

CENTRAL TURF

PRESIDENT: RTN. Cmde AJAY CHITNIS | HON. SECRETARY: RTN. DELSHAD KARANJIA

EDITOR: RTN. VIPEN MALHOTRA

TODAY The event will feature our very own Vice President, Rtn. Ashish Goyal, who will give us a talk on “Financial Frauds and Precautions to be Taken” on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at the Poona Club Conference Hall 1.



Do join us for our upcoming Digital Fraud Session! Before we dive into the serious stuff, let's take a moment to appreciate the creativity of online scammers. From the classic Nigerian prince emails promising vast fortunes to "your computer has a virus, call this number" pop-ups that make you question your entire existence, digital fraudsters truly are the unsung comedians of the internet. So, grab your virtual magnifying glass and get ready to uncover the wild world of online trickery, where the only thing bigger than the scams themselves are the laughs we'll share along the way. Let's outsmart those cyber tricksters together!

Please join us as Rtn. Ashish Goyal takes you through Frauds and Fraudsters.

The venue for this enlightening session is Poona Club Conference Hall 1, with the program commencing at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be followed by a Happy Hours dinner, graciously hosted by Rtn. Madhvi Kshetry.

Traditionally, a half-hour pre-meeting Fellowship will commence at 6:30 p.m., leading to the official start of the meeting at 7 p.m.

Looking forward to your presence!

From the President's desk



At the District Vocational Awards last week, our Nominee Mrs Jai Khamkar, President of the Maalganga Andh Apang Sanstha (MAAS), the Award for Excellence in Vocational Service, at the hands of DG ELEVt, Rtn Shital Shah. It is befitting that our members get to know about her, and hence this brief note about her. Born in a farmer's family, she was a keen student and dreamed of becoming a teacher. In 1997, while studying in class XII, she was struck by fever, and administered an injection at a private clinic. This caused an extremely adverse reaction all over her body, for which she was admitted to the General Hospital at Thane. The reaction was controlled through medicines, but she lost sight in both her eyes. It came to light that the injection administered was well past its expiry date! A tragedy indeed. Disenchanted, but not disheartened, Jai decided that instead of wallowing in her sorrow, she would do something for people like herself who had been thrown challenges by life. She formed MAAS, and started a school for Blind children. She realized that there were schools that catered to such children, but they all ended at the Class X level, and such children had no choice but to study in regular colleges for higher education. She applied to the Govt. for starting a college for the visually and physically challenged students,



and after a great struggle, got the permission in 2016. Then she realized that coming to college every day would also pose a great problem for these children, and hence decided to make it a residential facility. She rebuilt her own residence suitably for this purpose, and the New Vision College of Arts and Commerce commenced functioning in 2019. This is the only institute of its type, and students who have passed out have even got jobs. Her perseverance with the govt has led to the allocation of three acres of land about 2.5 km from their current location, and she has plans to build a college that caters for not only arts and commerce, but also for science faculties. She also plans to commence a junior college in the facility. The students are not charged any fees, and the college runs purely on donations received by the MAAS. As Jai proclaims – I do not have sight, but I have a Vision and a Mission! I want to educate these Physically and Visually Challenged youth so that they can be self-sufficient and lead a respectable life.

We have chartered a Rotaract Club in the College in 2023, and provided the college five Green PCs this year as a part of our ongoing Green PC Project, which is funded by our very own Rtn Pravin Nadkarni. Mrs Jai Khamkar had appealed to our club for help in funding the creation of Science Labs, which was included in our Fundraising program. Rtns JPP inen Munot, Amita Munot and PP Rakesh Bhargava had committed to donate Rs 50,000/- each towards this. A site visit was undertaken and after seeing the situation on the ground, it was realized that three separate labs would be required, and the funding required was about Rs 12.5 Lakhs for each. It was realized that this would only be possible if we got enough SR Funds. Happily, Rtn PP Rakesh was able to garner Rs 12.5 Lakhs CSR Funds from a Company called 3A Composites or the Chemistry Lab. It is significant that Mr. Ranjeet Sharma, CEO of 3A Composites is the Son-in-law of Rakesh and Suchi Bhargava. It is great to see our next generation following the path we have decided to adopt – Create Hope in the World! All of us need to motivate our children to do so.

It was an enjoyable evening last Saturday with the Inner Wheel Club President and members and hearing about their projects. A lively entertainment programme organized by them made it an evening to remember.

It was also heartening to hear about the success of our Project to train Junior Nurse, also known as Patient Care Attendants (PCAs), sponsored entirely by Rtn PP Narayanbhai Rathi, and conducted by AIPTech. The course has created opportunities for girls who could not complete their education to become independent and earn a decent living. Kudos are also due to our Past President Munir Chinoy for this. He has been a great support throughout the year for various activities.

Who amongst us has not received a call, mail or sms offering huge returns for our investment, or some gift coming our way or a mail from some known person saying he is in dire straits and needs money! That we have not responded is a display of our maturity and awareness, but on a daily basis one reads about 'educated' people falling prey to financial frauds. To learn more about the ways these fraudsters operate and how to prevent becoming a victim, we have our Vice President, Rtn Ashish Goyal as the speaker on Saturday. Let's all hear him and become wiser in this digital world.

We are planning another visit to our Dam Repair Project Site next week. Do join us as we watch the work being undertaken there. I can assure you that despite the unbearably hot weather, witnessing the work in progress will give you an immensely satisfying feeling.

I take this opportunity to wish our members and their loved ones the best for Gudi Padva (9th April) and Eid Al-Fitr (10/11 April).

The Week That Was

From Rtn. Delshad Karanjia

An Enjoyable Ladies Night

In collaboration with the Inner Wheel Club of Pune Central (IWPCPC), RCPC members were treated to an entertaining and enjoyable Ladies Night of fun and friendship. IWPCPC President Hutokshi Pundole welcomed the gathering and pointed out that Inner Wheel — the largest women's organization in the world — was marking its centenary this year and had set a target of completing 100 projects per year, with the focus on providing opportunities for children, the future of our society. President Hutokshi highlighted the achievements and success of several projects undertaken by the club and concluded by saying, "Those who are happiest are those who give the most."

Before that, Rtn. PP Narayan Rathi and Mrs Nushrat Sharif gave a brief summary of the Junior Nurses Training program, through which four batches of trained nurses are already doing internships in various city hospitals. The training includes guest lectures by eminent doctors and it is a matter of great pride for Anjuman Islam Polytechnic (AIPTEch) that even students from orphanages have successfully completed their training. Several of the trained nurses addressed the gathering and thanked Rtn PP Narayan Rathi and PP Munir Chinoy for their support. Four of the trainees were awarded Certificates of Merit by President Ajay.

The evening was rounded off with an entertaining program of music, games and prizes, compered by Mr. Vinay Shukla. The entertainment was followed by a lavish Fellowship, arranged by Rtn. PP Sukhminder Kalra, with wine and plenty of food, including a live pizza station, chole bhature, and mango ice-cream with freshly made jalebi. It was a truly enjoyable feast.

President's Announcements

- President Ajay Chitnis acknowledged RCPC members' generous donations. He began his salute to the Spirit of Giving by thanking Rtn. Dr. Nitin Desai for his generous contribution of Rs. 3 crores for the Cataract Surgeries Project. With this contribution, Rtn. Dr. Nitin will achieve Arch Klumpp Society Level Three (Foundation Circle) recognition.

President Ajay also thanked Mr. Ranjeet Sharma, son-in-law of Rtn. PP Rakesh and R'Ann Suchi Bhargava, for his donation towards creating a chemistry lab in New Vision Junior College affiliated to Malganga Andh Apang Seva Sanstha (MAAS).

Other donors included Rtn. PP Madhu Rathi and R'Ann Prema Rathi, Rtn. Sunil Asher, Rtn. Vinay and R'Ann Archana Biyani, Rtn. Madhvi Kshetry, Rtn. PP Narayandas Rathi, Rtn. Rakesh Makhija, Rtn. Vimal Saboo, Rtn. Vipin Malhotra, Rtn. Yogesh and R'Ann Hina Shah, Rtn. PP Jinendra Munot and Rtn. Amita Munot, Rtn. Raman Nanda, Rtn. PP Sanjiv Kumar, R'Ann Bharati Dumbre, Rtn. Pradeep Supnekar, and Rtn. Gautam Nehra.

- RCPC, in collaboration with Rotaract and Interact Clubs and the Community Eye Care Foundation, held an eye check-up camp at National Chemical Laboratory PES Modern High School, during which 550 students and 40 staff members had their eyesight checked.

A second camp was held at Punruthan Samarsata Gurukulam, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Baner, at which 150 students were screened.

- It was a proud moment for RCPC, when the club won the District 3131 Public Image award in the 5 Star category at Brand Astha: RID 3131's Multi-District Public Image Seminar.

Celebrations

We offered birthday greetings to Rtn. Dr. Shona Nag and Mr. Sanil Rajpal.

Anniversary greetings were offered to Rtn PP Narayanbhai and Rtn Aruna Rathi.

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AIPTECH - Patient Care Attendant Course

From Mrs. Devapriya T., Principal - Anjuman I Islam's Polytechnic for Girls

The Rotary Club of Pune Central organised a significant event on Saturday, March 30, 2024, to celebrate the inception and growth of the Patient Care Attendant course at Anjuman I Islam Polytechnic for Girls. The course was completely sponsored by RCPC. The occasion was graced by the presence of Rtn. PP. Narayandas Rath, the benevolent donor who generously sponsored the students of the Patient Care Attendant program, joined us for this auspicious ceremony. Esteemed individuals including Ms. Nusrat Sharif, Vice Chairperson of AIPTECH and Member of the Inner Wheel Club of the RCPC, Ms. Devapriya T, Principal and Ms. Shobha Kardile, Head of the Patient Care Attendant Department, were in attendance.

Mr. Narayandas Rath introduced the team to the club members, following which Ms. Nusrat emphasized the course's objective, reiterating Mr. Narayandas Rath Sir's and Mr. Munir Chinoy Sir's vision to empower women from disadvantaged backgrounds. She also underscored the significance of compassionate care in the healthcare industry. Ms. Shobha Kardile then elucidated on the department's activities, including guest lectures by eminent doctors, hospital visits, and internships.

Ms. Devapriya T, Principal of AIPTECH, also took the stage, expressing her pride in the students' achievements and highlighting their successful placements. The narrative of a woman earning Rs. 30,000 per month through this course was shared, alongside the inspiring journey of Ms. Muskaan, an orphanage resident now placed in an operating theater. The majority of students find placements in hospitals upon completing this course.

The highlight of the event was the distribution of certificates to the deserving students. Rtn. Cmde Ajay Chitnis, President RCPC presented the certificates to those who excelled in the program, symbolizing their successful completion of the Patient Care Attendant program. The atmosphere brimmed with joy and excitement as students received recognition for their hard work and dedication.



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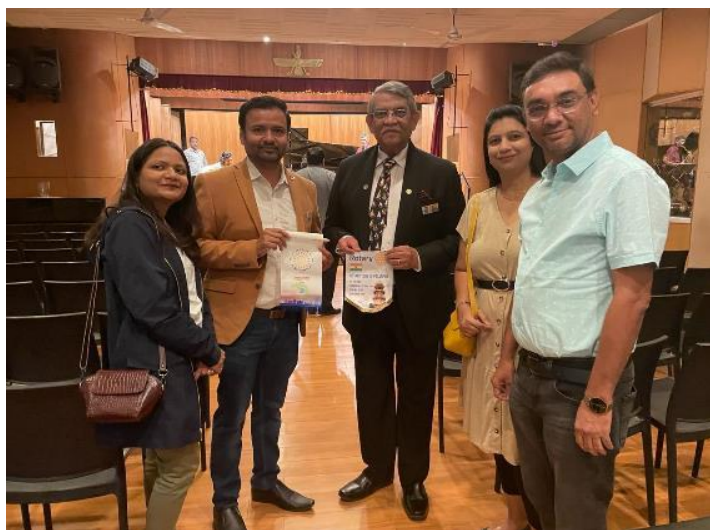
RCPC Cafe : Member Bytes

Rtn. PP Ravi Kapoor as a Guest Speaker

On Tuesday, 02 April 2024, Rtn. PP Ravi Kapoor was invited to address the weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Pune sports city. This was a joint meeting in which Rotary Club of Baner also participated. The topic was 'CSR the Indian Experience'.



RCPC Flag exchange



Flag exchange with Rtn. Dr. Bhavesh Patel
of Rotary club of Palanpur



Flag exchange with Rtn. Malathi Santosh of
Rotary club of Chennai Maithri by R'Ann
Teena Goyal

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From the Editor

Contributions from Rotarians, R'Anns and spouses are welcome! If you have an anecdote, a joke, a poem or painting or anything interesting, please feel free to email it to vipenm56@gmail.com with cc to Gajanan.

Next in line

- **April 13** — Gudi Padawa, Eid and Baisakhi Fellowship Dinner
- **April 20** — To be announced
- **April 27** — Brainstorming Session RY 24-25
- **May 4** — Brainstorming Session RY 24-25

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Rtn / R'Ann

R'Ann Tanuja Agarwal
Rtn. Dr. Gururaj Lachyan
Rtn. Nitin Vijaivergia
Rtn. PP Dr. Aruna Umranikar

Birthday

April 6
April 8
April 10
April 11