

# Rotary Club of Belvedere Gardens Calcutta

CLUB NO. 31255

RI DIST 3290



# Fragrance

सुशब्द



R.I.THEME 2009-10

**Rtn John Kenny**  
*RI President 2009-10*

**Rtn Utpal Majumdar**  
*Dist. Governor 2009-10*

**Rtn Debajit Choudhury**  
*President 2009-10*

**Rtn Kishore Butta**  
*Secretary 2009-10*

**PRtn Alope Dey**  
*Editor*

VOL. XVI NO.:14 MEETS EVERY SUNDAY : THE ASTOR HOTEL AT 11.00 AM

DATED 11TH OCT. 2009

## A GOOD LAUGH FOR ALL OF YOU :

Four friends, who hadn't seen each other in 30 years, reunited at a party. After several drinks, one of the men had to use the restroom. Those who remained talked about their kids.

The first guy said, "My son is my pride and joy. He started working at a successful company at the bottom of the barrel. He studied Economics and Business Administration and soon began to climb the corporate ladder and now he's the president of the company. He became so rich that he gave his best friend a top of the line Mercedes for his birthday.

"The second guy said, "Darn, that's terrific! My son is also my pride and joy. He started working for a big airline, then went to flight school to become a pilot. Eventually he became a partner in the company, where he owns the majority of its assets. He's so rich that he gave his best friend a brand new jet for his birthday."

The third man said: "Well, that's terrific! My son studied in the best universities and became an engineer. Then he started his own construction company and is now a multimillionaire. He also gave away something very nice and expensive to his best friend for his birthday: a 30,000 square foot mansion.

"The three friends congratulated each just as the fourth returned from the restroom and asked: "What are all the congratulations for?" One of the three said: "We were talking about the pride we feel for the successes of our son. What about your son ?

"The fourth man replied: "My son is gay and makes a living dancing as a stripper at a nightclub.

"The three friends shifted uncomfortably. "Hmmm, what a shame," one replied.

## LITERACY

Literacy is the tonic that can transform a sluggish community with sadness and poverty to a vibrant force. Literacy does not mean only the three Rs - Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic. Of course these are essential to promote Literacy but the buck does not stop here.

Unless this Literacy is laced with learning an ability which provides you an occupation that ensures financial returns, no gain will come to the community. The stress is, therefore on literacy programmes that ensure a gainful occupation. We name it "Functional" Literacy but by whatever name we call it, we must promote the teaching of a trade to the multitude.

Personally we do not have the time and the expertise to teach such Literacy to the needy. We can, however, promote such projects that offer vocational courses to the youth. We can sponsor, subsidise, promote or propagate the value-based educational efforts. There are a large number of institutions that cater to this need. We can establish our own institution or assist the existing institutions that can impart the skills to the needy through financial assistance, candidate sponsorship or special workshops.

If we can help people become what they are capable of becoming is truly a great service we can render.

We can train the unskilled and raise their level of competence which will be Rotary's reward in the finest sense.

*Rtn. Ashok Mahajan*  
*Rotary International*

## **Responsibilities of Club Membership :**

The club is the cornerstone of Rotary, where the most meaningful work is carried out. All effective Rotary Clubs are responsible for four key elements: sustaining or increasing their membership base, participating in service projects that benefit their own community and those in other countries, supporting The Rotary Foundation of RI financially and through programme participation, and developing leaders capable of serving in Rotary beyond the club level.

What Rotarians get out of Rotary depends largely on what they put into it. Many membership requirements are designed to help members more fully participate in and enjoy their Rotary experience.

**Attendance** : Attending weekly club meetings allows members to enjoy their club's fellowship, enrich their professional and personal knowledge and meet other business leaders in their community. Many larger communities offer clubs with different meeting times, including early morning, the lunch hour, after work and evening.

If members miss their own club's meeting, they're encouraged to expand their Rotary horizons by attending make-up meetings at any Rotary Club in the world - a practice that guarantees Rotarians a warm welcome in communities around the globe. Find meeting places and times in the Official Directory or through the Club Locator at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org).

In some cases, Rotarians can make up meetings by participating in a club service project or attending a club board meeting or a Rotaract or Interact club meeting. Members can also make-up online at one of several Rotary e-clubs.

**Service** : By participating in club service projects, members learn about their club's involvement in local and international projects and can volunteer their time and talents where they are most needed.

**Membership recruitment and retention** : To keep clubs strong, every Rotarian must share the responsibility of bringing new people into Rotary. Even new members can bring guests to meetings or invite them to participate in a service project. The value of Rotary speaks for itself, and the best way to spark the interest of potential members is by letting them experience fellowship and service firsthand. Keeping members interested in Rotary is another responsibility. Good club fellowship and early involvement in service projects are two of the best ways to sustain the club's membership.

The ideal composition of a Rotary Club reflects the community's demographics, including professions, gender, age and ethnicity. Such diversity enriches every aspect of the club's fellowship and service.

## **A GOOD LAUGH FOR ALL OF YOU.....**

The fourth man replied: "No, I'm not ashamed. He's my son and I love him. And he hasn't done too badly either. His birthday was two weeks ago, and he received a beautiful 30,000 square foot mansion, a brand new jet and a top of the line Mercedes from his three boy friends."

## **Fellowship**

The most enjoyable facet of Rotary is Fellowship. Participation in service activities may send shivers up your spine, sacrifice of your time may force you to give excuses, presence at regular weekly meetings can be sacrificed without batting an eyelid and financial contribution for sponsoring projects or for the Foundation or for service activities often generates lethargy, negligence and even apathy. But bring a good fellowship meet to any Rotarians' notice and Rotary is remembered with gusto.

No doubt, fellowship is a vehicle that brings so many Rotarians and family members in cozy proximity. No doubt, fellowship promotes pleasures, smiles and joy. It, therefore, becomes a vital tool to unite Rotarians and family members and thus lays a foundation stone for cooperation in the field of service. Excellent fellowship blunts the pain of sacrifices expected from a Rotarian - sacrifice of time, talent and treasury.

A Fellowship meet at a district level brings Rotarians from far and wide much closer. It unearths talents, it generates smiles, and it offers opportunities to come nearer. Fellowship also promotes understanding, thus paving a way for joint projects, joint adventures, joint programmes and joint ventures.

Fellowship is like perfume. It pervades the atmosphere and brings about a pleasant aroma and fragrant friendship. When we look back, it reminds us of those pleasant experiences and thus motivates us to try the stick of fellowship again and to walk towards the goal of service.

Fellowship is not only a "Hello" ship.

Fellowship is not only a warm handshake.

Fellowship is not only a rewarding smile.

Fellowship is the integration of Rotary families all around so that we can recognise Rotary as a "Family" and not as a limited heterogeneous group. Because of diverse classification and limitation of membership we are "heterogeneous" but once this heterogeneous group starts functioning in a club it is fellowship that converts it into a homogenous entity. That's the great achievement of Rotarians.

So -- Long Live Fellowship -- better fellowship, effective fellowship and appropriate fellowship.

*Rtn. Ashok Mahajan  
RI Director-2007-2009*

## **THE 4-WAY TEST**

**Of 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 ?