

*CLICK ON THE HEADERS TO VISIT THE PAGES WITHIN OUR CLUB BULLETIN.



GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND
WHAT DEI MEANS
PT. XII

A SURVIVOR'S LEGACY
A ROTARY SPEAKS ARTICLE

JANUARY ROTARY MONTHLY
OBSERVANCE



Waling-Waling Davao

Rotary
Club



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

BLOOMSCOOP

VOLUME 32 • ISSUE 13

RCWWD OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Immediate Past President: Vanessa Madayag
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 Secretary: Chona Lamparas
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 Membership: Sophiya Anneska Avisado

Waling-Waling Davao
Rotary
 Club



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 The Rotary Foundation: Luna Gaviola
 Vocational Service: Gina Espejo
 Youth Service: Ma. Luisa Aportadera
 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Alessandra Könst
 International Service: Lolita Tai
 Environment Committee: Maria Victoria Jimenez

MEMBERS OF THE CLUB



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 ID#1932406



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 Events Coordinator
 ID#2446869



Sophiya Anneska Avisado
 Medical Supplies & Equipment Distribution
 ID#11242863



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 ID#8393317



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 ID#3202663



Jennife Borong
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 DMD: Orthodontics
 ID#5321381



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 Fishing Equipment Retailing
 ID#6132312



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 General Building Construction
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 Nurse
 ID#6567414



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 Geology
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 ID#5134393



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 Occupational Therapist
 ID#10984819



Maria Vida Könst
 Travel - Tours & Other Arrangements
 ID#5660752



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 ID#10808598



Josephine Liamzon
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 ID#5615875



Elsie Libron
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 ID#6651693



Caryl Lim
 Furniture & Houseware Retailing
 ID#11539204



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 ID#1932452



Vanessa Madayag
 Life/Financial Underwriter
 ID#8729988



Louis Palma Gil
 Lawyer - Labor Law
 ID#11830679



Herminia Polintan
 Food Distribution
 ID#6790050



Leamie Retales
 Government - Tax Collection
 ID#11830665



Ma. Corazon Reyes
 Nursing Education
 ID#1932470



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 ID#10139535



Leonida Santos
 Architecture
 ID#2188840



Monica Dans Suico
 Brokering Services
 ID#11830695



Evangeline Schwendener
 Education: Foreign Language
 ID#5660754



Lolita Leticia Tai
 Grains Wholesaler
 ID#8393324



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 Fish Farming
 ID#11539191



Carina Abellera-Te
 Public Administration
 ID#11539211



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 Garments Manufacturing
 ID#3269847



Jannette Valderosa
 Agricultural Farming
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 Veterinary Medicine
 ID#5729591



Elsa Villagomez
 Anaesthesiology
 ID#5872956



Teresita Yñiguez
 Lawyer
 ID#5164777



Amabelle Yuzon
 Business Processing Outsourcing
 ID#11539296



Bai Johanna Zainal
 Pediatrician
 ID#10380789



Emmanouelle Zhang
 Optometrist
 ID#9812443

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our thirteenth issue.*



Editor's Note

Happy New Year, everyone!

The new year has finally commenced, and I can't wait to see what it has in store for us.

Our Bloomscoop cover features PE Maria Vida Könst, PAG/PP Armi Geralyn "Gigi" Espiritu, PP Cheryl Gomez, and the administration staff of one of five schools, which was visited in preparation for a Global Grant.

As per usual, us Ladies in Red never stop working for our communities' futures.

Just a little check-in before we rush in head first into the new year and the last 6 months of this Rotary Year: How would you describe your 2023? And, how would you want your 2024 to be? Give it some thought!

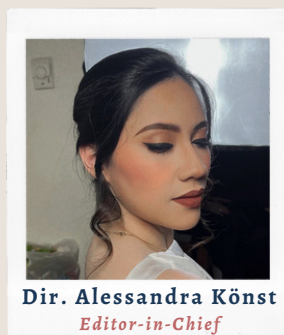
Cheers!



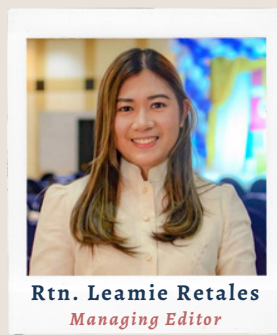
**DIR. ALESSANDRA
KÖNST**

*Editor-in-Chief • Diversity,
Equity, & Inclusion Director*

Editorial Board



Dir. Alessandra Könst
Editor-in-Chief



Rtn. Leamie Retales
Managing Editor



PE Maria Vida Könst
Copy Editor



**APIC-MIN/PP Estela Maribel
Vilela**
Contributing Editor



PP Evangeline Schwendener
Bloomscoop Adviser

WEEKLY COLUMN

**PE MARIA VIDA
KÖNST**

*President-Elect - RC Waling-
Waling Davao*

**DIR. ALESSANDRA
KÖNST**

*DEI Director, Bloomscoop
Editor-in-Chief - RC Waling-
Waling Davao*

NEIL STEINBERG

Wrote an article for rotary.org

Members are requested to
send articles, stories, and
digital photographs to the
Bloomscoop email

rcwwd.bloomscoop@gmail.com

no later than 12NN of
SUNDAY every 2nd and 4th
week of the month (unless
otherwise stated). Articles
should cite the source of
information (print and
electronic) and credit the
author.

Please observe copyright
laws. Digital photographs
must include captions.

This newsletter is published
bi-monthly by the Rotary
Club of Waling-Waling Davao
(RCWWD) and may be
distributed in its entirety to
any and all Rotary Clubs.

13TH REGULAR MEETING

PROGRAMME

JANUARY 11, 2024

Call to Order

Pres. Emmanouelle
Zhang

Invocation

PAG/PP Armi Geralyn
Espiritu

Turnover of Proceedings
to Program Moderator

Dir. Jenah Cassandra De
los Santos

Pambansang Awit

AVP

Introduction of Visiting
Rotarians and Guests

PP Lorna Llamas

Presentation of Plans for
Charter Anniversary and
RC Narashino Visit

PE Maria Vida Könst

Presentation of Plans for
the Soirée

Dir. Sophiya Anneska
Avisado & Dir. Jenah
Cassandra De los Santos

Secretary's Report

Sec. Chona Lamparas

President's Time &
Adjournment

Pres. Emmanouelle
Zhang

Fellowship

Rotary  **Invocation**

We are forever grateful to the Almighty God for the
lives we are living, and the opportunities to be blessings
to others. We humbly ask you Lord to continue
showering us with your love, guidance and provisions.
We pray the same for our families, loved ones and
friends.

AMEN.

Shared by Dir. Jenah Cassandra De los Santos

Rotary International & District Leaders



Gordon R.
McNally
RI President



Rozanne
"Twinkle"
Gamboa
District Governor



Corina Josefa
Guerrero
*Assistant Governor
for Area 2B*

Honorary Members



PP Abdullah
Aquino



Antonio VA
Llamas



PP Yoshinori
Ishii
*RC Narashino, District
2790 - Chiba, Japan*



Mario Luis
Jacinto



Francisco
Vilela, Jr.

Club Profile

Organized and sponsored in 1991 by RC East Davao and chartered on the 20th of January, 1992, with Sylvia Marfori as the Charter President, the Rotary Club of Waling-Waling Davao (RCWWD) is the 11th Rotary Club in Davao and holds the distinction of being the first all-women's Rotary Club in District 3860.

- **Club Foundation:** The Rotary Club of Waling-Waling Davao Foundation, Inc.
- **Club Bulletin:** Bloomscoop
- **Bloomscoop Email:** rcwwd.bloomscoop@gmail.com
- **Club Social Media Page:** facebook.com/rcwalingwalingdavao
- **Club Email Address:** RCWWD@yahoo.com
- **Club Mailing List (internal):** RCWWD@yahoogroups.com

In the last 32 years, RCWWD has accomplished 10 TRF Grants and 12 combined WCS/RC Narashino projects/4 District Grants; sponsored 9 and hosted 11 GSE members; sponsored 1 and hosted 2 RYE students; hosted 5 Rotarians on an Individual Friendship Exchange (USA & Canada); forged 12 sisterhood ties with Rotary Clubs in Australia, USA, India, and within the Philippines; organized several Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact Clubs, as well as RCCs; and spearheaded Zone and District activities.

A Survivor's Legacy

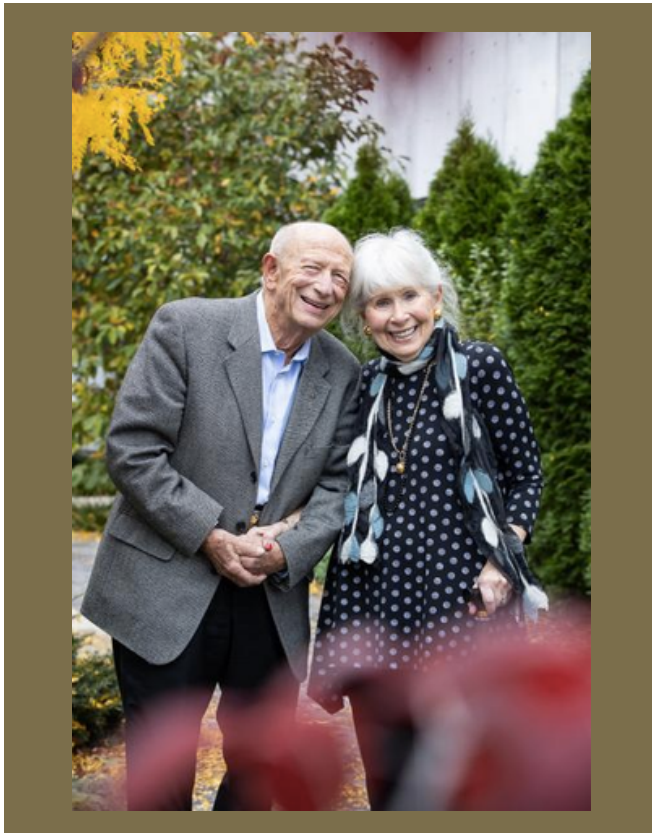
Sam Harris lost his childhood to the Holocaust. He's making sure a new generation of young people can thrive.

Written by Neil Steinberg; Photography by Monika Lozinska

Sam Harris is passionate about it. He will meet you, even though he is 88 years old and uses a walker, in the somber industrial entrance of the museum he helped create, an institution dedicated to making sure the awful, important story that he lived is told, years after he is gone and his voice, among the dwindling firsthand accounts, is finally silenced.

That wasn't always the case.

For many years Harris, a former insurance executive and a member of the Rotary Club of Northbrook, Illinois, didn't want to talk about how the Nazis had come for him when he was a small boy. He didn't want to talk about the terrible hunger. The fear. The machine guns. His murdered parents. The cattle cars. The concentration camps. It was old news, ancient history. What would be the point? He was an American now..



Sam and Dede Harris pose outside of the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center



Sam Harris at the Holocaust Museum & Education Center

First an American boy, living in Northbrook, a comfortable suburb north of Chicago. Then an American man who could choose for himself what to discuss. Or not discuss.

His refusal went on for years. "I knew it troubled him, that it was all inside of him," says his wife of 62 years, Dede. "He just never spoke about his past. I could see it festering."

The reluctance was complicated. He didn't want people to feel sorry for him. And if he became successful, he wanted it to be because of who he was, not because of what happened to him, he explains, settling into a chair in the small but well-stocked library of his museum. If someone detected an accent and asked where he was from, he'd toss the question back: Where do you think I'm from? And if the person said "New York," Harris would say, "Yes, exactly! New York." Or if someone said, "Germany," he'd say, "Germany, yes, how did you know?" And smile.

A trained social worker, Dede Harris eventually sat her husband down by a crackling fire one evening. “I asked him to tell the story,” Dede recalls. “It seemed to have broken through that impasse. Once he was able to verbalize the feelings, he had to be open to other people.”

It began slowly. At a 1977 meeting of the Rotary Club of Wilmette, Illinois, Harris met a member, Rabbi William Frankel, who grew up in Vienna. Like Harris, Frankel had fled the Nazis, only he used his past as a springboard to a life of activism. Frankel had marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. during the U.S. Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s and was prominent in Catholic–Jewish outreach efforts. He befriended Harris and convinced him that he owed it to future generations to tell his story.

Around that time, a group of neo-Nazis planned a demonstration in Skokie, a Chicago suburb that was half Jewish at the time and home to many Holocaust survivors. Though a lengthy legal battle prevented the demonstration, activists like Rabbi Frankel believed silence and inaction were no longer an option. Waiting and hoping while evil rises to its feet was never a smart strategy.

Meanwhile, Arthur Butz, an associate professor of electrical engineering at Northwestern University in Evanston, about 10 miles from where Harris lived, published a book with the claim that the Holocaust was a myth perpetuated by the Allies and Zionists. Frankel called Harris to express his abhorrence of the book. “Sam, I know it’s hard for you, but it’s time for you to talk,” Frankel urged him.

In Frankel’s basement, the rabbi interviewed Harris on video camera. “And it was the first time really, I was able to talk,” says Harris. “I said to myself, I’ll never do this again. But he showed this to everybody in the congregation. And it was packed. And then he passed that around to other rabbis. That was all because of Rotary.”

So more than 30 years removed, Harris opened up about his once unspeakable past.

“I asked him to tell the story. It seemed to have broken through that impasse. Once he was able to verbalize the feelings, he had to be open to other people.”



Harris at an orphanage in Poland after liberation in 1945

A living link from that lost prewar Jewish world, through one of the darkest chapters in human history, to today, Harris arrives an exuberant bundle of energy in the lobby of the [Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center](#) — rolling in with a three-wheeled walker, yes, but in a crisp blue shirt, smiling and joking, his wife by his side. He passes a montage of Jewish faces — one of them his own. Many are gone; but he is not. “I have told you this not to weaken you,” reads a line running through the faces, “but to strengthen you.”

The youngest of seven, Harris was born Szlamek Rzeznik in Dęblin, Poland, in 1935. His father was a sofer, a scribe who writes and restores the Torah and other holy writings. At 4, he was just old enough to remember the last moments of normalcy — the Sabbath dinners, weekend visits to his grandparents on a horse and buggy. A final taste of ordinary life, the sweetness of love and laughter that would allow him to endure what was coming...

Read more of the article on <https://www.rotary.org/en/survivors-legacy>

JANUARY MONTHLY OBSERVANCE

JANUARY IS



**VOCATIONAL
SERVICE
MONTH**

"Of all the hundred and one ways in which men can make themselves useful to society, undoubtedly the most available and often the most effective are within the spheres of their own occupations." Paul P Harris



TAKE ACTION: Engage Rotary, Change Lives

Shared by
PE Maria Vida Könst
President-Elect • Bloomscoop Copy
Editor



GOING ABOVE & BEYOND WHAT

DEI

MEANS PT. XII



SHARED BY

DIR. ALESSANDRA
KÖNST

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, &
INCLUSION DIRECTOR •
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Rotary President-elect Stephanie Urchick revealed the 2024-2025 presidential theme, The Magic of Rotary, [last January 8, 2023.]

"We are not going to end polio or bring peace to the world by waving a wand. It's up to you. You create the magic with every project completed, every dollar donated, and every new member."

Taken from [Rotary International's Instagram account](#)

January Celebrations & Monthly Host Teams

BIRTHDAYS



PP Leonida Santos
January 12



Dir. Lolita Leticia Tai
January 26



Rtn. Elsa Villagomez
January 27

ANNIVERSARIES



Dir. Cecile Diaz & Spouse Bong
January 2



PP Evangeline Schwendener & Spouse Jürg
January 17



Treas. Maribel Chua & Spouse Paul
January 24

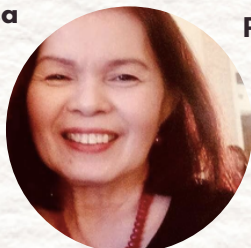
MEMBERSHIP MILESTONES (CHARTER MEMBERS)



Dir. Maria Luisa Aportadera



PP Lorna Llamas



PP Remedios Calaguas



PP Zony Reyes

MONTHLY HOST TEAMS

HELPFUL VISIONARIES (July, October, January, April)

- Dir. Jenah De los Santos (TL)
- VP Sylvia Austria
- PP Fe Boiser
- Dir. Cecile Diaz
- PP Mae Dolendo
- Dir. Gina Espejo
- PAG/PP Armi Geralyn Espiritu
- PP Cheryl Gomez
- Dir. Alessandra Könst
- PP Lorna Llamas
- Rtn. Leamie Retales
- Rtn. Mary Dict Rosales
- Dir. Lolita Leticia Tai
- Rtn. Amabelle Yuzon
- Rtn. Bai Zainal

ARDENT FOCUS (August, November, February, May)

- Rtn. Irish Tan (TL)
- Rtn. Jennife Borong
- PP Remedios Calaguas
- Treas. Maribel Chua
- Rtn. Maria Victoria Evangelista
- PP Maria Luisa Jacinto
- PE Vida Könst
- Sec. Chona Lamparas
- Rtn. Josephine Liamzon
- Rtn. Caryl Lim
- PP Ma. Corazon Reyes
- PP Leonida Santos
- PP Evangeline Schwendener
- Rtn. Monica Suico
- PP Jannette Valderosa
- Pres. Emmanuelle Zhang

TRUTH SEEKERS (September, December, March, June)

- Rtn. Carina Abellera-Te (TL)
- Dir. Maria Luisa Aportadera
- Dir. Sophiya Avisado
- PP Marilou Baarde
- Rtn. Teresita Firzback
- Dir. Luna Gaviola
- PP/Dir. Maria Victoria Jimenez
- Rtn. Lara Delos Santos
- Rtn. Elsie Libron
- IPP Vanessa Madayag
- Rtn. Louis Palma Gil
- PP/Dir. Herminia Polintan
- Rtn. Myriam Tan
- PAG/PP Maribel Vilela
- Rtn. Elsa Villagomez
- PP Teresita Yñiguez

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

REGULAR MEETINGS

The Officers & Board of Directors officially informs the Club that there will be 2 hybrid meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursday, otherwise stated. Venue of regular meetings are to be announced.

SAVE THE DATE!

RCWWD's 32nd Charter Anniversary

WHEN: January 20, 2024

WHERE: Llamas Compound,
Tulip Drive, Davao City

TIME: 6PM

ATTIRE: Floral Casual

MONTHLY OBSERVANCES IN ROTARY

AUGUST - Membership & Extension Month

SEPTEMBER - Basic Education & Literacy month

OCTOBER - Economic & Community
Development Month

NOVEMBER - The Rotary Foundation Month

DECEMBER - Disease Prevention & Treatment
Month

JANUARY - Vocational Service Month

FEBRUARY - Peace & Conflict Prevention
Month

MARCH - Water & Sanitation Month

APRIL - Maternal & Child Care Month

MAY - Youth Service Month

JUNE - Rotary Fellowship Month

The Rotary Foundation

RCWWD CLUB RECOGNITION SUMMARY AS OF

NOVEMBER 2023

TOTAL ALL TIME GIVING: USD -169,486-

Active Members

Major Donor

Ma. Luisa Jacinto +8

FRP

6600

Multiple Paul Harris Fellows

Name	Amount	Points	FRP
Estela Maribel Vilela	USD 9,000.00 +8		3600
Lorna Llamas	USD 9,000.00 +8		800
Divina Fe Boiser	USD 9,000.00 +8		1000
Remie Calaguas	USD 8,341.88		900
Hermie Polintan	USD 8,228.17		2200
Marivic Jimenez	USD 6,680.38		100
Mae Dolendo	USD 6,615.93		3300
Armi Geralyn Espiritu	USD 6,364.79		1300
Teresita Yñiguez	USD 6,142.92		1100
Jannette Valderosa	USD 5,544.29		1900
Luna Gaviola	USD 5,138.38		200
Leonida Santos	USD 4,689.56		200
Vangi Schwendener	USD 4,644.79		200
Luchi Aportadera	USD 4,578.38		700
Gina Marie Espejo	USD 4,276.38		1500
Marilou Baarde	USD 3,668.38		1500
Ma. Corazon Reyes	USD 3,583.38		600
Letty Tai	USD 3,491.96		1200
Myriam Tan	USD 3,490.65		900
Maribel Chua	USD 3,441.92		600
Sylvia Austria	USD 3,319.29		400
Cecile Diaz	USD 3,157.46		200
Vanessa Madayag	USD 2,900.71		1900
Emmanouelle Zhang	USD 2,603.14		2100
Elsa Villagomez	USD 2,531.29		800
Teresita Fitzback	USD 2,378.38		1000
Josephine Liamzon	USD 2,246.38		500
Vida Könst	USD 2,364.91		300
Alessandra Könst	USD 2,042.91		500

Paul Harris Fellows

Cheryl Gomez	USD 1,455.42	400
Elsie Libron	USD 1,350.38	100
Bai Johanna Zainal	USD 1,238.88	600
Marydict Rosales	USD 1,177.20	100

Sustaining Members

Chona Lamparas	USD 383.38	-
Sophiya Avisado	USD 404.00	-
Jenah De los Santos	USD 194.00	-
Caryl Lim	USD 194.00	-
Carina Te	USD 194.00	-

FRP

Other Contributors

Irish Tan	USD 94.00	-
Amabelle Yuon	USD 94.00	-

Honorary Members

Nonoy Aquino	Major Donor +8	1500
Mario Luis Jacinto	Major Donor	-
Antonio Llamas	USD 2,000.00	100
Francisco Vilela	USD 1,000.00	-

***FRP - Foundation Recognition Points available for transfer**

Only MPHFs and PHFs are allowed to transfer points.

Transfer of FRP can only be done by the donor concerned as it requires his/her signature. Forms can be downloaded at Rotary.org (please be guided accordingly).

The Rotary Club
of Waling-
Waling Davao

Club No. 28480 | District 3860

This is to certify that Rtn.

attended the meeting on

Thursday, 1 PM via Zoom/Face-to-Face



THE FOUR- WAY TEST

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY, AND DO

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

THE 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 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 and community life;

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

CORE VALUES: SERVICE · FELLOWSHIP · DIVERSITY · INTEGRITY · LEADERSHIP

ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life;
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect;
3. 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;
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.

ROTARY'S SEVEN AREAS OF FOCUS

For more than 100 years, Rotarians have joined together from all continents, cultures, and industries to take action in our communities and around the world. With a commitment to achieving lasting change, we work together to empower youth, enhance health, promote peace, and most importantly, advance the community.

While Rotarians can serve in countless ways, Rotary has focused its efforts in seven areas, which reflect some of the most critical and widespread humanitarian needs:

1. Peace and conflict prevention/resolution
2. Disease prevention and treatment
3. Water and sanitation
4. Maternal and child health
5. Basic education and literacy
6. Economic and community development
7. Supporting the environment

