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• Chartered : August 26, 1987
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CIRCULAR 21

Meeting 25

Programme : Fellowship Meet
Date : 16th January, Saturday, 2021.
Time : 7:30 PM
Venue : Nirali Resorts Kalavad Rd, opp. VVP Engineering College.
Invitee : Rotarians, Anns and Annets

Birthday Wishes

16-Jan	Rtn. Hardik Sheth	98791 88071	19-Jan	Rtn. Ketan Kataria	98250 76527
16-Jan	Rtn. Narendra Patel	94272 13329	20-Jan	Rtn. Siddharth Adani	98252 29296
16-Jan	Ann. Shilpa N. Bhojani	99798 81923	20-Jan	Ann. Palak Y. Rathod	81402 77177
16-Jan	Ann. Isha R. Dhami	95747 99943	21-Jan	Ann. Nina V. Kothari	94282 98894
18-Jan	Rtn. Maulik Shah	94261 65555	22-Jan	Rtn. Bharatbhai Mangtani	98258 38990

Wedding Anniversary

			RTN.	ANN.
16-Jan	Maulesh	& Sonal Ukani	98244 00900	98244 00900
18-Jan	Apoorva	& Ashini Modi	80008 01110	80007 01110
19-Jan	Kushal	& Deval Mehta	99242 46620	88661 05817
21-Jan	Chirag	& Shilpa Patel	76000 55555	94281 56287
21-Jan	Ketan	& Chetna Kataria	98250 76527	97129 76527
22-Jan	Niraj	& Nidhi Mehta	99246 11077	96247 94948
23-Jan	Prashant	& Jigna Parsana	98242 99499	98792 22887

Meeting :

Fellowship Meet- Since the govt. has cautioned the dangers of Corona virus RCRG has very consciously planned the in person meeting with all precautions for the members of the family. The meeting will be held at. Nirali Resorts. Everyone is invited to be part of this turn out.

Meeting Review:

Pizza Meet at D.P. Doshi Rotary Greater Auditorium- It was fulfilled Pizza party at Rotary Bhavan where RCRG Parivar Members met after a long time. Smiles on faces of everyone said it all. Hot pizzas and yummy garlic breads were relished by members present. Social distancing and masking were considered as topmost priority.

Project Report:

- Rotary Club of Rajkot Greater in association with Shrimad Rajchandra Seva Group had organized Blood donation camp for Thalassemia affected children on 3rd January 2021 at D.P. Doshi Greater Auditorium. 59 units were collected for Thalassemia children.



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P.P. RTN. DARSHAN LAKHANI

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P.P. RTN. SARJU PATEL

DISTRICT CONF.

P.P. RTN. YASH RATHOD

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RTN. KETAN KATARIYA
RTN. VIMLESH SHAH

CLUB SPORTS

P.P. RTN. DIPEN PATEL
RTN. RAVI GANATRA

HEALTH / MEDICAL

RTN. DR. HITESH SAPOVADIYA
RTN. DR. ANIL SAVALIYA

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**CSR : P.P. RTN. DIPEN PATEL
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P.P. RTN. BHARAT HAPANI
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WELLNESS & WOMAN

DR. AMI MEHTA

- Webinar on Child Eye Care was organized on 9/1/2021 which had saw an active participation of more than 500 students. It was a joint effort of Self Finance School Management Association – Rajkot and Rotary Club of Rajkot Greater. We are very thankful to Rtn. Dr. Ketan Bavishi for conducting it and enlightening students.
- Through cooperation and noble contributions of Greater family, we were able to distribute 1350 kits of 2300 Grams each. (Total 3105 KG). Moreover 450 Kits of 450 Grams Chikki shall be distributed around Metoda village by our Interactors @ TGS. (202.5 KG).



Did you know?

First Matching Grant project was organized in year 1997-1998 in Presidential year of Rtn. Dr. Darshit Mapara.



Annet's corner:

My Journey of Visharad

I started doing Kathak in the year 2015. Gradually I completed all the years and reached the last year i.e. Visharad. This year is quite difficult from the past years. It has been quite challenge and fun than the last years.

I love dancing since I was 6 or 7 years old. My dream is to open an academy of Kathak. This is my mom's dream too, which I would achieve. Now I'm focusing on Visharad and trying my best to pass with flying colours.

The journey of Visharad is full of challenges but it also has fun. I'm overwhelmed to have my Jenny didi always by my side. Every day we practice and on every saturday we revise the things we practiced the whole week with tabla.



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Rtn. Aashish Joshi

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Assistant Governor- Saurashtra
Rtn. Ashwin Lodhiya

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Rtn. Bhavesh Vegda

IYE
Coordinator- Saurashtra
Rtn. Darshan Lakhani

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Regional Trainer- Saurashtra
Rtn. Dipak Kothari

Health- Preventive & Curative
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District Grant
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Rtn. Mihir Modi

Avoidable Blindness
Chairman - District(3060)
Rtn. Dr. Ketan Bavishi

My inspiration for dancing is also Shivangi Joshi. She works as Naira in the show 'yeh rishta kya kehlata hai'. She is a wonderful dancer too and Visharadh Kathak dancer. She is successful in opening her own academy of Kathak in the name of her mother "Akshara Academy of dance"

One Thought

It was just the end of January when I flew back to United States. Buffalo (NY) is called the snow city of the US. It is covered with snow for almost four months a year. However, this year the temperatures were higher than what they used to be since the last three years. My seniors called my batch lucky, but who knew what was waiting for us to make us unlucky.

It was December 2019, when the world came to know about the Corona virus. It was only bounded in China at that time. United States was already known to this virus and had started flashing news to stay alert and maintain hygiene. I was to leave India on the 26th of the month. My cousin, living in Texas, warned me, "Better wear a mask in flight and try to avoid Chinese people. Even in your college, do not meet them or greet them with a handshake once you are back." I laughed hard, "Wearing a mask looks so creepy, still I will try if you say." But the excitement to go back was much exploding my mind to remember wearing a mask. After immigration, I stood near the glass where I waved my parents last goodbye, my mom's eyes were still watering. What did she know? It's just a matter of a month that she will be standing at the same airport to receive me.

February went by really fast. Assignments, home works and exams over-loaded the weekdays. Friends, movie nights, shopping and hanging out over-loaded the weekend. Then came a malignant March that spilled sanitizer all over our dreams.

I remember it was the first week of March. Gossips had started spreading in the campus. NYU and Columbia had already shifted to distance learning mode. They had also asked the students to vacate their dorms and live off campus or leave for home. Everywhere I could hear murmurings of people talking about our Dean or the virus or the campus shutdown. Somehow, I did not feel like believing it. How can a campus that has hundreds of classes and thousands of student's shutdown abruptly in the middle of the semester. Till that time there were no cases in my whole county, Erie County. But the main problem was spring break. Once all the students are scattered for Spring break, they are definitely going to go back to their homes in New York City (as our 30% population came from NYC). I had already booked tickets (extremely expensive) to go to Texas for my Spring Break.



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Adolescence Awareness



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As and when we started reaching nearer to the spring break week, gossips about distance learning became more vivid. Professors started saying goodbyes as if it was going to be their last class. Students started buying out stuff from the stores to use up their dining dollars. The stores literally were out of everything. Not a single thing was left in the stores after Wednesday. Suddenly things started getting clearer. The official mail of campus shutdown was awaited eagerly by all the students. The first thing I tried to do was cancel my Texas tickets. It took me three hours of call waiting just to cancel my tickets on the Customer Service.

Finally it came. Our dean officially announced via mail on Thursday of that week that the campus is going to go on the distance-learning mode starting from the Spring Break. There it all ended and this began. Confusion was getting around everywhere. No one knew what would happen next, not even the professors. Were the students expected to go back or were they allowed to stay? Was it a permanent thing or would it be evoked soon? The International Student Services also had no answers about what to do. They just told us one thing, 'it's your call, and you need to decide.' They even had no clue how my VISA status would affect due to this.

India had already banned travels to China, Italy, Japan, Germany and etc. United States was soon expected to be in the list. We had hardly a week's time to decide what to do. I told my parents about this the same night. But parents take decisions for their children: quick and safe. The next morning when I woke up, I had received tickets on my phone with a text saying come back immediately.

I am usually a kind of person who panics when situations change even a little. This was not at all a small situation for me. I had to pack my eight-nine boxes/cartoons of whatever I had, keep that in a storage area which was 6-7 kms away from my dorm, complete my homework, give one midterm, pack for myself, vacate my dorm and reach the airport the next morning. It was not at all easy for me. Luckily, I had enough friends who helped me shift things and vacate the room. But it is hard to dismantle all the things that one has organized and made by oneself. It is not easy to leave behind a life that one has hard earned. It felt like suddenly a bomb had been dropped and one is expected to run for life. Just like one is evacuated from somewhere.

There were six of us who returned to India together. Avoiding and sanitizing each and every seat or railings. That was the time when no sanitizers or masks were found in any store. It seems not so real now but that day we travelled internationally without masks or face coverings. When I reached Ahmedabad, they just measured my temperature and allowed me to clear immigration. I came out seeing my parents sitting on a bench waiting for me. Suddenly everything became clear. There was no panic, no stress, nothing. I had come back to my own country, to my own people. I came back for them. Being away from my parents during this pandemic was something I could have never been able to do. I would have broken down completely alone and so would they. Maybe that's why it's said that parents always do right for their children.

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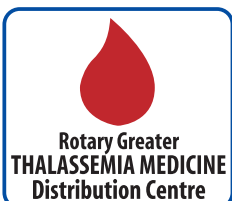
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Snap shots of Marathon Meet at Seasons Hotel



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