



# Rotary Club of Princeton, Nj Membership Information



## What is the Rotary Club of Princeton?

For Rotary Year 2010-2011

Issued its charter by Rotary International in 1942, the Rotary Club of Princeton, New Jersey is a not-for-profit organization of approximately 60 men and women who meet every Tuesday at 12:15 p.m. at the Nassau Club, 6 Mercer Street in Princeton, to enjoy fellowship and lunch together, to hear an informative program and to discuss and plan service projects. During its sixty-eight-plus-year history, the Rotary Club of Princeton has counted among its members many of the Princeton area's most influential business and professional leaders.

The Rotary Club of Princeton has no paid staff and is governed by a Board of Directors elected annually to one-year terms by the general membership. Each Rotary Club year begins July 1st and ends June 30th. According to the club's By-Laws, "Any person residing or working in the territorial limits of this Club, or in the contiguous environs, who is engaged in any worthy and recognized business, occupation, or profession as a proprietor, partner, manager or officer with executive and discretionary authority and who has a reputation for honesty, fairness and personal character, may be elected to Active Membership."

## What is the Object of the Club?

The object of the Rotary Club of Princeton is to encourage and foster the ideal of "**Service Above Self**" 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 by each Rotarian of his or her occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

**THIRD.** The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his or her 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.

## What is Rotary International?

Founded by Chicago lawyer Paul P. Harris, more than 100 years ago, Rotary International (RI) is a worldwide organization of 32,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas with a membership of nearly 1.2 million men and women. They are joined together to provide service both in their local community and in the international community. Rotarians, who have embraced the organization's motto, "*Service Above Self*," represent a cross section of all types of businesses, vocations and professions. The name "Rotary" came from the practice of the early clubs of "rotating" their meetings from business-to-business each week. Rotary's gearwheel symbolizes the name and represents the "meshing" of Rotary with other organizations for useful purpose.

Rotary works to bring together people of all races, faiths and political views. Membership is based upon representatives for each business or profession to ensure a wide representation for community projects. Since its charter, the Rotary Club of Princeton has been a member of Rotary International. Rotary International has had a special relationship with the United Nations for more than a half century. Today, Rotary has consultative status with UNICEF, UNESCO, the World Health Organization and the UN Economic and Social Council. Rotary maintains representatives at UN headquarters in New York, Geneva and Vienna and with UNESCO in Paris. These representatives provide information to Rotary International on the relevant activities of the United Nations and its affiliated agencies. More information can be obtained about Rotary International by visiting their site on the Internet's Worldwide Web at: <http://www.rotary.org/>.

Rotary is organized at club, district and international levels to carry out its program of service around the globe. Rotarians are members of their clubs and the clubs are members of the global association known as Rotary International. Clubs are grouped into Rotary districts, each led by a district governor who is an officer of Rotary International and represents the RI board of directors in the field. The Rotary Club of Princeton is part of District 7510 composed of about 43 clubs in central New Jersey. A nineteen-member board of directors, which includes the International President and President-Elect, administers Rotary International. While the Rotary International president is chief executive of the organization, the active managing officer is the General Secretary, who heads a staff of about 450 people working in nine centers around the world. The International Headquarters is in Evanston, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago.

### **What is the Rotary Foundation?**

Also headquartered in Evanston, Illinois, the Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational and cultural exchange programs.

The Foundation's Humanitarian Programs fund international Rotary club and district projects designed to improve the quality of life. Providing health care, clean water, food, education and housing are a few of the basic goals that these projects work toward—primarily in the developing world. One of the key humanitarian programs is Polio Plus, which seeks to eradicate the polio virus worldwide.

Through its Educational Programs the Foundation provides funding for about 800 students to study abroad each year. Grants are also awarded to university teachers to teach in developing countries and for exchanges of business and professional people. In all cases, recipients are expected to act as ambassadors of goodwill, furthering international understanding and promoting friendly relations between their host and sponsoring countries.

The Rotary Foundation is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world. Contributions to the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund are invested for three years, with interest being used to cover all administrative costs. Fully 100 percent of every dollar donated goes directly to humanitarian and educational program expenditures three years later. Gifts to the Foundation's Permanent Fund are invested, with only the earnings being used to support programs. Cumulative contributions to the Foundation have reached approximately U.S. \$825 million, making it one of the largest philanthropic organizations of its kind.

### **What kinds of organizations and projects are supported by the Rotary Club of Princeton?**

The Princeton Rotary Club is active all year to bring help where help is needed. The club sponsors children through the Save The Children organization, provides vocational scholarships for local youth through its local foundation, helps families in crisis situations and sponsors a local Interact Club at the high school.

In addition, The Princeton Rotary Club and its members are very active in the Princeton area, working through existing organizations to improve our communities and the lives of all the people of Central New Jersey. Rotary projects serve all ages, from infants to senior citizens and fight problems from drug abuse to homelessness. In the past ten years, Princeton Rotary has supported a variety of organizations including:

9-11 Disaster Relief Fund  
American Boychoir  
Arts Council of Princeton  
Boy Scouts of Princeton  
Cancer Care at UMCP  
Children's Home Society  
Corner House  
Crisis Ministry of Princeton & Trenton  
Dictionary Project for Literacy  
Eden Institute  
Enable  
Family & Children Services  
Girl Scouts - Delaware & Raritan  
Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra  
Habitat for Humanity  
Hands on Helpers  
Hi-TOPS Teen Education

Kids for Kids  
Latin American Task Force  
Martin House  
Mercer Alliance for the Mentally Ill  
New Jersey Opera Theater  
New York firefighters  
Newgrange School  
Princeton Chapter, American Red Cross  
Princeton Community Housing  
Princeton Fire Department  
Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad  
Princeton Girl Scouts  
Princeton High School Post Prom  
Princeton Historical Society  
Princeton Housing Project  
Princeton Library

Princeton Nursery School  
Princeton Outreach  
Princeton Pettoranello Foundation  
Princeton Senior Resource Center  
Princeton Singers  
Princeton Small Animal Rescue  
Princeton Soccer Association  
Princeton University Jazztet  
Princeton YWCA  
Rotary Club of Princeton Foundation  
S.A.V.E.  
Special Olympics  
Sunshine Foundation  
Westminster Choir College  
Womanspace  
YMCA of Princeton

### **How does someone become a member of the Rotary Club of Princeton?**

He or she must be nominated for membership by an active member in good standing of the Rotary Club of Princeton and successfully go through an approval process that can often take several weeks. Persons who aggressively campaign for membership without having first been proposed by a Club member will be disqualified. However, individuals who are interested in membership are welcome to attend a few meetings as guests to become acquainted with our club and members. When a member submits a candidate's name to the Club Secretary, the Secretary presents the candidate's name to the Board of Directors for approval. Following approval, the Chairmen of the Membership and Classification Committees determine the eligibility of the candidate and decide if the candidate qualifies for a classification that is open. If all requirements are met, the Chairman and/or members of the Information or Membership Committee shall meet with the candidate to let him or her know the privileges and obligations of membership in the Rotary Club of Princeton.

Following the information session, if the nominee wishes to become a member, he or she will be invited to submit an application. When a candidate submits an application and grants permission to have his or her name published to our club's membership, the candidate's name, proposed classification and business/professional affiliation is reviewed and considered by the general membership. Within ten (10) days of publication, any member may file a written objection to the proposed member, stating reasons for the objection. If no such objections are filed, the proposed member shall be considered duly elected.

Once the nominee for membership has paid his or her admission fee, dues, advance lunch fees and other assessments, he or she will be formally installed as a member. Membership shall continue during the existence of the club as long as participation and attendance requirements are met and dues, lunch fees and other assessments are paid promptly.

### **What does it cost to become a member of the Rotary Club of Princeton?**

An Initial Admission fee of \$200 plus annual dues of \$180 (billed at \$45 per quarter) and lunches at \$273 per quarter (\$21 per meal) will be billed after the member has applied for and is duly elected to membership. All amounts are due within 30-days of the billing date and are subject to change. Dues include a subscription to the monthly **Rotarian Magazine** and the monthly **Princeton Rotarian** newsletter.

### **Are there attendance or participation requirements?**

Active members of the Rotary Club of Princeton are expected to attend all club meetings when possible. When attendance of a club meeting is not possible, members can make up missed meetings within two weeks before or after the missed meeting at any other Rotary Club in the world and receive a \$21 credit on the next bill for the missed lunch. For a "make up" to be accepted, the club Secretary must be given appropriate proof of attendance within thirty days of the missed meeting. No lunch credits will be given for missed meetings that are not made up at another Rotary club.

If a member fails to maintain at least at 60% attendance or make-up rate or misses four consecutive regular meetings without having been granted an excused absence, his or her membership may be terminated.

Club members are expected to arrive at all Club meetings in a timely fashion and in appropriate attire (including the wearing of a Rotary pin) and are encouraged to socialize with guests and fellow Rotarians prior to the beginning of the formal meeting.

Active club members are also expected to participate in all areas of Club activities including Club Service, Community Service, International Service and Vocational Service and to participate in and support Club fund raisers and other social events as appropriate.

### **Can I use my Club membership to promote my business activities?**

Using your membership in the Rotary Club of Princeton to actively promote your business would be frowned upon by your fellow Rotarians. Members are asked not to use Club membership lists to solicit business or otherwise promote their business or professional interests. However, the trust and friendships developed through your active participation in Rotary Club activities can help your business or profession. Everything else being equal, Rotarians would probably prefer to do business with other members whom they know and trust. In all of their personal and business dealings, Rotarians are expected to apply the

### **Rotary Four Way Test:**

Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

### **If I move away, can I transfer my membership to another Rotary Club?**

Although all Rotary Clubs are members of Rotary International, each club operates autonomously with its membership and recruitment policies. A member in good standing of one Rotary Club who wishes to join another club can usually get a, "letter of introduction," that will open the door to membership in the new community.

### **What are the benefits from a membership in the Rotary Club of Princeton, New Jersey?**

Members of the Rotary Club of Princeton not only receive the friendship and fellowship of their other club members, they become part of an instantly-recognizable and respected worldwide organization of 1.2 million men and women. Rotary members, who identify themselves by wearing a Rotary pin, will frequently encounter introductions and discover friendships in other parts of this nation and the world when they would otherwise be among strangers. Fellow Rotarians are always welcomed visitors at any Rotary Club meeting, anywhere, in any country. Most important, is the satisfaction of being part of a worldwide organization that is there to help whenever there are people in need.

### **Where can I obtain more information about Rotary and the Princeton Rotary Club?**

Visit [www.princetonrotary.org](http://www.princetonrotary.org) for local information, [www.rotarynj.org](http://www.rotarynj.org) for district information and [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) for national and international information. All of these sites are updated regularly.