

...to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise ...through the development of acquaintance as the opportunity for service; the promotion of high ethical standards in business and professionals; through service in one's personal, business and community life; and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace.



# Serving your Community through Rotary



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## Join Rotary: No funny hats, just fun

You may have heard about Rotary Clubs, but what really goes on at these meetings?

First, there are no exotic titles, like Grand Poohbah or Grand Master, and there are no funny hats to be worn. There are no secret handshakes or mysterious rituals. And there are no strange, whispered passwords.

If this is what you pictured a Rotary Club meeting to be, then it's time to change your thinking.

While it is true that Rotary is a "club," and that it was started as a way for businessmen to network and fellowship (women were first admitted in 1987), that goal was soon overshadowed by the concept of providing service.

The average Rotary meeting is not about secrets. It's about sharing. And it's not about keeping people, but about finding ways to bring people together.

Of course, there is some singing, judging by popularity of Rotary's "Songs for the Rotary Club" publication. Many members still enjoy the tradition and sing the praises of . . . singing.

The weekly meetings involve a time of fellowship, food, personal development and fun.

That's because Rotary is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide, who pro-

vide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build good will and peace in the world.

The Rotary emblem identifies Rotarians around the world. The gear-wheel pin and logo signifies that the Rotarian is a "worker" when it comes to serving others.

Membership in Rotary comes with privileges and responsibilities. Members fellowship with people of like ideals,

engage in meaningful service to the community, develop leadership skills, participate in exciting programs at weekly meetings, make acquaintances from around the world and from all walks of life.

Rotarians are adults of good character and reputation who are representative of their community and meetings are a fun experience. Of course, you can wear a funny hat to your weekly meeting, but only if you want to. ■

### Rotary in Salinas A brief look back

The spark to introduce Rotary to Salinas came from Homer T. Hayward in 1920. At that time, Salinas was a small rural center of about 5000 people. Local businesses were flourishing and growing in the fertile Salinas Valley. And it was here that the seeds for a local Rotary club were planted. In 1920, Homer T. Hayward, founder of Hayward Lumber, sought permission from the District Governor of Rotary for permission to organize a Rotary Club in Salinas. The District Governor expressed what was then the policy of Rotary, that a community so small could not support the membership requirements of Rotary, and the presence of such a service club would promote jealousy in a small pool of businesses and professional men. But Homer T. Hayward knew differently. With the encouragement and assistance of the Long Beach Rotary Club where he had once been a member, Homer continued his efforts. At that time, Rotary had not spread beyond the larger cities, and a charter had never been granted in a city of 5000. Finally, Homer's perseverance brought a cautious, but positive, response from the District Governor. After intense (and secret) scrutiny, Salinas was granted a charter. The first meeting of the Salinas Rotary Club was held on April 29, 1922. The spirit of fellowship and the idealism of Rotary continues to flow through the community, spreading like water on green crops. ■

(From a Rotary article by Jim Leach, President, 1974-5)

## Your Local Rotary Club Presidents

MARINA  
Tim Ledesma

STEINBECK SALINAS  
Daryl Whitcher

RODEO SALINAS  
Carl Marcellas

NORTHEAST SALINAS  
Shahram Farahmand

