

Almaden Valley Rotary Club

P.O. Box 20543

San Jose Ca 95160

www.almadenvallyrotary.org



New Member Orientation

Overview

- Introductions and purpose of meeting.
- How you were chosen as a proposed member.
- Rotary as an International Organization
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Almaden Valley Rotary Club

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Overview

Purpose

The purpose of this meeting is to give you an informed view of Rotary and to let you know what you may expect of your membership, and what our Club will expect of you as a member. This "Rotary Information Panel" will attempt to answer any questions you might have about Rotary in general and our Club in particular.

How you were chosen for membership

A member of our Club proposed you for membership and filled out an application form. This form was reviewed by the Membership Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. Your name, classification and sponsor were then distributed by mail to the entire Club membership. This is how the entire membership approves a new member. If there are any objections, they must be registered with the Club Secretary, in writing, within 10 days of the date of publication. There being no objections, the proposed member is considered to be qualified for membership.

Rotary International

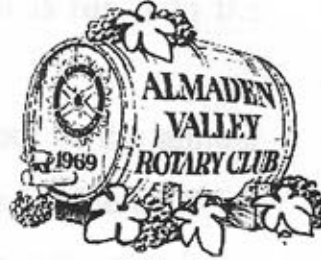
An association of nearly 32,000 autonomous clubs in 166 countries, Rotary International is one of the world's largest service organizations. Founded in 1905 in Chicago by Paul Harris and three other gentlemen, Rotary was established to foster high ethical standards in the business community. "Service above Self" and "He Profits Most Who Serves Best" were adopted as Rotary mottos. The West played an important part in the development and growth of Rotary. San Francisco was club #2, established in 1908. Oakland, Los Angeles, Seattle, New York and Boston followed in 1909, Winnepeg in 1910, and Dublin, Belfast and London in 1911. A President, President-Elect, and a Board of Directors run Rotary International. Rotary Clubs are placed in a District run by a District Governor, who serves for one year.

District 5170

District 5170 has 59 clubs and 4000 members divided into 11 areas. Almaden Valley joins Willow Glen, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, Sunnyvale Sunrise and Sunnyvale Sunset in Area 9. Gary Citti is the 2008/2009 District 5170 Governor and Loren Harper is the 2009/2010 District 5170 Governor-Elect. The District sponsors the following events during the Rotary year: Avenues of Service held in the fall for all Club Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs to review progress in the various avenues of service; President elect Training Seminar held in March; District Assembly held in April for a training session for all incoming Club Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs and Committee members; District Conference held in April as an annual gathering of Rotarians, spouses and friends to celebrate their accomplishments during the current Rotary year and to further the programs of Rotary through fun and fellowship.



Club History



On May 9, 1969, the Almaden Valley Rotary Club received its charter from Rotary International. While this is a relatively short existence compared to that of Rotary International, which started in 1905, it has still been a very active and productive time for the Club.

San Jose Rotary Club gave us our territory, Almaden and Blossom Valleys, and aided in the organization of our Club. Dr. Fred Eberle, one of twenty-two charter members, became the first President. He, along with his "Board of Directors" and the general membership, determined that all members should be involved with the workings of the Club, that attendance at meetings be made mandatory, and that fellowship and respect for each other would hold the Club together.

These goals have survived, and even though membership has grown, we continue to be a leader in attendance at our own meetings and at all District 5170 functions. Almaden Valley Rotary Club has won the "Best Club" award in District 5170, (formerly 517), several times.

Community service has emerged during the last several years as a major thrust of our Club. We joined the Police Athletic League of San Jose in order to sponsor what is now called "The Silicon Valley Youth Classic All Star Football Game". An annual event, the game is played in July by graduating high school senior all stars. All proceeds go to the Club's Endowment Fund, which is a depository for all of our fund-raisers. The year 2003 will be the twenty-ninth year the game has been played. Almaden Valley Rotary Club has been the sole sponsor since 1981. The game is our largest fund-raiser. In recent years, Charlie Wedemeyer, of local high school coaching fame, has lent his name to the game and, along with his wife Lucy, appears at the football banquet and at the

game. Jim Guido has been game chairman for many years. The event is run with the active participation of all members.

In 1977, Club members started a Polish sausage sandwich booth at the annual Almaden Arts and Wine Festival. It was fun for us and produced funds for the Club for many years until we recently terminated our participation. We are active in the Cambrian Arts and Wine Festival, where we run a beer and soft drink booth. In 1984 the Club was given all the food and beverage concessions at the LPGA golf tournament, held annually at the Almaden Golf and Country Club. At the time, it was the Club's largest fundraiser. Members shared the workload with those charities that benefited from the funds. Unfortunately, the tournament was discontinued in San Jose due to the lack of a sponsor. In past years fund-raisers included the Barney Quement and "Youth Focus Golf Tournaments, an annual Super Bowl Party, and "A Night At The Movies". The latter was held in conjunction with the Center For Living With Dying, which benefited from the funds raised from this event. Presently, in addition to the football game and the Cambrian Arts and Wine Fest, the Club holds an annual "Bowl-a-thon" which is spearheaded by Joanne Bengevino, and a "Kids Fishing Day" headed by John Baker, where we man a hamburger/hotdog stand.

Several years ago the Club received a request from Simonds Elementary School, San Jose Unified School District, to aid them in the beautification of their school. The final plan was for an outside science classroom. All members of the Club were involved in this project, not only in providing money and materials to build it, but also in the actual construction work and all enjoyed the resulting fellowship.

In subsequent years, Almaden Valley Rotarians helped the Los Alamitos Elementary School, San Jose Unified School District, build an outdoor amphitheater. This project took six weekends to finish and was directed by Bob Seymore. The Club members completed a "par course" at Castillero Middle School. The Simonds and Castillero projects were co-chaired by Paul Uenaka and Paul Consentino.

Many projects have followed in the ensuing years. In 1986, Pioneer High School solicited the Clubs help to renovate old and build new benches in their quadrangle. Members also completed some brickwork around the benches and planters. Uenaka and Consentino again shared responsibility. In 1988, the Club was responsible for painting the interior of the South Valley Senior Center located at Cottle and Blossom Hill roads. The Rotoract Club of Pioneer High School assisted in this effort. Coordinating the work schedules of participating individuals were Jerry Gibson, Vernon Kuhn, Paul Uenaka and Paul Consentino.

It has been said, by students, parents, community members, Rotarians and others, that these have been our Rotary Clubs outstanding projects. This commitment to physically working on projects that are an asset to our community is certainly one of the finest accomplishments of our Club, and one that has provided the members with great satisfaction. It is relatively easy to simply donate money to charity. The Almaden Valley Rotary Club has a history of doing projects that get it's members involved in the spirit and fellowship of knowing the work they have done has made a difference in the Community.

The holiday season brings out the best in people, and the Almaden Valley Rotary Club is no different. During Christmas time, in particular, the Club has entered into the spirit of giving manifested in the Christmas Families program. Chaired by Bill Smith and Roger Bier, among others, this program was set up to distribute gifts to the children of needy families, and has expanded to include the giving of Christmas trees, food stuffs, household items, such as microwave ovens, and other such useful appliances. At Thanksgiving time, in conjunction with the City of San Jose Redevelopment Agency's Strong Neighborhood Initiative, the Club distributes turkeys and other foodstuff to about fifty families in the Hoffman / Via Monte development in San Jose. Every year the members of the South Valley Senior Center are treated to a steak dinner supplied and cooked by members of the Almaden Valley Rotary Club.

International Service is a significant part of the Clubs activity. An important project is the Club's relationship with Casa Guatemala. Casa Guatemala is a non-political, non-sectarian charitable organization dedicated to helping children. It is supported solely by private contributions from around the world, receiving no government funding. It is comprised of an orphanage for children under 3 and a teenage girls home in Guatemala City, and an orphanage on the Rio Dulce River. Charter Member, Earl McIntosh, along with his wife Barbara, has been the leader of this project. The Club, in conjunction with Las Americas Rotary Club of Guatemala City, participated in a matching grant program, with which two outboard motors were purchased and a fish pond was built, holding 10,000 fish. The Club also helped raise monies to repair a water tower.

In the past several years, we as a club have made a commitment to improve our support of the Rotary Foundation, which we have done. The Rotary Club of Almaden Valley is one of the top clubs in District 5170 based on total contributions. Every one of our members is either a Paul Harris Fellow or Sustaining Member of the Foundation. Our Club is proud of all of its members and their individual accomplishments, including several of our past presidents who have worked, or are working at the District 5170 level.

MSB

May 2003

Club Structure

The administration of the Rotary Club of Almaden Valley is coordinated by the following organizational make-up:

Club Officers	Club Directors	Committees
President	Club Service	Membership
President-Elect	Community/Youth Service	Public Relations
Secretary	International Service	All Star Football
Treasurer	Fund Raising	
Sgt. at Arms		

Activities Calendar

Weekly meetings on Friday noon – 12:15 at Almaden Country Club

Quarterly Club Assemblies

July: Charlie Wedemeyer High School All Star Youth Classic

August: Day at the A's

September: Almaden Art and Wine Festival

October: Columbus Day Party

November: Bowl-A-Thon + Hoffman/Via Monte Thanksgiving Dinners

December: Christmas Party + Southside/Almaden Senior Luncheons

January: Sharkfest

February: Valentine Luncheon + Bocce Ball

March: St. Patrick's Luncheon + Car Rallye

April: District Conference + District Work Day

May: Kids Fishing Days + Charter Party + Joint Board Meeting

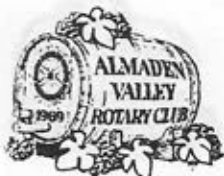
June: Awards Night + President's Honorarium + International Conference

Communications

Rotary International publishes a monthly magazine called "The Rotarian". A subscription is included in your monthly dues. R.I. also has a web site at www.rotary.org.

Also on a monthly basis, District 5170 publishes a newsletter which can be viewed on the district website www.rotary5170.org. Our club publishes the club newsletter, the Grapevine, weekly which also can be viewed on our website www.almadenvalleyrotary.org.

It is also the club's intention to provide you with a club roster listing the names, phone numbers and email addresses of our club members. This is a confidential list not to be distributed or used for business solicitation.



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The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International

The objective of *The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International* is the achievement of world understanding and peace through international charitable and educational programs. This foundation is for international projects and should not be confused with the Endowment established by the Almaden Valley Rotary Club, to support our local organizations.

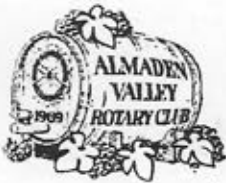
The Rotary Foundation began as a scholarship program for graduate students. It has grown to become the largest private scholarship program in the world. Today, the Foundation funds:

Scholarships - graduate scholarships, undergraduate scholarships, vocational scholarships, teachers of the handicapped scholarships, and scholarships in journalism. Each scholarship is for one year of study in a country other than ones own and is worth up to \$20,000. There are approximately 1,000 scholarships a year sending students to more than 60 countries.

The Group Study Exchanges - which sends 5 non-Rotarian business or professional people plus a Rotarian Team Leader to a foreign country for 4-6 weeks as ambassadors of goodwill and to study and exchange ideas in their related fields.

Health, Hunger and Humanities (3-H) – improves agriculture, health, education, improved water resources, literacy programs and vocational training in third world countries.

Special, Matching Grants – The Rotary Foundation matches, dollar for dollar, monies raised by local Rotary Clubs for International programs of their choosing. Almaden Valley Rotary is involved in an orphanage in Guatemala.



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Polio Plus – Approximately 528,755,000 children are to be immunized against polio and other childhood diseases around the world by the year 2005. To date, over 400,000,000 children have been immunized. This has virtually eliminated polio in some countries where immunization has been completed.

You join the Foundation by contributing \$1,000 to the fund, generally over a period of time. By doing so, you, or someone of your choosing becomes a Paul Harris Fellow. The presentation of Paul Harris Recognition is the Rotary Foundation's way of expressing appreciation for a substantial contribution to its humanitarian and educational programs.

Our district offers a "Double Sustainer" recognition program for those who contribute \$200.00 annually.

Almaden Valley Rotary Club Endowment

Without specifics this is a brief explanation of the purpose of the Almaden Valley Rotary endowment.

The endowment is a savings account for the Almaden Valley Rotary Club. Moneys deposited into the endowment will be dispersed only to nonprofit charitable organizations. The annual interest earned must be dispersed each year. Donations to the endowment are tax deductible. Funds deposited from fund raising projects will give the fees charged a tax-deductible status to the donor.

It is the goal of the Almaden Valley Rotary Club to insure the funding of the financial donations it gives to its many charities each year. This can be accomplished by funding the endowment and allowing its balance to grow to the point that the annual interest it earns will fund the Almaden Valley Rotary Club's established yearly charitable commitments. The endowment typically donates from \$20,000 to \$30,000 each year to the local community.

The Almaden Valley Endowment has supported the following local charities:

Salvation Army	Sacred Heart Community Services
Youth Focus	SJSU Spartan Foundation
City Team Ministries	Leland HS Scholarship
St. Antonio Orphanage	Pioneer HS Interact
Center for Living with Dying	Friends of Guatemala
Assistance League	Oak Grove HS Scholarship
Boy Scouts Troup 290	COC
Pioneer HS Scholarship	House of Grace
Wedemeyer Family Foundation	Oak Grove HS Interact
San Jose Metro Band	Winchester Orchestra
Boy Scouts Troup 294	Interplast
Skills Plus	Los Alamitos Elementary School
Emergency Housing Consortium	Hospice of the Valley
South Valley YMCA	



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Key Rotary Principles:

~~- 2005/2006 Because We Care~~

- The Four Way Test:

Is it the Truth?

Is it Fair to all concerned?

Will it build Goodwill and Better Friendships?

Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

- Rotary Slogan: Service above Self

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:

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

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;

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

The advancement of international understanding, good will, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men and women united in the ideal of service.

Your Obligation in Rotary

Participation

To be an Almaden Valley Rotarian you are expected to give your time and talents to the following:

- Community Service
- Club Social functions
- Club and District activities

Attendance

Attendance at weekly meetings is extremely important, and 100% attendance is urged and honored in Rotary. If you are unable to attend at your own club you can attend other Rotary clubs for a 'make-up' meeting, and District events count towards attendance. At the Almaden Valley club you can also make-up by attending committee meetings, board meetings and social functions.

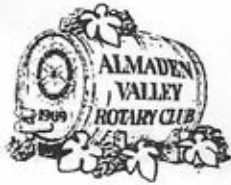
The minimum requirement is to maintain a level of at least 50% attendance. Make-up meetings can be any time two weeks prior to the meeting or two weeks after the missed meeting. Such flexibility permits you to plan business trips, vacations and other occasions where you will not be able to attend your own club meeting.

Make-up meeting places in our area are published weekly in the Grapevine

Financial

<u>Obligatory</u>			<u>Voluntary</u>	
Annual Dues	Club	\$75	Rotary Foundation annual giving	\$100-200
(pro-rated)	District	\$55	Club endowment annual giving	\$100-175
	Intn'l	\$70	Social events 4 to 5 per year avg	\$60/ person
Annual Fines		\$80		
	Total	\$280		
Weekly lunches		\$17.50/		

Lunches are billed in advance quarterly. Make-ups are deducted. All costs except value of meals and prizes are deductible.



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In order to change your status to a regular member, you must complete these five requirements:

- 1) Serve as a guest or host at the club for a minimum of two months
- 2) Give a talk at a regular meeting on a topic of your own choice, family and vocation

Rotary's obligation to you!

- 3) Provide an opportunity for you to serve:
 - the club
 - the community
 - the world

- 4) Help you grow as a person
 - new friends
 - new activities
 - new challenges

- 5) Offer fellowship
 - within our club
 - with other Rotary clubs meeting anywhere in the world
 - with other countries

These requirements will be tracked and encouraged by the Red Badge Committee (Committee of Arms) and your immediate superior.

Blue Badge Requirements

In order to change your "red badge" for a permanent "blue badge", you must complete these few requirements.

- 1) Serve as a greeter/ticket taker at the door for a minimum of two months
- 2) Give a talk at a regular meeting concerning your personal history, family and vocation
- 3) Serve as program chairman at a regular meeting
- 4) Attend one "club assembly"
- 5) Attend one District function (rather than Rotary)
- 6) Attend one social function
- 7) Makeup at another Rotary club
- 8) Attend one "board of director's meeting"
- 9) Serve on one committee of the club
- 10) Bring a prospective member to a meeting
- 11) Attend a Fireside Chat

These requirements will be tracked and encouraged by the Red Badge Committee (Sergeant of Arms) and your mentor/sponsor.