



The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa Electronic Press Kit

Frequently Asked Questions . . .

There are a lot of misconceptions about what Rotary is and what it accomplishes in the community. We'd like to be clear as possible by answering the questions below.

What is Rotary?

The main objective of Rotary is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians provide goodwill and peace, provide humanitarian service, and encourage high ethical standards in all vocations. The Rotary motto is "Service Above Self."

What exactly does Rotary do?

Rotarians initiate and help raise money for community projects that address many of our society's most pressing issues, such as violence, drug abuse, youth, AIDS, hunger, the environment, and illiteracy. Rotary clubs are autonomous and determine service projects based on local needs.

How many members does the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa have?

Close to 200 professional business men and women from throughout Sonoma County.

The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa
P.O. Box 505, Santa Rosa, CA 95402
TEL (707) 539-5996 FAX (707) 539-1965 WEB www.santarosarotary.com

Isn't Rotary just a club for old guys?

Certainly not. This isn't your Father's Rotary. The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa has a diverse membership of all ages. First admitted in 1987, women are the fastest-growing segment of Rotary's membership with 80,000 members. There are nearly 2,000 women club presidents and women are rapidly assuming leadership roles within Rotary. Our 2003-04 president will be Barbara Beedon, executive director of the American Lung Association. Rotaract and Interact are Rotary programs for 18 to 30 year-olds and high school students, giving younger people the chance to work on Rotary programs.

How many Rotary Clubs are there in the world?

There are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belonging to more than 29,000 Rotary clubs in more than 160 countries worldwide.

What specifically has your Club done for the community?

Check out the [projects](#) page on our site. They are too numerous to mention here.

What is Rotary International?

Rotary International is the umbrella organization for all Rotary Clubs. It has collaborated with many civic and humanitarian organizations as well as the government agencies of various nations in its efforts to improve the human condition. An example of what these partnerships can accomplish can be found in Rotary's ambitious PolioPlus program. Launched in 1985 with the World Health Organization, the US Centers for Disease Control, and UNICEF, the RI program's goal is to immunize every child in the world against polio by 2005. By that time, RI will have committed nearly a half-billion US dollars to the effort.

For further information about the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa, please call (707) 539-5996.

About Rotary

The Rotary Club of Santa Rosa was first chartered on December 22, 1921. Today, it is the largest California Rotary Club north of San Francisco. The club has nearly 200 members which includes a cross section of Santa Rosa's most influential and respected business and professional men and women.

Rotary is an international organization of service-minded people. Founded in Chicago in 1905 by Paul Harris, the meeting place rotated from one member's business to another's, leading to the name Rotary. Today, Rotary is truly global, boasting approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belonging to more than 29,000 Rotary clubs in more than 160 countries worldwide. Rotarians contribute time, energy, and money to help those who are most in need in the world. Rotary meets weekly, is non-political, non-religious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. The Rotary flag now flies in more countries than that of the United Nations.

One of Rotary's proudest accomplishments has been the 10-year crusade against polio in the world. The money and energies of individual Rotarians have vaccinated over 500 million children, which represents 99% of all children in the world. Members of the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa have contributed \$142,000 to the Polio Plus fund raising project to-date. This contribution helped immunize 1,704,000 children against this dreaded disease. Polio has been virtually eliminated in the Western Hemisphere and the goal is that it will be totally eradicated by the year 2005. To help accomplish this goal, Rotary International has secured matching grants from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Bank to match Rotary dollars four to one.

In 1994, the Rotary Club of Santa Rosa became the first service club ever to receive the *Distinguished Service Award* from the State of California Governor's Committee for the Employment of Disabled Persons.

To learn more about becoming a Rotary Club of Santa Rosa member, please visit www.santarosarotary.com/faqs.html.

Leadership 2001-2002

John Burgess, President
KFTY Channel 50

David Brown, Past President
Sonoma County Family YMCA

Will Haymaker, President-Elect
Lucas Valley Properties

Bob Higgs, Secretary
David Haynes Insurance

Cecil Humes, Treasurer
Linkenheimer LLP CPAs & Advisors

Stephen Fox, Sergeant at Arms
Fox Consulting

Yale Abrams, United Way
Barbara Beedon, American Lung Association
Gary Bondi, North West Insurance Agency
Genie Delles, Ham Delles Company, Incl.
Bill Hatcher, Hatcher & Rundel
Al Holcomb, Fast Frame
John Holden, Redwood Gospel Mission
Susan Zachensky-Walthall
Debi Zaft, Fountain Grove Mortgage

Rotary Foundations

Rotary Club of Santa Rosa Foundation — a nonprofit corporation, offers financial assistance to qualified local organizations whose activities provide benefits within the local community.

Rotary International Foundation — funds Rotary International scholarships, Polio Plus, group study exchange, and special grants to developing nations.

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