



EDITORIALLY YOURS



Rotary has always been built on the enduring pillars of friendship and fellowship, where members complement one another in their shared mission to make a difference in the world. For 76 glorious years, the Rotary Club of Alleppey has exemplified these values, setting a shining example for others to follow. I recall many examples of enduring friendship and fellowship illustrated in the history book for seven decades by Rtn Tomi Eapen. At the heart of our club's ethos are remarkable individuals like Gopi Sir and Teacher, who lead with humility, generosity, and a genuine commitment to uplifting others. They are accomplished Teachers not only in their profession, but in the Rotary for the new Rotarians. Any Rotarian not only in our Club, but in the District too, who has been assigned any responsibility can approach Gopi Sir, a repository of Rotary knowledge and he with Teacher will be in the forefront to support him. They will be also taking the time to recognise and appreciate even the smallest achievements of Rotarians. This unwavering encouragement inspires all of us to strive for more, knowing that our efforts will always be valued. Their selflessness and commitment to the larger Rotary family reflect the true spirit of Rotary—coming together to celebrate fellowship, exchange ideas, and create lasting change. As we continue our journey of service, let us draw inspiration from this exemplary Rotary couple. Their actions remind us of the profound impact we can have when we lead with kindness, collaboration, and an unwavering dedication to our values. Happy anniversary wishes in advance to Gopi Sir & Teacher.

One of the key areas of focus in Rotary is Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution, a commitment that resonates deeply with the recent ceasefire in Gasa. This moment of respite presents an invaluable opportunity to foster dialogue, rebuild trust, and address the underlying causes of conflict that have plagued the region. Rotary's principles emphasize collaborative solutions and community engagement, both of which can play a pivotal role in ensuring that this ceasefire becomes a stepping stone toward lasting peace. As stakeholders rally to sustain this fragile truce, the Rotary ideal of resolving disputes through understanding and cooperation stands as a guiding beacon for all involved.

Jai Rotary!  
Rtn PAG M Kumaraswamy Pillai

## സമാധാനത്തിന്റെ വെള്ളരിപ്രാവുകൾ പറക്കട്ടെ



(ഗ്രാസയിൽ വെടിനിർത്തൽ കരാർ ഒപ്പുവച്ച വാർത്ത ലോകമെമ്പാടും ഒട്ടേറെ ആശ്വാസത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് ശ്രവിച്ചത്. തുടർന്ന് 19നു ഞായറാഴ്ച ഉച്ചയോടെ വെടിനിർത്തൽ പ്രാബല്യത്തിൽ വന്നു. യുദ്ധത്തിന്റെ ഭീകരമുഖം തന്റെ കവിതയിലൂടെ വരച്ചുകാട്ടുകയാണ് നമ്മുടെ കവിയത്രി ദീപ സുജിത്. സമാധാനത്തിന്റെ വെള്ളരിപ്രാവുകൾ പറത്തുവാൻ ആഹ്വാനം ചെയ്തുകൊണ്ടാണ് കവിത അവസാനിക്കുന്നത്. സമൂഹനന്മക്ക് വേണ്ടി തന്റെ തൂലികചലിപ്പിക്കുന്ന ദീപ സുജിത്തിന് അഭിനന്ദനങ്ങൾ - എഡിറ്റർ)

നിണമണിഞ്ഞ രണ്ടുവിൽ  
മുഴങ്ങുന്നു വെടിയൊച്ചകൾ  
തകർന്നടിയുന്നു പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങൾ  
ഭവനങ്ങൾ ആതുരാലയങ്ങൾ  
ഗർജ്ജിക്കുന്നു ബോംബുകൾ മിസൈലുകൾ  
തച്ചുടച്ചു പരിസ്ഥിതിയാകവേ  
പിടഞ്ഞൊടുങ്ങുന്നു കുരുനുകൾ  
നാമാവശേഷമാകുന്നു  
മാനവരാശിയൊന്നാകെ...  
ബാക്കിപത്രങ്ങൾ അനാഥർ  
മനം തകർന്നവർ  
അംഗപരിമിതർ  
നിസ്സഹായതയുടെ നേർകാഴ്ചകൾ...

പലായനങ്ങൾക്കിപ്പുറം  
പ്രതീക്ഷതൻ തുരുത്തണഞ്ഞുവോ  
ഭയചകിതമാം ദിനരാത്രങ്ങൾ  
വിടവാങ്ങുന്നുവോ

മരണശാലകൾ രചിച്ചുകൊണ്ട്  
ഇനിയും പുലരികൾ പിറക്കാതിരിക്കട്ടെ  
ചുടലപ്പറമ്പുകളെറിയാതിരിക്കട്ടെ  
കലാപത്തിൻ സന്തതികളേയോ തേടി  
അലയാതിരിക്കട്ടെ  
നിരാലംബർതൻ നിലവിലിളകുയരാ തിരിക്കട്ടെ  
സമാധാനത്തിൻ വെള്ളരിപ്രാവുകൾ പറക്കട്ടെ



ദീപ സുജിത്



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





# Minutes of the regular meeting held on 15th January 2025

The meeting was called to order by the President Rtn. John Kurian at 7:30 pm. Rtn. Cherian K invoked the blessings of god almighty. The president Rtn. John Kurian in his speech, welcomed the guest Rotarian, Alan Brooks from UK. Then the President informed that elaborate arrangements are being made by the DG Sudhi Jabbar, Organising Committee Chair Krishnakumar and his team for making the District Conference 2025, "Valiya Perunal" scheduled to be held on 8/9, February 2025 at Gokuldham Park, Kochi a memorable one and requested the members to register in large numbers. The President added that participating in the District Conference is very much essential for Rotarians especially for new members. Thereafter President informed that today's meeting is being hosted by the club. The Secretary Rtn. Sujith T S thanked the guest Rtn. Alan Brooks and all the other rotarians present in the meeting. Then the meeting was adjourned by the president at 8.00 pm for dinner and fellowship

**Rtn. Sujith T S**

Secretary

## Importance of attendance in Rotary meetings

**"Attendance percentage is the health indicator of the club. Attendance is the bulwark of Rotary"**



"On the foundation of attendance, rest all things in the attainment of Rotary's objectives. The chronic absentee doesn't give to Rotary. He receives nothing from Rotary. He is a burden to the club, a faulty cog on the wheel. He is neither fair to his club nor to himself." strong words from RI President (1919-20) Albert S Adams. These quotes give an idea of the importance Rotary used to attach to attendance in club meetings in yesteryears. But to the millennial members of Rotary clubs the importance of attendance is not that serious.

A cross section of the society meeting regularly with a definite purpose or cause is definitely to the advantage of each member. The acquaintance gradually grows to friendships and friendships brings in a one family feeling in Rotarians and their families. And once this is achieved, the Rotarians start attending all the meetings religiously and participate in all club projects.

### Club's Duty

When a new member joins the club, he/she accepts the responsibility of attending the meetings of the club regularly and engage in the club's service projects and other events and projects. That does not and should not mean that the club's responsibility ends there. The new member should be groomed to become a true Rotarian, by immediately allocating some responsibility to him/her so as to ensure his/her participation and by showing keen interest on the new inductee by other Rotarians. On the contrary, if no

body is bothered when the new member is missing in the meetings due to some reason or other, he/she will get a feeling that his/her attendance is not important to others and this will prompt the member to give lesser priority to rotary. If the nonchalant attitude of President and other fellow Rotarians continue, the new member's interest and priority for Rotary will slowly erode and culminate in the abandonment of the Club.

For good attendance in the club, the President/Rotarians/Committee concerned with fellowship and attendance should be alert and active always. If there is good programmes and fellowship half the job is done. Club bulletin also can stimulate interest in Rotarians to attend the meetings.

### Meetings- Most Important

The manner in which meeting is conducted is another factor. From invocation to vote of thanks, the meeting should be lively without any drag. Meetings should result in value addition also. As far as possible, everything should be over in an hour's time. Guest speaker may be asked to stick to the maximum time stipulation (usually twenty minutes).

Another important thing is that meetings should start on time. Clubs which are not strict in timings may find it difficult to change all on a sudden. But if a few meetings are started on time, the initial inertia could be overcome. Even those members who may criticise the strict timings will in due course start appreciating the punctuality.

Rotary used to hail 100% attendance (perfect attendance) records. The number of years of perfect attendance used to be a permanent item in the resumes of dedicated Rotarians. For eg., the RI publication Paul Harris and his Successors, you can see RI President (1960-61) Edd McLaughlin holding fifty years of perfect attendance. But one thing is to be remembered. Attendance is not for attendance's sake. Attendance without participation is un Rotary. 100% attendance with 100% participation in club activities was not uncommon thing in Rotary.

Personal calls from the President of the club or attendance committee Chairman for persuading a member for make up of the missed meeting is always better than the impersonal written reminders or warnings or WhatsApp messages.

Family get together is important from the club's attendance point of view also. Regularly monthly get together is preferable to crowding the same in certain months and skipping it in certain other months. If the first lady of the club can personally invite all ladies for such meetings, there is nothing like that. It is a good practice to recognise Rotarians and their family members who have reaped one or the other achievements, at these meetings. Some clubs select the lucky partner, lucky children and the lucky couple through lots and present them with gifts. In any case the invisible role played by the partners in the club's good attendance should not be underestimated. Recognise their contribution whenever there is an occasion for doing so.

The meaning of attendance in Rotary is not confined to attending club meetings alone. The Club Administration should encourage and ensure members' attendance in district functions and club projects. Special emphasis should be laid on district conference, an ideal place for widening the friendship and for updating Rotary information. International Convention should also be targeted.



(to be continued.....)

**(Next week: Attendance Not a Club Subject)**

(Source: Know Your Rotary- by Rtn N Bhaskaran Pillai)





## Rotary Project to provide 6,600 solar eclipse glasses to students in Ohio.

In anticipation of the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, the Rotary Club of Bucyrus, Ohio, undertook a project to provide 6,600 solar eclipse glasses to students across Crawford County.

The initiative began in late 2022 when Rotarian and high school science teacher Julie Rexroad proposed supplying every student in the county with protective eyewear for the event. The club approved a budget of \$4,300 for the purchase. Members then designed, ordered, stored, and eventually delivered the glasses, which were sourced from a company recommended by a local astronomy club.

In the fall of 2023, school districts were contacted to determine the number of glasses needed for their students. Upon receiving the glasses, Rexroad's Science Club and Interact Club members sorted them for each school. On January 31, 2024, Rotary members, including Rexroad and Tami Tima-Burk, delivered the glasses to schools in Bucyrus, Buckeye Central, Colonel Crawford, Crestline, Galion, Galion St. Joe's,

Wayside Christian, and Wynford.

This effort ensured that students could safely experience the rare celestial event, as Crawford County was located in the path of totality. Rexroad emphasized the significance of the occasion, stating, "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for most of us in our area. Rotary is so glad that we were able to give all Crawford County schools the solar eclipse glasses for their students."

While specific photos of the distribution process are not available in the provided sources, the Bucyrus Telegraph-Forum featured an article on February 5, 2024, highlighting the project and its impact on local schools.

This initiative is an example of Rotary's commitment to supporting education and community engagement, providing students with the tools to safely observe and learn from astronomical events.

The project of providing 6,600 solar eclipse glasses to students in Ohio was sanctioned under Rotary's Education and Community Service initiatives. Specific details about its alignment with Rotary's global projects were not mentioned in the sources, but it likely falls under Rotary's "Basic Education and Literacy" area of focus, as it supports learning and student engagement through a scientific event.

**Financial Implications:** The total financial implications of the project was \$4,300, which covered the cost of designing, purchasing, storing, and distributing the solar eclipse glasses.

This includes enhancing educational opportunities and ensuring students have access to resources that foster learning and safety during educational activities, like observing a solar eclipse. If you'd like me to verify further details or focus areas, let me know!

Thanks to the foresight of the Rotary Club of Bucyrus, Ohio, students were outfitted with 6,600 pairs of glasses for the 8 April total solar eclipse. In late 2022, with the eclipse still nearly two years away, "we talked about how neat it would be to get solar eclipse glasses for every school in our county for their students for the big event," says Julie Rexroad, a club member, Interact club adviser, and science teacher at Wynford Local Schools. Once the club approved the \$4,300 purchase, members designed, ordered, stored, and eventually delivered the glasses, purchased online from a company recommended by a local astronomy club. "Our location in Ohio is in the totality zone, and it is a once-in-a-lifetime event for most," Rexroad says. For those missing out, northern Ohio can always look forward to 2099.



## Glimpses of 3930th meeting held on 15/01/2025







### Rtn PAG Sajan B Nair

This time senior Rotarian Sajan is in the spotlight. Ever since he joined RC Alleppey, Sajan was an active Rotarian and he continues to be even today. Sajan became the Golden Jubilee President in the year 1999-2000 and Centennial Asst. Governor in the year 2004-05 where he was allotted all the 13 clubs in the Alleppey revenue district as against 3/4 clubs allotted to AGs nowadays. Historian Tomi in his seven decades of History had mentioned about several plays/skits/Ottanthullal enacted by a team of Rotary members including seniors like late Kallarcod Narayanan Nair, late K S Janardhanan, late Perumal Jacob, late P C Mathew et al; of which Sajan used to be an integral part. Sajan despite having a fractured hand, played "Mahabali" in the Onam celebrations of our club, a couple of years back. Give any assignment, Sajan will think out of the box and make it the best. We have witnessed the same in the inauguration of Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, where he introduced the Chief Guest PRID Mahesh Kotbagi with the aid of a Ppt. Sajan served as a faculty in the Pre-PELS, recently held at Kollam, getting appreciation from all the participants. Royalweeks congratulates Rtn PAG Sajan B Nair and places him in the spotlight this week

## NEXT MEETING

@7.30 pm on 22nd January 2025. Host: Rtn Adv Venugopala Panickar



**4** Rtn. Aju Jacob Mathew **7** Rtn'e. Rosamma Jacob w/o Rtn. Jacob Neroth  
**7** Annet Anju d/o. Rtn. R. Sreenivasan **9** Rtn. Jijo Chacko **9** Rtn. Dr. Sethu Ravi  
**14** Vidhu M Unnithan **19** Annet Gowri Sankar (S/o Unnikrishnan)  
**20** Annet Anoop S/o Rtn. T. Sivakumar **20** Ajith B S **22** Rtn. T. Sivakumar  
**26** Annet Sharat s/o Tomi Eapen **27** Rtn. V. Deepak

### JANUARY



**1** Rtn. Thomaskutty Joseph & Tessy  
**10** Rtn. Jacob Philipose & Sethu  
**25** Rtn. Murugan & Sindhu **26** Rtn. Babu Joseph & Neena  
**27** Rtn. Prof. Gopinathan Nair & Vijayalakshmi Nair

### 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.Churian  
**CLUB TRAINER** - Rtn R.Krishnan | **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY** - Rtn George Thomas  
**JL. 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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