



ROTARY CLUB OF ALMADEN VALLEY

P.O. BOX 7001 - SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95150



CHARTERED
MAY 9, 1969

Dear

The enclosed is to acquaint you with some of the facts concerning the Almaden Valley Rotary Club and Rotary International in general. To supplement the specific information about our club, there are also enclosed the booklets, "This Is Rotary" and "Brief Facts About Rotary". Please read this information and feel free to ask us any questions which might arise.

We hope the enclosed helps you to understand the ways of Rotary as we strive to help others in accordance with our motto "Service Above Self".

Sincerely,

Rotary Information Committee

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE
ALMADEN VALLEY ROTARY CLUB

The Almaden Valley Rotary Club was founded on May 9, 1969. The purpose of every Rotary Club is to provide charitable services to a specified geographic area in which the members live or work. Our Club boundaries generally are formed by Camden, Leigh and Foxworthy Avenues, Capitol Expressway to Monterey Highway and down to Bailey Avenue, and back West on Bailey Avenue generally in a straight line to Hicks Road and Camden. To be a member of the Almaden Valley Rotary Club (AVRC), you must either work or live within those boundaries.

While AVRC supports many charitable causes, our Club has adopted as its primary purpose the betterment of youth. We conduct various fund-raising functions for the purpose of raising money to support those charitable endeavors which the Board of Directors and the membership choose. In addition, we plan complete periodic work projects where needed. Some of our past efforts and funds have gone to support two Boy Scout Troops in the area, the Aquamaids of Santa Clara County, provide assistance to various athletes, especially money for expenses for travel to athletic events and to establish the John Neal Fund for emergency loans to students at San Jose City and Evergreen Colleges. In addition, our Club has annually contributed to the purchase of food baskets at Christmas time for needy families in our area, the Salvation Army and various other charities. We also built the outdoor classroom at Simonds Elementary School with the financial assistance of the Simonds PTA. In addition, for several years our Club has sponsored the Santa Clara County All Star High School Football Game with the assistance of the Police Activities League of San Jose. This event has served both as a fund raiser and as a showcase for the outstanding football players and coaches of Santa Clara County. Additionally our Club has contributed substantial sums of money to Rotary International in support of the many international "people-to people" projects conducted each year.

The various charities to be supported by the Club each year are selected by the elected Officers and Board of Directors.

CLUB ORGANIZATION

The Club is governed by a President, a President-Elect, a Secretary, Treasurer and a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is composed of five members, one of which is the immediate Past-President and with the others being elected for one-year terms. The President assigns the Directors responsibilities in International, Club Service, Youth and Community Service. The President-Elect is elected to serve on the Board for one year prior to becoming President during the subsequent year. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected for two-year terms.

The new Officers and Board of Directors take office each year on July 1. They meet at least once a month to conduct the various business activities of the Club. The Club is a non-profit corporation operating under the name of The Almaden Valley Rotary Club, Inc.

The business of the Club is conducted at the Directors Meeting and during the business portion of the weekly meeting held each Friday between 12:15 and 1:30 P.M. Lunch is served at 12:15 and a formal program starts at 1 o'clock and ends promptly at 1:30. Any business of the Club is conducted between 12:15 and 1:00. Not always is that business so serious as to interrupt the attendees good humor.

Periodically during the year there will be held Club Assemblies which are meetings of all members under the direction of the President to discuss the business affairs of the Club. The meetings can be held either during lunch or in the evening with dinner at the discretion of the Officers. Attendance at a Club Assembly counts as attendance at a regular meeting.

THE DISTRICT

Our Club is one of 42 clubs which form District 517 generally located in the area extending from South San Francisco on both sides of the Bay to Santa Cruz and Hollister. Each year a District Governor is elected to oversee the functioning of the clubs in this District. The District Governor appoints his own committees for the year to carry out his plans and objectives. In addition, he visits each club during the early part of his year in office to review the yearly plans and objectives drawn up by the Officers of that club. Towards the end of the year a District 517 Convention is held for the purpose of considering business matters for the District, to conduct discussions and seminars and to hold various social events for members and their wives. In addition, throughout the year there are various training assemblies conducted by the District for the training of incoming Officers, Directors and other Committee Members of each club.

NEW MEMBERS

New members are proposed by an existing club member and cannot request to join the Club. The proposing member becomes the sponsor for the new member. Each sponsor accepts the responsibility of assuring that the new member understands and enjoys the ways of Rotary.

The method of proposing and accepting a new member is somewhat formal in procedure. Members are assigned a classification corresponding to their work or profession. Each member must have a stature in his employment to enable him to speak for his business. Generally speaking, there can only be one club member for each classification. There can be an Additional Active member in each classification with the consent of the member holding that classification. Also no more than ten percent of the club members can work for the same employer. After fifteen years membership a member is classified as Senior Active and the classification he previously held is again opened.

A person proposed for membership is asked to attend a Rotary Meeting and his name is submitted to the Club Secretary. Even though a prospective member is asked to attend subsequent meetings, he is not informed that he has been proposed for membership. The Secretary passes the proposal card to the Classification Committee to ascertain that the classification is open. Thereafter the Membership Committee will be asked to ascertain in their best judgment that the person will become an active and interested member of the Club. With the approval of the Classification and Membership Committees, the Board of Directors' approval is sought. If the Board approves, the name is given to the Rotary Information Committee who visits the person's house to explain Rotary and the responsibilities of membership to the prospect and his wife.

A further purpose of the visit of the Rotary Information Committee is to obtain the approval of the proposed member for submission of his name to the membership for approval as a member. If unanimous approval of the membership is obtained, the proposed person is admitted as a member. Submission of the proposed name to the membership involves a ten-day waiting period.

After becoming a member, a Red Name Badge is awarded. Thereafter with the completion of the Blue Badge requirements which are included as an attachment herein, a permanent Blue Badge is awarded. The purpose for the Blue Badge requirement is to acquaint new members with the ways of Rotary. These requirements include meeting all the club members and learning how to make up meetings - two of the more important functions.

ATTENDANCE

Our Club stresses attendance in the belief that an active Rotarian is a good Rotarian. Members are expected to attend a Rotary Meeting each week. If a member finds that he cannot attend his own Club Meeting due to other commitments, he can attend a makeup for that meeting at any other Rotary Club within the time period of six days preceding or succeeding the meeting of his own Club which he has or expects to miss. During attendance at another Club the member will receive a makeup card which must be transmitted to our Club Secretary by the member as soon as possible to show that he has made up the meeting. It is very important both that missed meetings be made up and that the makeup card be transmitted to the Club Secretary so that proper makeup credit is received.

There are over a dozen Rotary Clubs meeting within a fifteen-minute drive of our Club area on various weekdays and on Thursday night. A complete listing of other such clubs is included in our Club Grapevine, a sample of which is enclosed. Routinely our club strives and achieves one hundred percent attendance during the year and accepts unexcused absences by the members only with great reluctance.

DUES

Upon being invited to become a member of the Almaden Valley Rotary Club, you must pay the amount of \$ _____ Initiation Fees. These fees are used primarily to support the work of Rotary International. In addition the club dues are \$ _____ per year payable at the beginning of each year. Unless you are perfect, you will be fined for various infractions, real or imaginary, by the Club President in the amount of approximately \$ _____ for the year. So far our experience has revealed that all of us are a little less than perfect.

The cost of the meals will be billed quarterly by the Club Treasurer. At the present time the meal cost is \$ _____ per meeting. Meetings made up at other clubs will be deducted from the amount billed since you pay for the makeup meal at the time of attendance.

ROTARYANNS

The wives of Rotarians are referred to as RotaryAnns. Our Club attempts to include the RotaryAnns in various social events throughout the year. An annual Christmas Party, usually held on the last Friday prior to Christmas, is for our Rotary Anns and is a highlight of the year. In addition, we usually have a New Year's Eve Party and various other social events throughout the year including a Club picnic. Also the Rotary Anns are frequently asked to assist in various fund-raising or charitable events. It is important that Rotary, to the degree possible, include events for all members of the family. We feel that it is as important for the wives to meet as it is for the members.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Rotary International is described in the enclosed booklets. Generally Rotary strives to promote understanding throughout the world by arranging and financing the exchange of people and students between countries. Over 16,000 Rotary Clubs exist in 151 countries of the world. Only countries behind the Iron Curtain prevent the formation of Rotary Clubs. Presently, there are over 750,000 Rotarians worldwide.

Each year an International Convention is held at a site rotated among member countries. Our Club sponsors part of the expenses of the President-Elect in attending that International Convention. From those of us who have attended, it is an experience never forgotten. Various other activities of Rotary International will become familiar to you as you read the Rotarian magazine, which you will receive once a month.

SUMMARY

In summary, we hope to have the opportunity of welcoming you as a Rotarian in our Almaden Valley Rotary Club. We accept the responsibility of providing for you the direction and means for the betterment of our community, our Country and hopefully, the world. We also promise to have a little fun along the way.

If asked to become a Rotarian in our Club, we expect you to accept the challenge of becoming an active and participating member in search of those goals.

ROTARY INFORMATION COMMITTEE
ALMADEN VALLEY ROTARY CLUB

ALMADEN VALLEY
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

- CLUB HISTORY -

THE ROTARY CLUB OF ALMADEN VALLEY WAS SPONSORED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF SAN JOSE. IN 1968 THE SAN JOSE CLUB APPOINTED A MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE TO SURVEY AND PROJECT THE SUBSEQUENT POPULATION GROWTH OF THIS RAPIDLY GROWING AREA IN THE SOUTHERN REACHES OF THE CITY LIMITS.

IT IMMEDIATELY BECAME EVIDENT THAT A POPULATION EXPLOSION WAS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE IN THIS HERETOFORE SPARSELY POPULATED AREA.

OUR CLUB OF 23 NEW CHARTER MEMBERS RECEIVED OUR CHARTER ON MAY 9, 1969 AT A FESTIVE CEREMONY HELD AT THE SAN JOSE HYATT HOUSE. THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR OF 513 , ROBERT BARWICK, PRESENTED US WITH OUR CHARTER. THERE WERE REPRESENTATIVES AND THEIR ROTARY-ANNS FROM NEARLY EVERY CLUB IN OUR OLD DISTRICT AND MOST ROTARY CLUBS MADE A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO HELP US GET ON OUR FEET.

OUR CHARTER PRESIDENT, FRED EBERLE, DISPLAYED GREAT LEADERSHIP ABILITY AND BY THE END OF OUR FIRST YEAR, EVEN THOUGH WE WERE A GROUP OF GREEN AND INEXPERIENCED ROTARIANS, WE WERE ALREADY KNOWN FOR OUR ENTHUSIASM, SPIRIT AND DEDICATION TO THE OBJECTIVES OF ROTARY.

NOW, AFTER THESE MANY YEARS OF ROTARY SERVICE, WE CAN LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE AT OUR MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND KNOW THAT THIS SPIRIT OF SERVICE TO OTHERS IN ROTARY SHALL CONTINUE TO GROW.