



THE SIREN

MONTHLY Bulletin

ISSUE IX
MARCH
2024



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Editor's Note

Dear Esteemed Readers,

I am delighted to present the March edition of The Siren.

Through your unwavering support, the team has crafted a compelling issue filled with powerful messages and captivating stories that inspire us to make an even greater impact in the world.

In line with Rotary International's theme of Water, Sanitation & Hygiene this month, we delve into articles and stories highlighting the club's focus on this critical need. Additionally, we share exciting news and reflections on recent events, including the memorable Charter Night celebration, the heartwarming Valentine's fellowship, the All-Thursday Club Joint Fellowship at Speke Resort Munyonyo and the strategic planning session at the club retreat where our President nominee designate was announced.

This issue promises to be a captivating journey, transporting you through the diverse and enriching activities undertaken by Rotary Club of Bwebajja.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the dedicated editorial team, the supportive club administration, and each member who contributed to making this edition possible.

Dive in, enjoy the pages, and emerge inspired to make a difference!

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Hope Uniting Hearts

Experience the 99th DCA at Munyonyo: where hope unites hearts in a tranquil blend of relaxation and service-driven opportunities.

Venue:

Speke Resort Munyonyo
24th - 27th April 2024

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Rotarians - USD 200
Rotaractors - USD 120

Late Registration

Rotarians - USD 250
Rotaractors - USD 150

Think like a Rotary Peace fellow



Gordon R. McInally
RI President 2023 - 2024



Nearly 1,800 peace fellows have graduated from Rotary Peace Centers, and they are applying their craft in more than 140 countries.'

There are many pathways to peace, and in Rotary, we are fortunate to have Rotary Peace Fellows who demonstrate this truth time and again.

Each year, Rotary awards up to 130 fellowships for leaders around the world to study peace and development, and what these peace fellows learn prepares them to work in conflict prevention and resolution and promote Positive Peace. Here are a few examples of the creative ways peace fellow advance peace:

Promoting sustainability

Alejandra Rueda-Zarate combined her Rotary Peace Fellowship in peace and conflict resolution with her master's degree in energy and resources to support her dream of protecting the Colombian countryside.

She founded the organization NES Naturaleza in 2011 to help farmers in Colombia and across rural Latin America gain access to knowledge and training to uphold sustainable farming standards. That support has improved the lives of nearly 4,500 farmers, inspiring many of them to become entrepreneurs. And it's helped promote both natural and social sustainability throughout Latin America.

Ending racism

Peace fellows Geoffrey Diesel and Kathy Doherty have applied their fellowships in peace and development studies toward co-founding the Racial Equity Project, a subcommittee of Rotary Positive Peace Activators in North America committed to studying ways to create a more peaceful society through anti-racism efforts.

The Racial Equity Project takes a deep look into how the eight Pillars of Positive Peace could support efforts to address racism, and it works to spread this message to communities across North America. The organization initially grew from Rotary's strategic partnership with the Institute for Economics and Peace, a global think tank dedicated to promoting Positive Peace.

Managing disasters using data

Through a Rotary Peace Fellowship, Jamie LeSueur earned a master's degree in social science within peace and conflict research. He now leads emergency operations for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, setting a management and operational framework for agency collaboration in emergency response situations.

Jamie has found that research data is a powerful tool to bring calm to the complex world of disaster response. No matter what an organization's protocols might entail, letting research be the foundation for decision making helps clarify even the most complicated emergencies.

These stories — and hundreds like them — show how Rotary is creating a generation of leaders ready and able to build peace worldwide. Nearly 1,800 peace fellows have graduated from Rotary Peace Centers, and they are applying their craft in more than 140 countries.

May the continuing work of peace fellows and the Rotary members who support them inspire you to continue to Create Hope in the World through service, fundraising, and creative thinking.

Answering the Call: Rotary's Mission of Hope and Service"



Franscisco Ssemwanga
District Governor 2023 - 2024



The month of March is designated to Water and Sanitation by Rotary International. Water is a necessity of life and there is still a lot of Inadequacy to access to Safe water in our Communities."

My Rotary Family! I salute you all in your respective capacities and I continue to thank you for your endless service to Humanity in this Rotary Year of Creating Hope in the World.

My highlights of the month of February have been basically two i.e. The Walk and Run Fundraiser for the St. Elizabeth Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit that was organized by the Rotary Club of Arusha Mount Meru. The Club was able to raise over TzSh. 60,000,000 in an effort to equip that Hospital unit on 11th February 2024. The following day on Monday morning 12th February 2024 as I was heading to back to Uganda, President Roselyn and Rotarians of the RC Arusha Mount Meru physically took me to the Hospital where I found several babies but one mother had a baby born 25 days prematurely and her baby was in her chest for

what the doctor explained to me that it was a "Kangaroo" method of generating heat to the baby because the equipment to do so had got faulty and it was one. Tears almost rolled down my eyes but when the mum saw us in the Intensive Care Unit with the Doctor, a small smile appeared on her face and I saw a Ray of Hope in Her Eyes, she knew we were trying to find a solution to Her New Prematurely Born Baby, this made a Rotary Moment to me! In fact, on my flight back to Uganda I was thinking of that Mum and Baby, I silently prayed for them but I also prayed for the Rotary Club of Arusha Mount Meru.

My second Highlight of the month of February was the joint D9213 and 9214 all Thursday Clubs fellowship that was organized by the Rotary Club of Bwebajja. It was a great Joy to see Our Rotary Leaders Including Past District Governors, Past and current Assistant Governors, District Officials, Presidents, Rotarians and Rotaractors from both Districts converge at Speke Resort Munyonyo on Thursday 29th February 2024. Our Guest Speaker, Mr. Odrek Rwabwogo was very sport on with his topic about Success in Life and linking it with leadership and Service which are some of the Rotary's Core Values. Special thanks go to President Ann Ninyesiga and the Rotary Club of Bwebajja for putting up together this great fellowship.

The month of March is designated to Water and Sanitation by Rotary International. Water is a necessity of life and there is still a lot of Inadequacy to access to Safe water in our Communities.

I therefore call upon all of you fellow Rotarians and Rotaractors to double our Effort in this Critical area of focus.

I would also want to bring it to your attention that 15th March 2024, Our District 9214 will participate in the National D.E.A.R Day Activities. On this day, we are all encouraged to "Drop Everything and Read" (D.E.A.R) Aware that Basic education and Literacy is Our District Flagship Project this Rotary Year, I call upon all Clubs to get on board and support this Cause by donating books to schools for reading purposes but also physically visit different schools and participate in the Reading with learners and promote this cause.

I conclusively once again thank you for your Service to Humanity and continued Efforts of Creating Hope in the World.

God bless you all.

Marching Forward:

A Message of Service from the President



Annie Ninyesiga
Hope Creator President



We are on a roll with countless opportunities to make a much bigger impact. Whether it's through our service projects, increasing public awareness of Rotary, bringing more strategic partners on board,....."

Dear friends,

As March spreads out its vibrant colors and promises of renewal, it marks a pivotal moment in our Rotary journey. We stand on the verge of change, poised to make an even greater impact on our community and beyond. With a profound sense of pride and humility, I pen my ninth presidential message.

This month, as we navigate the ninth leg of our Rotary year, let us reflect on the incredible strides we have made together. From the numerous service projects to the bonds of friendship we have forged, each moment has been a demonstration of the power of Rotary and the dedication of our members.

We are on a roll with countless opportunities to make a much bigger impact. Whether it's through our service projects, increasing public awareness of Rotary, bringing more strategic partners on board, or simply lending a helping hand to those in need, each act of service brings us closer to our collective goal of creating hope in the world.

I implore each and every one of you to embrace the spirit of Rotary this month and beyond. Let us recommit ourselves to the principles of Service Above Self, remembering that even the smallest gesture can have a profound impact on someone's life.

As we embark on this journey together, let us also take a moment to express our appreciation to those who have supported us along the way. From our dedicated Club members, generous givers and corporate partners, their support has enabled us to make a difference in the world.

Finally, let us advance forward with hope in our hearts and determination in our souls. Together, there is no challenge too great, no obstacle too daunting. Together, we are Rotary.

Spreading Sweetness:

A Heartfelt Message from the President



Hope Tushemereirwe
President RAC Bwebajja

Dear Rotaract Family,

I'm filled with immense gratitude and pride for each of you this March. Your unwavering dedication, boundless enthusiasm, and steadfast commitment to service continue to inspire me deeply.

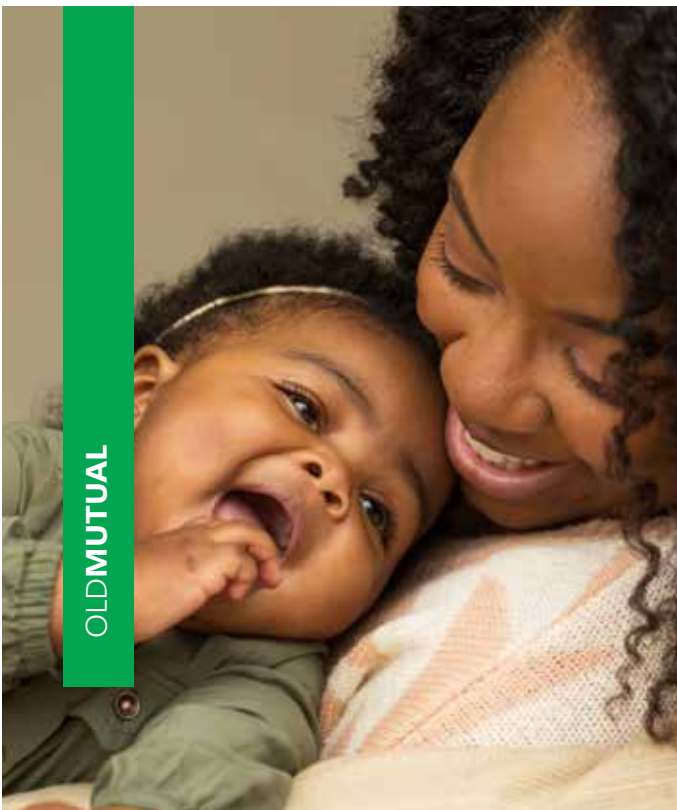
Reflecting on our journey as I write my ninth message as President, I'm humbled by what we've accomplished together. Each month, we've upheld the values of Rotary, spreading hope, joy, and compassion throughout our community and beyond.

Let's take this month to appreciate the impact we've made. From impactful projects to meaningful connections, each endeavor has strengthened our bonds of fellowship and service.

As we move forward, let's remain committed to "Service Above Self." Let's seek opportunities to make a positive difference, embracing challenges as opportunities for growth and learning.

I'm incredibly proud to serve alongside each of you, continuously inspired by your passion, dedication, and unwavering spirit. Together, we have the power to create real and lasting change.

Marching forward, let's do so with hopeful hearts, open minds, and hands ready to serve. Thank you for your continued dedication and for embodying Rotary's motto: "Service Above Self."



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The Siren **Stories**



A Symphony of Service:

The Tale of Bwebajja's Charter Night Celebration



Guided by the wisdom of past presidents, the club orchestrated a magnificent celebration, uniting Rotarians and Rotaractors from districts 9213 and 9214 in a tapestry of collaboration and goodwill."



Rtn. Daniel Bateeze

Beneath the starlit Bwebajja sky, a vibrant symphony of service and camaraderie took center stage on February 28th, 2024. The Rotary Club of Bwebajja celebrated nine years of impactful service with a joyous ceremony, a night unlike any other.

Guided by the wisdom of past presidents, the club orchestrat-

ed a magnificent celebration, uniting Rotarians and Rotaractors from districts 9213 and 9214 in a tapestry of collaboration and goodwill.

District Governor Edward Kakembo Nsubuga from District 9213 graced the event as the guest of honor, praising the club's achievements and the commitment of Rotarians

to service above self. He inducted two new members, symbolizing the club's continued growth and inclusivity, and unveiled the "10 Years of Impactful Service" logo, marking a new club chapter.

But the night held even greater treasures, as outstanding members and past presidents were honored for their exemplary contributions to the club's mission. Their selfless dedication shone brightly, illuminating the path for others to follow. Yet, amidst the accolades, the true stars of the evening emerged—the givers to the Rotary Foundation. Their gifts, big and small, echoed the profound impact each individual can make in the grand symphony of service.

As the night concluded, hearts overflowed with gratitude, faces illuminated by the magic of the occasion. In Bwebajja, the spirit of Rotary pulsated stronger than ever, a testament to the enduring power of service and fellowship.





State of the Club Address: Celebrating Excellence and Unity



Rtn. Hope Mukisa



It was a momentous event that not only marked a comprehensive review of our achievements over the past seven months, but also served as the second official visit of Assistant Governor Florence Lule to our esteemed club."

On February 8, 2024, Rotary Club of Bwebajja gathered in unity and anticipation for a pivotal event – the State of the Club Address. It was a momentous event that not only marked a comprehensive review of our achievements over the past seven months, but also served as the second official visit of Assistant Governor Florence Lule to our esteemed club.

Led by our dedicated Hope Creator President, MD Annie Ninyesiga the evening opened with a heartwarming report on the state of the club, a testament to the tireless efforts and impressive initiatives undertaken by club members. Every project, every effort stood as a beacon of our commitment to the noble mission of Rotary.

Amidst the reflections and reviews, however, there was a special moment reserved for the recognition of excellence within the club. With meticulous care and consideration, Our Admin Committee, deliberated on these awards. Kakindu was announced as the Buddy Group of the Half year, a shining example of the togetherness and support that lies at the heart of our club's ethos.

In addition, Rtn Ritah Mirembe was awarded as the Rotarian of the Second Quarter. Her extraordinary commitment, passion and contributions to the success of our club have not gone unnoticed. Her unwavering dedication to service serves as an inspiration to us all.

These awards are more than a symbol of individual achievement; they are a testament to the collective effort and spirit of unity that defines our club. Every award, every recognition speaks to the strength and resilience of our Rotary family.

As we look ahead to the rest of the Rotary year, let us continue the spirit of excellence and unity that has brought us this far. Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve in service to others.



**State of the
Club Address**
PICTORIAL





Sleeping on the Job:

A Valentine's Fellowship to Remember



Rtn. Emilyy Babirye



On a balmy 15th of February evening, Rotary Club of Bwebajja members and guests gathered under the enchanting glow of Valentine's Day for a fellowship unlike any other. Bathed in the warm light of a crackling campfire, we embarked on a heartwarming journey centered around the intriguing theme: "Who Slept On the Job?"

Our esteemed guest speaker, Rtn. Jennifer Mirembe Ssensuwa, affectionately known as Maama Boy, graced us with her presence and wisdom. Maama Boy's captivating talk, filled with humor and insightful reflections, explored the art of nurturing intimacy in our relationships—a topic that resonated deeply with all present.

Over 100 individuals gathered physically, joined by an additional 100 online, united by the desire to strengthen relationships. Lively discussions and shared anecdotes followed Maama Boy's inspiring talk under the vast canopy of stars, and as the embers of the campfire faded, the connections forged that night promised to linger long after.

This was a truly breathtaking experience, reminding us of the simple joys of human connection and the importance of tending to the gardens of our relationships. Let us carry with us the warmth of this fellowship and the valuable message shared by Maama Boy – to remain present and engaged, nurturing the bonds that enrich our lives.



Stepping Towards Wellness: A Recap of the February Fun Walk



Rtn Annet Ingabire

Rotary club of Bwebajja recently organised the second Fun Fitness Walk of the year, offering an exciting way to prioritize health and well-being for all participants while connecting with the community.

Participants laced up their sneakers and gathered in eager anticipation, first with some aerobics to warm up

the muscles, creating a palpable sense of excitement in the air. This was followed with a fascinating trek through the Garuga murram and tarmac with each step a reaffirmation to keeping the bodies fit.

Beyond the physical challenge, the Fun Fitness Walk was a reminder to the power of community. As we walked side-by-side, we shared laughter, encouragement, and stories, building lasting bonds that extend far beyond the event.

A heartfelt thank you to all who joined us on this incredible adventure. Your participation and infectious enthusiasm make the Fun Walks a resounding success! Let us continue to champion a commitment to health.

Together, #WeAreBwebajja, and together, we stride towards a brighter, healthier future.



Beyond the physical challenge, the Fun Fitness Walk was a reminder to the power of community. As we walked side-by-side, we shared laughter, encouragement, and stories, building lasting bonds that extend far beyond the event."



A Decade of Leadership: Announcing the Presidential Installation of Andrew Ssennabulya

Excitement filled the air on Thursday, February 28th, 2024, as Rotary Club of Bwebajja officially announced the Decade Presidential Installation of Rtn Andrew Ssennabulya as our 10th president.

A leader known for his dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to service, Andrew's journey through various leadership roles within the club has been nothing short of exemplary. This upcoming year, he takes the mantle as the "Magical President," ready to inspire and lead the club forward.

The installation ceremony, revealed by Installation Chair Rtn Hassan Nyenje (PN), will take place on May 18th, 2024, at our fellowship venue, Emperor Heights, Kisubi. This spacious venue, with its excellent parking, lighting, and delicious meals, promises a memorable and festive celebration befitting the occasion.

Embracing the spirit of inclusivity, the event will be affordable for all members,



CP Gordians Ahaisibwe

with tickets priced at only Ushs100,000. This allows every member of the Rotary family to witness the passing of the torch and celebrate this significant moment.

Mark your calendars and save the date! As we approach May 18th, let's come together to honor our club's legacy of leadership and service, and welcome the dawn of a new era under the guidance of Magical President Andrew Ssennabulya.

The stage is set, the invitation extended – let the countdown begin!





Uniting in Fellowship:

The All-Thursday Clubs Joint Fellowship at Speke Resort Munyonyo

Rotary Club of Bwebajja marked the culmination of a vibrant February with the All-Thursday Clubs Joint Fellowship, a phenomenal gathering held at the exquisite Speke Resort Munyonyo. This remarkable event united Thursday clubs from Districts 9213 and 9214, fostering an evening brimming with camaraderie, knowledge, and motivation.

The Speke Resort Munyonyo Banqueting Hall served as the ideal setting for this momentous occasion, as Rotarians, Rotaractors, and friends of Rotary converged, eager to connect and share ideas. The evening's core revolved around the esteemed guest speaker, Mr. Odrek Rwabwogo. His thought-provoking talk, titled "Failure as a Stepping Stone to Success," captivated the audience. Drawing on his experiences, Mr. Rwabwogo emphasized that challenges are not roadblocks, but rather pathways to personal growth and accomplishment. His insightful presentation, enriched with



Rtn. Illona Mildred Ndagire

compelling stories, culminated in a well-deserved standing ovation.

This fellowship served as a powerful testament to the unifying and inspiring nature of Rotary. Hundreds of attendees, encompassing District Governors and club members from both districts, participated, making this event truly historic. Throughout the evening, attendees were captivated by the diverse perspectives offered by the various Thursday Club presidents, a unique and engaging format.



The key takeaway from this exceptional joint fellowship is the crucial message to embrace setbacks as catalysts for growth and success. We must also never underestimate the power of fellowship in uniting and inspiring us as we navigate our Rotary journeys. In the spirit of Rotary, let us eagerly look forward to similar gatherings that foster connection, service, and a unified mission to create a positive global impact.



An Evening of Joy and Togetherness: Rtn. Josephine Tamale's Home Hospitality



Rtn. Ddumba Denis

On February 25th, the warmth of friendship and the delicious aroma of food filled the air as Rtn Josephine Tamale generously opened her home to members and friends of RC Bwebajja. The evening was a celebration of hospitality, leaving a lasting impression of happiness and joy on all who attended.

Guests that included a couple of Hope Creator presidents were greeted with an abundance of mouthwatering dishes and colorful drinks, ensuring everyone's culinary satisfaction. Laughter and joy filled the atmosphere as members mingled, reminiscing about the "club's gyenvudde", and took photos, creating cherished memories and strengthening the bonds of friendship that define the Rotary family. Reminiscing about the club's shared history and service projects, attendees felt a deep sense of pride and connection to the Rotary values that unite them.

Throughout the lively evening, Rtn. Josephine Tamale's home transformed into a celebration of joy, friendship, and the spirit of Rotary. It was a truly unforgettable gathering that served as a powerful reminder of the importance of unity.

As guests departed Rtn. Josephine's home that evening, their hearts were full, and their spirits were uplifted by the strengthened bonds of fellowship. It was a night to remember, one that exemplified the true essence of Rotary and left everyone feeling grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a wonderful club and community.





The Siren

Articles



The Vital Importance of Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Imagine a world where illness doesn't hold children back from school, where women have time to pursue their dreams, and where communities are bursting with health and opportunity. This isn't a fantasy – it's the reality we can create by ensuring access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene education.

It's not a luxury, it's a right: Clean water and sanitation are fundamental to human health and dignity. Contaminated water breeds diseases, keeping children home and adults out of work. By providing clean water sources and proper facilities, we can drastically reduce these illnesses, leading to stronger individuals and communities.

Beyond health: Clean water unlocks a ripple effect of benefits. Children in schools with clean water and sanitation are more likely to attend and learn, leading to a brighter future. Improved hygiene education empowers them to stay healthy and reach their full potential.

Empowering women, empowering communities: In many places, women spend hours collecting water, taking away precious time. By providing closer water sources and sanitation facilities, we free them to pursue education, work, and contribute to their families and communities.

Investing in the future: Access to clean water and sanitation isn't just about the present; it's about building a thriving future for all. By prioritizing these investments, we can create resilient communities where everyone has the chance to reach their full potential. Let's work together to ensure everyone has access to this life-changing resource.



Rtn. Frank Lwanga



Transforming Lives through Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene: Our Impact



Rtn. Joyce Bakiire

Imagine a world where clean water is a right, not a privilege.

The Rotary Foundation is making that vision a reality by igniting a global movement focused on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). Since 2013, the foundation has poured over \$130 million into over 2,000 projects across the globe, bringing lasting change to communities, schools, and healthcare facilities.

The secret weapon! An army of passionate volunteers working tirelessly to not only improve lives, but also protect precious water resources.



Partnering with the US Agency for International Development (USAID), Rotary is empowering communities and governments to take control of their WASH needs. Together, we're building sustainable solutions that ensure clean water, sanitation, and hygiene are accessible for generations to come.

The impact is real, and it's inspiring. Just \$24 can provide one person with safe water, and partnerships like Rotary-USAID have brought basic sanitation and hygiene to schools and health centers in Uganda and Ghana.

With a total investment of \$148 million in WASH initiatives worldwide, the Rotary Foundation is leading the charge towards a healthier, more equitable world.

When we come together, we create a healthier, more equitable world for all. Let's turn the tide on WASH challenges and build a brighter, more sustainable future, one community at a time.



Brother Zziwa John Mary Receives RC Bwebajja's 2024 Vocational Service Award

Rotary's vocational awards celebrate individuals who embody excellence in their fields while upholding the organization's core values of service, integrity, and professionalism. These awards recognize the crucial role ethical conduct and vocational service play in building strong communities.

On February 1st, 2023, Rotary Club of Bwebajja proudly presented its 2024 Vocational Award to Reverend Brother Zziwa John Mary. This recognition serves as a well-deserved tribute to Brother Zziwa's exemplary dedication and commitment to his vocation and its profound impact on the community.

As the Founding Director of Padre Pio Rural Development Initiative (PPRDI), Brother Zziwa has played a pivotal role in uplifting the lives of marginalized communities in Kyotera and Masaka districts. PPRDI's mission to improve healthcare and education services has directly benefited over 286 families, including the construction of a hospital in Butozi and the distribution of handwashing facilities across both districts. These remarkable achievements signify Brother Zziwa's tireless efforts and



Rtn. Robert Irumba

unwavering commitment to serving others.

Brother Zziwa's dedication extends beyond his impressive achievements. He consistently demonstrates outstanding professionalism, ethical conduct, and a true spirit of service, inspiring others to embrace these values and make a positive difference in their own spheres of influence.

RC Bwebajja recognition of



As the Founding Director of Padre Pio Rural Development Initiative (PPRDI), Brother Zziwa has played a pivotal role in uplifting the lives of marginalized communities in Kyotera and Masaka districts."

Brother Zziwa is not only a celebration of his exceptional contributions but also a powerful symbol of the transformative potential of vocational excellence. He reminds us of the profound impact we can make through our chosen vocations.

Congratulations, Reverend Brother Zziwa John Mary!



Rtn. Ritah Mirembe

Rotarian of the Quarter



Honored as Rotarian of the Quarter Thank You, RC Bwebajja Family!

Dear my Bwebajja Family,

I am writing to you today with a heart full of gratitude and humility. It is with immense honor that I received the recognition as the "Rotarian of the Quarter."

From the moment I joined this extraordinary group, I knew I had found a home. A community where passion, service, and friendship intertwine to create something truly magical. Every day, I strive to be better, inspired by the unwavering commitment you all demonstrate.

Receiving this award has been a deeply personal journey. It has allowed me to reflect on the countless moments of joy, growth, and friendship I've experienced as a member of this club. From impactful service projects to the bonds forged over shared goals and aspirations, each memory holds a special place in my heart.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside such dedicated and compassionate individuals. Your unwavering support, encouragement, and friendship have been a source of strength and inspiration every step of the way. Together, we

have faced challenges, celebrated successes, and created lasting change in our community and beyond.

Reflecting on this honor, I am reminded of the profound impact Rotary has had on my life. It has not only allowed me to make a difference in the lives of others but has also enriched my own life in ways I never could have imagined. Through Rotary, I have found purpose, belonging, and a true sense of fulfillment.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for believing in me. This award represents not just myself, but every member of our club who embodies the spirit of Rotary in everything they do.

Together, we are making a difference, one act of service at a time. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this incredible journey.

With heartfelt appreciation and warmest regards,



“

Receiving this award has been a deeply personal journey. It has allowed me to reflect on the countless moments of joy, growth, and friendship I've experienced as a member of this club."



Strengthening Bonds and Planning: Rotary Club of Bwebajja's Second Club Retreat



Rtn. Carol Kirama

On February 17th, 2024, Rotary Club of Bwebajja held its second club retreat, marking a pivotal moment for introspection, planning, and team building. This gathering offered members a valuable platform to delve into crucial club matters and solidify the bonds within the Rotary family.

Transparency and Shared Vision

The retreat commenced with a comprehensive financial report, fostering transparency and accountability by offering club members detailed insights into the management of club funds. This detailed overview presented by the current club treasurer Rtn Daniel Bateeze ensured that every member was informed and empowered to participate in shaping the club's financial future.

Leadership and Strategic Direction

The agenda then shifted to the presentation and adoption of the board and officers for the upcoming Rotary year 2024-2025. Spearheaded by PE Andrew Ssennabulya, this crucial step established a foundation for effective leadership and strategic planning, paving the way for continued success and community impact.

Welcoming New Leadership

One of the retreat's highlights was the election of Rtn. Sylvia Nabakadde as President-nominee Designate. Her passion, dedication, and vision for service make her well-positioned

to lead the club towards new heights of excellence and achievement in the coming year.

Teamwork and Collaboration

Beyond addressing administrative matters, the retreat also provided an opportunity for team-building and bonding exercises, facilitated by seasoned coach CP Sam Ngambwaki. Through engaging activities and discussions, members explored how to collaborate effectively as teams, appreciate individual strengths and weaknesses, and understand their roles within the organization.

The Power of Retreats

Club retreats hold immense significance as they foster a clear vision, empower strong leadership, and offer a platform to address any internal concerns. This collaborative environment, infused with joy and fun, paves the way for greater impact in the months to come.

Conclusion

The second retreat served as a powerful reaffirmation of the club's commitment to service and community leadership. The club emerged from this gathering reinvigorated and equipped to tackle the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

A portrait of a man with short dark hair and a goatee, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He has his arms crossed and is looking slightly to the left. The background is a textured, light brown wall. A red vertical bar is on the left side of the image.

**OUR
LEADERS**

MEET OUR PRESIDENT ELECT

ANDREW SENNABULYA



Andrew, a Petroleum Engineer, Rotary Leader & Family Man

Professionally: Andrew is a petroleum engineer by training and serves as a Senior Facilities Engineer with the Petroleum Authority of Uganda. Together with his team of engineers, he is responsible for ensuring the planned facilities that process and transport crude oil from the wells in Uganda, to the market, are optimally designed and are safe.

Education: He holds a Masters Degree in Oil and Gas Engineering from The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, Scotland. Holds a Bachelors Degree in Science Technology with a bias in Chemistry at Kyambogo University. Has several qualifications in Oil and Gas Metering, Petroleum Data Management, among others.

Family: He is in a committed relationship with children.

Rotary life: He is a member of the Rotary Club of

Bwebajja since December 2016. He has served in his club as a Director Public Relations, Director Club Administration, and twice as a Club Secretary (during the Opportunity Year and Hope Creator Year). He is the current President Elect of RC Bwebajja.

While working as a Director Club Admin, Andrew initiated the arrangement of merging Rotary and Rotaract Buddy groups in RC Bwebajja which increased the bonding between Rotary and Rotaract clubs of Bwebajja.

As Club Secretary, he was fundamental in creating the club's systems that continue to be improved in subsequent years.

He has attended Rotary Leadership training, and is a graduate of The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI).

Hobbies: He loves reading, playing and watching football, and travelling.



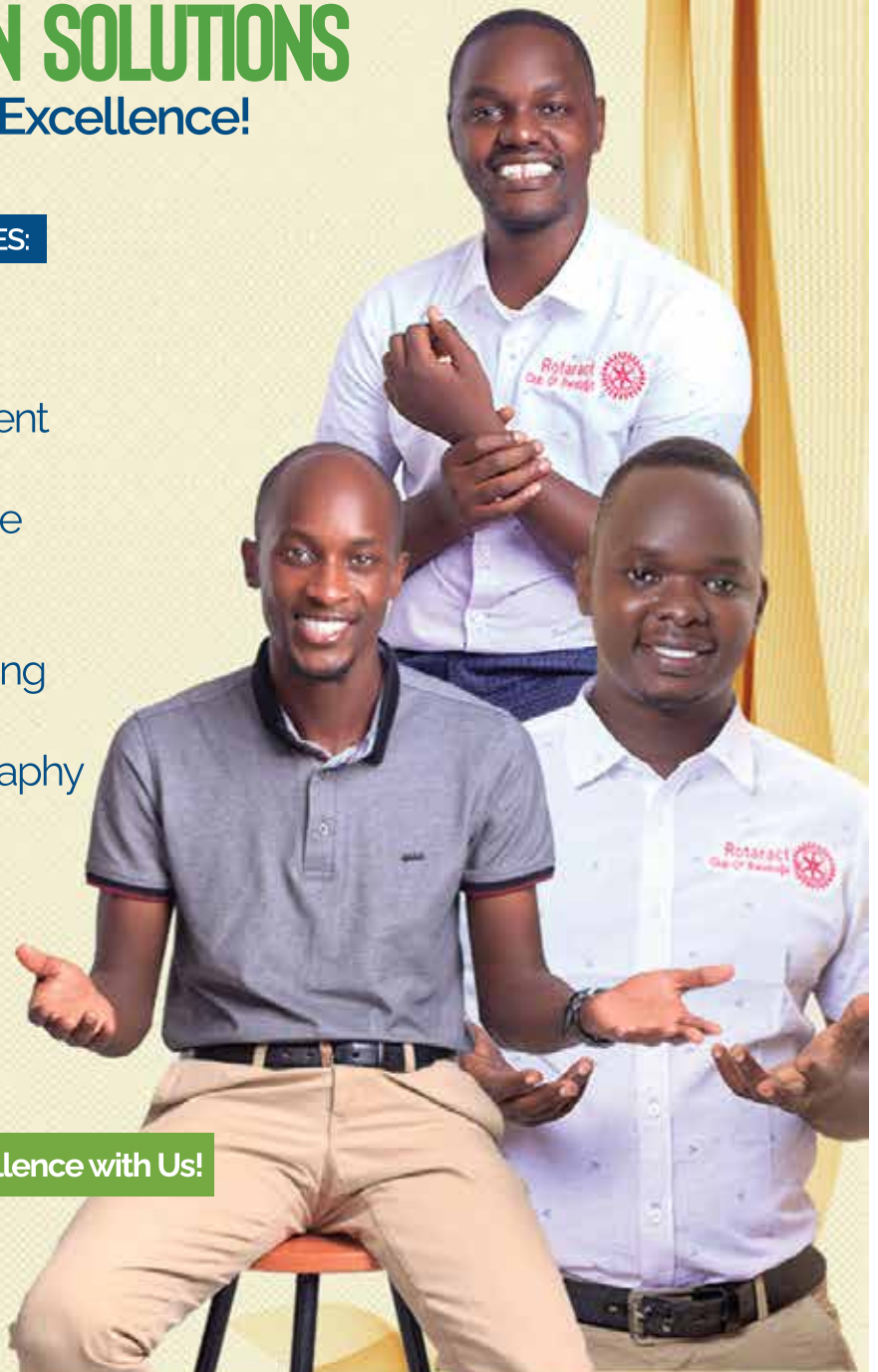
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Embracing the Spirit of Ramadan: A Time of Reflection, Unity, and Renewal.



Rtr. Namuli Shamim
RAC Bwebajja

Peace be upon you all, as the crescent moon graces the night sky, signaling the arrival of Ramadan, Muslims around the world prepare to embark on a month-long journey of spiritual rejuvenation and reflection. Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, holds profound significance as it commemorates the revelation of the Holy Quran to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and is observed through fasting, prayer, and acts of charity as follows.

Embracing the Fast: A Spiritual Journey

At the heart of Ramadan lies fasting, where Muslims abstain from food, drink, smoking, and other physical needs from Fajr (Morning Prayer) to Maghrib (Evening prayer). While the fast may seem daunting to some, it serves as a means of spiritual purification, fostering empathy and

self-discipline. Fasting not only nourishes the soul but also heightens one's awareness of the blessings bestowed upon them, fostering gratitude and humility.

A Time of Reflection and Contemplation

Beyond refraining from physical indulgences, Ramadan encourages believers to engage in introspection and self-improvement. It is a time to reflect on one's actions, seek forgiveness, and strive towards becoming better individuals. Muslims around the world devote themselves to increased prayers, recitation of the Quran, and seeking forgiveness from Allah, fostering a deeper connection with their faith.

Community and Unity: Breaking Bread Together

Ramadan transcends individual practices; it is a time for communities to come together in solidarity and compassion. Each evening, families and friends gather to break their fast, known as Iftar, sharing meals and strengthening bonds. Mosques host communal Iftars, welcoming people from all occupations to partake in the blessings of the month. These gatherings embody the spirit of unity and generosity, as individuals from diverse backgrounds come together to celebrate their shared humanity.

Acts of Charity: Serving Those in Need

Central to Ramadan is the concept of Zakat, the obligatory giving of alms to those in need. Muslims are encouraged to extend a helping hand to the less fortunate, embodying the principles of compassion and empathy. From providing food to the hungry to supporting humanitarian causes, acts of charity during Ramadan serve as a reminder of the importance of generosity and social responsibility.

The Night of Power: A Moment of Divine Blessings

As Ramadan ends, Muslims eagerly await Laylat al-Qadr, or the Night of Power, a night believed to hold special significance and blessings. It is said that on this night, the Quran was first revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Muslims engage in prayers and supplications, seeking spiritual enlightenment and divine mercy. The atmosphere is imbued with a sense of reverence and devotion as believers strive to make the most of this auspicious occasion.

A Time of Celebration and Renewal

As the month of Ramadan culminates in the joyous occasion of Eid al-Fitr, Muslims worldwide come together to celebrate the completion of their spiritual journey. Families exchange greetings, share meals, and engage in acts of charity, spreading joy and happiness within their communities. Eid festivities mark not only the end of fasting but also a renewed commitment to living virtuously and upholding the values of Islam.

Ramadan serves as a time of spiritual growth, self-reflection, and communal solidarity for Muslims around the world. It is a reminder of the importance of compassion, empathy, and social responsibility, fostering a sense of unity and shared humanity. As believers embark on this sacred journey, they are reminded of the profound teachings of Islam and the transformative power of faith.

With gratitude and lot of Duas, Ramadan Mubarak!

The Future of Technology: Innovations and Their Impact on Society



Rose Namuleme
RAC Bwebajja

Technology has always been at the forefront of societal advancement, shaping the way we live, work, and interact with each other. As we venture into the future, the pace of technological innovation shows no signs of slowing down. From artificial intelligence to biotechnology, the possibilities seem endless, promising to revolutionize every aspect of our lives. However, with great innovation comes great responsibility, as these advancements inevitably influence and reshape our society in profound ways.

Artificial Intelligence (AI):

One of the most transformative technologies of our time, AI holds the potential to revolutionize industries ranging from healthcare to finance. With the ability to analyze vast amounts of data and make autonomous decisions, AI systems are already being used for predictive analytics, personalized recommendations, and even autonomous vehicles. However, the rise of AI also raises ethical

concerns, such as algorithmic bias and the displacement of human workers.

Biotechnology: Advances in biotechnology are unlocking new possibilities in medicine, agriculture, and beyond. From gene editing technologies like CRISPR to synthetic biology, scientists are gaining unprecedented control over the building blocks of life. While these innovations offer hope for treating diseases and feeding a growing population, they also raise ethical dilemmas regarding genetic manipulation and the potential for unforeseen consequences.

Internet of Things (IoT):

The IoT is connecting devices and systems in ways previously unimaginable, ushering in an era of smart homes, cities, and industries. From smart thermostats that optimize energy usage to wearable devices that track our health, the IoT promises to make our lives more convenient and efficient. However, it also raises concerns about privacy and security, as more devices become interconnected and vulnerable to cyberattacks.

Blockchain and Cryptocurrency:

Blockchain technology, best known as the underlying technology behind cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin, has the potential to revolutionize industries such as finance, supply chain management, and healthcare. By providing a secure and transparent way to record and verify transactions, blockchain can reduce fraud, streamline processes, and empower individuals to take

control of their data. However, challenges such as scalability and regulatory uncertainty remain obstacles to widespread adoption.

Quantum Computing: Quantum computing has the potential to solve complex problems that are currently beyond the reach of classical computers. By harnessing the principles of quantum mechanics, quantum computers can perform calculations at speeds that would be impossible for traditional computers. While still in its infancy, quantum computing could have far-reaching implications for fields such as cryptography, drug discovery, and climate modeling.

As these technologies continue to evolve and intersect, their impact on society will only become more pronounced. From reshaping industries and economies to challenging long-held beliefs and norms, the future of technology holds both promise and peril. It is imperative that we approach these advancements with careful consideration, balancing the potential benefits with the ethical, social, and environmental implications. By fostering dialogue, collaboration, and responsible innovation, we can harness the power of technology to create a better future for all.



Embrace the Power Within: Celebrating Vocational Service



Patricia Kwagala
RAC Bwebajja

Rotarians, Rotaractors, a warm welcome all!

In January of this year, we celebrated Vocational Service Month, a month dedicated to a core principle of Rotary. Vocational Service isn't just about celebrating individual professions; it's about recognizing the immense potential and impact we possess through our diverse skills, talents and dedication.

Every individual possesses a unique set

of talents, strengths and capabilities. Your inner power is the culmination of your experiences, skills, knowledge, and the untapped potential that resides within. It is essential to acknowledge and embrace this power, as it forms the foundation for personal growth and achievement.

For those still navigating the career path, Rotary offers a beacon of opportunity. We are a global network of professionals, ready and willing to extend support and guidance. But remember, the first step is yours. Reach out, connect, and leverage the resources at your disposal. Have you ever considered the unique gifts you possess? Your knowledge, skills and abilities are precious tools, not only for personal growth but also for making a difference in the world. The way we utilize these resources, especially the invaluable gift of time, defines our legacy. Actions speak louder than words, and the results of your efforts will be your lasting testament. Whether it's medical skills needed for the "Mubende Medical Camp," organizational skills required for the "Bufumira Island Project," mobilisation skills needed for the "Movie Night fellowship" or fundraising skills for Happy

Shilling within Fellowships held, we all possess that unique gift that can make an impact to our clubs and communities we serve.

This remaining part of the year, let's embark on a journey of introspection. Reflect on your aspirations, your strengths and how you can use them to leave your mark on the world. Let your Vocation be your compass, guiding you towards fulfilling your dreams and making this year truly remarkable. Let March be our torch, igniting a spark of good within our communities and ourselves.

“

For those still navigating the career path, Rotary offers a beacon of opportunity. We are a global network of professionals, ready and willing to extend support and guidance.”

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