

## TOP TEN FACTS ABOUT THE ROTARY CLUB of WILMETTE HARBOR

10. CLUB DESCRIPTION: *Who We Are*

We are seventy women and men committed to Rotary values and to a weekly breakfast together on the shores of Lake Michigan in a lively atmosphere of both laughter and thoughtfulness. We are professionals, artisans, adventurers, talkers who live or work in Wilmette or the adjacent communities. We work to improve the lives of children and families, be they 10,000 miles away or ten blocks down the street. We make people our business.

9. SERVICE ABOVE SELF: *It's Why We Are Here*

Not simply a slogan, this is Rotary's worldwide reason for existence. Our club contributes thousands of dollars and hours annually toward serving others in our community and abroad. [LIST](#) Fundraisers held each year make it possible for us to be generous in our giving, and we enjoy a variety of hands-on service opportunities.

8. 1990: *Born into the Rotary Family*

Our club was chartered on May 22, 1990. Rotary International, however, is now more than 100 years old, having been founded in Chicago on February 23, 1905. Today there are over 32,000 Rotary clubs in almost 170 countries around the globe. Our seventy club members are among the estimated 1.2 million Rotarians in the world.

7. DISTRICT 6440: *Our Neighboring Clubs*

We are connected to the entire world of Rotary through our district, which consists of about 70 clubs in Chicagoland's north, northwest and west suburbs. Beyond our local club activities, District activities include many opportunities to learn about and participate in the larger Rotary experience.

6. FOUR AVENUES OF SERVICE : *It's How We Serve*

Each club member joins one of our four avenues of service committees:

Community Service  
Vocational Service

International Service  
Club Service

One example: A Rotary dream is to eliminate polio from the planet, and since 1985 Rotarians worldwide have contributed nearly \$700 million to global polio eradication. In addition, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has contributed \$355 million to this cause. Funding is distributed through partnerships with the World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF. Our own club members have traveled to Africa and Asia to participate in national immunization days.

5 . WEEKLY MEETINGS : *The Heart of the Club Experience*

We meet at 7:15 am every Wednesday in the Sheridan Shore Yacht Club. Meetings adjourn promptly at 8:30 am. When we are unable to attend our own meeting, we are welcome to "make up" at any other Rotary club meeting in the world! 80% or higher attendance is encouraged.

4 . 50 EXCELLENT PROGRAMS : *The Heart of Weekly Meetings*

Club meetings include a post-breakfast program of 20-30 minutes, most often by non-Rotarians, on a topic related to one of the four avenues of service. You will be amazed by what you will learn about our local and global communities, as well as about business, politics, social services, education and much more.

3 . THE BOARD : *Our Leadership Team*

The Club Board meets monthly to plan and coordinate the life of the club. Our elections for Director are held annually, and then the Board selects the president, secretary, treasurer and chairs for the four avenues of service.

2 . DUES: What? You Thought All of This Was Free?

Dues of about \$50 per month are billed semi-annually. Charitable donations can be made through Rotary International and club activities. It is reasonable to budget \$1,500 or more per year for Rotary membership and projects.

And the number one fact about the Rotary Club of Wilmette Harbor.

1 . FRIENDSHIP: *What We Cherish Most in Rotary*

People make the difference. Our fellow Rotarians are all leaders in some way, all people of warmth, integrity and genuine friendship, and all committed to the Rotary ideal of Service Above Self.