



RCBN

INSPIRATION

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RI President Kalyan Banerjee

DG Vijay Jalan

Pres: Ajeet Arenja

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



My dear fellow Rotarians, Seasons Greetings as we move on from Navratra, Dussera, Diwali celebrations and prepare for Eid.

The countdown for DISCON has begun with Chairman Vijay Lazarus going full steam with his team, meticulously making all round arrangements. Weekly meetings are being held with the DISCON team deliberating on the two important "Ss"-Sponsors and Speakers, flow of events, entertainment etc. The plan is ambitious and so is the enthusiasm and confidence. Secretary Gautam sends out a weekly report on room and conference registrations, whilst sales are being followed by Sanjay assisted by Quresh, Firoz and Pradip to motivate larger representation from SOBO clubs leaving Mahendra K to fill the coffers, whilst more serious thinking on planning and choice of speakers is being done through by Habil and Lalit. All in all it is going as per plans except that our own club registration has not reached the desired numbers and that calls for yet another appeal to all for a 100% registration to see your own standing in the district and feel proud of putting up a world class show.

On projects front, a team of "Farmer Friends" consisting of and led by Mahendra Thakkar, Abbas, spirited Mandar, Asim and yours truly

went trekking to the Wadis (Adivasi Villages) of Matheran where we are to provide basic amenities to 11 wadis. The scope of work to be carried out for the three years was planned to provide solar lighting, water, balwadis, financial support to augment agricultural produce and regular medical care. While the rest is under preparation, medical camp is being arranged by Ashutosh with all the vital inputs from our Doctors, Sonal & Rajendra, Quresh, Satya and overall assisted by Mandar, Gauta and Asim with drugs supplied by Nick's Bluecross Labs. An appeal was made to the members to make festive gifting with a difference to the needy and as usual generous contribution of Rupees one lakh has so far come from our Nick Israni. The appeal continues to be made to you for your generosity for various projects. Corrective surgeries at National Burn Centre are on as and when our Dr. Sunil Keswani is able to match the needy patient and his hard pressed time. I visited the NBC with Dr. Satya and met with the latest successfully operated patient Geeta whose eye and neck was left dysfunctional post burn. Dr. Satya is in full form after long vacation from us, taking full account of the happenings at the skin bank during the quarter in his absence. At a meeting held at NBC with Dr. Keswani and trustees, doctors and officials, Satya and I went over future plans of adding 4 skin banks across India with satellite collection centres. Awareness is catching up with current stock of 26 grafts,

currently meeting requirements of NBC only till we hit a stock of 150 grafts before marketing is done for other beneficiary hospitals, doctors.

As we go to the press, we would have inaugurated the free computer academy at our Worli Welfare Centre in association with Bhawan's Gandhi Institute imparting recognised classes across a spectrum of courses to 500-700 job seeking candidates. Details to follow in the subsequent issue but the entire club was consulted and briefed at a conclusive meeting post email discussions among the members.

Plans for slum children vision and malnutrition correction with Global Grant are on track with Firoz and Quresh having cleared our application. Greater details of all the above to be provided in the second club assembly scheduled for November 12.

Hostess of the month, Nafisa Khorakiwala favoured us with quality meetings and musical evening celebrating Diwali at the serene poolside of Willingdon Club generously supported by Jagmohan Sekhsaria, Dipak Himatsingka, Sanjiv Kulkarni and Ashok Ajmera. Thank you Nafisa and our sponsors.

A thought to ponder as I sign off, wishing you well.

"Great thoughts reduced to practice become great acts. ~William Hazlit"

Ajeet

NOVEMBER HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Purpose - The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. The Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share its vision of a better world.

History - In 1917, RI President Arch C. Klumph proposed that an endowment be set up “for the purpose of doing good in the world.” In 1928, when the endowment fund had grown to more than US\$5,000, it was renamed The Rotary Foundation, and it became a distinct entity within Rotary International. Five Trustees, including Klumph, were appointed to “hold, invest, manage, and administer all of its property . . . as a single trust, for the furtherance of the purposes of RI.” Two years later, the Foundation made its first grant of \$500 to the International Society for Crippled Children. The organization, created by Rotarian Edgar F. “Daddy” Allen, later grew into the Easter Seals. The Great Depression and World War II both impeded the Foundation's growth, but the need for lasting world peace generated great postwar interest in its development. After Rotary's founder, Paul P. Harris, died in 1947, contributions began pouring into Rotary International, and

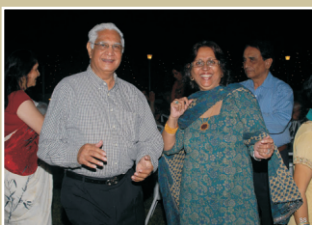
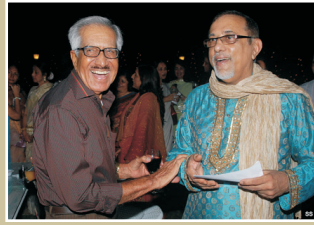
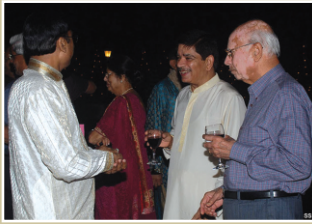
the Paul Harris Memorial Fund was created to build the Foundation. That year, the first Foundation program – the forerunner of Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships – was established. In 1965-66, three new programs were launched: Group Study Exchange, Awards for Technical Training, and Grants for Activities in Keeping with the Objective of The Rotary Foundation, which was later called Matching Grants. The Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grants program was launched in 1978, and Rotary Volunteers was created as a part of that program in 1980. PolioPlus was announced in 1984-85, and the next year brought Rotary Grants for University Teachers. The first peace forums were held in 1987-88, leading to the Foundation's peace and conflict studies programs. Throughout this time, support of the Foundation grew tremendously. Since the first donation of \$26.50 in 1917, it has received contributions totaling more than \$1 billion. More than \$70 million was donated in 2003-04 alone. To date, more than one million individuals have been recognized as Paul Harris Fellows – people who have given \$1,000 to the Annual Programs Fund or have had that amount contributed in their name. Such strong support, along with Rotarian involvement worldwide, ensures a secure future for The Rotary Foundation as it continues its vital work for international understanding and world peace.

World Ranking - The Rotary Foundation has moved up 14 places in the Chronicle of Philanthropy's annual survey of the top 400 fundraising charities in the United States. In the survey, based on fiscal year 2010, the Foundation is 61st on the list of charities that raise funds from private sources, compared with 75th the previous year. Funds raised for Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge have contributed to the ranking.

Five Reasons to support the Rotary Foundation – By contributing to the TRF, one support's Rotary's five keys areas of focus of Eradicating Polio, promoting basic education and literacy, promoting peace and conflict resolution, reducing child mortality and fighting hunger. These areas of focus help advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. Contributions to the Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY) initiative, are the primary source of funding for Foundation programs. By giving US\$100 a year through EREY, you become a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member. **(Source – www.rotary.org)**

EDITOR'S NOTE – Now that our club has become a 100% Paul Harris fellow Club, let us continue to better the lives of other less fortunate fellow people globally by contributing towards The Rotary Foundation on an annual basis.

Images from the Diwali Party at Willingdon Club, on Friday 21st October 2011



Images from the Lecture by Mr. Gaurav Bhatia on 15th October on "The Art of Luxury"



Images from the Lecture by Mr. Vithal Kamat on 29th October on "Idea is your Currency"



Images from the Lecture by Ms. Jaywantiben Mehta on 5th November 2011 on "Current Political Scenario"



It is difficult to resist the impulse to unscramble and de-mystify Mumbai for its inhabitants, given the multitude of events that have unfolded over centuries, posing challenges to dis-assembling and reclaiming the layers, and ethnic groups, that contributed to its history and growth.

An acknowledgement of Mauryan and Gupta sovereignty by lesser local kings was an inescapable fact of ancient Indian history, but the seven islands that ultimately comprised Mumbai, was exclusive *Saatvahan* territory even at 200 B.C. and beyond. By 550 A.D., *Chalukyas* were in control at Gharapuri (Elephanta). *Shilahars* built Walkeshwar temple in circa 1000. In 1100, Mahikavati (Mahim) was a quasai capital of Raja Bhimdev.

From 1401, the Muslims (Sultans of Gujarat) were firmly in control until in 1534 when it was all ceded to the Portuguese.

By 1654, envious East India company Directors suggested to Charles II that this territory be sought as dowry and in 1661, the Portuguese royalty with insufficient appreciation of the strategic value passed on the territory as dowry.

The island on which *Mumba Aiee* temple stood was referred to as *Bombaim* island in the nasal ending way Indian names were written by

the Portuguese, - ending in 'IM'(Goa has villages eg. *Agacaim*, *Cortalim*, *Dabolim* with such endings in 'IM'). Only, the western sea and its shore was named as *Bombahia*, the good bay.

The British did not accept the *Bombahia* name which was gaining currency from 1570 onwards, and instead reverted to the old *Mombaim* and then *Bombaim* and then the 'IM' was substituted by 'Y' consistent with the British mode of pronunciation. The British infact dissociated with everything that smacked of the Portuguese past including *Bombahia*. The first ever Parsi (Dorabjee Nanabhoy Patel) came to Mumbai in 1640 from Suvali near Surat, served the Portuguese until 1661, then transferred allegiance to the British and brought in fellow Parsis. It was his son who collected the Kolis, when British officers were plague-ridden during an attack on Mumbai in 1692 by Yakub Khan Siddi. The fighting force comprised of Marathi-speaking Kolis. The Parsee gentleman was made Patil of Mumbai by the grateful British.

The very earliest Britishers had a passion for carrying out census by Race, Tribe etc. Sir Herbert Risley went further than the rest and examined cephalic indexes as well. There were a very large number of Gujrathi Vaaniyas, Bhatias and

Nagars. Having dealt with the British in Surat, these communities later gravitated to Mumbai in large numbers. But the predominant original populations from the 13th century onwards were determined to be Marathi speaking Kolis, Bhandaris, Agris, Prabhus, Pachkalshis, Mahars, Kunbis, Shenvis, Marathas, Deshasthas, even a sprinkling of Chitpavans. There were also some Armenians.

Later, almost every Ethnic Group across the mosaic of Indian Society contributed to fuelling the Mumbai growth. When we celebrate the nostalgia, by extracting and portraying aspects of the past that have continued relevance in terms of contemporary attitudes and approaches, the humongous positive contribution of the Sindhi community must receive mention, especially given the handicaps under which that enterprising subset of Indian Society journeyed across to Mumbai.

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?

Our Club Programme for mid-November to mid-December

- 19th November – Mr. Gul Kripalani – Topic to be confirmed
- 22nd November – Fellowship Dinner with Qawali at Woodhouse Gymkhana
- 26th November – NO meeting
- 3rd December – Mr. Vijay Lazarus – Topic to be confirmed – Jointly with Rotary Club of Bombay Bayview
- 10th December – Mr. Seo Hang Lee- Korean Consulate General Mumbai – Topic – “Indo Korea Relations.”
- 17th December – Annual General Meeting

A Questionnaire from Rtn. Chandru Thadani – Chairman of Facilitation Committee – Please respond by 25th November

- When exactly have you joined the Club?
- In which committee you are a member or Chairman?
- Have you proposed a vote of thanks or introduced a speaker in our Club? If yes, when?
- Have you given “Your Job Talk” (talk on your job and family, etc.)? If yes, when?
- Have you got involved actively in any of our Projects? If yes, please elaborate?
- Are you feeling “at home” or you feel “left out”? Do you have any suggestions to make you more involved and comfortable?
- Would you recommend your friends to join our Club?

INTRODUCTION OF OUR NEWEST ROTARY MEMBER – MR. ASHISH GANATRA

Ashish is a Chartered Accountant who is professionally involved in derivatives, trading in stocks and commodities. His wife Rupal is a BA and DBM. Both Ashish and his wife believe in simple living and high thinking. They have joined Rotary as they believe that the Rotary movement gives them an opportunity to dedicate themselves to society and work hard for its meaningful causes to uplift its values. Their dream is to have a “Responsible Respectful and Resourceful India” for which they hope Rotary provides a platform to participate in projects to achieve this dream. They are happy to have seen RCBN members take up causes of humanity in a responsible way and to be part of this Club. They also consider themselves fortunate to have inherited the legacy of Rotarian legends who have displayed yeoman qualities with great humility.

Wealth and Poverty – Contributed by Rtn. Chandru Thadani

A wealthy man took his son on a trip to the countryside with the purpose of showing him how poor people can be. On returning home, the father asked his son, “Did you realize how poor people can be?” “Oh yes,” said the son. “So what did you learn from the trip?” asked the father.

The son answered as follows:

“I saw, we have one dog and they have many. We have a small pool and they have the whole seashore.

We have one light in the garden and they have thousands of stars at night.

We have a small house to live in but they have the whole earth as their home.

We have servants to serve us and they serve others. We buy food, they grow food in the fields.”

The father was surprised and speechless.

Gist:

Sometimes rich people, though having too many possessions still feel deficient and want more and more!

Too many times, we forget the riches we have and look for what we don't have!

“Life is so simple; we complicate it by our actions.”

LIFE AFTER DEATH – CONTRIBUTED BY PDG DR. BADAR MASKATI

The day will come when my body will lie upon a white sheet.

Do not call this my death bed but the bed of life.

Give my sight to the man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or love In the eyes of Woman.

Give my heart to the person whose own heart has caused nothing but endless days of pain.

Give my blood to the teen-ager who was pulled from the wreckage of his car, so that he can see his grand

children play.

Give my kidney to one who depends on a machine from week to week.

Take my bones, every muscle, every fibre and nerve in my body and find a way to make a crippled child walk.

Explore every corner of my brain, take my cells and make them grow so that one day a speechless child will shout at the crack of a bat, or a deaf will hear the rain against the window.

Burn what is left of of me and scatter the ashes to the wind to help the

flowers grow.

If you must bury something....

Let it be my weaknesses, and faults, Give my sins to the Devil and my soul to God.

And if by chance you want to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you.

If you do all I have asked, then I will live forever,

If you are touched, pledge your eyes and skin.

I have done it.

WHAT goes around comes around – Contributed by the Editor

This is a true story that happened in 1892 at Stanford Univesrity. It moral will always be relevant to all of us.

A young, 18-year-old-student was struggling to pay his fees. He was an orphan, and not knowing where to turn to turn for money, he came up with a bright idea. A friend and he decided to host a musical concert on campus to raise money for their education. They approached a great pianist, Ignacy Paderewski who agreed to perform for a guaranteed fee of US\$2000. On the big day, Paderewski performed at Stanford. However, sadly, they did not manage to sell enough tickets and they were short by US\$400. Disappointed, they went to the pianist and explained their plight and gave him

the entire US\$1600 plus a cheque for the balance US\$400 and promised to honor the cheque at the soonest. The great man that he was, Paderewski, said that was not acceptable. He tore up the cheque, returned the US\$1600 to the two boys and said, "Here's the US\$1600. Please deduct whatever expenses you have incurred. Keep the money you need for your fees. And just give me whatever is left." The boys were thanked him for his generosity. It showed Paderewski as a great human being.

Paderewski later became the Prime Minister of Poland. He was a great leader but when the World War began, Poland was devastated. More than 1 million people were starving in Poland and there was no money to feed them.

Paderewski reached out to the US FRA for help. The head there was man called Herbert Hoover , who later became US President. Hoover, shipped tons of food grains to feed the starving Polish people and a calamity was averted. Paderewski was relived. He went across to meet Hoover and thank him for his noble gesture.

However, Hoover interjected and said, "You should'nt be thanking me Mr. Prime Minister. You may not remember this, but several years ago, you helped two young students go through college in US. I was one of them."

Truly, the world is a wonderful place and what goes around comes around! Sometimes we notice it and sometimes we don't!

News from our Rotary members/ Rotary events

- The Career Guidance Committee, under the Chairmanship of Rtn. Deepak Pinge, in association with an NGO, Amhi Udyogini organized a seminar on "Women Entrepreneurship" in Marathi at our Worli BDD Chawl center, on Monday the 26th September 2011. The seminar was a thumping success. The seminar was addressed by Mrs Urvashi Dharadhar, General Manager of Saraswat Coop Bank & Mr Shriyans Kanvinde, secretary of the NGO Amhi Udyogini. The speakers emphasised the need to form a Bachat Gat (saving group) of atleast ten ladies by contributing minimum 100 rupees, so that they can start a business & the bank can finance them. Rtnanne Hemangini Desai who was present at the seminar & who has a good relationship with the ladies , has agreed to coordinate in forming such groups. The speakers have agreed to meet in future at our center.



PP Rtn. Vipin Shah donates Rs. 7.50 lacs for Charitable Cause.

Our P.P.VIPIN SHAH has donated Rs. 7.50 lacs to the Industrial House for Blind Women situated at Andheri. This donation is for the rejuvenation and modernisation of their Hostel building, that is providing residence to 60 blind women between the age group of 18 to 35 years. The industrial home has been conducting the courses for four years that includes subjects like Weaving, Tailoring, Broom making, Recaning, Handicraft, Mobility, Braille Reading and Writing with library, Home management and daily skills. After training, they are being rehabilitated in the open industry. VIPIN SHAH has promised further donation if required.



BIRTHDAYS/WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR PERIOD 16th NOVEMBER TO 15th DECEMBER



Asha Lalita Kanodia	16 th November
Hemant Thakkar	22 nd November
Dr. Badar Maskati	25 th November
Suresh Mittal	29 th November
Sultan Fazalbhoj	4 th December
Pradip Shroff	6 th December
Ashoka Ajmera	9 th December
Dinesh Toprani	14 th December

Hoshie and Mackoo Malgham	18 th November
Dr. Lalit and Asha Kanodia	19 th November
Mandar and Maitreyee Tamhe	21 st November
Dr. Chandra and Dr. Nandini Purandare	23 rd November
Zain and Shakera Quettawala	27 th November
Dr. Gulab and Veena Mewani	2 nd December
Dr. Chetan and Bharti Desai	6 th December
Baldev and Usha Arora	6 th December
Firoz and Mumtaz Kachwalla	7 th December
Abbas and Femisa Arsiwalla	7 th December
Soni and Anal Soni	9 th December
Vijay and Kiran Jalan	13 th December
Gautam and Bharti Gandhi	13 th December

"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**

Fellowships events for mid-November to mid-December

22nd November 2011 – Fellowship Dinner with Qawali at Woodhouse

Gymkhana – 7:30 p.m. onwards

A well dressed man went to a restaurant in Paris, and wined & dined well. At the end, he asked the serving mistress to get the cheque. It was a hefty bill, he paid it and gave 3 pence as the tip. Naturally the waitress was very angry & told the gentleman that she could tell his fortune from the tip that he had given. The man was pleased and told to so do. She said that the first pence denotes that you are a very wealthy man, correct he said; the second pence says that you are a bachelor, correct he said; and that the third pence says that your father was also a bachelor.

FROM THE EDITORS DESK

My dear RCBN family,

Greetings to all for the festive season – whether it is Diwali, Eid or Guru Nanak Jayanti.

This month – I am reproducing two short stories that have had a profound impact on my life. The first is as follows –

Once there was a king who received a gift of two magnificent falcons from Arabia. They were peregrine falcons, the most beautiful birds he had ever seen. He gave the precious birds to his head falconer to be trained. Months passed and one day the head falconer informed the king that though one of the falcons was flying majestically, soaring high in the sky the other bird had not moved from its branch since the day it had arrived.

The king summoned all the healers from the land to tend to the falcon, but no one could make the bird fly. He presented the task to a member of his Court, but the next day, the king saw through the palace window that the bird had still not moved from its perch. Having tried everything else, the king thought to himself, “May be I need someone more familiar with the countryside to understand the nature of the problem.” So he cried out to his court. “Go and get a farmer.”

In the morning, the king was thrilled to

see the falcon soaring high above the palace gardens. He said to his court, “Bring me the doer of this miracle.” The court quickly located the farmer who came and stood before the king. The king asked, “How did you make the falcon fly?” With his head bowed, the farmer said to the king, “It was very easy, your highness. I simply cut the branch on which the bird was sitting.”

When I read this again and again, I realized that we are all made to fly – to realize our incredible potential as human beings. But instead of doing that, we sit on our branches, clinging to the things that are familiar to us. The possibilities outside of our world are endless; but for the most of us, they remain undiscovered because we are not willing fly and explore this new world. We conform to the familiar, the comfortable, the mundane. So for the post part, our lives are not filled with exciting, thrilling and fulfilling things. So let us learn to destroy the branch of fear we cling to and free ourselves to the glory of flight.

The second story is as follows - In ancient Greece, Socrates the great philosopher – once told his student – to adopt at all times a triple filter test before coming to inform him of anything. So once, this student came to

Socrates to inform his something about his friend.

"Hold on a minute," Socrates replied. "Before you talk to me about my friend, it might be good idea to take a moment and filter what you're going to say. That's why I call it the triple filter test. The first filter is Truth. Have you made absolutely sure that what you are about to tell me is true?" "Well, no," the man said, "actually I just heard about it and..."

"All right," said Socrates. "So you don't really know if it's true or not. Now, let's try the second filter, the filter of Goodness. Is what you are about to tell me about my friend something good?" "Umm, no, on the contrary...". "So," Socrates continued, "you want to tell me something bad about my friend, but you're not certain it's true. You may still pass the test though, because there's one filter left—the filter of Usefulness. Is what you want to tell me about my friend going to be useful to me?" "No, not really."

"Well," concluded Socrates, "if what you want to tell me is neither true, nor good, nor even useful, why tell it to me at all?" Till next month.

Akshay