



The Woodbury Rotary Club

“Service Above Self”

General Information For New and Prospective Members

This document introduces new and prospective members to Rotary International and the Woodbury Rotary Club, New Jersey, USA. This is *not* an official Rotary document, but it is patterned after similar ones from other Rotary clubs.

The purpose of this Rotary information is:

- To help give you a bird's eye view of Rotary
- To let you know what you may expect of your membership
- To let you know what our club will expect of you as a member
- To answer any questions that you might have about our club and Rotary in general

This document contains some helpful information about Rotary.

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Rotary Is an International Organization

Paul P. Harris, our founder, organized the first Rotary Club in Chicago in 1905. This club met in rotation at the offices of the members, thus the name Rotary. There are

now more than 30,000 Rotary Clubs internationally with a total membership of over 1.2 million men and women. Worldwide there are 527 districts in 159 countries.

The free world is divided into territories known as Rotary Districts with which the clubs are associated. The Woodbury Rotary Club is in District 7640, which is comprised of 65 clubs that span an area of the seven (7) Southernmost Counties of New Jersey. Total district membership is over 2550 Rotarians. A President governs Rotary International with a board of directors elected from all over the world. Annually, each District elects a District Governor and each club elects its officers and directors.

The Woodbury Rotary Club - History

Woodbury Rotary's history traces to 1921 when, at the request of Roy Goodwin of the Camden Rotary Club (Circa 1913, oldest in the district), Wadsworth (Waddy) Cresse, Sr., then a cashier at the First National Bank of Woodbury, gathered together a group of Woodbury businessmen to hear the Rotary message.

As a result of this meeting, Woodbury was chartered on Jan. 1, 1922. Cresse, appropriately, became the charter president. During the fledgling year of the Woodbury club, Cresse visited Chicago and met Rotary founder Paul Harris. Shortly after Cresse died (March 29, 1971) Cresse, posthumously, was honored as the club's third Paul Harris Fellow; William Powell, deceased, was the first Paul Harris Fellow and Herbert A. Budd, Jr., Past District Governor and twice Woodbury Rotary President (still active after 51 years service), was the second Paul Harris Fellow. Cresse worked his way up the ladder from bank cashier to a bank president, spent 66 years in banking, and was one of Gloucester County's most enthusiastic community servants throughout his active life.

Cresse exemplified the spirit of Rotary and provided a powerful legacy for his son, Wadsworth (Waddy Jr.) Cresse, Jr., a lawyer and long-time Rotarian, and his grandson, Wadsworth (Chip) Cresse III, who followed granddad into banking, became a tireless civic leader, and himself is a Woodbury Rotary past president. When Waddy, Sr. died at age 87, he was serving his 50th year as a Rotarian and was Woodbury's last surviving charter member.

Other Woodbury charter officers were James C. Henry, Sr., whose son James, Jr., is a Past President; vice president; Alexander L. Rogers, secretary; and William H. Sutton, Jr., treasurer. Considering some of the other familiar names on the charter membership roster - Eastlack, Davis and Hendrickson, to cite only a few - it's clear that Woodbury's Rotary heritage and tradition has had a strong filtering-down effect. Many relatives of these men are active today.

According to newspaper columnist, long-time Woodbury Rotarian and past president Clayton (Cy) Eastlack, Woodbury's charter lineup included a Ford dealer, a block manufacturer, an attorney, a druggist, an engineer, a barber, a newspaper editor and an office manager who later became a state senator and ambassador, Robert C. Hendrickson.

Father-and-son and brother combinations have proliferated through the years in Woodbury Rotary and are too numerous to recount. However, it's not unusual for as many as three brothers - such as Ed, Henry and Charlie Fredrick - to be in the fold at the same time.

Since the club's charter dinner-meeting Feb. 22, 1922 at Forest View Country Club, later known as Oak Valley Country Club, it has immersed itself in a wide range of worthwhile community projects. The list includes auctions, parade floats, a fund-raising circus, Christmas party for needy children, eyeglass clinic, high school scholarships, essay contests, sponsorship international help via CARE, and, in recent years, strong support of a Dominican Republic project to revive a dilapidated orphanage. Woodbury was among the district leaders in the latter project, which came to fruition in the fall of 1988 when several flew to Santo Domingo, including Herbert A. Budd, Jr. who was District Governor-Elect, for the dedication ceremony.

Some other community highlights from the early years:

1922-32: Spearheaded a campaign to have a public comfort station built in Woodbury; provided uniforms for the Woodbury High girls' drum and bugle corps; started a drive to improve the lighting on Broad Street.

1932-42: Sponsored Gloucester County Rotary Night, with all county clubs participating; established a free eye clinic at Ace Motors.

1942-52: Sponsored several activities to raise money for the USO and Red Cross; members made regular purchases of War Bonds; provided cigarettes for servicemen; provided gifts for wounded servicemen at Tilton General Hospital; provided medical assistance to local residents who were hardship cases.

1962-72: Stocked Bell Tract Lake with fish; underwrote the cost of tonsillectomies for children in needy cases; purchased a musical instrument for the Bonsai Blues Band.

Woodbury Rotary also played a role in the Centennial Anniversary of the City of Woodbury in 1971 which was also the 50th anniversary of Woodbury Rotary and Herbert A. Budd, Jr. just happened to be the 50th Woodbury Rotary President that year. During the Centennial year, club president Herbert A. Budd, Jr. ordered a

hand-made, mouth-blown, glass bottle designed and created in the tradition of the South jersey glass industry.

It was a fitting connection: 100 years of Woodbury city history and 50 years of Woodbury Rotary history. It's been a solid marriage for a long, long time. Meanwhile, Herbert A. Budd, Jr. served as District 7640 governor during 1989-90. He is the second Woodbury Rotarian to hold the office. Ironically, Herbert A. Budd, Jr. accepted his second term as Woodbury Rotary president in 2005 on the 100th Anniversary of Rotary International and on the 75th anniversary of the District, Herb was the 75th District Governor.

In 1980-81, another Herb, Herbert E. Hecker (deceased) – held the post.

Woodbury's powerful Rotary history continues.

How You Were Chosen

1. A member of this Rotary club sponsored your membership.
2. Our Membership Committee verified your occupation and agreed:
 - (a) That you hold an important position in your firm.
 - (b) That you are an outstanding leader in your vocation.
 - (c) That the classification being loaned to you was open.

Privileges of Rotary Membership

Rotary membership provides:

- The privilege of friendship with leaders in your community, in neighboring cities across the USA, and around the world.
- The privilege of giving service to your community.
- The privilege of developing international goodwill and understanding.
- The privilege of helping build higher ethical standards within your vocation.

Obligations of Rotary Membership

Participation

To be a Rotarian, you must give your time, talents, and sometimes financial support to the following:

- Community work
- Social functions
- Club and District activities

Attendance

We encourage active participation each week, if possible. To achieve this goal we would like you to:

- Attend each weekly meeting of our club.
- Make up meetings you miss at another Rotary Club or on-line within a reasonable amount of time before or after a missed meeting of our club.
- Attend a District Institute, Assembly, or Conference or a Rotary International Convention.

Strive to attend our meetings and stay as long as you can – generally, we have lunch, a program speaker and conduct business all in only about 60 minutes! We have great fellowship together and always have a good time.

Each year we elect our officers and Board of Directors. These officers and directors conduct the general business of our club. Our president, with the approval of the board of directors, makes committee appointments based upon the four avenues of service:

- Club Service
- Community Service
- Vocational Service
- International Service.

Each Rotarian is expected to participate in one of the avenues of service.

Attendance Rules

- We ask you attend or make up at least 50% of the regular meetings of the club, with a minimum of 30% attendance at the Woodbury Rotary Club.

- Failure to attend or make up four consecutive meetings can automatically terminate your membership (but we work with you).
- Attendance percentages are calculated on a six-month period ending December 31 and June 30.

Making-Up Meetings

You can make up a missed meeting any time two weeks prior or two weeks after the missed meeting. Doing any of the following can also make us a missed meeting.

- Attending at least 50% of the regular meetings of another club or provisional club.
- Attending, at the direction of the club, a regular meeting of a Rotaract (college level Rotary) or Interact Club (High School level Rotary) or provisional Rotaract or Interact Club.
- Attending a Rotary International Convention or a select International, Regional, or District Conference or Assembly.
- The Woodbury Rotary Club is very liberal in what it will accept as a make-up. Any full hour spent on Rotary business, whether it's a committee meeting, volunteering outside of the club, or attending Rotary functions, counts as a make-up. Any piece of paper or an email to the Club Secretary to record the event, with your name, date of service, and name of club or event attended will work to receive a make-up.

Rotary Club Objective in Four Avenues of Service

Our objective is based on the ideal that service is a worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage, foster, and implement this within the four avenues of service listed below.

1. Club Service – The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.
2. Community Service – The use of high ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying, by each Rotarian, of their occupation as an opportunity to serve society.
3. Vocational Service – The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to their occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

4. International Service – The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world of fellowship of business and professional people united in the ideal of service.

Club Service

The following areas of club operation are directed toward the internal functioning of the club to maintain its health and vigor

Community Service

Promote a club effort to improve the quality of life within the community.

Vocational Service

Adhere to and promote the highest ethical standards in all occupations. Recognize the worthiness to society in all reputable occupations. Contribute one's own talents to the problems and needs of society today.

International Service

Promote efforts to advance understanding, goodwill, and the quality of life throughout the world.

Types of Membership

There are three types of membership in the Woodbury Rotary Club.

1. Active-Ordinary Members selected for their leadership in the business or profession in which they are classified. Member pays all dues, expenses, and meal fees at semi-annual billing but could be paid quarterly.

2. Active-Exempt Senior Members (Retired) that have been a part of Rotary for more than 20 years. These members can voluntarily petition the Board for Exempt status, and if granted, meal fees can be paid at the door. Members pay all dues and expenses at semi-annual billing but can be paid quarterly.

3. Honorary Non-voting members elected because of distinguished service in furthering Rotary as an organization. They must be re-elected annually for membership. Honorary membership follows the current board term and must be reinstated by the successor Board of Directors. Honorary members pay no dues or meal fees.

Your Financial Commitment of Rotary Membership (invoiced quarterly)

You are provided a financial credit for make-up meetings at another Rotary club where a meal fee was charged. The Rotary fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.

A typical Woodbury Rotarian spends approximately \$1000 over the course of a year for membership (includes regular meals at lunch meetings).

Our Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Club of Woodbury, N.J. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable foundation incorporated for the purpose of collecting and administering donations and funds raised by and through the Woodbury Rotary Club exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, or scientific purposes. All donations made to the Woodbury Rotary Club are tax deductible as provided by law.

The Woodbury Rotary Club participates in numerous local and international projects. For example some of our local projects include: providing free dictionaries for all third grade students in several local schools; sponsoring the Rotary InterAct Club at Woodbury High School; sending WHS students to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) each year; we built and continue to improve Rotary Park on East Barber Avenue and Rotary trail at Woodbury Creek; we co-sponsor the annual Woodbury Car Show; and one of our most impressive projects is Christmas For Kids. Each year we take approximately 20-30 underprivileged children to K-Mart and let them pick out as much as \$180 worth of clothing. After their shopping cart is full we take them to breakfast with Santa. The children and their parents are simply overwhelmed with joy and appreciation. The Rotarians that take the children on their shopping spree always look forward to this and never forget the children's faces. These are just a few examples of our local projects.

On an international level: we continue to make amazing progress in "completely eliminating" Polio in the world; we have helped build and maintain an orphanage in the Dominican Republic; we have participated in opening new wells for drinking water in 3rd World Countries; we participate in sending and receiving exchange students and also the Group Study Exchange; and we give annually as individual Rotarians and as a club to the Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International

The goal of the Foundation is to foster understanding and friendly relations among the world's people by funding educational and humanitarian programs. Some of these are:

- Ambassadorial scholarships
- Matching grants
- Group Study Exchange
- Health, hunger, and humanitarian (3-H) grants
- Rotary grants for university teachers to serve in developing countries
- Grants for Rotary volunteers
- Polio Plus program
- Rotary peace programs, including Rotary Peace Scholarships

Several of these programs send scholars and volunteer workers abroad to study, learn about other cultures, and offer assistance and promote goodwill within a host country.

The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is supported by the financial contributions of Rotarians throughout the world. Each member of the Woodbury Rotary Club is encouraged to become a member and maintain a sustaining membership in the Rotary Foundation through an annual contribution of \$100. Once you have contributed \$1,000 to the Foundation, you are made a Paul Harris Fellow in honor of Rotary's founder.

Conclusion

We hope this information has been helpful in explaining what the Woodbury Rotary Club is all about and we thank you for your interest.

For even more detailed information please visit:

www.WoodburyNJRotary.org