



The Southerner

Monthly Bulletin



Rotary Club of Madras South

Chartered on June 30, 1960

No. 05/2018-19

Service Above Self

November 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerner,

The month of October was full of activities in our Club under every Project arm of Rotary's five Avenues of service. We had events covering Vocational, Community Service Health and

Development, International and New Generation. More details about these events are covered in the pages of this issue. Looking at this I feel compelled to shift gears towards the other main area of focus in the upcoming month – Club Service.

PP Rtn. Madhu has lined up some exciting speakers for weekly meetings in November. We have plans to celebrate Diwali in a unique way in our WhatsApp group and hope it will materialize the way we wanted it. Heritage trip with Rtn. Sriram V as a lead has been planned on the 10th and 11th November and I am happy to see some Green Rotarians signed up for this trip. We have a family participation event planned on 24th November at Hotel Radisson Blu, Egmore, the theme being "Games Show".

Rotarians all around the world celebrate "The Joy of Giving" by gifting to Rotary Foundation during the month of November. The Rotary foundation transforms the gifts by Rotarians into projects that change lives both closer to home and around the world. As a club enjoying the global grant for our 'Caring for Little Heart' project, it's time for us to look back and contribute to the Foundation. At this juncture it is my duty to inform you that Rotary Club of Pasadena has confirmed their participation in the "Caring for Little Heart -2" in the upcoming year also.

As a person who was born in November, I love rains and our state gets most of its annual share of rainfall during this month. I pray to the almighty for minimum damage to mankind and other resources and I request all Southerners to be safe and secure during this monsoon season.

YIR

K Saravanan

FORD – ROTARY DIGITAL LITERACY

LAPTOPS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The annual Ford - Rotary Digital Literacy Initiative event at which Ford announced the donation of 1500 Laptops to more than 100 schools that were identified by various Rotary Clubs was held at the Savera Hotel on 9th October. Every year, this being a key event for our Club, there is a whole lot of effort made to make it a great success. This year, the event was made different to previous years because of the following:

1. We gave away laptops at the event itself to select clubs – this was possible because till last year there were desktops and being bulky could not be donated at the event. The recipients' joy knew no bounds.
2. We had a video that covered the journey of this program for the past ten years – it was amazing to see the spread of the program starting locally in Chennai and reaching out to all parts of India covering the length and breadth of the country. This reach would not have been possible without the help of Rotary Clubs and certain other NGOs that had Pan India presence. It was also very heartening to see the children dabbling with the laptops.
3. Stunning amongst the felicitation speakers was the quick talk by the President of the Tamilnadu Disability Foundation who talked about how the laptops were giving great amount of mobility to people with physical challenges. Using these laptops, they work from home to learn software or prepare for competitive exams . He also mentioned the case of one girl who could not move out of her home but thanks to the laptop prepared herself from home and now is a Tahsildar!

Each year this event and subsequent distribution of the computers that takes place goes to improve digital literacy among the needy by leaps and bounds.

Luminaries at the star-studded function included Mr Kent May, Acting US Consul-General in Chennai, who was the Chief Guest; Mr S Ramesh, Chief Financial Officer, Global Business Centre, Ford Motor Private Ltd, and Rtn Babu Peram, District Governor of RI district 3232, were Guests of Honour.

Rtn R Srikanth

President **Rtn K Saravanan** - 97910 32292



Secretary **Rtn S Elumperiyar** - 98407 26674

COMPLETING 200 SURGERIES UNDER CARING FOR LITTLE HEARTS



Rtn Catherine Simms from our Global Grant partner, Rotary Club of Pasadena (USA) along with her spouse visited Sooriya Hospital to meet and cheer the beneficiaries of the 'Caring for Little Hearts' project. The occasion also marked the successful completion of 200 surgeries under the project.

DSA CONFERRED ON DR PRASHANT SHAH



Dr Prashant Shah, Chief Consultant Paediatric Cardiac Surgeon at Sooriya Hospital in Chennai is the key figure in the largest service project undertaken by RCMS in its 58-year history. Under this project, more than 300 surgeries are being performed at Sooriya Hospital over the course of 18 months on children with congenital heart defects.

Dr. Shah has also authored a few books including "Manual of paediatric cardiac intensive care," "Manual of cardiac surgery instruments" and "Know child heart defects."

In recognition of his outstanding service in spearheading the heart surgery project of RC Madras South and in promoting awareness and knowledge about this dreaded ailment that afflicts children, our Club conferred a Distinguished Service Award on Dr Shah in the presence of a galaxy of dignitaries at Hotel Savera on 16th October.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS AT PROJECT SELVI



The visitors from RC Pasadena (USA) also visited Jai Gopal Garodia School to understand the work done by our Club under Project Selvi. The children of the school performed an entertainment show to welcome the visitors.



VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS AT MTC



5 Drivers and 5 Conductors of the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (South) were presented with our Club's Vocational Excellence Awards in recognition of their service. MTC Branch Manager, Mr. Pazhani of Adyar Depot, where the function was held, made necessary arrangements for the event which was presided over by President Saravanan.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTED



R Sathyanarayanan was inducted as a member of our club by PDG R Raja on 16th October. He is currently Director – Sales and Commercial at Guild Engineering. His Ann Ms Gruhapriya was also present. He has two children Sanjana (13) and Akhil (7). Southerners welcome Rtn Sathyanarayanan to the worldwide family of Rotarians.

WORLD POLIO DAY



Our club participated in the district's Mega Public Image program on the occasion of World Polio Day. President Saravanan can be seen here with some of the volunteers creating awareness at a traffic intersection in Chennai.

VISIT TO EEF



The inmates of East Eden Foundation posing with our Club's banner during the monthly Annandhanam held on 27th October at their premises in Chennai.

NEW ROTARACT CLUB INSTALLED



At a glittering ceremony held on 23rd October, office bearers of The Rotaract Club of MEASI Institute of Management were installed at the institute's premises in Chennai. Nawabzada Mohamed Asif Ali, Dewan to Prince of Arcot was the Chief Guest. President Saravanan along with Secretary Rtn S Elumperiyar and Director – Rotaract Rtn S Balaji also participated amongst other Southerners.



VIZHITHIRU 18



The 16th edition of this program was organised by Rotaractors of CEG on 27th October. This is a program for students of Government schools (Std IX-XII) who are brought to the CEG campus in Anna University buses. This year around 500 students from five Government schools participated. Apart from inspiring speeches from RCMS President Saravanan/members, a motivational speaker engaged the students stressing on the importance of education, values, etc. Future opportunities / avenues to study were shared by CEG Alumni.

WEEKLY MEETINGS IN OCTOBER



Date : 16th October, 2018

Speaker : Mr Graham Creasey (Ford Motor Co Pvt Ltd,), Rtn Catherine Simms (Rotary Club of Pasadena, California, USA), Rtn PDG Olivannan.

Event : Celebration of 200 child heart surgeries at Sooriya Hospital, presentation of Distinguished Service Award to Dr Prashant Shah and signing of a sister club agreement between RC MS and RC Pasadena.



Date : 23rd October, 2018

Speaker : Mr Suhrith Parthasarathy

Topic : Public Interest Litigation



Date : 30th October, 2018

Speaker : Rtn Sibi Rajan

Topic : Classification talk on Telecom Connectivity



THE LARGEST ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONCLAVE IN CHENNAI

TiECON 2018, the largest Entrepreneurship Conclave in this part of the country with over 2000

delegates participating, was held at Hotel ITC Grand Chola on 6th October. Rtn V Shankar, a member of our club, is the current President of TiE Chennai. Our club sponsored the session on the 'Role of Marketing in an increasingly cluttered world' during the Conclave in which several Southerners participated. Seen in the picture (among others) are Rotarians Jawaharlal Nichani (*extreme right*) and Sibi Rajan (*second from left*) who were part of the team of delegates from RCMS.



VIGILANCE AWARENESS BY ROTARACTORS

The newly formed Rotaract Club of MEASI Institute of Management in association with Indian Bank organised a Human Chain Against Corruption to commemorate the Vigilance Awareness Week (29th Oct.- 3rd Nov.). The staff and students of the Institute enthusiastically gathered near the Spencer Plaza junction in Chennai to form the Chain.



With Best Compliments from

A Well Wisher

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