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EDITORIALLY YOURS



Rotary is an unique nongovernmental organisation which stood the test of time over 119 years. I was wondering how this was possible. Many would say there is no growth in membership over a period of past 3 decades and the rotary is loosing its charm especially among the younger generation. Left to me it is not so. Rotary has become more and more popular as time passes by. One great change happened in Rotary over the years is that the Rotary which was considered to be an association of the elite class of people has now become an organisation accessible to every one who can afford to meet the financial obligations. Perhaps, the organization, of late, has become more and more opulent which is not good for its growth. Rotary has proliferated to rural areas, especially in the district 3211. Happy to see more clubs are getting chartered in villages. As Gandhiji quoted Villages are backbone of the nation and more rotary clubs in the villages means more impetus to the organization. Happy to share that I am writing this editorial sitting in my daughter's house located at Blackburn South in Melbourne, VIC. Melbourne. Though it is the beginning of summer season, the weather here is a pleasant one for us with temparature varying from 12 to 28 degree celsius with intermittent scanty rains. I am thankful to Kitchappa for his support in contributing the article "Women in Rotary" which is serialised in the RW, taking time out of his precious time with family in the USA. Also thanks to Cherian for supplementing the editor's job and coordinating with the press. Jai Rotary!

Rtn PAG MPHF M Kumaraswamy Pillai

Rotary Institute Kochi 2024- a curtain raiser



Each year, past, present, and incoming district and senior leaders attend Rotary institutes to share information, build connections, and exchange ideas about Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. The institutes usually meet for three to five days, and the program includes:

- An update on The Rotary Foundation and its programs
- A report on our polio eradication efforts
- A five-year forecast presented by a director or other Board representative
- An open forum where participants can make recommendations to the Board
- Local and international speakers sharing information on relevant topics
- A chance to network, reconnect with friends, and find inspiration for continuing your service and leadership in your community
- Entertainment and social outings

During Council on Legislation years, Rotary institutes also include a session for Council representatives and alternates and a general session for discussing Council proposals.

The RI president designates one or more conveners to organize each institute and serve as his or her representative there. Past Rotary officers often participate as speakers, panelists, discussion leaders, and institute committee members.



STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
RI President



Rtn. AKSM SUDHI JABBAR
Dist. Governor



Rtn. ANTONY MALAYIL
Asst. Governor



Rtn. JOHN KURIAN
President

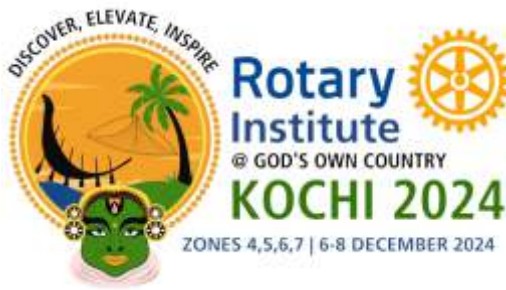


Rtn. SUJITH T.S
Secretary









Who can attend

Past, present, and future district governors, RI presidents, directors, trustees, and regional leaders attend Rotary institutes.

About the Kochi Institute

Kochi hosts the Rotary Institute for the third time. First was in the year 1996, followed to which in the year 2012 for the second time. This time the Zones 4,5,6&7 jointly hosts the event at Grand Hyatt Hotel Bogatty during 6-8 December 2024. To wind up the Institute a Multi-District Conclave is also organised for all the rotarians from the four zones, where there will be exclusive photo sessions with RI President and other leaders followed by panel discussions and dinner. A very rare

opportunity for the rotarians of the zones 4,5,6 & 7.

Appeal by the District RLI Chairman

BE A VITAL PART OF THE MOST MEMORABLE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL EVENT !!!

Having an opportunity to witness the gracious presence of world's most wonderful organisation's leader, Rtn.Stephani Urchik, the presence of RI President will be a blessing as far as a true Rotarian is concerned. 8th December 2024 turns to be significant date at Grand Hayat, Cochin Bolgatti when the passionate Rotarians share some proud moments in the company of one of the most committed lady President of this global organisation. Getting a photograph with Rtn.Stephannie will certainly be an honor in the Rotary journey of each and every Rotarians.

The participants will have the rare chance of listening to the words of wisdom rendered by seasoned global Rotary leaders and enjoying the sumptuous dinner provided the dedicated organizers under the meticulous Convenership of the global Rotary leader of RI District 3211, Rtn.AKSM PDG Dr John Daniel. The magical touch of the apostle of Magic of Rotary will certainly be an amazing experience during the current Rotary year.

As far as RC of Alleppey is concerned, our vibrant member, Rtn.Princy Sebastian's exciting role as the lady Sergeant at Arms to the momentous occasion will be a feast to the eyes. So it's my humble request to the club President Rtn.John Kurian to motivate maximum members to register as delegates to the rare event at Grand Hayat, Cochin on 8th December 2024.

Love and regards

Yours in Rotary

Rtn.Prof.S.Gopinathan Nair

RLI Chairman, RI District 3211.

CLUB BULLETINS ARE CURRENTLY ENDANGERED SPECIES- says Rtn N Bhaskaran Pillai

(The author of 'Know Your Rotary', the best seller running its 8th edition, commenting as feed back to the book review by the Maestro Editor Rtn Tomi Eapen, wrote to him that Club Bulletins were endangered species. The text of his appreciation letter is reproduced below:

The picture below is taken at the release of one of the editions of the book by PDG George Sunderaraj)



Thank you for publishing the book review in your prestigious weekly bulletin. Bringing out bulletin week after week without any interruption for 75 years is not even imaginable. I personally know as to how difficult it is to bring out a readable bulletin regularly. It's Raja Saboo, who once remarked that Rotary bulletin editors go straight to heaven after death, why because they would have had their full quota of sufferings on earth while doing the bulletins! Preservation of all issues is yet another achievement. I have often found it difficult to get some clarifications from RI even, when I was researching Rotary to write "Know Your Rotary." In fact, "The Rotarian" which I preserved from 1978 to 1998, was my main source of Rotary learning while writing notes for the book. While preparing your club history and for writing Rotary articles, the bulletins will be the most useful

resource. Congratulations to you and the club! Please keep up the good work, as club bulletins are currently an endangered species!

UYARE KAYARILOODE ALL SET TO HIT THE BULLSEYE- Rtn Sethu Ravi (Project Director)



The Uyare Kayariloode, the unique self-employment training programme for 20 women workers is all set to achieve its objectives as we near the concluding day, 2nd December 2024. All the 20 ladies drawn from different groups gave their heart and soul in acquiring the skills in making coir door mats, handicrafts etc.

Though it was planned as a self employment training programme for the women, by availing assistance under PMEG programme, it turned out to be a placement

programme, courtesy to our kind hearted rotarian Dijo, who has offered to provide them work in his factory after successfully completing the training.

Thanks a lot Rtn Dijo for your great gesture.

Also I wish to thank the partners Coir Board Regional Office for providing stipendiary benefits to the women and Alappuzha Coir Cluster Development Society for providing raw materials and

effectively coordinating the training. Special thanks are due to Mrs Asha S Nair, Officer-in-charge(Projects), ACCDS for the great support.





Women in Rotary -Rtn R Krishnan

Tracing back, it is understood that Mrs. Sumitra Raghuvaran of Rotary club of Thuckalay was the First Lady Rotarian of Dist 321/3210. She was one of the prominent lady Rotarians in the Dist. then, with aspirations to become DG. In those times, when lady Rotarians were far and few, she was an active Rotarian who came to the forefront in Rotary activities. Probably the male dominance and her professional commitment was further compounded by the system of rotation for DG

post (alternating between TN and Kerala) that was then prevalent and it robbed away her chance of making it to the top in the District. RC TVM Midcity, (sponsored by RC of TVM Central) was chartered with a lady president, Dr. T Santhakumari Amma. She was a doctor by profession and perhaps this is the first club that got chartered with a woman Rotarian at the helm of affairs, while the Dist. was undivided. Yet another prominent club in those times where ladies were ushered in as Rotarians was our own sponsored club, RC of Shertallai. It was a sight and treat to watch the trio Rosy John, Tina Antony and Dr. Sreedevi Rajan walk together in Rotary meetings and Dist functions. They were very active and supported the club well. Little did we realise then that one will go on to be the First Lady of the District and another to lead the District. By the time Dist 3211 was carved out, there were a few lady Rotarians already in various clubs, even though the numbers were insignificant. It must be said to the credit of the ladies of our District that they were so active in Innerwheel, probably they did not care to join Rotary. They were lending support to the Rotarians from within. It was not as if they were not active. They participated in family meetings and even exhibited their organisational skills as Rotary Anns. Yet another feature of yesteryears was that the ladies participated in events like Dist Conferences and Dist Assemblies. A large turn out of families could be seen in these events in those days. For our ladies then, the priority was family and supporting the Rotarians. They probably took a back seat in coming forward to accept the role of a Rotarian and to go out and render service the way men used to do. It would be out of place at this juncture if I do not mention the name of Mrs. Betty Karan, who probably as the wife of PDG Ravi had thorough knowledge of Rotary and all the Rotary luminaries of not only our District, but world over. She would play perfect host along with PDG. Ravi for the ever so many Rotary dignitaries who used to visit them constantly. Her support as a Rotary Ann to Ravi and our club is phenomenal. Even today the legacy is maintained and despite her extraordinary capabilities, she did not join Rotary, until RC Alleppey made her a Hon. member considering her contributions to RI. Hats off to this wonderful lady.

(With inputs from PDG Suresh Mathew and Rtn. Selvaraj)



DGE Rtn. Dr. Tina Antony



Rtn. Rosie John

To be continued.....and concluded in the next issue..

Minutes of the regular meeting held on 20th November 2024

The meeting was called to order by the president Rtn. John Kurian at 7:30 pm. Rtn. Mohammed Shafeeq invoked the blessings of God almighty. The president Rtn. John Kurian in his speech informed about the sad demise of Rtn. Princy Sebastian's mother's sister. One minute silence was observed in the memory of the departed soul. In the presidential address, the president informed that our family dinner meeting will be held on 25th November and requested maximum participation from the members with their families. It was also informed that the RISE cricket competition will be held on 23rd & 24th November at Kollam and that our club will be participating in the tournament.

Then the Secretary Rtn. Sujith T S thanked everyone present at the meeting and offered special thanks to the host of the meeting Rtn. Joseph Francis. Then the meeting was adjourned by the president at 8:30 for dinner and fellowship.

Rtn. Sujith T S
Secretary

MY FITNESS CHALLENGE



-Rtn John Kurian

I am extremely happy to read Royalweeks every week, particularly the My Fitness Challenge column. It is gratifying to learn that many of our rotarian friends are conscious on maintaining their fitness. I profusely thank the versatile editor Rtn Kumaraswamy Pillai for introducing the column in the Royalweeks to motivate the members in maintaining their fitness level. While I was working in the Dubai Military Services during the 80s, I used to give proper care to maintain my fitness level. After my repatriation to India, I continued maintain my fitness level by playing badminton and also walking in the morning. But the Surgery undergone by me two and a half years back for implantation of pace maker, I have been advised by the Doctor to avoid heavy exercises. Nowadays I follow the following daily schedule: I used to get up every day by 5.30 am. After brushing I will go for a half-an-hour walk. It may not be a brisk walk but in a moderate speed, in view of pace maker implant. On my return from the walking, I start scanning the WhatsApp messages and respond to those. Also I make calls to my rotarian friends to wish them birthday/anniversary greetings and to organise the other club activities. Thereafter I go for the routine activities for the day. My appeal to all rotarians is to start exercising, if you are not doing. The simplest way is walking. Good luck.

CLUB ROUNDUP



Remembrance Day & Family Dinner Meet was celebrated on 25th November, coinciding with the death anniversary of PDG Revi Karunakaran. (Detailed report and photographs will be inserted in issue #23)



A RO water filter was donated by the President Rtn. John Kurian to Superintendent of District Hospital, Alappuzha on 26th November 24.



Rotary Alleppey Revenue District had a remarkable performance this year under RISE competitions. Alleppey won the following prizes in the RISE:
Above 40 years (Alleppey Blasters)-
Winners & Ever Rolling Trophy
Below 40 years (Alleppey Strikers)- Runner Up



Annet Ritika, grand daughter of Rtn Rosie John and daughter of Rtn Jose K Mani & Nisha, got married to Kevin. Royalweeks wishes happy married life to Ritika and Kevin



Rtn Joji Cyriac

This Rotarian is a new face amongst us, inducted to the club a couple of months back. But he jelled with all of us very fast. Not only that, he is always in the forefront in club's projects. He was one among the three members participated in beach cleaning project in association with the W&C hospital organised a couple of weeks back. Joji also participated in the TRF District Seminar held at Kazhakoottam recently. Joji has already proved that he is a safe bet as a future leader of the Rotary Club of Alleppey. Royalweeks happily places Rtn Joji Cyriac in the spotlight this week and wish him a wonderful career in Rotary.

NEXT MEETING

There will not be any meeting on 27th November as the meeting was preponed and organised as a Remembrance Day & Family Dinner Meeting on 25th November 24 Hosted by: **Rtn Abdul Rahim, Rtn Mohemmed Shafeeq, Rtn Jacob Neroth Rtn Subramonia Iyer, Rtn N A M Kunju, Rtn Sethu Ravi**



6 Zarina D/o Rtn. Jacob Philipose **6** Rtn. John Mathew
17 Rithika D/o Rtn.S. Murugan **18** Rtn'e Shyma Vijayakumar
19 Rtn. Tom F Joseph **20** Appu S/o Rtn. Raju Chandy



9 Rtn. V. Deepak & Sindhu
16 Rtn. B.S. Ajith Vani & Asha
30 Rtn. Tom F Joseph & Lancy

TEAM 2024 — 2025

PRESIDENT - Rtn John Kurian | **VICE PRESIDENT** - Rtn T.S.Ajith
PRESIDENT ELECT - Rtn Lakshmi Gopakumar | **SECRETARY** - Rtn T.S.Sujith
TREASURER - Rtn R.N.Ajith | **Imm.PP** - Rtn John .V.George
CLUB ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR - Rtn Vijayalakshmi Nair | **ROTARY FOUNDATION** - Rtn T.Sivakumar
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR - Rtn George Jose Malayil | **PUBLIC RELATION DIRECTOR** - Rtn Tomy Pulikkattil
SERVICE PROJECT DIRECTOR - Rtn Raju Chandy | **BULLETIN EDITOR** - Rtn M Kumaraswamy Pillai
CLUB ADVISOR - Rtn Mohamed Shafeeq | **GENERAL CO-ORDINATOR** - Rtn K.Chierian
CLUB TRAINER - Rtn R.Krishnan | **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** - Rtn George Thomas
Jt. SECRETARY - Rtn Dr.Sethu Ravi | **SERGEANT AT ARMS** - Rtn Princy Sebastain

STRATEGIC COMMITTEE

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE - Rtn Sajan.B.Nair | **DIST. PROJECT** - Rtn Adv. Venugopala Panicker
GENERAL CONVENOR - Rtn Prof. Gopinathan Nair | **CLUB SERVICE** - Rtn Adv. S.Murugan
COMMUNITY SERVICE - Rtn Subramania Iyer | **FOCUS PROJECT** - Rtn Adv. V Deepak
VOCATIONAL SERVICE - Rtn Jose Arathupally | **FAMILY OF ROTARY** - Rtn Rosie John
YOUTH SERVICE - Rtn Ambu Vaidyan | **LITERACY MISSION AND CLUB HISTORIAN** - Rtn Tomi Eapen
CLUB RECREATION - Rtn Naga Raj | **CLUB IT OFFICER** - Rtn Lukose Mathew Malayil
CLUB PROJECTS - Rtn R.Sreenivasan | **FESTIVAL AND FELLOWSHIP** - Rtn Jijo Chacko

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