

## **What is Rotary?**

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

It is the oldest service club in the world. Rotary has 1.2 million service minded men and women belonging to more than 34,280 clubs in every nation.

Rotarians meet weekly for fellowship and interesting and informative programs dealing with topics of local and global importance. Membership reflects a wide cross-section of community representation.

These Rotarians plan and carry out a remarkable variety of humanitarian, educational and cultural exchange programs that touch people's lives in their local communities and in our world community.

Rotary is *PolioPlus*. Begun in 1985, this commitment by Rotary works with national and international health organizations on the goal of worldwide polio eradication. More than one billion children in developing nations have been immunized against polio through *PolioPlus* grants.

## **Rotary Club of Thibodaux**

### *A Brief History –*

The Rotary Club of Thibodaux was chartered on May 21, 1936, The original officers and charter members were as follows: Charles E. Delas, Sr., president; Dr. Robert Dolese, vice president; O.C. Robichaux, secretary; W.L. Martin, treasurer; Phil Naquin; Francis I. Knobloch; George H. De Russey; Rev. Edward A. Ford; Dr. Hubert L. Smith; Harvey Peltier, Sr.; Charles Picou; Lawrence J. Peltier; Ernest A. Thibodeaux, Sr. and Dr. Charles J. Barker.

### *Notable Past Club and Member Achievements –*

The Club played an important part in the establishment of Nicholls State University and instituting the rotary dial telephone system, both major developments for the small bayou town.

Mr. Nobby deGravelles served as the District Governor from 1965-1966.

Mr. Skipper Holloway served as Assistant Governor.

The Club participated in Group Study Exchanges (GSE)/Vocational Training Teams (VTT) programs. Former Team leaders were Sandy Holloway and Bobby Marcello. Team members included Steve Gossen, Camo Frost, Larry Mitchell, David Landry, and Skipper Holloway.

*Service Goals for the Club –*

Community -

- Financial Support of (a) Nicholls State University Scholarships, (b) Christmas Toy Contribution, (c) Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) donation, (d) Thibodaux Fireman's Fair donation, (e) Bayou Country Children's Museum donation

- Sponsorship of EarlyAct, YouthAct, and Interact in the various schools as well as Rotaract at Nicholls State University

Support of the District's *Rotary Youth Leadership Activity* (RYLA) for high school students each year

Provide as much member assistance as possible for the Bayou Country Children's Museum's annual "Booseum"

Host the annual Student Government Day in cooperation with the Lafourche Parish School Board and assistance from the various parish and city officials

International -

- In partnership with some other clubs in the District, global grant funding has been provided and this club participates in a project which involves construction/related services for an orphanage in Mbale, Uganga, Africa.