

TEXCITY

Rotary



ROTARY  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE



# TIMES

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Dist. Gov. : Rtn. Vinod K Kutty

President : Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra

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celebrating  
friendship



# THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS



*Rtn. MD. Mahaveer Bothra*

The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it but that it is too low and we reach it.

My dear Texcitians, I am very honoured to be at the helm of affairs this year. I have pledged that we as a club will settle for nothing less than the best. My team is ensuring that our meetings are the best, we have best of fellowship and we do the best of community service. I am over whelmed by the support I have received from you, my family and my business associates. Whether it's the environment or the under privileged there is a lot to be done. Let's make an earnest attempt to make a significant difference. Our projects in the government hospital of providing doors for the toilets, mattresses for cots and digging a bore well for water are going to make a difference. Our planting of a thousand trees is going to make a difference, but that's not enough. If we need to do more, we need more hands. I urge you to invite your friends and associates to the Rotary Texcity fold. There is a lot more need to be done and we need a lot more people to do it.

The biggest benefit one can gain from Rotary is amazing friendships. That alone is enough for anyone wanting to join this great movement. Of course, when once a group of like-minded people get together anything is possible. This very movement is an example, because as we all know this was started by four friends more than a century back and is still thriving, kicking and making a positive difference to the world.

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...



*Ann Alka Nichani*

Sometimes it seems like Life is so short, so uncertain that one must not waste a moment before setting out to do whatever one has to. The news of the passing away of RIPE Sam F Owari came as a bolt from the blue to the Rotary fraternity. He was to lead Rotary International in 2018-19 and would have been the first Ugandan and second African President of R.I. in 111 years. He achieved a lot in his life time, having studied extensively and all over the world, he went on to hold prestigious positions in the Banking sector and served Rotary in various leadership positions.

Very close to his heart was Membership Development and Extension. Since his tenure as District Governor, the number of clubs in Uganda went from 9 to a whopping 89. August is Membership Development and New Club Development month. Sam is known to have said, "There are many places which need Rotary and numerous potential members who have never been invited. The problem is Rotarians who got in and closed the doors." What better tribute can be paid to a true Rotarian who died with his boots on, than to invite a friend to Rotary?

And when better to do it than today?

In this issue, you will see the start of Texcity's Rotary year; from the Installation to the meetings and projects that have gotten underway. Being the month of Friendship, you will see this theme running through the issue, on the cover, in the piece by Rtn. Kamal Kumar and of course generally in Texcity's activities. I would love to get feedback on the Who What When Where Why feature which is new to Texcity Times. Feedback and suggestions are welcome. You can write to [alkanichani@gmail.com](mailto:alkanichani@gmail.com)

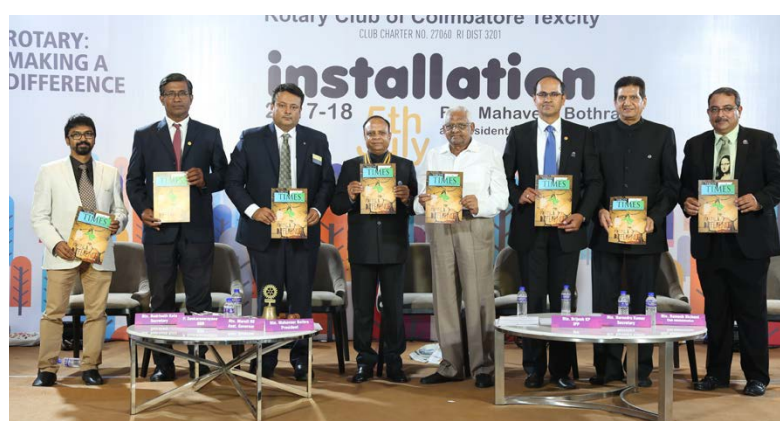


# Rtn Mahaveer TAKES OVER

The Installation function of Rotary Texcity held on 5th July 2017 at Hotel Raddisson Blu was an elegant affair. Rtn Mahaveer Bothra was installed as 28th President along with his team of Office bearers amongst a close knit gathering of his family and the Texcity family with a handful of guests.

IPP Rtn Brijesh closed his year in great style with an Audio Visual presentation before he handed over the coveted mantle to Rtn Mahaveer, who sought the blessings of his mother and older brother before saying a word. The support of his family was evident in their presence, as also the support of his many well-wishers who have committed to giving amounts totalling Rs 54 lakhs at the very start of the year. Rtn Mahaveer outlined his plans for the year which included Community service projects, Tree planting and more. The new President was felicitated by AG Rtn Maruti, his brother Rtn B Balchand and Rtn Trishalaa Jain, Past President of Rotary Elite. Anns President Padmini and Annets President Kripaa Padmanabhan were installed. The first issue of Texcity Times was released.

The Anns were beautifully turned out in flaming orange sarees to complement the Rotarians in their formals. At the end of the formal function, fellowship was enjoyed along with Hindi songs by the well known Alfie from Mysore. He regaled the connoisseurs of music till well beyond midnight even as the others enjoyed their dinner.





# ANN's in action

## Service

The Anns Club activities started with a Medical Camp conducted at Sidco Industrial Estate, Kuruchi, in association with Ashwin Hospital and Vasan Eye and Dental care. Through 5 days, 1693 people were screened and benefitted from this health camp.

The Signature Project for this year for the Ann's Club is the construction of 12 pucca houses for the tribals in the Sarkar Peruthi village. Each house will have a living room, a bed room, kitchen and a toilet. Presently families in this village live in mud houses with temporary roofs, without toilets. Bhoomi puja was performed on the site and these 12 houses will be handed over to the beneficiaries within 3 months.



## Fellowship



The first Ann's meet with the theme and spirit of Saawan was hosted by our first lady Mrs. Prabha Bothra at her residence with lots of fun activities and yummilicious food. The Anns dressed in vibrant shades of green, enjoyed the hospitality.



Texcity warmly welcomes Antoine Yves Mateo Leroy, Rotary Youth Exchange student from France into the Texcity family. He will be hosted by PDG Captain KK Matthews and Annet Sheeba Matthews during the first part of his stay here. Antoine's Sponsor Club is Rotary Club Of Chelles Marne & Chantereine, Rotary International District 1770. Antoine is 16 years old and his hobbies are scuba diving, rock climbing and reading. He is one of 11 RYE students visiting our District this year.



## Annets Club sings Happy Birthday



We kick started our Annet's project with all of your blessings by celebrating the birthdays of 5 kids afflicted with cancer on Sunday, 23rd July. Their birthdays fall in the month of July and we celebrated by having them cut their birthday cake while we attempted to fulfil a wish of theirs. We gifted

*Hariprasanth (8) a study table*

*Divyashri (6) a toy*

*Sathiya (6) a kitchen set*

*Raihana (17) a new dress at AROH foundation, Ganapathy*

*Kamalesh (4) with his super heroes in the KMCH hospital.*

We felt really happy to serve them with the snacks and juice that we took along. I thank annet Rakshan and Rohan for sponsoring the cake and Sumi aunty for her yummy cupcakes. I thank the aunties, uncles and friends from Texcity who were there to support the project. Many thanks to my Dad for funding for the first project of the Annets club. Thank you all for the opportunity given to me to make a difference.

**Annet Kripaa Padmanabhan, Annets Chair**

# WHO CREATED THE FOUR WAY TEST ?



The Four-Way Test was created by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor in 1932 when he was asked to take charge of the Chicago based Club Aluminum Company, which was facing bankruptcy. Taylor looked for a way to save the struggling company mired in depression-caused financial difficulties. He drew up a 24-word code of ethics for all employees to follow in their business and professional lives. The Four-Way Test became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers. The survival of the company was credited to this simple philosophy. Herb Taylor became President of Rotary International during 1954-55. The Four-Way Test was adopted by Rotary in 1943.

“Of the things we think, say or do” —

- Is it the **TRUTH** ?
- Is it **FAIR** to all concerned ?
- Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS** ?
- Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned ?

# WHAT is the significance of Vocational Service in Rotary?



No aspect of Rotary is more closely related to each member than a personal commitment to represent one's vocation or occupation to fellow Rotarians, and to exemplify the characteristics of high ethical standards and the dignity of work.

Programs of vocational service are those that seek to improve business relations while improving the quality of trades, industry, commerce and the professions. Rotarians understand that each person makes a valuable contribution to a better society through daily activities in a business or profession.

Vocational Service is frequently demonstrated by offering young people career guidance, occupational information and assistance in making vocational choices. Rotary clubs recognize the dignity of employment by honouring exemplary service of individuals working in their communities. The Four-Way Test and other ethical and laudable business philosophies are often promoted among young people entering the world of work. Vocational talks and discussion of business issues are also typical Vocational Service programs at most clubs.

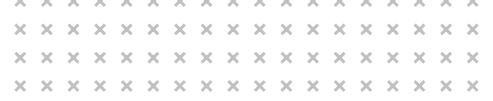
# WHY should a Rotarian attend a District Conference?

Rotarians who have never attended a Rotary District Conference have not experienced one of the most enjoyable and rewarding privileges of Rotary membership. A district conference is for all club members and their spouses, not just for club officers and committee members. The purpose of a district conference is fellowship, good fun, inspirational speakers and discussion of matters which make one's Rotary membership more meaningful. Every person who attends a district conference finds that being a Rotarian becomes even more rewarding because of the new experiences, insights and acquaintances developed at the conference. Those who attend a conference enjoy going back, year after year.

Every one of Rotary's more than 530 districts has a conference annually. These meetings are considered so important that the Rotary International President selects a knowledgeable Rotarian as his personal representative to attend and address each conference. The program always includes several outstanding entertainment features, interesting discussions and inspirational programs.

# WHERE was the "People of Action" campaign launched?

**Rotary**  **PEOPLE of ACTION**



A new public image campaign, People of Action, was launched at this year's Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. As Rotarians from all over the world came to Atlanta, they experienced and learned about this global campaign for the first time at the convention.

Convention attendees were greeted by new People of Action advertisements on billboards at the airport and around the city of Atlanta. At the venue, the ads were prominently displayed in the convention halls. There was also a full agenda to help introduce and inform Rotarians about the new campaign. During a plenary session, John Smarge, Chair of the Communications Committee, showed the campaign video and talked about this campaign as an important next step in promoting awareness and understanding of Rotary, as well as the impact Rotarians make around the world.

Rotary's social media team will publish the People of Action campaign on their Rotary channels in all Rotary languages. Two breakout sessions included information about the campaign: Becoming an Effective Rotary Communicator and Promoting Rotary in Your community. This is a good time to start planning for how your club will use the People of Action campaign ad to promote Rotary in your community.

## WHEN was The Rotary Foundation named as the world's outstanding Foundation?

The Rotary Foundation, the charitable arm of Rotary was named the 2016 Outstanding Foundation by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).

From its first contribution of \$26.50 almost a century ago, The Rotary Foundation's assets have grown to approximately \$1 billion, and more than \$3 billion have been spent on projects that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, support education, save mothers and children, and grow local economies.

Rotary launched its PolioPlus programme in 1985, and in 1988 became a leading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Since then, Rotary has contributed more than \$1.6 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect more than two billion children in 122 countries from this paralysing disease. Today, polio is on the verge of becoming only the second human disease ever to be eliminated after smallpox, with a 99.9 percent decrease in cases since the initiative began.

The Foundation's advocacy efforts also have resulted in another \$9 billion from world governments and foundations, increasing its impact.

"While almost everyone is familiar with Rotary, not everyone may realise just how much an impact Rotary

and the Rotary Foundation have had on countless people and communities across the globe," said AFP President and CEO Jason Lee. "On behalf of the entire charitable sector and people around the world, all of us at AFP are honoured to be able to recognise The Rotary Foundation as our 2016 Outstanding Foundation."

The Rotary Foundation received its award at AFP's 2017 International Fundraising Conference in San Francisco on April 30

To mark the Foundation's centennial year, Rotary members raised \$300 million by July 2017. "We are honoured to receive this recognition from the AFP, which give us even more reason to celebrate during our Foundation's centennial year," said Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Kalyan Banerjee.

## How Rotary Enriched My Life

It is three and a half years since I embraced Rotary and in this short stint, I believe I have contributed myself to the extent possible to the movement in general and Texcity in particular. I have served as Secretary in the Second year, went a Famex tour, contributed to become a MPHf, taken up the responsibility of International Service this year. I mentioned these not to sound crude but to emphasize that all this pales into insignificance when I ponder about what the Movement gave me back in these years and I must admit that I am enriched with some remarkable friends for life and it is a fact that what I got far outweighs what little I gave.

When I say friends, I am going savour my wonderful experiences with them here without mentioning names and all concerned will know for themselves who I am referring to.

It is customary to start with my friend who introduced me to Texcity and who has invited me to many get togethers even before getting inducted. He is one who proves often that fortune isn't fickle and who has been a friend for decades. We speak less of Rotary and more of life during our morning walks. Another soul who insisted I should join Texcity is another Golf mate, one who firmly believes in Love toward humanity and any life form on this planet. His hospitality has no match and so are his accessories that adorn his day to day finery. There is an Army veteran who is in the same





vocation as mine, with whom I have an occasional Single Malt and wander late at night for food. Speaking of Single Malt, reminds me of two other senior friends with whom I have many profound discussions over few malts and enjoy wonderful Stuffed Paranthas. The soft-spoken surgeon who goes about his job in a minimally invasive way in the Operating Room invades your soul big time with his Violin and the new Doc on the block who alleviates your pain not of the soul variety and with whom I share a lot about Hollywood movies. There's the Banker Turned ENT Doc who often says I am friendly with him. These are friends I cherish always. I can never forget the Doc who is silent in his depths but deals with blood related Oncology and the suave Ophthalmologist and his Service oriented wife are friends I find pleasing to interact. The tall and lanky Amitabh of our club took care of me so well when I had a fall on a sheet of ice in Gulmarg. I am indebted to him.

A great friend is hell bent on making me Governor of the District, yes you heard it right, I know it is preposterous but he is insistent. Jokes apart, he is a great friend of mine and who is very valuable to our Club. He and his charming wife are a great influence wherever they are. Aiding this Governor business is another good friend of mine who is the lean fit Golf addict of Texcity. Another couple who prove their value so eloquently to the club have been so kind and friendly to me; the lady is our master ensuring we conduct our proceedings well and the Rotarian is a stickler for rules who speaks his mind whatever the outcome.

My assimilation to our Club was complete partly due to my friendly nature and more so because of my obsession with all good things in life as food, books, movies, music and choicest drinks. There are many friends who share at least one of these and we started bonding intensely. The fit lean machine of our Club who runs his Fitness and Games outfit is so soft spoken and we share our thoughts about Hollywood movies. The short but potent friend whose strange laugh gives him away from a mile is another I converse with well and hearing that he has shirked off his unhealthy habit was heartwarming indeed. And I need to mention about our live wire who is so attached to the Vocational Centre and who is always is there for anything I ask. It is his effort that got us 2K USD from Charlotte.

I have this friend from my Tabling days who gallivants all over the scenic spots of Kerala on work partaking the delicacies and of course the drink, is one whom I hold dear. The other short but sweet Diamond is my good friend and the tall youngster who breathes TRF, who is my food mate in Kongu delicacies. The Mr Nice guy is my predecessor in Secretaryship who lent a helping hand on many occasions. I bonded with him right from the start and it is a pity he spends most of the time in US nowadays and I get to see him rarely. The lanky well-built planter, the very decent horse loving Dentist from the mountains, our in-house lawyer, our

most respected Doc who runs the fabulous Foundation are friends who I cherish a lot.

There is this Rotarian who maintains an apartment for all of us to meet often and have Fellowship dos and his hospitality is something one should experience. I will fail in my duty if I do not mention this Rotarian friend who is an active politician and a great businessman and would be any President's nightmare to have him as Secretary.

Cultivating friendship has no standard operating procedure, but if you are genuine and have no agenda this heady brew of friendship happens to you just like that. I have cultivated solid friendship with some special elements in our Club. We just take off hundreds of kilometres for a meal, meet for a drink just like that and the evenings extend interminably. We go for drives, trips and coffees deciding instantaneously. The following are the specials.

The most friendly guy in our club with a prosperous tummy and a generous heart tops the list, the stylish and suave CTO of our club with Signature stuff, the orthodontist with submarines, the Appliances guy sitting at a vantage location to sip Annapoona coffee, the Casanova and the Cricketer from Ganapathy, the Realtor who can speed dial Prime Ministers and Sheikhs, the stylish guy who has High tea day in and day out at Taj and Residency only and whose FB pics sport a glass in his hand, the Professor from the Mountains, the Swiss MNC guy who is so soft spoken and generous to a fault, the jeweller who is short but steely, and the steel guy who sings so well and loses his chain and yet gets it back, are all part of my sphere and I thank the force called Rotary for bringing them to me.

If I have not mentioned many names here it is so I get to know them much closer in the coming days and my next article will be about them.



Rtn Kamal Kumar

I write this piece albeit a long one for a purpose. This is to tell you that in such a short span of time I was endowed with such enduring friendships only because I had the will to participate. This is to also let you know that the Movement gives you much more than what you give back to the movement.

**Did not I say Rotary enriched me**

