



R.I. PRESIDENT
JAMES LACY
R.I. DISTRICT - 3060

RIVERSIDE
RIPPLES

ROTARY SURAT RIVERSIDE

CHARTER DATE : 28-06-1998

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All men who have achieved great things have been Dreamers
— O. S. Marden

The theme topic —'Rotarians Awareness' was truly an update of our knowledge of Rotary. And could it be any better when stalwarts conduct the proceedings? DGN Rtn. Praful Bhatt chaired the meet while GZR Rtn. Bankim Dave and GGR Rtn. Devang Munim conducted the proceedings on the theme topic. Rtn. Bankim Dave delved in detail about History of Rotary and its present shape and strength. Rtn. Devang Munim explained about Community Services. He aptly exemplified the deliberations, to drive home the essence of this vital club function.

Rtn. Bankim Dave gave certain interesting insights about Rotary. Today there are 28,800 clubs and 521 districts worldwide. It all started by a chance meet amongst four friends —Paul Harris, Silvester Schiele, Gustarus Loehr and Hiram Shorey. Its founder was Paul P. Harris. Rotary was born on 23rd Feb, 1905. His aim was to serve the society by the strength of friendship. The term Rotary was coined when they started to meet —by Rotation—at each others place.

In the year 1919, the first Rotary Club in India took its root at Calcutta. The modest beginning then has today turned in many clubs all over India.

Two Rotarian from India have held the highest position of R.I. President. Late Rtn. Nitish Lahiri in the year 1962-63 did proud to us with this theme —'Kindle the Spark Again.' In the year 1991-92, Rtn. Rajan Saboo of Rotary Club of Chandigarh took the highest office with the theme - 'Look beyond yourself'. Indeed a matter of pride for us.

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Rtn. Devang Munim delved in the area of Community Service. He explained about the eye-camps his club is taking up for community services. According to statistics, 30% of people suffer partial or total blindness in rural areas. Local Civil Hospitals extend organisational help and play a partners' role in contributing to the cause. President Rtn. Vishal raised the issue of obtaining matching grant. Rtn. Devang explained in detail the equation of the grant and the modalities for obtaining one. DGN Rtn. Prafulbhai succinctly explained how we can identify and pursue on a project and reach the objective of community service. Rotarians visiting other countries or GSE teams or IYE teams can carry the message for the noble cause.

The 'Rotarians' Awareness' did generate a lot of awareness and enthusiasm - amongst Annes as well - as was evident with a barrage of questions. Rtn. Arvind thanked the speakers for the valuable insight into Rotary.



We enjoyed the presence of

Rotarians - 20

Anns - 10

Guest - 6



NEXT MEETING is scheduled on 28th July '98 at Kapadia Health Club. The meet will start sharp at 8:30 P.M. with High Tea. The topic of discussion would be **-Ecology & Environment** by Prof. Joel Macwan and **-Pollution & Environment** by Prof. Robin Christian. Both are eminent faculties of SVR College of Engg. Duration of each lecture would be fifteen minutes followed by questions and answers. **Know more about the Ecology and Environment and how you can contribute to 'Preserve Planet Earth'.**
KUDOS III

The club treasurer made the mission impossible possible. Within a month of holding office, he has collected the term/annual fee from **all members** of the club. This would greatly benefit to keep the account straight. Club treasurer acknowledges this gesture of members and while thanking them, looks forward to their continued support.

DISTRICT EVENT

District Polio Plus Co-ordinators workshop & Polio Plus Zonal Planning & Review Meeting on 2nd August '98 at Anand. Host —Anand R. T.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

To all those concerned with the world's Ecological Dilemmas and future generations whose environment and welfare will depend upon the responsible decisions of our society.

I have heard that there was once an ancient and majestic tree, with branches spreading out towards the sky. When it was in a flowering mood, butterflies of all shapes, colours and sizes danced around it. When it grew blossoms and bore fruit, birds from far lands came and sang in it. The branches, like outstretched hands, blessed all who came and sat in their shade. A small boy used to come and play under it, and the big tree developed an affection for the small boy.

Love between big and small is possible, if the big is not aware that it is big. The tree did not know it was big, only man has that kind of knowledge. So the tree developed a love for this small boy who used to come to play near it. Its branches were high, but it bent and bowed them down so that he might pluck its flowers and pick its fruit. The boy

grew. Sometimes he slept on the tree's lap, sometimes he wore a crown of the tree's, and acted like a jungle king. The boy grew even more. He began to climb the tree to swing on its branches. The tree felt very happy when the boy rested on its branches.

With the passage of time the burden of other duties came to the boy. Ambition grew; he had exams to pass; he had friends to chat to and to wander about with so he did not come often. But the tree waited anxiously for him to come. As he grew, the boy came less and less to the tree. The boy was now engrossed in worldly affairs.

One day, while he was passing by, the tree said to him. "I wait for you but you do not come. I expect you daily."

The boy said, "What do you have? Why should I come to you? Have you any money? I am looking for money."

The tree thought for a while and said, "Don't go anywhere else, my dear. Pick my fruit and sell it. You will get money that way."

The boy brightened immediately. He climbed up and picked all the tree's fruit; even the unripe ones were shaken down. The tree felt happy, even though some twigs and branches were broken, even though some of its leaves had fallen to the ground. The tree didn't notice that the boy hadn't even once looked back to thank him.

The boy did not come back for a long time. Now he had money and he was busy making more money from that money. He had forgotten all about the tree. Years passed. The tree was sad. It yearned for the boy's return -like a mother whose breasts are filled with milk but whose son is lost. Her whole being craves for her son; she searches madly for her son so he can come to lighten her. Such was the inner cry of that tree. Its entire being was in agony.

After many years, now an adult, the boy came to the tree. The tree said, "Come, my boy. Come embrace me."

The man said, "Stop that sentimentality. That was a childhood thing. I am not a child any more." "I need to build a house. Can you give me a house?"

The tree exclaimed: "A house! I am without a house. We do not stay in houses, but you can cut and take away my branches and then you may be able to build a house."

Without wasting any time, the man brought an axe and severed all the branches of the tree. Now the tree was just a bare trunk. The man didn't even bother to thank the tree. He built his house. And the days flew into years. Time passed and the man had now become old. Once he was passing by and he came and stood by the tree.

The tree asked. "What else can I do for you? You have come after a very, very long time."

The old man said. "What else can you do for me? I want to go to distant lands to earn more money. I need a boat, to travel."

Cheerfully, the tree said, "But that's no problem, my love. Cut my trunk, and make a boat from it. I would be so very happy if I could help you go to faraway lands to earn money. But, please remember, I will always be awaiting your return."

The man brought a saw, cut down the trunk, made a boat and sailed away.

Now the tree is a small stump. And it waits for its loved one to return. It waits and it waits and its waits.

I was resting near that stump one night. It whispered to me, "That friend of mine has not come back yet. I am very worried in case he might have drowned, or in case he might be lost. He may be lost in one of those faraway countries. He might not even be alive any more. How I wish for news of him! As I near the end of my life, I would be satisfied with some news of him at least. Then I could die happily. But he would not come even if I could call him. I have nothing left to give and he only understands the language of taking."

Friends, today we only understand the language of taking from Mother Earth and never bother to look back how we have devastated Her like the tree. And do we understand that Her survival is our existence? Look around yourself. Turn around your attitude. Think what and how can you give back to Her. Pledge a small thing today. Let us grow the branches, leaves, flowers and fruits and get Her back to the pristine glory, for today and generations to come. Join hands to **'Preserve Planet Earth.'**

THE FREEWHEEL GALLERIA

Do you care for Nature ?

1. Avoid use of plastic bags.
2. Use water judiciously.
3. Conserve fuel.
4. Switch off fans, lights, air conditioners when not required.
5. Do not use products for which animals are killed.
6. Use only reusable or recyclable products.
7. Do not litter.
8. Campaign for bio-degradable products.
9. Reduce garbage and dispose it properly.

THINK A WHILE !

The activist is not the man who says the river is dirty. The activist is the man who cleans up the river.

MILES OF SMILE !

Doctor : Did you take my advice about your insomnia and count before going to sleep ?"

Patient : "Yes, Doctor. I got as far as 24,534 and then it was time to get up."

KNOW MORE

The slowly changing levels of Land and Sea.

The relative level of sea and land have changed many times. Vertical movements of the earth's crust can raise or lower whole sections of a coastline. And the basins of the oceans themselves slowly change in capacity as a result of shifts in the earth's great crustal plates.

Glacial ages are another major factor in the changing of sea levels. During the last Ice Age, for example, so much water was locked up in vast continental ice caps that sea levels all around the world were 300 to 500 feet lower than they are today. If all the remaining ice caps were to melt, moreover, it is estimated that the level of sea would rise an additional 200 feet, causing the flooding of many densely populated coastal regions.



Our next meeting

VENUE :- Kapadia Health Club, New Bhatar Rd; Surat.

TIME :- 8.30 PM - sharp.

DAY-DATE :- Tuesday - 28th July '98

AGENDA :- 'PRESERVE PLANET EARTH'

Speakers - Prof. Joel Macwan. M.E. in Environment Engg.

Prof. Robin Christian. M.E. in Environment Engg.

With Best Compliments

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