

Rotary Surat Riverside

Club No. 31734 Charter Date : 26/06/1996 R. I. Dist. 3060



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Cover Story

ASHUTOSH SPECIAL

Having drafted the plans for the year with his bubbling team, President Rajesh decided to begin on a fun note shifting last week's meeting to 30th July, Sunday. "Honest Family Restaurant" besides Rajhans cinema, Dumas Road was selected as the day's venue with a view of incentivizing the Anns and Annets into attending the meetings regularly. The agenda was 'Ashutosh Special' and our PP Rtn. Mukund Jariwala had been kind enough to sponsor the meeting.

But, but, but it was a real sad state of affairs to begin the day. In spite of being a holiday and intimating the 11:15 a.m. time to everybody via bulletin as well as through SMSs well in advance, the President and President Elect were seen waiting for others at the doorstep till half past noon. The turn out also was a paltry 14 Rotarians and 9 Anns with members (including the host anchor and the sponsor) trickling in at the last minute. Friends, it was a general consensus to have a couple of meetings on Sunday to foster more involvement from our spouses. But if this is not convenient to the majority of us, we should come forward with alternate suggestions. Prez. Rajesh will be more than pleased to get your feedback which can inculcate some self discipline (esp. in punctuality matters) amongst members.

The meeting started at 12:45 p.m. with a short and sweet welcome address by the president. He also invited the I.Y.E. student Caydin Crane (RC Kelowna BC, Dist.5060) to introduce herself to the club. She is here under long term exchange program and Rtn. Geojo Paul has taken charge from her first host Mr. Kakkar for a week.

Rajesh immediately handed over the stage to the 'game master' Ashutosh. Those of us who had been to last year's picnic at Swissland knew very well what Rtn. Ashutosh and Ann Kavi Thakkar are capable of. The young duo had done their homework as expected. They started with a filmy round where a large sheet with sketches depicting hindi movies was circulated. Teams had to identify and list the maximum movies within one minute. The next game was a hit amongst all. A teddy bear was passed through all partners who were asked to do some unique action with the doll. After the round, all members had to replicate the same action with their respective partners. The next one minute game was about male partners having to knot the maximum no. of *dupattas* around their female counterparts. Lastly it was the turn of the annets who had to remember the maximum no. of petite things put in a bag within a minute.

Dimpesh - Bhavna Savla and Amit - Ami Adhiya were the joint winners for the filmi round (13 names) while the President and first lady Ann Nirupa matched the cutest action with the doll (and subsequently with each other). Charter President Rtn. Jayesh tied her better half with the most number of *dupattas* (nine) while annet Abhijeet Paul proved his memory skills. Robust Bankim, on behalf of the club, offered his gratitude to the sponsor PP Rtn. Mukund and appealed to the others to come forward with similar generosity. The efforts of Rtn. Ashutosh and Ann Kavi in making the meeting a memorable one were also appreciated. Those who did not make it for any reason, sure did miss a wonderful meeting and a finger licking lunch.

PRESIDENT'S AUGUST MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

So much has been said about membership in Rotary. We talk about attracting new members and recruiting them. We talk about membership retention. And we talk about membership loss. We talk so much about membership that sometimes, when a speaker begins to discuss it, you can see all the eyes in the audience begin to glaze over. We've all heard it before.

Building membership is, of course, crucial to building Rotary. Rotary is nothing without its members and its clubs, and as members age, we must find new ones to take their places. More than that, we must always be growing in order to meet the many new needs that arise in our communities every day.

But I believe the best way to strengthen our numbers isn't by focusing on our numbers – it's by focusing on our clubs. A truly strong club is tremendously attractive. A strong club offers opportunities for friendship, fellowship, and meaningful service. It offers new connections within a community and a chance to meet like-minded friends, the kinds of friends who will still be close decades from now.

Again and again, we find that successful clubs have certain features in common. Together, you might think of them as a "to-do" list for clubs that need a boost:

1. Assess. Listen to each other, and find out what members want.
2. Emphasize. Accent the social aspects of Rotary. They are the glue that binds us.
3. Market. Don't sell your club as a product – market it. Find out what people want, and do your best to give it to them.
4. Induct. Bring new members into your club with dignity and class.
5. Involve. Make the whole family part of Rotary. Don't let it be another commitment that takes members from their spouses and children.
6. Mentor. Make sure that a seasoned Rotarian helps new members get started and stays involved for at least a year. Newcomers can get lost easily.
7. Educate. Provide education continuously, but give a little at a time. There's a lot to learn about Rotary, and it can be overwhelming.
8. Enthuse. Show enthusiasm openly! Rotary should be fun.

Membership comes down to one simple statement: Strong clubs lead to a strong Rotary. Without strong clubs, no amount of recruitment and retention efforts will help Rotary grow. With strong clubs, Rotary will flourish and provide another 100 years of service to humanity.

William B. Boyd
President, Rotary International

Source: The Rotarian

PHOTO GALLERY



Bubby President Rajesh replicating his action with first lady Nirupa

IYE student Caydin Crane matched Sec. Kuldeep's height. The duo lost to charter president Jayesh's swiftness who tied nine dupattas around his spouse Nita in a single minute



MEMORIES OF THE LAST MEETING

DONATED MILES HELP IRAQI WOMAN'S DREAMS SOAR

Rotarians in the United States and Jordan united to make a 27-year-old Iraqi woman's chances for a better future soar.

Hana'a Thigeel lost the use of her legs after being struck by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) while on her honeymoon in Iraq. Unable to receive therapy in Iraq for her injuries, she needed to seek alternatives. That's when the Rotary Club of Greeley (Centennial), Colorado, USA, offered to help. Using the United Airlines Charity Miles Program, the club flew Thigeel from Amman, Jordan, to the United States for therapy.

The club was able to raise 280,000 air miles and purchase two first-class tickets — a retail value of US\$14,000. "We wanted her to be comfortable," says club member Thomas Miller, "and for cultural reasons, she could not travel alone."

Thigeel lost everything but her life when the IED detonated two years ago. She was newly married with a promising career as an assistant to the professor of veterinary medicine at Baghdad University. But that fateful day left her a widow and without means of support.

"Baghdad University is not handicap accessible," explains Hope Cassidy, a Greeley club member and director of the Greeley Center for Independence where Thigeel receives treatment.

Therapists at the Colorado facility are donating services through November when her visa expires, working to maximize Thigeel's muscle tone in the lower body while healing the emotional wounds she suffered.

She also works with Paula Cowen, a disabled veterinarian employed by the United States Department of Agriculture. "Paula met Hana'a while in Iraq and told us of her story," Miller says. "She has since mentored Hana'a."

In addition to raising the air miles, Rotary club members found an apartment neighboring the rehabilitation center for Thigeel, and they donated enough items to furnish the two-bedroom handicap-accessible apartment. "Everyone has made me feel like I am in my home" Thigeel says. "I feel safe here."

Rotarians have set their sights on doing even more to help Thigeel. Cassidy said the club hopes to do what it can to help Thigeel extend her stay so that she can pursue her interest in furthering her veterinary medicine education in the U.S. Thigeel is happy for the opportunity Rotary has given her. "This is my life, my destiny," she explains. "And I want to face it."

By Tonya Weger
Rotary International News
Courtesy: eFlash_Rotary

TRUE STORY

This lady has changed her habit on the hand phone after her handbag was stolen.

Her handbag which contained her mobile, credit card, purse..etc....was stolen. 20min later when she called her hubby, telling him what happened, the husband says "I've just received your SMS asking about our Pin Number. And I've replied a little while ago". When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money had already been withdrawn. The pickpocket had actually used the stolen hand phone to sms "hubby" in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 mins he had withdrawn all the money from the bank account.

Morale of the lesson:

Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, sweetheart, Dad, Mum etc.....and very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked thru SMS, CONFIRM by calling back.

NEWSMAKERS

Everybody knows our members are sports oriented. And they are proving their mettle in events time and again.

One such newsmaker is Rtn. Mdyen Lokhandwala. He stood runners up in the veterans group in the recently concluded Surat District Table Tennis Championship hosted by the Surat City Gymkhana. Mdyen has done us proud by securing the second slot among 720 contestants in a tournament ping-ponged continuously on 6 tables for 5 days.

Another one such promising talent bubbling in our club is annet Utkarsh Bharadwaj. If you talk to him for a while, he'll electrify you. Such is the aptitude of the youngster who is always raring to go ahead. Utkarsh had already represented Gujarat at the National Level in the tournament held last year in Pondicherry. We are awaiting the outcome of his current year's ventures.

Rverside Ripples wishes both of them all the best.

THE BEST OF THE WORST

THE WORST HIJACKING

We shall never know the identity of the man who in 1976 made the most unsuccessful hijack attempt ever. On a flight across America, he rose from his seat, drew gun and took the stewardess hostage. "Take me to Detroit," he demanded.

"We're already going to Detroit," she replied.

"Oh ... good," he said, and sat down again.

THE WORST BANK ROBBERY

In August 1975 three men were on their way in to rob the Royal Bank of Scotland at Rothesay, when they got stuck in the revolving doors. They had to be helped free by the staff and, after thanking everyone, sheepishly left the building. A few minutes later they returned and announced their intention of robbing the bank, but none of the staff believed them.

When they demanded 5,000 pounds in cash, the head cashier laughed at them, convinced that it was a practical joke. Then one of the men jumped over the counter, but fell to the floor clutching his ankle. The other two tried to make their getaway, but got trapped in the revolving doors again.

THE WORST ANIMAL RESCUE

During the firemen's strike of 1978, the British Army had taken over emergency fire fighting and on 14 January they were called out by an elderly lady in South London to retrieve her cat which had become trapped up a tree.

They arrived with impressive haste and soon discharged their duty. So grateful was the lady that she invited them all in for tea. Driving off later, with fond farewells completed, they ran over the cat and killed it!!!

MILESTONES

Friends, 29th July 2006 will go down in the history of our club when our club got its official email addresses. Yes, your editor had already registered our club's domain name www.rotarysuratriveride.org on the 18th of this month. And now you can reach us officially at:

1. president@rotarysuratriveride.org
2. secretary@rotarysuratriveride.org
3. editor@rotarysuratriveride.org

I'm working relentlessly towards building our own web presence and would appreciate members coming forward to help me (in whatever way they can) for this cause.

☺☺☺ LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE ☺☺☺

A ship sank in high seas and the following people got stranded on a beautiful deserted island in the middle of nowhere:

- 2 Italian men and 1 Italian woman
- 2 French men and 1 French woman
- 2 German men and 1 German woman
- 2 Greek men and 1 Greek woman
- 2 Polish men and 1 Polish woman
- 2 Mexican men and 1 Mexican woman
- 2 Irish men and 1 Irish woman
- 2 Indian men 1 Indian woman
- 2 pakistani men 1 pakistani woman

One month later, on various parts of the island, the following was observed:

One Italian man killed the other Italian man for the Italian woman.

The two French men and the French woman are living happily together.

The two German men have a strict weekly schedule of when they alternate with the German woman.

The two Greek men are sleeping together, and the Greek woman is cooking and cleaning for them.

The two Polish men took a long look at the endless ocean and a long look at the Polish woman, and they started swimming.

The two Mexican men are talking to all the other men on the island trying to sell them the Mexican woman.

The two Irish men began by dividing up their part of the island into Northern & Southern parts, and by setting up a distillery. They do not remember the Irish woman because it gets sort foggy after the first few liters of coconut whiskey; but at least the English are not getting any.

The 2 Indian men are still waiting for someone to introduce them to the Indian woman.

The 2 Pakistani men are looking for a piece of paper so they can throw their phone number at the Pakistani woman.

 **FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS** 

FELLOWSHIP

Come one, come all on this SUNDAY morning to enjoy a Fellowship meet.

Prez. Rajesh has decided to extend the innovative idea of Sunday Lunch Meetings. We again meet at last week's venue for a simple fellowship. Lunch will be served sharp at 12:15 p.m. Please note the date, time & venue.

Date : 6th August, Sunday

Time : 11:45 a.m.

Venue : Honest Restaurant, B/s Rajhans Cinema