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We meet every Monday at 7.00 p.m. at
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Rtn. Ray Klingensmith
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District Governor



The Rotary Foundation – Heart of the Rotary Movement

At the first meeting of Rotary Foundation month, on 8th Nov at RBI, we were privileged to have DGE Pandurang Potnis speak on TRF and Matching Grants. He shared how TRF, which is at the heart of the Rotary movement, acquired its unique identity over the years.

The foundation originated as an endowment in 1917, proposed by PRIP Arch .C. Klump for *doing Good in the World*, with a **Vision** to enable Rotarians to advance Goodwill, Peace & World Understanding.



DGE Pandurang Potnis during his talk at our club
Its current **Mission** is to undertake projects for

- Improvement of Health
- Support of Education
- Alleviation of Poverty

TRF has driven several global programmes:

- Ambassadorial Scholarships
- Group Study Exchanges (GSE)
- Awards For Technical Training
- Matching Grants
- 3H Grants
- Rotary Volunteers
- Polio Plus
- Rotary Grants For University Teachers, and
- Peace & Conflict Studies

The top 5 reasons to support TRF are:

- Fighting Hunger
- Reducing Child Mortality
- Providing Peace & Conflict Resolution
- Supporting Education & Literacy
- Eradicating Polio

There are 3 ways of giving to the TRF:

- *Annual*, e.g. PHF, where 50% of the contribution gets returned as grants, typically after 3 years
- *Restricted* such as Matching Grants
- *Permanent Fund* that helps build the corpus

Matching Grants ensure stewardship and bind the Rotary world uniquely. The grants bring together clubs from across the world for projects that address humanitarian needs of a community. Such projects involve active Rotarian participation, and “match” Rotary clubs or districts in at least two countries. The club or district in the project country is the host partner, while the club or district outside the country is termed international partner. Matching Grants match funds raised by Rotary clubs and districts. Approved applications receive a 50% match on cash contributions and a 100% match for DDF contributions.

Clubs must apply to TRF for matching grants. The applications are categorized into:

- *Matching Grants* where project size is between US\$ 5,000 - \$25,000
- *Competitive Matching Grants* for project sizes between US\$ 25,001 and \$150,000

Like other Humanitarian Grants, **Matching Grants** must comply with grant policies adopted by TRF Trustees which are detailed in the Terms & Conditions of the award.

Competitive Grants have additional criteria beyond those for Matching Grants. While applying for a competitive grant, clubs and districts must submit a project viability assessment for community needs. Data on benefit to community, ownership by the community and ongoing sustenance after grant funding ends needs to be submitted as well. Once a Competitive Grant is approved, publicity and spending plans need to be submitted for payment to be effected. Submission of independent financial reviews and annual progress reports every year is mandatory as well.

Rotarian involvement forms the backbone of successful Matching Grant projects. Partners, both host and international, are expected to communicate with each other for the entire life of the project. They need to establish a 3 member committee to oversee it. Partners should jointly plan and implement the project. Ideally partners should visit the project site. Both partners are responsible for submitting regular reports to TRF while ensuring that the stewardship is maintained as per guidelines.

Key timelines each year

01 Jul - 31 Mar Applications are accepted

01 Aug - 15 May Application approvals get completed

Completed Competitive Matching Grant applications submitted before 01 Aug get reviewed at the Fall meeting of the Board of Trustees. While those received before 01 Jan are considered at the Spring meeting. The standard application form is available on the RI website.

Reporting requirements

Both partners are responsible for providing a progress report on the project, at least once in every twelve months and a final report detailing the project's outcome within two months of the project's completion.

Partners should decide on which one of them will take the lead in completing the Final Report upon project completion. Although one partner may sign off on taking the lead in reporting, both partners are held responsible for overdue or incomplete reports.

The **future vision** of TRF is to give Clubs & Districts more autonomy in implementing Foundation Programmes.

Acupressure and Fitness

On 15 Nov, Dr. H. Bhojraj, Course Director and Acupuncture Specialist of the Acupressure Club spoke at our Club.

He explained how the science of acupuncture evolved over many years to its present state wherein most common ailments can be cured.

The technique is simple and once pressure points are



Dr. Bhojraj at RHOS during his talk

identified, the patient can do self-treatment without the assistance of a specialist. According to him, present day medicines are strong and have severe side effects. While acknowledging that allopathy is the best treatment in emergencies and life saving situations, he feels that acupressure can comfortably treat normal ailments.

As an example he showed how a common headache is cured by pressing sides of the thumb at the root of the nail. After pressing and releasing around fourteen times, the headache will vanish in a few minutes. Even migraine can be treated in this manner.

In the short question answer session, he obliged members by identifying pressure points for their ailments.

Dr. Bhojraj, who is a celebrated ISRO scientist, can be contacted at 23326552 and acu_bgl@yahoo.co.in.

IFRM launched in Dist 3190

Rtn. Manoj Agarwal & the core committee of the International Fellowship of Rotarians in Music IFRM chapter in Dist 3190, were presented with IFRM pins by Rtn. Yashpal Das (RI Director Elect for 2011-13). 3 RBI members Jairam Vishvanath, Sanjay Koppikar & Vidyut Shenoy give Manoj company on the core committee.



Transformation – Rotary makes it possible

To become a butterfly you should be willing to give up being a caterpillar

A time comes in the life of every person when he has the opportunity to transform into a butterfly. For me, it occurred in April 2001 when, on a visit to India during a foreign assignment, we were enjoying a short holiday at Bangalore with my son Ashish & daughter-in-law Sapna.

At the family reunion, wherein my daughter Mini & son-in-law Nilanjan had also joined in from Mumbai, they all told me, "Papa, we know you are in a respectable assignment and earning handsomely. You created higher education opportunities for us and raised us well. By the grace of God, we are all doing well. On our part we do not expect any money or property from you. You are now 64, and we feel that it is time for you to slow down the hyperactive pace of your life and follow the dream that you surely have nurtured."

I reflected on that unexpected remark and hesitatingly consulted my wife Prabha. She concurred wholeheartedly with the children.

That day I took a decision to not work for money anymore but devote my time for the welfare of have-nots in society. It was a difficult decision, to forgo my then monthly paycheck that was in excess of US\$15,000. I went back, put in my papers and returned to India to take up the challenge of a new life.

Besides relinquishing my monthly income, I also asked CEOs of the dozen or so companies, where I was either a member on their board or an advisor, to contribute from then on, all the advisory and sitting fees that they had in mind for me to causes that I had started working on. These were the causes:

Needy Heart Foundation, that takes care of heart surgeries of the needy poor. Over 1500 patients have benefited from it since.

Excellence in schools, by way of awards and trophies instituted for school students who excel, besides studies, in extra-curricular activities such as Sports, Debates, Music, Dancing, Crafts & Painting

Rehabilitation of both destitute children & senior citizens whose children have deserted them. We have helped existing orphanages and Old Age Homes in this rehabilitation process.

Vocational Training to school dropouts. Over 120 students have been supported & empowered so far to stand on their legs and face life on their own.

In the 8 years which have followed that event in my life, all of my advisory / sitting fees amounting to over ₹ 60 Lakhs (about US\$ 150,000) have gone into these causes. After experiencing this new challenge for 8 years, I can honestly state that I feel more content now than in my professional career. In my professional career I have headed a German Swiss multinational for over 8 yrs, have been on a lucrative overseas assignment, and have performed other jobs earlier.

My new routine has helped to keep me fit. At 72, I happily and willingly maintain an 18 hour day.

Transformation is defined in various ways. One of these is - going beyond one's form. Transformation is not a change, but rather, finding the essence of who we are.

I believe that this is what 36 years in Rotary have taught me. I follow this lesson at all times. I must say with all humility that I owe all of it to Rotary. And I am proud to be a Rotarian.

Rtn. O P Khanna



Editor's note:

We at RBI are privileged to have PP Rtn. O P Khanna to guide, inspire and motivate us. Last year, our district (3190) bestowed on him the Karmayogi award for his exemplary work (picture above).



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Birthdays

- Nov 22 Anne Luana Lobo, Anne Shamim Rahaman
- Nov 23 Anne Manju Agarwal
- Nov 24 Anne Jayashree Badri Prasad, Anne Chandra Subramaniam
- Nov 25 Rtn. Vishwanath Chandrashekar
- Nov 26 Rtn. Ashok Maheshwari
- Nov 27 Anne. Kavita Pishay
- Nov 28 Rtn. D. Ravikumar
- Nov 29 Rtn. Ramesh Jhunjhunwala
- Nov 30 Anne Asha Maheshwari, Anne Jayashree Simha, Anne Vinitha Bajala
- Dec 02 Anne Mahadevi Rajamane, Anne Meera Parikh

Lata Amashi flanked by Rotarians Mohammad Jamal and D.V.R. Rao posing with an organizer at one of the many camps.



Wedding Anniversaries

- Nov 21 Mona & Pradeep Lal, Anita & Suresh Hari
- Nov 26 Asha & Ashok Maheshwari
- Nov 27 Sridhar & Kavita Pishay
- Dec 04 Lata & Prabat Amashi, Promilla & Vijay Mathur, Supriya & Ajith Rai, Archana & Somil Mittal
- Dec 05 Dr. Jayashree & Vijay Mane, Sindhoo & Harish Anand

Forthcoming Events

- Nov 22 Dr. Sibichen Mathew, Commissioner Income Tax on Life in Taxing World
- Nov 29 Mr. Shyama Sunder on Vaastu Science
- Dec 06 Governor's Official Visit
- Dec 13 'Rtn. Chandramouli to speak on Evolution of Bangalore'

Blood Count

Rtn Lata Amashi has notched up a tally of 8598 units, from 81 blood donation camps almost single-handedly. She was duly recognized on 13 Nov at district level during the recent ICGF on International Service.

Your presence at camps will spur her further. Please refer to club notices and e-group messages for details on scheduled camps.

HELP OUR ENVIRONMENT. Opt for E-SEVA only and join the growing band of Rotarians who are helping it. Just send a message to seva.rcbi@gmail.com with E-SEVA in the subject line.

Childrens' Day: Sree Cauvery School

RBI distributed 1300 saplings to students of Sree Cauvery School on 13th November as part of their Children's Day celebrations. The initiative, of our New Generation Avenue, is aimed at helping to make Bangalore greener and aid our Environment.

Many Rotarians graced the event.

Contributed by
Rtn. Manoj Agarwal



President Elect Rtn. Dr. Krishnan Menon hands over a sapling

Thought for today

'Just for today, be kinder than necessary because everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle' - Anon



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Rtn. Naresh Agrawal

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