

## Rotary Surat Riverside

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



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### Cover Story



#### ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE TEAM VISIT

The meeting of 30th January was preponed to the 29th. Our club had the honour of hosting a RFE team from RI Dist.6000 IOWA (USA). Friends, you very well know that our district 3060, especially RSR shares a very special relationship with district 6000. Rotary clubs from the IOWA state have been our partners in many of our matching grant projects. Not only that, most of our students have been on IYE trips to IOWA and we've hosted many students from district 6000 in exchange. We were fortunate to have one Rotarian member and two Rotarian couples visiting our district on a Rotary Friendship Exchange trip.



*President Rajesh exchanging flags with RFE team leader Will Hoekman*

Riversiders gathered on Monday in a packed meeting studded with Rotary stalwarts to felicitate them. Sgt.-at-arms Ashutosh Thakkar called the meeting to order and Sec. Kuldeep recited the 4-way test. Prez. Rajesh welcomed everybody to the august gathering in his opening address and our charming Annes greeted the dignitaries with flowers.

The District Director for International Services - PDG Prafull Bhatt took charge of the mic and in his own charming way, outlined the details of the programme and the purpose of the RFE team's visit. His brief but to-the-point rationalization surely did inspire everybody to participate in such friendship programs.

The district chairman for RFE Rtn. Major Sharma (IPP RC Udhna) then introduced the RFE team leader - Rtn. Will Hoekman and invited him to appraise the audience about his team members as well as about his home town.

Rtn. Will introduced his team mates- Ann Dixie Hoekman, Rtn. Jack Schreiber, Ann Georgianne Schreiber and Rtn. Jhon McNeer. They threw light on their princely state of IOWA using a slide show projector and laptop specially arranged for them by our club. They also shared and recited with everybody a couple of cheerful songs "SMILE" & "BEAUTIFUL MORNING" that they sing back home. The lyrics of these songs sent a ripple back in everybody's spine making them yearn to visit IOWA. Rtn. Will then extended a warm invitation to everybody to visit district 6000 and promised to make it a memorable trip.

Major Sharma then gave mementoes to all the RFE team members and as a gesture of our love and affection towards the cordial team, Prez. Rajesh exchanged flags with the team leader. The Vote of Thanks, as a skew in the protocols, was presented by the President of RC Surat - Rtn. Ravindra Mehta. Among the other bigwigs who graced the occasion were PDG Himanshu Thacker, PDG Kulbandhu Sharma, Nilesh Jariwala - President RC Roundtown, Hitesh Jariwala PP RC Surat. We also had a visiting Rotarian Arun Khanna from Chandigarh amongst us.

RI PRESIDENT'S FEBRUARY MESSAGE

Dear fellow Rotarians,

Thirty-one years ago, Muhammad Yunus, then a professor of economics at Chittagong University in Bangladesh, discovered a harsh reality of extreme poverty: The difference between self-sufficiency and virtual slavery is much smaller than one might think. In the village of Jobra, he found, it was just a few cents.

While talking to a bamboo-stool maker, Yunus learned that the woman purchased her supply of bamboo on credit, for roughly 25 U.S. cents, every morning. Lacking the money for even a single day's supply of bamboo, she would never be able to repay the loan. Throughout the village, Yunus found many in similar straits. Their total debt? Twenty-seven U.S. dollars. Yunus did what was, for him, the natural thing: He paid their debts. The new entrepreneurs quickly turned a profit, his loan was repaid, and microcredit was born.

The idea of giving small loans to the very poor was a revolutionary one, and it has had revolutionary results. In 2005 alone, 100 million microcredit loans helped people in 130 countries. Today, Rotarians are involved in more than 60 microcredit projects around the world. In 1999, Yunus was honored at the RI Convention in Singapore. In October, he received the Nobel Prize.

The simple principle of microcredit is also a principle of Rotary. Small changes can become great changes, and a seemingly inconsequential act can have tremendous consequences. Just as 25 cents in that Bangladeshi village meant so much more than merely a quarter of a dollar, the prosperity of an unnoticed individual or village has international implications.

As we enter World Understanding Month, we are reminded by Yunus' achievement that we can never know every consequence of what we do. His loan of \$27, given in compassion, led to far more good than he could possibly have imagined. Our Rotary work also leads to benefits we'll never see: new friendships, new connections, warm feelings among people who may have little in common. Poverty, as we know too well, is a tremendous obstacle to peace and stability. So, every intelligent act of generosity, every project that helps others to lead better lives, is also an act of hope. We Rotarians share the belief that love for others does make a difference. Each small act of kindness, from one human being to another, brings us closer to each other and to the kind of world we hope to leave to our children.

We may think we are only helping to equip a school, supply a clinic, or build a well for a faraway community. But in truth, what we are doing is helping to build a better, more stable, and more peaceful future.



W.B. (Bill) Boyd  
President, Rotary International

NATIONAL HONOUR

A matter of pride for PRID

Here is an eFlash

PRID Sushil Gupta has been honoured by the Govt of India with the "Padma Shri" Award, one of the highest civilian awards of the country.

Courtesy: eFlash\_Rotary

THEME FOR 2007-08 ANNOUNCED

At the 2007 International Assembly



## SUICIDE OR HOMICIDE???

### READ THIS COMPLETELY... VERY GOOD.

At the 1994 annual awards dinner given for Forensic Science, AAFS President Dr Don Harper Mills astounded his audience with the legal complications of a bizarre death. Here is the story : On March 23, 1994 the medical examiner viewed the body of Ronald Opus and concluded that he died from a shotgun wound to the head. Mr Opus had jumped from the top of a ten-story building intending to commit suicide. He left a note to the effect indicating his despondency.

As he fell past the ninth floor his life was interrupted by a shotgun blast passing through a window, which killed him instantly.

Neither the shooter nor the deceased was aware that a safety net had been installed just below the eighth floor Level to protect some building workers and that Ronald Opus would not have been able to complete his suicide the way he had planned.

"Ordinarily," Dr Mills continued, "A person who sets out to commit suicide and ultimately succeeds, even though the mechanism might not be what he intended, is still defined as committing suicide. That Mr Opus was shot on the way to certain death, but probably would not have been successful because of the safety net, caused the medical examiner to feel that he had a homicide on his hands.

In the room on the ninth floor, where the shotgun blast emanated, was occupied by an elderly man and his wife. They were arguing vigorously and he was threatening her with a shotgun. The man was so upset that when he pulled the trigger he completely missed his wife and the pellets went through the window striking Mr Opus.

When one intends to kill subject "A" but kills subject "B" in the attempt, one is guilty of the murder of subject "B." When confronted with the murder charge the old man and his wife were both adamant and both said that they thought the shotgun was unloaded. The old man said it was a long-standing habit to threaten his wife with the unloaded shotgun. He had no intention to murder her. Therefore the killing of Mr Opus appeared to be an accident; that is, if the gun had been accidentally loaded.

The continuing investigation turned up a witness who saw the old couple's son loading the shotgun about six weeks prior to the fatal accident. It transpired that the old lady had cut off her son's financial support and the son, knowing the propensity of his father to use the shotgun threateningly, loaded the gun with the expectation that his father would shoot his mother. Since the loader of the gun was aware of this, he was guilty of the murder even though he didn't actually pull the trigger. The case now becomes one of murder on the part of the son for the death of Ronald Opus. Now comes the exquisite twist. Further investigation revealed that the son was, in fact, Ronald Opus. He had become increasingly despondent over the failure of his attempt to engineer his mother's murder. This led him to jump off the ten story building on March 23rd, only to be killed by a shotgun blast passing through the ninth story window.

The son had actually murdered himself so the medical examiner closed the case as a suicide.

A true story from Associated Press, Reported by Kurt Westervelt



LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE



Oxford Dictionary's latest definition of the following words: Divorce: Future tense of marriage.

Cigarette: A pinch of tobacco rolled in paper with fire at one end & a fool on the other.

Lecture: An art of transferring information from the notes of the lecturer to the notes of the students without passing through "the minds of either".

Conference: The confusion of one man multiplied by the number present.

Compromise: The art of dividing a cake in such a way that everybody believes he got the biggest piece.

Tears: The hydraulic force by which masculine will-power is defeated by feminine water power.

Dictionary: A place where success comes before work.

Conference Room: A place where everybody talks, nobody listens and everybody disagrees later on.

Classic: A book which people praise, but do not read.

Office: A place where you can relax after your strenuous home life.

Yawn: The only time some married men ever get to open their mouth.

Etc: A sign to make others believe that you know more than you actually do.

Committee: Individuals who can do nothing individually and sit to decide that nothing can be done together.

Experience: The name men give to their mistakes.

Atom Bomb: An invention to end all inventions.

Philosopher: A fool who torments himself during life, to be spoken of when dead.

Opportunist: A person who starts taking bath if he accidentally falls into a river.

Optimist: A person who while falling from Eiffel tower says in midway "See I am not injured yet."

Miser: A person who lives poor so that he can die rich.

Father: A banker provided by nature.

Criminal: A guy no different from the rest...except that he got caught.

Boss: Someone who is early when you are late and late when you are early.

Politician: One who shakes your hand before elections and your confidence after.

Doctor: A person who kills your ills by pills, and kills you with his bills.

Gujju Joke

The phone rang in the obituary department of a Gujarati local newspaper.

How much cost to have obituary printed? asked Jagjivan Shah.

'It's 500 Rupees a word, sir,' the clerk replied politely.

Fine, said Jagjivanbhai after a moment. 'Okay dhain, write dhees down: 'Suryakantbhai- deyd'.'

'That's all?' asked the clerk disbelievingly.

'Yes - Dhat's it.'

'I'm sorry sir, I should have told you - there's a five word minimum.'

'Yes, you should be four,' snapped Jagjivanbhai. "Have mane vichar karvu jo se.. ek minute" .....

A minute later..

"saaru.laakho, Suryakantbhai deyd. Sujuki fore Sale."

-Contributed by Kuldeep Desai

NEWSMAKERS

Our bright annet Vrindar Banker is shining all stars in his academic curriculum in his IYE trip to district 7260 USA. His first report card was received by proud father Rtn. Dr. Akshay Banker. His excellent marks reflect his dedication.

<i>Computer / Internet Literacy</i>	91
<i>English</i>	75
<i>Physical Education</i>	95
<i>Astronomy</i>	94
<i>History &amp; Government</i>	92
<i>Psychology</i>	86
<i>Computer Aided Design</i>	94
<i>Web Page Design</i>	94

Good going Vrindar. Keep it up. RSR is proud of you.



FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS



REGULAR MEETING

Fun Frolic and Fellowship: Everybody's favourite agenda is back for this Tuesday's meeting.

Date : 06<sup>th</sup> February, Tuesday

Time : 8:30 p.m.

Venue : Sam Bhacca Rotary Hall, Jeevanbharti