

## BULLETIN of ROTARY CLUB OF SURAT WEST



# Spark

Rotary Year **2024-25**

Charter Date : **30-4-96**

R.I. Dist. **3060** Zone **4-B**

Club No. : **31549**

Vol. **29**

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**25/2024-25**

### **NEXT MEETING**

**Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March**



**Time: 8.00pm**

**Program: Online Zoom meeting**

**Subject: Our Experiences of visiting "MAHA KUMBH"**

**Participants:**

**Rtn. Anil Pitaliya**

**PN Dr. Vijay Shah**

**Ann Hem Tinish Mody**

**Rtn. PP. Dr. Paresh Vaidya**

**Rtn. Anirudh Garg**

**\*Rotarians and Spouses are welcome.**

**\* The Zoom link will be shared in the club WhatsApp Group**

## Wedding Anniversary Greetings

Rtn. Anoop- Ann Shweta Mittal- **March 1**  
Rtn. Sanjay- Ann Mausam Jalan -**March 12**  
Rtn. Rajesh- Ann Dimple Agrawal-**March 13**

## Birthday Greetings

March 5: **Rtn. Rajesh Agrawal**  
March 6: **Rtn. Rakesh Mandlewala**  
March 10: **Ann Gita Sandeep Mongia**  
March 20: **Ann Archita Raghav Khaitan**  
March 22: **Rtn.PP. Shilpa Shah**  
March 24: **Ann Ritu Gaurang Goel**  
March 26 : **Ann Kinjal Krunal Mehta**  
March 28 : **Ann Kavita Mitesh Bhagat**

## Last meeting – Sunday- February 23, 2025 Vocational Excellence Award Ceremony

The Vocational Excellence Award Ceremony, organized by our club, took place on February 23, 2025, marking the special occasion of **Rotary International's 120th Birthday** AND **ROTARY Day**. This day holds great significance in the Rotary calendar, symbolizing Rotary's enduring commitment to service and excellence worldwide. The event celebrated not only vocational excellence but also Rotary's longstanding mission to bring about positive change in society.

The meeting commenced with a sacred prayer sung in her melodious voice, by **Ann Sukruti Vaidya**, invoking blessings from the Almighty for the successful and smooth proceedings of the event.

**President PDG Devendra Shastri** in his welcome address, highlighted the importance of vocational excellence in contributing to the growth and development of society. He emphasized the Rotary Club of Surat West's mission to recognize individuals & institutions whose professional achievements have not only brought them personal success but have positively impacted their communities and industries.

A brief history of Rotary International as well the service to community done, was presented to the audience by a slide show.

**The Chief Guest, Shri Raghavendra Vatsa ji**, (Jt. Commissioner of Police (Crime), Surat City), **Shri. Anirudhsinh Gohil** (Police inspector, Ichhapore police station), **Shri. Neeraj Choksi** (NJ group, co-founder) and **Shri. Vishal Budhia** (CEO, Steam house) were welcomes and presented with a pot of plants.

The Chief Guest, Shri Raghavendra Vatsa ji, was introduced by **PP. Krunal Mehta**. He spoke highly of Shri Vatsa's distinguished career in law enforcement and his tireless dedication to ensuring safety and security in Surat.

**Rtn. Nirav Mandlewala** then took the stage to introduce Shri Anirudhsinh Gohil, Police Inspector at Ichhapore Police Station. He spoke about Shri Gohil's exemplary service in maintaining law and order, his commitment to public safety, and his contributions to community.

Next, **PP. Bankim Sitwala** introduced Shri Neeraj Choksi, Co-Founder of NJ Group. He emphasized Shri Choksi's entrepreneurial spirit, his efforts in transforming the financial services industry, and his unwavering dedication to enhancing the financial well-being of individuals and businesses alike.

Following this, **Hon. Jt Sec. PP. Ashit Kothari** took the stage to introduce Shri Vishal Budhia, Chairman and Managing Director of Steam House. He elaborated on Shri Budhia's visionary leadership, which has steered Steam House to the forefront of the industry.

**The highlight of the afternoon was the Presentation of Vocational Excellence Awards, by the Chief Guest, Shri Raghavendra Vatsa ji.** The awards were presented to Shri Anirudhsinh Gohil, Shri Neeraj Choksi, and Shri Vishal Budhia, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to their respective professions and communities. The recipients received warm applause as they were celebrated for their exemplary work. Each awardee took a moment to express their gratitude for the recognition.

**Shri Anirudhsinh Gohil** shared his pride in serving the community and emphasized the importance of teamwork in his role as the Police Inspector at the Ichhapore Police Station, with the Police station getting the being adjudged the best Police station in India.

**Shri Neeraj Choksi** expressed his appreciation for the honour and thanked the Club for recognizing his commitment to business excellence and financial inclusion. His speech reflected a deep understanding of personal and professional growth, by acknowledging the importance of "letting go to move ahead."

**Shri Vishal Budhia** spoke about his journey in the business world, sharing insights into his work at Steam House and the importance of innovation in sustaining long-term success. He said that we are just the keepers of Goddess Laxmi and to spend as much as one can for the welfare of the society.

The **Chief Guest, Shri Raghavendra Vatsa ji**, delivered a powerful address on the significance of vocational excellence in shaping the future of any community. He said that the police force is the face of the government, even if they form hardly 1-2 % of the total workforce. Their job is safety, security & peace. He stressed the importance of integrity, hard work, and the relentless pursuit of excellence in professional endeavours. His words were a source of inspiration for everyone present, reminding everyone of their role in contributing to society through their individual vocations.

**President Rtn. PDG Devendra Shastri presented a token of gratitude in the form of a memento, to the chief guest Shri. Raghavendra Vatsaji.**

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by PE. **Rtn. Dr. Parag Shah**, who expressed gratitude to the chief guest, all the dignitaries, awardees, and attendees for their participation. **Ann. Nipa Sitwala and Ann. Rakhi Gandhi** manned the registration counter.

**PP Ashit Kothari and PP Krunal Mehta** truly went above and beyond in organizing and executing the Vocational Excellence Award program. Their painstaking efforts reflected a high level of dedication and attention to detail, ensuring that every aspect of the event was executed flawlessly.

**PDG Kulbandhu Sharma, PDG Santosh Pradhan, RC Surat Hon. Secretary Vineet Panchal, Surat Diamond Hon. Secretary Suraj Sagar, RC Udhna Rtn. PP. Vishal Merchant** also graced the meeting.

**PP. Setu Gandhi**, who adroitly navigated the proceedings, served with distinction as the Master of ceremonies (MOC). He was ably helped and supported by **Hon. Sec. PP Tinish Mody** along with **Sergeant-at-arms Rtn. Vijay Mevcha**. They helped in the skilful and smooth conduct of the meeting.





## Highlights of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Club Board of Directors held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025



**The 8<sup>th</sup> board of directors meeting was held at Spice Villa and hosted by Rtn. PP. Geeta Modi.**

The following points were discussed and passed by the board.

\*President PDG Devendra Shastri welcomed everyone and the minutes of the last board meeting held on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 was read by Hon Sec. PP Tinish Mody and passed.

\*Financial status was discussed and an additional fee of Rs.5000 to be collected from members.

\*Arrangements for **vocational awards program** to be held on Sunday, Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 was discussed and finalised.

\*Our **club's flag design was discussed** and Hon. Jt. Sec. PP Ashit Kothari was given the responsibility for the same.

\*Preparations for charter night celebrations on April 30, 2025 were discussed. PP Geeta Modi & PP Bankim Sitwala were assigned the responsibility for the same.

\*PP. Ashit Kothari informed the board of the progress of the **eye cataract surgery** for the needy at "Centre for Sight" done by PP. Dr. Paresh Vaidya. More than 17 cataract surgeries has taken place and more to follow, significantly benefiting the poor and needy, by restoring their eye sights.

\*Tentative **programs and projects for the months of March & April 2025** were discussed. PP. Hitendra Mody proposed a Skin bank project, where cadaveric skin is processed and preserved under optimal conditions from where it can be used for the benefit of burn victims.

\*The board also discussed a **new member proposal**.

\*President PDG Devendra Shastri discussed the club's **contribution to The Rotary Foundation and asked all the board members to encourage more members to donate generously for the same.**

**\*The next board meeting was to be held on March 19, 2025.**

The board meeting ended after **PP. Hitendra Mody** proposed a hearty **vote of thanks to the wonderful and warm host PP. Geeta Modi.**

**The Board meeting was attended by** President PDG Devendra Shastri, Vice President and PE Dr. Parag Shah, PN. Dr. Vijay Shah, Hon. Sec PP. Tinish Mody, Hon. Jt. Sec PP. Ashit Kothari, PP. Geeta Modi, PP. Hitendra Mody, PP. Bankim Sitwala, PP. Setu Gandhi, PP. Bhavesh Shah and IPP. Sonal Shah.

# Dhamal Gali

Joint Initiative of Rotary clubs in Surat Area

Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February. Time: 6.00am to 8.00am



## \*Rotary DHAMAL GALI Highlights\*

- CPR training session by Past President Rtn Dr. Prashant Kariya
- Zumba session by Mrs. Hetal Joshi from Pal Fitness Club and Ms. Ekta Kothari
- Yoga session by Mr. Krishnendu Sen
- Say No to Drugs session by PI Choudhury Sir from SOG Cell
- Self Defence session by Girls (Rtn O.P. Singh from Rotary Kharach Kosamba)
- Cyber Crime session by Gamit Sir
- Anchoring & Games Played by Mr. Devang Desai
- Overall Backup Support from CP Gahlot Sir.
- Organised by total 9 Rotary clubs of Surat area.
- Around 200 members had participated & enjoyed all sessions in Dhamal Gali.
- all Sessions Instructors were provided a Memento.
- all Club Presidents were provided a Participation Memento

**Those who invested their tremendous efforts are; Presidents Rinki Burman, Gopal Modi, Praveen Kakkar, Nidhi Pachigar, Ashok Singhal, Rtn. Vineet Panchal, Rtn. Satyam Sagar to name few. Our Rtn. PP. Setu and Ann Rakhi Gandhi represented our club.**


## Rotary Wisdom

IMAGINATION  
INSPIRATION  
INNOVATION  
TEAMWORK  
**Rotary**  
PEOPLE of ACTION



Good Morning!

Generosity:  
The habit of giving freely  
without expecting  
anything in return.

Rotary 

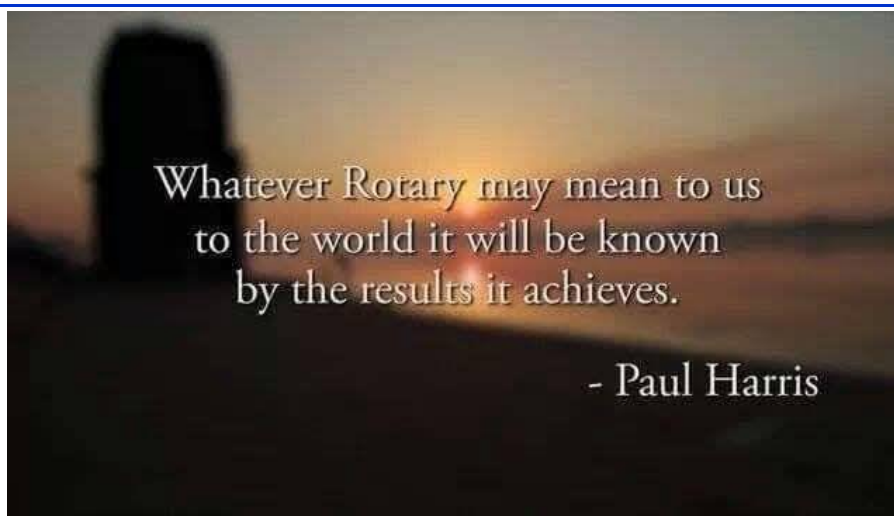
Rotary  |  THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

Club of Felicity/Charlottesville

### BENEFITS OF BEING A ROTARIAN

- Giving Back to the Community
- Networking
- Personal Development
- Professional Growth
- Global Impact
- Access to Resources

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### Forthcoming Projects and Programs

- \* **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March: Eye Cataract Surgery Camp at Center for Sight Hospital**
- \* **Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March: Meeting of club Board of Directors**
- \* **Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March: Surprise Fellowship Program**

## "Navigating the Skies: A GPS-Tracked Falcon's Epic Migration"



The female falcon was equipped with a GPS tracker during its journey from South Africa to Finland, covering about 230 km per day.

It walked in a straight line across the African lands until it reached the desert in the north, then headed towards the path of the Nile River over Sudan and Egypt, then avoided flying over the Mediterranean Sea.

It crossed over Syria and Lebanon, and also avoided flying over the Black Sea, because if it got thirsty, it would not be able to drink from it. It continued in a straight line and reached Finland after 42 days.



## HUMOUR

The dentist looked into his patient's mouth and said "The only way I can cure your bad breath is by taking out all your teeth."

"Will I be able to sing in the choir for the Independence Day function?" asked the patient.

"I don't see why not" replied the dentist.

"Well, I wasn't good enough to sing, the last time I auditioned"