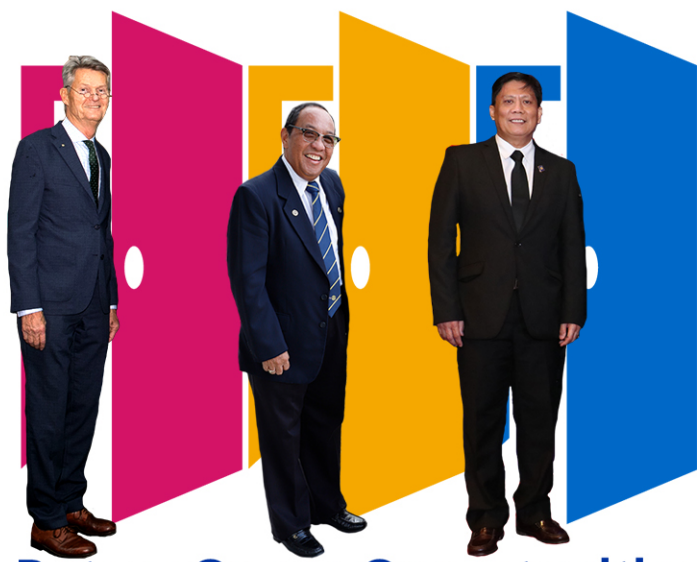


THE FOUNTAIN

CHARTERED OCTOBER 29, 1982

CLUB # 17104

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF ROTARY CLUB OF CEBU FUENTE DISTRICT 3860



Rotary Opens Opportunities

“Rotary is not just a club that you join, it is an invitation to endless opportunities”

HOLGER KNAACK

Rotary International President, RY 2020 - 2021



Rotary
Club of Cebu Fuente





HOLGER KNAACK
Rotary International President



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District Governor



AMOR TOMAKIN
Assistant Governor, Area 1D



CARY BEATISULA
District Secretary

Cebu Fuente
Rotary
Club



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Ways and Means



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Ways and Means



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27th General Membership Meeting

Virtual Meeting | March 22, 2021

Area of Focus: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month

Rotary Opens Opportunities

Vol. 39, No. 22

Programme

Part 1

Call to Order.....	Pres. Emmie Tesalona
Invocation.....	Audio Visual Presentation
Philippine Anthem.....	Audio Visual Presentation
The Rotary Hymn.....	Audio Visual Presentation
Four Way Test and Objects of Rotary.....	Audio Visual Presentation
Introduction of Rotarians / Spouses	
Visiting Rotarians/Rotactors/Guest	

PART 2

Introduction of Guest Speaker.....	PP Alain Senerpida
Guest Speaker.....	PP Jesse Baring
Topic: Is our water safe?	
Open Forum	
Presentation of Certificate / Token	

PART 3

Secretary's Report.....	Sec. Pouly Jang
Treasurer's Report.....	Treas. Jun Torres
Director's Report	
President's Time.....	Pres. Emmie Tesalona
Other matters	
Adjournment.....	Pres. Emmie Tesalona

...Fellowship Continues...

Quote for the Week

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game." - Babe Ruth



Hosted by:
Dir. Jason Ong

INVOCATION

Gracious God, we offer to you our praise. We thank you for the great measure of your love and for the redemptive power of your grace. Be pleased in your mercy to come to every one of us just now, as we come before you, and find in you what nothing in this world can give: redemption from our sin, peace that cannot be taken away, and hope that is unashamed and unafraid. Hear not our silent prayers, O God. Amen



President's Message



Is our Water Safe? The Webinar hosted by the Rotary Club of Cebu Fuente, to spur consciousness in saving seas, rivers, lakes, creeks and other natural water ways. This movement is very close to RCCF hearts because the prime mover is no less than our very own Scientist, Engineer Jessie Baring.

During his talk, PP Jessie showed the different activities spearheaded by RCCF to save the major creeks in the City of Cebu. He spelled out the different challenges faced by the group in cleaning and maintaining the creeks free from trash and toxic substance perpetually dump to the city's water ways.

As discussed during the question-and-answer portion, the main problem in maintaining the cleanliness of the city's water ways is the enforcement of the law and order. For example, the continued presence of squatters on the river banks, not only impede the flow of water, but also the main source of floating trash, should be addressed the soonest. This problem affects not only the cleanliness of water, but also endangers the lives of those people living near the water ways.

The topic became so interesting that the one-hour webinar was extended to another hour to discuss solutions on the burgeoning problem on clogged, smelly and over flowing creeks. Having no concrete answer in sight the club decided to hold another webinar with the Director of DENR as the speaker.

Till then fellow Rotarians!

EMMANUEL "EMMIE" P. TESALONA
President, RY 2020-2021





POULY JANG
Secretary,
RY 2020 - 2021

From Secretary's Desk

Attendance

ROTARY ID #	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	25th 03/01	26th 03/15	27th 03/22	28th 03/29	Perfect Attendance
6726464	Abad	Jose Alfonso		✓			
6581939	Abarintos	Conrado	✓	✓			
8794289	Abay-Abay	Emman Reyan	✓	✓			
9330462	Amago IV	Atty. Bernardino	✓	✓			
6218949	Amores	Maricel	✓	✓			
3362897	Barba	Richard	✓	✓			
6207695	Baring	Engr. Jesselito		✓			
1166426	Calalang	Emmanuel		✓			
8915638	Canama	Don Jade		✓			
10954392	Deiparine	Atty. Sydrick Jose Andre					
2036342	Espina	Arch. Joseph Michael	✓	✓			
1166431	Gonzalez	Dr. Julio	✓				
8944393	Jang	Pouly		✓			
3516557	Karamihan	Dave John	✓	✓			
8599266	Kaufmann	Marina	✓	✓			
10411473	Libron	Dr. Tess Annette		✓			
10234515	Llegunas	Dee Hora	✓	✓			
9804883	Llegunas	Kristoffer	✓	✓			
8794288	Lomanta	Atty. Lolita		✓			
10709899	Ong	Jason	✓	✓			
6726443	Pasion	Ma. Consolacion	✓	✓			
10410040	Ponce	Jose Marie		✓			
6581937	Ramos	Geraldine		✓			
8599268	Rimaz	Ma. Dolores		✓			
5476140	San Pedro	Luz Filipinas					
11103868	Spaller	Herminia	✓	✓			
8794286	Senerpida	Dr. Alain	✓	✓			
3264107	Solomon	Mary Anne	✓	✓			
8543450	Sulay	Kendrick	✓	✓			
9330558	Tesalona	Emmanuel	✓	✓			
5176670	Torres	Arch. Manuel, Jr.	✓	✓			
10713855	Uy	Stephen Henry	✓	✓			
10410033	Yared	Patrick	✓	✓			
TOTAL ATTENDEES IN ZOOM			20	36			

BIRTHDAYS

March 02	Sps. Dr. Cri Senerpida	March 24	PP Rollie Filipino
March 03	PP Jesselito Baring	March 24	PP Joal Abad
March 05	Pres. Kendrick Sulay	March 31	PP Cornelio Mercado
March 21	PP Dinna Ramos		





AS SOMEONE WHO KNOWS firsthand the great leadership potential of Rotaractors, I always look forward to World Rotaract Week, which we are celebrating from 8 to 14 March. Rotaractors are the focus of all three of my presidential conferences this year, and I was proud when, two years ago, the Council on Legislation voted to elevate Rotaract by including Rotaract clubs as members of Rotary International. Before that, the Council had already made dual membership possible, and shortly after, the Board of Directors decided to do away with Rotaract's age limits.

But we are only just embarking on our journey together. Partnering effectively doesn't happen by itself. It requires both sides to be open and to understand the value of cross-generational alliances. Louie De Real, a dual member of Rotaract and Rotary, explains.

Joint virtual meetings have helped Rotaractors introduce Rotarians to new ideas and tools, pioneering unique ways for clubs to collaborate. In the case of pandemic and disaster response, Rotaract clubs used social media to coordinate efforts, drive information, and fundraise, while Rotary clubs used their networks and resources to amplify support, provide logistics, and bring the goods and services to communities.

Rotaractors' innovative virtual engagement and professional development activities inspired Rotarians to support and follow suit. The pandemic made Rotaract clubs realize that we can immediately connect and partner with Rotary clubs through virtual platforms. With constant collaboration, we realize that Rotary and Rotaract indeed complement each other — that we are part of a single organization with shared goals.

Both sides add value. Rotarians can be mentors and service partners to Rotaractors, while Rotaractors can demon-

strate to Rotarians that difficult jobs can be simplified and limitations can be surpassed through digital approaches. This synergy motivates Rotaractors to become future Rotarians: I joined Rotary because Rotarians gave me memorable membership experiences through inspirational moments of collaboration. I needed to be a Rotarian to inspire Rotaractors the same way, now and in the future.

That same synergy leads Rotarians to realize that while Rotaractors may have a different culture, we all share a common vision of uniting people to take action. Rotaract's unique ways of doing things serve as inspiration for innovation, helping Rotary increase its ability to adapt to future challenges. Rotarians and Rotaractors will build the future together, so let's start today.

I see no difference between a Rotary club and a Rotaract club, except perhaps for the average age!

Many Rotarians still view Rotaract as our youth organization, but I see it differently. For me, they are part of us, and they are like us. To be successful together, we need to have mutual respect — to see each other as equals. Let's see Rotaractors for who they really are: students and young leaders, but also successful managers and entrepreneurs who are capable of planning, organizing, and managing a Rotary institute — including breakout sessions in five languages — as they did in Berlin in 2014.

As we take this journey together, let's remember the strengths of Rotary and Rotaract. And, as Louie says, let's get started right away in building the future together. In doing so, we open endless opportunities for our organization.

HOLGER KNAACK

President, Rotary International



TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Challenge and opportunity

One year ago this month, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. As I write these words, the coronavirus continues to wreak havoc: taking lives, choking economies, and changing our societies in myriad ways. It has disproportionately hurt the poor and worsened inequalities.

Even as some countries have done better than others in controlling this deadly disease, the rapid development of vaccines is bringing us closer to the end of our strange new reality of social isolation.

This dark chapter in our history is also an opportunity for Rotary, because it reminds us of the impact we can have through The Rotary Foundation if we commit to helping others and live up to our highest ideals. It reminds us of the truly international spirit that we must embody to recover from this moment.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have witnessed compassion and sacrifice, friendship and resilient good humor. I am reminded of that famous insight popularized by John F. Kennedy: "When written in Chinese, the word *crisis* is composed of two characters: One represents danger, and one represents opportunity."

Working together, we have done so much to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic, to care for our communities, and to seize the opportunity to be a part of perhaps the most complex task ever undertaken in history — vaccinating 7 billion people.

This does not mean we will deviate in

any way from our avowed commitment to eradicating polio, which remains our highest priority and will continue to be our only corporate program.

On the contrary, while continuing polio vaccinations and surveillance, we can apply all our experience in fighting polio to counter COVID-19. We all have a part to play in combating the growing force of vaccine resistance and misinformation. Our advocacy in our communities will be critical — we need to spread the message about the power of vaccines to save lives. We need to work closely with governments and support them in the vaccination drive. We need to add to the more than 3,000 projects already registered on Rotary Showcase to raise awareness, deliver critical personal protective equipment, and support frontline health workers.

As Aristotle said, human beings are social animals, and while COVID-19 has cruelly deprived us of our natural or habitual environment, it does not prevent us from finding connections and helping others in new ways. As you will see in the coming months, Rotary members are already finding the means to channel their humanitarian spirit through the Foundation, which is constantly adapting to address the world's challenges. Every Rotarian has a role in this effort, and you will find that however you choose to help others and make lasting change, you are not alone.

K.R. RAVINDRAN

Foundation trustee chair

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John P. Hewko
Kyiv, Ukraine

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Bombay, India

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Sae Hanyang, Korea

GENERAL SECRETARY

John P. Hewko
Kyiv, Ukraine





August	September
Membership & New Club Development	Basic Education & Literacy
Dave John Karamihan	Maria Celina Amores
Geraldine Ramos	Emman Reyán Abay-Abay
Conrado Abarintos	Maria Consolacion Pasion
October	November
Community Economic Development	Rotary Foundation
Jose Alfonso Abad	Lolita Lomanta
Kristoffer Llegunas	Joseph Michael Espina
Dee Hora Llegunas	Don Jade Canama
December	January
Disease Prevention & Treatment	Vocational Service
Mary Anne Alcordo Solomon	Richard Barba
Ma. Dolores Rimaz	Julio Gonzales
Marina Kaufmann	Tess Annette Serrato-Libron
February	March
Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene
Kendrick Sulay	Alain Senerpida
Jesselito Baring	Jason Ong
April	May
Maternal & Child Health	Youth Service
Bernadino Amago IV	Pouly Jang
Jose Marie Ponce	Manuel Torres Jr
June	July 2021
Rotary Fellowship	
Emmanuel Calalang	
Stephen Henry Uy	
Patrick Yared	



JESSELITO V. BARING, ASEAN Eng. (Ch.E)

J. V. Baring Bldg., Banilad, Cebu City

Tel. Nos. 345-0890 / 416-2009

A. EXPERTISEior

- * Chemical Engineering
- * Quality Control Laboratory Management
- * Environmental Studies
- * Waste Treatment Design
- * Machine design and Innovation

B. CURRENT POSITIONS

President: Flojess Watertech Inc. Senior Consultant: JV Baring Consultants and Allied Services

Environment and Technical Director: Ruppert Peace Power Asia Inc.

Assistant Governor: Rotary International District 3860 Area 1D

C. EDUCATION

M. S., Units in Chemistry, University of San Carlos , Cebu City

B. S., Chemical Engineering, University of San Carlos , Cebu City

D. ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- * Rotary Club of Cebu Fuente
- * ASEAN Engineers Register, No. 00332
- * Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers
- * Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers Cebu Chapter
- * Visayas Inventors Association
- * Pollution Control Association of the Philippines, Inc. Region VII
- * Toledo Jaycees
- * Junior Chamber of the Philippines Central Visayas

POSITION

- Past President
- Member
- Past National President
- Past President
- President
- Past President
- Past President
- Past National Vice- President

E. CITATION AND AWARDS

LIKHA AWARD	Outstanding Creative Research – Third Prize “Modular Waste Treatment Equipment”
LEADERSHIP AWARD	Most Outstanding Baby Rotarian, July 2005
LIKHA AWARD	Outstanding Creative Research – Third Prize “Cyclonic Scrubber”
LEADERSHIP AWARD	Outstanding Toledano, January 4, 2004
ASEAN ENGINEER	Registered ASEAN Engineer, September 4, 2002
TUKLAS AWARD	Outstanding Invention – Second Prize, November 21, 2001 “Rotating Biological Contactor”
PCIERD AWARD	Outstanding R & D– Third Prize, February 18, 2000 “Development and Practical Applications of an Innovative



6th



RAISE A GLASS

Event:

Rondy Beer Fest

Host:

Rotary Club of Anchorage East, Alaska

What it benefits:

Priceless, a local organization fighting human trafficking

What it is:

Fur Rendezvous — known locally as Fur Rondy — is an annual festival that salutes the pioneering spirit of Alaskans. As part of the fest, the Anchorage East club hosts this celebration of beer. Attendees can enjoy 18 sample pours of local Alaskan brews, pizza donated by local restaurants, and live music.

13th



LUCK O' THE IRISH

Event:

Lucky Leprechaun Races

Host:

Rotary Club of Southern Frederick County (Urbana), Maryland

What it benefits:

YMCA of Frederick County

What it is:

A longtime sponsor of the Lucky Leprechaun Race series organized by the local YMCA, the Rotary Club of Southern Frederick County provides financial support and volunteer power for the festive 5K and 10K runs and 1-mile walk. Dressing like a leprechaun (or simply in green) is encouraged, and prizes are awarded for costumes as well as for race finishers. Should COVID-19 restrictions be an issue, the club is considering options for a virtual race.



26th

to
28th



WALK FOR PEACE

Event:

Aussie Peace Walk

Hosts:

Rotary clubs in the Canberra area, Australia

What it benefits:

Maternal and child health initiatives

What it is:

Fitness and outdoor enthusiasts gather for a bit of rambling. You can walk for just one day, but to earn a finisher's medal, participants must complete walks on both the 27th and the 28th. Volunteers run the checkpoints, serving food, drinks, and entertainment on each of seven courses. Activities begin on the 26th with opening ceremonies.

27th



RUN ON THE SAND

Event:

Run the Beach

Host:

Rotary Club of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida

What it benefits:

Local charities

What it is:

This annual chip-timed 5K run/walk takes place on the beach, making for a scenic race opportunity for runners of all levels and ages. First- through third-place medals for various age groups are awarded. Should COVID-19 restrictions be an issue, the club is considering options for a virtual race.

27th

to
28th

SPRING FOR ART

Event:

Spring Fine Arts Festival

Host:

Rotary Club of Englewood, Florida

What it benefits:

Englewood Youth Foundation

What it is:

This juried art show features original works by more than 115 artists from all over the United States and Canada. Expect to find a variety of media including sculpture, painting, jewelry, ceramics, and photography. Admission is free; donations fund the club's youth charity.





Illustration by Viktor Miller Gausa

A newly anointed MacArthur “genius grant” recipient reveals America’s dirty secret: the inadequate management of wastewater in rural communities



THE CONVERSATION

Catherine Coleman Flowers





Pamela Rush, a single mother, lived with her two children in Lowndes

County, Alabama, in a mobile home she had bought for about \$113,000 in 1995. After more than 20 years, she still owed \$13,000 on a home that was essentially worthless. “The trailer was musty, poorly ventilated, and dimly lit, with water-stained popcorn ceilings

and exposed electrical wiring,” writes Catherine Coleman Flowers, who grew up in Lowndes County and whose book, *Waste: One Woman’s Fight Against America’s Dirty Secret*, was released in November. “At the rear of the home, overlooking a small yard and dense woods, was a collapsed deck. Beside the deck a pipe spewed raw sewage onto the ground. The toilet paper and feces told a story of the lost American dream much more clearly than Pam ever could.”

In Lowndes County, low-income residents like Rush face the threat not simply of fines but of criminal charges for failing to install costly septic systems. Flowers — who in 2020 received a \$625,000 “genius grant” from the MacArthur Foundation for “bringing attention to failing water and waste sanitation infrastructure in rural areas and its role in perpetuating health and socioeconomic disparities” — often brought people such as U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders and Poor People’s Campaign co-Chair William Barber to Rush’s home to see the situation firsthand. In June 2018, Rush testified before Congress about the perils faced by households like hers with failing or inadequate wastewater systems.

On 3 July 2020, at age 49, Rush became another victim of the global pandemic. “The official cause of death was COVID,” Flowers writes, “but the underlying causes of her suffering were poverty, environmental injustice, climate change, race, and health disparities. They would never be listed on a death certificate.”

In *Waste*, Flowers recounts how her own education as an activist began in childhood; a touchstone of the book is the civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery in 1965. Only six years old at the time, Flowers remembers the righteous outrage that ran like a current through her childhood home. “My parents, Mattie and J. C. Coleman, were active in the civil rights movement,” she writes. “Our house was a place other activists, including icons like [Stokely] Carmi-

chael, would visit to talk about strategy and issues of the day. I loved those front-porch conversations, and I soaked them all up. ... Most of all, I learned about serving my community for the greater good.”

Flowers left rural Lowndes County — “a place,” she writes, “that’s been called ‘Bloody Lowndes’ because of its violent, racist history” — to attend college. She eventually got her bachelor’s degree from Cameron University in Oklahoma, with detours along the way to get married, intern at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, serve in the U.S. Air Force, and march with fellow members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. In 2015, she would earn a master’s in history at the University of Nebraska. Flowers also spent several years teaching in Detroit, North Carolina, and Washington, D.C.; she still considers teaching “the best job in the world.”

In 2000, Flowers returned to Alabama’s Black Belt, running the NAACP’s voter empowerment office and serving as an economic development consultant to Lowndes County. In 2004 she founded a nonprofit known today as the Center for Rural Enterprise and Environmental Justice. “Our mission,” she explains in *Waste*, “is to reduce health, economic, and environmental disparities and improve access to clean air, water, and soil in marginalized rural communities.” In 2008, she also began work at the Montgomery-based Equal Justice Initiative, a nonprofit that works for criminal justice reform, where she continues to serve as rural development manager. A networker extraordinaire, Flowers has enlisted former Vice President Al Gore as an ally in her fight to right rural inequities. She has also worked with Peter Hotez, the renowned vaccinologist, to document the resurgence in the South of tropical diseases such as hookworm, which was long believed to have been eradicated from the region. She has established a strong working relationship with conservative activist Robert Woodson, whose Woodson Center helps low-income individuals and neighborhood organizations solve the problems within their own communities. And she has learned from Barber “how we should not get hung up on terms like ‘right’ or ‘left’ but instead choose right over wrong.” As she explains in *Waste*, “I made a conscious decision not to allow political differences to limit my ability to talk to people about issues.”

The month her book was released, senior editor Geoffrey Johnson talked to Flowers about America’s dirty secret, bridging partisan divides, the ways those two topics intersect — and how Rotarians can be part of the solution.



“WATER IS BECOMING MORE SCARCE, AND IF WE DON'T DO ANYTHING TO ADDRESS IT, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE WITHOUT WATER.”



What is America's dirty secret?

America's dirty secret is that there are people living in communities here in the United States that do not have access to wastewater treatment. They're living among raw sewage, something that most of us would expect to find in developing countries and not in the wealthiest country in the world.

Why is lack of sanitation a problem in the United States?

Because we put more emphasis on addressing wastewater in urban communities and less on rural communities. Wastewater policies have been directed at densely populated areas. Other areas, especially unincorporated communities, have been excluded from those policies, so they can never get at the public funds to address these issues. It's hard for most residents to address wastewater on their own. There has to be some type of public investment as well. The government has a lot of programs available to deal with wastewater, but generally they do not get down to the level of small communities — poor communities, communities of color, communities that have been marginalized.

Why do people in America not know this problem exists?

So many people have an urban perspective. They don't have a real sense of what happens in rural America. Often, people ask me questions like, “Well, why aren't they connected to a municipal system?” Because we're talking about a rural community. They may have small towns, but small towns don't have big budgets. They don't have a big tax base to fund their infrastructure, and therefore they're left behind.

Is part of the problem the fact that the people most affected are either impoverished or people of color or both?

That's the worst part of it, because a lot of the people who are impacted are the most vulnerable people in our society. I think people assume that it's a personal failing of the individual as opposed to a failing of the infrastructure. The problem is more complicated if people don't have access to infrastructure, or the infrastructure they do have access to does not work. We're also finding that when the infrastructure fails, the government blames the individuals and protects the people that made the money off them. There are so many different layers that have to be peeled back so that we can get



at the source of the problem — and then try to find some real solutions.

People may not want to hear the other part of it, but it's true: With climate change, this poor infrastructure is failing more and more. Look at what's happened where I live in Alabama. With these big storms comes a lot of rain, and that's when the septic systems that individuals have at their homes are more likely to fail. The sewage backs up into their homes through the bathtubs or elsewhere. Along with more rain, we're getting warmer temperatures, and diseases and parasites will become more prevalent and will probably move further north. So it's something that all of us should be concerned about.

You've worked with leaders across the political spectrum, including former Senator and U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions. How do you find commonality with people who have differing views from yours?

Well, I went to a town hall meeting where Senator Sessions was speaking. He was talking about grants and the programs that were available to potentially help the community that he was speaking to. And I asked a question: How can the community get access to grants if they require a match? Because most of these communities don't have money to get the match. He came to me afterward and

WRIT IN WATER

Catherine Coleman Flowers (left) visits the home of Pamela Rush with then-Senator Doug Jones of Alabama; at an **emotional congressional hearing** in 2018, Rush described the devastating impact of untreated sewage on her family.



said, "I've always been interested in trying to figure out how to get these types of funds for folks in poor communities." He said, "I grew up poor in Wilcox County" [Alabama, where today nearly a third of the population lives below the poverty level]. He just started telling me things. At that point, we were both human. And I listened to him; I wasn't trying to argue with him. He made himself available to me, and his staff made themselves available to me as I started to expand my work. Every time I reached out to them, they responded.

In your book, you describe how your first meeting with Bob Woodson devolved into a partisan back-and-forth. How did you make it work the second time you met him?

In 2001 I attended a faith-based summit in Washington, D.C., where Mr. Woodson was one of the speakers. After he spoke, he came off the stage and I followed him. I said, "We met before and it didn't go very well. But I need your help." I explained to him what I was doing, and he gave me his card. He said, "Call my office and we'll set up a meeting." And that's what happened. He came to Lowndes County and saw for himself. He was committed to helping us. Although he's a staunch Jack Kemp Republican, the team of people that he brought to assist him were both



EYEWITNESS

Flowers regularly brought visitors to homes in Lowndes County to **see firsthand the area's sewage problems;** (bottom) waste flows from a pipe into Rush's yard.



Republican and Democrat. So that's how I worked with Mr. Woodson. He believes in family; he believes in supporting a business community; he believes that there should be a Black middle class. We have a lot of things in common, but there also are things that we do not agree on. So we don't talk about those things. We don't spend time arguing or trying to change each other.

Is that a skill that you acquired over time?

I think it's just a Southern way of doing things. We sit and talk and try to figure out what we have in common. For example, if I'm talking with another grandparent, we talk about our grandchildren. We all love our grandchildren. We find those basic things that people don't argue about, that we have in common. Once we find something that we have in common, we become human to each other. We start from that point of what we agree on. There is no person who will believe in everything absolutely the same way you do. There are differences. So the first thing is to respect the difference.

Are you expanding your focus beyond wastewater to water problems in general?

My focus is primarily wastewater, but water and sanitation are integrally related. One of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals is the right to water and sanitation. I have been part of the National Coalition on the Human

Rights to Water and Sanitation [convened by the U.S. Human Rights Network], and we've used the human rights framework to focus on the lack of water. I know people want to focus on drinking water, but water is a part of our sanitation system too. If you're fighting COVID-19 or any other disease, you have to have water to wash your hands. If we want to end poverty and to live in harmony, we must all have access to water and sanitation. It shouldn't be where the haves can have it and the have-nots won't have it. We won't have any peace, because water is something that we all must have to live.

How can Rotarians help find solutions to the wastewater problem?

The first thing to do is identify what's going on in rural communities. Most people live in urban areas, and I don't think they realize that most of the United States is rural. So the first thing for Rotarians to do is to identify the problems in their areas — and share that with us, because that kind of information can help us craft solutions that work. Then they must make sure that people get access to those solutions, and make sure that policymakers know about these problems. This is not something that people generally talk about. It's out of sight, out of mind.

The second thing that Rotarians can help us with is to push for changes in the infrastructure. A lot of the infrastructure that we have built has a life span that's very short. We have to get away from planned obsolescence. We have to come up with infrastructure that deals with the reality of nature. That's something we're addressing now, and they can support us in this effort to develop new technologies to address wastewater issues. When people go into outer space, they can treat wastewater to make it drinking water. Why can't we do that here on earth? I'm looking to partner with collaborators who think like this — who are visionaries. I want to inspire and motivate and be a part of developing a toilet that, when we flush it, clean water comes out. We have to think differently now, because we need to figure out what we can reuse safely. Water is becoming more scarce, and if we don't do anything to address it, we're going to have a lot of people without water.

What is the most important lesson you've learned as an activist?

The fact that everyone has value. One of the people who have had an impact

“PEOPLE MAY NOT WANT TO HEAR THE OTHER PART OF IT, BUT IT'S TRUE: WITH CLIMATE CHANGE, THIS POOR INFRASTRUCTURE IS FAILING MORE AND MORE.”

on my life has been Bryan Stevenson [founder of the Equal Justice Initiative]. And one thing that Bryan taught me is that everyone is better than the worst thing that they've ever done. If we were all to feel that way, we would be in a position where we could, at the very least, have some conversations. I'm not going to force anybody to talk to me, but some people are more receptive than we realize. That's going to be more important as we move forward as a nation, that we have these conversations with each other. But we have to start with some commonality, start with those things that we share, and from there develop a respect for one another. Later we can have the hard conversations and come to some type of compromise or agreement. That is what's going to be necessary. That's how we avoid and break through stereotypes and preconceived notions about people. That's what I've learned.

In your book you write that the greatest lesson you could teach your students was “the value of peaceful protest and the importance of voting to achieve the American dream.” Is that a lesson for all of us?

Yes, I think so. It's part of having these conversations. People have to accept the right of other people to peacefully protest. This country started off with peaceful protests, and the changes that took place

HELPING A FRIEND

Flowers addresses a Capitol Hill crowd during a pre-pandemic Fire Drill Friday, a weekly event **organized by actor and activist Jane Fonda** (a Flowers ally) highlighting the climate crisis.



in the 1960s took place largely because of peaceful protests. Voting and protests are democratic principles that have ensured that we have kept this democracy for so long, and those are the principles that have made us the moral leaders of the world. If we want to continue to have that position, we're going to have to respect peaceful protests and we're going to have to respect voting — and ensure voting rights for everyone.

What is Pamela Rush's legacy?

Her legacy is that she opened her world to people who would not have understood poverty had they not spent time with her. Everybody who spent time with Pam became committed to making the type of structural changes that are needed to make sure that in the future, no one faces the problems that Pamela Rush had to face.

You once asked Al Gore: How do we ensure that our children and their grandchildren will inherit a livable world? How would you answer that question?

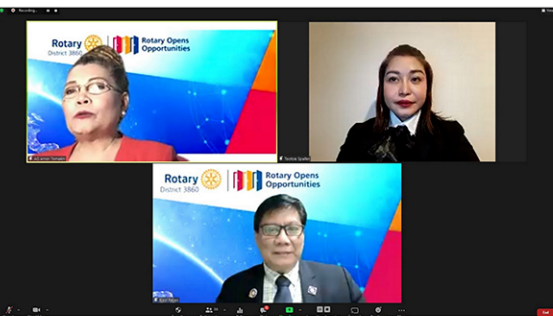
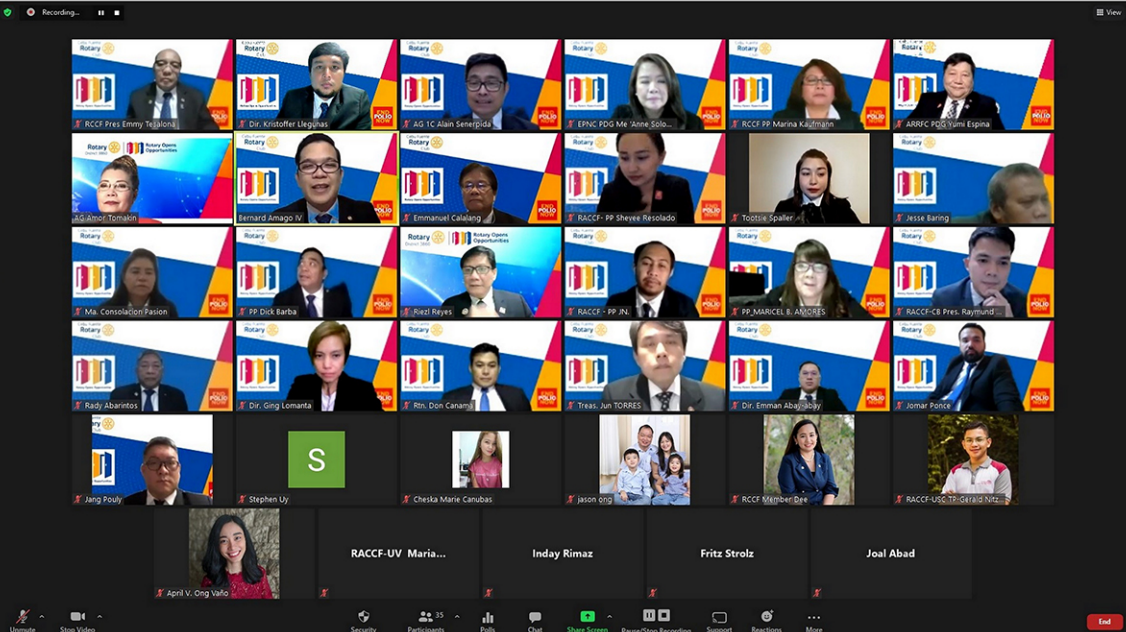
We have to work to make it happen. We cannot do nothing and expect change to happen. We have to stay engaged. We have to work on policy. We have to talk to people who will listen to us. And we're going to have to change to make sure that we leave a world that can support life not only for our children, but for our grandchildren and for all the generations to come. ■

Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene is one of Rotary's areas of focus. Get involved by visiting rotary.org/our-causes, by connecting with the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Rotary Action Group at wasrag.org, and by celebrating World Water Day on 22 March. Follow Rotary on social media to see our work in action.



Courtesy of Catherine Coleman Flowers

03-15-2021 26th RCCF GMM (Virtual) DG Visit





A.D. O. P. T. (*A Dose of Positive Thoughts*)

Maricel Borrromeo-Amores

Membership Director 2020-2021

PRESIDENT RY 2017-2018

One of the famous English essayists, Joseph Addison, wrote about “What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. These are but trifles, to be sure; but scattered along life’s pathway, the good they do is inconceivable.”

This beautiful quote from Addison reminded me of someone, who honored me with his trust in seeking my counsel, whenever he is conflicted or needs to make an important decision. He would first check my FB posts if I am smiling. It would be a sign for him that it is okay to call or text me on certain matters.

True enough when a person is genuinely smiling, he or she is in a happy place. Personally, it would lift my spirits up when I see beautiful smiling faces. We do take it as sheer smidgens but a smile has inevitably launched and forged agreements, a surefire way to diffuse tension, and the best antidote to an angry heart.

So, reciprocate or at best initiate the smile. I have watched people looked calmer and change to a less stressed and more relaxed aura. Whether you are the receiver or the giver of the smile, you mutually benefit from it. They say that when one smiles, it sends a message to your brain to release neuropeptides to ward off stress. It also discharges endorphins that serves as a mild pain reliver and serotonin as an antidepressant.

*“What sunshine is to flowers,
smiles are to humanity. These are
but trifles, to be sure; but
scattered along life’s pathway, the
good they do is inconceivable.”*

- Joseph Addison



Go ahead and smile to people you interact every day or even to yourself ! It gives you that “feel-good” mood and at the same time you bring sunshine to people around you.



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR



YOUR GIFT CAN PROVIDE CLEAN WATER

Clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education are basic necessities for a healthy environment and a productive life. Your donation to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund provides these essentials in communities close to home and around the world.

GIVE TODAY: rotary.org/donate



ORATIO IMPERATA: PRAYER AGAINST COVID-19 or 2019 CORONA VIRUS DISEASE

**Merciful and compassionate Father,
 we come to you in our need
 to seek your protection against the COVID 19 virus
 that has disturbed and even claimed lives.
 We ask you now to look upon us with love
 and by your healing hand,
 dispel the fear of sickness and death,
 restore our hope, and strengthen our faith.
 We pray that you guide the people
 tasked to find cures for this disease
 and to stem its transmission.
 We thank you for the vaccines developed
 made possible by your guiding hands.
 Bless our efforts to use these vaccines
 to end the pandemic in our country.
 We pray for our health workers
 that they may minister to the sick
 with competence and compassion.
 strength in their commitment,
 protection from the disease.
 We pray for those afflicted.
 May they be restored to health.
 Protect those who care for them.
 Grant eternal rest to those who have died.
 Give us the grace in these trying times
 to work for the good of all
 and to help those in need.
 May our concern and compassion for each other
 see us through this crisis
 and lead us to conversion and holiness.
 Grant all these through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son
 who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 God forever and ever. Amen.
 We fly to Your protection, O Holy Mother of God.
 Do not despise our petition in our necessities,
 but deliver us always from all dangers,
 O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.
 Our Lady, health of the sick, pray for us.
 St. Joseph, pray for us.
 St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.
 San Roque, pray for us.
 San Lorenzo Ruiz, pray for us
 San Pedro Calungsod, pray for us.**





PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

AN OFFICIAL CAUSE OF ROTARY

Rotary's new cause focuses on comprehensively solving specific issues that have a detrimental effect on the environment. As people of action, let's take on projects that can make a positive, measurable, and sustainable impact on the one place we all call home.

Learn more about Rotary's new cause at
rotary.org/environment



Cebu Fuente
Rotary
Club



100% PAUL HARRIS CLUB
in Rotary International District 3860
for RY 2016-2017



Cebu Fuente
Rotary
Club



**Rotary Opens
Opportunities**

www.rccebufuente.org
info@rccebufuente.org



In celebration of the World Rotaract Week, the Rotaract Club of Cebu Fuente - University of the Visayas Chapter and the Rotaract Club of Cebu Port Center, together with the Cebu Council of Rotaract Clubs, had a Coastal Clean-up Drive at F. Vestil st. SRP backroad last March 15, 2021.



Thank you to all clubs and districts that nominated a project to the 2020-21 Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards! The semi-finalists will be announced in mid-March.

2020-21 Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards

675

Rotaract clubs and districts nominated a project this year

63

countries nominated a project this year

67%

of projects nominated addressed a community issue related to COVID

24

years that Rotary International has hosted the Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards

Thank you to all clubs and districts that nominated a project this year!

Invite someone to become a

The
Rotary
Foundation



Rotarian today.

Join Rotary Club of Cebu Fuente



Spread the Word!



District Governor's Club Visit

NOTES:
