



Safety Harbor Rotary Club

New Member Orientation - Basics

Updated 16 Aug 2019

District 6950, Club # 31567

Rotary

- Our club is part of an international organization of people who share a passion for service in their community, wish to network professionally, and want to make the world a better place. Many people characterize Rotary as “Having Fun While Doing Good”. Our members work together with groups and individuals in their local community for professional development and personal service to others.
- Rotary’s **4-way test** summarizes our mission and values, and we end every meeting by reciting:
 - “Is it the truth?”
 - “Will it build good will and better friendships?”
 - “Is it fair to all concerned?”
 - “Will it be beneficial to all concerned?”
- Contact Information:
 - **Membership Email:** rotaryofsafetyharbor@gmail.com
 - **Web Site:** <http://rotaryclubofsafetyharbor.org>
 - **Phone:** 727-279-5866
 - **Membership Database:** <https://www.dacdb.com>
- Rotary’s legacy, among many other international projects, includes the effort to eradicate polio worldwide. Rotary is a strong supporter of Polio National Immunization Day (NID) and works closely with Bill & Melinda Gates foundation on this effort. Watch this short [2 min video](#) about Rotary’s efforts.
- Our club currently meets weekly on Fridays at 7:30AM at the Paradise Restaurant in downtown Safety Harbor, with a speaker for 15-20 minutes on a topic of interest to the community. Speakers should not market products, sell something, or represent a political party. Usually the 3rd Friday of the month is our Board meeting. Any member of Rotary may attend a board meeting, but voting on issues is limited to the board. Attending is a good way for *new members* to learn about the club’s current projects.
- We participate in many Safety Harbor events supporting our community and ask for volunteers from the club to staff these events and sometimes provide sponsorship. Locally,

these events have been (but are *not* limited to): The Safety Harbor Wine Festival, The Mayor's Breakfast, [Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center](#), the [Safety Harbor Public Library](#), Pub Crawls, [Safety Harbor Third Friday festivals](#), the [Safety Harbor Little League](#), the Senior Appreciation Thanksgiving Dinner, and many additional nonprofit fundraisers. If you're a member and want the club to support your favorite charity, here's your chance to link our club with your interests, too! We also support international projects with matching funds from Rotary International.

- Club Structure:
 - The Board consists of a President, Secretary and President-elect, Treasurer, Youth Engagement Chair, Membership Chair, a Rotary Foundation Chair, International Relations Chair, Community Relations Representative, Vocational chair, and a Membership Chair.
 - In short, the President runs the show, the Vice President is being trained to become the President the following year. The Rotary Foundation chair serves as liaison with the International Rotary Foundation. Youth engages with "Interact Club" which is a service club at Countryside High. The Vocational Chair serves as liaison with businesses in our area and promotes members' business and professional talents. The International Service chair works to support and write grants for International projects reinforced by our club (every Rotary club engages internationally on some level, sometimes via joint projects with other clubs). Community Service Chair engages the local community in joint projects. The Membership Chair is actively engaged in attracting and retaining members to grow the diversity of our club.
 - The Rotary Club of Safety Harbor is part of [Rotary District 6950](#). Our District includes Pinellas, Citrus, Hernando, Pasco Counties plus Florida Nature Coast/SunCoast. We often partner with other clubs for events and fundraisers. District 6950 is part of Rotary International.
- Effective clubs meet regularly and share responsibilities, supporting one-another, and bringing each person's unique talents to bear on duties of service to the community, including monetary donations and volunteer hours.
- Social Events – the club holds various social events throughout the year, with the biggest being the Holiday Social. New events can be held at any time and are encouraged!
- Attendance is mandatory, but there are many ways to "make up" missed meetings, including volunteer hours and planning for events. Missed meetings may be "made up" by entering the additional make-up time in [DacDB](#), Rotary's recordkeeping system
- Finances – club membership is \$75 quarterly. The club has set aside funds for scholarships if these dues are a financial hardship. Contact the Club President for more information.

- Rotary History – The world’s first service club was founded on 23 February 1905 when lawyer Paul Harris and three friends met in Chicago to rekindle the spirit of friendliness they had known in their home towns. Word of the club spread and others were invited to join. They named their new club “Rotary” to describe the practice of meeting in rotation at the members’ various places of business. Out of this first club grew an international movement with the motto of “Service Above Self”. Each year, the new international Rotary president creates a new theme & logo. 2019’s is *Rotary Connects the World*



Membership Benefits

- Make a difference in the lives of others, this genuinely feels good!
- Develop skills that can easily be applied to a career, like public speaking, project management, and event planning, business engagement, and leadership
- Network with other professionals locally, regionally, and even internationally
- Learn what is really happening in the Safety Harbor community, while becoming involved in projects via volunteerism, adhering to the ‘4-way test’, above.
- Build lifelong friendships
- Receive Training – every Rotary Club is a member of a Rotary *District* (ours is [District 6950](#)) which offers training through Rotary Leadership Institute on numerous subjects, or take online [Rotary International training](#) for free!
- When traveling internationally, find clubs and fellow Rotarians to assist you
- New members know they can also receive discounts on a variety of services all over the world through the [Rotary Global Rewards](#) program and even post offers from their own companies.
- Find out “what’s happening” in Safety Harbor with businesses, events, education, and government – every Rotary meeting brings a speaker to educate you on a topic of interest – you will make connections and learn how organizations come together to make Safety Harbor a better place to live and work!
- Rotary International Projects (Interact, Rotaract, Friendship Exchange, Youth Exchange).
- Rotary Foundation (Polio Plus, Humanitarian Grants, Educational Programs & training)
- Many, many more benefits!