

Who is the founder of Rotary?

The founder of Rotary is **Paul Harris**. He was a Chicago, Illinois, USA attorney. He founded the club that became the humanitarian organization Rotary International in 1905. Harris began his law practice in 1896 in Chicago's main business district and continued being active in this practice for the next forty years.



After establishing his law practice, Harris began to consider the benefits of the formation of a social organization for local professionals. In 1905, Harris organized the first Rotary Club "in fellowship and friendship" with three clients and local businessmen, **Silvester Schiele**, **Gustavus Loehr**, and **Hiram Shorey**. His initial goal was solely to create a club of professional and businessmen for friendship and fellowship. Soon, Harris realized that Rotary needed a greater purpose.

When Harris was elected as third president of the **Chicago Rotary Club** in 1907, the club initiated its first public service project, the construction of public toilets in Chicago. This step transformed Rotary into the world's first Service Club. This action was facilitated by the formation of the Executive Committee (now Ways and Means Committee). This Committee was open to all members and their noon meetings began tradition of club luncheon meetings. Harris had great ambitions for Rotary's growth, and very early in the organization's history new clubs were started, first on the west coast, and then all over the US and in Europe. By 1910, at least 15 new clubs had begun in major cities. That August, the existing 16 Rotary Clubs held a national convention in Chicago. There they unanimously chose to unify as the National Association of Rotary Clubs. Eventually, the organization became the International Association of Rotary Clubs, helping to realize Harris' dream worldwide. Through his work with the Rotary Club, Harris received awards from numerous national governments.



The first four Rotarians: (left to right) Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey, and Paul Harris.

The History of Rotary

The world's first service club was founded on 23 February 1905 when lawyer Paul Harris and three friends met in a small office in downtown Chicago. These men wanted to rekindle in the turn-of-the-century city the spirit of friendliness they had known in their home towns. Word of the club soon spread and others were invited to join. They named their new club "Rotary" to describe the practice of meeting in rotation at the members' various places of business.

Originally formed for fellowship, the first Rotary club quickly evolved to use the talents and resources of its members to serve the community. By the end of 1905, the Rotary Club of Chicago had 30 members. Three years later a second club was established in San Francisco, California, USA. The next year three more clubs were established on the west coast of the United States and a fourth in New York City. Within a few years other groups formed service clubs based on the Rotary model.

SEPTEMBER REGULAR MEETINGS:

September 24, 2020 | 4th Virtual Meeting
 The 4th Virtual Meeting of Rotary Club of Uptown Butuan was participated by 10 members & 4 Invitees.

The Agendas were mainly focused on the clubs service projects.

- * Promoting Peace
 - Reintegration Project of Rebel Returnees
- * Fighting Disease
 - Wherein we celebrate End Polio Month on Oct. 24, 2020
 - Awareness Campaign from October 1-15, 2020
 - Encouraging members to participate the said End Polio
- Virtual Run & End Polio Virtual Concert
 - * Providing Clean Water
 - This is a joint project by Area 3J wherein a proposed Water Station will be installed on Langihan Public Market this October 5, 2020 (tentatively)
 - * Maternal & Child Health
 - Aside from the End Polio we also celebrate Pink October Month.
 - Breast Cancer Free Month
 - Encouraging also members to participate on Breast Cancer
 - Virtual Zumba
 - * Literacy & Basic Education
 - The club decided to donate bond paper reams to fellow rotarian member Mayor Phoebe Corvera of San Luis, Ads. on her "Malasakit Mo, Kinabukasan Ko".
 - Other school beneficiaries
 - This will be tentatively implemented on 1st/2nd week of oct. just waiting for the shipment orders of bondpapers.
 - * Economic & Community Development
 - As of the moment the club is still working & coming up an idea of the said project.

