



PROBUS CLUB OF HYDERABAD

President : RK Bajaj ; Vice President: R. Vijaya Lakshmi
Secretary: CSY Sankara Rao; Jt. Secretary : Aditi Mukherjee ; Treasurer: P. Jayaprada
Committee Members : M.Chidambara Rao; Dr. N. Raghupathi Rao ; Aruna T
Immediate Past President: Dr. RHG Rau; Immediate Past Secretary : Kamal Sukhija
Editorial Team: Dr. R.H.G.Rau, Aditi Mukherjee, P. Jayaprada

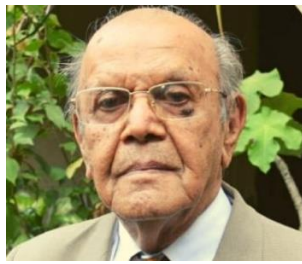
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1. PCH EVENTS OF DECEMBER 2022

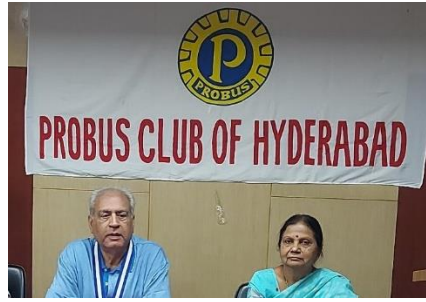
A. A Pleasant Evening:

On his 96th Birthday, Pr. RN Mital's family invited a select group of his close friends over an exclusive dinner with him at his residence on Friday 30th Dec. 2022. Attended by your Editor and Pr. R. Vijaya Lakshmi, the invitees left Mitals' home in Banjara Hills, at around 10pm with many pleasant memories.



B. Regular Monthly Meeting

The December RMM was held at Hotel The Plaza, Begumpet on Saturday, 31st December 2022 between 10.45 am to 12.45 pm, chaired by President, Pr. RK Bajaj, with Vice-President Pr. R. Vijaya Lakshmi by his side. The deliberations were lively among 17 participants. After the festive proceedings, members moved on to lunch.



(File Photo)

Among the highlights are:

- a. Pr. Visweswari Ramakrishna rendered a prayer song, aiming at quick recovery of young Pr. M. Sashikala who is currently down with serious illness.
- b. Humour for the day was shared by Pr. M. Chidambara Rao, Pr. Ramakrishna, Pr. Visweswari and Pr. Manohar Kumar.
- c. Felicitation and Caring session was beautifully conducted by Pr. P. Jayaprada:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO PROBIANS :

RK Bajaj: 9th December; Viji Sahani: 13th December; Aruna Chodagam: 13th December; Jhansi Lakshmi: 16th December; Dr. RHG Rau: 17th December; CSY Sankara Rao: 29th December; RN Mital: 30th December. The attending birthday persons blew candles specially arranged while the members wished them an enjoyable and healthy year ahead.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF PROBIANS : NIL

- d. It was decided that Sept 2023 RMM will be held in a grand scale commemorating the Silver Jubilee of PCH. Activities will be planned as we go along during the year.
- e. Pr. Dr. Raghupathi Rao gave us an overview of the current COVID Situation in Hyderabad, with particular reference to Senior Citizens. He said "Caution is the key".
- f. Pr. P. V. Subba Rao shared his experiences with the hospital medical and support-staff while he was hospitalized for a long time in Bangalore due to COVID. He was full of appreciation of their services.
- g. Members celebrated this Most Joyful RMM with our President cutting a Plum Cake and Pr. R. Vijaya Lakshmi sharing some exclusive chocolates.



Meeting ended with singing the National Anthem.

C. Induction of Dr. Manohar Kumar

Induction of Dr. Mamilla Manohar Kumar and Mrs. Mamilla Nirmala into PCH is among the highlights of the day. Manohar obtained his MBBS from Hyderabad in the year 1969, Masters from Osmania Medical College and worked as Eye Surgeon in several leading hospitals. Born and brought-up in Hyderabad, he is married to the homemaker Nirmala. They have two children, both are well settled. Apart from his professional devotion, Dr. Manohar enjoys an occasional drink with good food and relishes good company and socializing.

Introduced by Pr. Dr. N. Ragupathi Rao, both Manohar and his spouse were inducted with oath into PCH by Pr. Ram Mukherjee, affixed PCH Pin, and presented with a copy of the Coffee Table Book of 4th Sept. 2018, the address book of PCH members.

Both Pr. Manohar and Pr. Nirmala expressed their happiness on joining PCH and promised their active participation and support to the Club's activities.



2. FROM EDITORIAL TEAM

A. BC & AC

NO ..NO...IT IS NOT BEFORE CHRIST!!! IT IS BEFORE COVID!!!!

Till 2020, life was normal. Schools, colleges, and offices were regular. Ladies enthusiastically did shopping. Marriages and functions celebrated with a gale and gaiety. Brides and Bridegrooms were in cloud nine with their plans and dreams. Visits to relatives and friends, honeymoons, holiday trips were done according to their plans. Businesses were at their peak. No masks or sanitizers.

But suddenly in 2020 everything changed!! COVID entered like a bolt from the blue!! Never had been our life so dominated by just one subject "COVID", the Virus playing havoc with human lives. Fear and Frustration everywhere! Everyone, without exception, tried to come to grips with an isolated, quarantined life. We all spent 2 years with the fear bubble COVID. Entire world, be it rich or poor, was at crossroads of life and death. The whole world cringed with dismay and horror!!!

AC... that is after COVID situation; it is like after tsunami! People are still afraid of roaming freely. Even today if anybody sneezes or coughs one gets scared, and steps backward. The economic impact has also been severe. Several industries like Aviation, Hospitality, and Tourism are still on a recovery mode. It is a kind of doom and gloom situation. Daily wage workers continue to struggle for their survival. People are still working from home. Kids are addicted to computers as they get

used to on-line classes. So many people lost their spouses and have yet to come out of the shock. According to some reports 8000 kids were orphaned during the Omicron Pandemic. Hospitals and Pharmacies experienced good fortunes. Senior citizens and ladies-at-home acquired computer tech knowledge and adopted a digital way of life; be it banking, or one-on-one or group meeting, entertainment, education, and even cookery classes. Children like to wear masks because of some fears still alive in their minds. When we ladies go out, we wear necklaces; but now children, when they go into a crowd, they want a mask. When stepping out, the masks have become the new Neck lace or rather Nose-to-mouth!!!!

After 2 years, the festive spirit is running high in a bid to obliterate the darkness of the pandemic. We lulled ourselves into believing that the worst was over, as we look forward to ushering in a new era with a sense of hope and optimism!!! But what about the 8000 orphans, and old parents who lost their middle-aged sons? What about those bereaved? Is there any hope for them? A strong philosophical thought has developed, nothing is permanent. Human life is like a drop on the Lotus Leaf!! It also forced some of us to prioritize life, family, health over jobs, material things and money!. With families separated or living far away, there have been numerous stories of friends and even strangers helping others. The resolve and strength of the human spirit to fight against the odds!

MAY GOD BLESS THE UNIVERSE, AND MAY THIS KIND OF DISASTER NEVER HAPPEN IN FUTURE!!!!!!

.... *Contribution from: Pr. P. Jayaprada*

3. FOR LEISURE READ

Down the Memory lane: Episode 15: We discover 'moolie' being grown in Netherlands: 1954

It was a pleasant early-winter sunny afternoon; we were driving back from Amsterdam. From a distance we saw a little girl, looking very cute, sitting on a rock, she was around 5 years in age, in traditional Dutch attire with the typical Dutch head cap too.

She looked lovely in the afternoon sun, I decided to take her picture and stopped the car on



A Canal in Amsterdam

the other side of the road, and prepared my camera. I was about to click a picture when her father who was working nearby in the farm, shouted not to. I did not object or argue with him because I had heard that in villages, people still believed that East Indians subjected photographs of Dutch girls to some sort of black magic. This was a general belief among the villagers I did not object or argue with him and put the camera down. I noticed that he was digging out huge big radish (Moolie). We were both surprised to see moolie in Netherlands, which was another discovery after the brinjal in Paris.

I had heard that the horses in Netherlands were fed radish but I did not know that it was grown there too. I thought of adding it to our list of vegetables available in Western Europe and trying them, I asked the farmer in sign language to supply 5 pieces. He agreed.

Those days, horses were still used for ceremonial purposes. He had probably thought that I was some official from East India maintaining horses for ceremonial use. He selected five healthy pieces and after cleaning kept them in the car boot. While arranging them in the boot he very hesitatingly asked in Dutch, "Hoeveel paarden(horses) heeft u meneer(Sir)?" I did not fully understand his query, but still replied. "Only one, and this is it," I said hitting the car.

He smiled and asked, "Voor wie neemt u ze dan?" I now understood what was rolling in his mind. "For ourselves." "U eet ze?" he asked with disbelief on his face. "Yes." "Ok, ok, wacht," said he, picking up the radishes which he had arranged in the boot and returned to his farm, as if he did not want them to be wasted on human beings.

I waited for some time and was about to close the dicky, when I saw him rushing towards us, with radish shoots in his hands, small and tender. He kept them in the boot. They were tender roots, brilliant white. I felt like munching one when Sarala stopped me- "We must wash them first!" When I looked down I saw him removing the leaves from the shoots. I stopped him saying that we ate them too. It was all too much for him.

A moment later he blurted out in chaste English, "Strange you eat what horses eat and you also seem to like even what horses do not relish." I was surprised. He was an educated farmer. I asked him, "Why did you not use English all this time? It would have been so much easier." "Dutch is our National language," was his cryptic reply.

I thanked him once again and started for Eindhoven. I wanted to be back before sun set, before it started getting cold. After driving for about half hour, we passed through a village. I saw four adorable girls, hardly 6 to 7 years of age in typical Dutch dress coming out for an evening stroll, they looked very pretty. I asked them to stop for a while, when I took out my camera, they did not object. The little one was very curious. I took their pictures and thanked them. They acknowledged just with a smile.



Dutch girls on an evening stroll

Friends, I'd like to share their picture with you. With that ended the story of us discovering one more vegetable for human consumption in Netherlands. I had experienced their love for their shared the room in the laboratories in

Philips Factories in Eindhoven with Engineer van Hengel. He was probably responsible for technical services in Germany.

When a German service engineer could not solve a problem in Philips equipment, he would rush to Eindhoven to discuss it with Ir van Hengel. How they discussed was within my ear shot. I found that Ir van Hengel would speak only in Dutch while he could fluently speak German and the German engineer would speak only German when he could also speak Dutch, I asked them why didn't they converse in a common language, it would make conversation much easier.



A park in Amsterdam

Ir van Hengel's reply was- "No, Dutch is our national language." What is noteworthy is that the Germans had such a love for their language even after a crushing defeat only a few years earlier.

4. FOR MENTAL STIMULATION

A: Penrose Triangle:



"This is pretty crazy. The longer you look at it, the more it messes your mind".

B: Size of a Cherry:

The cherry is a round fruit with a round stone. If the flesh of the cherry around the stone is as thick as stone itself, can you calculate mentally how much more pulp than stone is there in the cherry,

C: Missing Letters:

Here is a logical pattern:

O, T, T, F, F, S, S, E, N

What are the next nine letters?

EDITORIAL



Dear Friends,

PCH has moved into its Silver Jubilee year on 5th Sept, 2022 with style. We closed the year 2021-22 with considerable satisfaction, with realization that we can do much more. We could fully come over the COVID Blues. Our Regular Monthly meetings are on track with a bang. We have returned to our physical meets with fun and laughter. We are back on track, inviting new members into our Club.

The December RMM, covered in this issue, was unique in several ways. Among the key decisions taken are: we will celebrate the Silver Jubilee Year in a big way with more innovative programmes, with increasing focus on networking with Probus Clubs in India and with Probus Global, culminating into a unique Souvenir by 5th September 2023.

We are moving into 2023 with high hopes.

With Best Regards,

Dr. R.H.G.Rau
31st August, 2022