

PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS THE PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY?

The Paul Harris Society recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who inform The Rotary Foundation of their intention to contribute US\$1,000 or more each year to any combination of the following: Annual Fund-SHARE, Annual Fund-World Fund, an area of focus, PolioPlus Fund, Disaster Response Fund, disasters of magnitude, or approved global grants.



Paul Harris Society recognition was administered by districts until it became an official Rotary Foundation recognition program in July 2013. The program's purpose is to identify, engage, and thank members who have the ability and desire to make substantial annual gifts to help communities close to home and around the world.

HOW CAN I JOIN THE PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY?

You can join the Paul Harris Society by doing any of the following:

- Complete the [online sign-up form](#).
- Contact Rotary's Support Center at rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org or +1-866-9-ROTARY (+1-866-976-8279) or the [Rotary International office](#) that serves your area.
- Mail a completed Paul Harris Society [sign-up form](#) to The Rotary Foundation.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AND A PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY MEMBER?

Anyone who cumulatively contributes US\$1,000 during any time period becomes a Paul Harris Fellow. A person can also be named a fellow if someone else uses 1,000 [Foundation recognition points](#) to honor them as one. A member of the Paul Harris Society contributes at least US\$1,000 *each year* to any combination of the following: Annual Fund-SHARE, Annual Fund-World Fund, an area of focus, PolioPlus Fund, Disaster Response Fund, disasters of magnitude, or approved global grants.

AM I REQUIRED TO GIVE US\$1,000 BEFORE JOINING THE PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY?

No, an immediate US\$1,000 contribution is not required at the time of enrollment. How you fulfill your Paul Harris Society giving intention each year is up to you. You can donate US\$1,000 at one time or in several smaller amounts that reach that total. One easy approach is to donate automatically through the Rotary Direct recurring giving program. Enroll at my.rotary.org/rotary-direct.

WHAT IS A PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY COORDINATOR?

A district Paul Harris Society coordinator is appointed by the district governor to honor new society members and promote engagement in the society. These coordinators can use giving and recognition

reports from My Rotary to identify new and potential society members. To honor new members, coordinators can order recognition chevrons at no cost by writing to annualfund@rotary.org or contacting the [Rotary International office](#) that serves their area.

HOW ARE SOCIETY MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS?

New society members are presented with a [certificate](#) and chevron at a district or club event in a way that is culturally appropriate and comfortable for the member. Paul Harris Society coordinators visit the club or district to honor new members personally or make sure that another Rotary officer makes arrangements to do so.

DO MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE GIFTS COUNT TOWARD PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY GIVING ?

Donors who direct memorial and tribute gifts to one of the approved funds receive credit toward their own Paul Harris Society commitment. The recipients of tribute gifts do not receive Paul Harris Society credit.

DO MATCHING GIFTS FROM AN EMPLOYER COUNT TOWARD PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY GIVING?

No, only outright gifts to one of the approved funds count toward Paul Harris Society giving.

WHAT DOES “PHS ELIGIBLE” ON THE DONOR HISTORY REPORT MEAN?

“PHS eligible” identifies donors who have given US\$1,000 or more cumulatively to the approved funds during a Rotary year. However, these supporters become society members only when they indicate their intent to repeat such a gift annually by joining the society using one of the methods above.

District Paul Harris Society coordinators can build society membership by contacting PHS-eligible donors to learn about their interests in supporting Rotary.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE WHO WANT TO JOIN OR PROMOTE THE SOCIETY?

To learn more about the Paul Harris Society, write to annualfund@rotary.org, consult your district’s Paul Harris Society coordinator or your regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, or use the resources found on the [Paul Harris page](#).

Additional resources include:

- Paul Harris Society chevrons, available free of charge to coordinators and other district leaders by writing to annualfund@rotary.org
- The Paul Harris Society [promotional handout](#)
- The Paul Harris Society [PowerPoint presentation](#)
- The [Paul Harris Society Report](#), which provides information about Paul Harris Society members and potential members and is available to club and district leaders on My Rotary
- The Paul Harris Society [quarterly newsletter](#)