

# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

(also known as the **Rotary Club**) is an international **service club** whose stated purpose is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. It is an organization open to all persons regardless of race, color, creed, gender, or political preference. The members of Rotary Clubs are known as **Rotarians**. Members usually meet weekly for breakfast, lunch or dinner, which is a social event as well as an opportunity to organize work on their service goals.

In order to carry out its service programs, Rotary is structured in club, district and international levels. Rotarians are members of their clubs. The clubs are chartered by the global organization Rotary International (RI) headquartered in **Evanston**, a suburban city near **Chicago, Illinois**. For administrative purposes, the more than 32,000 clubs worldwide are grouped into 529 districts, and the districts into 34 zones and over more than 1.2 millions of members, being the largest humanitarian service organizations in the world.

The Rotary Club is the basic unit of Rotary activity, and each club determines its own membership. Clubs originally were limited to a single club per city, municipality, or town, but Rotary International has encouraged the formation of one or more additional clubs in the largest cities when practical. Each club meets weekly, usually at a mealtime on a weekday in a regular location, when Rotarians can discuss club business and hear from guest speakers. Each club also conducts various service projects within its local community, and participates in special projects involving other clubs in the local district, and occasionally a special project in a "sister club" in another nation. Most clubs also hold social events at least quarterly and in some cases more often.

Each club elects its own president and officers among its active members for a one year term. The clubs enjoy considerable autonomy within the framework of the standard constitution and the constitution and bylaws of Rotary International. The governing body of the club is the Club Board, consisting of the club president (who serves as the Board chairman), a president-elect, club secretary, club treasurer, and several Club Board directors. In the majority of clubs, the immediate past president is also a member of the Board. The president usually appoints the directors to serve as chairs of the major club



committees, including those responsible for club service, vocational service, community service, youth service, and international service.

## Eastwick Philadelphia Int'l Airport Rotary Club

What people don't know is that one of those clubs operates here in Southwest Philadelphia under the name of "Eastwick Philadelphia International Airport". There meeting are every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Mercy Wellness Center, 2821 Island Avenue, Philadelphia. There broad is compose by the following people, all citizen of the City of Philadelphia:

- President** - Andrew Brazington
- Vice President** - Louis Jackson
- Secretary** - Scot Maits
- Treasurer** - Donna M. Henry
- Sergeant-At-Arms** - Jeff Middleton

Like the rest of the Rotary Club, Eastwick has project for service at community and international level. Between all those projects the "Thanksgiving Day Meal" has become a tradition; every Thanksgiving

morning since 1996 the Rotarians supported by Summerwood Corporation, and with a group of voluntaries prepared, pack and distribute almost 200 hot meals to Southwest Philadelphia seniors and



people with disabilities who had no family or friends to share their holiday with.

Other beautiful tradition is that every September they donate to third graders at



**Patterson Elementary School** cloth backpacks that are filled with school supplies.

In October 2005, they contracted with a local mural artist to paint a scene that reflected the diversity of the people of Southwest Philadelphia. Club members and neighborhood youth assisted the artist in preparing the wall and painting the mural. Recently the club aboard a new mission called "Dictionary project", what consist in distributed dictionaries to 3rd grade class at the Southwest Leadership Academy in Southwest Philadelphia. In order to perform their international service, Rotary Club of Eastwick sponsor and provide support and guidance an Interact Club (Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, but they are self-governing and self-supporting). In April 2011 clubs members, along with Interact Club members and family weeded an acre of land at the John Heinz Wildlife Refuge and removed a variety of invasive plants not native to this area of Philadelphia and Delaware County.

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## Donna Henry

*“My experiences as a Rotarian overall have been very rewarding and have allowed me to continue to grow, develop and learn. I have had the opportunity to have various leadership roles within the club and within District 7450 which have been challenging and fulfilling.”*



## Andrew Brazington

*“I have always been impressed to see how a small club in Eastwick section of Philadelphia can make such a difference locally and across the world. Our club is small, but we are very lucky to have many dynamic and passionate members who embody and embrace with rotary motto of “Service Above Self”. I look forward to the challenges ahead.”*



## Page Huey

*“Have been a Rotarian since 1992. My stepfather had been very involved with his Rotary club in the Bucks County area so I always knew about Rotary, but never had a real idea of all the work they do until I joined the Eastwick Phila Intl’ Airport Rotary club. The ability to connect with people across the city and across the world through Rotary has been amazing.”*

Other visible programs in Rotary International are the exchange and the scholarships, include Rotary Youth Exchange, a student exchange program for students in secondary education, and the Rotary Foundation's oldest program, Ambassadorial Scholarships (today it is the world's largest privately funded international scholarships program). Right now they are sponsoring Claire Elliot is a high school junior currently spending the 2011-12 school year in Bangkok, Thailand. Claire is being challenged by living in a Asian culture so different from the US. In back the club also has to host a foreign student Maria Hernandez of Venezuela has been a pleasure to host. She is vibrant young woman who is embracing the US culture. Maria is a student at Center City's Science Leadership Academy. One of her greatest passions is ballet dancing. For the Ambassadorial Scholarship they just supported Kyra Turner-Zogbekor that went to Ghana this past year to finish her studies in graduate school.



**For more information or to schedule a speaker, contact: Andrew Brazington  
610-368-0006**