

Vol. XXIX | Issue No. 7 | 15th October 2023

Rotary 


CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

RI President: Rtn. Gordon R McInally
Dist. Governor: Rtn. Hira Lal Yadav
Club President: Rtn. Amrita Basu
Club Secretary: Rtn. Atreya Roychowdhury
Club Editor: Rtn. Subhojit Roy

For private circulation only

METRO MAIL



BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB OF CALCUTTA METRO CITY

RI District 3291 | Charter Date : 14/06/1995 | Club No. : 30869



Wish all the Readers of Metro Mail a Happy Durga Puja and Vijaya Dasahami in advance!!!



October is a month which usually is the month of celebrations, joy and festivities for us in Bengal. The greatest gift that Rotary has given us is that we share our joy and happiness with the less fortunate and we usually find most of the clubs, big or small, trying to come forward and serving them in their own unique ways.

October is also the Economic and Community Development Month for Rotary which tries to bring in measurable development and uplift in quality of the lives of the community in need. Apart from everything else it tries to reduce poverty, the basic index for growth for any Nation. But perhaps a change in the vision in creating such development projects can be made, we are still stuck with certain specific gender centric/biased projects or initiatives, we need to seriously consider Community Need Based Assessment to implement projects.

A few Sundays back I was attending a Leaders Meet at the invitation of DG Hiralal Yadav, while hospitality and ambience was spot on but I left highly dissatisfied with the content. Once again as on last occasion PRIP Shekhar Mehta's propensity to sell Global Grants and big ticket projects to middle of the rung perplexed club leaders was quite intriguing and sometimes baffling leaving me thinking why does our leaders not ask club to collaborate rather than compete. These days I feel that the bonhomie between Presidents is clearly absent due to competition being set by our District and International leaders. I always feel that the need to identify and understand the capacities of clubs trying to major implement projects. Such projects must have sustainability otherwise they will not be able to withstand the financial burden.

Do enjoy the greatest festival of India, Durga Puja, while you enjoy with your loved ones do keep an eye and heart for those who are not as fortunate as you are and try to stand with them.

(This editorial is based entirely on my personal views and may not reflect my Club's Views)

EDITORIAL
Subhojit Roy

Obituary

James L. Lacy

Past Rotary International President, 1998-99

James L. Lacy served as President of Rotary International in 1998-99. The Rotary motto for his year was "Follow Your Rotary Dream". Jim's dream was to generate a program that would improve the lot of children in the world – "to help a child in need. "We must champion the causes of children. We may be moved to tears, but we must also be moved to action." During his year as President, Rotary International generated twenty million dollars for Children's Opportunity Grants around the world.

Lacy joined the Cookeville Rotary Club in 1964. He was president of the club, led a GSE team to England in 1977 and he was district governor in 1980-81. Of course he is always accompanied by his charming and resourceful wife Claudine.

In 2005 the James & Claudine Lacy Fund was established in the Putnam County school system by the Cookeville club. Funds are contributed for use by the school district to provide clothes, shoes, and other necessities to students. The fund was established to recognize Jim's service as RI president and his worldwide program of improving the lot of the world's children. For many years, Jim also raised millions of dollars annually for Polio eradication by working with the US Congress for Polio funding for the CDC.

Jim Lacy would have turned 93.

PDG Shyamashree Sen *remembers PRIP James L. Lacy*

I had just completed a very interesting, successful and challenging year as President of my former club in Salt Lake and PDG Prabhat Krishna Rohatgi invited me to be the Co chair of his Governor's Monthly Letter. During that year our theme was "Follow Your Rotary Dream", and that is exactly what I did. I am really sad that in the past couple of years we have had to bid adieu to many of our senior RI past or incumbent Presidents. This morning I woke up to the sad news of the passing of James L. Lacy. May he rest in peace. May his near and dear ones have the strength to bear their loss. A man who loved and cared for children and annually raised huge amounts of money for Polio eradication; he shall be remembered by all Rotarians.

Richard D King

Past Rotary International President, 2001-2002

Richard D. King was a past president of Rotary International, and the senior partner in the California law firm King, King & King. He earned undergraduate and law degrees from the University of California at Berkeley where he was a member of the California Club and the Order of the Golden Bear. He taught law at Brigham Young University. He was a distinguished military graduate of the University of California and served as captain in the U.S. Military Intelligence. He received an Honorary Doctorate in Law from Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea.

A Rotarian from 1968, he was a member of the Rotary Club of Niles-Fremont, California USA. He served as a trustee of The Rotary Foundation, director and as chairman of the executive committee of Rotary International's board of directors. Mr. King received the Rotary Citation for Meritorious Service and the Distinguished Service Award for his support of humanitarian and educational programs of the Rotary Foundation. He was a recipient of the Polio Plus Pioneer Award.

One of Rotary's most popular speakers, King addressed Rotary International Conventions, Assemblies, Institutes, Seminars, Conferences and Rotary Clubs in every state in the USA and some 100 countries.

King leaves behind his partner Cherie Kay King and two sons.

PDG Shyamashree Sen *remembers PRIP Late Richard D King*



He was a really sweet man. I have quite a few photos with him. This one was at our International Assembly. I had reminded him of Sid who gifted him a stuffed toy Royal Bengal Tiger and he laughed so much! He suffered but at the Atlanta Convention he strummed his guitar and sang so well! Loved this man! Of course, a charming Hollywood like hero and yes, to err is

human. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Presidential Message October 2023



The World Health Organization designates 10 October as World Mental Health Day, and with Rotary placing a special focus on mental health this year, I would like to help answer the question posed to me most often when I travel to meet members: How can my club get started?

There are some wonderful examples of Rotary members taking action already. In the

Philippines, the Rotary Club of Tiaong-Hiyas held a 12-week health challenge for mothers in the community to promote some baseline health screenings and coaching on a healthier lifestyle.

By the end of the challenge, the mothers had a special bond and decided to form a Rotary Community Corps called Ilang Tahanan ("one who lights up the home") with the goal of involving more mothers in health education and wellness support – and later youth services, teen pregnancy prevention, and help with unhealthy substance use. Almost a year later, the RCC is preparing to open its own health center where mothers can come for peer-to-peer support.

Another strong example is in Colorado. In the fall of 2021, a small group of stakeholders from the Rotary Club of Highlands Ranch formed the Rotary Clubs of Colorado Endowed Fellowship for Pediatric Mental Health, which enhances the ability of Children's Hospital Colorado to recruit and train pediatric psychiatry providers and allows the hospital network to make additional appointments. This increases access to mental health care for children and decreases provider shortages.

Since then, the project has brought on new supporters and is now fully funded with a \$500,000 endowment. Investment income from this endowment will support a fellow – a psychologist or psychiatrist – at Children's Hospital. A new fellow will be named every one to two years, beginning spring of 2024. Over time this will create a cohort to bolster the mental health workforce, treating kids from all 64 Colorado counties and neighboring states.

There are many more great mental health project stories on Rotary Showcase, and I invite you to share your experiences as you begin your own projects. Also, please reach out to mindhealth@rotary.org with any thoughts or ideas you would like to share about mental health in the Rotary world.

On 10 October, I will host a Facebook Live event when we will recognize World Mental Health Day and further explore how Rotary members can begin this journey. But I would like to leave you with one way every Rotary member can make a difference.

Right now, there is someone you know in the Rotary world – in your club, from a project you've worked on, in a Rotary Fellowship or Rotary Action Group – who could use a little more of your time and attention. Rotary is this great gift of global friendship, and that also means being there

for each other.

Discovering the human connections that bind us is what we do through our membership every day. It's what Rotary has always been about, and we can build on it by helping each other find peace at home.

We need to learn how to ask not just "How are you?" but also "How are you really?" By doing so, Rotary can continue to Create *Hope in the World*.

R. Gordon R. McNally

President 2023-24

Message from TRF Trustee Vice-Chair

Dear District and Club Leaders,

You may be aware that to tide over constraints in making contributions during the Covid pandemic where there were a series of travel restrictions and the normal functioning of the RI South Asia Office was impacted, SAO had come up with an option of "Listed Contributions" where it was envisaged that a club with a registered trust (under the club's control) would receive contributions from its individual members and then send one consolidated cheque to SAO along with a list of members with their respective contribution amounts. Finance at SAO would provide a tax receipt to the club trust, being the remitter, for the cheque amount and use the listed member IDs to credit the individual for the sum indicated against their name.

Since RISAO is now back to normal operations, it was planned to drop this option, moving forward, given several issues this channel gave rise to. However, with feedback from several district leadership I discussed the matter up with SAO and it was decided to extend this channel offering but with the following caveats:

1. The last date for accepting a single cheque/draft from a registered club entity (with its PAN number) under the Listed Contribution channel with a list of the club members only would be 31 May of each Rotary Year. Please note that Cheques for Listed Contribution must be received in RISAO Office by 5 PM on 31st May to be considered for processing. Those received after the said date & time will be returned to the sender without any exceptions.
2. RISAO often noticed in the past year that the list of members records a US Dollar amount against each member, the total of which often did not match the amount on the cheque. Please ensure that the list of individual contributions accompanying the cheque is reconciled with the cheque amount before dispatch. If this is not reconciled or in case of document deficiency, RISAO will send the Cheque back to the sender for a correct listing.

Please feel free to reach out to either Ganesh (ganesh.v@rotary.org) or Sanjay (sanjay.parmar@rotary.org) at SAO for any question or clarity you may need.

Thank you for your support to The Rotary Foundation and helping Rotary to Keep Doing Good in the World!

Warm regards,

Dr. Bharat Pandya

TRF Trustee Vice-Chair

Dear Club President and Club Treasurer

On behalf of Rotary magazine, I'm writing to inform you of a recent Rotary International Board of Directors decision to adjust the magazine subscription fee, which has remained unchanged since 2001.

The RI Board approved a Rotary magazine subscription fee increase from the current US\$1 per issue to US\$1.50 -- the first increase in 22 years. The new annual fee structure will be as follows:

For the print edition:

US\$18 – USA, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands

US\$24 – Canada (which includes the Rotary Canada quarterly supplement)

US\$36 – all other countries (international shipping included)

For the digital edition:

US\$18 – all countries except Canada

US\$24 – Canada (which includes the Rotary Canada quarterly supplement)

The change, which takes effect on 1 January 2024, will be reflected on your club's January invoice.

Since its inception in 1911, Rotary magazine has been solely supported by subscription fees from our members and advertising revenue. In recent years, rising inflation and frequent disruptions in supply chains have dramatically increased material, labor, and production costs. In addition, the sagging advertising industry has led to a decline in our advertising revenue. These factors have depleted our resources, posing substantial financial challenges as we expand our digital offerings and widen our reach.

This long overdue adjustment will enable the magazine to continue to invest in high quality content, and accelerate our digital transformation through our new Rotary Voices podcast, a re-envisioned Rotary magazine website that further expands our coverage of Rotary stories on a more timely basis, and a revamped digital replica. Moreover, we'll be able to explore more environment-friendly material for our print publications and utilize professional services to maximize our advertising revenue.

Once again, I want to thank you for your continued support of Rotary magazine as we bring inspiring stories of our great organization to more members and beyond.

Sincerely,

David Alexander

Chief Communications Officer

Get Ready for World Polio Day 2023

World Polio Day, 24 October, is fast approaching. As a club or district leader, you can help us achieve our goal of a polio-free world by sharing the latest polio updates with your club's members and in your community, and by continuing to raise funds for PolioPlus. Every dollar raised will be matched 2-to-1, up to US\$150 million.

Now is the time to start planning your World Polio Day action in your community. Don't forget to register your event. Find a variety of resources to help you plan and promote your event on our World Polio Day resources page. We've even created a template you can use to send a letter to the editor for local media.

Club in Action

Coming Up.....

- ❖ **19th October'23**-Durga Puja Parikrama in Kolkata for underprivileged children of Sunderbans and new clothes distribution and lunch in association with SHER.
- ❖ **24th October'23**- World Polio Day

Greetings

Birthday greetings to President
Rtn Amrita Basu
for 28th October!

Birthday greetings to
Rtn Nirjhar Bhadury
for 4th November!

Birthday greetings to
Rtn Dipanwita Banerjee
for 10th November!

Birthday greetings to
Rtn Preetam Ghosh
for 13th November!

News Neighbouring Clubs & District 3291

Ami Anuttama Season 1



Kolkata had witnessed one of a kind fund raising event Ami Anuttama Season 1 in the form of a Beauty Pageant promoting Women Empowerment and Positive Body Image organised by Rotary Club of Calcutta Charnock City, RID 3291 on 1st of October at Topcat CCU.

Club Vice President Rtn. Subhadeep Chatterjee and Immediate Past President Rtn. Sudipta Choudhuri did the anchoring very well and gracefully.

The donation cheque was handed over to the authority of Pratham padakshep Welfare Society at the beginning of the event.

Special guests Renowned Bengali Actor Biswajit Chakraborty, The program was divided into two parts: One part was a pageant show, where the contestants walked the ramp, self-introduced themselves and based on their talent, body language, elegance and impromptu answers to the questions the winners were selected.

Miss category: Winner: Rajyashree Mukherjee, 1st runner up: AGNISHA BHOWMICK, 2nd Runner up: INDRANI BANERJEE, Mrs Category : Winner Shalini Bhattacharjee, 1st Runner Up: Deepanwita Sen , 2nd Runnerup: Mumu Ghosh, Rotarian Category: Winner – Vaijayanti Bose.

Ami Anuttama Season 1 was conceptualized, managed and coordinated by Club Public Image Chair Rtn. Moutrisha Chakraborty.

Rotary **WORLD SIGHT DAY**
12th October, 2023
YOUR EYES AT WORK
90% OF ALL SIGHT LOSS IS PREVENTABLE OR TREATABLE.
THE MAJORITY OF EYE DISEASES CAN BE TREATED,
OR PROGRESSION SLOWED, IF DETECTED EARLY.
Love Your Eyes
ROTARY HOOGHLY EYE HOSPITAL
ADCCONAGAR, HOOGHLY, WEST BENGAL, INDIA

POLIO FREE INDIA **সুস্থ জীবনের জন্য দু-ফোঁটা** **Rotary** **CREATE HOPE IN THE WORLD**
WORLD POLIO DAY
TUESDAY
24th October 2023
Let the victory over Polio continue with **2 Drops of Life**
Dist 3291
Supported by:

SHARING HOPE WITH THE WORLD
SINGAPORE | 25-29 MAY 2024
#Rotary24 **Rotary** **SINGAPORE**

Rotary **2023-24 ANNUAL FUND CHALLENGE**
Challenge Period: 1 July 2023 to 31 January 2024
Eligibility Criteria

	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER
For District	10% of the district membership contributing minimum of 250 each	100% Club Going with minimum \$100 contribution by each club	100% Club Going with minimum \$50 contribution by each club
Award	Crystal for District	Plaque for District	Smaller Plaque for District
For Club	Minimum \$25 contribution by each member and Annual Fund Per Capita of \$2000	Minimum \$25 contribution by each member and Annual Fund Per Capita of \$1000	Minimum \$25 contribution by each member
Award	Crystal for Club	Plaque for Club	Certificate for Club

Paul Harris Society Championship Award for Districts
Eligibility Criteria:
At least 90% of the total registered PHSS members contributing to Annual Fund (members fulfilling their yearly commitment of \$1,000) by 31 January 2024 provided the district has minimum total of 30 registered PHSS members by 31 January 2024.
PLEASE NOTE: ONLY

1.4 million **WE CONNECT PEOPLE**
1.4 million members worldwide

47 million **WE TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES**
Approximately 47 million volunteer hours each year

\$333 million **WE FUND SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS**
\$333 million awarded for global service initiatives in 2020-21