

Welcome to Rotary!



Welcome!

- **We are glad you're here.** You are joining the Rotary Club of Plymouth at an exciting time! In 2024, the Club will celebrate our 100th anniversary of service to the Plymouth community.
- We encourage you to join a committee, attend our events, meet new friends and present new ideas.
- If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about Rotary, please reach out to your mentor or the individuals listed below:

Penny Joy – Rotary Club of Plymouth President
pennyjoy663@gmail.com

Traci Sincock – District 6400 Governor

Jennifer Jones – Rotary International President

What is Rotary?

- **Rotary is a worldwide organization** of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations and helps build goodwill and peace in the world.
- **Rotary International Vision**
“Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves.”
- **Our motto** is “**Service Above Self.**”

Rotary Club of Plymouth Vision Statement

- **We are the service heartbeat of Plymouth.**
- Where business and community leaders of today, and tomorrow, come together.
- Where our 100-year legacy of service to community includes actions and donations. Where donations consist of time, treasure and knowledge.
- Where our community is local, national and global. Where members are engaged civically and professionally in friendship and with family.
- Where members serve through committees and committees collaborate to effect lasting change.
- Where networking is for the common good—for business and fellowship.
- Where the community comes first to answer its needs for service and donation.
- **Where People of Action, meet, greet and ‘get things done.’**

MAKING AN IMPACT SINCE 1924

In 2021, our Club members continued to be People of Action, and a valuable resource for our community.



8,672
Chicken BBQ
Dinners served:
703 volunteers
raised \$50K



1200+
Kits Prepared for
Days for Girls



12
Exchange
Students

618+
Four-Way Test
essays
reviewed

plymouthrotary.org



Rotary
Club of Plymouth



JOIN LEADERS

EXCHANGE IDEAS

TAKE ACTION

MAKING AN IMPACT SINCE 1924

In 2021, our Club members continued to be People of Action, and a valuable resource for our community.



1,500 Bulbs
planted with Interact students
and community volunteers



400+ Volunteer Hours

Parking cars at
Art in Park,
raising \$20K



Packed food for
Focus Hope:
600 Boxes
on 12 Pallets

1000+
Followers on
Facebook

plymouthrotary.org



Rotary
Club of Plymouth



JOIN LEADERS

EXCHANGE IDEAS

TAKE ACTION

The Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

- ❖ Is it the TRUTH?
- ❖ Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- ❖ Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- ❖ Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary: A Quick History

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, Illinois, USA, was formed on February 23rd, 1905 by **Paul P. Harris**, an attorney. Harris wished to recapture, in a professional club, the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. He was joined by three other community leaders, a coal dealer, a mining engineer and a merchant. They later added a printer and a real estate dealer. Rotary was born.

The name "Rotary" derived from the early practice of rotating the meetings among members' offices.

The first international club was founded around 1911 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and clubs in Europe were established shortly thereafter.

In 1924 the Rotary Club of Plymouth was founded, with assistance from the Rotary Club of Wayne. The Rotary Club of Plymouth has since fostered the new Rotary Clubs; the Canton Rotary Club in 1977 and the Plymouth A.M. Rotary Club in 1997 and the Passport to Service club in 2017. You can find more history of our Club at www.plymouthrotary.org.

By 1921, Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents. Today, **Rotary is 1.4 million members strong in more than 200 countries.** The Rotary Club of Plymouth is part of District 6400 made up of 52 clubs with over 1500 members in Wayne, Monroe and Lenawee Counties, as well as Windsor/Essex County, Ontario. Several of our club members have served as District Governors.

How Our Club is Governed

Club Board of Directors

The Rotary Club of Plymouth Board consists of four officers (President, President-Elect, Treasurer and Secretary) and six Directors. Officers serve in their role for one year. All Board members are elected to 3-year terms by the Club's membership. The Board determines the Club's Officers.

District 6400

The District's role is to facilitate clubs collaborating with each other, provide resources, train club & district leaders, assist clubs with obtaining Rotary grants and assist Youth Exchanges. The District is lead by a District Governor who serves for one year.

International Board of Directors

The board of directors establishes policy for Rotary International and provides guidance that helps our clubs thrive. There are 19 members of the board from around the world.

Benefits of Rotary

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to:

- Become connected to your community
- Work with others in addressing community needs.
- **Network** with other professionals in your community and assist with RI's global humanitarian service efforts.
- Establish contacts with an international network of professionals.
- Develop **leadership skills** through committee and Board service.
- Involve family & friends in promoting service efforts.
- Develop goodwill and **better friendships**.

Plymouth Rotarian Responsibilities

- **Members are encouraged to attend** weekly Club meetings, Club committee meetings, visit the regular meeting of another Rotary club as well as attend District and Rotary International events.
- **Members are required to pay annual dues** on a timely basis. These dues cover Club operating expenses including per capita charges from the District and Rotary International.
- **Members are encouraged to participate** in local and international service activities or projects.
- **Members are encouraged to aspire to leadership** roles via committee and Board service.
- We require a **personal attendance commitment** to our two biggest fund-raising activities:
 - **The Chicken BBQ** held on the first Sunday after Labor Day
 - **Spring Golf Outing** typically held on the third Monday in May

Participation Opportunities, examples

- Chicken BBQ
- Golf outing - play or volunteer
- Flower Planting
- Art in the Park parking fundraiser
- Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- Community and international projects
- Club Board of Directors and committees

The Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation that promotes world understanding through international humanitarian service programs and educational and cultural exchanges. Charity Navigator has awarded The Rotary Foundation 4 stars for more than 10 years.

The Foundation 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 \$5.3 billion in humanitarian and educational grants and administration.** All projects funded by the Foundation are initiated and administered by local Rotary clubs and districts.

The Foundation also funds six Rotary Peace Centers at universities around the world where peace fellows earn advanced degrees or professional development certificates in Peace and Conflict Resolution.

Since 1985, **eradication of polio** has been Rotary's signature international humanitarian project. More than 2.5 billion children have been immunized against polio worldwide.

Plymouth Rotary Foundation

The Plymouth Rotary Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable Foundation governed by a local Board of Directors. All Rotary Club of Plymouth members are also members of the Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1957 to manage a scholarship fund.

Today, the Foundation manages and awards several scholarship programs including Memorial Scholarships (both 4-year and 1-year awards), as well as Career and Technical Scholarships. While scholarships are the Plymouth Rotary Foundation's single largest financial commitment, the Foundation allocates significant funding for the Club's committees and worthy projects in the community.

Our Club leadership strongly encourages all members to donate to both Foundations, but donations are not required.

Five Avenues of Service

- **Club Service:** focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club. Members can directly contribute to maintaining a vibrant club by serving on committees like membership, programming, public image and BBQ. Club members also serve on the Club and Foundation Boards of Directors.
- **Vocational Service:** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards in their vocations.
- **Community Service:** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve the quality of life in our communities. Flower and bulb plantings, Rotary Cares, Rotary Park maintenance and Scholarship awards are a few examples.
- **International Service:** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace.
- **New Generations Service:** recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, service projects and exchange programs. We partner with the Interact Club at the PCCS high schools on many of these projects.

Seven Areas of Focus

- **Promoting peace:** Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders in prevention and conflict resolution and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.
- **Fighting disease:** We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases like polio, HIV/AIDS and malaria. We improve and expand access to healthcare in developing areas.
- **Providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene:** We support local sustainable solutions to bring clean water, sanitation and hygiene to more people every day. After we build wells, we share our expertise with community leaders and educators to ensure our projects succeed long-term.
- **Saving mothers and children:** Nearly 6 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, poor healthcare and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronger.
- **Supporting education:** More than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. Our goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce disparity in education, and increase adult literacy.
- **Growing local economies:** We carry out service projects that enhance economic and community development and create opportunities for decent and productive work for young and old. We also strengthen local entrepreneurs and community leaders—particularly women—in impoverished communities.
- **Protecting the environment:** Rotary members are tackling environmental issues the way they always do: developing projects, using their connections to create change and planning for the future.

Harassment-free Environment

Rotary is committed to maintaining an environment that is free of harassment. Harassment is broadly defined as any conduct, verbal or physical, that denigrates, insults, or offends a person or group based on any characteristic (age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity). Rotary Programs Code of Conduct can be found here <https://my-cms.rotary.org/en/document/ri-programs-code-of-conduct>

All members and individuals attending or participating in Rotary meetings, events, or activities should expect an environment free of harassment and shall help maintain an environment that promotes safety, courtesy, dignity and respect to all. Adults who work with youth are subject to policies outlined in the Rotary Code of Policies 2.120.

All allegations of criminal activity should be referred to appropriate local law enforcement authorities.

The Club Board, District or zone leadership shall promptly address allegations of harassment and shall not retaliate against those making the allegation.

our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion



At Rotary, we understand that cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture is essential to realizing our vision of a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change.

We value diversity and celebrate the contributions of people of all backgrounds, across age, ethnicity, race, color, disability, learning style, religion, faith, socioeconomic status, culture, marital status, languages spoken, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity as well as differences in ideas, thoughts, values, and beliefs.

Recognizing that individuals from certain groups have historically experienced barriers to membership, participation, and leadership, we commit to advancing equity in all aspects of Rotary, including in our community partnerships, so that each person has the necessary access to resources, opportunities, networks, and support to thrive.

We believe that all people hold visible and invisible qualities that inherently make them unique, and we strive to create an inclusive culture where each person knows they are valued and belong.

In line with our value of integrity, we are committed to being honest and transparent about where we are in our DEI journey as an organization, and to continuing to learn and do better.

Make the Most of Rotary

- Learn our motto and The Four Way Test.
- Learn Rotary's Five Avenues of Service.
- Learn Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus
- Attend a Club Board meeting (occurs on the second Tuesday of each month).**
- Attend a Plymouth Rotary Foundation Board meeting (occurs on the third Tuesday of each month).
- Attend a Club service project.
- Join a Club committee.**
- Visit the Club website (www.plymouthrotary.org).
- Visit the Rotary International website and create a my.rotary.org account.
- Visit the District 6400 website.
- Attend a District 6400 event; such as District Conference, District Assembly, Meet The Governor Night ("Harrow"). Read the club's weekly bulletin and the monthly District Digest.
- Attend a meeting at another Rotary Club.
- Read the Rotary Magazine. Your dues include a subscription to the print version or an e-copy if preferred.

Resources

Our Club Website: <http://plymouthrotary.org/>

District 6400 website: <http://rotary6400.org/>

Rotary International website: my.rotary.org

The Learning Center: <https://my.rotary.org/en/secure/13161>

The Rotary Brand Center: <https://brandcenter.rotary.org/>