

For Immediate Release

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Bath ROTARY Club



Written by Elaine Tears

MEMBERSHIP IN BATH ROTARY CLUB

Founded in Chicago in 1905 as the world's first volunteer service organization, Rotary quickly expanded around the globe. Clubs meet weekly for fellowship and interesting and informational programs dealing with topics and projects of local and global importance. Clubs are nonreligious, nongovernmental, and open to every race, culture, and creed. The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.

Rotary International is an organization of more than 1.2 million community leaders, friends, and neighbors from more than 200 countries and geographical areas who join together to share ideas and take action to bring positive and lasting changes to individuals and communities at home and around the world. The Bath Rotary Club is 1 of the more than 45,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide which plan and execute a remarkable variety of humanitarian, educational, and cultural programs.

The Bath Rotary Club encourages community members to consider joining the local service club. "Rotary, whose motto is 'Service Above Self', develops character, promotes cultural awareness in today's world, and helps to create a more positive environment for increasing world understanding and peace," remarked Bill White, Bath Rotary Club Membership Chair. "Membership in the club allows members to participate in important issues involving community health care, hunger, poverty, literacy, and the environment. New members can bring increased vitality, fresh ideas, and positive energy to the club as well as increase the capacity to serve the community. We trust that there are community members who would enjoy the benefits of this worldwide, service organization."

Club involvement keeps new and present members engaged and gives them a feeling of ownership and dedication to club projects, meetings, events, and fundraisers. Rotarians serve their community in countless ways but focus their efforts in seven key areas to maximize their impact: Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution; Disease Prevention and Treatment; Water and Sanitation; Maternal and Child Health; Basic Education and Literacy; Economic and Community Development; the Environment.

The Bath Rotarians are proud of the many projects, events, and activities which they have supported since the local club was chartered in 1923, including Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup, Bath Beautification Project, Camp Star Cookout, Community Garden, Crop Walk, Dictionary

Project, Dormann Library Summer Program, Inbound and Outbound Youth Exchanges, the Village of Ko in Ghana, Little League Baseball, Project CARE Shopping for the Elderly, Red Door Community Kitchen, Scripps Spelling Bee, Sponsorship of Bath-Haverling Interact Club, Student Scholarships and Loans, Tourist Booth, Turning Point Food Pantry/Back-to-School Supplies, Tyrtle Beach, STEPS Walk, Wineglass Marathon, and many others.

The local club was also an integral partner in the construction of the walkway at Lakeview Apartments and the community playground at the corner of East Morris and East Steuben Streets as well as providing two Krayon Kiosks, educational learning stations, at the Dormann Library in Bath and one Krayon Kiosk at the Avoca Free Library. The members also donate annually to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative which Rotary helped to launch in 1988. This most ambitious program focuses on global immunization efforts to bring an end to this crippling and potentially fatal disease.

The Bath Rotary Club meets every Thursday at 12:00 p.m. in the Empire Room of the Dormann Library in Bath. Please feel free to visit the club at one of its meetings.

For more information about Rotary, including membership in the Bath Rotary Club, email Bill White, Membership Chair, (bewhitey@aol.com) or Eddie VanStine, Club President, (edwardvanstine@gmail.com).