 

Bulletin of

ROTARY CLUB OF TRIVANDRUM NORTH

**President: Rtn Ashok P Menon Secretary Rtn PP Sivaramakrishnan**

**FEBRUARY**-**PEACE & CONFLICT PEVENTION / RESOLUTION**

# President’s message

February was also a month of lot of happenings. We had our much awaited District Conference on 6th and 7th. It was well organized with lots of good speakers and fun and frolic in the evening. 19 of our members registered but a few of them could not make it because of other engagements. I thank all Rotarians for participating in very large numbers in the District Conference.

February is designated as Peace & Conflict Prevention/ Resolution. It was earlier designated as World understanding and Peace. February 23rd is Rotary’s Birthday. This is the 111th birthday of Rotary and let us wish Rotary Many more centuries of service to humanity.

Many of our Rotarians are also celebrating their birthdays in February. But one Rotarian, Dr B K Easwara Pillai celebrates his birth day every leap year- on 29th February. He celebratied this once in four year with all family members of the club by hosting a dinner. We wholeheartedly thank Rtn Dr Easwara Pillai for this noble gesture and wish him a happy and healthy life.

**What do we mean by vocation, anyway?**

*By Evan Burrell*

**The question we face almost from the time we are old enough to talk is “What do you want to be when you grow up?”

It’s a question most often put to us by our parents, teachers, and friends. When we are young, we are content to keep our answers pretty vague or even whimsical. When I was 10, I wanted to be a Cowboy Astronaut Zookeeper!! Sometimes I wish I was one, if only to see the look on the face of Rotarians who ask me what my vocation is.

The word “*vocation”* gets bandied about quite a lot in Rotary circles. I saw the word for the first time in some dusty old Rotary manual, I thought to myself *“someone keeps misspelling vacation”*!

Vocation really means “a calling,” a strong desire to spend your life doing a certain kind of work or occupation.

Vacation and vocation don’t have to be that far apart if you are doing what you love. Honestly, I think a lot of people confuse the word vocation with what we actually do to earn a buck. But vocation really means “a calling,” a strong desire to spend your life doing a certain kind of work or occupation. In other words, spending your life doing what your mind and heart feel called to do.

When you’ve found your calling, you know it. You are driven by a passion that fills your life with fulfillment and satisfaction. And it’s that kind of passion that drives Rotary members to celebrate serving through their vocation.

Someone who has a gift for fixing things and working with their hands might be passionate about building. They might use their vocation to build outdoor toilets to improve hygiene in a third world country with help from fellow Rotary members and a grant from the Rotary Foundation.

A person whose gifts are in entrepreneurship and who is passionate about working at home might use their vocation to develop web projects to assist disabled people in their local community.

Whatever your vocation or true calling is, Rotary can help you grow and develop as a person, and reach your full potential.

Your unique gifts and talents can be applied to Rotary service. And in Rotary, you can find opportunities that allow you to exercise your talents and use your capabilities to the fullest extent possible.

Ultimately, whatever your vocation or true calling is, Rotary can help you grow and develop as a person, and reach your full potential. And that is something we would all like to accomplish, isn’t it?

**About the author:**Evan Burrell is a member of the Rotary Club of Turramurra, New South Wales, Australia, and a former member of Rotaract. He has been involved with Rotary since he was 18 and served Rotaract in almost every capacity possible before joining Rotary. He currently manages social media for [Rotary Down Under](http://www.rotarydownunder.org), the Rotary regional magazine of Australia.

**Germ reveals ‘Rotary Serving Humanity’ as 2016-17 presidential theme**

Rotary International President-elect John F

Germ announces his presidential theme 'Rotary Serving Humanity.'

Rotary’s founder, Paul Harris, believed that serving humanity is “the most worthwhile thing a person can do,” RI President-elect John F. Germ said, and that being a part of Rotary is a “great opportunity” to make that happen.

Germ unveiled the 2016-17 presidential theme, *Rotary Serving Humanity*, to incoming district governors on 18 January at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

“I believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary’s service to humanity,” said Germ.

Rotary members around the globe are serving humanity by providing clean water to underdeveloped communities, promoting peace in conflict areas, and strengthening communities through basic education and literacy. But none more important than our work to eradicate polio worldwide, he said.

After a historic year in which transmission of the wild poliovirus was stopped in Nigeria and all of Africa, Germ said we are closer than ever to ending polio.

“We are at a crossroads in Rotary,” he added. “We are looking ahead at a year that may one day be known as the greatest year in Rotary’s history: the year that sees the world’s last case of polio.”

Last year’s milestones leave just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, where the virus still circulates. Polio would be only the second human disease ever to be eradicated.

When that moment arrives, it’s “tremendously important” that Rotary is ready for it, said Germ. “We need to be sure that we are recognized for that success, and leverage that success into more partnerships, greater growth, and even more ambitious service in the decades to come.”

Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, encouraged attendees to return to their clubs and communities and spread the word about Rotary’s role in the fight for a polio-free world.

“People who want to do good will see that Rotary is a place where they can change the world. Every Rotary club needs to be ready to give them that opportunity,” Germ said.

Enhancing Rotary’s image isn’t the only way to boost membership. “We need clubs that are flexible, so our service will be more attractive to younger members, recent retirees, and working people.”

He added: “We need more willing hands, more caring hearts, and more bright minds to move our work forward.”

**WHO’s new director of polio eradication: the end is in sight**

Posted on [January 21, 2016](http://blog.rotary.org/2016/01/21/whos-new-director-of-polio-eradication-the-end-is-in-sight/)

*In February,* ***Michel Zaffran*** *will take over as director of polio eradication for the World Health Organization (WHO). Most recently, Zaffran has served as coordinator of WHO’s Expanded Programme on Immunization. He has also served as Deputy Executive Secretary of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI), and  represented WHO on the working group that designed and launched GAVI. We caught up with him recently to ask his thoughts about this new challenge:*

I am extremely excited, but also emotionally very moved, to have been selected for this position. I started working for the [World Health Organization](http://www.who.int/about/en/) in September of 1987 in the immunization program. A few months later in May the World Health Assembly endorsed the resolution to actually eradicate polio. I was just at a very junior level but remember seeing my bosses work on the resolution, and so I was there from the very beginning. So to actually toward the end of my career be coming back and heading the program for its last miles basically is very exciting and very moving.

We have celebrated some very good milestones recently, but now is not the time to give up.

So let me talk a little about this important step. As you know, the OPV is a very efficient and very effective vaccine. But in some rare cases, it can actually cause the disease from the attenuated (weakened) live virus it contains. It can even return to being virulent, circulate, and cause outbreaks.

**What remains to be done**

And we need to make an effort — and Rotarians can contribute to this substantially — that the lessons learned through the polio eradication initiative, that the laboratories that we have established, that the skills that we have developed, that the staff we have trained, are not lost to public health. But that they are transitioned to new public health challenges. This is the fantastic broader legacy of the program.

I would like to recognize the unique role that Rotary and Rotarians have played in this fantastic adventure. You had the vision as early

as 1979 that this should be done and you convinced the rest of the world to move ahead and do it. You have been there at the very beginning; you have been there all along. Don’t give up now, we are so close, we’ve got the end in sight.



1st Kiran annet of G M Pillai

7th Radha ann of G M Pillai

13th David manuel annet of P M Jose

13th Rtn Dr Sandeep Krishna

15Th Rtn Dr Rarmadas Pillai

15th Roopak annet of K P Thomas

19th Preethi annet of Rtn Jacob K George

24th Joshua annet of Varghese Ommen

30th Saraswathy ann of Rtn Balakrishnan Nair

30th Rtn Sudheesh Shankar

31st Rtn K N G Kaimal

31st Rohan annet of K I Koshy



2nd Rtn K P Thomas & Lizzy

17th Rtn P M Jose & Mary

DECLARATION FOR ROTARIANS IN BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS

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

* Consider my vocation to be an opportunity to serve;
* Be faithful to the letter and to the spirit of ethical codes of my vocation, to the laws of my country and to the moral standard of my community;
* To do all in my power to dignify vocation and to promote the highest standards in my chosen vocation;
* Be fair to my employer, employees, associates, competitors, customers, the public and all those with whom I have a business or professional relationship
* Recognize the honor & respect due to all occupations which are useful to the society
* Offer my vocational talents to provide opportunity, to young people, to work for the special needs of others and to improve the quality of life in my community;
* Adhere to honesty in my advertising and in all representations to the public concerning my business or profession;
* Neither seek nor grant to a fellow Rotarian, a privilege or advantage not normally accorded to others in a business or professional relationship

**The Four-Way Test**

**Of the things we think, say or do:**

**1) Is it the TRUTH?**

**2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?**

**3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**

**4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**