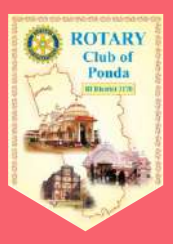
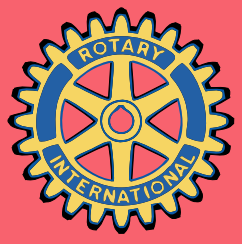
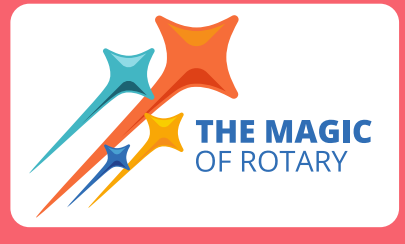


Farmagudi



The Bulletin of
ROTARY CLUB OF PONDA



Club No. 15674
Chartered on : 27th April 1978

R.I. District : 3170
Volume : 47 | JANUARY 2025



Rtn. Paul Harris
Founder



Rtn. Stephanie A. Urchick
RI President 2024-25



Rtn. Sharad Pai
District Governor



Rtn. Suchitra Bhat
President

Rtn. Venkatesh Nayak
Secretary

Rtn. Priya Naik
Treasurer

Rtn. Abhijeet Kelekar
Bulletin Editor



Editorial

Happy New Year,
As we embark on a brand-new year, January offers us an opportunity to reflect, refocus, and renew our commitment to the ideals of Rotary. The turn of the calendar is not just a chronological event; it's a symbolic reset - a chance to reevaluate our goals, future, celebrate our successes,

and plan for the January is the Vocational Service Month, which reminds us of the importance of leveraging our professional skills to benefit our communities. Whether it's mentoring young professionals, conducting career guidance sessions for students, or fostering ethical practices in our workplaces, vocational service allows us to lead by example. This month, let's take on initiatives that showcase our collective expertise while empowering others to achieve their potential.

December month was dedicated to Disease Prevention and Treatment. Different projects and activities were performed in December. Our District Governor Rtn. Sharad Pai made his official visit to our club in December. The Public function was well attended by Rotary families. Felicitations, Awards presentation, Induction of new members and many other activities were performed at the hands of DG.

Rotary Families also enjoyed the Tour to Vietnam this month. Everyone felt relaxed out of the daily routine at home and work. We have also enjoyed different National and International destinations in past many years. Fellowship was at its best and the tour was enjoyed by all.

Looking Back with Gratitude, the year 2024 was nothing short of remarkable for our club. Together, we accomplished meaningful milestones. From impactful community service projects to hosting enlightening guest speakers, we have consistently demonstrated Rotary's mission of service above self.

A Glimpse Ahead - 2025 is brimming with opportunities for growth and impact. Additionally, our membership drive continues, and we encourage you to bring in friends and colleagues who share our passion for service. Fresh perspectives and new energy will be instrumental in propelling our projects to greater heights.

Your Voice Matters, as we navigate this year together, I invite all members to share their ideas and feedback. Whether it's a new project proposal, suggestions for improving our meetings, or thoughts on enhancing community engagement, your voice is invaluable. Rotary thrives when every member's passion and vision are part of the conversation.

In closing, let's carry the momentum of last year into 2025 with optimism and determination. Let us embody the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self," with renewed vigor and continue making a positive difference - one project, one connection, one act of kindness at a time.

Wishing you all a fruitful and fulfilling year ahead!
Yours in Rotary Service,

Rtn. ABHIJEET KELEKAR
Editor



President Speaks

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to a new exciting year 2025. Happy new year 2025 to all the readers!!

As we reflect on a productive and inspiring year, I am delighted to highlight the success of the District Governor's official visit to our club. This event was a wonderful occasion for all of us to engage with DG Rtn. Sharad Pai, whose insights and leadership further strengthened our commitment to Rotary's mission. I am indeed honored by the DG's recognition of our various club projects. His encouraging words have given the boost to our efforts in serving the community with greater dedication. During the club visit we gave away the Nation builder awards, Vocational awards and the Hirkani award. We also inducted 2 new members to our club.

We, the Rotary family members, had an enjoyable international tour to Vietnam for 9 days. Scenic beaches, natural limestone caves, beautiful nature, cruise stay, good food, lots of shopping and of course the enthusiastic company of each other refreshed the minds. Few photos in the report will give glimpses of the tour.

RC Ponda members participated in Colva beach cleaning drive as a commitment towards protecting the nature. Members collected plastic and other waste.

January is Rotary's designated month as Vocational Service Month. This month provides a special opportunity for us to focus on the importance of vocational ethics and professional development. I hope this month will inspire all of us to lead by example and raise awareness about the significant role of our professional expertise in service to others.

As we complete six months of the Rotary year 24-25, I want to express my gratitude to all members for their unwavering support. Thank you everyone for being a part of this journey.

Rtn. Suchitra Bhat

President 24-25



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THE MAGIC OF ROTARY Rotary Club of Ponda



Editor
Rtn. Abhijeet Kelekar

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The 4-Way Test Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL**
and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all
concerned?



*"I do not believe capital can afford
to permit hunger, squalor, or
disease. Let us banish the city
miserable before we build our city
beautiful. Slums are political
malaria breeders, and we must not
have them in our midst."*

*-Paul P. Harris THE ROTARIAN,
March 1918*

Board of Directors for 2024 - 2025

President	- Rtn. Suchitra Bhat
Vice-President	- Rtn. Abhijeet Kelekar
President-Elect	- Rtn. Dr. Anita Tilve
Immediate Past President	- Rtn. Nasir Ali Wahid
Secretary	- Rtn. Venkatesh Nayak
Treasurer	- Rtn. Priya Naik
Sergeant-at-Arms	- Rtn. Sanjana Desai
Club Service Director	- Rtn. Ranjit Sadekar
Community Service Director	- Rtn. Mohan Aggarwal
Vocational Service Director	- Rtn. Mukul Lal
International Service Director	- Rtn. Dr. Subramanya Bhat
Youth Service Director	- Rtn. Vasudev Sawant
Joint-Secretary	- Rtn. Ashwin Kunkolienkar

Objectives of Rotary

The Objective of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- FIRST** : The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- SECOND** : High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- THIRD** : The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- FOURTH** : The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.



**"First they ignore you, then they
laugh at you, then they fight you,
then you win."**

-Mahatma Gandhi



Rotary Club of Ponda 2024 - 25



Rtn. Venkatesh Nayak
SECRETARY

Secretary's Report
DECEMBER 2024

REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING

21th Regular Weekly Meeting of the club was held on 6/12/2024. President Rtn. Suchitra Bhat welcomed the members and briefed about the different activities carried out in the last week and also discussed about upcoming events. She informed about DG's official proposed visit in the month of December and also Club Assembly on 13th December. Rtn. Uday Tilve delivered a talk on " Women in Rotary" which was well received by the audience. Birthday cake was cut by the Rotarians whose birthdays and wedding anniversary falls in the month of November.



CLEAN DRINKING WATER FACILITY TO THE SCHOOL

5/12/2024 RC Ponda has completed a CSR project in association with Nestle India. A clean drinking water facility unit was installed at Sacordem Education Society's high school, Nave Sacorda which was inaugurated at the hands of Rtn. Suchitra Bhat. The project is worth Rs. 580000 and will benefit around 170 students and staff of the school. Our heartfelt thanks to Rtn. Sanjay Bhandari, head-corporate affairs, west Nestle India and his colleague Ms. Pruthvi Velingkar for setting up this unit in the school.



CLUB ASSEMBLY

Club assembly was conducted by AG Rtn. Dr. Pradnya Kakodkar. She appreciated the different activities carried out by the club and informed about DG's official visit and the public function, the different fund raising activities. She also appealed the members to participate in District conference in large numbers.



ANNUAL MEETING

24th Regular weekly meeting/ Annual General body meeting for the Rotary year 2024-25 was held on Friday 27 th December 2024 at Rotary Hall, Ponda at 7.30 PM.





Rotary Club of Ponda 2024 - 25



MOONLIGHT WALK

14/12/2024 RC Ponda organized a unique and enchanting moonlight walk to Siddhanath temple under the leadership of Rtn. Dr. Rajeev Usgaocar. The walk began at 8 pm from the foot of the hill and covered almost 6kms to and fro to the temple. After reaching the temple, members had Darshan of deity and enjoyed delicious snacks. The objective of the event was to promote Fellowship, physical activity and exploring the nature in moonlight which was quite successful.



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISIT

19/12/2024 District Governor Rtn. Sharad Pai was on his official visit to RC Ponda on 19th December 2024. Club members welcomed him wholeheartedly. Later President, secretary and Treasurer, Treasurer elect had a meeting with him. He went through all the files and documents of the club. He also met the BOD members. Later, a public function was arranged at PAN AROMA roof top. During public function, president Rtn. Suchitra welcomed the gathering, Secretary Rtn. Venkatesh presented the activities report. Nation Builder awards were given to 2 eminent teachers from the society. On this occasion, Vocational awards were given to 2 awardees. Hirkani award was given to one lady. Rtn. Deepti and Rtn. Shweta were inducted in the club. 3 computers were handed over to Rtn. Dr. Anita. DG felicitated District Officers and major donors. On this occasion, bulletin Farmagudi was released.



BEACH WALK / BEACH CLEANING DRIVE

22/12/2024 Ponda organized a successful beach clean drive at Colva. The event aimed to promote environmental sustainability, community service and fellowship among Rotarians. Over 28 Rotarians, family members and friends participated in the event. The team collected approximately 4 bags of trash including plastic waste, glass bottles and other non biodegradable items. Members were provided with gloves, masks and trash bags to ensure safe collection of trash. The members enjoyed delicious breakfast at Hotel Ambika while returning back to Ponda.



VOCATIONAL AWARDS PRESENTATION

19/12/2024 RC Ponda presented vocational awards to the outstanding professionals in various fields. The event aimed to recognize and honour individuals who have demonstrated exceptional skills, dedication and commitment to their vocation. The recipients of the awards were: 1. Mr. Arvind More, headmaster and manager of Lokvishwas pratishthan school for special children. 2. Mr. Gajanan Jalmi, a skilled and dedicated coconut plucker. 3. Smt. Kusum Jalmi, Hirkani awardee, a widow and house maid in many houses who toils to provide better life for her children single handedly. The awards were presented at the hands of DG Rtn. Sharad Pai who was on his official visit to RC Ponda. The event was attended by more than 80 Rotarians and their family members, awardees and Guests.





Rotary Club of Ponda 2024 - 25



Nation Builder Awards

On 19th December, RC of Ponda, felicitated 2 teachers with Nation Builder awards for their tireless efforts, dedication and commitment in shaping students mind and future at the hands of DG Rtn. Sharad Pai who was on his official visit to RC Ponda. The felicitatee teachers are Mrs. Sangita Naik a teacher from Govt. high school, Nirankal and Mr. Vivek Desai, a teacher from Almeida HS, Ponda. The event was attended by more than 80 Rotarians and their family members, awardees and Guests.



6TH BOD MEETING

6th BOD meeting of the year 2024-25 was held on 07/12/2024 at Rotary Hall. Minutes of the previous BOD were read by the secretary and confirmed. President thanked the members for the cooperation extended in the past month and briefed about activities carried out so far. There was a detailed discussion about the activities to be planned for November and December.13th Dec.: Club Assembly 19th : DGs official visit27th: AGM, New board declare 3rd Jan: Xmas celebration 13th : RWM, Bulletin17th: RWM, Speaker Projects: Free cataract operations, fowler bed mattresses to Sanjeevan, Ewaste collection drive, Fort Agudada visit of inmates Loliem, RYLA at Balkalyan Ashram, Nation Builder Awards, Elocution competition etc. AOB: Registration for conference 7 BOD members were present for the meeting. Next BOD host: Rtn. Nasir Ali.

GLIMPSES OF ROTARY CLUB VIETNAM TOUR



The Power Of Imagination

Imagination is the spark that ignites creativity, the bridge between dreams and reality, and the force that propels humanity forward. It allows us to envision a world beyond the boundaries of the present, giving birth to ideas, innovations, and solutions that shape our collective future. The power of imagination is boundless, and its influence is evident in every facet of life, from art and science to personal growth and community building.

The Story of Aryan and the Tree of Dreams

In a small, picturesque village nestled between lush green hills, there lived a young boy named Aryan. Aryan was known for his vivid imagination. While others saw the world as it was, Aryan saw it, as it could be. To him, the ordinary was an opportunity to dream. His friends often teased him for his whimsical ideas, but Aryan's grandmother encouraged him, saying, "Imagination is the seed of greatness."

One sunny afternoon, as Aryan wandered through the forest near his home, he stumbled upon an ancient, towering tree. Its bark was covered in intricate carvings that seemed to shift and shimmer in the sunlight. The roots of the tree twisted like outstretched fingers, and its branches stretched high into the heavens, as if connecting earth to sky. Fascinated, Aryan sat beneath the tree, closed his eyes, and let his mind wander.

Suddenly, he heard a soft, melodic voice whisper, "This is the Tree of Dreams. Every thought you imagine here has the power to come to life. But remember, imagination carries responsibility. Choose wisely."

Aryan's heart raced with excitement. He began imagining a world filled with wonders. He pictured fields of golden flowers that glowed in the dark, rivers that sang melodious tunes, and a village where everyone was happy and prosperous. To his amazement, as he opened his eyes, his visions began to take form. The forest around him shimmered, and the golden fields stretched into the horizon. The rivers hummed a sweet melody, and the villagers, seeing the changes, were overjoyed.

For weeks, Aryan used the Tree of Dreams to transform his surroundings. He imagined vibrant marketplaces, magical animals that helped with farming, and endless supplies of delicious food. The village became a land of abundance and enchantment, attracting visitors from far and wide.

But as Aryan's imagination grew bolder, so did the unintended consequences. The villagers, overwhelmed by their newfound wealth, began to quarrel over treasures and grew disconnected from one another. Aryan realized with a heavy heart that his unchecked imagination had disrupted the harmony of his once-idyllic home.

Determined to make things right, Aryan returned to the Tree of Dreams. He sat under its shade, reflecting deeply on his actions. He understood now that imagination was not just about creating marvels but about envisioning solutions that nurtured balance and well being. With a heart full of resolve, he began imagining a world where harmony and balance were restored and a village where people valued relationships over material wealth.

As his visions unfolded, the village transformed once more and the villagers rediscovered the joy of togetherness. Aryan shared his story with the villagers, teaching them the importance of mindful imagination. The Tree of Dreams became a symbol of inspiration, reminding everyone that imagination, when tempered with wisdom and compassion, could create a world worth living in.

How Imagination Can Lead to Success

Imagination is a critical tool for personal and professional success. Here's how:

Vision Setting: Success begins with a clear vision of what you want to achieve. Imagination allows you to picture your goals vividly, creating a mental blueprint that guides your actions.

Creative Problem-Solving: Life's challenges often require innovative solutions. Imagination helps you think outside the box, envisioning possibilities that others might overlook.

Building Confidence: Imagining yourself succeeding can boost your confidence and motivation. Visualization techniques are often used by athletes, entrepreneurs, and leaders to mentally prepare for challenges.

Inspiring Others: A strong imagination can inspire and influence those around you. Leaders with imaginative visions can rally teams and communities to work towards shared goals.

Adapting to Change: The world is constantly evolving. Imagination enables you to anticipate changes and adapt creatively, ensuring that you stay ahead in an ever-changing landscape.

Overcoming Fear: Many fears stem from uncertainty. By imagining positive outcomes and solutions, you can overcome self-doubt and take bold steps forward.

Lemon and imagination

Imagine you are returning from the market to your house. You can see the house. You enter it. Now go to the kitchen. Go and take a lemon from the usual place. Feel the lemon in your hand. It is a big, yellow, juicy lemon. It has good lemon smell. Now get a knife. Hold the lemon in one hand and cut it with the knife. As you cut the lemon, a fine spray comes to your face. Feel it. Now you have two halves of the lemon. Lift your hand and put a half of the lemon into your mouth. And squeeze it. Feel the lemon taste.

Continued On Page 07.....



Rotary Club of Ponda 2024 - 25



ROTARIANS ATTENDING 100% MEETINGS IN DECEMBER 2024

- 1.Rtn. Gajanan Sawant
- 2.Rtn. Abhijeet Kelekar
- 3.Rtn. Vilas Naik
- 4.Rtn. Uday Tilve
- 5.Rtn. Dr.Rajeev Usgaocar
- 6.Rtn. Priya Naik
- 7.Rtn. Ranjit Sadekar

- 8.Rtn. Nasir Ali Wahid
- 9.Rtn. Suchitra Bhat
- 10.Rtn. Venkatesh Nayak
- 11.Rtn. Sanjana Desai
- 12.Rtn. Vasudev Sawant
- 13.Rtn. Shobha Kelekar



Congratulations..!



Fellowship Greetings for the Month of January

Birthdays

- 2nd : Rtn. Laxmikant Naik
- 3rd : Annette Neha Mahesh Desai
- 4th : Annette Kanishk Vilas Naik
- 11th : Rtn. Daniel Rodrigues
- 12th : Annette Advait Navin Katkar
- 12th : Anne Sharda Tushar Usgaonkar
- 15th : Rtn. Sudesh Kavalekar
- 17th : Rtn. Prakash Naik
- 19th : Annette Pratik Prakash Naik
- 19th : Annette Shruti M. Khandeparkar
- 20th: Rtn. Sanjay Bhandari
- 22th: Annette Reema Sadanand Desai
- 24th : Annette Pranati Pradipkumar Naik
- 27th : Annette Ved Sanjay Bhandari
- 30th : Rtn. Shripad Talaulikar
- 31st: Annette Anandi Navin Katkar



Wedding Anniversaries

- 2nd : Rtn. Shobha & Rtn. Abhijeet Kelekar
- 30th : Anne Vaishnavee & Rtn. Vishwanath Bhawe

Continued From Page 06.....

Can you feel the saliva in your mouth? This shows the power of imagination. Your mind and your body do not know the difference between you really eating a lemon or just imagining it. The body response (as a result of the mind response) is the same in both the cases. Your mind / brain remembers this imagined experience as the real experience.

The Lessons of Imagination

Aryan's story teaches us that imagination is a double-edged sword. It can lead to incredible advancements, as seen in groundbreaking inventions and transformative art, but it can also lead to unintended consequences if not paired with thoughtful intent.

So, the next time you close your eyes to dream, remember: the world you imagine is the world you help create. Let your imagination soar, but let your heart and mind guide its flight.

FROM THE R.C. PONDA ARCHIVES

Year 2003-2004
Theme: Lend a Hand
R.I. President - Rtn. Jonathan B. Majiyagbe
District Governor - Rtn. Dilip R. Salgaonkar
President - Rtn. Sadanand Desai
Secretary - Rtn. Ashok Nagvenkar



Installation Ceremony



Inauguration of Eye Check Up Camp