

The Lighthouse

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Madras - India



President:
Rtn. S. Gunashekar

President Elect:
Rtn. Nandita Krishnan

Immediate Past President
Rtn. George B. Cherian

Secretary:
Rtn. Dr. Arulmozhi Varman

Assistant Secretary:
Rtn. Sathiam Ram

District: 3230 | Inaugurated: 10-05-1929 | Chartered: 19-07-1929 | Charter No.: 3186 | Club No.: 15860

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From the President's Desk



Joint Meetings and District Fellowship

During the current Rotary Year, "Bridging Presidents" from District 3230 have been invited to participate in our Club's proceedings as distinguished guests. The Rotary Club of Madras has warmly welcomed such "Bridging Presidents" and shared fine fellowship with them.

We have received feedback from such "Bridging Presidents" about our meetings and about the fellowship we shared with them. It has been truly a pleasure and privilege to host each of the visiting Rotarians.

Joint Meetings, one in each quarter, with other Rotary Clubs have contributed to increased District Fellowship. We held joint meetings with Rotary Club of Chennai Towers, Rotary Club of Tiruvannamalai and recently, with Rotary Club of Madras East. For April - June 2011, one more joint meeting is being scheduled.

It has been a delight for the Rotary Club of Madras to have been part of the Joint Meetings and we look forward to RCCT and RCME holding such joint meetings year on year. Similarly, we will be glad to visit Rotary Club of Tiruvannamalai for a joint meeting.

Members from our Club have been visiting other Clubs, thus promoting District Fellowships. Rtn. PP. Somu donned the role of goodwill ambassador after his stint as President during 1990 - 91. Many other Members have followed suit by visiting Clubs in the District and in other Districts. Rtn. PP. Indra and other Past Presidents have been traveling extensively as our Goodwill Ambassador in recent times.

"Voice of District" presented by Rotary Club of Chennai Towers and "Paul Harris Cricket Carnival" hosted by Rotary Club of Madras East are laudable events aimed at fostering District Fellowship. Our Club has been participating in both these events in good measure and built strong bridges of friendship in District 3230.

Rotary Club of Madras also participates in annual Tennis, Golf, Bridge and Badminton Tournaments held by other Rotary Clubs in District 3230. "The Grand Old Club" is getting younger by the day participating in all such events!!

Cheers and have a great week ahead!!

Appreciating Modern & Contemporary Indian Art

Artist, Curator and Independent Art Consultant, Sharmistha Ray addressed the Club on the various aspects of understanding and appreciating modern and contemporary Indian Art.

The Speaker began her talk with a quote "Art tells you things you don't know you need to know until you know them". She conveyed that Art appreciation is the knowledge and understanding of the Universal & Timeless qualities that characterize Great Art. She encouraged everyone to make their own assessments about the value of art by understanding the contextual period of the art as well as the styles and techniques used.

Ms. Sharmistha said that form and content are two essential components of Art. Form refers to the arrangement and composition of the artwork whereas the content embodies the ideas of the artist. The effective integration of form and content symbolizes great Art.

Modern Indian Art traces its origins from the early 20th century, starting with the Bengal School during the British Raj.

Contemporary Indian Art refers to art produced over the last 30 years. These productions carry influence from current global trends including new modes of expression.

The Speaker then delved into the 'Economics of Art' and said that the global art market is estimated to be over US \$ 20 billion.

The market value of Art is determined by the artist's brand value, the technical quality, the physical condition and the art's origin. There are no rules to arrive at the price of an



art-piece and it depends solely on one's judgment. Ms. Sharmistha cautioned against getting carried away by the hype around an art-piece.

The Speaker shared her experience that usually very expensive pieces of art come with their share of history and their artists would have a rich cultural legacy that they have created for posterity. According to experts, Da Vinci's Mona Lisa still remains the most priceless art.

Ms. Sharmistha concluded by saying that 'Art is an investment in our future and in ourselves'.

(Photo credit: James Duncan Davidson)

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A matter of minutes

Sgt-at-Arms Rtn.V.V.Mohindra collared President S.Gunashekar who called the joint meeting of the RCM and RCM East to order, followed by a silent invocation.

President expressed grief and offered condolences to the people of Japan who bore the brunt of the Tsunami disaster that hit the Northeast coast of Japan and has caused an unprecedented state of emergency. He said that RI has created a fund called the Rotary Japan and a specific island disaster recovery fund. He encouraged Rotarians to contribute and requested them to contact PP. Gopi and himself. A minute silence was observed by all present.

The minutes of 8th March'11 meeting was then duly confirmed.

President welcomed the Speaker of the day Mrs. Sharmishta Ray, Art Consultant. President welcomed guests introduced by members, Probuc club members.

President welcomed - Pres. K. Rajendran & Secretary Jayanthi Govindan & members of RCM



foundation conducted the first Bridge tournament on 6th March'11. Prizes were won by Rtn. P. S. Santhanam and his partner Satish and also by Rtn. Siva Subramaniam and himself.

Rtn.A.Sankaranarayanan said that as announced earlier the visit to the Ford Motors

bank in setting up a public blood bank.

Pres. Rajendran concluded by drawing upon Pres. Guna's theme – "Our participation in this joint meeting has certainly energized us and will help us in transforming the lives of poor and needy." He handed over a cheque for Rs.10,000 to Pres. Guna as their club's contribution to be used for any one of RCM's projects.

Pres Guna thanked for RCM East for their fine gesture and said that RCM East is one of the most vibrant clubs in our district and their outstanding program is the Paul Harris Cricket Carnival.

Secretary Dr. Arulmozhi Varman announced that the next weekly meeting will be an evening dinner meeting to coincide with the Governor's visit to our Club.

Secretary Dr. Arul said that the various fund raising efforts of the Club have resulted in contributions to the tune of Rs. 35 Lakhs to RCM Charitable Trust. He said that Ace Golfer Jyoti Randhawa, after hearing about our projects has come forward to donate Rs.1 Lac, a great gesture that we have to appreciate. Through the good offices of Rtn. Sanjay Tulyan, RCM will be one of the beneficiaries at the auction during Art Chennai.

Rtn.Hemant Chordia introduced the Guest Speaker Ms.Sharmishta Ray.

President Gunashekar presented a memento and 'A Timeless Legacy' book to the Speaker and to President Rajendran of RCM East.

Rtn. Secretary Jayanthi Govindan of RCM East proposed the vote of thanks.

The meeting was then declared closed.



East and thanked them for accepting our invitation to have a joint meeting.

President Rajendran & Pres. Gunashekar extended birthday and anniversary wishes to the Rotarians celebrating this week and the cake was cut amidst applause.

Rtn.M.Srinivasan reported on the extremely successful 4th edition of Chennai Corporate Golf Challenge Tournament. President said that it was a phenomenal tournament and commended Rtn. Srinivasan for his outstanding job in organizing the event. A huge round of applause was given by all present.

Rtn. Mukund Subramanian, Chair - Sports informed that the Rotary President leading

plant will be on 19th March'11.

Rtn. President Rajendran on behalf of RCM East thanked RCM for initiating this joint meeting that was taking place after 26 years. He applauded the projects done by RCM. He commended the uniqueness of RCM and its efforts in recognizing the needs of the society & fulfilling them.

Pres. Rajendran briefly spoke about RCM East, a 26 years old club with 104 active members, and its various commendable activities such as a community college and winners bakery. This year they are taking initiative for 2 major projects - adoption of Kannagi Nagar – a slum resettlement colony with a population of more than 60,000 people. It is also proposed to partner Jeevan blood



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WITH BEST COMPLIMENTS

Club activities roundup

Chennai Corporates Tee Up for a Cause

The 4th edition of Chennai Corporate Golf Challenge went off very well on the 12th morning at MGC, Guindy. This year we had over 90 entries with over 45 corporates being represented, from different sectors. We are hoping that in the years ahead we will expand the horizon to bring in golfers from other cities like Coimbatore and Bangalore.



Jyoti Randhawa was our guest for this event. As you all know he is one of Asia's top golfer. He played a round of golf with a select three ball and showed why he is right there at the top. Later on, around noon he displayed his golfing skills at the golf course to the envy of every avid golfer when he conducted a short but very informative clinic which was enjoyed by one and all.

Evening was filled with fun, music and

entertainment. There was a raffle and an auction of very special golf items signed by Jyoti Randhawa. All the golfers enjoyed the evening with the band from Kerala playing music from the 70's and 80's late into the night.

All this would not have been possible but for the overwhelming support that poured in from Rotarians with spontaneity to my email request and it is my duty to recognize each and every one of them here.

The list is in no particular order -

- Rotarians**
 Gunashekar
 Arulmozhi Varman
 Ravi Katari
 Hemant Chordia
 Nimish Tolia
 M.S. Nagarajan
 K. Krishnan
 Gowri Shanker
 Ashok Bajaj
 Mahita &
 Suresh Jaganathan
 Dr. Vijayabharathi
 Mahendra Parmar
 Govindachari
 Pratap Kumar
 P.B. Prasad &
 Saloni Prasad
 Srinath Yeshwanth
 Harish Murthi
 J. B. Kamdar
 Nandita Krishnan
 N. Ramachandran
 A.V.M. Balu
 Udaynarayanan
 G. S. K. Masud
 Sanjay Tulsyan



- Sunjae Sharma
 Vijay Shrikent
 Anand Rengaswamy
 Rajenderan
 Rajendran
 Sabhanayagam
 Hiren Shah
 A.K. Rajkumar
 Kukillaya
 Suresh Kumar
 Ramakanth Akula
 K. K. Raman
 Vivek Harinarayan
 Archana Sanjay
 George Cherian
 Ashok Thakkar
 Ravindran
 Jayshree Sridhar
 Sonika Jain
 Mahmud Jamal
 Paul Jacob
 Raghunath
 JRK
 V.S.Narasimhan &
 Alok Bhargava

and all the golfers of our club who registered and played for a cause

- 1 Mahendra Dadha
- 2 J. Venkatramana
- 3 Verghese Chummar
- 4 Ashok Bajaj

- 5 Sathiaran Ram
- 6 B.G. Kukillaya
- 7 Arjun Ananth
- 8 Karim Sait
- 9 Kapil Chitale
- 10 Jacob Kurian
- 11 Gowrishanker
- 12 Alok Bhargava &
- 13 JRK

Also wish to thank all the other golfers who signed up for the event and took part in this years event. Special thanks to my friend Mr. Chanderswamy of Gillette who sent a cheque for Rs 5,000 as his contribution towards our clubs projects even though he could not play the tournament due to travel engagements. A big thank you to Ian from Sydney who did a fantastic job with the auction that evening.

A very special thank you to Rtn. Balu for sponsoring my son Shivrane Srinivasan to play alongside Jyoti Randhawa, which was a very good learning experience for him.

Snippets from the past

◆ RTN. RITA CHAUDHURI

ROTARY NAGAR

Way back in 1943, our Club embarked on a relationship with a slum where right behind the beautiful Queen Mary's College, we found a world of dying children, in varying stages of malnutrition. Saving these children became the Club's mission and under President W. P. Blakesley, the Club adopted the slum and named this Rotary Nagar. Across the 60 plus years of this relationship, our Club found itself committed not just to the children, but to making the slum a healthy living place. Today, the slum has been transformed into houses built of brick & concrete on neatly paved streets with clean storm water drains, leading to a Community Hall. Regular job creation training activities are personally supervised by a dedicated group of our Club Members who have generously given time & effort to keep this long relationship alive and productive.

To roundup

It has been a fantastic team effort and a meticulously planned event and I am happy to be a part of the team that consisted of Guna, Arul, Nimish, Ravi, Anand, Hemant, Balu, Paul, Sanjay, Mahita, Nandita, Raj, MSN & Prasanna.

Thank you!

~ Rtn. M. Srinivasan,

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Know your Rotarian Club CORNER



Rtn. Dr. K. Rajan

Q WHEN DID REALIZE THAT YOU WANT TO CHOOSE MEDICINE AS A PROFESSION?

A The day I started getting good ranks in school (from std VII onwards) my father decided I am going to be a doctor

Q ANY DOCTORS IN THE FAMILY WHO INSPIRED YOU?

A First in my family though I am married into a family full of doctors

Q WHEN & WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT ROTARY?

A When I was working in Apollo Hospital, Prof. Gajaraj told me all about it and he was my proposer also.

Q WHAT ARE YOUR SPECIAL MEMORIES OF YOUR TWINS SHYAM & POORNIMA?

A Every single day from the time they were born especially the early days when I was awake in the nights to take care of them. Selvi and I had a deal she will take care of them during day and in the nights it is my turn. I can proudly say that I could match any mother or nurse in changing nappies, mixing milk or giving the kids a bath. Hope to do that to the grandchildren as well.

Q HOW DID SELVI GET INVOLVED IN THE BUSINESS OF HERBAL PRODUCTS?

A Most the products she makes are done keeping the well being of children in mind. Some were given to her by word of mouth from her grandmother

Q AS THE HONORARY SECRETARY 2011-12, WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR OUR CLUB?

A Enjoy rotary, the people and the fellowship. Together we can achieve a lot.

~ Ann. Padmavathy

Birthday

- Rtn.Dr.Krishna Hande - 24th March
- Rtn.PDG.R.Ramakrishnan - 26th March
- Rtn.V.M.Sivasubramanian - 27th March
- Rtn.Thomas Philip - 28th March
- Rtn.K.Jayaramakrishnan - 24th March

Wedding Anniversary

- 22nd March
- Rtn.PP.V.Ganesan - Ann.Jaya
- Rtn.P.S.Santhanam - Ann.Nirmala
- Rtn.Rajendran Sabanayagam - 23rd March
- Ann.Renuka
- Rtn.Mahitha Suresh - 27th March
- Spouse Suresh Jagannathan
- Rtn.Dr.Srinath Yeshwanth - 28th March
- Ann.Anitha

Sunshine

PP.Ravi Katari - Rs.1001

Donation

RCM East - Rs.10,000

Thank You

We acknowledge with gratitude the contribution of Rtn. G. Ravindran for providing 150 kilos each of Atta and Rava for 12 months to the Boys Town Society.

ROTARY QUOTE

“The spirit of Rotary is not exclusive; it expands. It is not local, it is universal. It is the wish to understand and be understood, to see virtues rather than faults in others, to find what we have in common rather than what divides us.”
— Address to 1957 Rotary Convention, Lucerne, Switzerland.

OBITUARY

With deep regret and sorrow we announce the sad demise of Mrs. Nanjappa, beloved mother of Rtn. Usha Umapathi, at Bengaluru on Mar 14, 2011. Our heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

Forth-coming events

Club Assembly - 10:30 am Tue Mar 22, 2011 at Wallajah Room, Taj Connemara



Weekly meeting at 7:00 pm
Tue Mar 22, 2011
at the Ball Room
Taj Connemara –
Governor's Visit.

This will be followed by a full Club fellowship

The regular weekly meeting on Tue Mar 22, 2011 at 1:00 pm stands CANCELLED

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Rtn. Sathiaran Ram, Rtn. Rita Chaudhuri, Rtn. Mahita Suresh, Rtn. Sandhya Sridhar, Ann.Padmavathy Gunashekar, Ann.Soundarya Ramji, Ann. Tanuja Paul, Ann Sujata Tarakesan, Mr. P S Sridharan

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