

Greetings RCMEians,



Rotary International's president-elect Stephanie Urchick unveiled the presidential theme for 2024–25, **'The magic of Rotary'**.

In her address, Urchick also underlined the necessity of balancing continuity and change which animate Rotary's Action Plan. "The plan is all about building on our best ideas, not abandoning them," she said. "We face a tough balancing act. We must change ourselves and stay true to who we are."

Recounting a personal experience, she highlighted that magic isn't always about tricks. It lies in every Rotarian's ability to make an impact through projects, contributions and presence. One way to make positive change, she said, is to embrace the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion within clubs. With diversity, equity and inclusion, it is easier to be united in a common purpose.

It is in those moments when we are committed and focused that we are the most effective and relevant. Let the magic begin.

In Gratitude – Note by President 2023-24



As I get ready to pass the baton to Muthu for a Magical Rotary Year. I cannot but look back in awe of the tasks and work that we have been able to achieve in the Create Hope Rotary year. This year has been special for a variety of reasons, RCME's largest Global Grant (ARCORE : Aravind Rotary Centre for Advanced Ophthalmic Resources & Education) was inaugurated a few days ago. Kudos to the GG team for their focus and dedication in getting this massive project completed.

RCME has also been able to tap into a record number of CSR partners and funds enabling us to bring hope to countless lives. Kudos to the fund-raising team for an outstanding job, which has enabled RCME to deliver great service not just in Chennai but pretty much all over India.

As I set out for this year, I was clear in mind that RCME needed a lot more work on Member engagement if we are truly to grow to the next level. I am happy that some of initiatives of the Club service team in terms of International Fellowship tour, speaker selection and the focussed drive for Fireside meetings were very productive in achieving what we had set out to do. I believe we have moved a couple of notches up on the membership engagement although I daresay there is lots more work left to be done.

The new initiative from Community Services of **Sarvodaya** (a multi-pronged approach at offering a variety of initiatives) offers refreshing promise as a multi-year service to a dedicated community in elevating them to the next level. The **Wings2fly** theme this year of *Chennayin Climate Champions* was apt to the needs of the hour and the mammoth task this year with over 200 schools participating was executed to the T. The Anns literally run this project and their passion is infectious. As a president, there are a lot of things that RCME does, that gets your goosebumps going, be it watching the tiny breaths made possible by **Tiny Hearts** project or the Blood donation camps that deliver blood that save lives.

But none of these would have been possible without my Create Hope Board. The team took off quite on their own and made their plans and executed brilliantly. I was mostly left to sign a few papers, cheques and cheer them. Keeping with the Rotary theme, the team truly created Hope in our world.

Lastly to all my friends in RMCE. Thank you for reposing your trust in my leadership. I thoroughly enjoyed steering the ship the past year, avoiding the icebergs and making sure that our ship reached where it ought to. My respect for what Rotary does to the world around us has gone up manifold for what I have witnessed up close.

The best thing about life is that nothing is permanent and as it should be, the old must make way for the new, somebody more exciting will appear, so its goodbye from the President's role and Hello to the Past President's side, I hope I will continue to enrich RCME from the other side as well.

Yours' in Rotary

Rtn. Babu Krishnamoorthy

Greetings from the President 2024-25

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As we embark on another exciting Rotary year, I am filled with enthusiasm and anticipation for the incredible journey that lies ahead. Our international theme for this year is “**Magic of Rotary**.” This theme reminds us of the extraordinary impact we can create in the lives of our community through our dedicated services. Together, we can truly make magic happen and enjoy every moment of our Rotary experience.

Our focus areas will be:

1. **Health:** Promoting wellness through community health initiatives, awareness programs, and supporting healthcare services.
2. **Community Development:** Engaging in projects that uplift and empower our local communities, fostering growth and sustainability.
3. **Vocational Service:** Encouraging personal and professional growth by sharing skills, mentoring, and supporting vocational training.
4. **Environment:** Taking action to protect our planet through conservation efforts, clean-up campaigns, and sustainable practices.
5. **Women Empowerment:** Supporting initiatives that empower women through education, skill development, and leadership opportunities.
6. **Youth Services:** Nurturing the next generation through Rotaract and Interact clubs, providing career guidance, and fostering leadership skills.
7. **Club Services:** Enhancing our club experience with fellowship tours, both international and local, spiritual tours, fireside meetings, and diverse fellowship events.

This year, I am particularly looking forward to increasing member engagement and participation. Our success hinges on your active involvement and dedication. Together, we can create a significant impact.

Let us enjoy the camaraderie, the opportunities for service, and the satisfaction that comes from making a difference. I encourage each of you to take part in our events, bring in new ideas, and contribute to our shared goals.

Thank you for your commitment to Rotary and for being part of this incredible journey. Let's make this year one of joy, growth, and meaningful service.

Yours in Rotary,

Rtn. Muthu



From the Editor's desk

July 2024, the excitement of Olympics is all around. We, at RCME, have an added reason to celebrate. The baton of running another event filled year is also set to pass on with the installation of the new board. Taking on editorial charge from Rtn. Rajesh Jayaraman bestows on me equal parts of great power and greater responsibility.

As the incoming board under Rtn. Muthu's presidency gets ready to take you through a magical year, we, at Eastern Bridge, look forward to keeping you updated on what promises to be an action-packed year ahead.

Documenting every activity of the club into a 16-page capsule will require unparalleled word prowess and editing skills. Forming the committee, however, was easier with the above brief. I am immensely thankful to Rtn. P.E. Ramkrishnan, Rtn. Sudarsan Ranganathan and Rtn. Ramya Subramaniam for accepting the call to storm, ideate, edit and execute.

As the team lays out plans to engage RCME ians with reader-interest columns, we do look forward to hearing from you on what you would like to read about in our upcoming issues.

In this special installation issue, we present to you the magical board of 2024-25. One with a judicious mix of rich experience and fresh perspectives. Looking forward to weeks and months of projects, fun and memorable moments.

Write-fully yours'

Rtn. Anuradha Prashant
Assistant Secretary



Editorial Team

• Anuradha • Ramkrishnan
• Sudarsan • Ramya



BOARD MEMBERS 2024-25



Rtn. Muthu P
President
Entrepreneur, Food Manufacturing

A self made man, he attributes his success to a "never say no to new experiences". Disciplined in time management and being one amongst the team are his mantras for any predicament. A golf player with a keen interest in movies, he also makes time for family and

friends across cities. Rotary under his presidency he promises, will be about projects and also sharing memorable moments. Welcoming the President and his board, to the magical year that's just begun.



Rtn. Babu Krishnamoorthy
Immediate Past President
Financial Services

The financial sherpa, with the right words. He has helmed an event filled year that deserves an applause. Singer, author, advisor all built into one, rotary under him was abuzz and fun. We welcome Babu, as the IPP to the board.



Rtn. Balaji Sreenivasan
President Elect
Consultant

A man of smiles, and also the one who walks the extra mile. Between planning and seamless execution, his calm, cool demeanour is always inspiring. Cricketing skills to the forte, building formidable teams is his passion, next year's President elect, we welcome Balaji Sreenivasan.



Rtn. Radhika Sathyanarayana
Vice President
Entrepreneur

Always resourceful, always encouraging. Radhika is pen to ideas and not averse to experimenting. She thinks through details and nothing is left to chance, Rady is an asset you can rely on. We welcome Vice President, Radhika Sathyanarayana to the board of 24-25.



Rtn. Ravi Venkataramani
Secretary
Entrepreneur, E-Publishing

The ever calm and smiling Ravi, is a globe trotter. Balancing work, family and interests; he indeed is a master-multi tasker. The tech-preneur who publishes actionable insights, is equally passionate about all things fit and wise. If you don't spot him running or cycling

on Chennai roads, he sure is on the routine miles across the world. We welcome Ravi Venkataramani to the board as its Secretary.



Rtn. G. Sujatha
Treasurer- Admin
Insurance consultant

An erstwhile air force officer, you bet she was the best. Winning the chief of airforce trophy for being the all rounder in her batch. Insurance and investments she consults by the day, rotary projects she is also present all the way. Dimpled smile, warm and friendly, we welcome Sujatha to the Admin treasury.



Rtn. Anuradha Prashant
Assistant Secretary
Research and Training consultant

A voracious reader, always exploring new avenues of learning. An ace in consumer research, upto date on most things. Teaching, music and writing she enjoys, running is something she picked up to see the sun rise. Amiable, an anecdote she

regales every time one meets, we welcome the debutante to her role as assistant secretary.



Rtn. (PP) J Balaraman
Club Trainer, Congruent solutions

A man of global heights, and a towering personality. His smiling face adds youth to seniority. A tech-entrepreneur with a purpose so comprehensive. Growth he envisions in business, society and nation as a collective. His achievements that could chuff a rotarian with pride, the board of 24-25 is humbled to have him on their side.



Rtn. (PP) P L Chidambaram
Sergeant at-Arms
Automobile finance

A child at heart with laughter so bright, Finance is his calling, in golf he takes delight. Bhakti across the globe he spreads, Project WINGS TO FLY he led. A Paul Harris Fellow, glad to be a mentor, if you will say hello. We welcome PL Chidambaram as Sergeant at Arms.



Rtn. Revathi Sanjeev
Director, Club Services
Vice Principal, Education

An economics postgraduate with a passion for teaching. Her creative spark lighting many a project briefing. Words and books she deep dives into, when in need of a break chooses a mountain to hike to. Eclectic choices and wit she blends, club services

looks forward to engaging events. We welcome Revathi as Director - Club Services.



Rtn. Manoj Babu
Director, Vocational Services
Entrepreneur, Entos De-Pest

An entrepreneur with a passion for reading. Manoj Babu believes in the power of a non-formal education centers to offer training. Vocational and beyond vocation programs he believes, are the building blocks towards building youth capability. We welcome Manoj Babu as Director - Vocational Services.



Rtn. Kannan Suguntharaman
Director, Community Development
Global CFO

A chartered account with an MBA from Chicago. He is a Global CFO and a rotarian always on the go. A vocalist with a sharp ear for layam, music has always been his passion. A wonderful voice belting out melodies, he made Idhayaganam a memorable one for many. It has been his

dream to give back to the society. We welcome Kannan as Director - Community Development.



Rtn. Dr. Sandhya Arunkumar
Director, Health, Medical Professional

An exemplary academic in the field of dentistry, with over 15 years of experience training incumbents in surgery. A speaker, using the power of speech she motivates. A classical musician and veena player amidst other accolades. An organised and systematic project manager, we look forward to her expertise this year. We welcome Dr. Sandhya as Director - Health.



Rtn. Rajesh Jayaraman
Director, Membership Development
Entrepreneur, Multimedia

Growing up with rotary is what summarizes Rajesh. Witty and chatty who loves a challenge any day. Be it a marathon course or the road to Pondicherry on a bike, fitness and endurance amongst other things give him a high. Between travel and work life does get hectic, but he always finds that extra moment to pause and connect. We welcome Rajesh as Director - Membership Development.



Rtn. Saravanan V
Director, Environment
Entrepreneur, Property management

An entrepreneur in the real estate domain, opening doors of opportunity by the day. Off work, Saravanan is passionate about rowing, fitness and the environment. A man with a warm smile, and a cool disposition. We welcome Saravanan as Director - Environment.



Rtn. Kinnera Krishna
Director, Public Relations
Trainer

Her presence always adds a touch of elegance. From fitness to customer relations she brings in a circle of excellence. Amiable, charming always with a smile. Projects, books, data all share her vision for a deep dive. We welcome Kinnera Krishna as Director - Public Relations.



Rtn. Kumar Narayanan
Director, International
Entrepreneur

An experienced management professional in the areas blending technology and manufacturing. He brings with him to rotary, years of international experience and networking. Known widely for his approach that brings in rigour, he engages his spare time following cricket and books in that order. We welcome Kumar Naranayan as Director - International Services.



Rtn. (PP) Dr. M S Ravi Varma
Director, Fundraising
Medical Professional

With over two decades of committed service in the Rotary, Dr. Ravi, is also a skilled medical professional specialising in dentistry. Singing is his passion, and is equally well-known for his keen sense of fashion. A generous benefactor, and a methodical one. Temples and spirituality also interest the district chairman. We welcome Dr. Ravi, Director - Fundraising.



Rtn. Divya Siddharth
Director, Youth
Entrepreneur

A committed rotarian known for her dedication. A smile that can light up a room in a fraction. An entrepreneur by profession, working for youth empowerment is her passion. A penchant for design, healthy lifestyle and snapping the rising sun, this Mumbai girl is here in Chennai for the long run! We welcome Divya Siddharth as Director - Youth Services.



Rtn. Gautham Venkatesh
Director, Global Grants
Legal Professional

The litigation specialist with interests that are multifaceted. Running, rowing and travelling, food and movies complete the long list. Bringing in a fresh perspective as a young rotarian, We welcome Gautham as Director - Global Grants.



Rtn. (PP) Srinivasan M
Director, Rotary Foundation
Auditor

A seasoned veteran of Rotary, his experienced vision provides thought process a new trajectory. Fun loving, banter filled conversations, he makes morning walkers look forward to fun filled inspirations. Welcoming him to the board as Director - Rotary foundation.



Rtn. Nachiappan SP
Treasurer Trust
Chartered Accountant

His eye for accuracy in accountancy is well complemented by his humour and spontaneity. Always smiling and lightening every moment, Nachi as he's popularly called, is the trusted chartered accountant. We welcome Nachiappan as Treasurer - Trust.