



Rotary is a global network of business and professional leaders who step forward to take on some of the toughest challenges in their communities. As a Rotary member, you can:

**Join leaders** from all continents, cultures and occupations.

**Exchange ideas** and form lifelong friendships.

**Take action** to create positive change in our community.

**The Rotary Club of Louisville** was chartered July 23, 1912 and is currently the 14<sup>th</sup> largest club in the world with some 430 members. That is quite a distinction as Rotary International boasts 1.2 million members worldwide with 34,000 clubs in more than 200 countries.

**VISION:** To be Louisville's premier fellowship of business, professional and civic leaders dedicated to selfless humanitarian and civic service, improving lives in our ever-changing community and the world.

**MISSION:** To provide a fellowship of inspired business, professional and civic leaders with exceptional opportunities for humanitarian and civic service, while promoting integrity, understanding and goodwill on a local, national and worldwide basis.

**CORE PRINCIPLES: Service, Fellowship, Diversity, Integrity, and Leadership**

**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:

**FIRST** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

**SECOND** High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

**THIRD** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

**FOURTH** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**

**Of the Things** we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the TRUTH?
- 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



## Membership Criteria

Candidates must be an adult person of good character who reflects the rich diversity of leadership in our community: in professions, interests, and demographic characteristics...and hold a position of significant influence in their organization and/or community. Examples include:

- Senior leader in a company or non-profit
- Civic volunteer who chairs a Board or exceptional community endeavor
- Entrepreneur who founded a start-up (in operation for at least one year)
- Principal, owner, corporate officer or managing partner of a business concern
- Head of a congregation
- Retiree from a position of significant influence

We also welcome Rotary Leadership Fellows in good standing, and past Rotarians (with no outstanding dues or debt to their former club).

Candidates must meet the financial requirements of membership and embrace community service, contributing time, talent and treasure to improve lives in our community and world. During the first year in the Club, new members commit to participate in at least one community service project.

Dues/meals are pre-paid at \$375 per quarter through an auto-payment system. There is a \$275 one-time entrance fee to join that is submitted with each candidate's application for membership. This fee may be waived if the candidate is a previous member of Rotary or has been a Rotaractor (a young professional association) within the preceding two years.

## Membership Process

1. Application – Candidates attend “What is Rotary?” and complete a written application to include the signatures of two sponsoring members.
2. Approval – There is a seven-day period during which the candidate's application is reviewed by the membership, followed by Board approval. Once approved, new members submit their entrance fee.
3. Orientation – All new members must attend two orientation meetings and participate in one service project during their first year. A current Rotarian will serve as a mentor during this process. New members are introduced to the Club at a lunch meeting and formally inducted at a quarterly New Member Celebration.

## Expectations

**Support Rotary Philanthropy.** Voluntary contributions are encouraged to the Rotary Fund of Louisville (our Club's non-profit foundation) and to The Rotary Foundation (Rotary International). These entities fuel the charitable work of the organization on a local, national, and international level.

**Get Involved.** Active participation in the life of the Club ensures the most value for your membership. There are several ways to get involved:

- We meet on Thursdays at lunchtime 50 weeks a year. The doors open at 11:30am, with the program beginning around 12:10 and concluding by 1:00pm. A minimum attendance at 50% is required. Participation in committee meetings or service projects count toward attendance totals.
- As with most organizations, the real work gets done in small groups and members are expected to actively participate on at least one committee. The Rotary Club of Louisville has an array of committees to suit the interests and talents of virtually every member.
- Social activities are held year-round, from family-oriented sports outings to seasonal parties.
- *Service Above Self* is Rotary's motto and we put it into action through numerous service projects. From ringing the bell for Salvation Army to mentoring students at area high schools, we have volunteer opportunities for our members year-round.

Here is a sampling of just a few of our Club's projects:

**ROTARY PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP** – Our signature project is a permanent endowment that promises scholarships for qualifying graduates from Iroquois and Western high schools to Jefferson Community & Technical College.

**BUILDING A SMART FOOD CULTURE** – A partnership with The Food Literacy Project to help children improve their “food IQ” and encourage the love of local, fresh, nutritional food.

**UNSUNG HEROES** – An annual collaboration with other local Rotary clubs that honors seniors from each public, private, and Catholic high school for their school and community volunteer work.



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