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Vocational Service Month

Uttarayan Celebration – RC Surat

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M : 93772 21905

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SANDEEP NANAVATI

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DR. AJAY MAHAJAN
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VINEET PANCHAL

SGT. AT ARMS :
MRUNAL KOTHARI
UMANG DALAL
MEGHAL BAXI

Makar Sankranti – One of the most ancient festivals of India, is celebrated as Uttarayan in Gujarat. Dedicated to the Sun God, Uttarayan marks the arrival of spring. Gujarat's Uttarayan festivities are rich in traditions – Kite flying, making delicacies with Til (Sesame seeds) and Gur (Jaggery) – Peanut chikki – Undhiyu – Carrot Halwa. In Gujarat, it is celebrated for two days.

This year RC Surat decided to celebrate Uttarayan together at Hon. Sec. Rtn. Kundan Shah's residence on 15th January. On a windy morning of winter, around 10.00 a.m all members gathered at Kundanbhai's terrace with full enthusiasm.

The celebration began with Surati breakfast – yummy Khaman, Farmas biscuits and hot tea. From the youngest 4 years child to the oldest 93 year old, all members joined in large numbers for kite flying. Everyone was enjoying their own ways – flying kites and screaming 'Kai po chhe', holding Phirkis, chitchatting, relishing berries, guava, chikkis, gazakh, and laddus. Sky was looking beautiful with colourful kites. Crowded terraces, fun loving rivalry to outdo each other in kite flying skills – the whole atmosphere was so alive and the cherry on the top was entertaining lovely songs played on the speakers in the background.

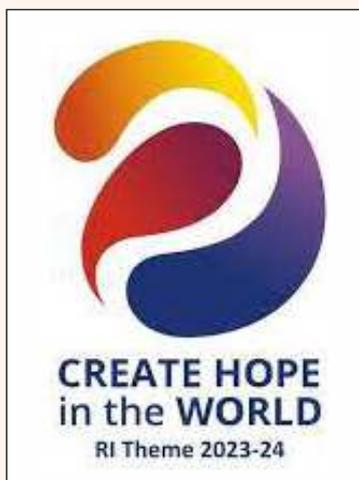
Meanwhile, always ready to entertain with new games, R/P Dhvani Baxi and R/P Tinjal Kothari took the charge. They made the members play different games in groups. Everyone enjoyed the group games with lots of fun. Now, it was lunch time. All members enjoyed mouth watering food in such a fun filled atmosphere. It was really a lovely celebration full of fun and fellowship. Everyone went home with lots of memories to cherish.



We meet at 7.30 pm
on Every Friday at
Club Office Address



Rotary Theme 2023-24 – Create Hope in the World



R. Gordon R. McNally wants Rotary members to create hope in the world

RI president-elect announces 2023-24 presidential theme

By Etelka Lehoczky

Rotary International President-elect R. Gordon McNally called for members to capture the world's attention and lead the way toward possibilities far beyond our current expectations.

McNally, a member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry, West Lothian, Scotland, revealed the 2023-24 presidential theme, Create Hope in the World, during the Rotary International Assembly in Orlando, Florida, USA, on 9 January. He urged members to promote peace in troubled nations, help those affected by conflict, and maintain the momentum of initiatives begun by past leaders.

The theme address:

"The goal is to restore hope — to help the world heal from destructive conflicts and, in turn, to help us achieve lasting change for ourselves," McNally said at Rotary's annual training event for incoming district governors.

McNally spoke about a woman he met in Ban Taling Chan, Thailand, where Rotary members helped build houses, a meeting hall, and childcare and health care facilities following the tsunami that devastated South Asia in late 2004. The woman had lost her husband, her daughter, and her son in the tsunami, as well as her livelihood. But she still had a gift to offer McNally: a beautiful seashell.

"She went on to tell me that Rotary... had restored her optimism. We gave her hope," McNally said. "This is how Rotary brings lasting change to the world," he added, "one restored or newly created hope at a time."

Promoting peace

A significant way to bring hope to the world is to put a greater emphasis on peace, McNally said. He cited the action Rotary members have taken in the past year to support the people of Ukraine after the invasion by Russia. Rotary has made humanitarian relief a priority, attracting more Ukrainian members in the process. But McNally noted that true relief won't come without peace — not just in Ukraine, but in Yemen, Afghanistan, Syria, and dozens of other places around the globe.

"Peace is the soil where hope takes root," McNally said.

Rotary President-elect R. Gordon R. McNally revealed his 2023-24 presidential theme, '**Create Hope in the World**'.

"The goal is to restore hope — to help the world heal from destructive conflicts and, in turn, to help us achieve lasting change for ourselves."

Upcoming Programs January'2023

- 19 Jan (Thu) Weekly Meeting – RFE Team visit from Brazil, RID 4560
- 20 Jan (Fri) Saveus Eco-Achievers Quiz at L. P. Savani Academy, Vesu
- 21 Jan (Sat) Healthy food distribution at Pal Aanganwadi
- 26 Jan (Thu) Republic Day Celebration @ J C Munshi School
- 27 Jan (Fri) Weekly Meeting
- 28 Jan (Sat) Healthy food distribution at Pal Aanganwadi sponsored by Rtn. Dipakbhai Gandhi

Rotary



PEOPLE OF ACTION

Bal Aanganwadi

First Saturday of New year 2023 ie. 07 January, Rtn. Daksha Shah and Rtn. Kundan Shah on 92nd Birthday of their father Shri. Ramdas Shah, sponsored and distributed Mava Chikki, Idada, Khandvi, biscuits and chocolates to 40 kids at Pal Aanganwadi. Every week the little hearts enjoys the food served happily on Saturday. It's pleasure to watch them enjoying the delicious food with joy and satisfaction, thanking Rotary through their non-verbal gestures. One can feel the happiness which cannot be revealed in words but surely one can feel while being present at Aaganwadi. This feeding programme has created an undefined bonding between these young kids and Our Club members.



Don't let hunger end our future – Anonymous

On 13 January'2023, Friday a Well-wisher showed a gentle gesture to sponsored snacks of chikki, Khaman etc for these little children, which was distributed, managed and coordinated by Our Bal Aanganwadi volunteers Rtn. Jagruti Gandhi and Rtn. Purnima Gandhi.

Our club acknowledges Rtn. Jagruti Gandhi and Rtn. Purnima Gandhi for coordinating the functioning of this weekly Aanganwadi smoothly.



Ambassador of Goodwill



AG. Dr. Ajay Mahajan visited Rotary Club of Surat Metro and gave his observations about club, guided for upcoming events, service projects to be done, Membership, Public Image and TRF.

Congratulations and Best Wishes

Rtn. Abhay Patwardhan completed Train-The Trainer Master Certification in affiliation with Government of India and is now a professional certified trainer.



Know Your Fellow Rotarian



Rtn. Adv. Ajay Mehta is one of the well-known advocates of Surat City with a vast exposure at different fronts in legal aspects since the past 35 years. He obtained his education in law from V.T. Choksi College, Surat. He started his journey as a Lawyer in 1988 and opened his own firm named 'ARM' in 1995. He is happily married to Nayana Mehta, who is a shoulder support to him and loves to indulge in cooking, engage in creative art and craft activities apart from taking care of her family. The couple is blessed with 2 sons. Their elder son, Malav Mehta graduated in engineering, married to Kunjan Halwawala and settled in USA. Their younger son, Shiv Mehta is walking on foot-steps of his father, pursuing his graduation in law from Auro University.

He joined the Rotary Club of Surat in 2003 and has held various positions as director and chairman. He is PHF. Currently he is RFE Chair of our Club. He regularly attends Rotary district conferences. The couple has travelled to Brazil, Turkey and France as Rotary Friendship Exchange sharing and representing Indian Culture. He was actively involved in distribution of food kits by RC Surat Team during Covid times and has received recognition for his service from SMC and our club. He was also past president of Lions Club.

At the professional front, he is associated with more than 100 nationalised and private banks such as BOB, SBI, PNB, Axis, Kotak, Citibank etc to name a few, as an expert in mergers and as a Panel Advocate. He is specialised in bank recovery and Sarfaesi Act, sorting out the Land and property related legal matters in Surat and South Gujarat. He has worked as a bank retainer, acted as a mediator in Public Court, also has been Pres. City Bar Association, Pres. Surat City Advocate Association and served District Legal Service Authority too. He is serving The Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the past 15 years as a Conciliator and currently is an advisory Legal Committee Chairman, also providing his Honorary service as a pro bono convener and reconciliatory. He is associated with well-known Textiles companies and Construction companies of the city as Legal Advisor. He has trained 52 Lawyer Trainees and currently 16 advocates are working under him as his team. Furthermore, he has been awarded by DRT Lok Adalat. His future vision is to work and act as an Arbitrator to serve the community utilizing his knowledge to the best.

Rtn. Ajay Mehta loves to travel and explore new corners of the world. He has holidayed in India and abroad to many countries for leisure. He likes trekking, watching movies, and loves to wear designer and fashionable attire.

Greetings



20 Jan – Rtn. Devesh Gohil
25 Jan – R/P. Sunaina Mahajan
27 Jan – Rtn. Dipak Gandhi



19 Jan - R/P. Mehali and Rtn. Vineet Panchal
22 Jan – R/P. Tinjal and Mrunal Kothari
22 Jan – R/P. Jyotsana and Rajen Shah
22 Jan – R/P. Devyani and Rajesh Bhatt
23 Jan – R/P. Anupa and Rtn. Jignesh Amin
25 Jan – Rtn. Dr. Rinkle and R/P. Anuj
26 Jan – R/P. Ila and Rtn. Chandresh Sheth
30 Jan – R/P. Sonal and Rtn. Manish Halwawala
31 Jan – R/P. Reshma and Rtn. Nilesh Jariwala