

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerners,

**The Four Way Test** of the things we think, say or do.

Southerners are familiar with the Four Way Test, a non-partisan and non-sectarian ethical guide for Rotarians to use in their personal and professional relationships.

This guiding principle was adopted by Rotary in 1943. Many clubs recite the Four way test during their weekly meetings.

Four-Way Test was conceived by Herbert J. Taylor, a Chicago Rotarian who later became the president of Rotary International (1954-55). He applied the Four-Way Test to the day to day operation of his company with remarkable results.

These four test questions condenses most of the teachings given out by various religions in a form understandable to the hoi polloi. Joseph Epstein the American writer and former editor of The American Scholar, in his article 'The Four-Way Test in a post-truth era' writes 'I only recently learned of The Four-Way Test, one of Rotary's central principles. It is of special interest in the current day, when truth - or, more precisely, truthfulness - seems to be losing its prestige in public life'.

For the benefit of the Southerners I am reproducing here some interesting parts from his article.

Then there is the new use of the word "narrative." Narrative once meant, simply, "a spoken or written account of connected events; a story." In recent years it has come to mean little more than "my version" of events. Narrative, as historian Wilfred M. McClay has written, "provides a way of talking neutrally about [events] while distancing ourselves from a consideration

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### FORD-ROTARY DIGITAL INITIATIVE REACHES J&K

RCMS and FRDI have been touching the lives of many children and adults over the years. Having distributed over 13,000 desktops and laptops, this program has been hailed as an important watershed in digital literacy reaching the needy.

On a request from RID 3232, District Governor Rtn Sridhar's team, RCMS- FRDI decided to reach out to one of the most remote zones in India. Machhal in Kupwara district lies near the LOC in Jammu. A mountainous region with the harshest winters, this region needs every assistance in every avenue possible to help the people there hope for a better life.



Heavy snowfall during the winter cuts off Machhal for 4 months a year. Add to this the ever existing threat of terrorism and we could only begin to think of the difficulties the people of Machhal face.

The FRDI allotted 50 laptops with the idea of further allotments depending on the usage and results.

Rtn R Srikant co-ordinated with the Ford CSR team to ready the 50 laptops and these were dispatched. I had decided to travel to Machhal to inspect the schools, process the distribution and look at how we could develop the project.

On the auspicious Vijayadasami day, children, the Headmaster and Village sarpanch of the beneficiary schools assembled and laptops were distributed.

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## SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF RAINWATER HARVESTING SYSTEM GLOBAL GRANT PROJECT



Our Global Grant project providing rainwater harvesting system to 10 public and aided schools in Chennai, in partnership with Rotary Club of Lake Spivey Clayton County, USA was successfully completed and a meeting to mark the completion of the project was organised at Hotel Savera on 26 October 2021. District Governor Rtn. J Sridhar was the chief guest at the function and he appreciated the work done by our Club. Water being such a precious thing for human survival, our District has

embarked on this project under 'Water Mission', he added. The rainwater harvesting facilities provided to the schools will be maintained for a period of 4 years and MoU with each of the schools was signed and exchanged at the function. The project approved by TRF in August 2020 was delayed due to restrictions created by the pandemic and was finally completed in October 2021. The project will harvest 17400 kl of rainwater in these schools which is equivalent to harvesting rainwater in 850 individual homes. As Southerners, we are proud of this project and its our small contribution to help mitigate the water woes of Chennai. As someone at the meeting commented, 'Southerners on a mission, expect more from them'.



**PP Rtn Magdoom Mohamed**

## VIJAY MENON AND JAISHREE SINGH INDUCTED AS NEW MEMBERS

Vijay Menon, Financial Services Businessman, introduced by Rtn Jawahar Nichani and Jaishree Singh, Educationist, introduced by



Rtn Bina Boaz joined our club as our new members.



Vijay's wife Geetu and daughter Shruti were also present. Jaishree is married to Dr Raj Singh, a Pulmonologist based in Chennai. Southerners welcome Rtns. Vijay Menon and Jayshree Singh to the RCMS family.

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Only basic amenities were available and the Indian Government and the Indian Army have been working with many outreach programs and projects for the benefit of the people there. Education is rudimentary and the FRDI can play an important part in getting the people of Machhal a better life. RCMS should look at this as a long term project, with proper planning and diligence.



**PP Rtn V Mukund**

## DISTRICT SERVICE AWARD FOR RTN K SARAVANAN

PP Rtn K Saravanan received the District Service Award for his outstanding service in promoting The Rotary Foundation and its goal of world understanding and peace. He has been spearheading our club's prestigious 'Caring For Little Hearts' project over the years, working hard with his team to ensure its success. He received the certificate from PDG N. Nagoji at our weekly meeting on 5th October. Kudos to Rtn Saravanan for this singular honour.



## FIRESIDE AT RTN.ANURADHA'S HOME

On 3rd October, Rtns. Sujeesh, Sandilya, Praveen, Sridharan, Rtn Sibirajan and Renjit with their families were invited to Rtn. Anuradha's apartment for a Fireside.

We have had to make a lot of changes with the onset of COVID, having a fireside in the afternoon is one of them. Greeting each other in person, getting an update of what's been happening was just the beginning. What followed was a riot of laughter and jokes - all in good spirit.

The overwhelming warmth and hospitality of our gracious host made it even more special, from the deftly mixed mocktails to delectable short eats, of course, not to forget chilled beer that kept us all in good spirits right through. We somehow were in no hurry to leave even after lunch, which was again fabulous with one particular amazing dish that stood out- the main ingredient being bitter melon, a vegetable that's not very popular otherwise.

It was well after 3 pm when we said our goodbyes and left, after such an enjoyable afternoon spent together. The friendship, the comradery, the loud laughter, the jokes, and above all the great fellowship which is so much a part of RCMS was just so evident - let's hope the good times are here to stay.

Cheers to you, Rtn. Anuradha for making this fireside truly enjoyable.

**Ann Rose Renjit**



## LOG IN TO THE WORLD OF ROTARY

You can log off from other social media for a while and explore the sane world of Rotary. Every Rotarian can create an account and log into the RI website which provides a wealth of information on Rotary and its activities.

Log into <https://my.rotary.org/>. On the top right hand corner of the landing page you will find 'Register'. Use the email id and mobile number provided by you to the club to register in the RI website.

Once your account is done you can create your profile; the first step to connect with the 1.2 Mn Rotarians worldwide. There are many discussion groups in this site and a few examples are provided here.

Members of Rotary worldwide who are into prominent

businesses or any kind of trade can connect with each other through '**Rotary Business Connect**'.

Lady members can connect with each other through '**Women in Rotary**' to discuss the formation of women's fellowship for the purpose of social interaction and fellowship.

What's more you can even link with other '**Whiskey drinking Rotarians**' to learn about whiskey, food pairings and other topics related to the appreciation of all whiskies produced worldwide!

Log in and enjoy....



## WEEKLY MEETINGS IN OCTOBER



Date : 5th October, 2021  
 Speaker : Mr A V Anoop  
 Topic : The story of my business careers



Date : 12th October, 2021  
 Speaker : Mr Harihara Mani  
 Topic : Life is a cycle



Date : 19th October, 2021  
 Speaker : Mr M R Rangaswamy, Dr Smita Siddhanti and Ms Seema Chaturvedi  
 Topic : Indians and Silicon Valley

### DRY RATION PROVIDED AT KUMARAN SPECIAL SCHOOL



Kumaran Special School is a day-school for spastic children run by a Trust in Ennore. Over the years our club has been supporting this school in many ways. On 21st October, 9 staff members of the school affected by the recent pandemic, were provided dry ration kits consisting of 17 items worth Rs 10,000/- per kit. Rtn Kishore Bafna, Director, Community Service (Development) personally visited the school and handed over the kits.

### PE JAWAHAR NICHANI ATTENDS PRE-PETS



Rtn Jawahar Nichani (PE) and Ann Akshaya attended the Pre-PETS seminar for incoming presidents during the RY 22-23 at Hotel Crowne Plaza in Chennai on 30th October. According to Rtn Jawahar the district team had organised “a seamless evening which was structured immaculately.” In the photo alongside they can be seen with DGE (Dist 3232) Dr N Nandakumar and Ann Dr Sumedha Nandakumar at the event.

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of their truth.” Nowadays, several movie stars as well as a Supreme Court justice have laid claim to, or been accused of, “changing the narrative.”

And let us not forget the contemporary notion of “reinventing” oneself, as if people could easily shed their personality, their character, all that has gone before in their life, by changing jobs, neighbourhoods, spouses. I myself have always liked the saying, in contravention of the notion of reinventing oneself, “Anywhere you go, there you are.”

I would strongly recommend Southerners to read the whole article which is just a google search away.

Yours in Rotary

**Renjit Joseph**

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