







TEXCITY TEXCITY TEXCITY Issue No. 5

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"Whatever the conditions of People's lives, wherever they live, however they live, they share the same hopes, the same dreams as you and I"

– Melinda French Gates



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Texcity is bustling with activities. Our Mega Fundraiser 'Jamboree' is just around the corner! It's overwhelming to see how our Rotarians and Anns, are working tirelessly in organizing this major event. It's my humble request to each and everyone, to please continue to support us by contributing in whichever manner you can, in order to make this event a grand success. The proceeds from this will go for conducting surgeries on patients with Breast Cancer.

Apart from this we will continue to do our District Priority Projects and other community service projects.

I must make a special mention about our Anns and Annets, who are taking out a lot of time and doing extremely wonderful projects, thereby adding more and more smiles on those deserving faces.

The G36 clubs have been ever so supportive and I'm grateful and thankful for being a part of this.

My committee members are the gems of my court. This journey is smooth sailing only because of their support and cooperation.



EDITORIAL

'Every child is a different kind of flower, and all together, make this world a beautiful garden'

- Anonymous

Children are God's gift to planet earth. There is nothing as beautiful as the heart of a child, there is nothing as inspiring as the spirit of a child. Their minds are simple, straight, open and transparent. They have no preconceived notions as they are not yet tainted by experience. Children live in a bubble, untouched by life's reality....bursting with ideas, hopes and dreams.

It's every parents dream to nurture their children to be the best that they can be in life. Parents therefore have expectations that they hope their children will live up to, be it academically, socially or even spiritually. Some, however in the quest of academic excellence forget that not all children are academically gifted and that each child is unique, end up frustrating their children.

As Stacia Tauscher, dancer and artist rightly said, "We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today."

Our society has managed to equate happiness with success and all that goes with it, without even noticing that children are happy even when they are talking and playing with friends and family. This only reiterates the fact, that things children love the most are free.

Oscar Wilde said; "The best way to make children good is to make them happy". Therefore, let us remain mindful of our behavior with children and try to educate and nurture them in a manner that they become positive and happy individuals who serve the society at large.



ROTARIAN'S HUB

Projects & Meetings...

This month's Leadership program was conducted at V S Sengottiah High School, Sarada Mill Road, Sundarapuram where around 380 students both studying in English and Tamil medium were trained. There was a Life skill Orientation session for students of class 9 to 12 conducted by Swami Murali from Chennai. He spoke on the importance of prayers and how it could help in one's daily life and help in combatting the pressure of exams.

Like every year, this year too, Texcity in association with Divyodaya Inter Religious center conducted the 28th Interschool cultural competitions with great pomp and show.

Almost 17 schools with around 395 students participated in the various events conducted.

Rotary Regional Badminton Tournament was held on the 21st October, 2018 at Lifespring 360° Fitness which saw a huge participation of around 335 players with 320 matches played.

Apart from the leadership program conducted at V S Sengottiah school, a Water Filter and a Water Tank worth Rs. 49,000/- was donated, where around 850 students of the school will be benefitted.



Projects & Meetings...

5th October, 2018 – COTS (Club Officer Training Seminar) was held for the members of Rotary club of Legend, Rotary Club of Satellite, Rotary Club of Coimbatore North, Rotary Club of Windcity and Rotary Club of Texcity. The training was given by DGS Rtn. Chella Raghavendran, Dist. Trainer Rtn. Ramprasath and Dist. Trainer Rtn. Saikrishna. The chief guest for the occasion was District Director, Rtn. P P Lakshmanan.

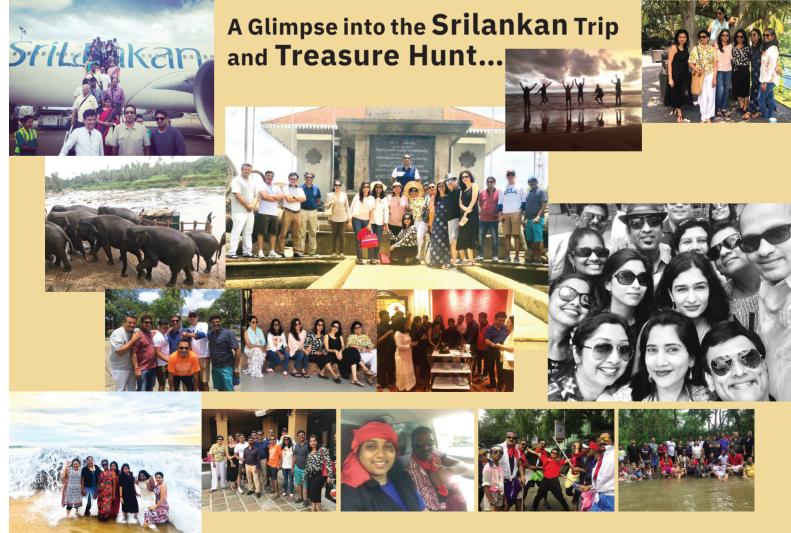
10th October, 2018 – It was a speaker meeting where Rtn. Pradeep Yuvaraj gave an insight into 'How Creative Thinking takes you Places'. It showed a good attendance of 30 members including Rotarians and Anns.

13th October,2018 – The 5th board meeting was conducted where most of the board members were present.

17th October, 2018 – "Social skills are an integral part of functioning in the society. Displaying good manners, communicating effectively with others, being considerate of the feelings of others are all important parts of solid social skills" said Ms. Shylaja Nair, Corporate Trainer, who addressed the Texcitians on Social and Corporate Etiquettes.

31st October,2018 – This meeting's main agenda was to discuss the upcoming major fund raiser event 'Jamboree'. The digital marketing plan for the event was explained along with a demonstration of how to use facebook to reach out to as many people through social media. The poster of "Rock Jam", the band competition to be held during the event was released.





Ann's Hub

Anns Club kick started our projects for the month by donating water heater, blankets, bedsheets, nighties, sarees to Assissi Nilayam, a home which takes care of 32 mentally challenged women in Attapadi, Kerala.

We visited "Karunya Nilayam" a peace home run by sisters at Vanjipalayam, Tirupur where multiple handicapped and incurable bedridden children are taken care of. As requested by them, their need for diapers for these children was given by us.

"Festival of Lights" was celebrated by the Ann's Club with 50 blind women & men at Texcity hall this Diwali. They were given new clothes and sweet packets as Diwali gifts which brought in a smile on their faces.

Navaratri Meet – (4th Ann's Meet) Being the week of Navaratri, the artistically decorated Kolu at Ann Charulatha's house was a treat to the eyes. All the Anns and Annets adorned in traditional attire, were a beautiful sight too. Ann Alka's soulful rendering of the Bhajans and our little Annet Anushka's praises to the Divine mesmerized all of us present there. October birthdays were celebrated. This month's "True Diva" was Ann Jayashree. The evening ended with a sumptuous dinner organized by our host Ann Charulatha.



Annet's Hub

Annet's Club donated 175 school bags and T Shirts to the inmates of Anbu Illam. They also donated 50 T shirts to the mentally challenged senior citizens of Cheshire homes and provided snacks and tea when they visited them. Our little Annets also did their part by distributing cakes to students at V S Sengottiah School during the installation of Water Doctor in the school by the Rotarians.

The major feat by the Annets this

month was the Art Workshop that was conducted to raise funds to train autistic children. It was indeed a tremendous effort taken by the Annet's club to conduct a one day workshop where the kids who participated were educated on the usage of eco-friendly items to make a variety of creative items. They were introduced to Mandala Art which helps in the improvement of concentration skills and relaxes the mind. They

were taught to make a dream catcher with recycled items. The kids also learnt the art of making their own gift wrappers so as to avoid the usage of plastic gift sheets. All the kids who participated, returned satisfied with hands full of their own creations. The Annet's club managed to raise a sum of Rs. 1,31,000/- which would be used for training and betterment of the underprivileged autistic children.



Budding Artists of Texcity

"The world when seen through a little child's eyes greatly resembles paradise."



Sunshine

Every land far and near Something comes but never near From the land not very near Rises something that is very dear

East to west there it glows When dawn there it goes People say - "don't you go" But he says - "so sorry gotta go"

Years n years it has been No one dared to do anything People say he's so small Don't you repeat it Cause he's no small

Annet Rithika Karthikeyan -12 Yrs



My Mother

My mother, you're my number one, My mother, you are so much fun. My mother, you love me a ton,

My mother, we'll always be one. My mother, you love

everyone, My mother, behind me you run.

My mother, you always get things done, My mother, like you there is penal

Annet Tanishka Jagdeep



The Nilgiris

Trees swaying, in shades of green
Sweet sound of birds and cannibal crows
Cones falling and birds nestling
Trees dying and ants marching
Plants healing and roots emerging
All of nature's beauty in one land
Nature's best friend, Nilgiris

Annet Alex Jude -15 Yrs

Land.





Rotary Day at the UN 2018

Innovation was the theme at Rotary Day at the United Nations on 10th November, 2018. Nearly a thousand Rotary leaders, members, and guests from around the world met in Nairobi, Kenya, to hear about creative solutions to challenging world problems.

The annual event, held at the only UN headquarters in Africa, recognizes Rotary's long-standing special relationship with the United Nations. UN officials and humanitarian experts inspired participants to find innovative strategies for addressing humanitarian needs both locally and globally.

The event honored young innovators and their role in creating change. Six Rotaract and Rotary members age 35 or under were also honored as Rotary People of Action: Young Innovators. All of these leaders spoke about how they used ingenuity to launch efforts that brought about measurable and lasting results.

For the first time, the event featured an Innovation Fair where Rotary clubs, businesses, and other organizations exhibited projects and cutting-edge technology designed to address humanitarian challenges.

Keynote speakers included RI President Barry Rassin, who is a member of the Rotary Club of East Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, and Sushil Kumar Gupta, Rotary International president-nominee and a member of the Rotary Club of Delhi Midwest, Delhi, India.

Rassin said the Innovation Fair inspired him to pair Rotary's older generations' resources and experience with the energy and ideas of young people. "We want to take you on as equals, as colleagues," Rassin told the young audience members. "You bring to the table your ideas, your ambitions, and your perspective on the world's problems. We help you to enlarge your horizons, to think big, and to make your innovations practical." He added, "Youth innovators and Rotary can make the impossible possible."

"For a more peaceful and more sustainable world for all, we need the active participation and leadership of young people," said Hanna S. Tetteh, director-general of the United Nations Office at Nairobi . "I'm grateful Rotary is representing that here today."



Name: Paul Mushaho

Club: Rotaract Club of Nakivale, Uganda

Project: Rotaract Club of Nakivale Refugee Settlement

Innovation: Organizing a Rotaract club in a Ugandan refugee settlement that conducts

various service projects in the camp

Description: Fleeing conflict in his homeland of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mushaho arrived at the Nakivale refugee settlement in 2016. The same year, he entered a business proposal for a competition sponsored by the American Refugee Committee and the Ugandan government. His winning proposal earned him the right to present his idea to a wider audience in Kampala, where it was seen by Rotary members from Kampala, Uganda, and Minnesota, USA. Recognizing his leadership and charisma, the Rotary members worked with Mushaho to charter a Rotaract club in the settlement. The Rotaractors have taught farming skills, provided sewing machines for women's groups, volunteered in maternity wards, organized tree planting and poultry projects, and mentored young people in the camp.

Name: Charlie Ruth Castro

Club: Rotary E-Club of Sogamoso Global, Colombia

Project: Innovative New Beginnings

Innovation: Teaching vocational and business skills to incarcerated women and empowering

them to create new opportunities for themselves

Description: Using her digital communications expertise, Castro leads a program that is teaching 170 incarcerated women in Colombia textile skills and how to assemble personal wellness kits with products developed from herbal plants grown on their own organic farm. The kits are sold online through the brand Alas de Libertad (Wings of Freedom). The women also attend empowerment workshops to reduce their sentences. Castro, a lawyer, has led large-scale events in Colombia and Mexico to promote women's and children's rights. She cofounded Digitally Connected, which unites 430 Latin American experts who are studying the challenges that children and young people face online.





Name: Christina Hassan

Club: Rotary Club of Calgary Fish Creek, Alberta, Canada

Project: FullSoul

Innovation: Training midwives and supplying safe, sterile childbirth equipment to hospitals in Uganda **Description:** Hassan, who holds a master's in public health, launched FullSoul to address the lack of facilities for safe and sterile childbirth in parts of Uganda. The program provides maternal medical kits to hospitals, including childbirth tools (artery forceps, scissors, needle holders) that can be sterilized and reused, as well as training in using the tools. The kits are assembled by a supplier in Uganda to minimize costs and contribute to the local economy. Positive outcomes include safer births and decreased HIV transmission.

Name: Shadrack Nyawa Club: Rotary Club of Kilifi, Kenya

Project: Water and sanitation for primary schools

Innovation: Traveling to remote schools in Kenya to find those most in need of toilets and hygiene

education

Description: Waiting in long lines to use inadequate toilet facilities interferes with children's learning in the more than 70 primary schools in the Ganze area of Kenya. Nyawa travels on poorly maintained dirt roads to conduct assessments for district and global grants that help his Rotary club select schools to receive new toilets and handwashing stations. He works with local contractors and makes sure that construction is completed and documented properly.





Name: Ludovic Grosjean

Club: Rotaract Club of Melbourne City, Victoria, Australia

Project: Ocean CleanX

Innovation: Founding a pioneering company that is developing new technology to monitor

pollution and remove it from waterways

Description: Every year, 8.8 million tons of plastic waste get into the oceans, putting marine species at risk of extinction. Grosjean, a 29-year-old engineer, launched Ocean CleanX to develop automated pollution monitoring and removal tools that use artificial intelligence and drones to remove plastics and other pollution from waterways and detect their source. Grosjean, who has 12 years of experience in oceanography and mechatronics engineering, has persuaded clubs to support the effort, contribute financially, and volunteer for river clean-up events.

LESSONS FOR LIFE

For 14 years, a school outside Jalalabad, Afghanistan, has played an important part in the lives of thousands of children — girls as well as boys. Founded by the Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle, California, the school was initially built to serve Afghan war refugee families returning from Pakistan; before it opened, classes had been held in two UNICEF tents, one for boys and one for girls.

Today, more than 6,200 students in first through 12th grades - 3,600 boys and 2,600 girls, who are educated separately — are enrolled at the school. In 2004, club members met with the governor of Nangarhar province, who provided the land for building. The club went on to raise \$240,000 in two phases to build classrooms, a library, and a multipurpose room.

Several years ago, when the Rotarians learned that girls at the school weren't participating in sports, they hired a young Afghan woman named Shughla to oversee a volleyball and table tennis program.

Shughla (who asked that we use only her first name for her safety) later turned her attention to a polio awareness campaign for girls ages 6 to 13. She teaches in the school's large multipurpose room with the support of Afghan health experts and the members of the Afghanistan PolioPlus Committee, who provide Rotary banners, refreshments, and other materials.

"Learning about polio eradication, vaccination, and prevention should be a priority for girls because they will be mothers," Shughla says. "If at such a young age they learn about the illness in detail, then in the future they can keep their children protected from this dangerous disease." Male teachers have presented polio education workshops to hundreds of their students as well.

The girls in Shughla's classes learn about the importance of routine immunizations and working with vaccination teams in their community. And the education doesn't end in the classroom: Students share their knowledge about polio prevention with classmates, friends, and family.

"We are taking responsibility to help and support the PolioPlus Committee because this is our social duty," says Shughla. "We educate people about polio eradication so that they can stay healthy and make sure their kids grow up free from polio."

Anne Stein









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