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**“MAKING FRIENDS BY SERVING”**

## **PARTS**

If you dismantle a watch or carburetor or your bathroom medicine cabinet, you end up with a pile of parts. When these parts are assembled, they tell time, or mix gasoline and air, or store your toothbrush and floss. When disassembled, the parts lose their purpose. They are good for virtually nothing.

The watch, carburetor, and medicine cabinet are designed by humans as tools or machines. But the biggest “machines” are self-designed. Consider the environment. No one is in charge, and yet it finds an exquisite balance, and operates constantly. No one designed you (well, maybe your mother has tried). And yet, day after day, you operate, if not flawlessly, then adequately.

Rain City Rotary is a machine of this latter sort. It is organic. It is self-designed. It functions, and yet no one of us is in charge. Oddly, “all of us together” are not in charge either. Rain City Rotary has a life of its own, a logic that penetrates deep to its core and is bigger than any or all of us.

Rain City Rotary asks of each of us only one thing. Find what you are good at, what you were made for, and do it. We are not always so clear about what that “one big thing” is for us. But you know. What gets you out of bed when you could sleep in? What do you think about when your mind floats off to where it wants to go? To what activities have you consistently returned throughout your life? Those events point toward the “part” you are. Get clear about it. Rain City Rotary asks you to do that thing with us. We ask you to *consciously* be you with us.

We do not know where we will go, as a group. That journey emerges as our members play their parts. Rain City Rotary is self-organizing complexity. We watch the group evolve with wonder and appreciation. Your task is to know who you are and what you love to do. Then do that with us.

What is your part in Rotary?

**Rotary is humanity seeking its best self. Our parts form a whole.**

***Welcome to Rain City Rotary, Tom and Rich and Renee and Josh.***

BRAD LANCASTER  
RCR Gadfly