
Yearly Dues	=	\$50.00
Yearly Fines	=	\$50.00
Weekly Meetings (Breakfast)	=	\$07.00
Early Leavers	=	\$05.00

Attendance

It has been said that the true cost of belonging to Rotary is “Attendance.” In order for the fellowship and service of Rotary to succeed it is important to have all members in attendance. In some instances you may have to miss a meeting. If this occurs you are expected to “make-up” the missed meeting. You have two (2) weeks to make-up the meeting at another club. Our club

secretary can offer you a list or book of make-up locations. Failure to make-up results in a fine of \$10.00.

Early Leavers

You may notice some of our visitors or Rotarians leave prior to the beginning of the program for the day. We understand this is sometimes necessary. Please remember if you **MUST LEAVE EARLY** please excuse yourself to the speaker prior to the beginning of the program. However, too many people getting up to leave is very discourteous to our club and the speaker. If you have to leave before the speaker starts you will pay or be billed \$5.00 for leaving.

Special Situations

Because we are a diverse group we recognize that some events of the club may not agree with all members. In order to allow for individual differences please notify the President so that he or she may see that you are excused from any activity you may have a problem with. This can be kept confidential if you request it.

Object of Rotary

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.
2. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
3. The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life.
4. The advancement of international understanding, good will, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional women and men untied the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test

As a Rotarian you will be required to understand and repeat the complete Four-Way Test:

The Four-way Test of things we think, say or do . . .
Is it the Truth?
Is it Fair to All Concerned?
Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendship?
Will it be Beneficial to All Concerned?

Our Club In Action

On the attached pages you will find just some of the Outstanding Projects and Services performed by Tracy Sunrise Rotary and Rotary District 5220. To be a Rotarian is an honor and you are a part of the most elite group of individuals compromise into a Service Group.