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Chakkaram

January 1995

Bulletin of

The Rotary Club of Jaffna

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

JANUARY - 1995

Membership

Membership of the Club stands at the beginning 34.

Attendance

The average attendance for the month of January was 75.01%

Quiz on Rotary Knowledge

A Quiz Contest on Rotary Knowledge was held on 26th January, among the Rotarians. In order to help the Rotarians, the President had been sending roneoed sheets containing Rotary information, collected from various sources, which helped the Rotarians to achieve an average score. 22 questions were read out slowly one by one and the members were asked to give brief answers PP. P. Selvanathan became first and the Youth Service Director Rtn. Dr. Sriratnakumar obtained the 2nd place.

Oratorical and Essay Contest To Mark 90th Anniversary of Rotary

The Interact Schools have been notified individually of the above and advertisements too have been placed in local dailies regarding the above contests 75 applications were received for Tamil and 25 for English.

Rtn, T. Thirunanthakumar Secretary

YOUTH SERVICE

Interact Monthly Meeting

The Monthly meeting for the Interact Leaders was held on 4th January, at Jaffna Hindu College. Secretary Thiru spoke on the Rotary's 90th Anniversary and the World Understanding and Peace Day. They were briefed on the ways to mark the Rotary Awareness Month and the Rotary's Anniversary.

Interact Club of Jaffna Hindu Ladies College expressed their desire to organise a Children's Nutrition week with a Flag Day to collect funds to make nutritious food to be donated to malnutritioned children living in a selected area on 23rd February. Interact Club of Manipay Memorial College expressed their desire to attend the Youth Camp to be held in Colombo along with their Staff Advisor.

New Interact Club

The 19th Interact Club sponsored by the Rolary Club of Juffina at Manipay Ladies College was inaugurated on 30th January at 2.30 pm. Representatives of other Interact Clubs and Rolaract Clubs attended the function, presided que the Principal.

Sprietary Thiru spoke on the Rotary Movement and its Youth Programmes. He outlined the Service projects carried out by Interact Clubs World wide and in Sri Lanka. The Standard Interact Club Constitution and By Laws were finally adopted.

President Saravan ip wan made the Inaugural address and installed the Interact President.

Youth Service Director Rtn. Dr. K. Sriratnakumar felicitated the President and the Club on behalf of the sponsoring Club. He thanked the Manipay Hindu College Interactors for taking the initative to organise this New Club. Interact representatives and Rotaract representatives too felicitated the New Club During the Fellowship that followed Interact song was sung by St John's College Interactors. Earlier the School Flag and Interact Flags were hoisted by the Principal and the Rotary President respectively

Interact Interest Meeting at Ramanathan College

An Interest Meeting was held at Ramanathan College, Chunnakam, a Girls' School, on 31st January at 2 p.m. This was attended by Director Youth Service Dr. K Sriratnakumar and Secretary Thiru.

Principal of the School in her Presidential address thanked the Rotary Club of Jaffna and the Rotaract Club of Chunnakam for the initiative taken to organise an Interact Club in her School She reminded that when she assumed office in this School, she winted to have a Club of this nature to her students. She commended the Interact Programme for its humanitarian service to the needy Students of Year 10 and above attended the meeting A large number of teachers too were present at this meeting.

Secretary Thiru spoke at length of the Interact Programmes of the Rotary and the 'Record' created dy Rotary in the world Dr K Sriratnakumar spoke on the Service Projects by other Interact Clubs in Jalfna.

Rotaract

Fourth Rotaract Club -- Rotaract Club of Chunnakam was inaugurated by President Sara on 10th January at Uduvil

Girls' College. This Club consists of Teachers. Undergraduates and Past Interactors.

Members of the new Club sang Theme song.

President Saravanapavan in his inaugural address touched on the Rota act History. Secretary Thirn spote on the Rotaract Programme in general and the Rotaract contribution in particular. Director of Youth Services Rtn. Dr. K Sri requested the members to identify the areas which need the assistance of the Club.

President Sara installed the new President. Past President Dr S. Rasasopriyar pinned the officers Medals to Club officers.

PP Selvanathan pinned the Rotaract Badges to the Members

PP Rtr Packiya Reginold and President Punithavalan of Jaffaa Rotaract Club, President Selvendra of the Jaffaa Mid Town Rotaract Club and other Interact representatives felicitated the New Club, while Club Service Director K. Kumarathasan and PP Selva felicitated on behalf of the sponsoring Club. This was followed by Fellowship and entertaining Programme.

New Meeting Hall for Jaffna Mid Town

The Rotaract Club of Jaffna Mid Town choose January 16th to declare open the New Meeting Hall which was put up by them at No 83, Temple Road, Jaffna. The 3rd Anniversary of the Club also fell on this day

Af er hoisting the Rotary and Rotaract Flags, the Name Board was opened by the Guest of Honour Lion V. P. Bulasingam the Municipal Commissioner The Chief Guest President Sara lighted the Oil lump and declared

open the New Hall which was built at the cost of one hundred thousand rupees.

At this unique event spectacles and exercise books were distributed to needy children. Wooden crutches were donated to the Government Hospital.

The Inflators donated by the Trincomalee Rotary Club to the Jaffna Rotary Club were handed over to the Rotaract Club. They had fixed the Inflators at the important Junctions to facilitate the people cycling during day and night. One such point in front of the meeting Hall was inaugurated by President Sara.

A 'dhana' was organised at Kailasap'llaiyar Kovil where hundreds of children and others took part

Rotarians Rotaractors and Interactors felicitated the Club on their 3rd Anniversary. Gifts were made to the people who helped the Club in raising funds via a Karate Show.

Posters on Drug Abuse and Four — Way Test Handbills were distributed to the participants.

Dr. K. Sriratnakumar, Director Youth Services.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

A DIN bulletin from R. I. South As a branch has been received which would help to get down some useful items as donation to be distributed to the needy.

Rtn S Sothilingam
Director, International Service.

CLUB SERVICE



Luncheon Meeting:

A Senior Rotarian and PP Dr. S. Rasasooriyar and Anne Pathmasany hosted the first Luncheon in the New Year at President Sara's residence on 8th January. The distinguished guests were Dr. V. Balasubramaniam, Dr. S. Sivarajah, Dr. S. Nachchinarkinian, Dr. V. Karunaharan, Dr. (Mrs) V. M. Karunaharan, Mr. S. Diyakala and Prof. S. Siyagnanasundaram.

The meeting coincided with Rotary Awareness Month A cross section of the Jaffna intellectuals were informed of the Rotary Programme.

Club Service Director briefed on Rotary Movement.

Secretary Rtn. Thiru drew the attention to the comments by the critics of Rotary in the old days and briefed on the commitment of Rotary Prof. S. Sivagnanasundaram, populary known as Dr. Nanthi spoke on Orientation of Medical Students towards Community Service.

Joint Meeting:

The Rotaract Club of Jaffna had a Joint Meeting with the sponsoring Club on 12th January at Hotel Gnanams.

President Rtr. Punithavalan of Jaffna Rotaract Club spoke on the Service Projects of their Club. President Sarayanapavan of the Sponsoring Club briefed on the Rotaract Programme of R. I

Secretary Thiru spoke on Rotary Foundation and the need to support it. He explained the 'Share System' and the other projects available through the Rotary Foundation including World Community Service. Matching Grant, 3H Grant, DIN, etc.

This was followed by a Video Show on Rotary Information.

K. Kumarathasan Director - Club service.

Recipients of the Rotary Award for World Understanding

1981 - Dr. Noboru Iwamura

1982 - Pope John Paul II

1983 - Dr Lotta Hitschmanova

1984 - The World Organization of the Scout Movement

1985 - Dr. Albert Sabin

1986 - The International Committee of the Red Cross

1987 — The Countess of Ranfurly

1988 - The Salvation Army

1989 - No award given

1990 - Vaclay Havel

1991 - Javier Perez de Cuellar

1992 - Edward J. Piszek

1993 - Dr. Frederick Hollows

1994 - Jimmy Carter

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Cake Icing Exhibition

The Rotary Village Corps of Urumpiray East had their Annual Cake Icing Exhibition on 4th January at Urumpirai Rural Development Society Hall and the Exhibition was declared open by President Sara. Rotary Annes too participated.

Re - Starting of Cataract Camps

President Sara has been instrumental for the re-starting of the Cataract Surgery Camp and has got down the necessary medicines from Colombo. A sum of Rs. 7,500/- has been donated by the Rotary Club of Colombo Central for this worthy cause. More then 20 patients who have already been screened are awaiting the signal from Rotary for the surgery.

Dr. K. Viveganandan, Director, Community Service.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE



Necessary steps are being taken to select youths and give them Vocational Training in various fields.

PP P. Selvanathan, Director, Vocational Service.

1994 Recepient - JIMMY CARTER

Jimmy Carter, former US President and noted humanitarian, has been a powerful advocate for human and world peace, both in and out of the White House. As US President from 1977 - 1981. Carter introduced a number of groundbreaking peace initiatives. His accomplishments in office included the Camp David Accords, which brought peace between Egypt and Israel, the SALT 11 Treaty with the former Soviet Union, and the formalizing of U.S. diplomatic relations with the People's Republiof China. Following his years as President. Carter has played a leading role in international conflict resolution and mediation. From overseeing observer teams that monitor elections in Panama, Nicaragua, Haiti, and other Latln American countries, to personally attempting to salvage an accord among rebels in the Sudan, his efforts to promote peace have been increasing.

The Carter Center, a non-profit foundation he established in Atlanta, U. S. A in 1982, operates programmes on health, human rights, public policy, and conflict resolution around the globe. He has also served on the Board of Directors and is a regular volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organisation that helps build homes for the needy in the U. S. and under developed nations.



AWARENESS

Awareness like charity begins at home. Awareness of one's own identity, his purpose in flife, needs no introduction to himself. The compendious yet paradoxically copious Directory produced by Rtn. Thirunanthakumar on the Interact Clubs of Jaffna is a case in point. Plaudits have been raised and echoed in praise of our Youth Service Director Rtn. Dr. Sriratnakumar. The motive force behind it all, our President Sarayanapavan — Sara to his friends has indeed been a friend. Criticism - constructive yes! Destructive no! have emanated from some in direct contravention of the R. I. Presidential theme 'Be a Friend'. We will do well to remember that which the old English bard sang four centuries ago - "a friend must bear a friend's infirmities".

We will make bold to categorically state that 'Rotary Awareness' is now an established indisputable fact in this district. We have with great satisfaction heard appreciative comments from people of unexpectedly different categories, even from "the mouth of babes"; We quote our District Governor Rtn. Mellville Assauw "BE A FRIEND" and extend a hand of friendship ... in pursuit of hope and peace in the World.

Editor.

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