



**SUMTER ROTARY CLUB
PROPOSED MEMBER ORIENTATION PACKET**

The Purpose of this Rotary
Information Meeting is. . .

1. To give you – a proposed member – a bird’s-eye view of Rotary.
2. To let you know what you may expect of your membership.
3. To let you know what our Club will expect of you as a member.
4. To answer any questions that you might have about Rotary in general and our Club in particular.

A Brief History of Rotary

The First Rotary Club was formed in Chicago, February 23, 1905 by Paul Harris, a lawyer, who suggested forming a service organization to several friends and with them instituted the first club. The group named the club "Rotary" because the meetings rotated between the offices of the five original members.

The Sumter Rotary Club was organized late in the fall of 1921 by the Columbia Rotary Club under the local leadership of Dr. S. H. Edmunds, Dr. J. A. Mood, and Mr. H. G. Osteen. The Club was chartered with 24 members, with Dr. Edmunds being elected president and Mr. S.L. Roddey as Secretary.

The Rotary Foundation was established in 1928, and the Paul Harris Fellowship of the Foundation established in 1947 shortly after the death of Paul Harris.

The Sumter Rotary Club established the CART fund in October of 1995. Since that time all the districts in SC, NC, and GA have adopted the CART project.

Some Rotary Facts

There are now more than 34,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide with a total Rotary membership of more than 1.2 million.

Rotary International is governed by a President and Board of Directors elected from all over the world.

The world is divided into territories within which a group of clubs are associated. These territories are known as Rotary Districts.

There are 523 Rotary Districts in the world in over 200 countries and geographic territories.

Our Club is in District 7770, which is the south-eastern half of South Carolina, composed of 79 clubs with a total membership of 4,200 Rotarians.

Annually each District elects a District Governor. The District Governor then selects Assistant Governors. Each club, however, is an autonomous group.

Object of Rotary

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

First: The development of acquaintances 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 by each Rotarian of his occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third: The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to their personal, business, and community life;

Fourth: The advancement of international understanding, good will, and peace through a world fellowship of business.

Your Privileges in Rotary

1. The privilege of friendship with leaders
 - ...In your community
 - ...In neighboring cities
 - ...All over the U.S.A.
 - ...In all parts of the world.
2. The privilege of giving service to your community.
3. The privilege of developing international good will and understanding.
4. The privilege of helping build higher ethical standards within your vocation.

Your Obligations in Rotary

1. PARTICIPATION

To be a Rotarian, you must give of your time and talents –

...In community work

...In social functions

...In Club and District activities

2. ATTENDANCE

One Hundred Percent attendance is urged and honored in Rotary.

- A. This goal can be achieved by attending each weekly meeting of our club or
- B. by making up by attending another Rotary Club meeting, attending a Club function, making up on line, or serving in another club approved area that qualifies as a makeup

3. OTHER OBLIGATIONS

- A. Always answer “yes” when asked to help with a project
- B. Attend a “fireside chat”
- C. Give a Classification Talk
- D. Call all members by their first name

Your Financial Obligations

Initiation Fee \$100 – Donated to Rotary Foundation
(one-time)

Quarterly Dues \$200 (includes meals and the
Rotary Magazine)

Sustaining Paul Harris \$25 (quarterly)
(all are expected to be sustaining members)

Quarterly Total \$225

Guest Fee \$18 – When you invite a guest

THE FOUR – WAY TEST

of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The Rotary Motto

“Service Above Self”

Sumter Rotary Club Programs

CART Fund

The CART Fund was established in October of 1995 by the Sumter Rotary Club. CART stands for Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust and is dedicated to providing much needed research dollars with the aim of helping to find a cure and/or prevention for Alzheimer's disease. CART started with the simple idea that Rotarians would contribute pocket change when attending weekly meetings. Gradually, more and more Rotarians began putting dollars and checks in the special CART buckets provided. Many non-Rotarians have also contributed to this tax exempt effort. The CART by-laws require that 100% of all contributions must go to research.

CART was so successful that we introduced it to our District 7770 in 1996, and it was then adopted as a District project. Our District made its first grant of \$100,000 to the Emory University Alzheimer's Research Center in April 1999. In 2000, Rotarians in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia joined in this effort. Recently Rotarians in parts of Virginia, Tennessee, Texas, Illinois, Mississippi, and New York have committed to actively funding the CART program.

As of May 2016, CART has awarded **34 major grants** totaling more than **\$5.8 million dollars** to research centers through a competitive process ranked by highly qualified scientists. In May of each year, additional grants will be made so the total dollars contributed will continue to increase. Among the recognized research centers to receive our grants are: Emory, UCLA, Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, Johns Hopkins, Kentucky, Penn, Mass General, Case Western Reserve, UAB, U Conn, Texas Medical Center, and Wisconsin-Madison.

These grants are highly coveted, as we have had as many as 71 applicants in one year from research centers in 44 states. The scientific community now considers CART as one of the leading providers of seed money for cutting edge, high impact research funds.

The Fund has been honored three times by organizations and individuals outside of Rotary; one was a Symposium given in CART's honor by some of the world's leading Alzheimer's scientists in Philadelphia in July 2004 and the other was when the Secretary of State of SC named CART as the No. 1 "Angel" because we give 100% of all donated funds to research. In 2006, the Governor of SC issued a proclamation naming June 22, 2006, 2007, and 2008 as CART Fund Day.

The Sumter club leads all other clubs in all districts in total dollars donated to CART. We are extremely proud that this worthy project started in our club.

Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Fund provides tuition grants for students from Sumter County pursuing higher education. Originally a loan fund for College tuition, during the 1960s, it became a grant which required no payback on the part of the recipients. Several scholarship grants are

provided each year. One grant of \$4000, disbursed over four years, is awarded through an application process usually conducted in April of each year. Three other grants currently of \$750 each are awarded to USC Sumter, Morris College, and Central Carolina Technical College, who choose the recipients.

Interact Club

Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. The Sumter Rotary Club sponsors an Interact Club at Lakewood High School that is composed of approximately 20 students in grades 9-12. The Interact Advisor is Sumter Rotary Club member and Lakewood teacher Ike Jenkins. The goals of Interact are:

- Developing leadership skills and personal integrity
- Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others
- Understanding the value of individual responsibility and hard work
- Advancing international understanding and goodwill

Each week our club invites Interact members to our meetings where they have an opportunity to meet local leaders, see interesting programs, learn first-hand about business and community activities, and of course enjoy a delightful meal. One of our Interact Club's major annual projects is assistance with the Dictionary Project, in which a dictionary is provided to every third grade student in Sumter County. Interactors receive the dictionaries from the vendor, place a Rotary label in each dictionary, and separate dictionaries into the appropriate number for each of the 21 schools served. Last year, 1597 dictionaries were processed.

Interactors also participate in the Sumter Rotary Club's Adopt-a-Highway cleanup program and assist with the annual American Red Cross blood drive at their school. Last year, 70 units of blood were collected during the blood drive sponsored by the school's Junior ROTC unit and the Interact Club.

For more information, contact Interact Advisor Ike Jenkins at (803) 506-2718.

Dictionary project

The Sumter Rotary Club became involved with The Dictionary Project in the fall of 1999. Working with Mrs. Mary French, a Charleston lady who founded the project and established it as a non-profit organization, we distributed dictionaries to all third graders in the public schools of Sumter School Districts 2 and 17 that year. Our club ordered the dictionaries through Mrs. French and coordinated the distribution to the students. The other two local clubs shared the cost on a prorated basis.

After several years, we added the private and parochial schools, and now all third graders in all schools in Sumter County receive the dictionaries. The other two clubs have become active in helping to distribute the books, but our club has continued to take the lead in coordinating the project. The Lakewood High Interact Club became involved some years ago. They have taken on the responsibility of placing the Rotary stickers into the front of each dictionary, and they

also count out the dictionaries and pack the boxes for each school based on third grade enrollment figures supplied to us by the schools.

Adopt-A-Highway Program

Sumter Rotary is responsible for picking up the litter along the roadside of Wesmark Boulevard from Broad Street west to Wilson Hall Road. "Roadside Clean-ups" are scheduled several times a year on Saturday mornings. It is great fellowship and a nice service to our community.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Just before Christmas, teams of Sumter Rotarians volunteer to man a collection station and "ring the bell" for donations to the Salvation Army

Rotary Foundation

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 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.

Some of the projects of the Rotary Foundation include:

Polio Plus: After 20 years of hard work, Rotary and its partners are on the brink of eradicating this tenacious disease, but a strong push is needed now to root it out once and for all. It is a window of opportunity of historic proportions. As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere remain at risk. The stakes are that high.

Matching Grants: Help with disaster recovery, helping provide clean drinking water in third world countries, and locally, providing the Sumter County Red Cross with needed equipment, funding computer training for sight challenged people through the Recovering Sight Program, and needed improvements to our downtown area.

Rotary's programs for students and youth can change the lives of those who participate. Through these programs, young people can earn scholarships, travel on cultural exchanges, or help a community through a service project.

Ambassadorial Scholarships: Since 1947, nearly 38,000 men and women from about 100 nations have studied abroad under its auspices. Today, it is the world's largest privately funded international scholarships program. Nearly 800 scholarships were awarded for study in 2005-06. Through grants totaling approximately \$500 million, recipients from about 70 countries studied in more than 70 nations.

Rotary Youth Exchange: Rotary Youth Exchange students spend up to a year living with a few host families and attending school in a different country. Participants will learn a new way of living, a great deal about themselves, and maybe even a new language. They will also be an ambassador, teaching people you meet about your country, culture, and ideas. It is away to help bring the world closer -- and make some good friends in the process.

For more information on Rotary programs, please check out these websites:

Interact <http://www.rotary.org/programs/interact/index.html>

Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 14-18. The program gives young people an opportunity to participate in fun, meaningful service projects while developing leadership skills and meeting new friends. Our local Club is located at Lakewood High School. For further information, please contact Ike Jenkins, marike@gte.net.

PolioPlus <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/polioplus/index.html>

In 1985, Rotary launched the PolioPlus program to protect children worldwide from the cruel and fatal consequences of polio. In 1988, the World Health Assembly challenged the world to eradicate polio. Since that time, Rotary's efforts and those of partner agencies, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and governments around the world, have achieved a 99 percent reduction in the number of polio cases worldwide. Rotarians stand at the brink of a great victory and look forward to celebrating the global eradication of polio.

Rotary Foundation <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/index.html>

The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to support the efforts of Rotary International in the fulfillment of the Object of Rotary, Rotary's mission, and the achievement of world understanding and peace through local, national, and international humanitarian, educational, and cultural programs.

Youth Exchange http://www.rotary.org/programs/youth_ex/index.html

Since 1927, students and host families all over the world have had their horizons broadened and their lives enriched by the generosity of Rotary's Youth Exchange program. Administered by Rotary clubs, districts and multidistrict groups, the program today involves more than 82 countries and over 8,000 students each year.

NEW MEMBER DATA SHEET/ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
TO BE COMPLETED BY PROPOSED MEMBER AT ORIENTATION

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. Rev. Hon. (circle one) Preferred Name: _____

Full Legal Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____

Work Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: (____) ____-____ Work Phone: (____) ____-____

Fax: (____) ____-____ Cell Phone: (____) ____-____

Spouse's Name (if applicable): _____

Spouse's DOB: _____ Wedding Anniversary: _____

Business Name: _____

Business Occupation: _____

Business web address: _____

If you have been a Rotarian before, please give us your Rotary Member Number: _____

Previous Rotary Club (if applicable): _____

Previous Years in Rotary (if applicable): _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I hereby certify that I am qualified for active membership by my current or former status as a business, professional, or community leader, or as a Rotary Foundation alumnus/a, and by having a place of business or residence within the club's locality or surrounding area. I understand that, if accepted for membership, it will be my duty to exemplify the Object of Rotary in all my daily contacts and activities and to abide by the constitutional documents of Rotary International and the club. I agree to pay any admission fees required by the club and to pay annual dues in accordance with the club bylaws and policies and procedures. I hereby give permission to the club to publish my name and proposed classification, if applicable, to its membership. **This is your last chance to say "No". By becoming a member of the Sumter Rotary Club, it is understood that when asked to serve, my answer should always be "yes".**

Signature of Proposed Member

Date

*****RETURN THIS FORM TO THE CLUB SECRETARY*****