

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Southerners,
The month of September was eventful. It began with the release of the biography of the late PDG R Raja by R V Rajan, a veteran writer and past member of RCMS.

We had an exciting Speaker, Advocate Shyam Sunder, who was very thorough in matters of Law and enlightened our members. I thank Rtn PP S R Madhu for his relentless efforts to regularly bring great speakers to our meetings.

I welcome two new members Rtn Sunil Hasija and Rtn Bala referred by PP Rtn Bowmick and PE Rtn Rajan Babu respectively.

Some of our members went for an outstation trip to Karaikudi: A Heritage Tour to Chettinad. It was a memorable trip. *(See the report in this issue)*

We had a wonderful Game Nite at The Presidency Club, with enthusiastic participation from Southerners and a sumptuous fellowship and dinner!

I request you all to bring your relatives and friends to our meetings and dinner fellowships. Let us continue the momentum and increase our club's membership tally!

Best Regards,

K Narayanan

SOUTHERNERS GET A TASTE OF CHETTINAD



Chettinad – the very name which conjures up images of grandeur is a treasure trove of cultural heritage, striking art and architectural marvels.

28 Southerners visited Karaikudi, the epicentre of Chettinad culture, from the 20th to the 22nd of September for the annual outstation trip. They not only witnessed the palatial 18th-century mansions adorned with intricate woodwork, handcrafted tiles and Belgian glass but also relished the delicious Chettinad cuisine. The entire group stayed at 'The Bangala', one of the finest hotels in Karaikudi. President Narayanan and Ann Meena, who both hail from Karaikudi, had made excellent arrangements for the visit, with a well-planned itinerary including a joint meeting with the Rotary Club of Karaikudi on the day of our arrival where one of their members made a fine PowerPoint presentation on the history of Chettinad/Karaikudi for the benefit of the Southerners who were visiting the place for the first time. As usual, the fun and laughter began right from the time the group entered the Tejas Express on the 20th and the spirit of fellowship continued until we returned to Chennai on the 22nd night. On Day 2 President Narayanan had also arranged for high tea at his palatial family home in Karaikudi. The Anns as usual visited some of the shopping hubs in town to shop for sarees and artefacts to their heart's content.

It was a memorable trip that will remain etched in the memories of those who participated for a long time.

Seshadri

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BIOGRAPHY OF RAMAKRISHNA RAJA RELEASED



The biography of late PDG Ramakrishna Raja, a doyen in the world of Rotary and a charter member of RCMS, was released on 1st September by Mr N Murali, Director – The Hindu Group and president of The Music Academy. The first copy of the book titled, 'Ramakrishna Raja – A Complete Gentleman' authored by our past member R V Rajan was received by L Lakshman, Chairman Emeritus, Rane Holdings Ltd. The event was organized by the TAG Group and Ramu

Endowments founded by our past member Mr R T Chari at the TAG Auditorium. PP Rtn S R Madhu delivered the welcome address and also proposed a vote of thanks. PDG N Nagoji recalled his fond memories of PDG Raja as his well-wisher and mentor in his speech. The book is available on Amazon or can be bought from Compuprint, Chennai. Ph: 63822 03140.

FIRESIDE GET-TOGETHERS HOSTED IN SEPTEMBER

One of the highlights of the trip to Karaikudi was a visit to President Narayanan's palatial Chettinad-style family home, where he and Ann Meena hosted a fireside meeting for the visiting Southerners. Apart from the sumptuous high tea, the hosts also took the visitors on a guided tour of the house.

On 22nd September, Rtn Elumperiyar and Ann Chitra hosted a fireside at their home in Chennai for some invited Rotarians who thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality of the hosts and the usual small talk at such events.



'HOPE' PRESIDENTS ALUMNI

One of the hallmarks of being the president of a Rotary club is the lifelong bonding and friendship between the presidents of Rotary clubs in the district. Many past Rotary presidents who assumed the role of president many years ago continue to be good friends even today. The informal association of these presidents usually carries the name that represents the RI theme during their year as president. The theme during the last Rotary year (2023-24) was "Create Hope in the World."

On September 8th, all the Immediate Past Presidents (IPP) of District 3232 got together to launch the alumni of 'HOPE' presidents. IPP Bina Boaz, representing RCMS, was present at the meeting.





Southerners had a rollicking time on 29th September at the Presidency Club where the family participation event 'GAME NITE' was conducted. Apart from the traditional Tambola, Anns Chitra Elumperiyar, Srividhya Saravanan and Neeta Sahi organised a quiz and some group activities. The fourth family event in the first quarter of the current Rotary year kept the Southerners regaled. The fellowship, camaraderie and the lip-smacking snacks and dinner were, as always, the highlights of any RCMS family event.

FELLOWSHIP BASKET IN TRANSIT

On 9th September, Rtn Sivasubramanian and his family visited the new home of PP Rtn A Sridharan and Ann Raji to pass on the fellowship basket to the latter. According to Rtn Siva, a green Rotarian, Rtn Sridharan's 'warmth and hospitality made the gathering truly special'. The fellowship basket is an important activity of our club which helps in strengthening the bond between individual Rotarians and their families.



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Joint meeting with R C Karaikudi

SPEAKER MEETING IN SEPTEMBER



Date : 17th September, 2024
Speaker : Mr G Shyam Sundar
Topic : Laymen and the Law – advice and tips on legal matters



Outside the majestic Chettinad palace



Having a traditional Chettinad meal



Inside the Rao Bahadur Chettinad House



Some star-struck fans with actor Jayapradha at The Bangala

With Best Compliments from

A WELL WISHER

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