

RBI Board 2019-20

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WEEKLY MEETING VENUE & TIME:

Rotary House of Service
2143, 16E Main, HAL II Stage,
Indiranagar, Bengaluru - 560008

Time 19:00, Monday

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From the Editor's desk



Dear Reader,

As suggested in our previous issue, here we are. If only to keep up a key objective of SEVA (to chronicle RBI events), we felt it was imperative to say Hi just one more time this year.

All honoured guests at our Anniversary Night meeting showered high praise on RBI for our unceasing work even during the direst of circumstances. It amply demonstrated our focus on Rotary's ideals and our unceasing resolve to help society. All of us would have had a warm feeling of achievement and of being in the right place when speakers extolled RBI's virtues that evening. We share some memories of the event, as also a gist of the speakers' messages.

A few events in the pre-Anniversary-nite period this year, needed to be captured and chronicled for our archives, along with the two more Platinum citations for our Youthful clubs. We apologize for poor quality of some of the screen-grabbed pictures. We believe they resulted from poor internet connectivity and/or sub-optimal lighting at the speaker's end.

We also take this opportunity to take you down memory lane on SEVA's first e-avatar which helped RBlans and our patrons to bond together.

In all of this we had a sombre moment, senior Rotarian DVR Rao bid us a final farewell.

With this issue of SEVA our final content contribution scoresheet reads 27 RBI Rotarians and 2 Anns who contributed 187 articles and a whopping 68312 words in the 210 pages of 17 issues we published this year. We hope to create a consolidated SEVA Volume 39 and post it on our website.

And to our SEVA Committee for 2020-21, we are confident that you will fly SEVA to greater heights and remain the much-sought source of information on Rotary Indiranagar.

Past issues of are at SEVA <https://www.rotaryindiranagar.org/newletters>

We invite you to join The Rotary 2020 Annual Convention and register at https://www.riconvention.org/en/sign-2020-rotary-virtual-convention?cid=soc_virtualconvention+20200610_soc_fb_mem_na_signup_en

Happy Reading and Bye from us,

Vidyut Shenoy
Bulletin editor (2019-20)



RBI's 39th Anniversary Nite Celebrations

Due to the CoVID-19 dictated lockdown, this year's Anniversary Nite was in e-mode, for the first time ever.

DG's Address

In his introductory speech DG Dr. Sameer Hariani spoke highly of the invited guests, great leaders of RI Dist 3190, and District officers and mentors from RBI, before greeting RBI on its Birthday. He felt RBI was the best there is, since it has:

- Grown internally and externally.
- Enhanced participation and engagement (Fellowship and Service were world class)
- Developed next generation of leaders (Young Rotarians, Lady Rotarians, Interact, Rotaract)
- Showcased Rotary through Service (RBI's landmark projects - Karunashraya, CRC)

(These four criteria were set out by RI President Mark Daniel Maloney to assess a club).

He justified RBI's leadership status, as seen by its quick and sustained action as also contribution in CoVID-19 Relief work. He ended by saluting RBI's many individual contributors who performed as leaders in Dist 3190.

President Elect Dr Srikanth introduced RI Director Dr. Bharat Pandya before handing over the mike to him.

One needs to have a PHD to lead - RI Director Dr. Bharat Pandya



Dr. Pandya began by wondering if he was addressing a district meeting with 159 participants, and not just a club meeting. He lauded RBI's CoVID-19 response, and felt that everyone had to light the candle of service, which he believes RBI members have done very well.

He cited Issac Newton's quote, 'If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants' to explain why RBI Presidents do so well year after year.

He believes RBI activity parallels that of a district, and that RBI builds leaders rather than followers. Quoting another historical persona Alexander the Great - 'I need to inspire self in order to inspire' he said in RBI everybody leads by example. Rtn. Ghanshyam Agarwal's contribution came in for specific mention.

RI Director Dr. Pandya stated that everyone needs a PHD to lead. And then explained what that **PHD** constitutes ...

- P – Passion** Bringing passion, enthusiasm, energy to action inspires others
Do things that you expect others to do.
Convert that 1 degree advantage to convert boiling water to steam so that it can drive locomotives.
- H – Hunger** Be hungry for success
Ambition is important for success, but even more how we handle the ambition.
His example of Socrates telling his disciple, 'when hunger for Air equals Hunger for wisdom, come to me' summed up what he meant by Hunger is essential for success
H also stands for **H**umility: not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less and treating everyone with courtesy and kindness.
- D - Discipline** Discipline to keep to the task to achieve goals
He alluded to Nadia Comaneci's Practice discipline that led to her perfect 10

He buttressed it with the Polio example ... no new case since 2011 because of Rotarians' diligent work

Daring to Dream is another expansion for **D**

Leaders are like eagles ... and have that high-level vision and dare

Because we do not dare, things become difficult. To succeed one has to dare.

To support his thought, he spoke of eagles who are fearless - while others run scared of a storm an eagle uses the currents to fly over the storm

As a healthcare worker, he thanked RBI Rotarians for their work in CoVID-19 relief, in which they saw opportunities in obstacles i.e. challenging situation.

He asked Rotarians to Develop warrior spirit, and as was now customary in his talk, came up with another quote. And this time it was Carlos Costaneda quoting Don Juan Matus's Cubic Centimeter quote

"All of us, whether or not we are warriors, have a cubic centimeter of chance that pops out in front of our eyes from time to time. The difference between an average man and a warrior is that the warrior is aware of this, and one of his tasks is to be alert, deliberately waiting, so that when his cubic centimeter of chance pops out he has the necessary speed, the prowess to pick it up. A warrior is always alert and tight and has the spring, the gumption to grab it"



He urged us as Rotarians to inculcate the warrior spirit and stay prepared and be ready to grab that cubic centimeter of a chance to do work for our club, community and district.

Congratulating President Manoj and RBI for outstanding work done in 2019-20, he said every leader aims to leave behind a legacy of goodwill and good work and that is exactly what President Manoj has done. He said he would make a special mention of it to RI.

He quoted George Bernard Shaw - Life is not a brief candle, it is a blazing torch which I have to hold for the moment, and I have to make it burn as brightly as possible before I hand it over to the future generation.

Finally, he referred to the boxing saying which goes, IT IS NOT OVER TILL THE FINAL BELL IS RUNG. It means that work is not yet over for the club or the district. There are still those 18 plus days left in this year. RBI's work will be over at midnight on 30 June 2020. He felt sure that the club and district would try and burn the two torches they held a little brighter over the remaining hours and days.

As he signed off he told everyone, "ENJOY ROTARY ENJOY YOURSELF".

IPDG Suresh Hari introduced keynote speaker PRIP Kalyan Banerjee as an outstanding Rotarian who has been at the forefront of community service and business, RI President in 2011-12 and also head of TRF in 2017-18. He recalled parts of his Bangkok convention speech, as also at Rotary India's Centennial celebrations in Kolkata. PRIP Kalyan he told us was an exceptional speaker and a Rotary Bangalore Indiranagar well-wisher.

Editor's note If RI Director Dr. Bharat Pandya's speech was a condensed nutrient-rich pill, PRIP Kalyan Banerjee's speech was a delectable salad spread which you wouldn't have wanted to miss.

PRIP Kalyan Banerjee's message



After President Manoj and First lady Manju cut a birthday cake at RHOS for PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, and Narssi crooned a birthday song for him, IPDG Suresh Hari introduced Kalyanda as the much admired 101st President of RI (2011-12) and after whom Rotary Bombay West has named an award.

PRIP Kalyan Banerjee started his 30-minute address by reciprocating birthday greetings to RBI. He believes that in the e-dimension meetings of the lockdown era, more members meet than before, and better halves can also be brought back to Rotary. Reminiscing his 35-year association with RBI, he shared his bonds with PDG Uday Kumar and fellow IIT Kharagpur alumnus PP O P Khanna. He feels Karunashraya's extraordinary compassion, pediatric surgeries, CRC, heart surgeries, adopted schools, vocational training are all hallmarks of our club's generosity. RBI's support of CoVID-19 masks, sanitizers, equipment and food rations relief were special too. Commending our contribution of 2.5 Million USD to TRF, he asked us to continue that way, since we are simply one of a kind which he insisted was the pure unadulterated truth.



In his talk '*100 years of Rotary and 100 years of its future*', he delved into the past and crystal gazed the future. His snippets of Rotary history in a smooth flowing talk were fascinating.

The 4 founders' initial name 'The Conspirators' and subsequent acceptance of Paul Harris's suggestion 'Rotary' as more appropriate was the start of Rotary's famous journey.

Starting with Rotary's first project, a comfort station in Chicago City Hall by Rotary Club of Chicago (now called Rotary/One), he took us down the history path.

The first club outside USA at Winnipeg, Canada in 1910 commenced Rotary's International spread.

1911 saw clubs opened beyond the Atlantic Ocean at Dublin, Ireland and London, England.

In 1920, Canada's Jim Davidson- the Marco Polo of Rotary - went round the world and started new clubs at Manila, Japan and Calcutta, Australia and New Zealand. He also championed global Rotary by starting clubs in Morocco, Algeria, Egypt and Iceland. Rotary continued in popularity, and grew numerically in the Americas, Asia, Europe, North & S Africa, Australia and New Zealand. It spanned different cultures, geographies and languages needing an office to manage affairs. Chesley R. Perry took charge as General Secretary along with some staff. He held the office for 32 years. The General Secretary had complete powers to run Rotary.

Rotary in post-world-war-II was invited to be a 'conceptualizer' when countries decided to abolish the pre-war League of Nations and created the UNO. *(FYI, every year, on the 2nd Saturday in November, UN celebrates Rotary Day at UN HQ, where Rotarians and officials meet and discuss current affairs.)*

The 1960s: During JFK's US presidential term, Nitish Laharry took over as RI President in 1962. He was the first Indian to do so. He started Rotary's focus on Youth by setting up the Rotaract and Interact for the future generation. The first Rotaract club was in the USA, but it was equally popular in Australia and India.

In the 70s, Australian Sir Clem Renouf became RI President, and in 78-79 he shifted focus from small community projects to large international ones. Despite opposition from US clubs, COL opted for large projects and provisioned 1/4 Million USD to focus on 3H (Health Hunger Humanity) projects marking the birth of the 3H program. *(At this moment there is no consensus among Rotarians on how and how often the Council of Legislation (COL) should meet.)*

During the 1980s, the focus was on controlling Polio. It also was the first project of global concern and global fund raising. Rotary approached WHO in 1985 to join in controlling Polio. The eradication idea came later. Rotary's participation in the Polio programme showed Rotarians' global capacity to raise funds by raising over USD 200 Million.

In 1992 Raja Saboo became RI President. Later as trustee of TRF he proposed the Rotary Peace Scholar program, one of RI's best successes ever. Over 500 Peace Scholars, from 6 global universities promote peace by working with organizations and governments to prevent conflicts. Women were admitted to Rotary after COL's Singapore 1989 resolution that followed up on a US Court directive to RI to admit women. US Rotary clubs resisted but it was overcome. However, many large US Rotary Clubs still refuse to admit women. He believes that the RI Board does not fight this battle as effectively as it could and should.

Rotary celebrated its 100 years in 2005 at Chicago.

Bill Gates partnered with Rotary in 2006 to provide funds for Polio eradication, primarily due to our ability to mobilize people and work for the cause.

In 2012, Rotary eliminated Polio in India. By 2025, Afghanistan and Pakistan should also be free of the scourge.

PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, in 2017, was TRF Chair during its 100th year.

He asked us to remember those who risk their lives to ensure we live ours safely. He was alluding to volunteers in the CoVID-19 shadow that we are currently a part of.

Looking forward is more difficult than looking back he said. His take on life after CoVID -19 was interesting to say the least.

Rotary Meetings will be different like this one where distance becomes irrelevant. It could help arrest the declining member meeting participation in countries like the US. In the 2030s climate will play a big role as its disruptive power will be more than that of the two World Wars combined. Climate Cess or Carbon Tax will be introduced, and the capital will be used to move people to safer zones to accommodate climate change. More nuclear power and solar power will be norm since they are cleaner. The quantum will be 20-30 times that of today. Automation will make services & products cheaper but make it difficult for people to get jobs. Capitalism will come under intense scrutiny. Countries will create and use digital or crypto currency, and not money as we know it today. Plant based diets will dominate by 2030. Meat will be a delicacy like caviar. Food production will increase but will move to the laboratories, from fields & farms, and it will be a developing business. The world will be run by millennials and Generation Z when age and experience will stand for far less than vision, innovation and courage. Genetics will massively advance and we will come close to winning the war against cancer and other terminal diseases. Fertility and reproduction practices and norms will change. We will have long since conquered CORONA.

Will all this happen? Bill Gates once said, "People always overestimate what will happen in a year, and underestimate what will happen in a decade". Hence answering the question about what will happen definitively is difficult e.g. did anyone in Dec 2019 know that the world would be shut down in six months and millions would be affected by Corona? He asked if we can predict that in a 100 years people will live on other planets beyond our solar system and travel at the speed of light or if normal humans will live to 150 years or more? If we did, nobody would believe us now nor will he himself believe it. But one thing is certain, Rotary will be there and its headquarters will be in India. But for the rest, everyone's guess is as good as his. He recalled Doris Day's famous song, *"Que Sera Sera, whatever will be will be, the future's not ours to see, Que Sera Sera"* as he signed out.

Corona Virus & the future of Indian Foreign Policy - Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale

When he started his talk at our weekly e-meeting on 1st June, Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale (in-Charge, Foreign Affairs Dept, BJP), asserted that it would not be a political spiel, but a talk on changes in India's Foreign Policy, and actions thereof.



He listed the few broad objectives behind India's changed Indian Foreign Policy

- Plugging erstwhile gaps in India's Foreign Policy Agenda
- Overcoming India's historical hesitations
- Connecting India's ancient civilization with today's global civilizations
- Enhancing India's energy security

The Indian PM visited many countries that had remained unvisited by an Indian PM. Prime examples are Mongolia and Israel. That bridged a huge gap in our foreign policy through initiation of unique themes such as tight aggregation of domestic and external agenda. As examples Digital India, Swachh Bharat and Swachh Ganga were in line with the cleanliness and technology drive of Nordic countries. Climate Change and Solar power was another theme underlying these visits. Overall wellness and mindfulness got highlighted on the international stage through International Yoga Day. Sri Lanka, Nepal and Maldives visits were to enhance our ancient friendly ties with them. These underlying themes helped India bond strongly with more nations than ever before.

Overcoming historical hesitations such as no Indian PM having formally visited Israel were achieved smartly. The PM first visited all the Gulf countries (which oppose Israel), to reinforce our commitment to and friendship with them. Visits to Israel and Palestine were delinked thereby underlining friendship commitment to both countries. The Israel visit helped India to forge strong bonds in their areas of strength viz. Defence, Water Harvesting, Agriculture, Clean Environment and Drip Irrigation.

A theme around India's ancient civilizational ties was behind state visits to Nepal (*birthplace of Sita*), Sri Lanka (*Ashok Vatika*) and Abu Dhabi. Such visits laid the foundation to recover ancient idols stolen from India.

With a focus on enhancing Energy Security, the Indian government forged strong ties with many oil exporting countries. Consequently, our oil import basket has diversified and now spreads across 20 countries; not just the Gulf countries and Venezuela.

India's diaspora overseas has always supported India. Targeted events in countries such as Australia, Great Britain and USA forged stronger bonds with them, apart from building immense goodwill. Indian citizens there may have a huge role to play in India's future.

By forging ties with all these countries, India found strong international support for actions such as crossing the LOC with Pakistan and imparting punitive action against Pakistan's misadventures.

During the CoVID-19 crisis, India emerged as a rational, responsible and compassionate partner. An embargo on exports prevented scarcity of some goods within India. Limited export of pharma was allowed only after an assurance on stocks available in India for all Indians. In addition, India exported drugs to over 100 countries, while neighbours such as Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Nepal were given those first and free. India supplied food to Maldives and contributed 10M\$ to a SAARC specific fund for PPEs and test kits

Diplomatically India engaged with the entire world including Nordic Nations through SAARC, NAM summits and G20 in the e-mode. India held 45 talks with heads of government in High Income Group countries, where either the PM or Foreign Secretary spoke to at least one country every day for 2 months. That is the kind of connect that was established. Hence our engagement with the external world is fine.

The post COVID future, he feels, is difficult to predict.

He spoke of a few scenarios, and at the epicentre of all of them is China, whose role in the pandemic such as the origin of the CoVID 19 virus, its spread, the how and the why, especially about Beijing and Shanghai being spared, is highly questionable. China has also been opaque and less than transparent especially after the pandemic, retreating into almost a black box state, by not sharing any data.

To reduce the world's excessive dependence on China, a move to create alternative supply chains is underway. The USA is driving this initiative, by reigniting manufacturing in friendly countries such as Vietnam, Philippines and India.

A Security Concerns Alliance involving India, US, Japan and Australia is being drawn up. Vietnam has been added to address the Indian Ocean Security Concerns.

He spoke of China's Belt and Road Initiative, its size and way of implementation with Chinese funding driving it. The implementation imposes heavy debt on partner nations, exploits them and ensures that all the assets are possessed by China very soon.

The only European country to agree to these conditions was Italy, where serious questions are now being asked. He shared how Tanzania returned a \$ 20M loan from China and freed themselves from their stranglehold.

WHO's role is also under question. Reforms have been suggested, even at the UN. The meaninglessness of G7, he felt can be addressed though expansion by including S Korea, S Africa and India. More attention to improve public health systems and our deep knowledge of traditional medicine may be of immense value.

Post CoVID, China is breathing down on us. It is not the first time, since such scenarios have happened for ages. Our LAC with China is not well defined nor demarcated. Diplomat Nirupama Rao has pushed for it's early demarcation. Ladakh and Doklam are very different. At Doklam we were at a height, but in Ladakh it is plain ground, and hence we are face to face. India's Border Roads Organization (BRO) has taken a tremendous leap in the last few years in this area. Roads are being constructed across all borders and the one in Ladakh is in the last phase of completion. It will soon reach the Tibet border. Being in the plains, we have no strategic advantage. But there is no possibility of a full-scale war.

The report that Pakistan has been intentionally sending CoVID positive patients across the border with India is unlikely to be true. There always is some infiltration, and it is not to spread CoVID. A CoVID patient will be weak and unable to manage those heights. The security apparatus that we have now is world class and far better now than before.

Our relations with neighbouring countries are great. Even countries like Myanmar have caught infiltrators and handed them over to India. He therefore felt that though the Chinese String of Pearls exists, it may not be a one-way traffic. Bangladesh's government is friendly with India too, Maldives has a new friendly regime. Pakistan's anti-India resolution about the LOC at UN was quashed by Maldives. Sri Lanka is friendly as well.

He asserted that there is no large-scale infiltration happening right now.

Joint Musical Fellowship with Rotary Bangalore Orchards

On 8th June 2020, RBI engaged with Rotary Bangalore Orchards in our friendly annual musical fellowship. Being under lockdown, the only solution to the fellowship meant e-meeting. We took that for a 'Yes' and had a ball. The two groups matched each other song for song and enjoyed the event thoroughly.

RBI's array of singers included Narssimhan Kannan, Vidyut Shenoy, Nayeem, Kavitha Pishay, Kavita Kekre as also the Koppikars, Varsha and Sanjay and Labroos Indira & Vipin.. RBO's brigade of singers were more than a match. The groups together pushed the tempo up and enhanced the entertainment quotient. All through, the friendly banter and ribbing was a constant.

Here a couple of moments from that melodious night..



Keyboard magic regales Rotary Indiranagar

RBI's weekly meeting on 15th June 2020 was vastly different from other meetings. It was an e-meeting that featured a musical star and celebrate a successful anniversary nite. Though the star's name was new (to us), the songs that he has performed were well known. It was an accoustic bonanza.

Patrick Rosario was at the centre of it all. The visually impaired artiste dished out a variety of songs on the accordion and keyboard. Most songs he chose to play were from Hindi Cinema. And he forayed into Kannada, Malayalam and Tamil as well. His versatility was very evident, as the songs transcended a few generations of music. Keeping him company on the octopad was Srinivas. Between them they created magic. They were playing in a studio in Bengaluru .. Maadhurya Entertainment.



Rajeev Anand who managed the acoustics and equipment is also an excellent Rafi voice, we were told, but he kept to himself.

Commencing with popular numbers Patrick entered our hearts on that balmy evening. We crooned as he played on into the moonlight with enchantment. Along that road, we learned that the accordion could make us almost hear words of the original song. It was mesmerising. Brilliant is too faint a word to describe the evening.

For Hindi music aficionados, he played Ye Shaam Mastani, Pukarta Chala Hoon Main, Chaudhvin Ka Chand Ho, Ajeeb Daastan Hai Ye, a medley of Aisa Mauka Phir Kahan Milega and Jaane chaman, Aaja Sanam Madhur Chandni Mein Hum (the first accordion piece in Hindi movies), Jab Koi Baat Bigad Jaaye, Zindagi Ik Safar Hai Suhana, Jeena Yahan Marna Yahan (with Karaoke) and ended the evening with

Chalte Chalte.

Between all of the Hindi tunes, he brought in the Kannada song Baare Baare Chandada Cheluvina Taare from Nagarahaavu, a Malayalam classic "Manjani Kombil" from Manjil Virinja Pookkal, and Tamil hit 'Illaya Nila' from Payanangal Mudivathillai. Often Patrick played the keyboard along with the accordion making for a memorable performance.

Everyone watching the program was enchanted not just by the variety of songs, but also by the dexterity of Patrick's fingers as they caressed the keys on the key board and accordion.

RBI's last meeting this Rotary year turned out to be a fitting finale for RBI given President Manoj's penchant for music. The lively evening was a wonderful rejoinder to the quiet chaos created by the CoVID-19 led lockdown. Like all good things it ended all too soon.

Thank you President Manoj for organizing that memorable evening.

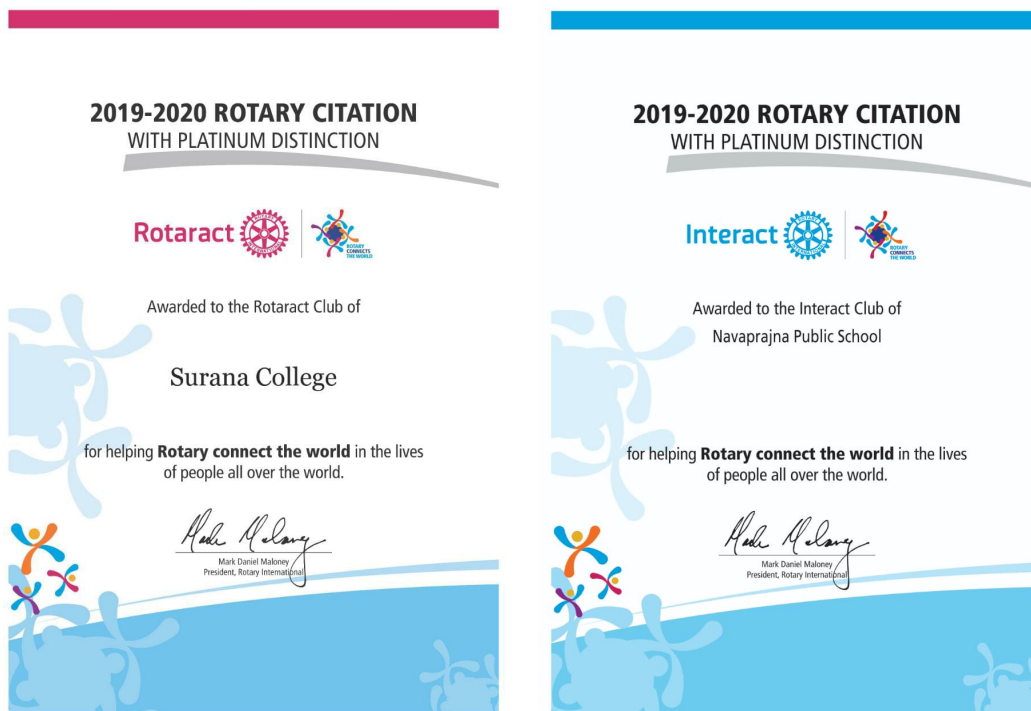


Youth Services Avenue scores an unparalleled HAT TRICK

A few weeks ago, to our delight, RBI's Community based Rotaract Club of Bangalore Indiranagar, was awarded RI President Mark Maloney's 2019-2020 ROTARY CITATION WITH PLATINUM DISTINCTION. If you thought it was a flash in RBI's proverbial pan, think again. Just a few days ago, two other youth clubs affiliated to our club got awarded similar certificates. We are justifiably proud that the Rotaract Club of Surana College affiliated to RBI was awarded for their stupendous work.

And not to be outdone, youngsters of the Interact Club of Navaprajna Public School were awarded the RI President Mark Maloney's 2019-2020 ROTARY CITATION WITH PLATINUM DISTINCTION as well. It was a remarkable achievement given that Platinum is the highest level that one can get.

Here is how their amazing certificates look...



Our congratulations to the two clubs for their incredible achievement.

In the Rtn. Ajay Gupta led Vocational Service Avenue, Rtn. Sanjay Srivastava guided Rotaractors and Rtn. Sujeet Joseph guided Interactors. All of them have done RBI really proud yet again.

Kudos to the Youth Service Avenue on topping a brilliant year with platinum icing.

Register for the Rotary Convention at:

https://www.riconvention.org/en/sign-2020-rotary-virtual-convention?cid=soc_virtualconvention+20200610_soc_fb_mem_na_signup_en

E-SEVA - a historical perspective

Dont we all love receiving SEVA in our email and reading it? Now that RBI's first e-anniversary nite went off like a dream, let us see how electronic SEVA or E-SEVA happened in the first place.

To do that we need to go back 10 years...

Here is the front page of RBI's first E-SEVA that rolled out → Installation Issue, July 2010.



Until then SEVA remained the good old printed newsletter that popped physically into our mailboxes at home if it had not already been picked up at RHOS. Every issue was neatly folded and slid into a wide paper sleeve with a name and address printed on it. Each of those names was of an RBI Rotarian, district official, patron and sister club.

E-SEVA gained traction in June 2010, when then President Elect Rtn. Suresh Patel felt it was a great idea. In a prelude to taking over as President, he suggested creation of a vehicle to place e-seva into Rotarians' email-boxes. The email-id created was seva.rcbi@gmail.com (RCBI → Rotary Club of Bangalore Indiranagar).

PP Rtn. Suresh Patel explained his thoughts behind E-SEVA in a crisp email to all RBI Rotarians - "As an environment friendly and a

cost cutting measure, we propose to mail SEVA through soft copy to all those members who opt for it. Hard copies of SEVA will be available for the rest of the members. A few additional copies will also be kept at RHOS. Also, members who do not collect their copies from RHOS will be receiving them by post.

Please confirm your preference to Bulletin editor Vidyut Shenoy before the 15th of June."

And thus was born our first E-SEVA mailing list. Only a small fraction of RBlans emailed their assent to receive E-SEVA at that point. Others wished to keep getting their printed copies. A key reason for Rotarians wanting printed copies was that they adorned their office tables, making them a good talking point with visitors and customers for enlisting support and/or donations for RBI. As you are aware, SEVA has always been smartly compiled and is reader friendly.

With this, RBI got itself committed to E-SEVA. Over the next few months, more Rotarians joined the e-fold primarily due to the convenience factor. By the end of that year, most were on the E-SEVA track. A couple of years later RBI started sending E-SEVA to everybody - Rotarians and Anns - through the standard email route. E-SEVA also enables RBI to quickly share its bulletin with overseas partners. Printed copies were very few .. partly because application for any Bulletin Award requires submission of printed copies, and helps compiling physical archives.

2010-11 was my first stint on RBI's Board, after 9 years of being an RBlan but dithering for one reason or another. To me, bulletin editor seemed a safe post on the board ... thanks to some rudimentary experience in document editing software many years earlier. In 1990, as

Product Manager (at Wipro) of a suite of software development tools, which included publishing software from WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) pioneer Interleaf Inc, I had to understand it really well. To do so meant creating scores of documents with embedded pictures. That hands-on practice had helped me respond knowledgeably to client queries.

Twenty years later in 2010, the editing tool of choice was MS WORD. It was slowly becoming WYSIWYG compliant with a number of fonts in its repertoire. Though editing was easy, visualizing the document in WYSIWYG was still cumbersome. Also, PDF versions of a document could not be done at my PC. They had to be created by specialized software by our printing partner, Rtn. T K Chandramouli's WQ Judge Press. The WORD version then, had no option to create PDF versions. In fact, even today, MS WORD's pdf saver has a few wrinkles that I shared with a young developer who is part of Microsoft's MS Office product team in Vancouver. Since its first year, E-SEVA has become the norm. Often it has been shared through document publishing software like ISSUE. But PDF remains the medium of choice for most readers.

E-SEVA enabled me to remotely edit and release SEVA in the early part of this Rotary year, while on a long personal trip overseas. The SEVA Editor role has also changed now, moving from get, edit and paste ... to collect, metamorphose, add pictures, format, proof read, improve language ad nauseum, save and publish. Editing is easier and creating a PDF version not at all difficult. Proof reading by the editorial team and changing content with track mode ON is ... a bulletin editor's dream.


In an interesting co-incidence, both the installation issue of SEVA in 1990 and this year's anniversary issue feature PRIP Kalyan Banerjee in a big way. Hence on this the 10th anniversary of E-SEVA, we thought it fit to bring this bit of SEVA history to you.

Our newsletter SEVA has two primary objectives:

1. Share information about current happenings at RBI
2. Chronicle events as soon as they happen and maintain club history

You surely realize the difficulty that every bulletin editor endures. It will be just wonderful if you share with the SEVA editor, as much information (and pictures) as possible on events under your watch. It helps keep SEVA informative and complete. Your voluntary sharing will help reduce the SEVA editor's load significantly and enable complete coverage of your project / event.

Thank you for continued association with SEVA.

	<p>Sombre Moment for RBI</p> <p>PP Rtn. D V R Rao left for his heavenly abode on 16th June 2020.</p> <p>His smiling presence will be missed at Rotary Indiranagar.</p> <p>We pray that his soul achieves Sadgati</p> <p>Om Shanti</p>
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