

# RIVERSIDE RIPPLES



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## SERVICE Above Self ROTARY SURAT RIVERSIDE

*We meet every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. at Dr. Bhacca Rotary Hall, Jeevanbharti School.  
All our meets are dinner meets.*

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### Cover Story



### MICHCHHAMI DUKKDAM

When a member of an Extended Joint Family does not attend the weekly gathering repeatedly, it becomes a cause of concern for the other members. And thus it is for the Riverside family where a few members have been missing since long.

This meeting was a brainstorming session to find a solution to this permanent problem. All members, both young and old gave their spirited version of getting the absentees back into the fold. One of the stronger, universal suggestions that came out was to get a feedback from the members on how to rejuvenate the club. This will be put into practice in the

next meeting which is at Holiday Inn.

Besides the question of attendance, the other points which were discussed was the venue, time of food for our regular meetings. Members present repeatedly stressed on increasing the level of fellowship. More family get-togethers, including a day picnic etc. were mooted. Lastly the significant role played by short-term and long-term projects was discussed by giving thrust to a club.

It was a most memorable evening as the members were all very eager to join in with their constructive suggestions.

- Report by Dr. Ajay Bhardwaj

Life is 2 short 2 b spent in finding faults holding grudges or keeping memory of wrong done 2us... So 4giv even b4 4giveness is asked.

MICHCHHAMI DUKKDAM

-Amish Malji

It doesn't hurt to take a hard look at yourself from time to time.

**This little test should get you started.**

During a visit to the mental hospital, a visitor asked the Director what is the criterion used to determine if a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "We fill up a bathtub, and then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him/her to empty the bathtub".

OK, here's your test -

1. Would you use the teaspoon?
2. Would you use the teacup?
3. Would you use the bucket?

Make your decision before you continue....

Answer on last page...

### JUST THE FACTS ....

32,176	Rotary clubs*
1,214,127	Rotarians worldwide*
168	Rotary countries**
7,869	Rotaract clubs***
180,987	Rotaract members (estimated)***
10,160	Interact clubs***
233,680	Interact members (estimated)***
5,791	Rotary Community Corps***
133,193	RCC members (estimated)***

\* As of 31 December 2004

\*\* As of 16 May 2005

\*\*\* As of 31 March 2005

# SOUL SEARCHING

IPP Siddharth chaired the meeting of 06-Sep comprising PP Jugal Shinglot, PP Mukund Jariwala, PP Dr. Ajay Bhardwaj, PP Arvind Kumar, Rtn. Anand Acharya, Rtn. Amit Adhiya, Rtn. Rajat Vij, Rtn. Jassi Rtn. Amish Malji, Rtn. Rajesh Patel, Ann Sangeeta, Ann Anju, Ann Kawal.

Prez. was absent due to ill health even now and was grossly missed. President-Elect Stanley Martin was very much in demand to chair each meet since Prez Divyang fell ill. A special request for him to find some regular time to guide the club.

Agenda of the meet was to put the club back on its saddle and some heavy brain-storming. PP Ajay had some interesting ideas to ask everyone and a questionnaire is being prepared by him and PP Mukund to be handed over to club Rotarians during next meetings to fill up.

Presence, of course, since time immemorial, has been the issue for most of the clubs. Interest Meets, Fellowships, Personal Interests, Relaxation, Social Service, etc. whatever be the cause at the time of joining Rotary; it does a vanishing act a La Gone with the Wind phenomenon. Commitment to Social Cause goes for a toss! Kindly gear up friends, President alone is nothing if he is not assisted by a common Rotarian of the club in day-to-day functioning of the club. Office Bearers are just as busy or occupied with whatever other social engagements. Everybody sacrifices. Spare your TUESDAYs for Rotary; just like you do not overlap your business meetings on the same day at the same time. We need 100% every time The entire purpose of paying a good amount to join Rotary was never to be absent almost all the time and enjoy a social status. I know, this is HARD TALK, but just think for a while, had you been a president and you have to see only 10-15 regulars all the time, what is the FUN? We always turn up in great numbers whenever we move to a new venue with just a FELLOWSHIP [which means FOOD only with FRIENDS with NEW SURROUNDINGS Agreed, you must have gone there to dine before but not with these many friends; we are not here to prove our social standings] but whenever we have to go to a new venue - which incidentally, is a project venue only time tested faces appear

Commit yourself to Club Projects. Bring up some new ideas. Look around Your Social Sphere only will give you a new idea which can interest Rotary to jump in & help!

I am sure we all have friends in other Rotary Clubs. Let us not name them but ask a friend from a Premier & Active Club "What is the presence during normal Rotary Meet, be it a Speaker Meet, Fellowship, Competitions, etc.?" "And, what is the presence required at their Project Meets?" "Why are those clubs still bubbling like never before?"

Rotary, certainly, is not an activity to spruce up your spare time. Remember, the FOUR WAY TEST (which we missed during this meet)!

We are supposed to be friends with a difference. All Mature, Immaculate, Successful, Leaders in our sphere of work. But a difference in friendship here is: We cannot ask with a RIGHT to our other Rotarian Friend to attend the next meeting. That request is invariably ignored. The personal requesting feels insulted. So, next time when the President distributes these duties to invite all & sundry [which current president is not doing & he is taking up that load himself] to a group of Rotarians to talk to their respective group friends, they shy away from putting their MIGHT behind that EXPLICIT request for sheer fear of getting rejected [This is similar to a Salesman not attempting a CLOSE at all for sheer fear of REJECTION of Sales (which is not coming his way if he doesn't attempt at all)]. Vicious Cycle, isn't it? Have you ever given a thought that today our club is not getting candidates as Future President? Ask yourself.

Solution to all this: All of us commit to be present in every single Rotary Meeting. Be Positive. If you find anything missing, inform the Club Service Director & [I am repeating AND] the President and within a few weeks from now, you'll notice the difference. Let every incoming President enjoy his Presidentship [This comes once in a life-time; the FIRST TIME, that is] and then only you will enjoy your membership as a Fellow Rotarian.

Besides this, we always enjoy participating in International Programmes. How much do we contribute? You all must have heard a story of a King wanting his populace to fill up a well with

Milk...rest is history. I do not narrate any further. We need to change our mind sets. We do not see new Rotarians coming forward for such participation except may be 3 or 4 Rotarians. Ask the President to participate. But first find out what all programmes are available for such participation. Ask those who have gone abroad. Ask those who have been speakers in different District Events. Ask those who have hosted IYE students and/or GSE Team Leaders/Members. We have good numbers of them.

Rotary, probably, is the single largest democratic institute in the world with just cause & almost no animosity. Participation spectrum is as large as United Nations with no International Politics to harm anybody. The kind of welcome you get to an absolutely unknown Rotary Club is unimaginable.

A small story:

My wife & I were roaming around on a Mall Road in Shimla in December-2000. It was a cold winter evening. I was there for a technical training with one of the companies & we had had an off day. Almost everything was closed that evening. We had to meet our group after about 3 hours. Suddenly, I saw Rotary Wheel. Out of sheer curiosity & of course, hope, we went near that place. It was a Club Meeting Venue and the meeting was about to begin. We got a Real Warm Welcome and we were served with Hot Snacks (which is what probably we were struggling to get) and whatever could be their meeting agenda, it turned out to be a Speaker Meet by your Fellow Rotarian. I will never ever forget that evening. Try doing that wherever you travel. It works. I have tried at Anand, Vapi, Mumbai, Jamnagar, Udaipur & New Delhi. Just walk in. Try at Rotary Surat Riverside. You'll get just as warm welcome as I got at Shimla.

Be a Proud Rotarian in general, and Riversider in particular. Enjoy your Fellowship.

- Co-Editor,

AnandAcharya



### DEADLINES

**1 July** For clubs to submit semiannual reports and payments of club dues ... For districts to submit endorsed applications for 2006-08 Rotary World Peace Fellowships.

**15 September** For RI to receive 2005-06 Service Above Self Award nominations.

**30 September** For 2004-05 district governors to submit their governor allocation expense reports.

**1 October** For 2004-05 governors to distribute to clubs a district financial statement for the 2004-05 Rotary year ... For districts to submit endorsed applications for 2006-07 Ambassadorial Scholarships, 2006-07 Rotary Grants for University Teachers, and 2006-08 Group Study Exchanges

### OTHER NOTICES

- Districts should conduct a membership development seminar during the first half of the Rotary year, and clubs should plan to send representatives. District leaders are asked to assist clubs in identifying strategies and tools for meeting membership development and retention goals.
- Governors are asked to consider nominations for Foundation service awards; information is available at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org). For information on RI awards, see page 3.
- The Rotary Basics insert appears in the August issue of The Rotarian and later issues of Rotary regional magazines. Revised for 2005-06, this popular primer on Rotary may also be purchased through the print or online catalogs.
- Each club receives a copy of Rotary World to be shared with the bulletin editor and other club members. The quarterly publication may also be downloaded at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) (click newsroom). Any past district governor may receive a free, two-year subscription by sending a request to RI Data Services, e-mail: [data@rotaryintl.org](mailto:data@rotaryintl.org); fax: 847-733-9340. Please include your name, district number, and Rotary club name (and membership ID number, if known).

## ☺ LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE ☺

### Voted Women's favourite e-mail of the year

For all those who are married or going to be. Enjoy!!!!

A man was sick and tired of going to work every day while his wife stayed home. He wanted her to see what he went through so he prayed:

Dear Lord:

I go to work every day and put in 8 hours while my wife merely stays at home. I want her to know what I go through, so please allow her body to switch with mine for a day. Amen God, in his infinite wisdom, granted the man's wish. The next morning, sure enough, the man awoke as a woman.

He arose, cooked breakfast for his mate, awakened the kids, set out their school clothes, fed them breakfast, packed their lunches, drove them to school, came home and picked up the dry cleaning, took it to the cleaners and stopped at the bank to make a deposit, went grocery shopping, then drove home to put away the groceries, paid the bills and balance the check book.

He cleaned the cat's litter box and bathed the dog. Then it was already 1:00 p.m. and he hurried to make the beds, do the laundry, vacuum, dust, and sweep and mop the kitchen floor. Ran to the school to pick up the kids and got into an argument with them on the way home. Set out cookies and milk and got the kids organized to do their homework, then set up the ironing board and watched TV while he did the ironing.

At 4:30 he began peeling potatoes and washing vegetables for salad, breaded the pork chops and snapped fresh beans for supper. After supper he cleaned the kitchen, ran the dishwasher, folded laundry, bathed the kids, and put them to bed.

At 9 p.m. he was exhausted and, though his daily chores weren't finished, he went to bed where he was expected to make love which he managed to get through without complaint. The next morning he awoke and immediately knelt by the bed and said, "Lord, I don't know what I was thinking. I was so wrong to envy my wife's being able to stay home all day. Please, oh please, let us "trade back."

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, replied, "My son, I feel you have learned your lesson and I will be happy to change things back to the way they were. You'll just have to wait nine months, though. You got pregnant last night."

*Voted Women's Favorite Email of the Year*

### WORTH REPEATING

"Each time Rotary clubs in far corners of the world join together to drill a well or feed a child or teach a young man to farm, these Rotarians are shouting to the world 'We care!'"

- Elizabeth Demaray, past district governor, addressing the 2005 International Assembly.

## Answers to Questions on Page 1

"Oh, I understand" said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or teacup".

"No" said the Director, "A normal person would pull the plug"!

Now tell me, which room do you prefer - General or Single?



## 🎉 BIRTHDAY BUMS... 🎉

17-09 Ami Adhiya 98791 13545



## ☺ FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS ☺

*The meeting of Tuesday the 13th is meant only for Rotarians of the club and is to take place in the comforts and the lovely ambience of hotel Holiday-Inn at 8.30 p.m. sharp/*

*Club matters shall be discussed at length and the members are requested to make at least one suggestion each for the betterment.*

*Please take note of the change in the venue and be there on time.*

*Date : 13-9-05, Tuesday*

*Time : 8:30 p.m.*

*Venue: Hotel Holiday Inn*

### ROTAFACTS

*Evening (1900 and later) is the most popular time of the day for Rotary club meetings, according to a survey conducted by the RI Membership Development Division.*