

COMPASS CLUB OF COLORADO

Understanding Rotary's Global Impact and Your Place in It

A 45-Minute Meeting Agenda for Newer Members — with Live Rotary Resources

Duration: 45 Minutes | Audience: Newer Rotary Members | Host: David Willman

1 Welcome & Purpose ⌚ 5 minutes

Set the tone and frame Rotary as a global network of service and leadership.

🗨️ OPENING DISCUSSION PROMPT

What inspired you to join or learn about Rotary — and what do you hope to learn or do as a member?

🔗 RECOMMENDED LIVE RESOURCES



[rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org) — About Rotary

Rotary's mission, values, and People of Action theme — a great opening snapshot to show on screen.



my.rotary.org — Member Dashboard

Show members where to log in; point out learning resources, grants, and member tools available to them.

How to use: Pull up [rotary.org/en/about-rotary](https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary) and highlight the mission statement. Then show the My Rotary dashboard so members know where to go after today's meeting.

2 Role of Culture in Service ⌚ 8 minutes

Rotary projects succeed when they reflect local needs, values, and community partnerships — listening before acting is the Rotary way.

🗨️ DISCUSSION PROMPT

Why is understanding the local culture essential before launching a service project? We discussed various projects, local and global, where this principle helped guide success.


🔗 RECOMMENDED LIVE RESOURCES

 [rotary.org — Who We Are \(Diversity, Equity & Inclusion\)](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center)

Highlights Rotary's commitment to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture — directly tied to how culture shapes service.

 [rotary.org — Top Global Grant Projects](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center)

Real project stories from Guatemala, Uganda, Haiti, and beyond showing how local culture shaped approach and outcomes.

 [Rotary Learning Center https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center) Provides 'community assessment' or 'cultural sensitivity' for free

modules on working respectfully with local communities.

 LOCAL CONNECTION PROMPT

Think about our EPIC Day of Service — how does partnering with our Towns, Chamber and local businesses reflect this principle to create stronger connections and impact in our communities.

3 Where Rotary Operates 7 minutes

Rotary is active in more than 200 countries and geographic areas, with over 46,000 clubs and 1.2 million members worldwide.

 DISCUSSION PROMPT

How does Rotary's global presence change what we're capable of as a local club? Have any of you connected with Rotarians in another country?

 RECOMMENDED LIVE RESOURCES

 [my.rotary.org — Club Finder \(Interactive Map\)](https://my.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center)

Search for clubs in any country. Show the map live — zoom into a region and show how widespread Rotary truly is.

 [rotary.org — Rotary's Timeline of Global Service](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center)

An interactive timeline tracing over 100 years of Rotary's global growth — from Chicago in 1905 to a worldwide movement.

 [rotary.org — Home Page](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center)

The homepage highlights 1.2 million members in 200+ countries — a powerful opening visual for this section.

How to use: Pull up the Club Finder map and ask someone to name a country — then search it together. Then open the timeline to show the organization's century of growth.

4 Rotary's Areas of Focus 10 minutes

Rotary channels service through seven defined areas of focus, each backed by grants, partnerships, and decades of global expertise.

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Which of Rotary's seven areas of focus aligns most naturally with your professional background, personal passion, or work in your community?

RECOMMENDED LIVE RESOURCES

[rotary.org — Our Causes](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes)

Official overview of all seven cause areas: Peace, Disease Prevention, Water & Sanitation, Maternal & Child Health, Basic Education, Economic Development, and the Environment.

Learning center provides <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-world-stay-connected-through-rotarys-online-learning-center>

Deeper detail on each area with project examples, statistics, and how global grants connect to each cause.

[rotary.org — Environment as the Newest Area of Focus](https://www.rotary.org/en/environment-as-the-newest-area-of-focus)

Especially relevant for Erie Rotary's pollinator habitat work — the story of how the environment became Rotary's 7th area of focus.

How to use: Navigate through [rotary.org/en/our-causes](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes) together and click on 2–3 areas. Highlight the Environment section and connect it directly to the EPIC Day of Service.

CONNECTION PROMPT

Our EPIC Day of Service supports pollinator habitat restoration — which area(s) of focus does that touch? How might we connect it to a future global grant?

5 Ways to Connect Globally 8 minutes

Rotary membership opens doors far beyond your local club — through fellowships, exchanges, grants, youth programs, and global networks.

DISCUSSION PROMPT

Which global Rotary connection opportunity interests you most? What would it mean for you personally or professionally to pursue it?

RECOMMENDED LIVE RESOURCES



[rotary.org — Rotary Peace Fellowships](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships)

Fully funded fellowships for leaders in peace and development — master's degrees or certificate programs at universities worldwide. Over 1,800 alumni in 140+ countries.



[rotary.org — Vocational Training Teams](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships)

Professionals travel to another country to teach and learn within their field — grant-funded and open to non-Rotarians too.



[rotary.org — Global Grant Scholarships](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships)

One- to four-year scholarships for study aligned with Rotary's areas of focus, with Foundation matching funds.



[Rotary Fellowships & Interest Groups](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships)

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships>

<https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-action-groups>

Browse hundreds of affinity groups connecting Rotarians globally by profession, hobby, or cause — from aviation to public health.



[my.rotary.org — Club Connections & Sister Clubs](https://my.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships)

Explore how your club can formally partner with clubs in other countries for joint service projects and cultural exchange. My.Rotary Account required

How to use: Open the Rotary Fellowships page and let members browse interest groups. Ask each person to identify one global opportunity they'd like to explore after the meeting.

PERSONAL ACTION PROMPT

By the end of this meeting, name one specific global Rotary connection you want to bookmark and look into this week.

6 The Four-Way Test 7 minutes

Created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor, adopted by Rotary in 1943, and now translated into more than 100 languages — this 24-word test is one of Rotary's most enduring principles.

Read together as a group:

1 Is it the TRUTH? Honesty in all we think, say, and do.	2 Is it FAIR to all concerned? Justice and equity as a standard.
3	4 Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Strengthening relationships through service.

Service above self in every decision.

 **CLOSING DISCUSSION PROMPT**

How can the Four-Way Test guide decisions in both your service work and your professional life? Can you think of a recent situation where you could have applied it?

 **RECOMMENDED LIVE RESOURCES**



[rotary.org — The Four-Way Test in a Post-Truth Era \(The Rotarian\)](#)

A compelling essay from The Rotarian on why these 24 words matter more than ever. Great for sparking reflection and discussion.



[my.rotary.org — Rotary History](#)

Background on Rotary's founding and evolution — including the adoption of the Four-Way Test as a defining principle.

How to use: Read the Four-Way Test together, then open the Rotarian essay and share a key insight. 8



Recommended Final Action for Every Member

Before leaving, ask each attendee to **bookmark one Rotary resource** they plan to revisit — and share which one with the group. This turns awareness into action.

Next Meeting: May 27th – Focus on: Leadership Through Service: The Rotary Advantage