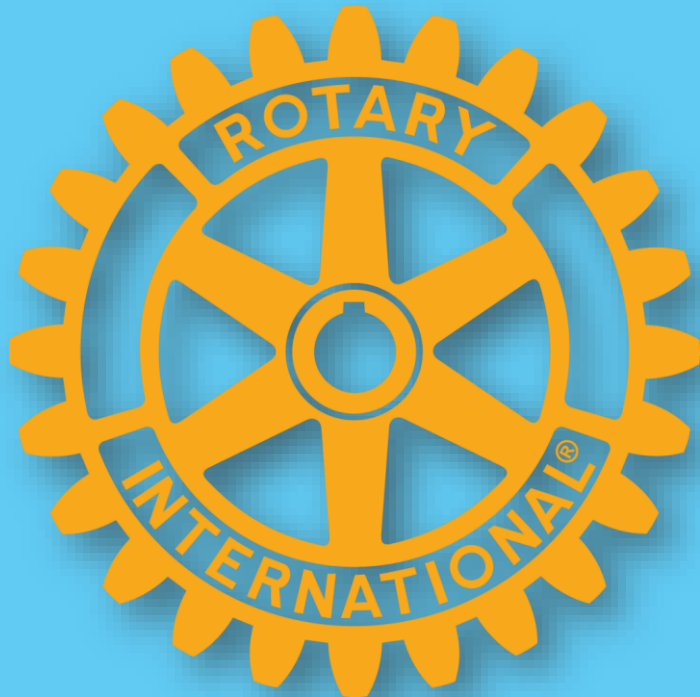


ROTARY INTERNATIONAL & THE ROTARY CLUB OF HOUSTON

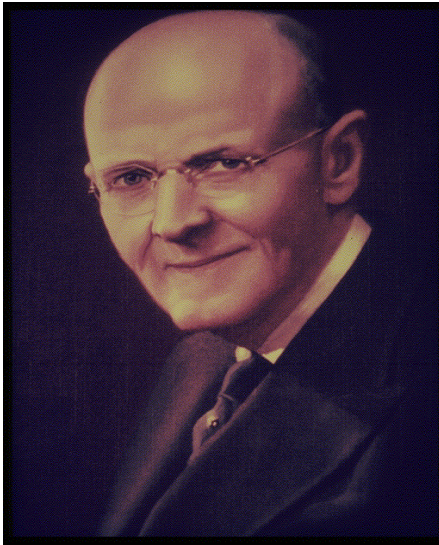
ROTARY INFORMATION



Edited April 2026

ROTARY

Founded: 2/23/1905 by Paul Harris 1868-1947



Today:

200+ Countries

36,646 clubs

1,167,410 Rotarians

136,798 Rotaractors

535 Districts

34 Regional Zones

Paul Harris History

On 23 February 1905, Paul Harris gathered with three colleagues in *Room 711 of Downtown Chicago's Unity Building, creating the first Rotary club.

Paul Harris (Lawyer/3rd president),

***Gustavus Loehr (Mining Engineer),**

Silvester Schiele (Coal Dealer/1st president), and

Hiram Shorey (Merchant Taylor)

The "5th Rotarian was Harry Ruggles (printer/2nd president) who introduced songs at the meetings.

What began as a small meeting of professionals seeking fellowship has grown into a global movement.

In February 1907, Harris was elected the third president of the Rotary Club of Chicago. Toward the end of his club presidency, Harris worked to expand Rotary beyond Chicago. Some club members resisted, not wanting to take on the additional financial burden. Harris persisted & Rotary began its expansion.



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and 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?

*Our unofficial “5th” Way Test:
Will it be Fun!*

Herbert J. Taylor

***This ethical guide shapes
everything we think, say,
and do.***

Created – 1932

Given to Rotary – 1940

Copyright – 1954

Mission of Rotary International: to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through a fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders guided by their motto,
“Service Above Self”.

The Object of Rotary. 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; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;**
- 3. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;**
- 4. The advancement of International understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.**

EARLY ROTARY CLUBS

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada,
1910

1 Chicago 1905

San Francisco 1908

Houston 1912

Uruguay 1919

Ireland 1913

London 1913

China 1919

Japan 1920

India 1920

Philippines 1919

So Africa 1921

Australia 1921

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

CEO and General Secretary

John Hewko

*Free guided tours are offered M-F.
Email visitors@rotary.org to
schedule.*

One Rotary Center
Evanston, Illinois, USA

LEADERSHIP

**PRESIDENT
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR
DISTRICT 5890**

**PRESIDENT
ROTARY CLUB OF HOUSTON**

**The Rotary Year is
July 1 – June 30.
Leadership changes annually.**

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL OFFICES



Rotary International's world headquarters and international offices: Evanston, Illinois, USA

- Europe and Africa office, Zurich, Switzerland
 - South Asia office, New Delhi, India
 - Brazil office, São Paulo
 - Japan office, Tokyo
 - Korea office, Seoul
- South Pacific and Philippines office, Parramatta (Sydney), New South Wales, Australia
 - Southern South America office, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI), Alcester, England, *an independent office, but still affiliated with Rotary*

The *Rotary International Convention* takes place annually and welcomes all members and their families. It's generally held in a different world city each year and is attended by 20,000 to 40,000 people. The convention is an opportunity to celebrate Rotary and to network and connect with Rotarians from around the world.

2026 June 13-17 Taipei, Taiwan

2027 June 26-30 Barcelona, Spain

2028 May 27-31 Minneapolis, Minnesota

2029 TBD

2030 May 25-29 Chicago, Illinois (tentatively)

2031 June 7-11 Dublin, Ireland (tentatively)

Rotary International Foundation—501(c)(3) 1947

-Promotes world understanding through International humanitarian service programs and educational and cultural exchanges. It is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and others who share its vision of a better world.

-Since 1947, the Foundation has awarded more than US\$1.1 billion in humanitarian and educational grants, which are initiated and administered by local Rotary clubs and districts.

Rotary Club Houston Foundation—501(c)(3)1967

-The primary mission of the foundation is to further charitable, educational and other purposes, by implementing dynamic and sustainable programs with a particular emphasis on public Health, Youth and Education.

-The foundation seeks to distribute a portion of its corpus each year to fund charitable programs of The Rotary Club of Houston.

Note: All Rotary clubs in the U.S. are 501(c)(4)

Rotary International

Rotary Fellowships and Rotarian Action Groups

Rotary Fellowships center around recreational areas including tennis, music, and canoeing, and professional interests such as medicine, law enforcement, and photography. Their activities are as varied as their interests. Learn more at rotary.org/fellowships.

Rotarian Action Groups focus on specific service areas. They help Rotary clubs and districts plan and implement large-scale projects in their area of expertise. For example, the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group functions as an expert consulting entity that advises clubs and districts on how to undertake water and sanitation projects that have real impact. The Rotarians for Family Health and AIDS Prevention Rotarian Action Group mobilizes Rotarians to help tens of thousands of people in under-resourced communities get low-cost, comprehensive health services and screenings. Learn more at rotary.org/actiongroups.



Rotary International Foundation Programs

Paul Harris Fellow. \$1,000+ to the RI Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant. You can recognize someone else.

***Initial Award:** A \$1,000 donation to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved grant makes someone a Paul Harris Fellow, earning them a certificate and a pin with a blue stone.*

***Multiple Levels:** Additional \$1,000 increments add more stones to the pin, transitioning from sapphires (blue) to rubies (red) at higher levels (e.g., one ruby for \$7,000-\$7,999).*

Paul Harris Society member. Contribute \$1,000 or more annually.

Bequest Society. Make a commitment for future gifts of \$10,000 or more.

Major Donor. Cumulative donations reach \$10,000.

100% Paul Harris Fellow Club. When all dues-paying members are Paul Harris Fellows. This is a one-time recognition. (RCoH is a 100% Club)

100% Foundation Giving Club. Members donate an average of \$100 in per capita giving and 100% participation, with every dues-paying member contributing at least \$25 to any or all of the following during the Rotary year: Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, approved global grants, or Endowment Fund.

Rotary International Foundation Programs



Rotary PolioPlus

Began in 1985 to immunize all the children of the world against polio. It has reduced polio cases worldwide by 99.9%.

Rotary's contributions to the global polio eradication effort now \$2.3 billion, including matching funds of \$1 B from the Gates Foundation since 2007. Hundreds of thousands of volunteers have supported National Immunization Days. Since 1988, more than 3 billion children have received oral polio vaccine. It may be considered the greatest humanitarian service the world has ever seen, and every Rotarian can take pride in the achievement. To learn more visit: endpolio.org.

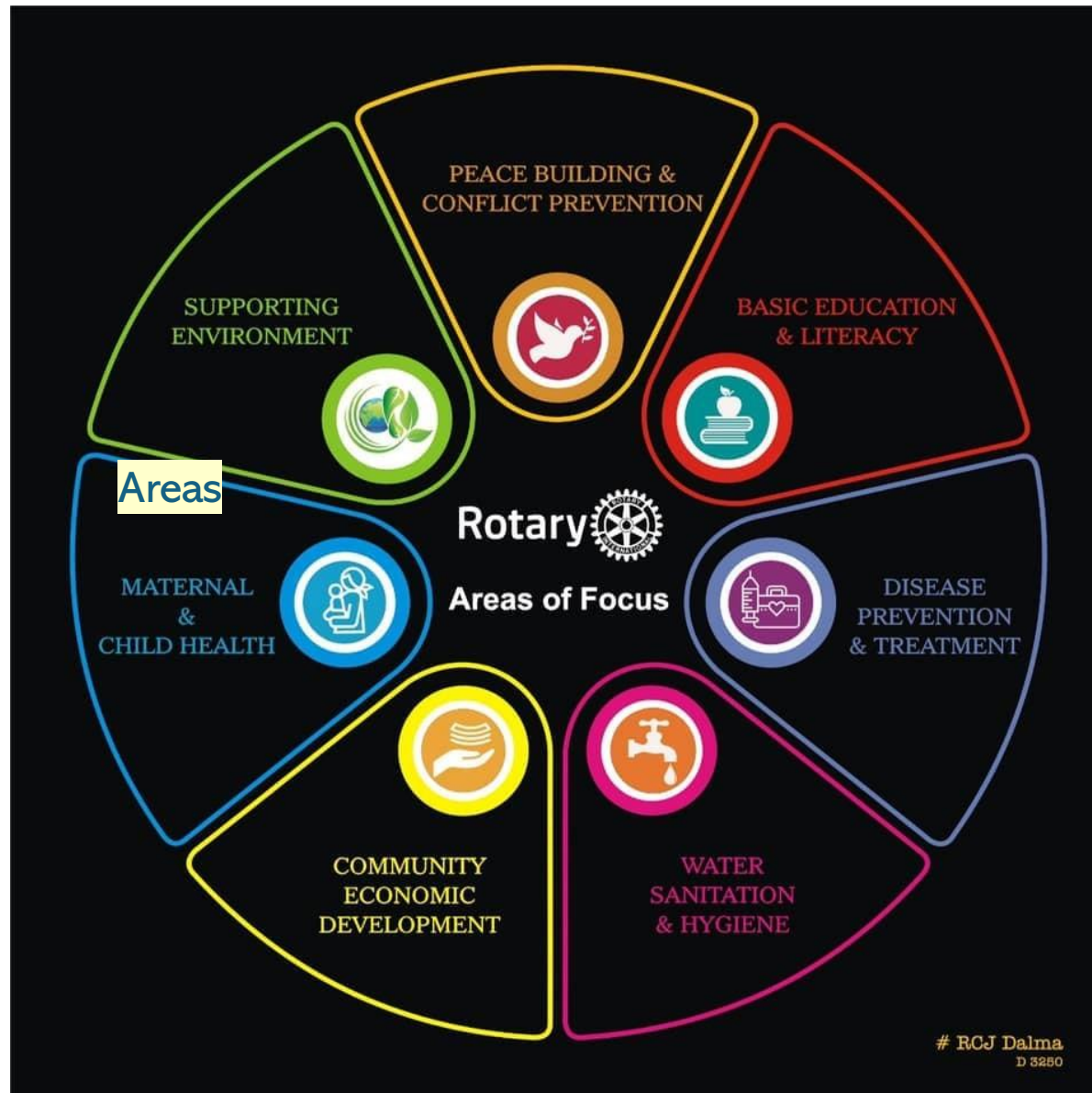
Rotary International Foundation Programs

Rotary Youth Exchange

Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries.

Rotary Youth Exchange promotes international understanding and lifelong friendships by letting young people see another part of the world. Exchanges can be long-term or short-term - from a few days to months. Students typically stay with a local family in the host country, but they might also attend a youth camp or tour the country with other foreign students. During a long-term exchange, students spend a year in another country, attending school and living with host families.

Areas of Focus-Global Grants must focus on one.



RI Presidential Message

2024-25: *The Magic of Rotary*-We are not going to end polio or bring peace to the world by waving a wand. It's up to you. You create the magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member

2025-26: *Unite for Good*-By using the power of human connection to welcome new members, collaborate on service projects, and build our global impact, Rotary members create positive change.

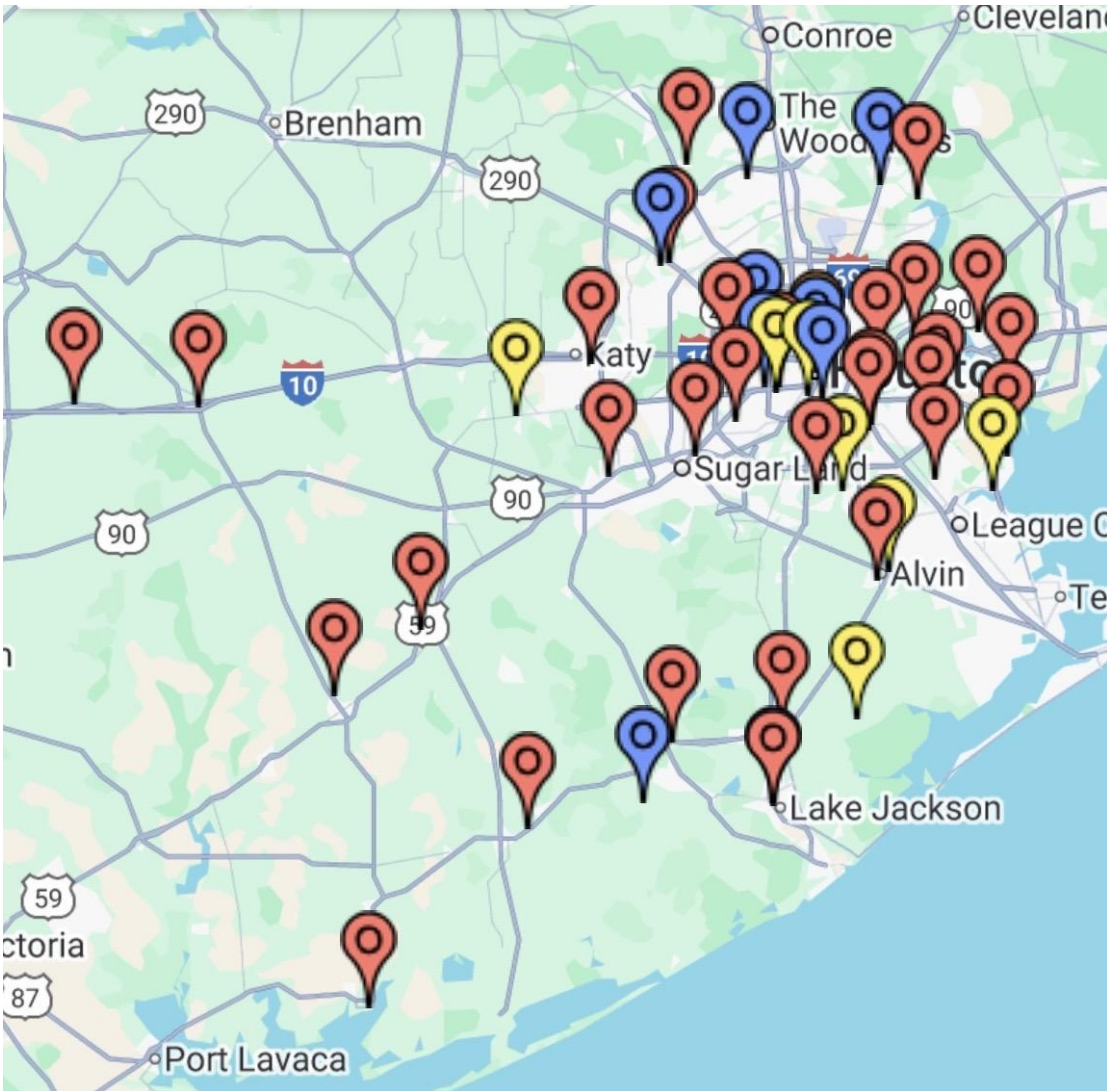
2026-27: *Create Lasting Impact*-By harnessing our community connections and implementing service projects that create positive, long-term change, Rotary members show how collective actions build a sustainable difference in the world.



***UNITE
FOR
GOOD***



Rotary District 5890 - Houston



50+ Clubs
3,000 members

**10 District
Governors from the
Rotary Club of
Houston**

District Website:

www.rotaryd5890.org

Use same PW as club

Our Club History & Operations

Chartered 1912 in Downtown Houston

Met at Mecca Café—1 year & Rice Hotel—73 years

Sponsored Over 24 Clubs in the Houston area
and one in Amarillo

Ancestor of over 40 clubs

Managed by Club President & Officers, Board of
Directors, Constitution and By-Laws, Committees

Full-Time Office Staff

Club Administrator

administrator@rotaryhouston.org

Types of Members

Active

Corporate
Emeritus Life
Family
Government
Young Professionals
Seniors
Satellite/Companion Club

Honorary

*For meritorious service
that embodies Rotary
ideals or for permanent
support of Rotary's
cause*

Rotary Club of Houston traditions



- Greet everyone at your lunch table.
- Meetings begin with the ringing of the Rotary Bell.
- All attendees stand for a non-denominational invocation, pledge of allegiance, 4 - way test and sometimes a song.
- Introduction of visiting Rotarians and Visitors.

ATTENDANCE

The ROTARY CLUB OF HOUSTON ENCOURAGES MEMBERS TO
ATTEND AS MANY MEETINGS AND EVENTS AS POSSIBLE.

***THERE IS NO MANDATORY ATTENDANCE
REQUIREMENT.***

We do report our participation in service activities to RI
Club Excellence Award.

Avenues of Service

Club Service

Community Service

Vocational Service

International Service

Youth Service

Club Service

Membership Committee-focuses on recruitment and retention of members.

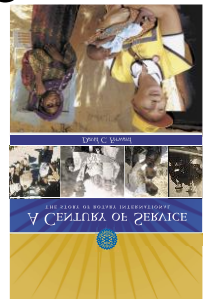
New Member Orientation-educates members about our Rotary Club and Rotary International.

Red Badge Committee-guides new members through the “Red to Blue” process and makes sure each has a mentor.

Classification Committee-reviews membership applications, explains requirements/expectations to prospective members, recommends approval to board. Classifications describe the distinct and recognized business or professional service that the Rotarian renders to society.

Rotary 101-provides members with a sound understanding of the history of Rotary International, what it means to be a Rotarian and how to get the most out of membership.

From A Century of Service.



Club Service

Nominations Committee.

Past Presidents Committee

Finance Committee

Programs Committee

Public Image Committee

Socials Committee

Visioning Committee

Club Service Opportunities

Members are asked to volunteer at the weekly luncheon the following service opportunities:

- ❖ Invocation
- ❖ Pledge Leader
- ❖ 4 Way Test
- ❖ Song Leader
- ❖ Check in
- ❖ Greeters
- ❖ Set up/Take down
- ❖ IT support
- ❖ Happy Dollars

Community Service

BBRC-Originally known as Burnett Bayland. Established in 1919: Rotary's oldest continuously operating committee, partners with the Harris County At-Promise Youth to provide career and life-prep programs such as robotics, entrepreneurship, meditation, financial literacy and more.

Fresh Start/Prison Entrepreneurship Committee (PEP)- Promotes interest and participation in the pre-release program in association of the Texas Department of Corrections and other Houston area penal institutions. It strives to inspire and motivate inmates to live within the law and find jobs upon their return to society; and encourages community involvement in finding solutions for problems of the released public offender.

Community Service



Rotary Distinguished Citizen Award Committee

- Plans and promotes the Rotary Distinguished Citizen Award event honoring an outstanding Houstonian who exhibits high ideals, leadership and philanthropy. The funds raised support the club's on-going service activities.
- Since it was first presented in 1962, the Rotary Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award has gone to an impressive array of individual Houstonians and Houston institutions. Previous honorees include our Welcome W. Wilson Sr., Dr. Ken Mattox, David S. Wolff, President George HW Bush and Barbara Bush, James A. Baker, George Mitchell, Dr. Michael DeBakey, and HLSR, M.D. Anderson among others.
- The Rotary Distinguished Citizen Award is the Rotary Club of Houston's major fundraiser for its many community service projects.

Community Service

LOMBARDI AWARD

PRESENTED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF HOUSTON



Since 1970, this 40-pound block of Texas pink granite has been a leader in the fight against cancer and is a legacy of Vince Lombardi.

This simple, yet evocative, granite stone has come to symbolize excellence on the fields of college football, as well as the spirit, drive, energy and greatness of Vince Lombardi.

The granite trophy honors the memory of the legendary figure who molded men into winners on and off the field and inspires the participation of millions in an effort that supports the American Cancer Society's fight against cancer.

Community Service



Rotary House Committee

Jesse H. Jones Rotary House International Hotel at \$26 million dollars is the largest community project ever by any single Rotary Club in the world.

Initiated by RCH in the late 1980s and opened in 1993 to provide lodging for out-of-town cancer patients and families funded by Rotarians and the Houston Endowment.

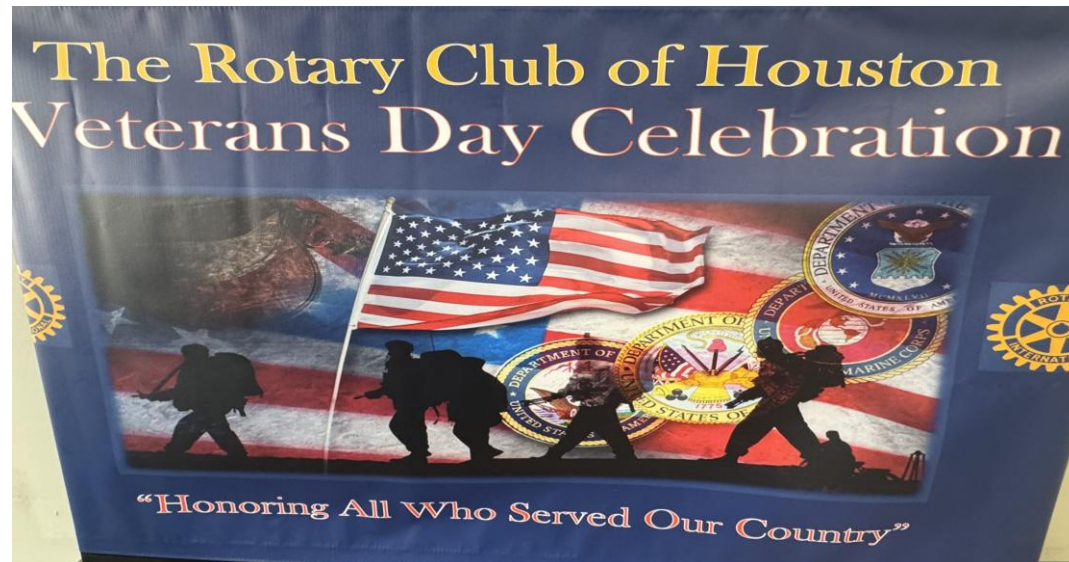
RCH Members host a monthly reception (3rd Wednesday of the month) for cancer patients and family members staying at Rotary House.



Community Service

Veterans Committee

- Plans and promotes the annual Veterans Day “Salute to Veterans” events most recently at Cloudbreak community.
- Through Operation Turkey have provided thanksgiving Day meals to their residents.
- Holiday Wreaths for Veterans Service Project at Houston National Cemetery



Youth Service

Youth & Education Committee

Focuses on the needs of high-risk children in partnership with Houston area schools. Supports programs for all ages of youth from elementary school to recent college graduates.

- Hosts annual Hearts for Children Harris CPS Adoption Fair with Harris County Department of Education. This is also a Rotary Community Corp (RCC) – a team of non-Rotarian volunteers dedicated to implementing sustainable, locally-driven service projects.
- Participates in *BeAResource* for Children Holiday Service project.
- Hosts annual creation of Easter Baskets for Children at Salvation Army Shelter.
- The Dictionary Project RCH began implementing this project in HISD schools in 2016. The literacy initiative grew to include every enrolled 3rd grader in hisd receiving their own dictionary; impacting thousands of students annually. The project currently includes other ISD's with the same goal to make an impact upon literacy in local schools.



Youth Service

Interact – Clubs for young people ages 12-18 who want to connect with others in their community or school. Members have fun while carrying out service projects and learning about the world.

Rotaract – Clubs for young people ages 18-30 in universities and communities worldwide that organize service activities, develop their leadership and professional skills, and have fun. Rotaract clubs are sponsored by Rotary clubs but manage and fund their clubs independently.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) In an informal atmosphere, groups of outstanding people ages 14-30 spend several days in a challenging program of leadership training, facilitated discussions, inspirational addresses, and social activities designed to enhance personal development, leadership skills, and good citizenship.

Vocational Service

Camp Enterprise

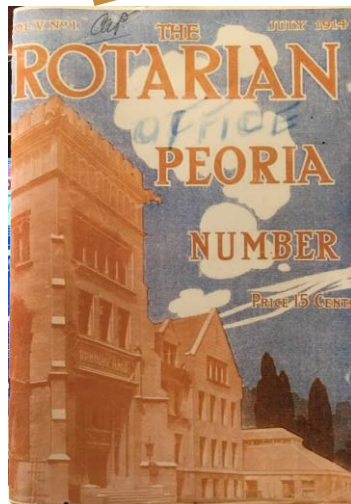
Camp Enterprise - since 1986

Selected High School Juniors participate in a three - day program of instruction, competition and teamwork focusing on business and entrepreneurship.

Club members volunteer to supervise and work as coaches to mentor & guide the students through a full agenda each day.



Rotary Communicatios



❖ Web Sites:

www.rotaryhouston.org

www.rotary.org

www.rotary5890.org

❖ Rotarian Magazine –print or online

❖ Online Roster via ClubRunner-upload photo

❖ Mobile App available

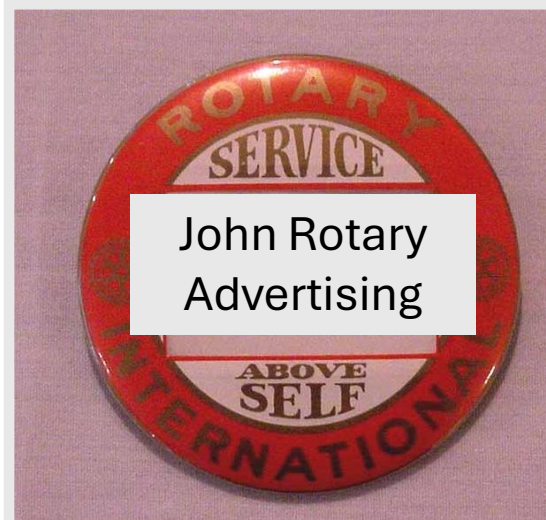
❖ Contact information for all members, meeting information

Red Badge

Given to all new members at Induction

When you first join the Rotary Club of Houston you are given a Red Badge so that the members of our club can readily identify you as a new member and offer assistance or advice regarding the various benefits of your membership.

The “Red Badge to Blue Badge Process” is purposefully designed to facilitate the following objectives: (1) develop friendships and networking opportunities; (2) acquire knowledge and familiarity with Rotary International, District 5890 and The Rotary Club of Houston; (3) volunteer with fellow Rotarians at various club activities and community service projects; and (4) appreciate our motto of “Service Above Self.”



Blue Badge
Received once Blue Badge
criteria has been met

Blue Badge To Red Recommendations

Engagement opportunities

- ❖ Log into ClubRunner and add your information (registering on Rotary International is a plus)
 - ❖ Staff the sign in table and hand out badges/volunteer as greeter
 - ❖ Lead the Invocation
 - ❖ Lead the Pledge of Allegiance–
 - ❖ Lead the Four Way Test
 - ❖ (Option:Song leader (if you can sing))
 - ❖ Meet at least 5 members and fill out the “meet a member” sheet
 - ❖ Attend a board meeting
 - ❖ Attend Rotary 101 presentation
 - ❖ Connect to committee chairs
 - ❖ Join a committee
 - ❖ Invite a guest to a meeting
- ❖ Please complete three of the items below:
 - ❖ Participate in a community service project
 - ❖ Attend a club social event
 - ❖ Schedule coffee/lunch with a board member
 - ❖ Help break down/clean up after a weekly meeting
 - ❖ Make a charitable donation to the Rotary Foundation
 - ❖ Suggest a speaker for a weekly meeting
 - ❖ Contribute “Happy Dollars” at a meeting

Aim to fulfill all requirements in 6 months or less!

Benefits of Rotary

- Opportunities to serve your local community
- Meet new & interesting people
- Broaden knowledge of other vocations
- Fellowship & friendship
- Participate in business Networking
- Enjoy outstanding programs

Service

**“is the Seed, Fertilizer and Labor
that produces a
Harvest of Fellowship”**

**-Jack Wells
RCoH President 1985-86**

- **Rotary Club of Houston Access:**

Access www.rotaryhouston.org

Member Area

-Edit your own information, add a picture to your profile, access other club members, sign up for events.

- **ClubRunner Application from App Store**

Same password

Look up club members of our club and District 5890

- **District 5890**

Rotaryd5890.org

Same password

Register for District Events

- **Rotary International**

A different password is required

-With an account on Rotary.org, you can also register for international events, network with other professionals, take training classes. *For Rotary Basics see: rotary_basics_en.pdf*

To create an account:

Click on **My Rotary**

Click on **Register for an account**

Click on **Create account** and fill out registration information- you will receive an email to let you know the account has been created.

Other apps: ClubLocator & Rotary Learn