



Rotary
Club of South Davao



Official Weekly Publication * Rotary Year 2024-2025

Southern Kris

Meets every Wednesday * 12:00 NN
The Pinnacle Hotel & Suites, Sta. Ana Avenue
Davao City

EVERY ROTARIAN



EVERY YEAR



OFFICERS



**Michael Gerard
Chellathurai**
President



Sonja Garcia
President-Elect



Exequiel Tomines, Jr.
Vice-President



Bryan John Antioquia
Secretary



Don Elecci Torno
Treasurer



**Dennis Roy
Aballe**
Auditor



Ester Gahol
IPP & Club Learning
Facilitator

DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN



**Emmanuel
Villa-Abrille**
Club Service



Jackie Louie Solivio
Community
Service



Rodolfo Abellana
Vocational
Service



**Annie Faye
Singson**
New Gen.



Arthur Uy
International
Service



**Aileen Joy
Adora**
Membership



Litho Mojares
Service Projects



Ismael Tabije
Club Admin



Harold Abellana
Public Image



Virgie Albaera
TRF

RI & DISTRICT OFFICERS



Stephanie A. Urchick
RI President



Caroline L. Andrade
District Governor



Aldwin R. Intong
Asst. Governor Area 2A

SPOUSES' CIRCLE OFFICERS & DIRECTORS



**Merelyne
Chellathurai**
President



Erlinda Tabije
Vice-President



Marselle Lozano
Secretary



Katherine Uy
Treasurer



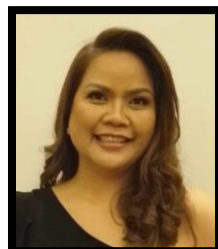
Eleanore Torno
Imm. Past President



**Ana Victoria
Abellana**
Director



Jezel Aballe
Director



**Robigen
Mojares**
Director



Christine Solivio
Director



Shiela Tomines
Director

*9th Regular Luncheon Meeting
& Annual Election of Officers*

December 11, 2024 * The Pinnacle Hotel & Suites * 12:00NN

Program

I. Opening:

- Call to Order.....VP Jay-R Tomines
Presiding Officer
- Invocation.....PP JL Solivio
- Singing of National Anthem & Rotary Hymn &
Recitation of the 4-Way Test & Object of Rotary
- Introduction of Guests & Visiting Rotarians

II. Program Proper

- Rotary Information &
Secretary’s Report.....Sec. Bryan Joh Antioquia
- Election of New Set of Officers
 - Nominating Committee: Chair : PP Ester Gahol
Members : PP Maeng Taibje & PP Jacob Chua
 - COMELEC: Chair : PP Don Torno
Members : PP Max Lozano & PP Noel Villa-abrille
- President’s Time.....VP Jay-R Tomines
Presiding Officer

III. Closing : Announcements / Adjournment

Master of Ceremonies

Invocation...

God of wisdom, Father of the chosen people of Abraham, today, as we choose our leaders for Rotary year 2025-2026, we ask You to give us the gift of intelligent choice.

Luckily, Rotary has a healthy election tradition. No man seeks the position. Rather, the position seeks the man. In this accepted atmosphere of freedom, it should be easy for us to put into office the qualified and deserving.

Lord, we come to You for Your enlightenment because, by experience, the success of the club depends so much on the leaders who run the club. And these leaders will be chosen by us today. Amen.

FOUR WAY TEST

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY
OR DO

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

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.

Declaration of Rotarians in Business and Professions

As a Rotarian engaged in a business of 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...

Media literacy is crucial for healthy societies. Rotary members are teaching people to think critically about what they see and read

By *Etelka Lehoczky*

The first day at a new school can be disorienting for any teenager. But your first day at Virginia Hall High School is even stranger than most. Your grandfather claims he used to be a spy, your sister accuses some students of locking her in a closet, and everyone says a monster is stalking the hallways.

What is happening? Is any of this true? Instead of rushing off to fight the monster, you read about the weird recent events in the school newspaper. You ask yourself: Do these sources provide multiple pieces of evidence for their claims? Could they possibly be earning money because of what they're saying? Do their stories cast a negative light on people who disagree with them?

You ask all these questions because you're actually playing a video game designed to increase your media literacy. Co-created by Anahita Dalmia, a member of the Rotary Club of Newport Beach, California, USA, the game **Agents of Influence** is being developed to help 11- to 13-year-olds think critically about what they see on social media and in the news.

"We're teaching kids to understand media bias, logical fallacies, and confirmation bias. We teach things like reading closely — tools you can use to determine what to trust online," says Dalmia, the founder and CEO of game developer Alterea Inc.

Dalmia, a third-generation Rotarian, says the game's approach was inspired partly by **Rotary's Four-Way Test**.

"The first question is, 'Is it the truth?' And there's a reason that's the first question," Dalmia says. "If it's not the truth, you cannot make a strong judgment call based on any of the other questions, because you're starting on an unstable foundation."

"An unstable foundation" is one way to describe the current state of the media landscape. Experts say we're exposed to far more media than ever before. That includes both misinformation (unintentional untruths) and disinformation (deliberate falsehoods meant to mislead people). Although many outlets are responsible and credible, figuring out what to believe can take time and effort.

"Before the internet, if I went to get a newspaper, it was run by journalists for whom truth was an important standard. Of course newspapers were biased. But today, people who want to believe things just post stuff," says Alan Dennis, a professor of internet systems at Indiana University.

"There are active disinformation campaigns by foreign governments designed to influence voters in democratic countries. The actors have become much more sophisticated, and they have learned quite a bit about what messaging works." People are aware of this problem, and they say they want to become savvier about the media they consume. A study released this year found that about seven in 10 Americans were interested in learning how to better distinguish between true and false information online. But media literacy is more than just separating fact from fiction.

"We need to be able to judge things like, 'What's the bias behind it? Who created it? Who's benefiting from it?' So there's not a simple fix here," says Jeff Share, a lecturer at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a co-author of "The Critical Media Literacy Guide." "We need to slow down and investigate.

It might mean it's going to take me a couple more minutes, but I can go to some different sources. I can also recognize that some are more legitimate than others."

Training storytellers

Many people believe that ideological biases and financial interests guide major news outlets' coverage, says global grant scholar Alex Freeman, who is pursuing a master's degree in global media and communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

"It's one of the big reasons that people have turned against media, but I think it's an overcorrection," Freeman says. "A lot of people have turned to independent journalists who are more willing to incorporate their own personal experience into their reporting. But without a traditional media apparatus — without standard practices for ensuring accuracy — it's hard to know who's trustworthy."

Still, independent voices can be crucial in places where media organizations lack funding or are restricted by repressive governments. When Rotary Peace Fellow Thomas Sithole realized his hometown in Zimbabwe was ignored by major media outlets, he launched a community radio station. Then he founded the Zimbabwe Centre for Media and Information Literacy to teach people to think more critically and tell their own stories effectively. He believes the two skills are intertwined.

"We tell citizens how to arm themselves against disinformation and misinformation," he says. The Centre also trains citizen journalists and other content creators, teaching skills like fact-checking and ensuring balance in a story.

"We're trying to build a movement across the region, because we see that there is no appetite from our governments to push for policies that support media and information literacy among citizens," Sithole says.

The threat of artificial intelligence

Even as he trains an army of storytellers, Sithole worries that the arrival of artificial intelligence will make it easier to create and spread disinformation.

"For unsuspecting citizens, it's creating a lot of challenges," he says. "It becomes very difficult now to tell whether a piece of content is true or false, especially if it's in the form of videos or images. It's something that is really a challenge even to the professional journalist."

Some believe the key is educating younger media consumers. Erin McNeill meets many students through her job as CEO of the U.S.-based nonprofit Media Literacy Now, and she's heartened by what she finds. "AI is definitely making it harder to identify good and credible sources," McNeill says. But she says people can use the same skills to analyze human-generated and AI-generated content.

"Young people are so creative and smart. We're educating them so they can rise to the challenge," she says. "They're going to find solutions as long as they're given the skills and the education they need."

The same belief animates Dalmia as she continues to develop and promote Agents of Influence. She has presented the game to numerous Rotary clubs and hopes Rotarians will encourage their local schools to use it. "This started as a passion project, but there was a huge demand from parents who were concerned about how social media was shaping their kids' perspectives and interactions with the outside world," Dalmia says. "The resounding feedback we've gotten is, 'Can I have this for my kid who thinks TikTok is a reliable source of information?'"



Secretary's Report

Bryan John Q. Antioquia

Club Secretary

Comparative Weekly Attendance

	Nov. 20	Dec. 6
CLUB MEMBERSHIP	23	23
HONORARY MEMBER	05	05
PRESENT	07	17
ON LEAVE	00	00
ABSENT	16	06
MADE UP	04	00
ATTENDANCE % BASE	23	23
WEEK AVERAGE	48.00%	74.00%

Guests:

Sp. Ana Abellana
 Sp. Sandro Adora
 Sp. Merelyne Chellathurai
 Sp. Robigen Mojares
 Sp. Jocris Singson

Sp. Lynda Tabije
 Sp. Marites Tac-an
 Sp. Shiela Tomines
 Sp. Ely Torno
 Sp. Kathy Uy

PP Johnny Ferrazzini
 Kaely Uy
 Callin Zafrá
 Edward Pelotos

Happy Birthday!

Dec. 13 – Sp. Robigen Mojares
 23 – PP Max Lozano
 29 – Rtn. Grace Buelis

Happy Anniversary!

Dec. 3 – Dir. Litho & Sp. Robigen
 Mojares

SAVE THE DATE

Jan. 8, 2025 – RCSD Meeting

Merry Christmas

& a prosperous

New Year!

BIG NEWS FOR OUR CLUB NEWS WRITERS!

It's finally here! Announcing the PRM monthly and yearly awards recognizing the outstanding Rotary stories of our Club News Writers.

*Share your stories now
and get a chance to be
recognized with the
following awards:*

MONTHLY RECOGNITION

DISTRICT LEVEL
**OUTSTANDING DISTRICT
WITH MOST NUMBER OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES**
*(District with the most number of Rotary Clubs with published
articles on the PRM website during the month)*

CLUB LEVEL
OUTSTANDING ARTICLE CONTRIBUTION AWARD
*(Rotary Club with the most number of published articles
on the PRM website during the month)*

INDIVIDUAL AWARD
BEST NEWS WRITER OF THE MONTH
*(Club News Writer with the most number of published
articles on the PRM website during the month)*

YEARLY RECOGNITION

DISTRICT LEVEL
**MOST OUTSTANDING DISTRICT
WITH MOST NUMBER OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES**
*(District with the most number of Rotary Clubs with published
articles on the PRM website during the year)*

CLUB LEVEL
MOST OUTSTANDING ARTICLE CONTRIBUTION AWARD
*(Rotary Club with the most number of published articles
on the PRM website during the year)*

INDIVIDUAL AWARD
BEST NEWS WRITER OF THE YEAR
*(Club News Writer with the most number of published articles
on the PRM website during the year)*

GOT STORIES TO TELL?

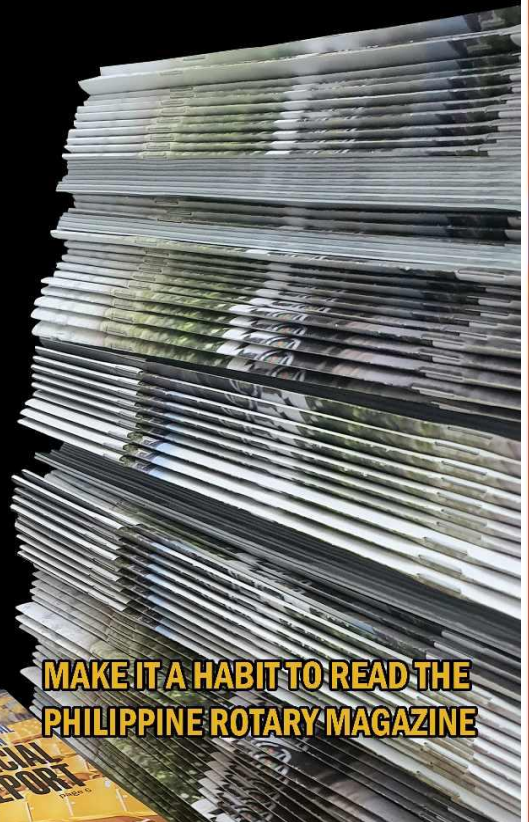
E-mail them now to the PRM Editorial Team thru
Bea Malveda - malvedabeatriceanne@gmail.com
for review and publication on the All News section of the PRM website.

DISTRICT, ROTARY CLUB

and

INDIVIDUAL

Awards & Recognition



**MAKE IT A HABIT TO READ THE
PHILIPPINE ROTARY MAGAZINE**





President's Message

Michael Gerard Chellathurai

Club President

Hi Fellow Rotarians! Today marks a significant milestone for the Rotary Club of South Davao as we gather for the Election of Officers. This event is not merely a formality; it is a key opportunity for us to shape the leadership of our club for the coming year. The elected officers will play a crucial role in supporting our President and executing the initiatives that drive our mission forward. It's essential that we choose individuals who embody the spirit of service and commitment that defines Rotary. A strong leadership team is vital for our club's ability to soar and make a meaningful impact in our community.

As we embark on this important election, I encourage each of you to participate actively and thoughtfully. Your voice matters, and your vote will help us select leaders who are not only dedicated but also visionary, ensuring that our club can navigate challenges and seize opportunities. Let's make this election a reflection of our values and aspirations, setting the stage for a productive and impactful year ahead. Together, we can ensure that the Rotary Club of South Davao continues to thrive and serve with excellence. So, let's embrace this moment with enthusiasm and good spirit as we move forward with the election today!

Best Regards

RCSD 8th Regular Luncheon Meeting...
Classification talk of Rtn. Myrtle Mae Onggao
Nov. 20, 2024, Pinnacle Hotel



Free Cataract Operation...
in partnership with RC Bentleigh Moorabbin Central
and Share Me A Dream Foundation
Nov. 30, 2024, EyeMDs Laser & Surgery Center



Gift Giving & Sharing the Blessings to Assumption College of Davao Grade School for Lumad Children, Toruyan Marilog

In partnership with Share Me a Dream Foundation, Dec. 2, 2024



RCSD Christmas Party ...
Dec. 6, 2024, Pinnacle Hotel







Roster of Members

ROTARIAN

CLASSIFICATION

SPOUSE

ABALLE, DENNIS ROY "Dennis"	Bakeshop & Pastries	Jezel
ABELLANA, HAROLD "Harold"	IT System Integration	Loreine
ABELLANA, RODOLFO "Rudy"	Truck & Equipment Parts Rtng.	Ana
ADORA, AILLEEN JOY "Apple"	Petroleum Products Distribution	Sandro
ALBAERA, VIRGIE "Virgie"	Logistics Service Provider	
ANTIOQUIA, BRYAN JOHN "BJ"	Hospital Representative	Kristine
BUELIS, FELY GRACE "Grace"	RTW Retailing	Sam
CHELLATHURAI, MICHAEL		
GERARD "Michael"	Agriculture	Merelyne
CHUA, JACOB "Jake"	Wholesale Management	Bing
GAHOL, ESTER "Ester"	Architect	
GARCIA, SONJA "Sonja"	Real Estate	
LOZANO, MAXIMO "Max"	Proprietary Leasing	Marselle
MOJARES, LITHO "Tolitz"	Paints Distribution	Robigen
ONGGAO, MARTLE MAE "Mic-Mic"		
SHIMIZUTANI, MIRACEL	Apartment Leasing	Edward
SINGSON, ANNIE FAYE "Annie"	Event Planner	Jocris
SOLIVIO, JACKIE LOUIE "JL"	Motorcycle Dealership	Christine
TABIJE, ISMAEL "Maeng"	Int'l. Dev't. Consulting	Lynda
TAC-AN, JOE MARC "Mackie"		Marites
TAN, RIENA "Reina"		
TOMINES, EXEQUIEL JR "Jay-R"	Technical Engineer	Shiela
TORNO, DON ELECCI "Don"	Financial Consultant	Ely
UY, ARTHUR "Arthur"	Construction Hardware	Kathy
VILLA-ABRILLE, Emmanuel "Noel"	Proprietary Management	

HONORARY MEMBERS:

AQUINO, ABDULAH "Nonoy"
LIM, BRAULIO "Braul"
PARILLA, PABLITO "Billy"
PARTOZA, ANTONIO "Ony"
VILLA-ABRILLE, LEONCIO "Nonoy"