

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerner,

The year is coming to an end after lovely projects with schools, computers donation, heart surgeries for the children, rain harvesting, donation of oxygen concentrators, etc. Global grants are in process for freedom

through education, little heart surgeries and rainwater harvesting, a district initiative with 8 clubs.

Under vocational services, spoken English, counselling and AC repair and service courses are being completed. Our Community Learning Centre at Kattur Village is very active even in the summer.

We also had an inclusive program with the transgender community. We have been donating over the years to Eden Foundation for their breakfast meal.

We also supported District projects for empowering women and other district initiatives.

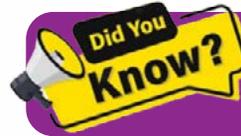
Along with the projects we had a wonderful year of fellowships starting from Cricket, Spanish dance, Retro, Farm Guru, Restobar, mango theme party and movie evening.

We also had many firesides to extend the fellowship among the Rotarians, Anns and Annettes.

It has been an amazing journey bonding with the RCMS family and with all the presidents and district officials. I profusely thank everyone for their wonderful support rendered to me. Looking forward to another six weeks with the Southerner family as president.

Yours in Rotary

Jawahar Nichani



ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS



From stamp collecting to ballroom dancing, the interests of Rotarians are as diverse as the membership itself. Yet, among the more than 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide, an amateur radio enthusiast or a chess player is bound to find others who share the same passions. But Rotary Fellowship members share more than just their common interest in sport diving, golf, fishing, or scouting; they share an interest in fellowship and service and in promoting world understanding. As such, it's no wonder that the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians donates the profits from ski events to The Rotary Foundation or that the Flying Rotarians help ferry medical personnel and supplies.

Rotary Fellowships also unite Rotarians who have shared professional interests in such fields as arts and communication and finance/banking. Members exchange technical information and seek opportunities to employ their expertise in service not just to their own communities and countries, but to their professions as well.

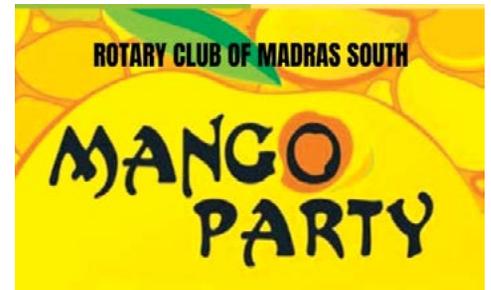
Source: RI Website

RCMS FELLOWSHIPS

The regular family participation programmes that our club organises, usually based on a given theme, are a great example of Fellowship and keep the Southerner families close-knit. In addition, the annual outstation trips not only provide great fun but have also helped in discovering some hidden talents in our members.

The cosy fireside fellowships, which bring together a small group of Southerners every month at the residence of a Rotarian, go a long way in cementing this bond of friendship in the club.

A MANGO-FLAVOURED FAMILY PARTICIPATION EVENT



*"It was the summer of love
A delicate daydream
And for a couple of months
It felt like we were 18, yeah*

*It was the summer of love
La-la-love
La-la-love, yeah
It was the summer of
La-la-love
La-la-love"*

And that is what it was on 30th April at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

All dressed in yellow with drink glasses, not of alcohol but our season's favourite fruit – mangoes, the Southerners enjoyed the Saturday with games and mango-flavoured conversations.

The event started, when the Anns of our club had to guess the mango dishes that were placed in front of them. To our surprise, they not only guessed the Indian dishes but also guessed the international dishes perfectly.

They even created an ad for those dishes so creatively that they can give competition to any ad agency.

The highlight of the event was the tambola, where everyone came together and started playing. With prizes like jaldi 5, jaldi 7, top- middle-bottom row and not 1, not 2 but 5 full houses everyone felt like a winner that Saturday night. The total cash prize distribution was ₹10,000.

The gathering ended with food, drinks, and a gift hamper of mangoes to all by our lovely President Jawahar.

Annette Akansha (daughter of Rtn Anand Kathare)



FLUORESCENT MICROSCOPE - MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Rtn Babu Kanakasabai from RC Victoria Campbell Town, Australia, was the prime mover for our Global Grant project that helped to install a Fluorescent Microscope at the VHS - This microscope enables one to identify Fungi that are an outcome of post-Covid infection. The installation not only helped quick identification but also reduced the time taken to identify to just 15 Minutes compared to the 24 hours or more it took with the regular microscope.

The Fluorescent Microscope is being used since November 2022 after it was inaugurated by DG Rtn Nandakumar.

Rtn Babu who is based out of Melbourne was visiting India and so took the opportunity to visit VHS on 4th April and get familiarized with the equipment. Rtn Renjit Joseph and Rtn R Srikanth accompanied Rtn Babu. The team was received by Dr Priya, Head of Lab Services at VHS. Dr Priya explained the salient features of the Microscope and other ancillary equipment to the team. Dr Priya also informed that the usage had trebled in the first quarter of 2023 compared to the last quarter of 2022.

It was gratifying to note the project benefitted the public at large and was also a true sign of international collaboration among Rotary Clubs in addressing Health needs.



AUTISM AWARENESS CAMP HELD



Rtn Kalpana Kumar, who runs the 'Kare Therapy Center' for special children conducted a camp in association with RCMS at the Montfort Matriculation HS School, Chennai on 1st April. The camp included a dental check-up in association with the 'Right Smile Dental Clinic.' It also had experts conducting job evaluations and assessments for adults with autism. Around 200 students and parents attended the camp getting opinions on speech therapy, behaviour management and

inclusion from the experts. World Autism Awareness Day was celebrated on April 2 this year.



ATHIRAPPALLY 'CALLS'

The much-awaited outstation family outing is happening in August 2023. Around 30 Southerners have already signed up and are heading to the scenic Athirappally waterfalls, the largest waterfall in Kerala and nicknamed 'The Niagara of South India'. With accommodation booked at the beautiful Rasa Gurukul Resort, the trip promises to be a memorable experience. You can call PP Rtn K Saravanan for more details (Mob: 9791032292).



WEEKLY MEETINGS IN APRIL



Date : 4th April, 2023
 Speaker : Rtn K Narayanan
 Topic : Thrills and challenges of property management

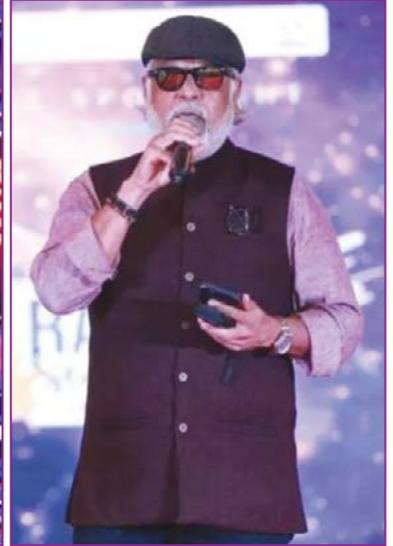


Date : 18th April, 2023
 Speaker : Ms Sanjana Prasad
 Topic : Yoga for all, including seniors
Joint meeting with R C Adyar

AWARD FOR PE BINA BOAZ

The finals of RAFTS – Season 6, a fundraiser for cancer awareness, conducted by the Rotary Club of Chennai Spotlight was held on April 29, 2023. This year we had 2 entries from our Club - Rtn Devan Thuppali and Rtn Bina Boaz. Both passed through the qualifying rounds with flying colours. Devan sang and played the harmonica and Bina danced to an old Tamil song.

The finals were held at Ramada Plaza. Bina won the runner-up award in the 'Empress' category. After the award, she said, "It was kind of exciting to win something even at my age, and it sure was a lot of fun practicing and preparing for the event. I think I would have secretly enjoyed it if they had placed a tiara on my head."



RIPE VISITS CHENNAI

Rtn Gordon McNally, RIPE visited Chennai on 19th April to 'Meet & Greet' the incoming presidents and secretaries from RI Districts 3231 and 3232. PE Rtn Bina Boaz and SE Rtn K Narayanan attended the meeting representing RCMS.



Southerners, please note the following important dates in June 2023, the last month of the current Rotary year.

13th June - Club assembly at The Madras Boat Club at 6.30 pm.

27th June - Installation of Rtn Bina Boaz as President at Hotel GRT Grand at 7 pm.

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