

Florence Rotary Club New Member Directory

Please go to <http://www.florenceclub.net/> to log in to the Rotary Club Website.

Click on: **DaCdb Member Login**

Enter Your User Name: _____

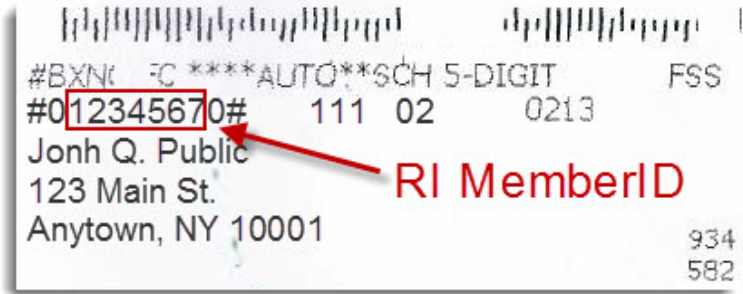
Enter Your Password: _____

Click on: **My CLUB** to access the online club directory

From the club directory you can make changes to your personal information as changes occur, or if you prefer you can use this [“Change of Personal Profile Information”](#) form for personal updates and give this form to the Club Secretary.

First	Middle	Last
Nickname (Name that you prefer to be called)		
Street Address		
City, State ZIP		
Telephone:		
Home:	Work:	Cell:
Email:		
Employment (Position, Company):		
Born (mm/dd/yyyy):		
Education (School & Degree):		
Florence Rotary Member Since (mm/dd/yyyy):		
Sponsor's Name:		
Spouse:		
Hobbies:		

Dear Rotarian {%FName%}, Welcome to DACdb! To LOG IN to the DACdb system, you will need your UserName (default is your E-mail Address), and your Password which is usually your 7-digit (or less if you're a long-time member) RI MemberID# without the leading zeros or last (check) digit, which can be found on your magazine label just above your name.



To make things easy for you, we have embedded your log in values into the LINK below: [Click here to Login to DACdb](#) Username: {%UserLogin%} Password: {%UserPassword%} Please use this as the direct link to DACdb: <http://www.directory-online.com/> If, in the future you need some help logging in, you can use the "LOG IN HELP" link on the login page to have the system e-mail you your Password (if we already have your e-mail address in the database). Please log into DACdb now to verify the correctness of your own data. NOTE: IF this is the FIRST time you are signing onto DACdb, you will first be asked to ACCEPT the USAGE Policy (scroll down and read before accepting) before the Welcome screen appears. Once you have logged in, click on the "My DATA" tab (at the top of the screen) to view your profile. You may EDIT your own member data by clicking on the [EDIT] link on your profile. Finally, after making all your changes, just click the [UPDATE] button to save your profile. That's it! I hope this helps. And thank you for all that you do for your club and Rotary. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me in the usual ways.
Yours in Rotary Service, {%SenderName%} Club Secretary -or- District Communications Officer Email: [{%SenderEmail%}](#) HPhone: {%SenderHomePhone%} OPhone: {%SenderOfficePhone%}

A HISTORY OF THE FLORENCE ROTARY CLUB AND ROTARY INTERNATIONAL*

The world's first service club, Rotary, was founded by Paul P. Harris, a Chicago, Illinois attorney. Harris sought to establish a professional club, possessing a family spirit similar to the small towns of his youth. The first Rotary meeting was held February 23, 1905, in Room 711, of the Unity Building on Dearborn Street in downtown Chicago, Illinois. The meeting room was the office of mining engineer Gustavus Loehr. Harris and Loehr, along with Silvester Schiele, a coal dealer, and Hiram Shorey, a merchant tailor, were the first four Rotarians. The Rotary Club of Chicago would continue to grow by adding new members from different professions. Since the early club members began rotating their meeting locations to their various places of business, the club adopted the name "Rotary."

Over the next decade, the popularity of Rotary spread throughout the United States.



Rotary Founders: Loehr, Harris, Schiele and Shorey

Clubs were chartered from New York City on the east coast to San Francisco, California on the west coast. In 1910, the National Association of Rotary Clubs held their first convention electing Paul Harris as their president. This same year, a club was formed in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. By 1912, the first European Rotary Club was formed in the British Isles. Due to its widespread growth, Rotary would implement a district system in 1916 for better organization. Rotary Clubs would form on six continents by 1921. The following year, Rotary would adopt the

new name, Rotary International.

The institution of Rotary came to Florence, Alabama in 1921. January 12, 1921 marks the date of the first Florence meeting, followed by the charter meeting on March 22, 1921. Dr. Henry J. Willingham, President of the Florence Normal School (currently the University of North Alabama) was selected to be the Florence club's first president.

For almost the next decade, the Florence Rotary Club would experience an explosion in growth. Unfortunately, the Great Depression would have a catastrophic effect on the Florence Rotary Club resulting in a sharp decline in membership from 1928 to 1933. One of the few bright spots of the Depression era for the Florence club was the election of E. L. (Square) Deal as District Governor for 1928-29. As the shackles of the Great Depression lifted, the Florence Rotary Club began to recover and proceed on a long sustained period of membership growth.

Due to the club's growth, the meeting locations of the Florence Rotary Club would evolve. Some of the club's former meeting locations include the Negley Hotel, which was located on the corner of Short Court Street and Tennessee Street, the Reeder Hotel, which was located at 230 Tennessee Street, Starkey's Restaurant, which was located on East Tuscaloosa Street, the Holiday Inn, which was located on South Court Street, and the First Presbyterian Church of Florence. Currently, the club meets in the Marriott Shoals Conference Center.



Hotel Negley



Reeder Hotel



Starkey's Restaurant



Holiday Inn

When Rotary International first began, its primary mission was to serve the professional and social interests of its club members. While this was the initial purpose of Rotary, it would not become their exclusive function. The early members sought to serve their communities and the greater public good.

In 1907, the Rotary Club of Chicago would construct the city's first public lavatory. Little did the Chicago Rotarians realize this project would become the genesis for Rotary Clubs to expand their mission by pooling together their resources and talents to help serve others and communities in need. This spirit of service would ultimately lead Rotary to adopt the motto "Service Above Self."

Rotary would later adopt a code of ethics consistent with their motto. Called "The Four Way Test," it is one of the most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics ever. It has been translated into more than 100 languages. The test asks the following four questions of the things we think, say or do:

- (1) Is it true?
- (2) Is it fair to all concerned?
- (3) Will it build good will and better friendships?
- (4) Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Rotary International established an endowment fund "for doing good in the world" in 1917 to reflect their new creed of "Service Above Self". The following year, this fund became the not for profit corporation, the Rotary Foundation. Since the first donation of \$26.50 in 1917, the Rotary Foundation has received more than \$3 billion.

After Paul Harris' death in 1947, Rotarians sought to honor their founder by donating over \$ 2 million to the Foundation. These contributions would launch the Rotary Foundation's first program called Ambassadorial Scholarships. More than 40,000 scholars from over 130 countries have received Ambassadorial Scholarships totaling \$ 517 million since 1947. In this program, scholars study in a country other than their own where they serve as unofficial ambassadors of goodwill. The scholarship program established the Rotary Foundation as the largest private sponsors of international scholarships in the world. Over 350,000 various scholarships have been given through the program's evolution and currently \$7.5 million is awarded annually.

The advent of World War II forced many clubs to disband. Rotarians served in various capacities during the war. The concern about a post war world led to a 1942 London Rotary conference. This conference is credited as the origin for the development of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In addition, Rotary is credited with playing an instrumental role in the founding of the United Nations with 49 Rotarians helping to draft the United Nations Charter and at least 50 Rotarians serving as delegates, advisors and consultants at the 1945 United Nations Charter Conference. Over the years, many Rotarians have been consultants to the United Nations.

Rotary International through the Rotary Foundation funds several other projects in addition to the Ambassadorial Scholarships. The mission of the Rotary Foundation is "to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of

health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.” The Rotary Foundation has spent slightly over \$3 billion in support of humanitarian and educational programs implemented by clubs and districts and global polio eradication activities.

One program funded by the Foundation is Matching Grants for International Humanitarian Projects. It provides matching funds for international service projects of Rotary Clubs and districts. Projects include providing free surgeries for adults and children with congenital deformities or accident related injuries, training poor farmers to improve agricultural output to help feed the hungry and poor villages, and providing literacy programs for children and adults. Over 29,000 matching grants were approved providing over \$335 million that was used in over 199 countries from 1965 through 2008. The Florence Rotary Club has utilized Grants received to conduct projects in Central and South America.

Another foundation program is the Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants Program. Originating in 1978, it funds large-scale, one to three-year projects that enhance health, help relieve hunger, or improve human development. The 3-H program had funded over 324 projects in 77 countries totaling over \$ 84 million through 2008.

Realizing that children are our future, Rotary has worked since the 1920s to design programs to reach out to children across all boundaries. Rotary began youth exchanges in 1929. These exchanges would become an official program of Rotary International in 1974. Through this program, over 8,000 high school students throughout the world have traveled abroad to live with volunteer Rotary host families. In addition, Rotary has developed other youth programs such as Interact and Rotaract.

Of all the important programs sponsored by Rotarians, the most dramatic is the group’s effort to eradicate polio. In 1985, Rotary International made eradication of polio their highest priority. Rotary members have contributed over \$1.2 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries from polio. Since 1988, Rotary and its partners have achieved a 99 percent reduction in cases. Rotary is now working to raise an additional \$35 million annually through 2018 for polio eradication, to be matched 2 to 1 by the Gates Foundation.

On the local level, members of the Florence Rotary Club have continued their personal contributions and sustained Club support for the Rotary Foundation. The club has sponsored numerous individuals for foundation fellowships to engage in graduate studies in various countries throughout the world. It also became the first Rotary Club in District 6860 to start an International Youth Exchange Program. This exchange program occurred from 1974 through 1977 with Auckland, New Zealand of District 992. In addition, the Florence Club has conducted several successful fund raising events for the eradication of polio.

The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, to promote high ethical standards, and to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through its fellowship of business, professional and community leaders. Currently there are more than 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide in nearly 33,000 Rotary Clubs in more than 200 countries. The clubs are grouped into approximately 530 Rotary International Districts. The Florence Rotary Club is in District 6860.

The Florence Rotary Club has worked diligently to promote, fulfill and perpetuate the ideals expressed in the mission statement of Rotary International. The Florence Rotary Club has

played a major part in the organization of the Decatur Rotary Club in 1927 and the Russellville Rotary Club in 1960.

Florence Rotarians have served their club and community by playing critical leadership roles in the fields of government, business, law, education, religion and cultural affairs. Its membership rolls have included several Presidents of the University of North Alabama and a United States District Court Judge.

Rotary International voted to admit women into clubs worldwide in 1989. Twenty years later, more than 145,000 women are Rotarians. Three women have served as President of the Florence Rotary Club, and a fourth is the club's current President nominee.



Rotary Clock

The Florence Rotary Club has a proud history of civic involvement coordinating, participating or initiating service projects. In 2005, the Florence club purchased, erected and donated to the city of Florence, a Rotary Street Clock to replace a clock that had served the citizens of Florence in the early 1900s. Located on the 100 block of North Court Street, the Rotary Street Clock is almost sixteen feet tall with two faces bearing the Rotary International emblem, and is still maintained by the Club.

Currently, the Florence Club's major service project is Shoals Scholar Dollars, an education foundation raising money to pay tuition to NW-SCC and transfer scholarships to UNA to Lauderdale and Colbert County Students who meet certain criteria. SSD began in 2010 as a joint project of the Florence Rotary Club and Greater Shoals/Sheffield Rotary Club.

Through voluntary community support and a one time grant from Title III, over \$1,000,00 has been raised for the program, and more than \$400,000 in tuition has been distributed directly benefitting 801 students since the first class of 2014.

Members of the Florence Club remain actively involved through individual contributions as well as various direct and indirect community fundraising activities to seek permanent financial support for this program

Other current local service projects include support for the Salvation Army and the Children's Hospital's Critical Care Transport Team, a Rotary Scholarship at the University of North Alabama, and the Annual Law Enforcement Award made in partnership with the Greater Shoals/Sheffield Rotary Club.

Today, the Florence Rotary Club continues to make the Shoals and the world a better place to live by striving to fulfill the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self."

* This history was obtained from numerous sources. It was originally written December 2003, and revised in February 2010 and in June 2017.