



RCBN

# INSPIRATION

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Bombay North



RI President Kalyan Banerjee

DG Vijay Jalan

Pres: Ajeet Arenja

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

July 2011



**My dear RCBN family,**

Greetings to my fellow members and anes.

Welcome to the new Rotary year, the new venue, some new

faces and hopefully many more new faces over time. As I take on this responsibility, I must share my mixed feelings.

On the one hand, one sees a huge task ahead; keeping a focus on Rotary curtailing other normal and routine activities in personal and business life and above all the year ahead looks demanding and LONG.

On the other hand with all the preparations started well over a year prior, attending meetings and meetings, meet and greet sessions, pre pets and pets, assembly and training sessions; special sessions with seniors seeking guidance, forming teams, studying & planning new ideas and projects, keeping balance, taking on targets and committing to new projects, working beyond your resources, hoping to achieve the planned whilst smoothly attending to work or personal life -for all this just the Year ahead seems too SHORT.

I guess this is the beauty of Rotary- you get led, you lead and continue to follow with unending task at hand putting away your egos; you work with

people who are not your subordinates and above all keep a balance whilst adding service through Rotary without compromising on normal life.

At the outset I want to thank you for your unanimous support to accept the change of venue and timings. Though the majority have happily supported the shift for their own convenience, our sincere appreciation of select few who have compromised with a request to continue to view the positive intention. I reproduce a part of the message from PP Ravindra taken from the opening page of our website, " This year I have put thrust on membership growth and we should be able to increase our membership to 100 plus. My own efforts are on and we need support from all of you. Let us all extend your helping hand in bringing one member each. " This is not a co-incidence but a fact that all of us whoever takes the turn to lead the club has the same basic concerns. I have made several efforts in my one to one communication with you all highlighting the need to improve our numbers with young and quality members who in turn will be able to undertake quality service projects befitting our heritage whilst providing a fresh vigour to the fellowship-the mainstay to attract the like minded. My team shall actively continue to hound you to make gains as also to solicit attention of the spouses.

In his agenda for the year Kalyan Bannerjee says "two areas where we

shall need to constantly revisit our goals are first finding more Rotarians to do the work of Rotary. We must focus on getting newer, younge, current generation, You tube and Facebook savvy Rotarians".

As for our goals for the year, we have prepared a "blue book" to be accepted and executed by the respective service chair and his team, which shall be communicated shortly. To celebrate the golden jubilee year and to generally foster fellowship, our chairman Vijay Lazarus promises to match your enthusiasm. He is planning 2 meets a month covering all areas of entertainment -musicals and concerts, theatre and movies, bar nights and karaoke, day picnics and out station trips to Goa, Jodhpur and Bangkok. With dynamic Ashok Ajmera to execute and a past president spouse to take ownership as hostess for each month in rotation, we are looking forward to a fun filled year ahead. Quoting RIP Kalyan again "as we get ready to commit a precious year of our lives to Rotary, let us clearly understand that each one of us has a part to play, to perform, to deliver."

As we feel proud of the rich tributes paid to The Rotary Club of Bombay North by the district and Rotary international at the installation, holding our heads high amongst 120 odd clubs, let's resolve to work in unison befitting RCBN heritage and legacy. Let's join hands for a great year ahead.

Best wishes.

**Ajeet**

## Our World leader – Rtn. Kalyan Banerjee – Rotary International President

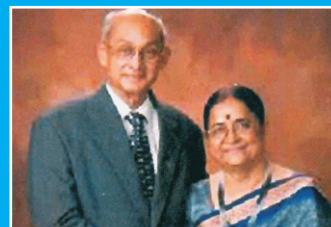
**R**I President Kalyan Banerjee, a member of the Rotary Club of Vapi, Gujarat, India since 1972, is the third Indian to service as RI president. Mr. Banerjee is a director of United Phosphorus Limited, the largest agrochemical manufacturer in India, and the chair of United Phosphorus (Bangladesh) Limited. He is a member of the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers and the American Chemical Society, a past president of the Vapi Industries Association and a former chair of the Gujarat chapter of the Confederation of Indian Industry. He

earned a degree in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in 1964.

Mr. Banerjee has served Rotary as a RI Director, Rotary Foundation Trustee committee and task force chair, International Assembly group discussion leader, RI President's Representative and as District Governor of RI District 3060. He has also served as chair of the South East Asia Regional Polio Plus Committee and as a member of International Polio Plus Committee for many years. Mr. Banerjee is a Major donor, Benefactor and Bequest Society Members. In

recognition of his services, he has been awarded TRF's

Citation for Meritorious Service. Mr. Banerjee's better half Binota is a social worker and an Inner Wheel Club member. The couple are blessed with two children and four grand children.



## Our District Governor – Rtn. Vijay Jalan – from our own Club

**A** man who believed in the true word of being an entrepreneur, Vijay ventured out on his own into the exports business and started Intercargo – one of Mumbai's most respected logistic management units, having interest in freight forwarding, shipping, transport and warehousing. Vijay has been the youngest President of the Bombay Management Association and also served as the Western Regional Chairman of the All India Management Association. He has also served as part president of the Indo Belgium Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce.

Vijay was the President of our Club in 1994-95. He has served District 3140 in various capacities across the spectrum

of Rotary services. He is still remembered for convening the Multidistrict Rotaract conference in 1989. He has served our District as faculty convener and four leader of ICF, Governor's special aide, District Secretary, Avenue Chair and Assistant Governor. Vijay is a major donor to The Rotary Foundation. He has received the Exemplary Services Award, Rotary Foundation Services Award and Distinguished Service Award. He along with his family are members of the Paul Harris Society. Vijay's involvement at the community level include being a founder trustee of a school for Adivasis in a rural area and a major donor at an Old-age home in Nerul. Vijay's spouse Kiran is a

MA in Philosophy, past president and Trustee of Archana Trust Suburban, an effective women's NGO. Their daughter Vrinda, an MBA from New York University, USA is working with a pharmaceutical multinational while son Siddharth, an I.T. Engineer, works with a multinational advertising agency.



## Our new President for 2011-12 - Rtn. Ajeet Arenja

**A**jeet is a serial entrepreneur with a track record of over 35 years of successfully creating and building diverse businesses. His areas of domain expertise include travel, jewellery, real estate and wellness. He has retained a lifelong passion for farming and the wellbeing of rural communities and continues to serve the development of several villages through various initiatives.

Hailing from a family with a strong tradition and legacy of entrepreneurship and social service, Ajeet's ancestral roots were in erstwhile Afghanistan where he spent several years himself

and was actively involved in promoting relations between India and Afghanistan through his participation in forums including the Indian Chamber of Commerce and the Association of Indian Traders. He did his schooling at The Manor House, St George's College, Mussourie and his B.Sc (Agri) from Pune University.

Through all his professional and personal endeavours, Ajeet's strength and support system has been his wife, Nitika. They have 2 sons, Nithiij and Anuj who are married to Angellina and Ritika respectively. They are also the proud grandparents of Avyayaraj, Navyana and

Ahana. The entire family is steeped in Rotary culture - Nitika and Anuj are members of the Rotary Club of Bombay. He has a passion for devotional music and released an album titled Shukrana three years ago.





## RI PRESIDENT KALYAN BANERJEE'S MESSAGE

Our first emphasis for the year will be family. Good families lead to good neighbourhoods, and good neighbourhoods build good communities. Good communities make great nations. For there to be a strong family, there must first be a strong and safe home. Only then can there be health and hope and harmony within its walls. And then, we start looking at safe housing, at water and sanitation, at health care, at all the issues affecting mothers and children.

Our second emphasis is to build on what we do well, on continuity. There are so many things we are indeed good at: working for clean, safe water; spreading literacy; working in so many ways with the New Generations, our youth, in our newest Avenue of Service and assisting them to become the leaders of tomorrow. Of course, we stay focused on eradicating polio. We must continue to work with our strategic plan – expand on it, reinforce it, and take it to the next level. We must support The Rotary Foundation on its Future Vision Plan.

Our third emphasis will be change, and we start by being the change we wish to see in the world ourselves. If we wish for peace, we start by living in peace ourselves, in our homes and in our communities. If we wish environmental degradation to stop, if we wish to reduce child mortality or to prevent hunger, we must be the instrument of that change – and recognize that it must start within us, with each of us.

To bring about the changes, we will need to think out of the box. We need to explore the possibilities of working together with others similarly engaged as we are. Rotary and the United Nations form a symbiotic relationship. We can take this forward by our engagement with the Millennium Development Goals, striving to meet the needs of our communities. The newly approved but well-tested Rotarian Action Groups – working in areas such as safe water,

microcredit, AIDS prevention, or literacy – will significantly strengthen our arsenal of weapons to serve both effectively and efficiently. We are in Rotary to change the world, for why else would we be Rotarians? We believe our future will be better than the past.

Two areas where we shall need to constantly revisit our goals are first, finding more Rotarians to do the work of Rotary. We must focus on getting newer, younger, current-generation, You Tube- and Facebook-savvy Rotarians. And the other area we must look at is telling well the story of Rotary to the world. As you go ahead, you will find that what really matters is just your willingness to meet the need, and not the size of the project. The difficult jobs can be done right now. The impossible may take just a bit longer. Along with the big things, let's not ever forget the small gestures that change lives. And you will then see that almost everyone will smile back. Laugh and the world laughs with you.

Let's make our year, in addition to all that we do, a year of laughter and joy and happiness, with at least three smiles each per Rotarian and spouse every day. That's eight million smiles daily. In this life, you will find we may not always be able to do great things. But we can always do small things, with great love. As we get ready to commit a precious year of our lives to Rotary, let us clearly understand that each one of us has a part to play, to perform, to deliver. We cannot simply say that we shall try our best. We need to commit ourselves absolutely, fully, and say what I must do shall indeed be done. Each one of you will succeed because the resolve and strength to do this – to do anything – comes from within yourselves. In order to achieve anything in this world, a person has to use all the resources he can draw on.

The only place to start is with ourselves and within ourselves. And the questions we need to ask ourselves are: Why am I here? Why are you here? It is because we all seek a sense of fulfillment

in life, and the responsibilities we are about to take up are a part of that fulfillment.

To achieve the fulfillment, we have to find harmony between our inner self and the outer self; the inner dimensions are our desires, our will, our spirit, and our outer dimension is the action we take and the image we create. That is why I am asking you to reach within and unleash your inner power and then use it to embrace everything and everyone around you. "First reach within yourself, and then move on confidently, firmly, toward the targets you have set for yourselves. Discover yourself, develop the strengths within you, and then unhesitatingly, unflinchingly, go forth and encircle the world, to embrace humanity. And that, my brothers and sisters in Rotary, is going to be our theme for our year:

**"Reach Within to Embrace Humanity"**



**Reach within to Embrace Humanity**



## OUR CLUB'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2011/12

<b>President</b>	<b>Ajeet Arenja</b>
<b>President Elect</b>	<b>Abbas Arsiwalla</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Asim Nagree</b>
<b>Sergeant at Arms</b>	<b>Anwar Haveliwalla</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Ashok Kadakia</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Vipin Shah</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Padam Sacheti</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Ashutosh Palep</b>

<b>Immediate Past President</b>	<b>Ravindra Somani</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Mahendra Thacker</b>
<b>Joint Secretary</b>	<b>Saif Attar</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Suhit Jhaveri</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Quresh Maskati</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Shishir Desai</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Suresh Mittal</b>
<b>Director</b>	<b>Akshay Shah</b>

## OUR CLUB'S COMMITTEES FOR 2011/12

President's Note – Please select your area of interest and get in touch with the Chair mentioned below to help further the Club's activities

### 1. Club Administration – Director – Abbas Arsiwala

Sub-Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
Programme	Akshay Shah	Ashok Kadakia
Fellowship	Vijay Lazarus	Ashok Ajmera
Bulletin	Akshay Shah	Sultan Fazalbhoy
Website	Upendra Kulkarni	Ashok Kadakia

### 2. Service and Projects – Director – Ashutosh Palep

Sub-Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
New Projects & Food Security	Mahendra Thacker	Gautam Gandhi
Vocational	Dinaz Delvadawalla	NA
Career Guidance	Deepak Pinge	NA
Vocational Awards	Ashok Ajmera	NA
Educational	Soni Soni	NA
International	Mahendra Kothari	Gulab Mewani
Medical – Skin Bank	Satya Agarwala	NA
Medical – General	Rajendra Agarwala	NA
Worli Welfare Centre	Sakina Mamaji	Mandar Tamhe

### 3. Membership – Director – Quresh Maskati

Sub-Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
Development	Ashok Ajmera	
Membership	Shyam Bulchandani	
Classification	Mahendra Kothari	
Governance	Shishir Desai	
Rotary Information	Babulal Todi	
Trainer	Zainul Quettawalla	
Fireside	Saifuddin Saria	
New Members Felicitation	Chandru Thadani	Anwar Haveliwalla
Attendance	Paresh Jhaveri	

### 4. Public Relations - Director – Ashok Kadakia

Sub-Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
Public Relations	Firoz Kachwalla	Ashok Ajmera

### Others

Sub-Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
Fund Raising	Habil Khorakiwalla	Vipin Shah
New Generation	Abbas Arsiwalla	NA
Rotaract/Interact	Suhit Jhaveri	Deepak Pinge/ Gulab Mewani

### 5. Foundation - Director – Vipin Shah

Sub-Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
The Rotary Foundation	Suresh Gandhi	

**Editors Note - Fifty years is a long time in an institutions history.  
We are reproducing a couple of articles from our members that bring out  
the history of the institution**

## **Down Memory Lane by PDG Dr. Badar Maskati**

I joined Rotary in 1964, 2 years after our club was born. It was not easy to get invited to Rotary in those days. PP Hooseni Khorakiwala invited me – incidentally he also preceded me as president of RCBN by a year. I remember him getting Monginis to bake a huge cake for one of our charter nights - some 20 feet long, getting into the record books!

PP Babulal Todi came to KEM Hospital Eye Department on 3 occasions, incognito, to observe me examining and treating patients – checking up on my competence as well as temperament, before I was permitted to join. In those days, you had to stay or work within the club territorial boundaries.. RI was very strict. In fact, our club was dragged to court by a member who had pretended to stay at Dadar, only for purposes of fulfilling the address requirement of our club, while actually staying outside club territory. Ultimately we won the case. However, the man refused to quit RCBN, saying he would resign only if PRID Soli Pavri did the same. Soli readily agreed. They both resigned and Soli immediately rejoined RCBN! Hard to imagine that remaining a member of RCBN was worth a court battle!

Soli, our charter President was loaned to us by Bombay club. He went on to lead our club for 2 years and later

rose to be DG and RI Director. As per rules he could have chosen to rejoin Bombay Club after our club was formed. However, during my year as President, I had to ask a couple of captains of industry who were RCBN members to resign as they were spending more time attending Bombay Club as visiting Rotarians, than the home club, thus violating the rule of attending 30% meetings of the home club! Attendance rules were enforced very strictly. We were always a 100 plus member club – therefore the current strength of only 80 is very disturbing.

Our annual dues were around Rs.1500/-. We met at Worli dairy for many years and then moved to various venues in our club territory, such as Nehru Planetarium, Jewel of India, Jade Garden, Nehru Science Centre and Poonam Hotel at Worli before moving out of the area.

I was loaned the classification of “Ophthalmology” and soon after joining we started doing cataract and squint surgical camps all over the state of Maharashtra and beyond. RCBN was very supportive. We did a camp every year for 13 years in conjunction with the RC Dombivali, in Dombivali - always the weekend prior to the district conference and wiped out cataract blindness from the adivasi population around Dombivali, doing over 100 cases each camp.

One installation meeting I will never forget is that of the late Ram Batra (he later went on to be Mumbai's sheriff). It was at NSCI and there was such heavy rains that we had no way of going home.. many spent the night in their cars! Another was that of Quresh. Ramesh Khanna was the DG and he had requested clubs to not have formal installations. So RCBN enacted the coronation of Shivaji at the Y.B.Chavan auditorium, complete with authentic costumes and elaborate make-up. It took the audience a while to realise that Shivaji and wife on stage were the club's first couple! Many of our stalwarts left us to start a Rotary club in heaven; the late Kakubhai Toprani and Jadish Mittra on the eve of their taking over as president; Kirti Vyas and Soli Pavri, the gentleman teachers, Keki Hathi of Godrej, the doyen of HR Ranjan Bannerjee, senior doctors, K.K.Datey, B.N.Purandare, Yahya Kachwala, R.K.Shah (the dramatist par excellence). However, life and Rotary goes on and I am sure RCBN too will make great strides in our Golden Jubilee year and continue to serve the community as we have always done, with zest and humility.

## Speech of District Governer Sudarsanam Maddi delivered to the Club on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1962 at 9.30 p.m. at NSCI

It is now my pleasant duty and proud privilege, amidst joy, to welcome **Rotary Club of Bombay North into the MEMBERSHIP OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL.**

I congratulate President Soli Pavri and Secretary Parikh, on the selection as first key officers. The birth of a new baby is a very significant event. So also a birth of a New Rotary Club is a very significant event – we must be aware that science has not erased out infantile casualty or infantile sickness of all kinds. Nevertheless, I feel sure that under the dynamic leadership of your President, Bombay North has a tremendous future. Please see that the foundation of the Club continues to remain strong, that the membership is always kept well informed and that you continue to draw gradually upon the forty available classifications, so as to strengthen your club and make it a true cross section of your community. It will be a wise move to keep in touch with your sponsor club and Group Representative.

Small or big, your club is a most important member of our worldwide organization, extending into 128 Countries and geographical regions with a total membership of over 526,500. As you know, every Rotarian is privileged to attend a regular meeting of any other club, in any part of the world. Though young, you already had a flying start – your Bulletin is revealing your inner spirit of enthusiasm. The hosting

of a Rotary Information Institute, in a very successful manner, is another example of the determined interest of your members, in this great ROTARY MOVEMENT.

May I remind you, fellow Rotarians, the message of our President Nitish Chandra Laharry “Kindle the spark within” – FOR THAT is the Power that lights our Path to service. Every man has within him the latent desire to serve the MAN – kind and it will be for us to spark this latency into a world enveloping flame. Rotary was started by Paul P.Harris for fellowship during 1905 and later the ideal of service was adopted by Rotary International. Rotary Clubs must develop “from its very base upwards to its climax of the creation of world fellowship”. In other words, our viewpoint must be international brotherhood. When we cultivate this view, the oneness of a mankind is easily appreciated and realized by everybody. May I request you, the leaders of various avocations, professions, trade and industry, to contribute at least one project substantially this year so that the community may remember you through it, for a long time. Happily enough PRESIDENT NITISH wants us to concentrate on youth service. It will educate the youth and will create good impression for Rotary in their tender minds. Thus, we can make Rotary permanent. If youth appreciate Rotary, we create our successors. Thus, this world organization will be safe in right

hands.

The Challenge of the future is to move faster along the four avenues of ROTARY SERVICE and especially towards the goal of International understanding. Each Rotarian must accept his personal challenge: to strengthen club service, for this is the foundation of all service; to serve his community more effectively so that his town or city will become an excellent place in which to live and to explore all possible means to increase, International understanding for Peace and Goodwill.

President Soli Pavri, I now present you Charter of admission into this fold of Rotary International and congratulate you and your fellow members on having a great distinction of being a Charter members of your Club, and I wish you all every success and rewarding experience of accomplishing something worth while towards promoting objects of ROTARY.

In conclusion, I express my gratitude to the Members of Bombay North Rotary Club for this wonderful opportunity, afforded to me this evening.



Contributed by PP Raman Patel through Rtn Babulal Todi)

## News from our Rotary members

- Our Club is now a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club. We salute Rtn. Suresh Gandhi for championing this cause and to Vijay Jalan, Suresh Gandhi, Anjana Gandhi, Quresh Maskati, Dinesh Toprani, Nick Israni and Vipin Shah who agreed to redeem their credits for members that had not contributed to make certain that we are all contributions to The Rotary Foundation.
- Rtn Suresh Gandhi has been appointed as a new trustee in the Rotary Club of Bombay North Charity Trust to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rtn. Harshad Barot.
- The Birth centenary of Late Shri M.M. Pinge, father of Rtn. Deepak Pinge was celebrated in Mumbai on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Late Pinge was a pioneer in the field of private coaching institutions and founded Pine's Tuition Classes in 1945. He was the co-founder of Shushrush, a hospital in Dadar. A free cardiology camp is conducted in his memory at the hospital every year. Late Pinge was the President of the Satya Sai Seva organization in Maharashtra and was also a leading horticulturist. To honour his social commitments, the State Government has named a chowk near Shivaji Park maidan after him.
- Rtn Dipak Himmatsingka's grand daughter Miss Devanshi Kanoj, has scored 95% aggregate in her 12<sup>th</sup> standard Board Exams from La Martineire School, Kolkata and has topped her school rankings. **Congratulations to Devanshi! We are all proud of you.**



## THE FOUR WAY TEST – Of the things we think, say or do.

1. Is it TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOOD-WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

## BIRTHDAYS/WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY TO 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

Zain Quettawalla	8 <sup>th</sup> July
Chandrakant Hattangadi	20 <sup>th</sup> July
Dr. Gulab Mewani	20 <sup>th</sup> July
Ravi Marphatia	27 <sup>th</sup> July
Vipin Shah	1 <sup>st</sup> August
Suhit Jhaveri	10 <sup>th</sup> August
Padam Sacheti	15 <sup>th</sup> August
Soni Anal Soni	15 <sup>th</sup> August

Sajeda Quresh Maskati	1 <sup>st</sup> July
Rajalaxmi Raghavan Ayyangar	8 <sup>th</sup> July
Shakuntala Narayan Chhabria	12 <sup>th</sup> July
Shirley Vijay Lazarus	14 <sup>th</sup> July
Devyani Upendra Kulkarni	16 <sup>th</sup> July
Nasherman Anwar Havelivala	23 <sup>rd</sup> July
Mala Mahendra Kothari	7 <sup>th</sup> August
Shabnam Abbas Lehry	9 <sup>th</sup> August
Hanmanthrao and Lalita Palep	12 <sup>th</sup> July

**“Do consider contributing whatever you feel appropriate on your birthdays and wedding anniversaries to "Rotary Club of Bombay North Charity Trust." Your contribution will go a long way in our doing the Services to the community, we serve – Ajeet**



## MASKATI CORNER

- A dying Rtn. told his wife "I would like by Rtn. friends to be my coffin bearers" "What?" retorted his wife.. "you have hardly attended Rotary meetings or taken active part in Rotary and yet you want them to fulfil your last wish". The dying Rtn replied "Exactly.. If they have carried me this far, they may as well carry me to my last journey."
- Two octogenarian Rtn's were so much addicted to Rotary that one day they were discussing if there were Rotary clubs in heaven and if there are, how do we know they exist? One of them got a bright idea and told his colleague that who ever goes up first should come in the dream of the other and tell him about it. A few days later, one of the Rtn. passed away and truly enough he came in the dream of his colleague and said "this is good news and bad news." The other Rtn. said "tell me the good news first" and he said "There are Rotary Clubs in heaven and I am attending regularly. "Now tell me the bad news" and he said "You are the speaker next week."

## FROM THE EDITORS DESK

**A**s I take on the editorial duties from the ever capable Rtn. Quresh, it gives me great pleasure to once again express my thoughts before all of you. As you all know, we are now in our Golden Jubilee Year. For some of our members who have lived this entire journey and for several who have been part of more than half the journey, the excitement of being in the 50<sup>th</sup> year is growing.

Over the past several months, there have been some life inspiring stories that I have read and witnessed as well. Just a week back, I happen to attend the celebration of the patriarch of the Indian Rubber Industry on the commencement of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was amazing to see him being so active and still being the chairman of a listed company. When the promoter called me the next day to thank me for coming, I told him that I am in gratitude to you for having me be a part of this inspirational event.

A 10-year-old boy decided to study judo despite the fact that he had lost his left arm in a devastating car accident. The boy began lessons with an old Japanese judo master. The boy was

doing well, so he couldn't understand why, after three months of training the master had taught him only one move.

"Sensei," the boy finally said, "Shouldn't I be learning more moves?". "This is the only move you know, but this is the only move you'll ever need to know," the sensei replied. Not quite understanding, but believing in his teacher, the boy kept training. Several months later, the sensei took the boy to his first tournament. Surprising himself, the boy easily won his first two matches. The third match proved to be more difficult, but after some time, his opponent became impatient and charged; the boy deftly used his one move to win the match. Still amazed by his success, the boy was now in the finals. This time, his opponent was bigger, stronger, and more experienced. For a while, the boy appeared to be overmatched. Concerned that the boy might get hurt, the referee called a time-out. He was about to stop the match when the sensei intervened. "No," the sensei insisted, "Let him continue." Soon after the match resumed, his opponent made a critical mistake: he dropped his

guard. Instantly, the boy used his move to pin him. The boy had won the match and the tournament. He was the champion. On the way home, the boy and sensei reviewed every move in each and every match. Then the boy summoned the courage to ask what was really on his mind.

"Sensei, how did I win the tournament with only one move?" "You won for two reasons," the sensei answered. "First, you've almost mastered one of the most difficult throws in all of judo. And second, the only known defense for that move is for your opponent to grab your left arm." The boy's biggest weakness had become his biggest strength. Unconsciously we all seem to compare our "weaknesses" with the "strengths" of others and fall victim to incompleteness in ourselves. Let us learn to concentrate on our strengths and be a winner in life. In the same way let us make sure we leverage our strengths at RCBN and be a winner in our 50<sup>th</sup> year of existence. Till next time

Yours in Rotary  
**Akshay**

# THIS ISSUE IS SPONSORED BY RTN. NICK ISRANI