



Be the reason someone
feels welcome, seen,
heard, valued, loved,
and supported.



RID 3291
Rotary
Garden Reach



August 6th, 2024 - Vol. 47 No. 06

2277th Regular Weekly Meeting
Attendance: 20

Birthday Greetings

Aug 7th Spouse Shikhadyuti, Wife of PP Kumud C Kar
Aug 8th Spouse Debasis, Husband of PP Mousumi Bhattacharyya

Greetings on Anniversary

Aug 6th Spouse Ratna & Rtn. Debasis Das
Aug 11th Spouse Sheela & PP Amitav Ganguly

Light

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Enriching Your Rotary Membership

Rotary offers benefits for people of all ages and backgrounds. From learning more about the world to learning more about yourself, you can grow by engaging with Rotary's global network and the array of activities, programs, and interest groups that Rotary offers.

When you get involved in Rotary, whether as a Rotarian, Rotaractor, Interactor or program participant, you expand your perspective by honing your skills, learning from professionals, making new connections, and making a difference in your community and around the world.

We know that each member has a unique combination of interests, skills, and talents, and so each member will be attracted to different activities. This guide describes the options you can choose from to personalize your Rotary experience and get involved in ways that matter to you.

GROWING MEMBERSHIP INCREASES THE GOOD WE CAN DO!



Maximizing your Rotary membership involves actively engaging with the organization's activities through your club and beyond, leveraging its network, and contributing to its mission. By actively participating in your Rotary club and leveraging its resources, you can maximize the benefits of your membership while contributing significantly to Rotary's mission of Service Above Self.

USE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE. Many districts have a district resource network of local experts who can use their experience, technical knowledge, and project-planning skills to assist clubs in the design and implementation of meaningful projects. Contact your district international service chair to offer your skills to mentor clubs and improve communities.

HOW WILL YOU GET INVOLVED? With so many ways to get involved, you can design the Rotary experience that suits you best. Talk to your fellow club members and leaders and share your interests and ideas. Take an active role in shaping your club. All of this will allow you to get the most out of your Rotary experience!



PEACE AND CONFLICT
PREVENTION / RESOLUTION



DISEASE PREVENTION
AND TREATMENT



WATER AND
SANITATION



MATERNAL AND
CHILD HEALTH



MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB
DEVELOPMENT MONTH



BASIC EDUCATION AND
LITERACY



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT



SUPPORTING THE
ENVIRONMENT

RI President Stephanie A Urchick – August’s Message

If we are to truly change the world with **The Magic of Rotary**, it’s up to all of us to foster a sense of belonging in our clubs. But every club should take its own path to get there, and the Action Plan can help you find your way. What does that look like?

Take for instance the Rotary Beveren-Waas in Belgium. It was chartered in 1974 but has evolved with the times, developing both a strategic plan and a membership plan. To find new members, the club analyses the city’s professions to help focus its search, and all new members are quickly assigned tasks and roles.

The club also mixes up meeting times, alternating between evening and afternoon sessions, making them accessible for all members.



Sometimes, circumstances force clubs to make changes. But as people of action, we know that behind every obstacle is an opportunity.

The Rotary Holyoke in Massachusetts was forced from its meeting place because of rising costs after the COVID-19 pandemic, but members took this setback and turned it into a strength. The club started meeting in a library community room that was available for no charge and catering lunch from a nearby deli. Lunch costs \$10 per person but it’s optional, so no one has to spend money to attend a meeting. What a great way to work toward being “fair to all

concerned.”

Since making this change, the Holyoke club has gained 13 members. I suspect part of its membership growth is due to the club’s sense of inclusivity — the first step toward belonging.

If you ask members what they expect from the club experience, you might find that your club doesn’t meet expectations. Think of this as an opportunity to reshape your club in exciting ways, as alternative club models are making a positive impact.

For example, a Rotary Fellowship called Beers Rotarians Enjoy Worldwide, or BREW, has worked closely with the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Rotary Action Group for the past eight years to assist with clean water projects. In that time, BREW has funnelled 25 percent of its dues to those initiatives.

BREW is one of many examples of members pursuing belonging to improve the world.

I can’t stress enough the importance of belonging. Clubs become simply irresistible when all members feel that they are exactly where they need to be. To me, belonging is the spark that ignites The Magic of Rotary.

As you receive feedback from club members and the community you serve, I urge you to pursue that spark. The Action Plan can help you find the path to success, and if you light your way with the spirit of belonging, that path will lead to a bright future for your club, your community, and the world.

Filling a void and Making a Difference

For David Cochran, the Rotary Alpharetta, Georgia, helped fill a void after spending his career working in leadership positions in global corporations. In 2017, Cochran was at a crossroads as he approached retirement age. He attended a symposium held in conjunction with the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, at which Rotarian entrepreneur Jim Marggraff gave a speech about using technology to solve problems and connect for social good. Cochran introduced himself, and that sparked a friendship, as well as a partnership. After attending the screening of a virtual reality film from the convention that Marggraff helped develop, Cochran was inspired to join Rotary. Along with other Rotary members, they launched a non-profit called the Global Impact Group to make a positive societal and humanitarian impact using technology.





PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION / RESOLUTION



DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT



WATER AND SANITATION



MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH



MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



SUPPORTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Through this work, Cochran is finding fulfilment in ways he never expected. And he’s learned that satisfaction doesn’t just come from the output. “Not everything needs to be work,” he says. “It’s finding these crucial moments to enjoy one another, to open yourself up to different possibilities.”

When Tom Gump joined the Rotary Edina/Morningside, Minnesota, in 2013, he, too, wanted to meet friends. What he found — in the midst of a tragedy that affected his household — was something even more profound.

Gump and his family hosted a Rotary Youth Exchange student from Spain, Paco Tebar Gomez, at their home in 2017-18. During his stay, Paco’s dad died by suicide, and the family’s church in Spain wouldn’t perform a funeral service. Tom and his wife, Catherine, now a member of the Rotary Edina, flew Paco’s mom and two siblings to Minnesota so that the family could grieve together.

When the Gump’s put out a call for help, their Rotary friends answered. One had lost his own father to suicide

and showed up to support Paco and to listen. Another brought his dog over to spend time with the grieving teenager. And, together, Rotarians helped plan a heartfelt memorial service for Paco’s dad.

The service was held at the Gump family’s church on the rainiest of nights. Nearly 300 Rotarians filed in, smiling at videos showing Paco’s dad — a juggler — tossing balls in the air. Eyes welled up as stories unfolded about a man who was, to most attendees, a stranger.

Gump looked around in awe. He’d joined Rotary to meet friends. But the love and support he felt in this moment were beyond anything he could have imagined. “That’s when I realized Rotary is more than a club,” he says. *“It’s a family.”*



Sangkoo Yun is selected to be 2026-27 RI President

Sangkoo Yun, of the Rotary Sae Hanyang, Seoul, Korea, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International’s president for 2026-27. He will be officially declared the president-nominee on 15 September if no other candidates challenge him.

Yun received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the Syracuse University School of Architecture in the U.S. and an honorary doctoral degree from The University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He is the founder and CEO of Dongsuh Corp., which engineers and markets architectural materials, and the president of Youngan Corp., which operates in

real estate and financial investment. He is involved in many civic organizations and has a special interest in the preservation of cultural heritage.

A Rotary member since 1987, when he was a charter member of the Rotary Sae Hanyang, Yun has served Rotary International as a Director, Trustee, Committee member and Chair, and RI Learning Facilitator. He served for eight years as Co-chair of the *Keep Mongolia Green Project*, by Korean members of Rotary. His RI Committee roles include the Board Administration Committee (2013-15, Vice-chair 2014-15), the International Assembly Committee (Vice-chair, 2020-21), and the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (Regional Vice-chair, 2023-27). He also served on The Rotary Foundation’s Executive Committee (2019-22,





Chair 2020-21) and Programs Committee (2019-22, Chair 2020-22).

Yun received The Rotary Foundation’s Distinguished Service Award in 2021-22. He was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II, awarded the Friendship Medal by the president of Mongolia, and recognized for distinguished services by the President and Prime Minister of Korea. He is a veteran of the Republic of Korea Army and an emeritus elder at Andong Presbyterian Church.

Yun and his spouse, Eunsun, are Rotary Foundation Benefactors, Major Donors, and members of the Arch Klumph Society, the Paul Harris Society, and the Bequest Society. They have two children.

Members are the Magic

Mark Daniel Maloney, TRF Trustee Chair

I love our many Rotary traditions, especially our emblem: the wheel. Whenever I put on my Rotary pin, admire a new club’s logo, or spot the emblem on a volunteer’s t-shirt, I am inspired by the possibilities that wheel represents. Early in Rotary, our predecessors envisioned it as a gear, part of a sturdy machine making great things happen. It remains that, and much more. To me, it also symbolises cycles and movement on our journey of doing good in the world. *August is Rotary’s Membership and New Club Development Month*, and I encourage you to think about the cyclical connection between membership and The Rotary Foundation.

When we have engaged members in dynamic clubs, The Magic of Rotary happens. Members — both new and experienced — deepen their commitment to each other and their communities. And that local engagement attracts attention and more members.

Gradually, the new members realise their club is part of a powerful organisation that is making lasting change in the world. They learn about the Foundation, support it, and perhaps apply for a grant. They see themselves as part of the movement that will eradicate polio. As our members’ experience deepens, so does their commitment to Rotary at all levels. The public sees our impact, making Rotary irresistible. New members join, new clubs are formed, and the cycle continues. With each turn of the wheel, we grow Rotary and our Foundation.



There are countless ways this magical connection between clubs and our Foundation can unfold. For instance, 100% Paul Harris Fellow clubs, where every member is a Paul Harris Fellow, showcase how engaged clubs are directly connected to the Foundation. Some clubs even up the ante, like the Rotary Crescent (Greensboro), North Carolina, whose 125 members are all Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors and Sustaining Members simultaneously.

But you do not need to be in such a “triple crown” club to make a difference. I am asking all Rotary members to remember this month’s goal for what I’m calling Mark’s Magical Markers: Please make the personal commitment to contribute what you can to the Annual Fund by August 31. **Do it right now, before you forget, at rotary.org/give.** While you are there, set up a recurring direct donation. With your help, we can keep that great wheel of Rotary and its Foundation rolling in the right direction, moving toward something greater tomorrow than we can even imagine today.





PEACE AND CONFLICT
PREVENTION / RESOLUTION



DISEASE PREVENTION
AND TREATMENT



WATER AND
SANITATION



MATERNAL AND
CHILD HEALTH



MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB
DEVELOPMENT MONTH



BASIC EDUCATION AND
LITERACY



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT



SUPPORTING THE
ENVIRONMENT

West Bengal villages get Sanitation facilities

Over 500 households in villages across West Bengal are now complete with toilets, thanks to a global grant project of Rotary Calcutta Chowrenghee, RID 3291, along with international partner Rotary New York Metro City, USA, and TRF. “Open defecation was rampant in the villages, and women and girls particularly were at danger, as this made them vulnerable to health risks and gender-based violence, and affected their dignity and self-respect,” says PP Vikram Tantia, Foundation Committee Chair of the host club. Hence the club decided to install toilets in



individual houses in these villages.

Many hamlets are situated 100–200km from Kolkata, in the Sundarbans, Kultali, Magrahat, Bishnupur, Rajpur and Howrah. “When we performed the ‘needs assessment’ as per TRF norms, we realised that there was a pressing need for bathrooms too. Women and girls were bathing in the open pond. So, we added community bath facilities and tube wells to our projects in those villages,” he says. The bath stations, each with two bathrooms, will safeguard the dignity of women, and water will be sourced from the tube wells. The total project cost was \$212,000 which was released by the Foundation in two phases. It helped provide 500 toilets, 19 community bath stations and 28 tube wells.

Begun in 2019, and overcoming various challenges during Covid, the project was completed in July 2024. “This work now benefits around 20,000 people across 17 villages”.

RID 3170 PDG Ganesh Bhat, during one of his visits to the project site as TRF’s technical cadre member, suggested each village build a corpus for the maintenance of public facilities such as the bath stations and tube wells. At a meeting in one of the villages, he asked the women if they can afford to contribute ₹1 every day, and “they readily agreed.” Thus, was born the **Har Ghar Har Din Ek Rupai** scheme where every household contributes ₹1 daily to build a corpus of at least ₹25,000 a year. On an average each village has around 80 houses. “This fund can make the project self-sustaining, taking care of minor repairs and regular upkeep of the common facilities,” says Bhat. Bank accounts were opened in the villages to deposit the corpus funds.

To discourage manual scavenging, Bhat, a civil engineer himself, suggested twin pits to be constructed to hold the human waste from the toilets in the households. PVC valves were fitted between the two pits to transfer sewage from one pit to another when it fills up. The villagers were taught to keep the toilets in their households clean.

Rotary Calcutta Chowrenghee outsourced training and supervision of the projects to Green EDP Promotion and Services, an organisation expert in WASH. Rotary Community Corps and Rotakids, a Rotary club for the village children, were installed in the villages and the members were assigned the task of supervising the facilities. The RCC members were taught to operate bank accounts, repair pumps and fix taps, and other maintenance work, says PP Vikram. The club organised awareness sessions on environment, hygiene and sanitation for the villagers during the project tenure.





PEACE AND CONFLICT
PREVENTION / RESOLUTION



DISEASE PREVENTION
AND TREATMENT



WATER AND
SANITATION



MATERNAL AND
CHILD HEALTH



MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB
DEVELOPMENT MONTH



BASIC EDUCATION AND
LITERACY



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT



SUPPORTING THE
ENVIRONMENT

Minutes of the 2276th RWM held on July 30th, 2024 at BNR Officers' Club, Garden Reach

1. President call the meeting to order and requested the members to rise for the National Anthem.
2. President discussed and confirmed the medical camp at Kowgachi, Shyamnagar, August 11th, 2024. Around 100 persons will be there at the camp. Team from Ekbalpore Nursing Home will be there to assist the Doctors from our club. The following examinations will be undertaken: ECG, Dental hygiene, Orthopedic, dermatology and Gynecology. 6 doctors consented to attending the medical camp.
3. President requested members to attend the orphanage at Dongaria - Ramakrishna Gayatri Sevasram for flag hoisting and community lunch on August 15th, 2024. Details about logistics will be posted soon.
4. PP Mousumi informed about the collection and part expenses incurred on Installation day. Members & guests attended were 115. Details of collection and expenses will be informed in the next meeting.
5. Treasurer PP Timir informed that QR code for the Bank account and opening of the Trust account will be completed by next week. Requested all members to deposit the seed money of Rs. 2500, once the account is functional. Also requested members to expedite the SAD payment. Members requested Treasurer to complete the audited accounts for the year 2023-24 soon.
6. It was also brought to the notice that club registration renewal is pending for the last 5 years and the matter has been taken up by Secretary on priority and arrangements are being made to regularize the same as soon as possible.
7. The Club Secretary conducted the Club business.
8. On confirmation of the minutes, President Biswajit terminated the meeting.