

# Matthews Rotary Club

Service Above Self

Chartered February 7, 1980

Club #6031 District #7680

Post Office Box 2708, Matthews, NC, 28106



## **Thank You for Considering Rotary**

We appreciate your interest and will be glad to answer any questions you may have about Rotary International or our club, Matthews Rotary Club. This outline addresses the questions most frequently asked by visitors. If you would like additional information, please let us know.

## **What is Rotary?**

Rotary is an organization of business and professional men and women united worldwide to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world. In doing these things together, we build strong and lasting friendships. Matthews is one of 17 clubs in Mecklenburg and Union County; nearly 300 clubs in North Carolina; and over 32,000 worldwide. As an active Rotarian, you are a welcome visitor at any of these clubs.

## **The Rotary Advantage**

Rotary's most important advantage to its members is the forming of friendships with fellow members representing a wide variety of professions and businesses. Rotary seeks present and future leaders as members - men and women who are important decision-makers within their organizations or professions. Rotarians do not solicit business from each other, however many go to trusted Rotary friends first when in need of business or professional services. Weekly programs keep members well informed on civic, economic and political trends in the community. Members with strong service interests often find they can multiply their own efforts by enlisting the financial, manpower and organizational support of the club, the District, and even Rotary International.

## **How We Serve**

Within the club we serve by attending meetings, participating in club programs, getting involved in committee work and promoting membership growth.

Within our vocations we serve others in and through our respective professions, following a standard of excellence called **The Four-Way Test**.

### **The Rotary Four-Way Test of Things We Think, Say, or Do**

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Within our community we work together to improve the quality of life for all people. Our projects range from educational scholarships and youth leadership to improving education and other human services.

Internationally we work toward developing and maintaining friendly and peaceful relations among the peoples of the world. We do this on a person-to-person basis through cultural and educational exchange activities, special activities, special events and international meetings.

### **Classification**

Rotary Clubs seek broad representation in their communities through the classification principle. A classification describes a member's profession or employer or the member's job specialty within his or her firm.

### **Attendance**

Regular attendance is important. Rotary emphasizes attendance to build fellowship and to keep members involved in the club's progress and projects. Those who miss meetings of their home club can "make up" by attending another club's meeting within 14 days before or after the absence. In Mecklenburg and Union County, one or more nearby clubs meet each day of the work week, so "make-ups" are easy to find. Go to [www.matthewsrotary.org](http://www.matthewsrotary.org) for more information.

### **Dues**

Dues for our club are \$187.00 per quarter. This includes District and International dues, weekly meals and other costs. You are billed quarterly and asked to pay promptly. There is a one time installation fee of \$150.00. At your induction to the Club you will receive a Rotary pin to wear and plaques to display in your home or office.

### **Meetings**

Our club meets weekly from 12:30pm to 1:30pm on Monday at the Levine Senior Center in Matthews. Most meetings feature a speaker.

### **Officers and Directors**

Our club is governed by a board of directors, elected annually by the membership and comprised of the president, president-elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, sergeant-at-arms, and four directors. All terms of office start on July 1 and end on June 30 of the following year. Club members are assigned to committees and are expected to respond positively to an officer or director's request to participate in new club projects or activities.

Club members are encouraged to attend the Rotary Leadership Institute, three day-long sessions held periodically throughout the North and South Carolina area. The Club will pay for your first session of this training.

### **Fund Raising**

Funds for the charitable causes we support come from our fundraisers which include an annual Spaghetti Dinner in the spring.

### **The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International**

Established in 1917, The Rotary Foundation is the primary vehicle for Ambassadorial Scholarships and cultural exchanges as well as humanitarian projects. Our club, as well as individual members, contributes annually to the Foundation and those who reach \$1,000.00 become Paul Harris Fellows, an honor named after Rotary's founder. Our club is honored to have more than twenty Paul Harris Fellows, including two Major Donors. Each Club member is asked to contribute \$100 a year to the Foundation, under the EREY Program (Every Rotarian Every Year). These contributions go directly to the Rotary Foundation to support its philanthropic work and are tax deductible.