

Guidelines for Vocational Service - Classification Talks

The Rotary International mission and core values are to provide service to others, to promote integrity, and to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through business, professional, and community leaders, who express the core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership.

To meet this mission and core values, the classification concept intends to assure that each Rotary club represents a cross section of the business and professional services in its community.

A classification talk illustrates a Rotarian's principal work, business or professional service, and provides a description of a Rotarian's daily work.

Guidelines for giving your Classification Talk:

- Develop a plan or outline of what you want to share. Your club wants to know more about you.
- State your name, where you work, or have worked, and what you do or did there, and identify your sponsor to the Rotary club.
- Give a brief history of yourself. This can include where you were born, childhood interests and family statistics, people who influenced you, and major life events, such as public or military service or travel.
- Talk about your work history, training and education. This can include why you chose or developed your work or profession.
- Be sure to include other community service roles you engage or have engaged.
- If desired, you can share your present hobbies, interests, values and beliefs. This could include why you joined Rotary, what you hope to gain from membership, and what you feel you can contribute.
- Plan to limit your presentation to 10-20 minutes, including time for Q&A. (Some clubs regularly utilize five-minute classification talks.)
- Feel free to support your presentation with slides, photos and other visuals (check with club tech team regarding a/v requirements).