





January Initiatives for Growth and Awareness













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### Rotary International President January 2025 Message



A few years ago, someone arrived late. Instead of scolding the person, we cheered. Since then, we've made it a tradition to applaud all members when they arrive for meetings. It's tough not to smile with a greeting like that.

There's nothing more powerful for engaging and retaining members than a club that's vibrant, welcoming, and — yes — fun.

Think back to what drew you to Rotary. Chances are, it wasn't just the service projects or professional networking. It was the people — the friendships, the shared laughter, and the joy of working toward a common purpose. That's what keeps us coming back.

If you're looking for that sense of joy in your meetings, don't be afraid to ask yourself and your fellow members some tough questions. If you were a prospective member, would you join your current club? It's a powerful question but don't stop there.

Do members of your club feel that they belong? Are your meetings fun? If not, what can you do about it together?

At your next meeting or event, try something new to bring out a few extra smiles. It's the simple things that create lasting bonds and make clubs simply irresistible.

Here's one example of a club moving in the right direction. The Rotary Club of Fukushima, Japan, has been combining environmental responsibility with community fun since 2021. In Japan, people have made picking up trash into a sport known as SpoGomi, and every year the club hosts a game.

This year, more than 400 participants cheered each other on while they came together to improve their community.

This event is an excellent example of how Rotary clubs can have fun, make a difference, and raise awareness for broader global challenges all at the same time. And the inclusive, family-friendly format allows people of all ages to participate.

When we enjoy what we do, that energy becomes contagious. It's what attracts new members and keeps our clubs strong and engaged. It helps people feel that they belong.

Retention and culture go hand in hand. The healthier our club culture, the more likely members are to stay. Rotary magazine is an outstanding resource for inspiration on how to enhance our club culture and deepen member engagement. I encourage you to explore the stories and strategies in these pages, drawing from other clubs' successes to find ideas that work for you.

Together, we can create a more engaged, enjoyable, and inclusive Rotary that every member can feel proud to be part of. Let's continue with renewed commitment and enthusiasm, living *The Magic of Rotary*.

Stephanie Urchick Rotary International President









### Message from the Club President





As we begin a new year filled with opportunities to serve, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your dedication and active participation in our January initiatives. Your commitment to Rotary's mission continues to make a meaningful difference in our community.

Our **9th Joint Board and Regular Meeting** was a significant moment for us to realign our goals and strengthen our club's direction as we move forward to 2025. Meanwhile, our involvement in the **Autism Awareness Month Celebration** reflected our commitment to inclusivity and support for individuals with autism, spreading awareness and promoting a more understanding and accepting society.

Thank you for your unwavering service and dedication. Let's continue working together to **Create Magic** in **Rotary** and make an even greater impact in the months ahead! Yours in Rotary,

Erwin Vincent G. Alcala President, Rotary Club of San Juanico



### 9th Regular Meeting (January 11, 2025)



















### 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**

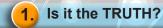
The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life.

#### **FOURTH**

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

## THE ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST

The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do



2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?

3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

4.) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?