What is Rotary?

Rotary is a global network of community volunteers.

Rotary club members are business, professional and community leaders in your locality who meet regularly to plan and implement community service activities and network with other professionals. For those interested, members can also choose to become involved in international humanitarian service efforts. More than 1.2 million men and women in over 200 countries and geographical areas belong to over 33,000 Rotary clubs.

Rotary builds international understanding through scholarships, exchange programs, and humanitarian grants. Throughout the world, Rotary clubs participate in a broad range of educational, intercultural and humanitarian activities designed to improve the lives of others.

Benefits of Membership

Belonging to a Rotary club provides members with an opportunity to make a contribution to their own communities and to communities around the world.

Members may join Rotary for many reasons, including community involvement, personal development, professional networking and camaraderie with fellow members. But perhaps the most important benefit is the satisfaction gained from making a real difference in the world.

Ways to Support Rotary's Future

Rotary International formed the "Rotary Foundation" to finance its charitable international projects. When you make contributions to it, you join over one million Rotarians worldwide in helping to build understanding, goodwill and peace. Your voluntary donation of a minimum of $100 per year ($25 per quarter) will make you a Sustaining Paul Harris Member. You become a Paul Harris Fellow when your cumulative donations reach $1,000.

Paul Harris Matching Funds

For more than 40 years, the Thief River Falls Rotary Club has been receiving the gift of matching contributions for individuals wishing to become Sustaining Paul Harris Members from the L. B. Hartz Foundation.

L.B. Hartz, a long time Thief River Falls Business and Rotary Member, funded the L. B. Hartz Foundation with the objective of helping the people of Northwest MN through philanthropy. Through the L.B. Hartz Foundation, he has offered all Rotary members who wish to become a Sustaining Paul Harris Member, a match on their individual contributions. The Foundation will match your contribution, dollar for dollar, lowering your total cost to $500.

Start with Rotary and good things happen.

What is the Cost to Join?

Current Quarterly Dues:

$120.50/Qtr.

International Due - $12.50/Qtr.
Rotarian Magazine - $3.00/Qtr.
District Dues - $15.75/Qtr.
Meals - $71.50/Qtr.
Local Dues - $17.75/Qtr.

Meals are billed at $5.50 per meeting based on 13 meetings per quarter. Meals are charged to all active members for every meeting. The reason for this is as follows.

1. We are charged a minimum regardless of attendance.

2. Encourages members to attend meetings so as to get their money's worth.

3. Members should attend a minimum of 50% of the meetings.

Exemption from meal charges can be allowed only when a member meets certain qualifications and is gone from TRF for an extended period not allowing them to attend.

Local dues are for programs which are sponsored by our club on an ongoing basis. Such as RYLA Kids Voting, Rotary Rose Parade float, 4 Way Test Essays, Conference and President Elect Training, as well as misc. donations from time to time. There are also expenses for club operations such as Plaques, Badges, Awards and guest speaker gifts, income tax preparation, postage and misc. office expenses.

The weekly raffle and Sgt at Arms donations also raise about $1,000+ per year. This is also available for club expenses and misc. donations.

Any contributions or obligations beyond these parameters require a plan to raise funds necessary to fully fund whatever these obligations are.

A Brief History

The Rotary Foundation began in 1917 by Arch Klumph, sixth president of Rotary International, who convinced a Rotary convention of the need for an endowment for "doing good in the world" in charitable, educational, or other avenues of service.

In 1928, The Rotary Foundation gained further strength with the appointment of the first Trustees. In 1931, they adopted a declaration of trust. The Foundation was incorporated in 1983.

At the death of Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, in 1947, Rotarians from around the world made gifts to the Foundation in his memory. The Foundation began its first program the following year, providing graduate scholarships for study abroad to 18 scholars from seven countries. This is where the Paul Harris Member Award started.

Evolution of Programs

1947: The Foundation established its first program, Fellowships for Advance Study, later known as Ambassadorial Scholarships.

1965-66: Three programs were launched: Group Study Exchange, Awards for Technical Training, and Grants for Activities in Keeping with the Objective of The Rotary Foundation, which was later called Matching Grants.

1978: Rotary introduced the Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants. The first 3-H Grant funded a project to immunize 6 million Philippine children against polio.

1985: The PolioPlus program was launched to eradicate polio worldwide.

1987-88: The first peace forums were held, leading to Rotary Peace Fellowships.

2013: New district, global, and packaged grants enable Rotarians around the world to respond to the world's greatest needs.

Since the first donation of $26.50 in 1917, the Foundation has received contributions totaling more than $1 billion.

PolioPlus, Rotary's most ambitious program to date, focuses on global immunization efforts and has played a leadership role with the World Health Organization, CDC, and UNICEF in bringing the world to the brink of polio eradication. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has contributed US $355 million to Rotary to support PolioPlus activities.

END POLIO NOW

ROTARY CLUB OF THIEF RIVER FALLS

PO Box 152

Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Emery Lee - 218-689-4191

Or on the web at trfrotary.org

IT'S **All Local**

ROTARY CLUB
OF
THIEF RIVER FALLS

Weekly meeting every Tuesday at 12:00 PM

Meetings are held at the

Evergreen Eating Emporium

700 Hwy 32 South

Thief River Falls, MN 56701