



2021-2022

Membership Handbook

Rotary Club of Lincoln

Chartered 1925

"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

**Prepared by:
Membership Committee
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1. Overview

The purpose of this document

This membership guideline is for use by all members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln but is of particular value to new members. Its purpose is to:

- To provide the background of Rotary
- To let members know what the Club expects of them
- To let members know what they can expect of the Club
- To provide information on how the Club operates
- To answer questions about Rotary in general and the Rotary Club of Lincoln in particular

How you are chosen to be a Member of Rotary

Rotary membership is by invitation only. A member of our Club proposed you for membership based on your leadership and professional qualities. As part of that membership process, important Club information was reviewed with you. After that, your application was completed with the assistance of a Club Membership Committee member and your membership profile was created. Your profile was then presented to our Board of Directors and your membership was unanimously approved. Based on the occupational information you provided, you were also given a classification. The classification process is one of the main differences between Rotary and other service clubs. The classification process ensures that every Rotary Club is representative of the community it serves and prevents any particular professional group or business classification from becoming dominant within the Club.

Rotary is an International Organization

On February 23rd, 1905, Paul Harris and three other men founded Rotary when they began meeting weekly in each other's offices. Their offices were in Chicago, Illinois. Since they chose to "rotate" their meetings each week, they chose the name Rotary for their new Club. The original purpose of their meetings was to broaden their contacts outside their own businesses, but it soon became evident that service to others was a much more important purpose. From these beginnings, Rotary evolved to be the first club organization dedicated to serving others. Rotary quickly expanded to embrace the vision and purpose that we serve today. The very first Rotary project was a public restroom in downtown Chicago.

The western United States played an especially important role in the development and growth of Rotary. After Chicago, the next four clubs chartered were in San Francisco, Oakland, Seattle, and Los Angeles. Rotary then expanded east to New York and Boston. It became international in 1910 when prospective members began meeting in Winnipeg, Canada. That Club received its formal charter in 1912. European clubs were established in 1911 when the London, Dublin and Belfast Clubs were chartered. Rotary International was formally adopted as the official name in 1912.

Since its founding by only three men in 1905, Rotary International has expanded to more than 1.2 million members serving in over 35,000 clubs. These clubs are in over 200 countries and geographical areas. These clubs act to unite business and professional leaders throughout the world. These leaders volunteer their time and talents to serve their local communities and the international community. Each day, Rotary members pour their passion, integrity, and intelligence into completing projects that have a lasting impact in making the world a better place for all.

Basic Rotary Organization

Rotary International is led by a President, a President-Elect, and a Board of Directors. The Rotary International President for the 2021-2022 Rotary year is Rotarian Shekhar Mehta of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India.

Rotary International is governed by a board of directors composed of the international president, the president-elect, the general secretary, and 17 zone directors.

These RI leaders develop policy, provide guidance, and give encouragement in all Rotary activities. As a Rotarian, you are part of a distinguished worldwide group. As a member of the Rotary Club of Lincoln, you are a member of a Club that has served its community and our international friends effectively and proudly since 1925.

District 5180 Organizational Structure

For administrative purposes, Rotary Clubs are placed in a geographic District run by a District Governor (DG) and assisted by Assistant Governors (AGs). Assistant Governors are assigned for different areas within in the District. Our District, District 5180, has nine areas covering 42 clubs. The District Governor for the current Rotary year is Rotarian Desiree Wilson, of the Rotary Club of Point West. Our Rotary Club of Lincoln is in Area 2 (along with the Granite Bay, Placer Valley Sunrise, Roseville, and South Placer (Rocklin) Rotary clubs). Rotarian Rob Saxe of the Rotary Club of Rocklin is the District Assistant Governor for our area.

Membership Benefits:

Through Rotary's many activities, local clubs have a very significant positive impact on the quality of life of its local community. At the same time, international programs developed by the club's World Community Service/International committee and partnered with the larger programs of the Rotary Foundation offer unlimited opportunities to help needy people throughout the world. Your membership in Rotary thus offers you outstanding opportunities for:

- Making positive changes within your community
- Building outstanding friendships locally and internationally
- Promoting goodwill, peace and understanding throughout the world
- Developing personal and professional leadership skills
- Making a direct and personal contribution in international humanitarian issues
- And many more as only limited by the imagination of each individual Rotarian

2. Lincoln Rotary Club

History of Lincoln Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Lincoln was founded in 1925 when it was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Auburn. The charter meeting was held in the Veterans Memorial Building on Fifth Street in Lincoln. Initial members were drawn from the merchants, farmers, and professionals within the community. Weekly meetings took place in the historic Woman's Club. The Woman's Club has remained our meeting place for our Club since our founding in 1925.

Our Club has been active and remains active in almost countless local projects. We helped build the bandstand in McBean Park. We assisted with the construction of the outdoor kitchen at McBean Park Pavilion. We installed the flagpole at the Veterans Hall. We built the original dugout at the baseball field -- and much more. It is an ever-evolving list of meaningful service provided to our community. Recently, we installed park signs that describe the Lincoln pioneers after which the city parks were named. We are very proud of our efforts in acting as a co-sponsor in initiating and funding a new Lincoln Senior Center.

Our Club supports a diverse variety of groups and activities within the city; everything from the Lincoln Manor for the elderly to the students at our local schools. Historically, the Rotary Club of Lincoln has operated in a "behind the scenes" mode. Presently, however, our new Club structure puts emphasis on public relations by actively promoting a greater community awareness of our services, projects, and other contributions. That awareness will lead to even greater contributions to our city.

Rotary Club of Lincoln membership has remained between 45 and 60 members for many years except during the depression and World War II years when it was much smaller. The explosive growth of Lincoln in the past few years has brought in a new wave of members. A major focus of the Club is to build bridges between the old and the new Lincoln. By aggressively incorporating the interests of both, our Club can become an even more vital contributor in our community.

Weekly Meetings

Since inception of the club, our meetings have been held in the Woman's Club at 499 East 5th Street in downtown Lincoln. The meeting agenda has followed these guidelines:

- 11:45 - noon: Sign-in and socialization
- Noon - 12:30: Lunch
- 12:30 - 1:00: Club business, announcements, Happy Bucks, and raffle
- 1:00 - 1:30: Program speakers or detailed Club discussions

Meeting times and places are subject to change and such changes are posted on the Club website with every attempt made to notify members and our community.

Communications

Rotary International publishes a monthly magazine called "The Rotarian". Your subscription is included in your annual dues. Rotary International also has a website at www.rotary.org.

Members are strongly encouraged to sign up for “My Rotary” on that site to learn much more about Rotary and to track their own individual Rotary history. The Rotary International website has virtually unlimited information on every program and purpose of Rotary.

The District 5180 website is at www.rotary5180.org. The District newsletter is available online along with other very important information about our District organization and activities. Of particular importance – this website lists the meeting dates, meeting locations and websites of all the clubs in our District.

Our Club website is at www.LincolnCaRotary.org. The website is regularly updated to include timely information about upcoming speakers, events, social activities, and other Club programs. There is a Club member area that is accessible by password only. Of special importance in this area is a roster showing the names, pictures, addresses and phone numbers of all Rotary Club of Lincoln members. The member area and roster are for use by Club members only. The username and password to the member area are provided to each member upon induction into the club.

The Club Facebook page is found at www.facebook.com/LincolnCaRotary/. This page is updated regularly with items of interest to the community and talks about our service events, fundraisers, projects, and other important information about our Club and about Rotary. Please visit our Facebook page and be sure to **LIKE** the page to receive updates.

Another useful tool is the ClubRunner App that may be installed on your smartphone. This application lists all members, their pictures and contact information and links directly to assist in making telephone calls and sending text messages. The username and password are identical to that used for our website.

Club Leadership

Individual members in our Club have generously volunteered their time and efforts to take leadership positions for our 2021-2022 Rotary year. Those leaders are as follows:

President (Kristine Mollenkopf): The President of the Club will lead the Club from July 1st to June 30th. The President is also Chairperson of the Club Board of Directors and is an ex officio trustee on the Club Foundation Board of Trustees. The President has access to all Club records on the RI Rotary Central database located at www.rotary.org.

President-Elect (Kimberly McCue): The President-Elect will become President and serve during the following Rotary Year. The President-Elect is also a member of the Club Board of Directors and serves as a trustee on the Club Foundation Board of Trustees.

President-Nominee (To be determined): The President-Nominee will become the President-Elect at such time that the current President-Elect becomes the Club President.

Secretary (Open): The Club Secretary is responsible for maintaining all records of the Club. The Secretary is on the Board of Directors and has access to all Club records on the RI Rotary Central database.

Treasurer (Graziella Locher): The Club Treasurer maintains all financial records for the Club and is on the Board of Directors.

Past President (Bryan Ludwig): The President from the immediate previous year remains on the Club Board of Directors for one year after the end of his or her term as Club President.

Club Committee Structure

Consistent with most Rotary clubs, our Club has dedicated leadership in many service areas. The current Club committee structure and the Chairperson of each committee are as follows:

Club Administration (Frank Neves): The Club Administration Committee is responsible for “running the Club, as well as purchasing.” They are also responsible for setting up for Club meetings and ensuring the orderliness of the facility after all such meetings when we meet at the Woman’s Club.

Club Service (Claire Luke): Club service sets up our club social events and handles logistics for club fundraising events.

Community Service (Carole Orlando): This Committee is responsible for our many local community service projects.

World Community Service (WCS) (Richard Pearl): The Committee is responsible for our international projects which are chosen to encourage worldwide friendship and goodwill. Polio Plus is a committee responsibility shared with the Rotary International Foundation committee

Youth Service (Kris Wyatt): This Committee is responsible for our youth related projects and scholarships.

Vocational Service (To be determined): Vocational Service is responsible for recognition of all useful occupations and recognizing each member’s occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

Membership (Clark Osterhout): The Membership Committee plans, organizes, and executes the very crucial Club activities necessary to attract new members and retain existing members.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) (Art Deardorff): The Rotary Foundation is a foundation founded by and controlled directly by Rotary International. All Rotarians take great pride in supporting this world-renowned Foundation and the many projects it funds. Our Club Committee is responsible for all Rotary Foundation information and activities within our Club and encourages our membership to contribute to the Foundation. Of note is a committee focus on promoting the eradication of polio through the Polio Plus campaign.

Programs (Barbara DeBaptiste): This Committee is responsible for arranging interesting and informative programs for our lunch meetings. Strong emphasis is placed on programs that support and advance the purposes of our Club.

Public Image (PI) (Shanti Landon): The Public Image Committee is responsible for publicizing the many meaningful things that our Club does in our local community and in our worldwide community. The webmaster is a member of this committee and is responsible for maintaining the Club website to ensure that it is current and updated on a timely basis.

Fundraising Events (Karen Johnson): This Committee provides dedicated guidance to the fundraising events of the Club. The funds raised by these events are raised by the Lincoln Rotary Club Foundation which is a separate legal non-profit entity from the Rotary Club of Lincoln. Most of the funds so raised are returned to our Lincoln community in the form of grants and donations from the Lincoln Rotary Club Foundation. Funds are also used to provide support and assistance to needy international projects located throughout the world.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (TBD): At Rotary, we understand that cultivating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture is essential to realizing our vision of a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change.

In line with our value of integrity, we are committed to being honest and transparent about where we are in our DEI journey as an organization, and to continuing to learn and do better.

3. Key Rotary Principles

The Rotary year begins on July 1st of each year. Each incoming President of Rotary International promotes a particular slogan or theme to highlight their vision for their year. Each annual theme is reinforced by attractive pins and/or flags to keep the image before us throughout the Rotary year. In addition to this meaningful theme, several long-standing phrases and slogans are important to each Rotarian. The following gives the theme and its image for the current Rotary year and lists our slogans and phrases.

2021-2022 Rotary International Theme and Image:



The Four-Way Test:

The Four-Way Test is at the forefront of what we as Rotarians believe and do. It is a nonpartisan and nonsectarian ethical guide for Rotarians to use in their personal and professional relationships. The test has been translated into more than 100 languages. Rotarians recite it at many of their club meetings:

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?**

And commonly accepted in our Club as the 5th test -- Is it Fun??

Our Rotary Slogan: *“Service Above Self”*

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:

1. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service
2. 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
3. The application of the ideal of service by every Rotarian to his personal, business and community life
4. 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

Rotarian Code of Conduct

As a Rotarian, I will:

- Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people’s quality of life in my community and in the world
- Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.
- Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities, report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment

4. Foundations and Properties

Lincoln Rotary Club Foundation (LRCF)

This Foundation was formed by our Club in 2005 and serves as the legal giving arm of the Rotary Club of Lincoln.

LRCF is structured as a 501(c)(3) and it operates under a separate Board of Trustees, all of which are members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln although external Trustees may serve. The current President of the LRCF is John Quigley.

There are three designated funds within the Lincoln Rotary Club Foundation:

- **Bradford Fund:** The LRCF was initiated when a grant was received in 2005 from the late Lincoln Rotarian Alan Bradford. The Bradford Fund is income oriented and was formed to provide scholarships for worthy students interested in engineering/construction management. The Fund provides funds for one or two scholarships each year. Each scholarship covers up to a four-year academic period.

- **Permanent Fund:** This fund was established in 2014 when it was funded by two gifts to the Club Foundation. This fund is invested with the focus being on growth to fund future Club activities from its earnings.
- **Unrestricted Funds:** These funds are an important and active part of the Foundation. Unrestricted funds provide the monetary backing for all the Club’s charitable giving and project funding requirements. These funds come from Club fundraisers and generous contributions made directly to the Unrestricted Fund. Per a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Club and the Lincoln Rotary Club Foundation, the Club Board of Directors provides guidance for all Club fundraisers and has established policies and procedures to authorize all charitable contributions from the Unrestricted Funds

Donations by members of Rotary, members of the community or other friends of Rotary may be directed to the Club Foundation Unrestricted Funds category or to either of the specific funds noted above. Donations designated for other restricted purposes can be accepted but are subject to approval by both the Rotary Club and the Club Foundation Boards.

The Rotary Foundation aka RI Foundation or International Foundation (TRF):

The Rotary Foundation was created in 1917 as an endowment fund for Rotary “to do good in the world”. It has grown from an initial contribution of \$26.50 to over \$1 billion in net assets at the end of the 2017 – 2018 Rotary year. Over the last 100 years, TRF has expended over \$3 billion in support of the purposes of Rotary. It has the world’s largest and one of the most prestigious privately funded international scholarship programs in the world. The Foundation is ranked the maximum 4-star by Charity Navigator with perfect accountability and transparency ratings of 100. Very few organizations currently achieve this rating, and no other service organization is so ranked.

The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to promote and facilitate all Rotary efforts in advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace. Rotary's top priorities fall into one of seven areas of focus. These seven areas are as follows:

1. **Promoting Peace:** We provide education and training to strengthen peace efforts and support long-term peacebuilding in areas affected by conflict. Of particular importance is the funding of several Rotary Peace Centers located throughout the world.
2. **Fighting Disease:** More than 100 million people are pushed into poverty each year because of medical costs. We provide aid where possible and aggressively work to prevent the spread of major diseases such as polio, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. Polio Plus is the crown jewel of our worldwide efforts.
3. **Providing Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:** More than 2.5 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation facilities. We routinely help communities develop sustainable water and sanitation systems and we provide education on clean water and sanitation procedures.

4. **Saving Mothers and Children:** Nearly 6 million children under the age of five die each year due to malnutrition, poor health, and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronger.
5. **Supporting Education:** Worldwide over 67 million children have no access to education and more than 775 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate. We support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education and increase adult literacy.
6. **Growing Local Economies:** Nearly 1.4 billion unemployed people live on less than \$1.25 a day. We work to enhance economic and community development and to create the opportunities that empower individuals to support themselves.
7. **Protecting the environment:** Rotary members are tackling environmental issues the way they always do: coming up with projects, using their connections to change policy and planning for the future.

The Rotary Foundation helps fund many, many humanitarian activities by supporting both local service projects and global initiatives. Clubs or districts apply for grants from the RI Foundation to invest in projects, provide scholarships and fund many other worthy activities. The Foundation also provides the necessary leadership in worldwide Rotary campaigns such as eradicating polio and promoting peace. Rotarians and friends of Rotary support the Foundation through voluntary contributions. The Rotary Foundation is divided into three designated funds, all of which support the focus areas of Rotary.

These funds are as follows:

- **Annual Fund and Share:** The Annual Fund is the backbone in sustaining the thousands of Rotary projects that are being conducted every day in our community and throughout the world. These projects are generally initiated by individual clubs. They initiate a project by requesting District, Global or Packaged Grants from the RI Foundation. The Annual Fund and Share is sustained by generous donations from Rotarians and friends of Rotary.
- **Endowment Fund:** Every gift to the Endowment Fund, through estate planning or otherwise, will keep The Rotary Foundation strong well into the future by providing a continuous stream of income. The generated income from this fund is designed to support many meaningful programs in perpetuity.
- **Polio Plus Fund:** Contributions to Polio Plus are the backbone of our dedicated efforts to achieve a polio-free world. Rotary is the leader in this program. Over 2.5 billion polio immunizations have been funded worldwide by Rotary with the very generous participation of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and others. Polio has been cut from over 350,000 paralytic wild polio cases per year in the 1980s to 42 reported cases as of July 2019. Polio cases were reported in 125 countries per annum in the 1980s; the 42 cases have been reported in Afghanistan (10) and Pakistan (32). While any child anywhere in the world carries the polio virus, ALL children worldwide remain at risk for the reemergence of this horrific crippling disease. Every generous gift supports continuing immunization campaigns in countries where children remain at risk. Diligent,

continued monitoring and continued inoculations desperately strive to ensure that this horrific disease does not rear its ugly head again.

In 1957, a program to recognize Foundation donors was established with an award named after the founder of Rotary, Paul Harris. This program is structured to show appreciation for all donations made to The Rotary Foundation with an award that is appropriate called the Paul Harris Fellow. You become a Paul Harris Fellow by contributing \$1,000 to the RI Foundation.

Every Club member is robustly encouraged to participate in this program with the understanding that it is strictly voluntary. Some Club members make a lump sum donation while others make smaller donations over a period of time to reach the total of \$1,000. Many go on to donate additional funds to honor relatives and friends with a Paul Harris Fellow award. At the time of your donation, you will also receive an equivalent number of recognition points. These points may be used toward Paul Harris Fellow awards given to anyone else (e.g., your spouse or child). The presentation of a Paul Harris Fellow award and the recognition points is Rotary's way of expressing appreciation for a substantial contribution to its humanitarian and educational programs. To date there have been well over one million Paul Harris Fellow awards given. Those members committing to contribute \$1,000 per year are part of the Paul Harris Society. In another way of participating, many Rotarians also include the Rotary Foundation in their estate planning through defined contributions (e.g., in a will, trust or IRA beneficiary designation).

LRC Properties, Inc (LRCP)

This entity was formed by our Club in 2020 and serves as the holding company for properties bequeathed to the club from Robert Dart, a member of our club for many years and the former Postmaster of the city of Lincoln.

LRCP is structured as a 501(c)(2) and it operates under a separate Board of Trustees, all of which are members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln. The current President of the LRCP is John Quigley with Graziella Locher as Treasurer and Jerry Johnson as Secretary. The other trustees are Paul Radcliffe and Darrell Scott.

The LRCP Trustees shall have the exclusive responsibility for the management of the LRC Properties including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. Maintaining separate bank accounts from the Foundation and Club.
- B. Being responsible for the prudent and proper management of the LRC Properties.
- C. Preparing, presenting, and gaining approval of a LRCP budget annually.
- D. Notwithstanding the above statement that the LRCP Trustees shall have the exclusive responsibility for the management of the LRC Properties, any decision to acquire, sell or encumber the properties must be approved by both the Club Directors and the Foundation Trustees.

5. Agreement to Join the Lincoln Rotary Club

Your Obligation to Rotary

As a member of the Rotary Club of Lincoln you are expected to give your time, enthusiasm, and talents to support the Club and its various activities. These include Club meetings, social

activities, District 5180 activities, fund-raising events and community, vocational and international service functions of the club.

Participation at Club meetings and other group activities is of vital importance to your overall Club and Rotary experience. Participating with other members provides continuous opportunities for friendship, fellowship, and productive discussions. Many of your best friends may well come from your active participation in Rotary. Attendance at our regular meetings and participation in Club activities are equally important. Both enable you to build solid friendships with fellow Rotarians, friendships that give the cohesion that holds our Club and Rotary itself to our meaningful purposes. It is through these friendships that many positive Club activities are accomplished. Dedicated participation in our club activities is strongly encouraged and is highly honored in Rotary.

If you are unable to attend our regular meetings, there are many other ways to participate. These alternative opportunities give you credit equivalent to attending our weekly meetings. For example, you may attend meetings at any other Rotary club in the world as a “*makeup*” meeting. Other activities that can count as “*makeups*” are Board meetings, service projects, Interact meetings, socials, District functions and performance of almost any other function of benefit to the Club. The general rule is to equate a minimum of one hour of makeup time as equivalent to attendance at a regular meeting. The following is a listing of a few of the many ways you can perform activities to show your participation:

- Attending the meeting of another Rotary club
- Attending a meeting of an Interact club
- Participating in a Club project
- Attend a Club Board meeting
- Attending and participation in any Club or committee meeting
- Attending a District committee meeting or training activity
- Attending a Club social function
- Performing Club or District administrative or similar activity
- Performing service for any meaningful activity as a Rotarian
- Attending training/seminars where the outcome will benefit our Club
- Doing online makeup by learning about Rotary on the District or RI website
- Making a \$50 (or more) donation to TRF or LRCF foundations in addition to contributions made for birthday or anniversary recognition
- Sending someone else to a meeting or other Club activity in your place (e. g. friend, family member or business associate)
- And more – the true measure being an activity of benefit to the Club.

As per the list above, the opportunities to demonstrate your participation are almost unlimited. Membership may be terminated for lack of participation. The Club Bylaws state that members must attend at least 30 percent of the Club's regular meetings or engage in other equivalent activities as outlined above in each half year or a combination thereof. The Board of Directors may excuse the lack of attendance if such lack is deemed to be for a good reason. For extended absences that are necessitated by valid reasons, members are encouraged to apply to the Club Board for a Leave of Absence as described in this Handbook.

Locations and meeting times for every Rotary club in the world are available online on the Rotary International website (www.rotary.org) and all District 5180 Club meetings are given on the District website (www.district5180.org).

To receive credit for performing an activity other than attending a regular meeting or scheduled social event (where attendance is taken), you must send an email to the Club Secretary or provide a handwritten request to the Secretary indicating the nature and date of the makeup activity. These participation activities must be claimed within two weeks before or after the date of a missed meeting since our participation tracking system is maintained on our website in terms of "meeting attendance." Thus, participation activities may be booked ahead of time or after a missed meeting whether or not they are actually used in or tracking system.

When the sum of a member's age and their total years as a Rotary member total 85 or greater and they have over 20 years of Rotary membership, they can apply for Exempt Status. Known as the "**Rule of 85**", this exemption removes the requirement for participation, but normal dues still apply. Members qualifying for Rule of 85 Status must apply for that status. It is not a Club responsibility to notify each member so qualifying.

You are encouraged to take a Club banner with you when you travel and to exchange banners with other clubs outside our District. Banners are available from the Club Secretary. Over the years, our Club has amassed a large collection of club banners from all over the world and we are proud to share our Club banner with all Rotarian visitors that come from outside of our District. Attendance at meetings throughout the world is one of the genuinely great benefits and pleasures of being a Rotarian. Many ideas, friendships and partnerships evolve from visiting other clubs.

Rotary's Obligation to You

Being an active member of Rotary is an investment of both time and money. It is an obligation of the Rotary Club of Lincoln to make your membership meaningful and satisfying. The core of Rotary is the Club, and the core of the Club is friendship. Being a member of Rotary includes you in an organization that contains some of the finest people on the planet. Your active participation will be rewarded by friendships and associations like none other. From this friendship comes meaningful service which provides opportunities to:

- Serve:** The Club, the Community, and the World
- Grow:** New friends, new activities, and new challenges
- Enjoy:** Friendship within the Club, the District, and the World

Financial Requirements

To Join: Initiation Fee (one time only - includes red polo shirt) \$ 60

Annual Costs: (Subject to change by Board of Directors)

Annual Dues (RI, District and Club)	\$ 168
Birthday and Anniversary Recognition*	\$ 1 for each year
Happy Bucks*	\$ 100 per year
Donations to RI or Club Foundation* (Includes Birthday or Anniversary Recognition)	\$ 100 per year
Social Events (2-3 per year, ~ \$50 per couple) *	~ \$ 150 per year
Quarterly and Meals Costs - See below	

Note: * denotes optional expenses. While encouraged to consider these amounts, it is not mandatory for Club membership. Recognition amounts and/or Happy Bucks are totally at the discretion of the member. Birthday and Anniversary Recognition are normally contributed to The Rotary Foundation or to our Club Foundation at the option of the member.

Quarterly and Meals Costs: The quarterly operating and meeting meals costs are as follows and may be changed by action of the Board of Directors:

Quarterly Cost (Active Member – no meals)	\$66
Quarterly Cost (Active Rule of 85 Member – no meals)	\$48
Quarterly Cost (Active Members – prepaid meals)	\$168
Quarterly Cost (Corporate Members - prepaid meals)	\$168
Meal Costs for those not paying quarterly	
• Prospective member guest - first 3 visits:	No Charge
• Visiting Rotarians, alternate corporate member*, and other guests:	\$15
• Active members on the no meal plan**:	\$10

* One alternate corporate member may attend without charge if the primary member is not attending the same meeting.

** These members have already paid \$5 per meeting with their quarterly cost under the no meals plan.

Lunch meetings are every Thursday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. except when that falls on a normal holiday or the meeting is otherwise cancelled by the Board of Directors. Current Club policy calls for any meeting that will fall on any fifth Thursday in each month will be replaced by a Club social to be held the evening of that Thursday. All such meeting changes are posted on the Club website and every effort is made to give ample notice to all members.

Speakers and other special visitors are welcome to attend meetings without charge. Potential members may attend up to three meetings with no charge for meals.

For any active member, a no-meals option may be selected prior to the beginning of any quarter by notifying the Treasurer.

Active members may send a non-Rotarian (e.g., family member, business associate or friend) to attend any regular Club meeting in their place. Credit will be given to the active member for meeting attendance.

All financial requirements are subject to change by the Board of Directors of the Club. For members joining during a year, the annual costs are prorated based on the number of full months of membership.

The Lincoln Rotary Club is a 501 (c) (4) organization so payments cannot generally be treated as a tax-deductible contribution. Certain costs associated with Rotary may, however, be a qualified business expense. Donations to the Rotary Foundation or to our Club Foundation are, in most cases, tax deductible contributions since these are 510 (c) (3) organizations. Please consult your tax advisor if you are unsure of your situation.

Leave of Absence

Leave of Absence (LOA) should be requested when circumstances prevent regular participation in Club activities. LOA may be granted by written application timely submitted to the Board of Directors. LOA status exempts members from both attendance/participation requirements and quarterly meal/meeting costs for the duration of the LOA but does not exempt the member from normal annual dues. LOA is to be granted given reasonable cause and is usually for a fixed period such as 30 days, 90 days, or similar.

Blue Badge Requirements

Upon induction, each new member will be given a temporary red badge to signify their status as a new member. The Red Badge to Blue Badge program is designed to help a new Rotarian become fully acquainted and comfortable with the many activities of the Club and to become thoroughly acquainted with the members of the Club. Advancement to a blue badge signifies significant effort on the part of the new member. That effort is encouraged and assisted by an assigned Club Mentor and all Club members. Upon completion of the activities listed below, a red-badge member is presented a regular blue badge in recognition of their efforts. New members that have previously held a blue badge in any Club, including our own, are required to do all red to blue steps as outlined above but will be presented a blue badge with a red "NEW MEMBER" sticker during their induction ceremony. The red sticker is ceremoniously removed upon completing all blue badge requirements. New members are highly encouraged to make the transition from red badge to a blue badge within three months of being inducted into the Club. The following is the list of the requirements to attain blue badge status:

- One month of perfect participation (including meeting and make-up activities)
- Be registered on the Club website (<http://www.lincolncarotary.org>) and have at least viewed the Club Photo Directory
- Take attendance two times at Club meetings or social events
- Be a greeter at two Club meetings or social events
- Be assigned to a committee and participate in a committee meeting
- Give a 3-minutes icebreaker talk about yourself at a club meeting
- Participate in a Club service project

- Attend a Board of Directors meeting
- Attend another club or district meeting

Blue badge requirements are designed for the sole purpose of integrating all new members into our Club, be they be new Rotary members, transfers from another club or prior members of our Club that are returning after an absence. The goal remains the same in all cases. We aggressively strive to make such members comfortable with their Club, to rapidly familiarize them with the Club structure and functions, to make them totally known to our existing members and to make existing members totally known to the new member. Only by being involved and known in the Club does a new member truly enjoy the benefits of Rotary and the specific benefits of this Club.

Requirements are the same for all new members with no prior Rotary experience and for all incoming members that come to our Club with no prior affiliation with this Club or a nearby Club in this District. Exceptions may be made for a prior Rotarian from within the District or a returning Rotarian of this Club as that prior Rotarian may be excused from the requirement of attending another club or district meeting by his or her assigned Club Mentor. New members that have previously held a blue badge in any Club, including our own, are required to do all red to blue steps as outlined above, but as previously stated, will be presented a blue badge with a red “NEW MEMBER” sticker during their induction ceremony. This procedure gives recognition to their prior service. As noted, the red sticker is to be removed only upon completion of all blue badge requirements. It cannot be overemphasized that the goal is to integrate the new Rotarian, the experienced Rotarian, or the returning Rotarian into the Club in the minimum possible time and with maximum convenience to that member.

If any confusion exists or if you have special circumstances such that you cannot complete the listed activities, any new member may request clarification, alternate requirements, or waiver by discussion with their assigned mentor.

6. Other Related Club Information

Membership Categories

The Club currently has several membership categories. All members must be members of Rotary International. The membership categories are as follows:

- **Active Member:** This is the normal category for all Club members
- **Active Rule of 85 Member (R85):** Qualifying members may choose to become Rule of 85 members when their active Rotary membership plus age added together totals 85 or more and they have at least 20 years of Rotary membership. Members reaching R85 status may opt out of meeting attendance and participation requirements. Important: they must give notice to the Club Treasurer of becoming eligible for R85 status prior to the start of the upcoming quarter when R85 benefits will apply.
- **Same Household Members:** These members may attend meetings in place of the active member of the same household. When one member of the same household (including the active member) attends a meeting or service event, all receive credit in terms of participation.
- **Corporate Members:** These members are employed by the same company or organization as an active member and may attend meetings in place of the active

member. When one of the same company members attends a meeting, all receive credit in terms of participation.

The second Same Household member receives a 50 percent discount for the **Club portion** of the annual dues. Additional Same Household members receive a 75 percent discount. There is no reduction for the quarterly operating or meals costs.

The process of accepting new members is identical for all membership categories.

Rotary Clubs in District 5180

There are currently about 37 Rotary clubs and over 1500 members in our Rotary District 5180. These clubs are in the Greater Sacramento area and include clubs north to Oroville and south to Walnut Grove. One club is an online eClub named the "Passport Club"; this eClub covers the entire District. The Clubs in the Auburn, Placerville, Penn Valley and Grass Valley area are in District 5190 that borders our District and includes all Northeast California and Northern Nevada.

The locations of all clubs in our District, links to their website, their meeting locations, and meeting times can be found on the District 5180 website at www.rotary5180.org. Review of the "Club Information" will show you where other nearby clubs meet so you can easily attend their meetings should you desire.

Registering for our Club Website

As a new member, it is important to register on the Club website. Most of the website information is public, but some portions, such as the Club roster, Club communicator and access to stored documents, are password protected. The Membership Committee will provide you with your initial username and password, both of which you may change to whatever you wish. This process prevents unauthorized access to Club member information.

Club Facebook Page

Our Club maintains an active Facebook page to let the community know about Club events, projects, meetings, and Rotary. If you are a Facebook user, search for our page at *Rotary Club of Lincoln CA USA*. Once on the page, click **LIKE** and our postings will appear on your home newsfeed and notifications. This is another opportunity for you to spread the good word to your friends and family about who we are and what we all do as proud members of the Rotary Club of Lincoln.

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Lincoln
The Best of the Best!! We are glad you are here!