

THE LIGHTHOUSE

BOND | BUILD | BRING CHEER

WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MADRAS | ISSUE 03 | JULY 21, 2024





Dear RCMers,
 Another whirlwind week!
 Our club's 96th charter night, our daughter club Rotary Club of Bangalore's 90th charter celebration, signing of the MOU for the VHS-RCM Senior Citizens Centre renovation project and inauguration of two projects by the Vocational Services team, were the highlights of another engaging week.

Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran
 Editor

Rtn.A.R.Raghuandan
 Chairperson

Mr.Madhu Mathen
 Co-Chairperson

Rotary Club of Madras
 Tuesday, 23rd July 2024 | 1.30 pm
 at Hyatt Regency, Chennai.

4th Weekly Meeting

Speaker:
Rakesh Raghunathan
 Celebrity Chef | Food Historian
 Masterchef India, Tamil Judge

In conversation with
Rtn. Anil Srinivasan

Topic:
Food, Divinity & Sensory experience

Note:
 Lunch menu has been curated by the MasterChef himself!

Please note that spouses are cordially invited for this meeting

Rtn. G. Chella Krishna President
Rtn. Shanno Ravi Director - Club Service
Rtn. Rajesh Mani Honorary Secretary
Rtn. PP. Rani Muralidharan Chairperson - Programs Committee

Cover Pic : Beneficiaries of "Wheels to Meals" and "Caring Hands" projects (RCM's Vocational Services initiative)

THE LIGHTHOUSE

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- Treasurer - RCMCT**
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- Director - Fund Raising & PR**
Rtn. Rahul Saraogi

THE LIGHTHOUSE COMMITTEE

- Editor** : Rtn.Shivkumar Eashwaran
- Chairperson** : Rtn. Akur Raman Raghunandan
- Co-Chairman** : Mr.Madhu Mathen
- Mentors** : Rtn.PP.N.K.Gopinath
Rtn.PP.IndraSubramanyam

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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- Rtn.Vummidi Shailesh Raj, Rtn. Bhaswar Mukherjee
- Rtn.Indrani Krishnaier, Rtn.Shri Shakthi Girish
- Rtn.Reji Joseph, Rtn.Maya Thiagarajan
- Rtn.Fharzana Siraj, Rtn.Dr.M.Parkavi,
- Mr.Vikrm.S.Eashwaran, Rtn.Govind Parikh
- Rtn.Rakesh Jaiswal, Rtn.Dr.Rama Narasimhan

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CHARIS MEDIA WORKS

Visit RCM's official website
 www.rotarymadras.in

CONTACT RCM SECRETARY AT:
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Rotary Club of Madras
Minutes of the 96th Charter Night and 3rd Weekly Meeting
 held at Hyatt Regency, Teynampet, Chennai on 19-07-2024

Call to Order:

Sergeant-at-Arms Rtn. Jayant Hemdev collared President G. Chella Krishna. He began the meeting with the Thamizh Thai Vazhthu.

President Chella Krishna called the 96th Charter Night meeting, the third meeting of the year, to order and requested everyone to rise for a silent invocation.

Welcome Address : President G. Chella Krishna

Welcomed the Chief Guest, PRID A.S. Venkatesh, District Governor Rtn. N. S. Saravanan, PDGs, Past Presidents, Rotarians, spouses, and friends.

Highlighted the importance and nostalgia associated with the Charter Night, celebrating the club's history and achievements.

Mentioned significant milestones such as nearly 5000 weekly meetings, impacting over 10 million people, pioneering the Polio Project, and recognition for foundation grant contributions.

Introduced upcoming activities for the evening, including foundation pledges, tributes to past treasurers, member recognitions and a video on the club's vaccination journey.

Welcomed Chief Guest PRID A.S. Venkatesh and District Governor N.S. Saravanan.

Past President N.K. Gopinath:

Detailed the visit to RC Bangalore for their 90th Charter Celebrations, recognizing the strong bond between Rotary Club of Madras and RC Bangalore.

Mentioned the warm reception and extensive press coverage, courtesy Past President Satyan Bhatt.

Highlighted the address by President Chella Krishna at the event, praising his leadership.

Turkey International Fellowship:

The AV team played a video highlighting the Turkey International Fellowship.

Community Service Project at Ramakrishna Math by Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan:

Presented the first project of the new Rotary year: the WASH Project at Sri Ramakrishna Math National School.

Described the project's aim to construct a toilet complex and a noon meal center, benefiting over 500 students and staff annually.

Noted the groundbreaking ceremony on July 3rd and the involvement of Madhi Engineers and Builders.

Interact Installation Unify by Rtn. Balaji Chinni:

Announced the combined Interact installation

for 28 clubs on 26th July at Rani Seethai Hall.

Encouraged Rotarians to participate and support the Interactors.

Acknowledgement of Visiting Rotarians:

Rtn. C. Muthuswamy from Chennai, Port City.
 Rtn. Daksha from Meenambakkam.

Vocational Service Initiatives by Rtn Fharzana Siraj:

Rtn Fharzana Siraj introduced two new projects aimed at skilling women and providing them with sustainable livelihoods.

Wheels to Meals: Skilling 20 low-income women to become auto-rickshaw drivers. A past beneficiary shared her success story, earning around ₹30,000 monthly and how it positively impacted her children's education.

Caring Hands: Training and placement of 25 low-income women in home care for the sick, elderly, and infirm. This program equips women with skills to provide compassionate home care.

Rtn Fharzana Siraj expressed gratitude to President Chella Krishna, Director Rtn. Sanjay Rao Chaganti and her committee members for their support.

Secretary's Announcements by Rtn Rajesh Mani:

Birthdays and Anniversaries were announced.

Sunshine Contributions: Welcomed contributions for the HP Vax Program.

Next Weekly Meeting: 23rd July, an afternoon meeting featuring Master Chef Rakesh Raghunathan in conversation with Rtn. Anil Srinivasan.

Recognition of Long-serving Rotarians:

a. 40 Years of Service:

Rtn. PP. Shanker C. Mangadu

b. 25 Years of Service:

Rtn. Dr. Prashant Kekre

Rtn. PP. Kapil Chitale

Rtn. G.S.K. Masud

Recognition of Past Treasurers:

The President acknowledged the hard work and dedication of past treasurers, listing their names and thanking them for their service.

Rtn. Aditya Agarwal

Rtn. B. Kannan

Rtn. Gooch Kumar.A

Rtn. J. Kishor Dandeker

Rtn. M. Srinivasan

Rtn. N. Subramanian

Rtn. Nimish C. Tolia

Rtn. Prabha Srinivasan

Rtn. Arjun Ananth

Rtn. Bharat M. Pujara

Rtn. Hemant P. Chordia

Rtn. M. Balakrishna Rao

Rtn. PP. Mohan Raman P.V.

Rtn. N. Sukumar

Rtn. Palaniappan E.M.C.

Rtn. R. Ravishankar



Rtn. R. Vasudevan Rtn. Rajasekar Gorantla
 Rtn. PP.S. Gunashekar Rtn. S. Nagarajan
 Rtn. V. Murali Rtn.PP. V.K.Chandrakumar
 Rtn. V.S. Narasimhan

CSR and TRF Donations Announcements
 by Rtn Sabina Narayanan and Rtn Ganesh
 Ananthkrishnan:

Major Donors :

Rtn. Mahinder Jain - \$ 361,000
 Rtn. Rahul Saraogi - \$ 150,000
 Rtn. PP. Dr. Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan - \$100,000
 Rtn. Ranjeeth D Rathod - \$ 30,000
 Rtn. G. Ravindran - \$ 25,000
 Rtn. Dr. Anuradha Ganesan - \$ 25,000
 Rtn. IPP. Ravi Sundaresan - \$ 10,000
 Ann. Swetha Krishna - \$ 10,000

CSR Donors:

Redington Foundation - ₹1 crore
 Mahindra Family - ₹30 lakhs
 Suryoday Small Finance Bank - ₹25 lakhs
 TVS Motors - ₹20 lakhs
 Coromandel International Limited - ₹20 lakhs
 Narayana Theertham Trust - ₹ 8 lakhs
 Apollo Sindoori - ₹ 5 lakhs
 Multivista Global - ₹ 5 lakhs

District Governor's Address:

DG N.S. Saravanan :

Expressed his happiness and appreciation for
 the club's efforts and contributions, especially
 highlighting the \$7,27,000 pledged to the Rotary
 Foundation in just 19 days.

**Presentation on the Rotary Club of Madras
 Vaccination Journey:**

Introduced a video reflecting on past
 vaccination efforts, including polio, COVID-19, and
 red measles, to inform and strategize the current
 HPV vaccination initiative.

Address by Chief Guest PRID A.S.Venkatesh:

PRID A.S.Venkatesh was introduced by Rtn.
 Sabina Narayan.

In his inspiring address, PRID A.S.Venkatesh
 explained how Rotary has been changing with
 the times and making itself relevant and in tune
 with the aspirations of the members across
 geographies.

Vote of Thanks : Secretary Rtn.Rajesh Mani

Playing of the National Anthem.

Meeting Adjourned:

Rtn. Chella Krishna thanked all attendees and
 adjourned the meeting.

BIRTHDAYS

July 22-28

23rd July - Rtn.S. Kapil Chitale
 26th July - Rtn. Anuradha Jhaver
 28th July - Rtn. Antony Lobo
 28th July - Rtn. Alankrit V Arora

 18th July - Ann. Rozeena, Spouse of
 Rtn. Mahmud Jamal N.
 18th July - Ann. Suganthi, Spouse of
 Rtn. PP Vijay Krishna
 18th July - Ann.Suniti Seth, Spouse of
 Rtn. Tarun Seth
 18th July - Ann. Sandhya, Spouse of
 Rtn. Govind Parikh
 18th July - Ann. Simran Sehgal, Spouse of
 Rtn. Madhav Sehgal
 18th July - Ann. Malathi Devi, Spouse of
 Rtn. Pratap Kumar .M

SUNSHINE

Rtn.Rajib Hota - Rs 5000/-
 PP.Rtn.Dr.Biswakumar- Rs 5000/-
 Ann.Ruchita Saroagi- Rs 12000/-

Rotary Club of Madras **BOND BUILD BRING CHEER** **THE MAGIC OF ROTARY** **Rotary Club of Madras**

FROM BAZAARS TO BYZANTIUM
 A trip by RCM international travel team

Turkey

BOOK NOW! Limited seats

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96th Charter Nite

An Evening to Remember

The 96th Charter of the Rotary Club of Madras marks a significant milestone in the history of this esteemed institution. As the first Rotary club in Southern India and the third oldest in the country, the club has stood as a beacon of light and hope to the community at large for nearly a century. Since its inception, the Rotary Club of Madras has embodied the spirit of service and community engagement, making a lasting impact on countless lives.

One of the key aspects that sets the Rotary Club of Madras apart, is its unwavering commitment to service and the community. Over the years, the club's vibrancy and relevance have only increased, demonstrating its ability to adapt



and thrive in changing times. Despite the challenges and uncertainties that come with each passing year, the club has remained steadfast in its dedication to making a difference in the lives of those in need.

A defining feature of the Rotary Club of Madras is the unique leadership that it has fostered and showcased over the years. Throughout its 96-year history, the club has produced a diverse array of leaders who have brought their own

perspectives and strengths to the table. This diversity in leadership has been a driving force behind the club's continued success and growth, paving the way for new ideas and initiatives to take shape.

In addition to its leadership, the Rotary Club of Madras has also been a trailblazer in the field of public health, particularly in the area of vaccination programs. Since 1979, the club has spearheaded numerous vaccination campaigns aimed at eradicating dreaded

diseases such as Red Measles, Polio, and most recently, Covid-19. These efforts have not only saved countless lives but have also helped to prevent the spread of infectious diseases within the community.

The impact of the Rotary Club of Madras' projects has been nothing short of transformative, leading to positive and measurable outcomes that have set new benchmarks in the realm of community service. Through its innovative and inclusive approach to project



implementation, the club has been able to reach a wide cross-section of the population, ensuring that its efforts have a lasting and meaningful impact on the lives of those it serves.

Looking ahead to its Centennial in 2028-29, the Rotary Club of Madras remains committed to upholding its legacy of service and excellence. As it continues to evolve and adapt to the changing needs of the community, the club stands ready to tackle new challenges and embark on new initiatives that will further enhance its impact and reach.



On July 19 this year, a Charter night event was organised by our current dispensation and we had as our Speaker and Chief Guest, PRID. Rtn. A.S Venkatesh, who spoke on how there is a change in outlook in the Rotary International, with due consideration for the country and regional aspirations and decentralization to a great extent, be it on the attendance front or even the running of the clubs, with just a basic requirement to be adhered to.

He commended our club for its leadership and wished us well to continue to be a Torch bearer in the Rotary World.

A crisp, yet fairly comprehensive video on the club's Vaccination Story starting with the Red Measles



immunisation in 1979, to the pioneering effort in Polio immunization in India in 1984 and on to the Covid vaccination drive and the HP Vaccination effort undertaken this year, was a treasure house of information on our club's life-changing efforts on Immunization.

Rotarians who had completed 40 and 25 years in the club were felicitated and awarded plaques as also were the Treasurers of our club over the years.

In conclusion, the 96th Charter Nite of the Rotary Club of Madras is a testament to the club's enduring legacy of service, leadership, and innovation. As it celebrates nearly a century of making a difference in the lives of others, the club stands as a shining example of what can be achieved through dedication, passion and a steadfast commitment to the betterment of society.

The celebrations then began and went on late into the night, bringing forth the friendship and camaraderie that exist among its 280 plus members.

-Rtn.PP.N.K.Gopinath





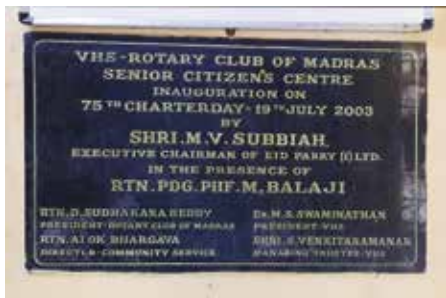




Voluntary Health Services (VHS) - Rotary Club of Madras Senior Citizens Centre Renovation

Background

Nestled in the midst of the bustling city of Chennai, within the Voluntary Health Services campus in Taramani, lies the VHS - Rotary Club of Madras Senior Citizens Centre. The centre was inaugurated on our Charter Day the 19th of July in 2003 by Mr. MV Subbiah, Executive Chairman EID Parry in the presence of the then President of the Rotary Club of Madras Rtn. D. Sudhakara Reddy.



This senior citizens centre is home to around 42 seniors living either as couples or as individuals. Mrs. Malini Balakrishnan who is a long-term resident and also an advisor for the Centre fondly remembers RCM's initial involvement in the construction of the facility. The building has since been expanded by various individual donors and organizations, but after over two decades in existence, it is in dire need of renovation and repair.

The rains inundate the corridors and common areas making the floors slippery and dangerous. Meals are cooked in-house but there is no communal dining space and the residents have to eat their meals in their own individual rooms. Safety measures like grab bars and two-way locks for the doors are lacking

and a fall or medical emergency inside a resident's locked room could be disastrous.

'My goal is very simple', says Dr. Suresh Seshadri, CEO and Honorary Secretary of VHS as he describes his vision for the centre; 'I want every senior citizen here to feel happy all the time.' He speaks of a garden with homegrown vegetables that

can supply the kitchen and wants the seniors to enjoy a holistic life in their sunset years.

Objectives

We hope to carry out the following renovation work at the centre:

1. Construction and Structural Repairs:
 - a. Construct a dining area cum communal space for social events adjoining the existing building
 - b. Install rain protection measures including windows etc in the common areas
 - c. Repair cracks in walls and ceilings, sunk floors, and broken floor tiles as needed
2. Painting and Coatings:
 - a. Paint grills, walls, and ceilings
3. Deep Cleaning and Restoration:
 - a. Cleaning of toilets, veranda tiles, and other areas as appropriate
4. Accessibility and safety upgrades:
 - a. Installation of grab bars in strategic locations and other safety fixtures





As our population ages and families splinter across cities, countries, and continents, there is a huge unmet need for senior care in our country

Relevance of the Project

As our population ages and families splinter across cities, countries, and continents, there is a huge unmet need for senior care in our country. Irrespective of their socioeconomic backgrounds, many seniors are left to fend for themselves at a most vulnerable stage in their lives. While those with sufficient means find more upmarket retirement facilities, others without adequate independent means of wealth find themselves in need of a safe place of shelter to peacefully live out the remainder of their lives. The VHS-Rotary Club of Madras Senior Citizens Centre fills this void with its convenient location within hospital premises and low cost of living at the facility.

The Rotary Club of Madras hopes to rejuvenate the centre and refresh the existing facilities. A well-maintained, safe, and cheerful environment with natural surroundings and healthy wholesome food enjoyed in communal harmony will hopefully ensure that these elderly residents find happiness and joy in everyday life.

Do join hands with us as we make the world better for those who brought us into this world.

Rtn. Dr. Sangeetha Viswanathan.



Signing of MOU between RCM and VHS was done on the 17th of July, at 10 am, paving the way for project execution. RCM President Chella Krishna and VHS Honorary Secretary Dr Suresh Seshadri formally signed and exchanged MOUs in the presence of VHS Director Dr Yuvraj Gupta, Donor Relations Manager Mrs Anita Clayton and Rtn Dr Sangeetha Viswanathan.

In his own words...

The VHS senior citizens home is a facility which is serving the needs of the elderly in the heart of Chennai at VHS, Taramani. As it is situated alongside a Hospital, the need cannot be overstated. Elder care for the masses is a time bomb that needs addressing and this home does add a small drop in the ocean. The facility is worn down and RCM is proud to work on the restoration of safety features of this building to ensure safe usage by the inmates. The need is immediate and we are happy to work on solving the problems of one more vulnerable segment of the population.

President Rtn.Chella Krishna

“I want every senior citizen here to feel happy all the time.”:
Dr. Suresh Seshadri, CEO and Honorary Secretary of VHS.



Rotary Club of Bangalore's 90th Charter Nite

The Rotary Club of Bangalore celebrated its 90th Charter night on July 15, 2024. As the first daughter club of the Rotary Club of Madras, a silent responsibility fell upon us to ensure that it was a great event. A strong contingent led by President Chella Krishna, along with Honorary Secretary Rajesh Mani, Past Presidents N. K. Gopinath and George Cherian, President-Elect Nikhil Raj, Asst Secretary Shivkumar Easwaran, Directors Anuradha Ganesan and Shanno Ravi, and Chairperson Suman Voora, attended the event. The event was further strengthened with the participation of the RC Petaling Jaya all the way from Malaysia.



As the first daughter club of the Rotary Club of Madras, a silent responsibility fell upon us to ensure that it was a great event.





Garlanding the statue of Paul Harris, 50 m from the House of Friendship, the office event space of Rotary Club of Bangalore.

L to R: Datin Sivanewari Pillay, President Rotary Club of Petaling Jaya, Chella Krishna, President RCM, Dr Anuradha Ganesan - Director Community Services RCM, Shanno Ravi- Director Club Services RCM, Nikhil Raj - President Elect RCM, Gowri Oza - President Rotary Club of Bangalore.

The pre-event celebration started with a lunch hosted by Honorary Secretary Rajesh Mani at the Bangalore Club, where we got to meet members of RC Bangalore as well as RC Petaling Jaya. The main event started around 6:15 pm, with a few of us walking to the statue of Paul Harris, located at an intersection of streets in Bangalore, 50 meters from the House of Friendship, the office/meeting space/event space of RC Bangalore. After being traditionally welcomed by RC Bangalore with aarti and

garlands and given pride of place, the event started.

Expertly compered by RCB member Rtn. Ashwini Surender, the event featured many short, interesting speeches by Rtn. Ram Seshu on the Chemistry of RCB, DGN Elizabeth Cherian on DEI, and Amit of Collins Aerospace on CSR, followed by honouring their long-standing members.

A stellar address by RCM President Chella Krishna mentioned the history between RC Bangalore

and RC Madras, including the connection of our Honorary Secretary Rajesh Mani's father, the late Capt. VVK Mani, who was RCB President and later, District Governor.

Gavel presented by RCM to Rotary Club of Bangalore



President Chella Krishna spoke about the great work done by RCB and also about the pioneering work done by RCM. President Chella rounded off his address by presenting an engraved gavel to the RCB, along with a donation of Rs. 90,000 in honour of their 90th year.

The event concluded with fellowship and dinner.

-Rtn.PE.Nikhil Raj



Installation of the Charter District Rotaract Representative



The event culminated in the grand unveiling of the new year theme for the district, "OTT-Opportunity to Transform."

On July 6th, Rtn. PP. J. Sasikumar from the Rotaract Club of Chennai, along with his District Officials, was ceremoniously installed as the Charter District Rotaract Representative for 2024-25 of Rotary International District 3234, in a splendid event aptly named MAGIC. This momentous occasion celebrated the inception of a new district, uniting over 500 Rotaractors, esteemed guests and dignitaries in a spirited and purposeful festivity.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of distinguished leaders. Chief Guest Rtn. N.S. Saravanan, District Governor 2024-25, delivered inspiring words that resonated deeply with the core values of Rotary & Rotaract.

Guests of Honour Rtn. Vinod Saraogi, District Governor 2025-26, and Rtn. J. Sridhar, Past District Governor, along with Special Invitees Rtn. Dr. Kumar Rajendran, DRCC 24-25, Rtn. Ravindhnan, YSD 24-25, and Rtn. Chella Krishna, President of the Rotary Club of Madras, enhanced the event's prestige with their gracious presence and invaluable insights.

The event culminated in the grand unveiling of the new year theme for the district, "OTT-Opportunity to Transform," along with the launches of the letterhead, badges, standee, mini directory, event launches, and the official

website, each element adding a touch of MAGIC to the occasion.

In a heartfelt gesture, the Rotaract Club of Chennai made a generous contribution of \$100 to the Rotary Foundation, symbolizing their unwavering commitment to service and philanthropy. Adding to the MAGIC, a novel district club service initiative named "Photo to Foundation" was launched.

The ceremony concluded with a gracious vote of thanks by Rtr. PP. Rishab Jain, followed by the adjournment by Rtr. PP. J. SasiKumar. The MAGIC left an indelible mark on all attendees, symbolizing new beginnings, unity, and a brighter future.

-Rtn. Balaji Chinni
Director-Youth Service



From the Sergeants' Desk!

Dear members,

To ensure that our meetings start promptly and to respect our guest speakers, we kindly request that once you've picked up your beverages, please refrain from lingering at the coffee counter when the meeting begins. To reinforce this, we will be implementing a Sunshine Debit of Rs 500 for members found violating this rule. Thank you for your cooperation in making our meetings efficient and respectful.

One of the Sergeants will notify the names of such members to the Club Secretariat who will then send out the Debit note to the concerned member by WhatsApp.

From the Sergeants.



Join us this July 2024 by participating in the e-waste collection drive. This initiative not only addresses the mounting issue of electronic waste but also promotes responsible disposal and recycling. We accept a wide range of electronic items like old computers, laptops, smartphones, tablets, printers, monitors, keyboards, mice, cables, and other peripherals. Additionally, household appliances like refrigerators, washing machines, and microwaves are accepted. The goal is to divert these items from landfills, ensuring they are recycled or disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner to reduce the environmental impact of electronic waste.

#ewastecollectiondrive #cleanerplanet
#Reduceewaste.

Drop off point:
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/zDrpausVV9fCcz97>

Contributed by Rtn.B.V.Gautam



RI President Stephanie Urchick encourages Rotarians to live the Four Way Test. Rtn. PP.S.Gunashekar fields the four questions of The Lighthouse with aplomb.

Is the Four Way Test just a 'feel good' ethos or a practical guardrail?

In my view, The Four Way Test is a practical guardrail. Rtn. Herbert Taylor may have enunciated this very useful self-assessment tool as a guardrail, rather than a "feel good" set of four questions.

Can the Four Way Test be a Rotarian's moral compass?

Yes, for sure, The Four Way Test may be a Rotary Member's moral compass.

How can Rotarians inculcate in their daily lives the principles of the Four Way Test?

As a Rotary Member, I attempt to run through the checklist of Four Way Test in all the things I think,

say or do. There are times it is extremely difficult to pass all the tenets of the Four Way Test. At such times, postponing the decision or relentlessly following the tenets of The Four Way Test is most important.



Questions
on The Four-Way Test

Any real-life examples from your own experience or from Rotary annals, of the Four Way Test acting as a guidepost?

Yes. There are numerous temptations in my line of activity to circumvent the law and aggrandize easily. Simply said, such opportunities coming as evading customs duty or reducing the incidence of customs duties and other taxes.

Thankfully, The Four Way Test gets me on track to ensure that such shortcuts are not taken. There is immense comfort in following The Four Way Test covering all aspects of life.

Issue 3



Suggest the most quirky, whacky or creative caption/blurb for this photo (Maximum 15 words). The best entries will be reproduced in the next week's edition of Lighthouse.

Mail your captions to editor@rcmlighthouse.com on or before 23 July .



Issue 2
Best Captions

1. "you take my hat, I'll take your shawl "Rotary is about sharing -Rtn. PP. Dr. Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan.
2. 'bonding of the BONDS' - Rtn.Vijay Dugar
3. The Bald and the Beautiful-Rtn. Asha Mathen
4. "I just understood your yesterday's joke"-Rtn.Meenakshi Raman
5. "God only made one head perfect, let me cover yours with a hat" -Rtn.Fharzana Siraj
6. Rtn. George signing Rtn. Sanjay as Brand Ambassador for Raj Hair International. - Rtn. Ashish Gupta.
7. I am not letting you go until you give my RCM shawl back !! -Rtn. Jacob Kurian
8. By George, He's got it!- Rtn.Sanjay Rao Chaganti
9. "Proof that great minds don't always think alike—they just laugh alike!" - Rtn. Naveen Kumar Bhatia.



1. What is your current state of mind ?
Mindful and upbeat
2. What is your idea of perfect happiness ?
Many things really- being with my family, time alone to reflect/ meditate, a walk in nature in good weather, sitting in the verandah watching the rain fall or the breeze in the trees, bird song, listening to music, reading a good book, Living in the moment
3. What is your greatest fear?
Losing my mind
4. What is the trait you most deplore in yourself ?
Losing balance, paying attention to the voice of my inner critic
5. What is the trait you most deplore in others ?
Meanness/ Pettiness
6. Which living person do you admire most ?
There are so many & for different reasons- beginning with my Mother, my husband, Ratan Tata, Dalai Lama, Michelle Obama, Oprah, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Michelle Pfeiffer – people who write beautifully, make me laugh, or prompt me to think, people who help make this life a fuller one.
7. What is your greatest extravagance?
Shopping
8. What do you consider the most overrated virtue?
Righteousness, perhaps- every virtue in balance is appreciated
9. On what occasion do you lie?
I generally prefer to stay silent rather than lie, but if I'm put on the mat & its absolutely necessary - to avoid hurting someone's feelings, or to avoid creating conflict
10. Which living person do you most despise ?
Thankfully, no one.
11. What is the quality you most like in a man ?
Authenticity & Intelligence, both Inter and Intra
12. What is the quality you most like in a woman ?
Authenticity & Intelligence, both Inter and Intra
13. Which words or phrase do you most overuse?
Om Sai & Thank you
14. What or who is the greatest love of your life ?
My family, my friends
15. When and where were you happiest ?
By God's grace there have been so many, each different. In recent memory, it was being with my family on a special occasion, feeling all the love.
16. Where would you most like to live ?
I love where I live now, of course it would be better with better weather & more hygiene.
17. What is your most treasured possession?
My mind
18. What is your favourite occupation?
Reading, de-cluttering, reorganizing, designing & decorating, gardening, music
19. What is your most marked characteristic?
I'm told it's a warm smile
20. Who is your hero of fiction ?
Kannagi, Draupadi from the Palace of Illusions, Sita from Kamba Ramayan
21. Which historical figure do you most identify with ?
Buddha, Shirdi Sai Baba, Shri Ramana Maharshi
22. Who are your heroes in real life ?
Dalai Lama, words of Thay & Maya Angelou - basically the same answer as Q 6
23. What is your greatest regret ?
Wish I had spent more time with my Father.
24. How would you like to die ?
In my sleep with faith in my heart and a smile on my lips
25. Your motto in life?
Live mindfully with loving kindness and gratitude



Skilling and Income Generation for Women

As part of our Vocational Services initiatives to skill and create income-generating opportunities for marginalised populations, we launched two impactful projects in partnership with ANEW, a renowned NGO, on Friday, July 19, 2024.

Wheels to Meals:

Skilling 20 low-income women to become auto rickshaw drivers. This initiative aims to provide these women with the skills and resources needed to secure a respectable and sustainable livelihood.

Caring Hands:

Training and placing 25 low-income women in home care for the sick, elderly and infirm. This program trains women with the necessary skills to provide compassionate home care in the much needed health sector



Ms. Anu Chandran, founder member of ANEW and Ms. Bhuvana, CEO of ANEW, exchanging MOUs with RCM President Rtn. Chella Krishna.



The launch event was intimate featuring inspiring stories from past beneficiaries and the women we are privileged to support currently. It showed the range of positive impact created for these women, their children and their families.

Assistant Gov. Rt. Col Bhupinder Singh, IPP Ravi Sundaresan, PP. Rtn. Dr. Vijaya Bharathi Rangarajan, PP. Rtn. Venkat Ramani, President Chella Krishna, Rtn. Ravishankar, Rtn Srinivasan, Rtn. Shanno, Director Sanjay Chaganti, Chair person Fharzana Siraj, Co-chair Vipin Sachdev and Rtn. Sumit Kalra graced the occasion.



We look forward to a larger celebration upon the completion and successful placement of the participants in line with our guiding principle of prioritizing social impact .

- Rtn.Fharzana Siraj

I was very happy to be at the event where RCM and ANEW have signed an MOU for a meaningful programme. It reminded me so much of our Selaiyur and Sembakkam.

ANEW is very committed and excellent organisation for the empowerment of women. Their track record of more than 3 decades speaks volumes for their wonderful training.

Our AG Rtn Col Bhupinder Singh was truly well prepared and gave a motivational speech.

What touched me most was the testimonial talks of a few of the past and present beneficiaries. In fact, Meenakshi, now a successful autorickshaw driver, said that it was a homecoming for her and she owes all her success to ANEW. She claimed that she earns not less than 30k a month which helps her run her family and also educate her two sons in engineering colleges. She is confident and was able to share some useful tips with the present trainees.

Our President Chella Krishna in his inimitable humorous style proposed the vote of thanks. His point of us becoming the support for the support was noteworthy.

The whole programme was completed in 45 minutes, a clear indication of professionalism on both sides. Kudos to Rtns Sanjay Chaganti and Fharzana Siraj for organising this meaningful tie up.

Rtn.PP.A.S.Venkhat Ramani



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