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1' to discover an aspect of Rotary history

Early Members: portraits of Rotary Pioneers

Rotarians' early members were businessmen and professionals from diverse backgrounds, reflecting Paul Harris' vision of a diverse club.

In addition to the four founders, pioneers included Harry Ruggles, a printer, who introduced singing to Rotary meetings, a tradition that continues today.

Albert White, a pianist, brought a musical touch to the gatherings.

William Jensen, a real estate agent, helped expand the club.

Dr. William R. Neff, the first physician to join the group, broadened Rotary's professional reach.

Charles Newton, a lawyer like Harris, strengthened the club's ethical dimension.

These men, and others who soon joined them, shared a common commitment to service and friendship.

Their professional diversity and dedication to the Rotary ideal laid the solid foundation upon which the worldwide organization was built.

