

District 5170 witnessed something very inspiring and exciting on the 13th of November at Quinlan Center.

What was it?

It was the first District Rotary Connect!

An event that brought a ‘Shark Tank’ like atmosphere with friendly “sharks” to give advice/feedback and “presenters’ with their business ideas seeking advice/feedback along with an attentive and enthusiastic audience to listen and possibly participate in the future. All three categories of participants were Rotarians from the district.

Our DG was present along with many members from several clubs and leadership. The idea of the event was to foster the opportunity for connecting and networking and getting help/advice/leads as appropriate from fellow members that one trusts and knows are ethical, while some others could share their expertise and experiences to help guide another fellow member.

Building on the basics of rotary’s foundation.

This was very well received, and there is interest in building on this for the Vocational Service AOS at the district with events distributed over a few geographical areas in the next 6 months and beyond.

This is bringing the basics of Rotary to our members, a reminder of why and how Rotary started. A way to remind members that every time a new member is inducted or there is a member in a club, Vocational Service is inherently present at the club to optimize fellowship and giving! It is that simple. Members join to share something, to do good using their vocations, passions, or interests, and that is what creates VOC AOS!

The inherent, inbuilt AOS is good for growing membership and keeping every club and its members very vibrant.

How do we keep this momentum growing and building on it?

Let us come together to join our district’s LinkedIn page, get know our members better by having member sharing moments, share ideas on building a team to have this AOS front and center in our district, attend and participate in events in the district to grow and help our fellow members with their businesses and passions to do good in the local and global communities.

Your enthusiastic cheer leader,

Vocational Service Chair,

[Padma Chari](#)

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