What is Rotary?

Rotary International is the world's first service club organization. An organization of 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders who volunteer their time and talent to further the Rotary motto, *Service Above Self*.

The Rotary clubs, with members known as Rotarians, provide:

- Humanitarian service
- Encourage high ethical standards in all vocations
- Help build goodwill and peace in the world, through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

Over 33,000 Rotary clubs are found in more than 200 countries and geographical areas. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds. Rotary’s main objective is service — in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world.

Mission

The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.
The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test

The test, which a code of ethics adopted by Rotary International and which has been translated into more than 100 languages, asks the following questions:

Of the 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?

Avenues of Service
Rotaract Club of Nicosia

For years, Rotary’s commitment to Service Above Self has been channeled through the Avenues of Service, which form the foundation of club activity.

- **Club Service** focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.

- **Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards. Observed each October, Vocational Service Month spotlights Rotary club projects related to this avenue, offering opportunity for clubs and districts to use their professional skills in service projects.

- **Community Service** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.

- **International Service** encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary’s humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace. Rotarians can support International Service by sponsoring a project in another country, seeking international project partners to support projects in their own communities, or by personally volunteering at an international project site.

- **New Generations Service** recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities as RYLA, Rotaract and Interact, service projects, and creating international understanding with Rotary Youth Exchange.

**History Of Rotary**

The world's first service club, the Rotary Club of Chicago, was formed on 23 February 1905.
It was founded by Paul P. Harris, an attorney who wished to capture in a professional club the same friendly spirit he had felt in the small towns of his youth. The Rotary name derived from the early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

Rotary's popularity spread, and within a decade, clubs were chartered from San Francisco to New York to Winnipeg, Canada. By 1921, Rotary clubs had been formed on six continents. The organization adopted the Rotary International name a year later.

As Rotary grew, its mission expanded beyond serving club members’ professional and social interests. Rotarians began pooling their resources and contributing their talents to help serve communities in need. The organization's dedication to this ideal is best expressed in its motto: Service Above Self.

By July 1925, Rotary had grown to more than 2,000 clubs and an estimated 108,000 members. The organization's distinguished reputation attracted presidents, prime ministers, and a host of other luminaries to its ranks — among them author Thomas Mann, diplomat Carlos P. Romulo, humanitarian Albert Schweitzer, and composer Jean Sibelius.

**The Four-Way Test**

In 1932, Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor created The Four-Way Test, a code of ethics adopted by Rotary 11 years later. This test, has been translated into more than 100 languages, and is now used by Rotarians all over the world.

**Rotary and World War II**

During World War II, many clubs were forced to disband, while others stepped up their service efforts to provide emergency relief to victims of the war. In 1942, looking ahead to the postwar era, Rotarians called for a conference to promote international educational and cultural exchanges. This event inspired the founding of UNESCO.
In 1945, 49 Rotary club members served in 29 delegations to the UN Charter Conference. Rotary still actively participates in UN conferences by sending observers to major meetings and covering the United Nations in its publications.

"Few there are who do not recognize the good work which is done by Rotary clubs throughout the free world," former Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain once declared.

**Dawn of a new century**

As it approached the 21st century, Rotary worked to meet society’s changing needs, expanding its service efforts to address such pressing issues as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger, and children at risk.

In 1989, the organization voted to admit women into clubs worldwide. Today, women are an integral part of Rotary's membership.

Today, 1.2 million Rotarians belong to over 32,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

**The programs of Rotary International**

1. **Global Networking Groups** encompass Rotary Fellowships (vocational and recreational interest groups) and Rotarian Action Groups (groups focused on service activities). There are about 70 Global Networking Groups, and they are open to all Rotarians, spouses of Rotarians, and Rotaractors.

2. **Interact** is a service organization organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs for youth ages 12-18. It has more than 12,300 clubs in 133 countries.
3. **Rotaract** is organized by Rotary clubs to promote leadership, professional development, and service among young adults ages 18-30. There are more than 8,000 clubs in 167 countries.

4. **Rotary Community Corps** (RCC) are groups of non-Rotarians who work to improve their communities. There are more than 6,800 RCCs in 78 countries, all organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs.

5. **Rotary Friendship Exchange** encourages Rotarians and their families to make reciprocal visits to other countries, staying in each other’s homes and learning about different cultures firsthand.

6. **Rotary Youth Exchange** offers students ages 15-19 the chance to travel abroad for cultural exchanges of one week to a full academic year. Rotary clubs and districts sponsor and host more than 8,000 Youth Exchange students a year.

7. **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards** (RYLA) are seminars sponsored by clubs and districts to encourage and recognize the leadership abilities of youth and young adults ages 14-30.

**The Rotary Foundation**

The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world, in order to enable Rotarians to apply the achieve the object of Rotary

**Programs of The Rotary Foundation**
Through Foundation grants and programs, Rotarians and other contributors can help change the world. They can finance a well for a village that lacks clean water, improve the environment, or provide scholarships to educate the next generation. The grants and programs available to Rotarians allow them to realize Rotary’s humanitarian mission throughout the world, including its number-one goal of eradicating polio.

**PolioPlus**

To eradicate polio, Rotarians have mobilized by the hundreds of thousands. They’re working to ensure that children are immunized against this crippling disease and that surveillance is strong despite the poor infrastructure, extreme poverty, and civil strife of many countries. Since the PolioPlus program’s inception in 1985, more than two billion children have received the oral polio vaccine.

Rotary's US$200 Million Challenge is the Rotary Foundation's response to the two grants totaling $355 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help eradicate polio. Every dollar given to PolioPlus will be counted toward the $200 million match, which must be completed by 30 June 2012.

**PolioPlus Grants** – Primarily applied for by National PolioPlus Committee chairs or a major partner agency, such as the World Health Organization or UNICEF.

**Humanitarian Grants Program**

**Disaster Recovery** – Allows Rotarians to donate money in response to specific disasters. Funds are distributed to local committees to support recovery efforts. The program was created in 2005-06, and the Foundation currently administers four Disaster Recovery accounts: Hurricanes Stan and Wilma (Guatemala and Mexico), Hurricane Wilma (United States), the Earthquake in India and Pakistan, and Solidarity in South Asia. *Total contributions to the accounts were $6.4 million.*

**District Simplified Grants** – Support the service activities of districts locally and abroad.
Matching Grants – Provide matching funds for the international service projects of Rotary clubs and districts.

Educational Programs

Ambassadorial Scholarships – The Foundation sponsors one of the largest international scholarship programs in the world. Scholars study in a different country, where they serve as unofficial ambassadors of goodwill. Since 1947, more than 47,000 scholars from 110 countries have received scholarships of more than $476 million through The Rotary Foundation.

Group Study Exchange (GSE) – Annual awards are made to paired Rotary districts to cover travel expenses for a team of non-Rotarians from a variety of professions. Rotarian hosts organize a four- to six-week itinerary of vocational, educational, and cultural points of interest. Since 1965, more than 57,000 individuals (almost 12,000 teams) from 100 countries have participated at a cost of more than $92 million.

Rotary Peace Fellowships – Each year, up to 100 fellows are sponsored to study at one of the six Rotary Peace Centers for a master’s-level degree or professional development certificate.

20 reasons to join Rotary by Richard D. King:

1. **FRIENDSHIP**: In an increasing complex world, Rotary provides one of the most basic human needs, the need for friends and fellowship. It is one of the two reasons why Rotary began in 1905.

2. **BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP**: The second original reason for Rotary’s beginning: everyone needs a network. Rotary consists of a cross section of every community. Its members come from all works of life.
3. **PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT**: Membership in Rotary continues one’s growth and education in human relations and personal development.

4. **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**: Rotary is an organization of leaders and successful people. Serving in Rotary positions is like a college education in Leadership; learning how to motivate, influence and lead others.

5. **CITIZENSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY**: Membership in a Rotary Club makes one a better community citizen. The average Rotary Club consists of the most active citizens of any community.

6. **CONTINUING EDUCTION**: Each week at Rotary meetings, there is a program designed to keep one informed as to what is going on in the community, nation and world. Different speakers, different topics.

7. **FUN**: Rotary is fun; the club project are fun. Social activities are fun and the services are fun.

8. **PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS**: Many an individual who joined Rotary are afraid to speak in public. Rotary develops confidence and skill in public communication and opportunity.

9. **CITIZENSHIP IN THE WORLD**: Every Rotarian wears a pin that says; Rotary International and, every Rotarian is welcome and even encouraged to attend at 34,000 clubs in 200 nations and geographical regions. There are few places in the globe that does not have a Rotary Club.
10. **ASSISTANCE WHEN TRAVELLING:** Because there are Rotary Clubs everywhere, many Rotarians have needed a doctor, lawyer, hotel, dentists, advice, etc. while travelling – they have found such quickly through Rotary.

11. **ENTERTAINMENT:** Every Rotary Club and District has parties and activities which provide diversions in one’s business life. Rotary has conferences, diversions, conventions, assemblies and institutes, which provide entertainment in addition to Rotary information, education and service.

12. **THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SKILL:** Every week and at various events and functions. Rotary develops one’s personality, social and people skill. Rotary is for people who like people or who want to.

13. **FAMILY PROGRAMS:** Rotary provides one of the world’s largest youth exchange programs, high school and college clubs for future Rotarians, spouse clubs and programs, and a host of activities.

14. **VOCATIONAL SKILLS:** Every Rotarian is expected to take part in the growth and development of his or her own professional vocation to serve on communities and to teach youths about one’s job or vocation. Rotary helps to make one a better doctor, lawyer, teacher, or (whatever one does for a living).

15. **THE DEVELOPMENT OF ETHICS:** Rotarian practice a 4-WAY TEST which governs one’s ethical standards, Rotarians are expected to be ethical in business and personal relationships.
16. **CULTURAL AWARENESS**: Around the world, practically every religion, country, race, creed, political persuasion, language, color and ethical identity is found in Rotary.

17. **PRESTIGE**: Rotary members are prominent people; leaders of business, the professions, art, government, sport, military, religion and all discipline. Rotary is the oldest and the most prestigious service club in the world. They consist of executives, managers and professional; people who make decision and influence policy. Not everyone is invited to join Rotary.

18. **NICE PEOPLE**: Rotarians above all, are nice people: the nicest people on the face of the earth. They are important people who adhere to policy that is while it is nice to be important, it is more important to be nice.

19. **THE ABSENCE OF “OFFICIAL CREED”**: Rotary has no secret handshake, no secret policy, no official creed, no secret meeting or rituals. It is an open society of men and women who simply believe in helping others.

20. **THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE**: Rotary is a Service Club. It’s business is mankind, it’s product is service. Rotarians provide community service to both the local and international communities. This is the best reason perhaps of becoming a Rotarian; the chance to do something for somebody else. And to sense the self-fulfillment which come with the process. And the return to one’s own life.

“IT PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST”
What is Rotaract?

- Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30. Rotaract clubs are either community or university based, and they’re sponsored by a local Rotary club.

  This makes them true “Partners in Service” and key members of the family of Rotary.

- As one of Rotary’s most significant and fastest-growing service programs, Rotaract has become a worldwide phenomenon:
  - 8,400 clubs*
  - 170 countries*
  - More than 180,000 members worldwide*

**Name:**

Rotaract = Rotary + Act = Action

**History:**

- Early 1960s: Rotary clubs around the world began to sponsor university youth groups as community service projects.
- 2010: Around 7800 clubs and more than 180,000 members worldwide in more than 165 countries.

**Types of Clubs:**

- Community based
- College/University based

ROTARACT is a part of global effort to **BRING PEACE** and **INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING** to the world

**Rotaract is NOT:**
Rotaract Club of Nicosia

- A Political party
- A Religious Organization
- A Philanthropic Organization
- An Earnings Saving Account

**Goals:**

- Develop **PROFESSIONAL** and **LEADERSHIP** skills
- Respect the **RIGHTS OF OTHERS** and recognize the **WORTH OF EACH INDIVIDUAL**
- Recognize all useful occupations as opportunities to **SERVE**
- Recognize, Respect and Practice **ETHICAL STANDARDS** as Leadership **QUALITIES** and Vocational **RESPONSIBILITIES**
- Develop **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING** of the Needs, Problems and Opportunities in the **COMMUNITY** and **WORLDWIDE**.
- Provide opportunities for personal and group activities to serve the community and Promote **International Understanding** and **GOODWILL** toward all people

**Structure**
Under the leadership of the Rotaract club president, club members plan professional development activities, leadership training, community and international service projects, fundraisers, and social events.

It is the role of the club’s board of directors to review and approve these plans.

A Rotaract club’s board of directors consists of the following elected officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer, along with the Immediate Past President. The other heads of committees are appointed by the president, and approved by the board.

The board is the governing body for the club and meets at least once a month. Club members in good standing may attend board meetings as observers.

**Plan, Roles, & Responsibilities of Club Officers**

**President**
- Identifies members’ skills and interests and puts them to work in club projects
- Maintains club operations, delegating responsibilities and establishing meeting schedules
- Develops a plan for the year as early as possible
- Presides over all meetings of the club and its board of directors
- Appoints all committees, with board approval, and follows up their progress
- Maintains regular communication with Sponsoring Rotary club

**Vice President**
- Presides at all meetings when the president is absent and serves on the board of directors and as an ex-officio member of all committees.
Rotaract Club of Nicosia

- Acts as the “officer at large,” responsible for all assignments that are designated by the president.
- A well-organized and responsible vice president is often the key to a successful Rotaract year. The vice president can reduce the administrative load, allowing time for the president to develop new and exciting club projects and activities.

**Secretary**
- Promotes the club through correspondence to the sponsoring Rotary club, prospective members, Rotary International, and other Rotaract clubs
- Handles the club’s communication with the public
- Maintains all club records
- Takes the minutes for all board and club meetings
- Works with successor to ensure a smooth transition between Rotary years

**Treasurer**
- Works with the board of directors to develop the budget
- Collects dues and all funds raised by the club
- Pays all club bills and reimbursements for club expenses
- Reports the club’s financial status at each meeting
- Has the books audited at the end of the Rotary year

**SAA (Sergeant-at-arms)**
- Keeps the meeting running smoothly, with few interruptions.
- Helps maintain orderly and effective Rotaract club meetings.
- Works to prevent any occurrence that might detract from the dignity or prestige of the club.
- Welcomes club guests and speakers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object of Rotaract</th>
<th>Avenue of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• To emphasize respect for the rights of others, based on recognition of the worth of each individual.</td>
<td><strong>Club Service</strong> focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| • To develop professional and leadership skills  
• To recognize, practice, and promote ethical standards as leadership qualities and vocational responsibilities | **Vocational Service** encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and practice high ethical standards. |
| • To recognize the dignity and value of all useful occupations as opportunities to serve.  
• To develop knowledge and understanding of the needs, problems, and opportunities in the community and worldwide | **Community Service** covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its Community. |
To provide opportunities for personal and group activities to serve the community and promote international understanding and goodwill toward all people

International Service

encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary’s humanitarian reach around the globe and promote world understanding and peace.

A few words about Rotaract Club of Nicosia.

Rotaract Club of Nicosia was founded on 11 November 1989 by the late George Englezos. It is one of the first Rotaract Clubs to be chartered in Cyprus and is the longest standing Rotaract Club in Nicosia.

Our Officers for the 2012-2013 Rotaract Period:
President – Glafkos Mitsidis
Vice President & International Service- Marie Nicole Georgiou
Secretary – Niovi Georgiade
Treasurer – Evripidis Hadjinestoros
Public Relations/ Social Media – Evie Christodoulou
Community Service – Antonia Hadjicosta
Professional Development – Anna Maria Leotsakou
Club Service – Pavlos Karydas

List of Members:
Evie Christodoulou
Niki Evangelou Clerides (Honorary Member)
Niovi Georgiade
Marie Nicole Georgiou
Antonia Hadjicosta
Evripidis Hadjinestoros
Paris Petrou (Honorary Member)
Athos Pieri
Natalie Sepou
Glaftos Mitsidis
Anna-Maria Leotsakou
Pavlos Karydas

Contact us at: rcnicosia@gmail.com