



The Southerner

Monthly Bulletin

Rotary Club of Madras South

Chartered on June 30, 1960



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

No. 06/2017-18

Service Above Self

December 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerner,

I am always amazed at the way Rotary as an organization is structured. There is a clear and proven way of doing any project and it simply works. For example, Rotary designated months to

focus on specific areas of service is a great idea. And it is not constant, changing periodically reflecting the changing needs of the Rotarians and the society. December is the month designated for Disease Prevention and Treatment. Rightly so, our Matching Grant application is approved by The Rotary Foundation and we are all set to scale up our Little Hearts project.

We have lined up several activities in December. Christmas Fellowship is on 9th December. Our family participation Director Rtn. Prakaskh, Rtn. Mukund, Ann. Rose and Rtn. Renjith have put in extra ordinary efforts to give us an event to cherish. Followed by this we have a joint meeting of 6 Clubs in the District on 12th December to be addressed by Mr. R Seshasayee, former Chairman of Infosys and former Managing Director of Ashok Leyland. We will also launch our vocational service courses – Airconditioner servicing and Basic computer skills in December. And a vocational visit to Sashtha Paper Mills in Kancheepuram is planned on 16 December. Our Vocational Services Director Rtn. Ashok will keep us engaged all throughout.

And not to forget November and the Distinguished Service Award to Shri P C Ramakrishna, the noted theatre personality, we are on a Rotary high. Thank you Southerners for your participation. Let's enjoy Rotary.

Yours in Rotary

Magdoom Mohamed KZ

LITTLE HEARTS PROJECT GETS BIG SUPPORT



“Caring for Little Hearts” our Club's flagship project this year was formally launched at a glittering function held at the Savera on 6th November. The project will now be supported by The Rotary Foundation through a Global Matching Grant, and will help around 300 underprivileged children in Tamil Nadu affected with congenital heart disease. The club has already helped with 75 such surgeries carried out at the Sooriya Hospital in Chennai till the end of November. The project funding by RCMS supplements the contribution from Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme apart from contributions from FORD Foundation, The Rotary Club of Pasadena, California, USA and the Have a Heart Foundation, Bangalore. IPDG Rtn Natrajan Nagoji was the Chief Guest and Dr Prashant Shah, the Cardiac surgeon performing the surgeries from Sooriya Hospital was the Guest of Honour. Ms Gangapriya Chakravarti, Director – HR, FORD Motors India and Mr Prakash Harjani from the Have a Heart Foundation also spoke on the occasion. There was a recorded video message from Rtn J Sheldon Capeloto, Past President of Pasadena Rotary Club, USA, who revealed that it just took a few minutes to raise the required funds from his Club members once the project was explained to them at their regular weekly meeting!

Rotarians from our Club and staff from FORD INDIA have been regularly visiting Sooriya Hospital to meet and cheer the beneficiary families ever since the surgeries were started in August this year.



Southerners "Andamanned"

Around 35 Southerners visited the Andamans from 23rd to 26th November as a part of our Club's Annual Outstation Fellowship Programme. Rtn Renjith Joseph, the veteran Outstation organiser of RCMS, had as usual put together an enjoyable variety of experiences to explore the picturesque islands with his meticulous planning. Here are a few vignettes from the trip. Pictures certainly speak louder than words!



AMBULANCE VAN DONATED TO EAST EDEN



Our Club donated an Ambulance van to East Eden Foundation, the home for mentally challenged destitute men, located in Manapakkam, on 21 November at Hotel Savera. The ambulance is sponsored by CAMS. East Eden Foundation has been doing yeomen service and there are about 35 mentally challenged men housed and cared for at the premises of the Foundation. The Ambulance will be used to take these men for periodic medical check up and for other medical emergencies. Southerners have been generously contributing towards Annadanam every month since last year at the EEF premises.



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO P C RAMAKRISHNA



On 14 Nov, our Club honoured Mr. P C Ramakrishna, a veteran theatre actor and voice artist with the Distinguished Service Award for his contribution to theatre and for being the Voice of Madras. A member and Past President of the theatre group "The Madras Players" since 1969, he has acted in more than 100 of its theatrical productions and has also donned the Director's cap in a few plays. His is one of the most recorded English language voices in India, having been effectively used in numerous documentaries, corporate films, heritage films, children's talking books, etc. The Award, a prestigious one from our Club conferred on

only a select few in the past years, was presented by our Charter member PDG Ramakrishna Raja. Mrs. Gowri Ramnarayan and Rtn. V Sriram felicitated Mr. Ramakrishna on the occasion.

WEEKLY MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER



Date : 21st November, 2017

Speaker : Mr Shyam Renganathan

Topic : Engineering lost me. Who won? People who like to laugh.

Note:

Date: 7th November - Formal Launch of "Little Hearts' Project

Date: 14th November – Presentation of Distinguished Service Award

* These have been covered elsewhere in this issue

FREE SPECTACLES DISTRIBUTED



Free spectacles were distributed to around 35 students of St Antony's Anglo Indian High School where a mega medical camp was conducted by our club earlier in October. The Jain Federation had facilitated the eye camp through Doctors from Agarwal Eye Hospital in Chennai.

WEDDING RECEPTION



The Wedding reception of Annette Vaasavi, daughter of Rtn PP BB Vengatesh and Ann Anjana was held on 8th November at MRC Hall in Chennai. Southerners were present in large numbers to bless the young couple and to wish them a glorious married life.

SOUTHERNERS CALL ON THE 'LITTLE HEARTS'

A few members of RCMS and staff of FORD visited the Sooriya Hospital on 18th November to cheer the children who had undergone surgery and also some who were awaiting surgery. Gift hampers were distributed to the children bringing a smile on their otherwise tense faces. Some parents narrated the heart rending stories of their suffering and expressed their profound gratitude to Rotary for the timely help rendered to save the lives of their children.





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