

What a few of our members have to say  
about Rotary —

*"Whether it is vocational service, community service, stamping out polio world-wide, or the fun times we share in our weekly meetings—through Rotary I am able to learn and grow from a tremendous representation of occupations and individuals who, through friendship and collective energy, accomplish a lot of good."*

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey D. Weenink, Pastor  
First Presbyterian Church

*"I joined Rotary 26 years ago and found it to be the pulse of the community. If something is happening in our community, I usually hear about it at Rotary."*

Jerome Yantz, Senior Partner (retired)  
Weinlander Fitzhugh, CPAs

*"The people in Rotary are sincere in their dedication to service above self, and I admire that."*

Anne Trahan, Photographer  
Anne Trahan Studios

*"As a young man, I was so pleased that the many Rotarians who were respected leaders in the community treated me as an equal and shared their dreams of Bay City's future with me."*

Thomas R. Tabor, Proprietor (retired)  
Herman Hiss Jewelers



### Rotary Club of Bay City

P.O. Box 42  
Bay City, Michigan 48707-0042

#### Meeting Tuesdays at noon

Plaza Hotel  
501 Saginaw Street  
Bay City, Michigan

**Rotary  
Club  
of  
Bay City**



*Service above self since 1915*





## What is Rotary?

*Rotary is worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world. More than one million Rotarians belong to 30,000 Rotary clubs in 160 countries.*

**The main objective of Rotary is service**— in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. Rotarians also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers and professionals, and vocational and career development. The Rotary motto is *Service Above Self*.

### Membership in Rotary

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to people of all cultures, races, and creeds.



The classification principle developed by Rotary's founding members ensures that Rotary membership is inclusive; encompassing all services to society. This principal also enables a Rotary Club to be a true microcosm of the community's business and professional life, fostering a fellowship based on diversity of interest brought together to attain a common goal of service.



## Rotary Club of Bay City

### Our History

In 1914, nine years after Paul Harris founded the original Rotary Club in Chicago, Bay City businessman Otto Sovereign visited the Detroit Rotary Club and was impressed with the concept and ideals of Rotary. Upon his return home, he recruited several businessmen, and one year later— in 1915— the Rotary Club of Bay City was chartered.

### Our Local Community Service

In the early years, the primary service project of Rotary International was helping physically disabled children, and the Bay City Club was deeply involved in that effort as well. Local Rotarians worked to help pass a millage that funded an addition to Kolb School to accommodate students with handicaps; they also encouraged county-wide programs that built ramps and provided handicapped individuals with walking aids.

Additional accomplishments of Rotarians in Bay City include the development of James Clements Airport, and moving of Trombley House—the area's oldest frame structure—to Veterans Memorial Park (where it is now under the care of the Bay County Historical Society).

Our most recently completed major community project was the financial underwriting of the *Young Adult Outreach Librarian Program* of the Bay County Library System. The program's goal was to increase literacy and interest in reading among teenagers, and happily, this goal was accomplished. The Rotary Club of Bay City funded this

program over a five year period, with a total monetary contribution of nearly \$200,000.

In 2004, Bay City Rotarians adopted a new project: the building of a number of historical micro parks to be located in Bay City. The first micro park, located at the corner of Saginaw Street and Center Avenue, was dedicated in May 2005.



*Rotarians and friends enjoy good food and good company at the Club's major fundraising event: International Night.*

### Our World Community Service

Through Rotary International and funding from the Rotary International Foundation, Bay City Rotarians reach out to people the world over. The RI Foundation supports the efforts of Rotary to achieve world understanding and peace through international humanitarian, educational, and exchange programs. These programs are supported by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of Rotary who share its vision of a better world.

One such international effort— **Polio Plus**— began in 1985 with the goal of eradicating polio from the planet by 2005. With contributions in excess of \$400 million, and vaccinations for 200 billion children, the achievement of that goal is becoming a reality. To date, Bay City Rotarians have donated in excess of \$55,000 to this humanitarian effort.