



## Rotary Club of Stevens Point Informational Brochure 2011

The Rotary Club of Stevens Point would like to utilize *your* professional expertise and talent to extend our efforts in serving Stevens Point and the greater Portage County area.

### What is Rotary?

What would it take to change the world? Rotary International is the world's first service club organization, with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs and 530 Districts worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally, and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace, and a current, ongoing effort to eradicate polio 'world-wide' under our well known motto "*Service Above Self*".

### Our club in Stevens Point

Founded in 1917, our Club through Rotary makes it easy for you and other busy managers and professionals to get involved in our community. Not just by giving dollars, but by sharing ideas and experience with others in decision-making positions. Our club has also had three District Governors.

Local Rotary clubs are autonomous and meet weekly to determine their own service projects based on community needs, and the talents and interests of their members. Clubs are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and are open to all cultures, races and creeds. There are also E-clubs [on-line] being chartered around the world, in many languages, through which members can 'attend' as a make-up if they must miss a local meeting or cannot 'make-up' at another club somewhere in the region or world.

Weekly meetings of the Rotary Club of Stevens Point, normally Wednesday noon at Stevens Point Country Club, are a great way to stay informed and meet people with hands-on knowledge of local issues affecting our community.

Typical meetings include programs by leaders from local government, educational institutions, health care facilities, social services, nonprofit organizations and the businesses and corporations serving Stevens Point and the surrounding area.

The Stevens Point Rotary Club includes about 60 members from a wide range of businesses and professions. Our club seeks collaboration with the many other service clubs in Portage County including the Friday morning Rotary Club of Greater Portage County, Kiwanis', Optimist', Lions' and women's clubs such as Zonta, Stevens Point Women's and Junior Woman's organizations.

## Youth Organizations Sponsored by Rotary Club of Stevens Point

- **INTERACT Pacelli** - INTERACT is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 12 to 18. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service, with more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries and geographical areas, almost 200,000 young people are involved in INTERACT worldwide.
- **ROTARACT UWSP - ROTARACT** is a service club of young men and women at UWSP. This makes them true "partners in service" and key members of the family of Rotary, and as one of Rotary's most significant and fastest-growing service programs, with more than 8,200 clubs in about 170 countries and geographical areas.
- **Rotary Youth Exchange [RYE]** – every year, our club sponsors a year-long RYE student from another country. Since early '80s we have hosted students from more than nineteen countries. Some outbound students have also gone year-long to other countries. Students interested in shorter term summer exchanges can go outbound for a month [generally Europe], living with a host-family, and then hosting their exchange brother or sister for a month in their home in Portage County.
- **RYLA [Rotary Youth Leadership Award]** is a week-end facilitated experience providing selected high school students with this effective leader training experience. These selected youth and potential leaders are encouraging leadership of other youth and are recognized publicly as young people who are rendering service to their communities. Local youth share experiences with others from throughout our District which encompasses northeast Wisconsin and most of the upper peninsula of Michigan.

## Local Stevens Point Rotary Club Projects

**Polio Eradication** is a world-wide Rotary project. See a full description below. Our club has been involved in the polio eradication since 1985.

**CAP Services Transition House for Women and Their Families** - The duplex is home to women, children and families in crisis; they may live there for up to one year. Nearly a total renovation of the inside of a two-story duplex, this project was tackled in two parts.

- Phase 1 – the lower half was renovated by the club members with assistance from the UW-SP ROTARACT club members. The project was completed over a span of 2-3 weekends, mainly cleaning, repairing, and painting the walls and a bathroom update. The club funded all of this phase.
- Phase 2 – the upper half of the duplex was remodeled using club funds plus a large District 6220 Project Grant. This phase included bathroom remodeling and a complete remodel of the kitchen including new cabinets, stove and counter tops.

**Salvation Army Storage Area Remodeling** – our Club was among local organizations that contributed funds and manpower for the renovation of the HOPE Center homeless shelter. Rotarians purchased 60-feet of shelving and storage units and contributed 'sweat equity' to complete the food pantry.

**Portage County Youth Soccer [PCYS]** - in observance of Rotary International's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2007 the Club's Centennial Project contributed significant funds toward the completion of the complex's combination reception/storage/refreshment center.

**Rotary Room, Portage County Public Library** – when the Charles White Library moved to its new quarters the Rotary Club of Stevens Point contributed the funding for the room near the main entrance used by many small groups for meetings and education.

**Nicaragua - Estelí School Project** – in conjunction with the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners of the Americas the Rotary Club continues to contribute funds, including coordinated District and Rotary International matching funds and people power to complete the school, library, kitchen, etc.

**Bolivia - ETTA Projects** – this special program is named for a RYE student who lost her life in a horrible bus accident while on a year's exchange to Bolivia. Her long-term goal had been to help the local under-served in the area of her exchange in eastern Bolivia learn to read, care for themselves and become productive members of their society. Through a variety of 'self-help and learning programs; both youth and their families are learning to read, grow life-sustaining foods, care for themselves not through 'give-away-programs' but by doing it themselves with minimal help.

**Small local projects and activities include:** Operation Boot Strap, Holiday Basket Program, Big Brothers & Sisters; Samoset Boy Scouts & Girls Scouts of Northwestern Great Lakes, Salvation Army Red Kettle, Junior Achievement, Sentry Classic, the KASH handicapped youth play area, YMCA programs, SPASH Singers, Green Circle and Hwy 54 cleanup, Place of Peace meal preparation and many similar project and programs as the community needs are identified and prioritized.

**Scholarships** – in 2010 three \$1,500 scholarships, based on need, academic achievement and demonstrated leadership and volunteerism, were awarded to highly deserving students from SPASH, Pacelli and either UWSP or MSTC for their continued academic pursuits. These Seed-A-Future were awarded in conjunction with The Community Foundation of Portage County.

**Paul Harris Fellowships** – Each year the club selects worthy members or community members/organizations to be recognized with the contribution to the Rotary International Foundation of \$1,000 named for Rotary's founder Paul Harris. Since 1980 more than 100 PHFs have been awarded.

## Fund Raising

The Rotary Club of Stevens Point raises needed funding through individual contributions; a weekly 50-50 raffle with 50% of the proceeds accumulated for special donations to worthy local causes; and, through major fund-raising activities such as the Club's Annual Fall Rotary Rose Sale; serving as run course marshals for the YMCA-Lactic Edge Triathlon; distribution of flowers for a local florist; and, for a number of years, selling food at Riverfront Rendezvous'.

## ROTARY is Truly International

Rotary went 'global' before the word was coined. The concept of Rotary has worked so well that, today, there are over **1.2 million members in 33,000 Rotary clubs, located in over 200 countries and geographical areas**. In addition, there are the youth-based organizations **INTERACT, ROTARACT, RYE** and **ROTEX** [**ROTEX** is an international organization open only to Rotary "rebounds", or former RYE [Rotary International Youth Exchange] students. Just a year or so after Rotary was founded in 1905 there were clubs in England and Canada; the rate of expansion world-wide is truly historical.

The **Rotary International Foundation** [RIF] has awarded more than US \$2.1 billion in grants, which are administered at the local level by Rotary clubs. Significant international programs include:

- **Polio Eradication worldwide** - In 1985, Rotary International created **PolioPlus** – a program to immunize all the world's children against polio. To date, Rotary has contributed US \$800 million and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries. Only **four** countries still have endemic polio - Nigeria, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The number of reported cases in 2010 among these four countries with the massive populations of these four countries was less than 1500 cases of 'wild' polio.

Rotary is currently working to raise an additional US \$200 million toward a US \$355 million challenge grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. About 80% of the challenge is already reached, well ahead of the end 2012 target date.

These efforts are providing much needed polio vaccine, operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment and educational materials for health workers and parents. In addition, Rotary has played a major role in decisions by donor governments to contribute over \$4 billion to the effort. With its community-based network worldwide, Rotary is the volunteer arm of the global partnership dedicated to eradicating polio. Rotary volunteers assist in vaccine delivery, social mobilization and logistical help in

cooperation with the national health ministries, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- **Peace** - In an effort to educate tomorrow's peacemakers and ambassadors, up to 110 **Rotary World Peace Fellows** are sponsored each year to study at one of the eight universities throughout the world for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution. Since 2002, 339 fellows from over 75 countries have participated at a cost of more than \$23 million.
  - **International Education**
    - **Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars.** Rotary is the world's largest privately-funded source of international scholarships. Each year, about 1,000 university students receive Rotary scholarships to study abroad.
    - **Rotary Youth Exchange [RYE].** Since 1929, Rotary International has sent young people around the globe to experience new cultures. Currently, about 9,000 students are sponsored by Rotary clubs to or from the US for a year's experience.

Rotary clubs also coordinate a summer RYE experience high school-age student exchange program that has sent nearly 8,000 students abroad for one-month in the country of the out-bound and one month in the US with their host. We began hosting in the 1970s.
    - **Group Study Exchange [GSE]** – a Rotarian Team Leader coordinates 4-5 young professionals, 25-40 years of age, for a month's visit to another Rotary District, sharing professional, cultural and educational experiences. This is a two-way exchange between a District in the US with a District in another country. This exchange may occur in the same or in a two year period. Our club enjoys the personal contacts we make with other Rotarians and Rotary programs around the world. In past few years, Stevens Point Club members have led a GSE to Brazil and Argentina and a number of local young professional have been team members to Japan, Turkey, the Caribbean and other areas. The District Coordinator of a recent Taiwanese GSE to our District 62220 was a Stevens Point Rotarian.
    - **Academic Scholars** – faculty-level persons spend from a month to a year in a foreign institution sharing their expertise.
  - **Humanitarian Projects** - Rotary clubs initiate thousands of humanitarian service projects every year. These volunteer-driven projects address the root causes of conflict, such as hunger, poverty, disease and illiteracy.
  - **Literacy** - Rotary clubs work to improve literacy rates worldwide. A unique, Rotary-pioneered approach called the Concentrated Language Encounter (CLE) has proven very effective in resource-strapped developing countries. It was so successful in Thailand, that the Thai government adopted the program nationwide.
  - **Water Management** - Recognizing the importance of clean water, many Rotary clubs help to install wells and develop water treatment and distribution systems to increase access to fresh drinking water for communities in need, especially in developing countries.
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Please visit many of the Web and FaceBook sites which will provide much additional Rotary information. The following are sites specific for our area:

- Rotary Club of Stevens Point [www.stevenspointrotary.com](http://www.stevenspointrotary.com)
- Rotary Club of Greater Portage County [www.portagecountyrotary.com](http://www.portagecountyrotary.com)
- Our District 6220 [www.ridistrict6220.org](http://www.ridistrict6220.org) which encompasses NE WI and most of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in 42 clubs.
- Rotary International [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

**Interested in Rotary?** If you are a business or professional person in the Portage County area, contact one of our members, or visit our website about attending a weekly Rotary meeting.

### ***Stevens Point Rotary Dues/Fees 2010-11***

Description	QTR	Annual
Club Dues/Meals	\$ 101.46	\$ 405.84
Paul Harris Fellow Fund	\$ 16.50	\$ 66.00
“Seed A Future” Fund	\$ 12.50	\$ 50.00
*RI Dues; <i>Rotarian</i> ; COL	\$ 16.04	\$ 64.15
**District 6220 Dues; District Project Fund	\$ 12.50	\$ 50.00
<b>TOTAL DUES</b>	<b>\$ 159.00</b>	<b>\$ 636.00</b>

[\* Annual RI Annual Membership [\$50], *Rotarian* [\$12], Council on Legislation [\$1], D&O Ins (1.15)

[\*\*District 6220 Dues [\$45] and District Project Fund [\$5]]

[New Member Fee, one-time \$25.00]

