

Rotary Club of Beijing

Rotary in the World

Rotary is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world.

Rotary was founded in Chicago in 1905. In the Club's early days, meetings rotated among various members' offices, leading to the name Rotary Club.

Around 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 32,000 Rotary clubs in around 170 countries. Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are non-political, nonreligious, and open to all cultures and races.

The main objective of Rotary is service - in the community, in the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's most critical issues, such as children at risk, poverty and hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. They also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers, and other professionals, and vocational and career development. In the area of medicine, Rotary has been in the forefront of the campaign to eradicate polio from the world.

Membership

Rotarians are professional men and women who volunteer their time and expertise to improve the quality of life in their home and in the international community. Club membership in China is by invitation only and currently restricted to foreign passport holders only and includes senior management of multinational corporations, diplomatic personnel, scholars, and others.

The Four-Way Test

Rotarians employ a four-way test that governs their thoughts, words, and deeds.

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

History in China

Rotary has enjoyed a long partnership with China. The first club was established in Shanghai in 1919, and a Beijing club was set up in 1924.

Clubs in China before 1949 - looking at a rich past

- 1 October 1919: Shanghai
- 10 May 1923: Tianjin
- 30 August 1924: Beijing
- 25 April 1932: Guangdong
- 23 June 1932: Hangzhou
- 5 December 1932: Qingdao
- 9 December 1932: Jinan
- 31 July 1933: Fuzhou
- 23 October 1933: Xiamen
- 20 December 1933: Hankou
- 19 January 1934: Nanjing
- 6 February 1936: Wuhu
- 13 May 1936: Kaifeng
- 21 May 1936: Shantou
- 22 May 1936: Wuzhou
- 2 September 1936: Ningbo
- 11 November 1936: Suzhou
- 8 March 1937: Wuchang
- 2 April 1937: Jingjiang
- 28 May 1937: Kunming
- 16 June 1937: Wuxi
- 28 June 1937: Changsha
- 30 August 1937: Xian
- 18 November 1937: Chongqing
- 2 January 1939: Chengdu
- 11 November 1943: Lanzhou
- 16 June 1944: Guilin
- 23 April 1945: Guiyang
- 29 March 1948: Nanchang
- 31 March 1948: Shenyang
- 16 November 1948: Shanghai West
- 14 December 1948: Liuzhou

The comeback after 1949

Rotary activities came to a stop during the years that followed 1949. The club was re-introduced as a fellowship group in Beijing in 1996, and in Shanghai in 1997. In June 2001, the Rotary International board formally recognized the clubs and granted them provisional status. The Beijing and Shanghai Clubs were chartered in 2006. The Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs has so far only agreed to the existence of these two clubs in China.

The Beijing Club today

The Beijing Club counts more than 60 members from a wide spectrum of business and professional sectors within the foreign community from more than 20 different countries. It has contributed funds and time to a variety of social projects in poverty alleviation, health, special education and the environment.

As of March 2008, the Rotary Club of Beijing has the following "Sister Clubs", maintaining a privileged relation: Rotary Club of Copenhagen, Rotary Club of Hong Kong, Rotary Club of Great Neck, Rotary Club of Shanghai, Rotary Club of Del Mar as well as the Interact Club of Dulwich College Beijing.

Meeting Place and Time

Beijing Rotarians meet every Tuesday at 12:30 - 14:00 pm for lunch. Visiting Rotarians are warmly welcome. Details and program are posted on the website.

Location: Kempinski Hotel
Beijing Lufthansa Center
No. 50 Liang Ma Qiao Road
Beijing 100016

Further Information

Club contact:

E-mail: info@rotaryclub-beijing.org

or

bjprc@mac.com

Website: www.rotaryclub-beijing.org

Rotary Involvement in China

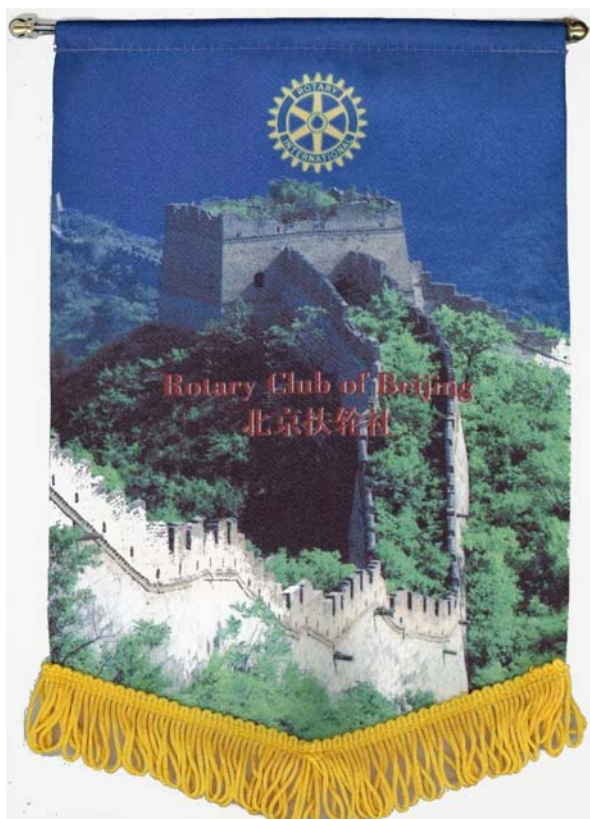
Rotary International has maintained a long-term commitment to China and Clubs worldwide have contributed financially and otherwise to addressing many of the country's social issues. Rotary Clubs in Beijing and Shanghai have made substantial contributions to their communities. Members of the Rotary Club of Beijing participate in many significant charitable activities such as:

- **Arranging heart surgery overseas and locally for poor children from inland provinces.** In conjunction with the US-based Gift of Life Foundation, the Rotary Club of Beijing helps organize open-heart surgery for poor children with serious heart problems. The program involves a co-operative effort of Rotary Clubs worldwide, with medical screening and transportation arrangements handled in China, and surgery organized by Rotary groups units in the United States. In China, the Gift of Life program is helping arrange surgery for children in local hospitals as well.
- **Aiding schools for developmentally disabled children.** The Xing Xing Yu (Stars and Rain Education Institute for Autism) School equips autistic children with the ability to integrate into society. Since 2001, Rotary Club of Beijing has supported the school and donated funds to upgrade school facilities and equipment, institute teacher-training programs, and educate parents about how to cope sensitively with their child's disability.
- **Working with the children of imprisoned parents.** Rotary works with the children of imprisoned parents in Sun Children's Village of Shunyi County. The Club supplies numerous resources for these children, ranging from sports equipment to coal for wintertime heating. The Vocational Committee of the Club helps build teachers' capacity to address these children's special needs.

- **Rotary yearly Ball.** Each year, Rotary organizes a black tie gala dinner and ball in Beijing to raise funds for charitable causes.
- **Various community service projects:** The Club has been in partnership with local charity foundation partners such as the prestigious Song Qingling Foundation to work on projects including helping blind children in Tibet, providing assistance to children with HIV in Henan, offering financial aids to underprivileged students in Gubeikou areas, providing wheelchairs, English teaching materials, library, and school tents to the needed in various locations, developing water improvement and doctor training programs in remote areas and educational assistance program for migrant worker's children, etc.



The Beijing Club's famous bell dated 1925



The banner of the Club



"Service Above Self™"