

# ROTARY HYMN

I want to be a Rotarian for the world,  
Make the Rotary flag be a flag of peace unfurled;  
I will serve my community,  
Help to seek international unity.  
Through Rotary, I will dedicate my all,  
World understanding shall be my cherished goal.

**Refrain:** With the Four Way Test  
I will pursue my quest  
And if I, in a way help obtain  
Peace in the world  
Then I won't have lived in vain.

I'll observe service above self,  
Lend a hand to all who need my help;  
I'll get my spouse to involve in Rotary  
And in Rotary ways I will train my family.

**Refrain:** With the Four Way Test  
We'll pursue our quest  
And if we, in a way help obtain  
Peace in the world  
Then we won't have lived in vain.

Build a bridge for tomorrow's youth,  
Strengthened by nothing but the truth;  
Let's join our hands, there's no reason to divide.  
We shall all understand, while the good Lord is our guide.

**Refrain:** With the Four Way Test  
We'll pursue our quest  
And if we, in a way help obtain  
Peace in the world  
Then we won't have lived in vain.

Peace be achieved,  
So we won't have lived in vain.



# THE CENTRAL CONNECTION

ROTARY YEAR 2023-2024



OFFICIAL  
BULLETIN

Meets every Tuesday  
7:00 PM at Cinco Niñas Filipino Cuisine and  
Restaurant, City of Koronadal, South Cotabato

## The FOUR-WAY TEST

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?

## OBJECT OF ROTARY

...is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise, and, in particular to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service.

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life.

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

## ROTARY CODE OF CONDUCT

- ✓ Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life;
- ✓ Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect;
- ✓ Use my professional skills through Rotary to: mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world;
- ✓ Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians;
- ✓ Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities, report any suspected harassment, and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment.

## ROTARY OBSERVATION MONTHS



# APRIL CELEBRATORS

April 16  
Spouse Hebah Abdullah



April 18  
Rtn. Kristian and Spouse Hebah

# 13<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting and Fellowship

## PROGRAM

PART I. REGISTRATION AND DINNER	
PART II. MEETING PROPER	
Call to Order	Pres. Sarah M. Gapas
Invocation	Overture
Philippine National Anthem	Overture
Rotary Hymn	Overture
Four-Way Test & Object of Rotary	
Secretary's Report	Sec. Hazel Eugenio
President's Time and Adjournment	Pres. Sarah M. Gapas
Agenda:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Updates on PETS-SETS and DisCon 2024</li> <li>2. Other matters</li> </ol>	
Open Forum	
PART III. FELLOWSHIP	

## Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the opportunity to come before you on the matters being held today.

We ask that you bless those who come here and the ones left at home. May Rotary friends and Rotary ways help us to serve You and Your people. We give you the honor and the glory in every event. Amen.



## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

**R. Gordon R. McNally**  
RI President 2023-2024



### APRIL 2024

These are times that cry out for peace. The Middle East is in its most volatile condition in years. The war in Ukraine is the largest in Europe since World War II, and there are armed conflicts in Sudan and parts of Central Africa. Nearly every continent is experiencing a major armed conflict.

Rotary has a vital role to play in advancing the cause of peace — I often say Rotary needs to work toward peace as aggressively as those who wish to wage war. It's the spirit found in our vision statement: "Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves." We must never lose track of that last call — that to bring about change in the world, we need to foster change within.

It is up to us to model peacebuilding behavior among each other. We can do better than questioning the motives of one another and jumping to the harshest possible explanation. After hearing words that might strain or offend us, we have an opportunity to ask, with compassion and curiosity, the intent of those offending words. And then we have another opportunity to repair the breach.

If we wish to be a beacon to the world, let us start by being so to one another. Let's help each other find greater understanding and productive alternatives to words that cause hurt and distrust. And let's stick to our principles, but never doubt the sincerity of each other to end conflicts, not inflame them.

I'm reminded of a speech that U.S. Senator Robert Kennedy made on 4 April 1968, that dreadful day when the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. Kennedy was in Indianapolis speaking to an audience in a predominantly African American neighborhood where people had yet to learn that Dr. King had been killed.

He shared the terrible news. He honored Dr. King for all he had done for the cause of justice and peace. And then he connected with the fuming, grieving crowd by saying: "For those of you who are Black and are tempted to be filled with hatred and distrust at the injustice of such an act, against all white people, I can only say that I feel in my own heart the same kind of feeling. I had a member of my family killed." It was the first time he had spoken publicly about President John F. Kennedy's assassination. And while many American cities exploded in violence that night, Indianapolis did not.

It is in times of crisis and despair that we need empathy most of all. Empathy is the most powerful tool of peace, and it is vital if we are to take the first brave, humble steps to *Create Hope in the World*.

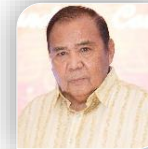
## CLUB PAST PRESIDENTS



**LORETA C. SY, PHF+4**  
Rotary Year 2013-2014  
*"Engage Rotary, Change Lives"*



**ORLANDO N. DELA CRUZ<sup>+</sup>**  
Rotary Year 2014-2015  
*"Light Up Rotary"*



**OSCAR PAGUNSAN**  
Rotary Year 2015-2016  
*"Be a Gift to the World"*



**FREDERICK D. CAYABYAB, PHF**  
Rotary Year 2016-2017  
*"Rotary Serving Humanity"*



**JUANITO C. CUEVA, PHF+3**  
Rotary Year 2017-2018  
*"Rotary: Making a Difference"*



**LEODEGARIO R. SANTOS, PHF+1**  
Rotary Year 2018-2019  
*"Be the Inspiration"*



**RYAN G. DELA CRUZ, PHF**  
Rotary Year 2020-2021  
*"Rotary Opens Opportunities"*



**DAPHNY DORRIS P. DOMINGO, PHF+1**  
Rotary Year 2019-2020  
*"Rotary Connects the World"*



**MARYBELLE S. AGREDA, PHF+1**  
Rotary Year 2021-2022  
*"Serve to Change Lives"*



**BENJIE V. HOKSUAN, PHF+1**  
Rotary Year 2022-2023  
*"Imagine Rotary"*

## ROSTER OF MEMBERS

No.	Rotarians	Classification	Spouse
1	Abayon, Leonor C.	Insurance Brokerage	-
2	Agreda, Marybelle S, PHF4	Fuel Distribution	Adonis
3	Asperga, Aaron Andrelle E	Real Estate	-
4	Balacing, Gideliza R, PHF2	Entrepreneurship	-
5	Basilio, Lino E, PHF4	Restaurant Management	Veronica
6	Casado, Lesly Ann A	Secretarial Services	-
7	Cayabyab, Frederick D, PHF	Commercial Banking	Mercy
8	Cordero, Marites M, PHF	Medicine-OB	-
9	Oueva, Juanito C, PHF3	Security Services	Yolanda
10	Dafielmoto, Basilio E	Government Service- Civil Service	Annabelle
11	Dalaten, Kaharudin G	Government Service-Provincial	-
12	Daraug, Vanessa Joy D	Hotel Management	-
13	Daraug, Ricardo Delos R	Real Estate	-
14	Daraug, Rickson Jay D	Hotel Management	-
15	Dela Cruz, Ryan G, PHF	School Administration-Tertiary	Iasha
16	De Lima, Allan C	Government Service-City Environment	-
17	Domingo, Daphny Dorris P., PHF4	Government Service-Environmental	-
18	Espulgar, Jeff Adlrex B	Government Service-Investigator	-
19	Elauria, Dobie Josh R	Government Service	-
20	Eugenio, Kristine Hazel J.	Medical Services	-
21	Filipinas, Leana	Medicine	-
22	Gapas, Sarah M, PHF	Entrepreneurship	Antonio
23	Go, Enrico Jacinto A	School Administration-Tertiary	Dona
24	Haksuan, Benjie V, PHF4	Government Service-Municipal	Mary Jane
25	Hollite, Maribel S, PHF	Cable Management	Moses Rhonell
26	Hurtado, Marie Antonina I, PHF	Government Service-Provincial	-
27	Ilaq, Yolanda C, PHF3	Real Estate Broker	-
28	Labiaq, Kristian N	Motorparts Management	Hebah
29	Macaludos, John Farid K	Government Service-Legal (DI)	-
30	Mari, Nervielle R	Government Service-Health Insurance	Nnifa
31	Matinong, Miguel M	Government Service-Provincial	Agnes
32	Porquez Joeden	Optometrist	-
33	Pingoy, Dagny S, PHF3	Hotel Management	Gerard Samuel
34	Punsalan, Krisjuper Andreo J.	Government Service-Military	Regina
35	Rabor, Kevin Q	Medicine-General Practitioner	-
36	Santos, Leodegario Jr. R, PHF4	Tire and Battery Distribution	Ruth
37	Sarmiento, Alejandro Jr. T.	Medicine-Pediatrics	Glezel
38	Sueno, Bahandi B, PHF	Restaurant Management	-
39	Sueno, Perfecto, Jr. D, PHF8	Fuel Distribution	Marilou
40	Sy, Loreta C, PHF4	Construction Materials Distribution	Victoriano Sr.
41	Sy, Eleosie Y.	Store Management	Victoriano Jr.
42	Taghap, Marlon N, PHF	Government Service	Arianne
43	Vargas, Mary Cris E	Medicine-Obstetrics/Gynecologist	-
44	Velasco, Dennis A, PHF	Judiciary	Jennifer



## Club President's Message

Rtn. Sarah M. Gapas

Greetings!

Following the observance of Holy Week by our Christian community and with the Holy month of Ramadhan nearing its end, I want to express my gratitude for your patience, generosity, and unwavering support. Our incoming President Alex and Secretary Allan will be attending the President-Elect and Secretary-Elect Training Seminar on April 11-13, 2024 and this is the sign that a new Rotary Year is coming. I would like to request to all of you to also support the incoming club officers as you did n my term. Indeed, I couldn't do all of our accomplishments without your dedicated service.

The District Conference (DISCON) on May 3-4, 2024 at Dusit Thani and Azuela Cove in Davao City is fast coming. Thank you to Past Assistant Governor Loreta Sy, Executive Secretary Maribel Hollite, and Past President Marybelle Agreda who will be coming with me to the said event.

Moreover, we will also decide tonight on who will be the Club Elector for the DISCON. The District Officers communicated with us related to this and the copy of the Proposed D3860 Manual of Policies and Procedures 2024 (DMPAP2024) was provided for our review and further acknowledgement/approval. For transparency, I wish also to present it tonight to the members for us to either appreciate or give comments for its improvement.

Finally, thank you for your presence tonight.



## Secretary's Report

Rtn. Hazel Eugenio

- **PETS-SETS 2024**

We extend our prayers and best wishes to President-Elect Alejandro Sarmiento, Jr. and Secretary-Elect Allan De Lima as they are now on their way to Dumaguete City to attend the President-Elect and Secretary-Elect Training/Seminar (PETS-SETS). Our sincere thanks for their commitment to serve the club for the Rotary Year 2024-2025 commencing 1 July 2024.

- Attendance and activity report for the month of March 2024 was already submitted to the District through the website.
- Below are the photos taken during the general membership meeting held on March 12, 2024.

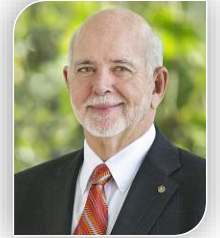


- **REMINDER:**

- District Conference (DisCon) – May 3-4, 2024 at Dhusit Thani, Davao City

## Trustee's Chair Message

*Barry Rassin*



### **APRIL 2024**

For many, the Bahamas is a place to escape colder climates, relax on white-sand beaches, and snorkel in clear, turquoise waters. For me, it's home. I grew up sailing on these waters and to this day, anytime I can, I am out on the water with family and friends. It's where my heart is.

The environmental threats my country is facing are real. Our coral reefs, vital for biodiversity, are in danger due to warming seas and pollution. Hurricanes and tropical storms seem to get more intense with each passing year. Rising sea levels pose an existential threat to the Bahamas, eroding our beautiful coastlines as saltwater intrudes on our precious and limited freshwater resources.

Late last year, I was fortunate to represent Rotary at COP28, the United Nations climate change convention in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The consensus coming out of the meeting was that progress on addressing climate change has been too slow. Participants said the world needs to pick up the pace to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, help communities become more resilient to climate change, and better support countries that are most vulnerable to it. Rotary can be part of the solution.

As you know, protecting the environment is one of Rotary's areas of focus. Many clubs are active in their communities with projects such as beach and roadside cleanups. With The Rotary Foundation, you can increase your impact by pooling resources with clubs and districts around the world. Foundation grants let you put the generous contributions of your fellow Rotary members to work to make the world better.

Imagine the possibilities. Perhaps Rotary districts in Canada and Australia could protect wetlands in New South Wales in Australia. Rotary leaders from Brazil, India, and Taiwan could lead grant projects to train farmers in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh in sustainable agriculture. Rotary and Rotaract clubs from the Bahamas, South Africa, and New York could work with their districts to help my country restore its natural resources, one reef or mangrove at a time.

The problems our environment faces seem overwhelming until you realize that many are fixable. There are so many ways to help through Rotary. Even if we don't lead a grant or volunteer on the project, we can all help protect the environment through our giving to the Foundation.

Rotary can't save the planet all by itself. But as our progress in ending polio proves, Rotary's impact is great when we put our vision for a better world in motion, and just get started.