

# New Horizons



## Bulletin of Rotary Club Deralakatte

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|---------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
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### **ROTARY NEWS**

# A Home for Headquarters

The idea that Rotary should own its headquarters dates back at least to the 1920 convention, when Albert Adams, 1919-20 Rotary president, told attendees that he hoped to someday see the headquarters in a beautiful building of Rotary's own.

"It sounds like a dream, doesn't it?" he said. "But it can be done."

Rotary's worldwide presence, and the number of secretariat staff members working to support it, would grow considerably by the time the idea became a reality in the 1950s.

#### The Chicago years

The National Association of Rotary Clubs — now Rotary International — formed in 1910 and had its headquarters in the Chicago, Illinois, USA, office of its secretary, **Chesley R. Perry**. In March 1911, Rotary's headquarters moved to rented space in the First National Bank Building, one of many downtown Chicago rentals.

In 1914, Rotary set up its headquarters in the Karpen Building on South Michigan Avenue. During its nine years there, the staff grew to 78 people, and Rotary expanded beyond North America and Europe to Asia, South America, Africa, and Oceania. Citing increasing rent after World War I, Rotary moved to the Atwell Building in 1923, then to several more buildings after that.

After so many moves, some Rotary leaders began to call for a world headquarters that RI itself would own. Delegates at the 1921 convention attempted to pass a resolution to purchase a site for a building of Rotary's own, but they were unsuccessful. The 1928 convention delegates adopted a similar resolution, which had two notable conditions: There would be no increase in the per capita tax or assessment on clubs, and the site was to be in Chicago. A committee was formed and potential locations identified, but the Depression and the U.S. entry into World War II delayed any further action.

## **CLUB NEWS**



Rotary is a safe place for leaders. Like-minded people come together in common purpose to make people and communities better across the street, across the city, across the nation and around the world. -Robyn T. Braley

Charter on June 09, 2008. Meets at KS Hegde Hospital Auditorium , Deralakatte on Monday at 6 p.m  $\,$ 

Edited and published by Ann Anitha Ravishankar