



## October is Rotary Vocational Service Month

Vocational Service focuses on:

- Adherence to, and promotion of, the highest ethical standards in all occupations, including fair treatment of employers, employees, associates, competitors, and the public.
- The recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, not just your own or those that are pursued by Rotarians.
- The contribution of your vocational talents to solving the problems of society and meeting the needs of the community.

During October, Rotarians are encouraged to focus on this essential element of Rotary. Discussions among clubs and districts on Vocational Service can lead to projects that not only develop the ethical consciousness and vocational skills of Rotarians but also the talents within their communities. Vocational Service month is an opportunity to begin year-long Vocational Service activities, ranging from Rotary discussions to awards to community projects.

- ❑ Devote the first meeting in October to examining the second Avenue of Service, including The 4-Way Test and The Declaration of Rotarians in Business and the Professions. After expanding members' awareness, solicit their input in planning projects for the remainder of the year.
- ❑ Introduce a "mini-classifications talk" series in which each member gives a five-minute talk on his or her vocation. Schedule one speaker for the beginning of each meeting until everyone has made a presentation. The purpose: promote vocational awareness among Rotarians and help them recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations.
- ❑ Present a vocational award to someone in the community who has exemplified outstanding professional achievement while maintaining very high ethical standards. Promote the presentation within the community, and consider making it an annual October event.
- ❑ Invite experts to give a presentation on the vocational needs of the community and develop a project in response to those needs. Possible projects could focus on developing character, providing career information to youth, mentoring small businesses, or organizing workshops that provide employees with new skills.

### Resources:

- RI Vocational Service web site ([www.rotary.org/programs/voc\\_act/index/html](http://www.rotary.org/programs/voc_act/index/html))
- Community Projects Database ([www.rotary.org/programs/projectsdb/index.html](http://www.rotary.org/programs/projectsdb/index.html))
- *Vocational Service in Your Community* (509-EN)
- *Communities in Action: A Guide to Effective Projects* (605A)
- Programs Department at RI – email: [programs@rotaryintl.org](mailto:programs@rotaryintl.org)