

**Rotary**  
Club of South Davao



# Southern Kris

Official Weekly Publication \* Rotary Year 2020-2021

Meets every Wednesday \* 1:00 P.M.  
Via Zoom, Davao City

**EVERY ROTARIAN**



**EVERY YEAR**

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**41<sup>st</sup> Regular Weekly Meeting  
Via Zoom**

May 5, 2021 \* 7:00 PM

**Programme**

**I. Opening:**

- Call to Order.....Pres. Ingmar Bertelsen
- Invocation & Recitation of the 4-Way
- Test & Object of Rotary.....VP Virgie Albaera
- Introduction of Guests & Visiting Rotarians.....Sec. Jane Gripo

**II. Programme Proper**

- Rotary Information & Secretary's Report.....Sec. Jane Gripo
- Introduction of Guest of Honor & Speaker.....PP Gerry Munda
- S P E E C H.....Rtn./PP Torbjorn Wilhelmsen
- President's Time .....Pres. Ingmar Bertelsen

**III. Cosing**

Announcements / Adjournment

**PP Don Torno**  
*Master of Ceremonies*



## *Invocation*

Look at the abundance of nature, of the beauty all around you, and recognize me in everything. How many times during the day as you walk to and fro do you look at the wonders all around you and give thanks for everything? Much of the time you are in such a hurry you miss a great deal and fail to absorb these wonders and beauties which would lift and refresh your very soul. It is a question of opening your eyes and being sensitive and aware. Start right now becoming more and more aware of the things that matter in life, the things that gladden the heart, refresh the Spirit and lift the consciousness. The more love you absorb, the more love you have to give. The world needs more and more love, beauty, harmony and understanding, and you are the one to give it forth. Why not open your heart now and do it? Amen.

## OBJECT OF ROTARY

The 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 to 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.

## FOUR WAY TEST

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO

- 1<sup>st</sup> Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4<sup>th</sup> Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## Declaration of Rotarians in Business and Professions

*As a Rotarian engaged in a business or profession, I am expected to:*

1. Consider my vocation to be another opportunity of service;
2. Be faithful to the letter and to the spirit of the ethical codes of my vocation, to the laws of my country, and to the moral standards of community.
3. Do all in my power to dignify my vocation and to promote the highest ethical standards in my chosen vocation;
4. Be fair to my employer, employees, associates, competitors, customers, the public and all those with whom I have a business or professional relationship;
5. Recognize the honor and respect due to all occupations which are useful to the society;
6. Offer my vocational talents to provide opportunities for the relief of the special needs of others, and to improve the quality of life in my community;
7. Adhere to honesty in advertising and in all representations to the public concerning my business or profession;
8. Neither seek from nor grant to a fellow Rotarian a privilege or advantage not normally accorded to others in a business or professional relationship.

## *Rotary Information...*

### **Kenyan Rotary clubs sow seeds and reflect on fruits of their labor**

In 2007, Agnes Kiraithe was invited to speak at the Rotary Club of Muthaiga, in Nairobi. At the time, Kiraithe was the chief administrator of what is now the Kenya Children's Home, and she had come to talk about the organization, which takes in orphaned children from around the city. After her presentation, she looked around the club.

"Initially, I thought Rotary is a place you go and pitch for support," she says. "But after the first meeting, I started to talk to people, and I said, 'Hmm, this looks interesting.' So I started coming to the meetings and made friends, and I stayed on for the fellowship." She joined in 2008.

It wasn't long before Kiraithe saw the power of Rotary at work. Around that time, a series of violent clashes had broken out in Kenya's Rift Valley after a deeply divisive national election. A member of the Muthaiga club had connections to communities in that region, where houses had been burned to the ground and people were living in tents. The club raised funds to buy hoes, seedlings, and containers of beans and potatoes for residents to plant.

Just four months later, Kiraithe says, "We found that people had already planted. The farms were green. The World Bank had come in and given them materials to build small houses. Afterward, they told us: 'We now don't need any more donations. We are back to our land.'"

Later, the club bought 12-foot pumps to help irrigate the new crops. With their own plantings thriving, the farmers told the Muthaiga Rotarians to give the pumps to a neighboring community. "We made enough money to buy electric pumps," they told the club members.

"From that time, I was sold," Kiraithe recalls. "I think that's when I really became a Rotarian."

Kenya is home to the first Rotary club in East Africa — the Rotary Club of Nairobi, founded in 1930 — but by 1991, when Salim Manji helped charter the Rotary Club of Westlands-Nairobi, there were still only 17 clubs in the country. A few years after Manji served as president of the Westlands club, the district governor put him in charge of the district membership committee. Manji looked around and decided there was room for another club in the capital. Others had their doubts.

When the Muthaiga club was founded in 1997, there were 20 clubs in all of Kenya, including eight in Nairobi, Manji says, "and there was a fair amount of resistance to a new club, because people felt that it would just dilute the existing membership. Rotary was considered to be very exclusive, and people who were already in the Rotary

world didn't necessarily want that world to change."

But Manji started recruiting, and the Rotary Club of Muthaiga was chartered on 22 May 1997 — which happened to be Manji's 50th birthday — with 38 members. A month later, on the club's charter night event, it had 13 more members. The club took its name from the verdant Nairobi neighborhood that is in turn named for the medicinal Muthaiga tree. Muthaiga is one of the city's most exclusive neighborhoods, home to ambassadors, politicians, and other elites, but from the start, Manji wanted the new club to be different. It was the only one in town that met on Monday night, and members decided not to have a full meal. The club encouraged couples to join and made a point to promote women in membership as well as leadership. Members say this has resulted in one of the club's greatest strengths: its diversity, in background and age as well as gender. The club has had a number of women presidents, one of whom happens to be Rotary Foundation Trustee Geeta K. Manek.

Over the years, the club has compiled an impressive résumé of projects, including in the areas of vocational training, maternal and child health, literacy, and youth education. Another strong focus of the club, says its president, Sandra Bomett, is water and sanitation. In 2010, when a devastating drought struck the country's Turkana region, the club mobilized to send truckloads of food and supplies north from Nairobi.

Since then, the club has stayed involved in that region, donating boats to fishermen on Lake Turkana and helping with crop development through a project called Furrows in the Desert, which uses irrigation methods developed in Israel to grow crops in arid regions.

Closer to home, Muthaiga has worked with the Rotary Club of Dayton, Ohio, to support Maji Mazuri, a nonprofit that serves children from Mathare Valley, one of the largest slums in Nairobi. With the help of Rotary Foundation grants, the Rotarians have built a school and a health clinic and installed electricity. Last year, during the pandemic, they also helped several schools in and around Nairobi rebuild or improve their bathroom facilities with an eye toward improving hygiene.

The club has 59 members, and since its founding, a wave of new clubs have been chartered in Nairobi, bringing the total to more than 30.

"Every president comes in with their own agenda," Bomett notes. "When I came in, I wanted the environment to be a big focus. The environment is key." A few years ago, the club worked with several other Rotary and Rotaract clubs, as well as the Kenya Urban Roads Authority and the local government, to plant some 3,000 trees in the city; members are now collaborating with the Kenya Forest Service on another, bigger project. "This time, we want to triple what we planted before," Bomett says.

"We're a very strong club," says Bomett. "We have a good track record with projects and a good capital base in terms of our finances. We have a good number of people in leadership, and we've brought in the right people. The Rotary Club of Muthaiga has a lot of momentum."





## Secretary's Report

An Dharling Jane Gripo  
Club Secretary

### Comparative Weekly Attendance

	Apr. 7	Apr. 14	Apr. 21	Apr. 28
CLUB MEMBERSHIP	29	29	29	29
HONORARY MEMBER	04	04	04	04
PRESENT	04	06	12	06
ON LEAVE	00	00	00	00
ABSENT	21	19	13	19
MADE UP	01	01	04	04
ATTENDANCE % BASE	25	25	25	25
WEEK AVERAGE	20.00%	28.00%	48.00%	40.00%

#### Thank you for making up:

Pres. Ingy Bertelsen  
PDDG Arthur Uy

PE Michael Chellathurai  
Sec. Ester Gahol

### Happy Anniversary!!!

May 02 – PE Michael Chellathurai  
21 – Spouse Sandro Adora



### Reminder:

May 7, 2021 – Monfort Publishing  
House First Press  
Conference via Zoom  
10:00 to 2:00PM

June 4-6, 2021 – DISCON 2021 with  
the theme : "Opening  
Opportunities to a Whole New  
World".

June 12-16, 2021 – 2021 Virtual RI  
Convention



## The President's Corner

Bertel Ingmar Bertelsen  
Club President

Hello fellow Rotarians,

We had a great Distas meeting about different forms of clubs. The speakers were great and the atmosphere was light. I think PE Michael, SE Esther, PP Arthur and myself learned a lot. I will put the information to good use after I leave the office.

On another note, PP Jackie of RC Manila had a talk with the head of the DEPED. She was very happy with the book I made for them and asked if I could tackle some other subjects in nature education to build up a whole curriculum. I gracefully accepted that challenge. I am happy to leave the club with a project that hopefully bring some more respect and responsibility to the gorgeous land that is the Philippines.



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## Our Guest of Honor & Speaker...



### Rtn./PP Torbjorn Wilhelmson

He work as consultant/advisor in strategy and communication, in his own company Wikos. Long experience from community and political communication, corporate communication and strategy processes.

He have been a Rotary member since 2002 and became President in Bergen Rotary Club (BRC) in 2007. BRC is the second oldest in Norway, founded in 1924. They have about 100 members, which make them among the largest clubs in Norway.

Bergen is a coastal city, the #1 in Norway when it comes to seafood exports and competence. It is a very natural reaction any of them to be emotionally involved when they talk about the local, national and global challenge they all share in fighting the plastic soup in their oceans.



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PARTOZA, JR.



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PP JOSE VALENZUELA, JR.

DON CESAREO VILLA-ABRILLE  
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DOMINGUEZ, ARMANDO  
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FERRAZZINI, LINDA  
FORDACK, JOHN  
GAHOL, ESTER  
GARCIA, AMADO  
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GRIPO, AN DHARLING JANE  
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YONG, WILLIAM + 3  
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