**When are meetings held?**

Rotary club members meet from 7:30-8:30am every Wednesday at the Piedmont Club in Haymarket, VA. Members are encouraged to attend as many weekly meetings as possible.

If you miss a meeting, you are encouraged to make it up at another Rotary Club or by participating in another Rotary-related activity (see the Attendance section below for more information).

We generally hold a social event once a month –Referred to as First Friday Fellowship (FFF). These usually take place on the first Friday of each month in the evening (usually at a local restaurant or in a member’s home). Spouses and family members are invited. These events are optional but are a great way to get to know your fellow members.

Invitations for FFF are normally sent out using Evite. In order to ensure that you receive the Evites, please make sure that the Club Secretary and the Club Administrator have your preferred email address.

**What normally happens at the weekly meetings?**

Members are encouraged to arrive a few minutes early. This allows time for you to grab your name badge, purchase raffle tickets (if you’d like to), and to socialize with other members.

All money that is contributed to purchase raffle tickets is allocated into 3 “buckets” - 1/3 of the collection goes back to the Club, 1/3 goes to the winner of the weekly raffle, and 1/3 goes into the jackpot

Raffle tickets are sold 1 for $1.00, 5 for $3.00, 10 for $5.00

Don’t forget to keep one half of the ticket and put the other into the raffle box

7:30am, the Club President will ring the bell and welcome everyone to the meeting including guests

The President will ask one of the club members to lead the group in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. This is followed by the President asking another club member to lead the group in the recitation of the Rotary Four-Way Test (posted on the wall banner). Finally, the President will ask a club member to offer a prayer.

The President will make some brief announcements, then invite everyone to have some breakfast. Members may opt to go through the buffet line and then sit anywhere in the dining room that they like. New members are encouraged to sit with different people each week – this gives everyone a chance to get to know one another.

After all members have been seated, the Club Sergeant-at-Arms will initiate “Happy Talk”. He/she will go around the room and give members the opportunity to contribute $1.00 or more to the “Happy Talk” box and to share what they are happy about today. You are not required to participate in this; however, other members really do love to celebrate in your happiness and all of the “Happy Talk” contributions go directly back to our Club.

Members that want to talk for a longer period of time (because they are SO happy!) often contribute more than one dollar to the pot.

Members who have missed weekly meetings often put a dollar into the pot for each week that they missed.

After “Happy Talk” is done, the Club President introduces the weekly guest speaker. The guest speaker usually has the floor for 20-30 minutes and most give members the opportunity to ask questions.

When the guest speaker is done, the Club President usually gives them a thank you gift

The guest speaker usually picks the raffle prize winner

The Sergeant-at-Arms gives the raffle winner their winnings (in cash) and then asks them to pick a card from a draw pile. The objective is to pick the Queen of Spades. If that card is drawn, that person wins the jackpot. If that card isn’t drawn, the card that they picked is ripped up and thrown away (making the draw pile smaller for the following week).

After the raffle is complete, the Club President will declare that the meeting is over and will ring the bell. This normally occurs at 8:30 am.

**What service projects does the club participate in? How do I sign up?**

The club supports a variety of organizations in the local area; participation is managed by the Club Service Chair. A partial list of the organizations we currently support is:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PACE West school (including the Prowl Pantry) | Novant Health community outreach events |
| The Salvation Army (bell ringing)  | March of Dimes Walk for Babies |
| Comfort Cases  | WAAAG |
| Rainbow Equestrian Center | Project Mend-A-House |
| Our Willing Warriors | Payton’s Project (Freeze Bullying) |
| Helping Haitian Angels | Backpack Buddies |

You will be informed about upcoming events in a variety of ways to include the G-H Rotary Club website, announcements at weekly meetings, and periodic emails from the Club Service Chair. Sign-up sheets are often circulated at weekly meetings; however, if you are interested in an event and need more info, please speak to the Club Service Chair and/or ask any member of the Board for assistance.

If you are aware of an organization that is in need of assistance in our local area, you are encouraged to reach out to the Club Service Chair. All members are encouraged to be on the lookout for ways that we can provide support to others in need in our local community. The Club Service Chair will gather info about the need from you and bring the idea forward to the Board for a vote, if required.

Our club also participates in a variety of district, national, and global projects through the Rotary Foundation. To learn more about these activities, check out the District Foundation Newsletter (sent to you via email), the Rotarian magazine, or any of the Rotary websites listed below.

**How is attendance tracked?**

The Club Secretary takes attendance at all weekly meetings, FFF events, and other centrally organized Rotary events. After the end of each month, the Club Secretary will send out emails to all members who have missed one or more meetings asking whether any make-ups can be applied to the missed meetings. In order for a makeup to count, it must have occurred within 14 days of the missed meeting and it must have been a Rotary-related event (e.g., FFF, Rotary Service Project, Rotary Board Meeting, etc.).

**When am I required to pay dues? How much will I be required to pay?**

The Club Treasurer sends out quarterly invoices for dues via email and payment is due within 30 days. Members can pay by check or may pay online – see the G-H Rotary Club website for the link to the on-line payment site.

Quarterly dues including International dues, District Dues, Local Club Dues, Club Meetings and meals = $184.50

**How do I find information about Rotary International, Rotary District 7610, and our local club?**

Attend the weekly meetings and District events

Get to know your fellow club members and ask questions as they come up

Read the Rotarian magazine which will be delivered to your home on a monthly basis

Familiarize yourself with the following websites:

Rotary International website <https://www.rotary.org/myrotary>

Rotary District 7610 website [https://www.directory](https://www.directory-online.com/Rotary)-online.com/Rotary

G-H Rotary Club website <https://ghrotary.org/>

If you haven’t already done so, please sign up for the weekly club newsletter on the G-H Rotary Club website.

The Club Administrator prepares the weekly newsletter (“eNews”) and sends it out via email each Sunday night.

Join the G-H Rotary Foundation Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GHRotary>