

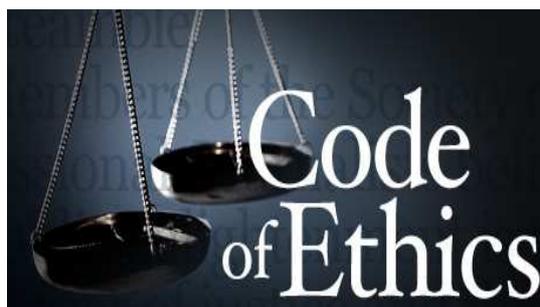


Hey, Johnny K: 'What is Rotary really about?

I have no doubt we have all been asked this question! How then might we answer the question? We could start with the overall objectives of Rotary.



The first time the founders of Rotary met, their first objective was for people of different occupations to be able to meet together in fellowship and find opportunities to serve their community. Fellowship, for example, is a very important part of Rotary. Events such as the Great Penna Breakfast reinforce just how important fellowship events are for members and our wider Rotary family.



When the first Rotarians met in fellowship, they realized not only how important it was for members to have high ethical standards in their work life, but Rotary (as an organization) must truly value equally the worth of all its member's occupations. Consequently, all members could then contribute by looking at ways how their vocation could best serve society as a whole.



Rotary leaders also learned that if we always maintain and adhere to high ethical values in our lives (please refer to the article I wrote regarding why we recite the Four-Way-Test at meetings), regardless of whether we are at work, at home, or serving our wider community, our Rotary values can play an important part with respect to improving the life of those that are as not fortunate as ourselves.



Apart from serving our local community, Paul Harris understood how important it was to not only encourage Rotary clubs to form in every part of the world, but as an International organization it could then play an important part in the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace throughout the whole world. As an example, our Club has been involved for decades with Rotary Youth Exchange. Furthermore, we have been involved with: sending many volunteer work teams to Samoa; supporting recent project work in Nepal and funding medical work in Bangladesh - through our annual Operation Cleft Golf Day.



After writing articles for many years, I have decided the time is now right to park my car in the garage. Consequently, if you are new and have any general questions about Rotary, please remember that your mentor should be your first contact point. The membership committee today are doing a truly wonderful job with educating our many new members about the work of our great Club.



May I end by noting how much I have really enjoyed writing both history articles from our rich collection of digital records dating way back to 1924 and more recently articles specifically for new members.