Paul Harris founder of Rotary

Paul Harris was born on April 19, 1868

After studying law at the University, he opened a law firm in Chicago in 1896

He then brought together several friends and evoked the idea of an organization for local professionals who shared the values of professional ethics and friendship, in order to improve morality in business.

February 23, 1905, Paul Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele and Hiram Shorey, who represented four professions, four national origins and three religions, met in an office, for what is considered the 1st meeting of a Rotary club.

In 1907, Paul Harris started the tradition of dinner meetings and worked to expand Rotary beyond Chicago.

In 1910, the 16 existing clubs held their 1st Convention and elected Paul Harris as President.

In 1911, Paul Harris wanted to send a message to every Rotarian and created a publication that would become The Rotarian.

He died on January 27, 1947 in Chicago.