

MEMBERSHIP IN WATSONVILLE ROTARY

Who are we? We are neighbors, friends, and community leaders who come together to create positive, lasting change in our community and around the world. Our differing occupations, cultures, and countries give us a unique perspective. Our shared passion for service helps us accomplish the remarkable.

Why join? Our club offers great opportunities to meet new friends, make connections with leaders in our community, enjoy fellowship, and also to have a positive impact on the people of Watsonville, the greater Monterey Bay, and the world.

What does membership look like? It is weekly meetings and community service:

Weekly Meetings: We meet for lunch weekly on Wednesdays between 12:15 and 1:30 p.m. at the Elk's Club in Watsonville. Meetings start with social time, singing a couple songs, covering some club business and announcements, a raffle, a brief "Detective" program (where a member of the club raises money to add to our community grants by "fining" members in a lighthearted manner for transgressions such as having a birthday, anniversary, or getting their name in the paper), and then we have a thirty minute program from entertaining and interesting speakers from private enterprise, government, academia, and charitable organizations on a very wide range of topics such as world affairs, history, current events, and international and local Rotary service project opportunities.

Community Service: The motto of Rotary is "service above self" and this is manifested in the work and activities of our club. We work hard, make a positive contribution locally and internationally, and have fun together! Here are just a few examples:

- We support worthy local non-profit organizations with an annual grants process made possible by our yearly "Claws for a Cause" lobster dinner fundraiser (over \$30,000 in 2021!).
- We support local youth from EA Hall Middle School, New School, and Renaissance High by recognizing their achievements at our weekly meetings and giving scholarships from our charitable foundation to high school graduates from those schools and other local schools.
- We support the work of a local non-profit organization, Limitless Horizons, that has been providing education and literacy to young women at its new school in Chajul, Guatemala,
- We organize service projects where members address needs in our community, including planting trees, packing food at Second Harvest Food Bank, removing non-native plants from the Watsonville Slough, working with the Pájaro Valley Sports Foundation to install beautiful new soccer fields at Freedom Elementary School, and helping the people of Pajaro dig out after floods.

What are the costs and commitments of membership?

- Annual Dues Plus Annual Meals Cost: \$1,000 (billed in quarterly installments of \$250 each).
- Complete the requirements of the brief "Red Badge" probationary period.
- Attend at least 75% of meetings (there are many ways to make up for missed meetings like attending a board meeting or another club's meeting, and you can also send anyone in your place and still get credit).
- Donate time to club service and/or funds to club causes as able.

Please contact us and come visit us as a guest! Learn more:

www.watsonvillerotary.com // Call (831) 750-7184 // Email to: rob@allencaroselli.com