

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerners,
'Birds of a feather flock together' is the adage which pops up in my mind whenever I think of my club, the RC of Madras South. Southerners form a cohesive group and the variance among the members on any parameter is limited. This is a

boon for anyone who takes up the leadership position of this club. Let us keep our ethos intact and move ahead.

Rotary today has adopted many of the management techniques and practices from the business world; be it gender equality, public image, branding, concern for environment, succession planning, funds management, etc. The only difference is that the businesses look for a healthy financial bottomline, while Rotary's bottomline is a happy humanity.

Rotary is akin to a living organism adapting to the changing environment, for its own survival. In the 116 year history of this unique organisation, one can observe the timely modifications it has undertaken on its own, to align with the winds of change. Some examples are, more than one club in a locality, membership for women, participation of family, relaxation of attendance rules and the starting of e-clubs.

The success of any organisation hugely depends on the grooming of new leaders. New leaders and fresh blood bring in the nourishment for any institution. This year one of our focus areas is to create a new leadership ladder and also to bring in new members. Each Rotary club is an entity by itself having its own internal culture and practices; within the limits set by RI. This makes it important that the new members imbibe and internalise the club's culture.

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RTN RENJIT JOSEPH INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT FOR RY 2021-22

Rtn Renjit Joseph was installed as the 61st president of our club at a virtual meeting held on 29th June, 2021. He received the presidential collar and gavel from IPP Rtn A N Sujeesh.



Rtn Renjit is an engineer and runs an engineering equipment sales & service business under the name Vision Engineering (Madras) Pvt Ltd. He is happily married to Ann Rose who is an educator. He has two children. Annette Nikhil, his son, owns an e-commerce business, 'The Postbox' and Maria, his daughter, is looking forward to her doctorate in Iranian studies.

Rtn J Sridhar, Governor for RY 2021-22 (Dist.3232) was the chief guest. DG Sridhar also released the first copy of the club roster for 2021-22. Outgoing secretary Rtn R Balachander captured the activities of the club during the last rotary year effectively in an impressive power point presentation.

Rtn V S Jothilakshmi took charge as the secretary of the club and Rtn Sibi Rajan will be Treasurer for the current rotary year. PP Rtn V Mukund acted as the MC and the invocation song was rendered by Ann Raji Verma in her melodious voice.

Southerners wish the incoming team a memorable year of service and fellowship.



Rtn Renjit Joseph with family

TWO PAST VETERANS RETURN TO RCMS

V Sriram and **S Balaji**, both past members of our club, who had quit the club briefly for personal reasons, returned as members and were inducted by DG Sridhar during our installation meeting on 29th June. Southerners wish both of them another glorious innings as rotarians. This year, RI president Shekhar Mehta, launched the 'Each One, Bring One' initiative to expand rotary's reach around the world. Southerners are requested to introduce at least one potential member of good standing in society to strengthen our club and enable it to undertake more service projects to benefit the community



GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION BY RTN ASHA MARINA

PP Rtn Asha Marina contributed Rs 10 lakh to the TN CM's Public relief fund for Covid on behalf of their company Creations Promoters. In the picture she can be seen handing over the cheque to Mr Udayanidhi Stalin, MLA along with her spouse Kumar, son Prithvi and daughter-in-law Aiswarya. Rtn Asha is a Level 2 Major Donor to RTF and has also contributed generously to several of our club projects over the years. She is best remembered for the ambitious toilets construction project across Tamilnadu during her tenure as president of RCMS (RY 2016-17).

ACTION PACKED JUNE MONTH FOR ROTARACT CLUB OF MEASI

The members of Rotaract Club of MEASI Institute of Management, one of the Rotaract clubs sponsored by RCMS, were kept busy in June 2021 with multiple projects.

- * On 14th June, World Blood Donors Day, a blood donation awareness camp was organised in association with Apollo Hospitals
- * An outreach programme, FOODATHON 2.0 – Covid-19 relief project was organised from 14th June to 20th June to support the needy with food during the Covid crisis.
- * On 21st June, the club celebrated International Yoga Day as an online immunity enhancement programme with meditation, breath and yoga sessions, emphasizing the benefits of yoga in life.



....Continued from President's Message

A Rotarian owes his membership to his vocation. This has to be repeatedly emphasised, lest we forget one of the founding parameters of the idea of Rotary. And it makes it incumbent upon all Rotarians to support those without a livelihood to find one. And that is our second priority. I have heard that the late PDG C V George used to stress on offering people a livelihood and used to stress on the saying 'give a man a fish and you feed him for the day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime'.

Let us be the Changemakers forever.

Yours in Rotary

Renjit Joseph

CovAid

GROCERY KITS FOR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED PERSONS AT KATTUR VILLAGE

Our club distributed grocery kits and food to 100 differently-abled persons from Kattur and the surrounding villages (Vembedu to Kovalam). Village Development Officer and other government officers participated and facilitated the distribution to deserving beneficiaries. Our club member, Rtn. Suresh Arunachalam, who is involved in various welfare activities of in these villages, organised the entire programme. Our club's Community Learning Centre is located in Kattur village, (Vembedu panchayat) and has been supporting the village community with various skill development programmes over the years.



10 PATIENT COTS DONATED TO ST. THOMAS HOPITAL



As part of our ongoing Covid relief efforts, 10 patient cots were donated to St Thomas Hospital in Chennai last month. We had earlier donated a high end ventilator and patient monitors to the hospital. All these additional facilities are being put to good use by the hospital.

UPDATE – 'CARING FOR LITTLE HEARTS' PROJECT

A total of 9 surgeries were performed in the month of June. All the children are recovering and progressing.

I had an interesting chat with Mr Jayaraman, father of Rikesh Sai, who is now back home after the surgery and doing well. He said that he could not afford the surgery and he was at wits end on how to save his son. It was help from Dr Renjit of Soorya Hospital who guided him about the RCMS' Little Hearts project . He understood how the funding works and was so thankful to the Rotarians. He works as a coolie in the Kothwal Chavadi area. "Neenga ellam naala irunkanam saar" was his grateful remark to all of us.



Rtn R Srikanth

ANNETTES WIN ACCOLADES

Annettes of our club won accolades at the recently held District Annettes Council (DAC) Awards 2021 for the Rotary year 2020-2021. Annette Joseph Boaz won 'Lead Helping Hand Award', Annette Akansha Katare won 'Zealous Annette Award' and the Annette Club won 'Silver' for 'Outstanding Club Project'. Last Rotary year, our annettes had organised 'Tale of the District', inter-club short story competition, Inter-Club Tambola among several programmes and were deservedly recognised for their work. Well done Annettes.



WEEKLY eMEETINGS IN JUNE



Date : 1st June, 2021
 Speaker : Squadron Leader Delshad Master
 Topic : Busting myths about LGBTQ community



Date : 8th June, 2021
 Speaker : R Venkatanathan
 Topic : Indians in Singapore



Date : 22nd June, 2021
 Speaker : Sangeetha & Prasanna
 Topic : The joy of travel



BIG BASH – VIRTUAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The popular phrase “He left no stone unturned” would fit perfectly to our IPDG Muthu Palaniappan who remitted the governor's office on 30th June 2021. As typically it would end in a T20 cricket match, the Rotary year 2020-2021 ended on a last ball sixer in the form of “Big Bash” District Conference conducted virtually on 26th and 27th of June and attended by more than 1000 participants. The conference had all the elements of a physical in-person conference, including food delivery (on paid basis) through Swiggy, linked to a catering company.

Big Bash used a new virtual events platform that attempted to give the experience of attending a physical in-person conference. The event started with a pre-conference curtain raiser on 25th June evening, chaired by Rtn. Mahaveer Bothra of RC Madras T.Nagar. The next two days, 26th June afternoon and 27th June until noon, covered Rotary and non-Rotary genre of content, including talk by R.I. Director A S Venkatesh, our own PDG Natarajan Nagoji, interview with Sanjay Reddy, Director of GVK Group, skit by club presidents and first ladies, interview with actor Andrea, recognition of the Council of Governors and many more. Rtn. Girija Raghavan compered the entire conference. Kudos to Rtn. R Natarajan of RC Madras Downtown and the team for giving one of the finest District Conferences our Rotary District has witnessed. Those interested can watch the recording of the conference from this link, <https://fb.watch/v/36DEV6cSj/>.

Rtn Magdoom Mohamed



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The Southerner is published by Rotary Club of Madras South for private circulation and is Printed by Multicraft (2431 0419)