

The Evolution of



The Object of Rotary

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In some areas of the world, weekly Rotary club meetings begin with all members standing and reciting the 《Object of Rotary》. This statement, which comes from the Rotary International Constitution, is frequently seen on a wall plaque in Rotarians' offices or places of business.

The 《Object of Rotary》, today, is “to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basic of worthy enterprises”. This single statement then lists four areas by which this “ideal of service” is fostered: the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service; high ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society; the application of the ideal of service in one's personal, business, and community life; and the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Original 3 Objects of Rotary in 1906

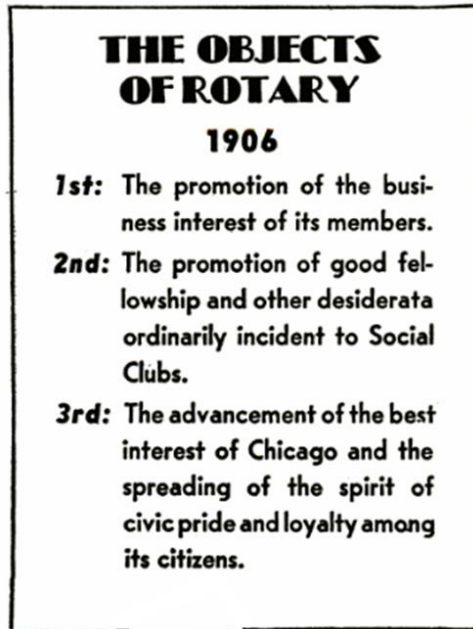
The 《Object of Rotary》 has not always been expressed in the above manner. The initial Rotary Club Constitution of 1906 had three objects: *promotion of business interests, promotion of good fellowship, and the advancement of the best interests of the community.*

The original idea of Chicago Rotary Club first formed in 1905 by Paul P. Harris and three friends was to provide an opportunity for fellowship and friendliness coupled with a basis for exchange of business between and among its members.

The concept of Rotary as a mutual benefit arrangement may have contributed heavily to its early popularity and growth not only in Chicago, but in its extension to other cities. However, in the unfolding of the story of Rotary, the idea of service to oneself and one's fellow club members in a business sense gave away to the higher ideal of service and helpfulness to others in all aspects of life – and eventually service to all mankind.

The early Chicago Rotarians soon realized that their interest in their fellow Rotarians provided opportunities for helpfulness to others, and emphasis changed from “getting” to “giving” as they learned that business benefits flowed appropriately to those who demonstrated their interest in helping others.

To give expression to their outside service interests, the Chicago club adopted a third object the advancement of the best interests of Chicago, and the spreading of the spirit of civic pride and loyalty among its citizens. Thus, the first version of The Three Objects of Rotary in 1906 was like this:



The 5 Objects of Rotary in 1910


As other Rotary clubs were formed, some Rotarians were troubled by the candid emphasis on business “getting” and outside criticism of the selfish and self-serving nature of Rotary clubs and their members. The clubs attempted to clarify the matter for themselves and others. The Rotary Club of Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., the fourth club organized, developed a statement of objects in which it emphasized service to the community and particularly the promotion of high ethical standards in business.

Formation of clubs in other cities soon followed and, by 1910, there were 16 clubs from coast to coast in the United States. Until then, individual clubs had been independent, though some did follow the pattern of the Rotary Club of Chicago. Feeling the need for unity of purpose and some uniformity of procedure for organizing additional clubs, the existing clubs assembled in convention in Chicago. The convention formed the “National Association of Rotary Clubs” in America. Paul P. Harris was elected president and a constitution and by-laws were adopted with these 5 objects:


- 1. To extend and develop Rotary principles by the organization of Rotary clubs throughout America.*
- 2. To unify the work and the principles of the affiliating Rotary clubs and to promote their common good.*
- 3. To arouse and encourage civic pride and loyalty.*
- 4. To promote progressive and honorable business methods.*
- 5. To advance the business interests of the individual members of the affiliating clubs.*

To reflect the addition of clubs outside of the United States, the Association name was changed to “International Association of Rotary Clubs” (萬國扶輪社協會) since 1912. Until 1915, in a continuing effort at unity and method in the Association and its constituent clubs, a standard Rotary club constitution was recommended. The 5 objects were re-written to 《Objects of The Rotary Club》 with 6 points:


**Objects of
The Rotary Club**



- ❏ To promote the recognition of the worthiness of all legitimate occupations and to dignify each member's occupation as affording him an opportunity to serve society.
- ❏ To encourage high ethical standards in business and professions.
- ❏ To increase the efficiency of each member by the development of improved ideas and business methods.
- ❏ To stimulate the desire of each member to be of service to his fellowmen and society in general.
- ❏ To promote the scientizing of acquaintance as an opportunity for service and an aid to success.
- ❏ To quicken the interest of each member in the public welfare of his community and to co-operate with others in civic, social, commercial and industrial development.

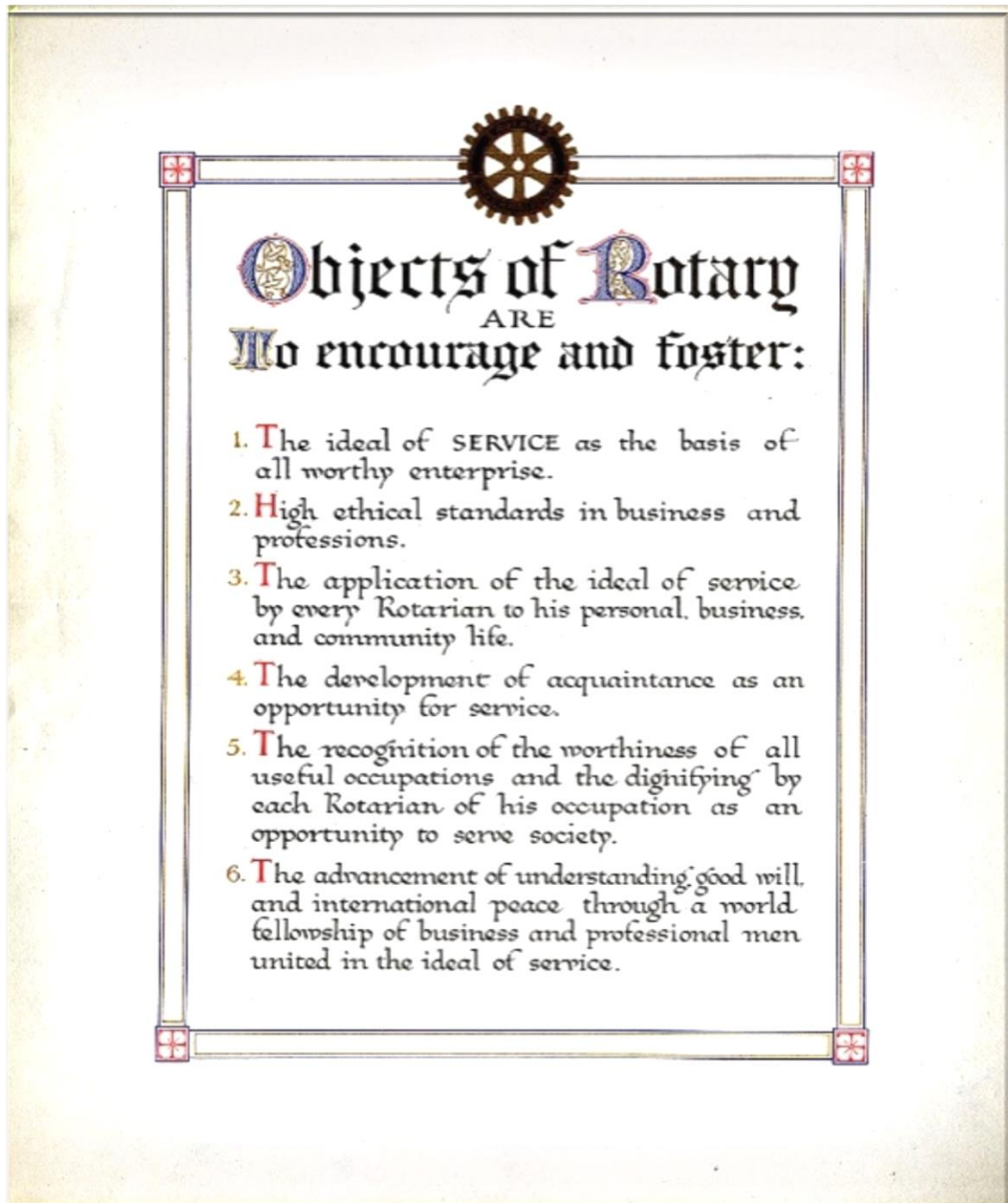


The above objects are set forth in the Standard Constitution for Local Rotary Clubs, prepared by a special committee, approved by the International Board of Directors, and authorized and adopted by the Sixth Annual Convention of the International Association of Rotary Clubs at San Francisco, July 1915, as the Constitution which all clubs affiliating in the Association are expected to adopt as soon as the necessary steps can be taken for amending their respective constitutions.



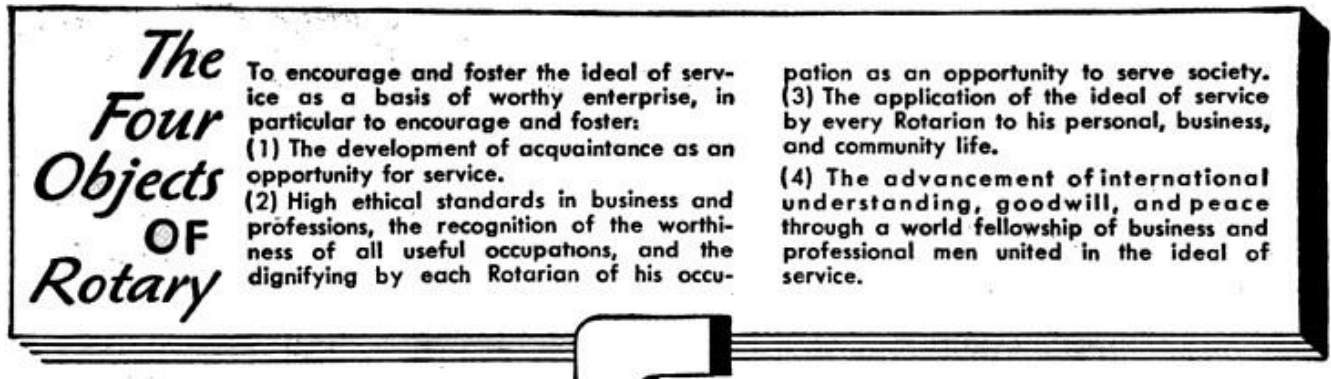
By 1921 The Sixth Object of International Service was incorporated

In 1921 after the World War I was over and Rotary saw the great need for closer understanding between the nations, the great Sixth Object was formulated at the Edinburgh Convention in 1921. The application of the other five objects was made international, that is to say, Rotarians' relations of service should go beyond even their own country and should include the relations of one country to another. The ideal of "international understanding and peace" was incorporated and to be encouraged as the Sixth Object. Read the revised version here:

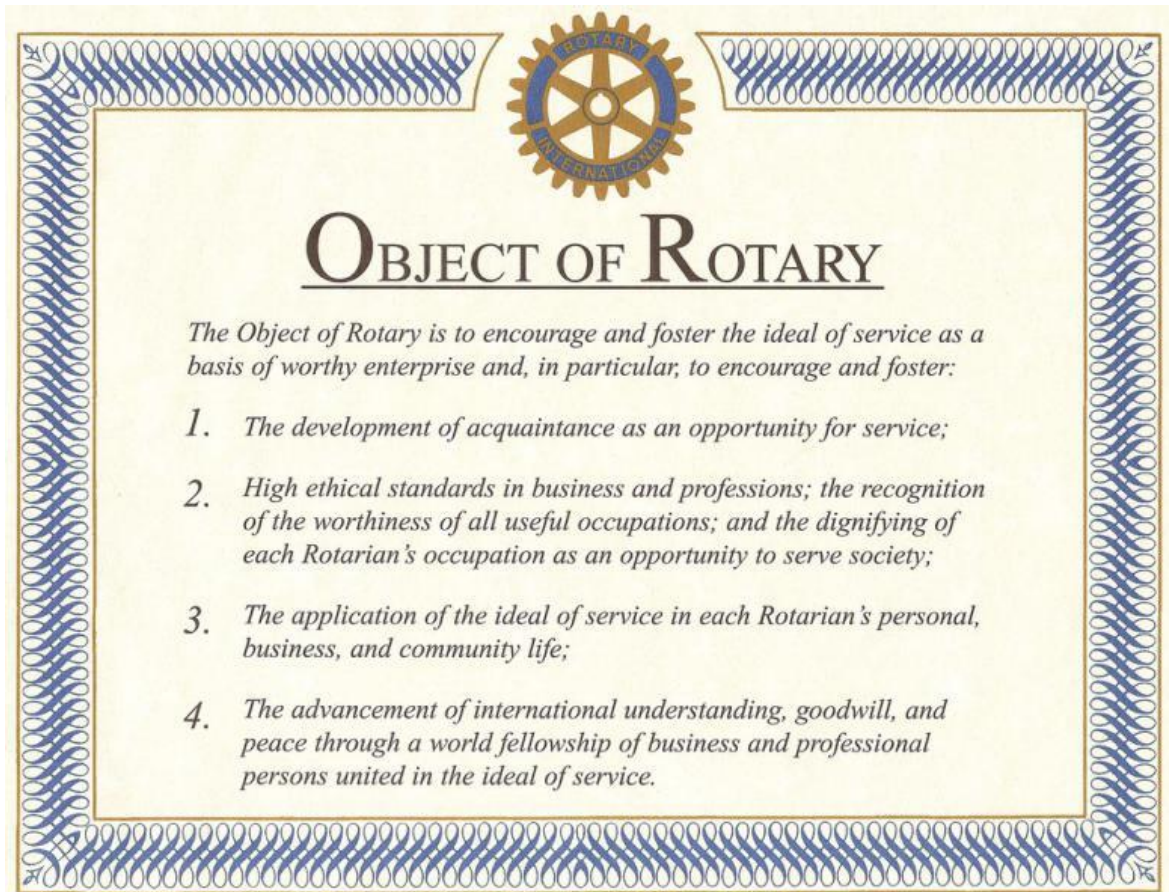


The Single Object of Rotary Today

In 1922, the organization shortened the name to “Rotary International” (國際扶輪). The objects had again revised in 1927. Finally, at the 1935 Mexico City Convention, the six objects were restated and reduced to four.



The last major change came in 1951 when the objects were streamlined to “a single object with four parts”. Since 1990, the word “men” on the last line was changed to “persons” in respecting both genders. Here is today’s version as stated in the Rotary International Constitution 2013:



扶輪宗旨之歷史沿革

此份資料原稿自 RI 檔案庫找出

3521 地區 台北百齡社 PDG Tommy 黃維敏



- 1906 第一個扶輪社是於 1905 年 2 月在芝加哥成立，在 1906 年 1 月份刊載的章程中有如下記載：
- 第一、在其社員間促進彼此利益
 - 第二、促進友誼及其他相關社團之所需
 - 第三、提升芝加哥之最大利益並發揚市民的榮譽及公德心
 - 第二、在商業及專業鼓勵高道德標準
 - 第三、用交換理念及商業的方式以增加每一社員之效率
 - 第四、應用科學的方法促進服務的機會及輔助其成功
 - 第五、激發社員在公共福利的利益及與其他城市開發之合作
- 1907 8 月在全國扶輪社年會中通過以下的宗旨：
- 第一、在全美國相關扶輪社延伸及發展扶輪的精神
 - 第二、統一全美相關扶輪社之工作和原則
 - 第三、喚起並激勵市民之榮譽感及公德心
 - 第四、推廣進步及誠實的商业道德
 - 第五、促進其他扶輪社社員間之商業利益
- 1912 8 月在德盧斯舉辦的年會中，將該機構改為《扶輪社國際協會》同時扶輪宗旨更改如下：
- 第一、標準化扶輪的精神並促使所有扶輪社如果合乎當地條件時採用
 - 第二、鼓勵及促進全世界商務中心創立扶輪社
 - 第三、對各扶輪社員及社區，研討目前扶輪社的工作及其價值並釐訂對扶輪社有利的資訊。
 - 第四、在全球不同國家、城市及相關扶輪社社員間商業和專業領域，廣泛的促進如兄弟般扶輪友誼及彰顯扶輪精神。
- 在此時，核定扶輪社的章程和施行細則，其宗旨如下：
- 第一、確認所有合法職業之價值，同時尊重每一社員的職業為服務社會的機會。
 - 第二、在全美商務中心鼓勵、促進及督導成立扶輪社
 - 第三、研討目前扶輪社的工作及其對各自扶輪社員及地區之價值，並釐清因此對扶輪社有利的資訊
 - 第四、促進扶輪友誼
- 在該年會中，增加第六宗旨，同時強化第五宗旨，因此扶輪社的宗旨變成如下六項：
- 第一、確認所有合法職業之價值，同時尊重每一社員的職業為服務社會的機會
 - 第二、在商業及專業鼓勵高道德標準
 - 第三、用交換理念及商業的方式以增加每一社員之效率
 - 第四、應用科學的方法促進服務的機會及輔助其成功
 - 第五、在每位社員之社區加強公共福利之關懷，並與其他民間、社會及工商界合作
 - 第六、激發每一社員服務他人及社會之意願
- 1915 於舊金山舉行的扶輪年會，國際協會的扶輪宗旨更改如下：
- 第一、統一及宣導扶輪的原則及實施情況
 - 第二、在全美商務中心鼓勵、促進及督導成立扶輪社
 - 第三、研討目前扶輪社的工作及其對各自扶輪社員及地區之價值，並釐清因此對扶輪社有利的資訊
 - 第四、促進扶輪友誼
- 1918 在美國堪薩斯城舉行的年會中，扶輪宗旨更改如下：

- 第一、在全球商務中心鼓勵、促進及督導成立扶輪社
- 第二、協調、統一及指導其他扶輪社之工作和活動
- 第三、透過其各自及相關的扶輪社活動以激勵和加強：
- (1) 在商場及專業領域要高道德標準
 - (2) 在企業界以服務為基本
 - (3) 每一位扶輪社員在社區內之公益、商業、社會福利要扮演積極的角色
 - (4) 促進廣泛之交往關係以成為服務的機會及成功之助力
 - (5) 理念及商場資訊之交換可增進扶輪社員之溝通效率
 - (6) 確認每位社員合法的職業以為服務社會的機會
- 第四、創作與採納及保存一標誌、徽章或其他國際扶輪佩章以為扶輪社員專用（有關扶輪的宗旨沒做改變）
- 1919 在鹽湖城舉行的年會沒有更改扶輪的宗旨，但扶輪社的模範章程第二條更改如下：宗旨鼓勵及強化：
- (1) 在商業及專門領域之高道德標準
 - (2) 服務的典範做為所有優良企業的基礎
 - (3) 每位社員在民間、商場、社交及社區的道德與福利事業扮演積極的角色
 - (4) 促進社員廣泛交流以提升服務機會
 - (5) 理念之交流和商情之交換以提升扶輪社員效率
 - (6) 確認每位扶輪社員之合法職業以為服務社會之機會
- （註：要注意到這些扶輪社之宗旨要包括國際協會在 1918 年所認可之第三款之規定）
- 1921 在愛丁堡之年會，將國際協會第四項宗旨改為第五項，同時增加第四條宗旨，因此扶輪的宗旨更改如下：
- 第一、在全球商務中心鼓勵、促進及督導成立扶輪社
- 第二、協調、統一及指導其他扶輪社之工作和活動
- 第三、透過其各自的及相關的扶輪社的活動以激勵和加強：
- (1) 在商場及專業領域要高道德標準
 - (2) 在企業界以服務為標準
 - (3) 每一位扶輪社員在民間、商場、社會和社區要扮演積極的道德角色
 - (4) 促進廣泛之交往關係以為服務的機會及成功之助力
 - (5) 理念及商場資訊之交換可增進扶輪社員之效率
 - (6) 確認每位社員合法的職業以為服務社會的機會
- 第四、在全球所有扶輪服務的國家經由商業及專業人士促進和平及善意
- 第五、創作、採納及保存一標誌、徽章或其他國際扶輪佩章以為扶輪社員專用
- 1922 在洛杉磯舉行年會，將該機構定名為「國際扶輪 Rotary International」，宗旨變更如下：
- 第一、服務的精神是所有有價值企業之基礎
- 第二、在商業及專業領域要有高道德標準
- 第三、每一扶輪社員要將服務的精神應用於其各自、商業及社區生活
- 第四、認識更多人以擴展服務的機會
- 第五、尊重所有有用的職業和每位扶輪社員之職業為服務社會之機會
- 第六、由全世界扶輪人商業和專業人士之友誼交換以促進瞭解、善意及國際和平
- 1927 在比利時奧斯滕德召開的國際年會，將《Rotary》自第六宗旨中拿掉，使其變成如下：

第六、經由全世界商業和專業人士之友誼交換以促進瞭解、善意及國際和平以達到服務的目的

- 1935 在墨西哥市舉行的年會，又將六項宗旨改回四項。以前的第四項變成第一項，前第二項及第五項變為第二項，第三項仍然為第三項，以前的第六項將 international 重新定位變成第四項，因此宗旨變成如下：
- 第一、認識更多人以擴展服務的機會
 - 第二、在商業及專業領域要有高道德標準；尊重所有有用的職業和每位扶輪社員之職業為服務社會之機會
 - 第三、每一扶輪社員要將服務的精神應用於其各自、商業及社區生活

第四、經由全世界扶輪人商業和專業人士之國際友誼交換以促進瞭解、善意及國際和平以達到服務的目的

- 1951 在美國紐澤西州的大西洋城舉辦的年會，修改國際扶輪章程第三條第一款及標準扶輪社規章第二條第一款，將扶輪的宗旨改為單一宗旨如下：

「扶輪的宗旨是激勵和強化服務的理念作為有價值企業之基礎，特別在激勵和強化面」

（其他的文句不變）

最後的主要變更是在 1951 年，簡化成「單一扶輪宗旨包含四個重心」。官方英文文本請參閱第 5 頁。以下是 2013 年國際扶輪章程所示的臺灣華文版本，應用至今：

扶輪宗旨

扶輪之宗旨在於鼓勵並培養以服務之理想為可貴事業之基礎，

尤其著重於鼓勵並培養：

一、藉增廣相識為擴展服務之機會。

二、在各種事業及專業中提高道德之標準；

認識一切有益於社會的職業之價值；

及每一扶輪社員應尊重其本身之職業，藉以服務社會。

三、每一社員能以服務之理想應用於其個人、事業及社會之生活。

四、透過結合具有服務之理想之各種事業及專業人士，

以世界性之聯誼，增進國際間之瞭解、親善與和平。



The Object of Rotary