

EASTERLINES

OFFICIAL NEWS LETTER OF ROTARY COCHIN EAST



KELKAMO GOES TO MALAPPURAM

Our Global Grant program "KELKAMO" had a new camp was held at Assisi School, Malappuram, on Saturday, 2nd November. Approximately seventy children were provided with hearing aids. The event was attended our President Rtn. Thomas and Secretary Navin. They were accompanied by Rotarians Arun, Aby, John Chacko, Vinu, Kamath, Sunny Mathew. They were aided by the first lady, Shiney and Annes, Jeena and Nikitha



SPEAKER MEETINGS



Rotarian Neelkanth Pararath was our guest speaker on Monday, the 18th of November. He shared insights on the topic: "How to Save Money When You Travel?" He explained some new ideas in the travel industry where one can save by using local travel professionals instead of online websites. This serves the dual function of having our travel arranged in a more personal manner by someone who is familiar with the location instead of a faceless corporation and saves on the country losing exchequer as these websites are mostly located abroad.

Our club hosted Rylax on the 9th of November for Interact clubs associated with our club. The event was inaugurated by Rtn. DGE Dr. G E Ramesh. The clubs that were represented were the Interact clubs of Cochin East, Bhavans Vidya Mandir Elamakkara, Bhavans Adarsh and St. Philominas. Apart from a number of talks and workshops from speakers like Rtn Kishore Ranganath, Rtn. Ligi Abraham, Rtn. Pratheek Sudhakaran, Rtn. Mani Karthik there were games organised by our Rtn. Mahima and a talk on how to manage stress by Dr. Anjali. The event was organised by our Youth Service Chair Rtn. Swarna Revathy

Rotarian Sunil Kumar from Asset Homes gave a talk on "Abhinava Vanaprastham". Where he enlightened our club members on the challenges one faces in ones old age with respect to the challenges of appropriate accommodation. He gave details on projects he and his team have envisaged to make elderly living a comfort instead of a challenge. He outlined the various ways in which such projects need a different way of thinking to comparative conventional residential projects.



HAPPY DEEPAWALI!



The club hall hosted a great Diwali bash which included a number of birthdays and anniversary celebrations. With cakes sweets, firecrackers and music it was a gala time for all. MCed by Mahima with a rangoli and sweets by Archana, food and music arranged by Dharmesh and family, fireworks arranged by Ganesh, the cake by Anita, the fellowship counter managed by Aby, Rohan, Jeffrey and John Chacko it was bound to be an amazing night. Thanks to our President and Secretary and the respective Anns for managing the whole show.

A PEEK AT CHRISTMAS SEASON



Christmas has come early and Santa has started visiting the homes of our members! A very familiar looking Santa has already visited some homes with presents accompanied by carol singers. The rest of the members are waiting for Santa to visit them also. We are all looking forward to a great and festive holiday season!

@ GRANDSTAND 2024



Our club members participated in Rotary Grandstand organised by the Rotary Club of Cochin North on the 10th of November. Our team participated in the cricket tournament. The team comprised of Rotarians President Thomas, Secretary Navin, Joseph, Arun, Ritesh, Aby and Pratyush. Hopefully next year we will compete in even more events.

THE LESSER-KNOWN TEST OF ROTARY

By Rtn. Mathew Sunny (Rotary Club of Cochin East)

Most of us by now would have memorised the Rotary Four-way test and adopted the same to some extent if not in entirety in our profession, the society we live in and day to day life; as it compliments Rotarians and fellow human beings. It brings in a sense of understanding as to what reciprocal treatment is, since we wish to be treated the way we treat others. Together with the two main mottoes of Rotary: i) service above self and ii) he profits most who serves best, we strive to prove ourselves worthy in being part of humanity. Having said all these, does it mean Rotary is a mere formal organisation where friendship is just limited to the Rotary circle and not beyond, certainly not. Since the core foundation of Rotary is built on strong fellowship, then the question that ponder us is whether we enjoy being a part of Rotary and do our families enjoy the same as we do? I guess so, as they too get to mingle with a new set of extended family, but it may not be the same for your fellow club member, especially the new. Have you checked on them to see what they feel by being a part of your club?

With the concept of family get-togethers, picnic, dinners popping up in clubs; it gives a venue for each one to open about himself/herself; to share lighter moments that ignite fun and hence we stumble upon a lesser-known test adopted by a few clubs perhaps in the United States of America that complements the four-way test known as 'is it fun' or 'will it bring fun' ticks in. These clubs have printed banners depicting the same.

Fun just in family dinner and outings wouldn't qualify the fifth test; necessarily it needs to be there in all avenues of service you are asked to be part of, since it's an oath one takes while being inducted into Rotary. If it isn't happiness/fun while doing a charity, it tantamount to a core question; should I continue to be in Rotary, as I can do the same or much more elsewhere. Here is where the TRF in Rotary comes into play, it opens up a box full of opportunities, as the seven areas of focus ensures that almost all the arenas of service are covered.

Fun, while doing charity? isn't it egregious, take for example while you visit an old-age home, hospital, school or an orphanage we just don't go there to deliver medicines, food, stationery and so on, we spent quality time; which brings in smiles in the faces of a few. We share their grief though not absolute, the moments spent; engulfs us with a feel of happiness and joy which qualifies the lesser-known test of 'will it bring fun'

We have heard umpteen number of times by the leaders from our District and within the club of possible threat that awaits each of our Rotary Clubs in future; that we fail to attract the newer generations into Rotary. By failing to do so, we might fall at a speed unimaginable; to arrest such situations, we need to change our ways and be more vibrant. Definitely many clubs have adopted an approach of being trendier to suit the present time and we have seen such clubs organising events and inter-club competitions which inter alia brings fun.

Though the fifth test isn't one officially approved by Rotary International, for clubs to survive, clubs must retrospect periodically to see and ensure that what the club do is fun not just for a few but to the others in the club as well so as to ensure a sustainable growth.



Please write to us your feedback and contents to rotarycochineast@gmail.com

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