



The Southerner

Monthly Bulletin

Rotary Club of Madras South

Chartered on June 30, 1960



No. 04/2018-19

Service Above Self

October 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerner,
A quarter of the Rotary Year 2018-19 got over by September and we could see significant activities happening in September 2018 which is covered in this issue.

Thanks to Southerners for coming in good numbers to our weekly meetings at Savera, which makes both Rtn. Madhu and me happy. Don't miss the important meeting

on 23rd October. After a very long time we will have an advocate as a speaker in our club.

Project Selvi is a new initiative during the current Rotary Year which is planned for the next 3 years at Jaigopal Garodia Higher Secondary School, Saidapet. The project is supported by some of our Southerners, and I look forward to their continued support in the coming years too. Special thanks to all the incoming Presidents for working as a Team in making this happen. Thanks to Rtn. V. Shankar for hosting our club's family get together at Accord Metropolitan.

RCMS will see a spurt in activity in the month of October with RYLA, Ford Digital Literacy program and Awards for Vocational and Distinguished service. In addition to this we have got an opportunity to be part of "TIECON" an event for Entrepreneurs. 10 privileged Southerners will be witnessing the galaxy of speakers on October 6th. We will be adding a Rotaract Club at MEASI Institute of Management to our fold on October 9th.

Rtn. Cathy Simms, a member from our partner club, Rotary Club of Pasadena, will be visiting the beneficiaries of 'Caring for Little Hearts' project on October 16th along with her spouse and will participate in our club's weekly meeting on the same day. We will confer on Dr. Prashant Shah the Distinguished Service Award in the presence of the visitors and our members. Just to add, we would have completed 200 Surgeries under this project by then.

On November 10th and 11th we will be going to Puducherry for a Heritage trip led by our member and Historian Rtn. V. Sriram who will unravel the stories of Puducherry and its French connections during the trip. Our next family participation event is on November 17th and I request all to please mark your calendar and participate in large numbers.

YIR

K Saravanan

EMPOWERING GIRL STUDENTS THROUGH PROJECT SELVI



PDG Rtn. Ramakrishna Raja formally inaugurated Project Selvi at Jai Gopal Garodia Girls School on Sep 14th. This project, an initiative of our club, seeks to help and empower underprivileged schoolgirls through activities aimed at them, their parents, their teachers and in the process aid in successfully complete school and continue their education.

The project consists of four main components: Strengthening students, empowering parents, supporting teachers and creating a more enabling school environment for girls.

The key objectives of Project Selvi are:

- Reduce drop outs among girl students in upper primary and high schools.
- Increase the percentage of girls studying beyond Class X and going for college education.
- Empower girl students through life-skills education and mentoring.
- Empower teachers and parents through skill building to support the education of girl students.

RCMS has tied up with Kalanjiam Trust, an NGO that specializes in holistic support for education and works with several schools in



Chennai and other places to empower the girl child. RCMS will support Project Selvi during RY 2018-19 upto RY 2020-21 to the extent of Rs 9 lakh per year.

R Srikanth



BEST TEACHER AWARDS PRESENTED



On 5th September, we presented Best Teacher Awards to 3 teachers of St. Antony's School and to 2 teachers of MCN Hr. Sec. School, amidst a thunderous applause from the students and teachers. The teachers who received the award became very emotional and could not complete their acceptance speech in full. It was indeed a satisfying day for our Club members to honour the teachers in their school premises in front of



their colleagues and students. During the function in MCN Hr. Sec. School, Rtn. Ashok also presented cash for buying sports equipment to install a Badminton Court at the school.

KARAOKE NIGHT

The Family Participation event organized by our member, Rtn. V Shankar at Accord Metropolitan on 21st September was a memorable one for the large number of Southerners who participated. Veteran professional MC Nabarun Ghosh and his Karaoke team brought in some lively Hindi, English and Tamil songs and made every one groove to the tunes. Our Southerners rendered some impressive numbers as usual and some new talents were brought to light. Overall it was a fine evening for bonding.



INTERACT CLUB INSTALLATION AT ANNA GEMS SCHOOL



The installation of the Interact Club office bearers of Anna Gems Science Park School was held on 1st September at the School premises in Kotturpuram. During the occasion our Club also presented the Best Teacher Award to Mr. Hariharan of the School.



'START' – SAVE THE ADYAR RIVER TODAY



In honour of the World Rivers Day on 30th September, Ann Sheila Sriprakash and her Recirpocity Foundation launched Project 'START' at the Gandhinagar Cricket Grounds. Beginning with an early morning music concert by Smt. Bombay Jayashri, a clean-up activity along the Adyar river was undertaken with the Environmentalist Foundation of India (EFI) team. 180 to 200 kg of plastic and other waste was collected during the event in which around 90 Rotaractors from AC TECH and ASAN participated under the guidance of Rtn S Balaji.



KUTTY CHUVAR 2.0

A unique project started by Rotaractors of AC TECH last year in one school was repeated this year in two schools. 20 students from AC TECH helped in the painting of walls in two schools (at Sithalapakkam and Kanampalayam) to beautify the school premises, giving much joy to the children and those visiting the schools. This project was supported by United Way of India, an NGO.

PROJECT KIDDY CRAFTS



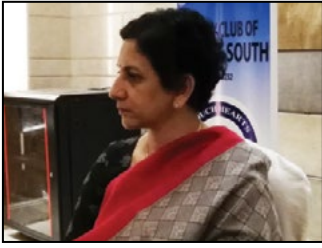
Another project also executed by AC TECH Rotaractors is titled 'Kiddy Crafts'. In this project, creative items were made out of waste material, for use by the kids either to decorate their classrooms or to play and learn with. This project was supported by FORD India.

HOME NURSING AND DRIVING COURSES



15 women from the underprivileged segment are currently undergoing training by ANEW for Home Nursing (10) and Driving (5) at their premises in Anna Nagar. This Vocational Service project is supported by CAMS.

WEEKLY MEETINGS IN SEPTEMBER



Date : 4th September, 2018
 Speaker : Dr Chitra Madhavan
 Topic : Masterpieces of Madras Museum



Date : 11th September, 2018
 Speaker : Mr Venkatesh Ramakrishnan
 Topic : Chennai of the 1940s



Date : 25th September, 2018
 Speaker : Ms Aparnaa Nagesh
 Topic : My journey in dance and performing arts

ART COMPETITION FOR DYSLEXIC CHILDREN



“Advantage Dyslexia” was a week long programme which provided a platform for children with Dyslexia to showcase their talents. RCMS sponsored the Inter School Art Competition held at Asan Senior Secondary School on 9th September. A cheque for Rs.50,000 was handed over to Mr. D Chandrashekar, President, Madras Dyslexia Association by President Saravanan towards the event.

75 children participated over 4 categories. The Anns of RCMS took charge of registration, distributed and collected the sheets, distributed the snacks and made sure the children were comfortable. Certificates of participation and stationery were given to all participants.

MDA also conducted an Awareness programme for Teachers subsequently on 14th September.

Ann Kalyani Balakrishnan



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