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18 APRIL 89



JOHN DOW, MORRIE HOVEN
LOYD HUGHES & BILL BUXTON



ELMER BELL & HAUCK LANAHAN

1304

18 APRIL 89



In the absence of President John Law, Vice President Vic Machin presided and called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Lyman Firestone. Scott Poer, Program Chairman for April, presented Kathy Lavoie, Director, and Dale Tushman, Social Worker, of Hospice of the Golden Isles. The purpose of Hospice is to provide support and care for persons in the last phases of an incurable disease, so that they can live as fully and comfortably as possible. The services are provided at the patient's home,

under the supervision of the patient's physician and the Hospice Medical Director. Hospice is a qualified "Provider" under Medicare. It provides counseling and help for the patient's family as well as for the patient. Services are available when the terminal prognosis is approximately six months or less. Hospice is funded primarily by the United Way and by the Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission, and relies on gifts from individuals and foundations.





BOB ADAMS, ED MARKEY
(VISITING ROTARIAN),
WELBOURNE WOOD & ELMER BELL



SCOTT POER, TINA GOLD &
REES SUMERFORD

25 APRIL 89



Rees Sumerford introduced **Tina Gold** of Gladbeck, Germany, who has been a Rotary Exchange Student and has been attending Georgia Southern. She illustrated her talk on West Germany with slides, and discussed the geography, industrial activities, educational system, sports activities, travel arrangements and architecture of her country. **Jack Welch** was introduced by **Scott Poer**, and gave the annual report of the Rotary Foundation. The Foundation is administered by a Board of Trustees, of which **Bob Crouse** is President, **Jack Welch** is Secretary-Treasurer, and **Sam Cofer, Ed Bruce** and **John Law** are members. The Foundation has total funds of \$93,000 of which about 2/3 has been loaned to 29 students to serve as a supplement to their other funds for college education. Upon graduation, the students start a repayment program. Out of approximately 200 students who have been helped since the program started 20 years ago, there has been only 1 default. The Foundation can add about 10 students a year. The Foundation has also handled the financial aspects of the Boy Scout Hut, but that is being taken over by the Boy Scout Council. The funds come from contributions by interested Rotarians. **Jack** asked that more support be given.

25 Apr

25 APRIL 89



TINA GOLD & ELMER BELL



JACK WELCH



2 MAY 89

John Edwards, program chairman for the month, presented **Marion Moore**, the local coordinator for the Group Study Exchange Program, who introduced **K. V. Shetty**, the leader of the Group Study Exchange Team from District 323, Tamilnadu, India. **Mr. Shetty** is from Madras and is a manufacturer and a Chartered Accountant. He was accompanied by his wife, **Sheela**, a Social Worker. He told us about Rotary in India.

In Madras, a city of eight million people, there are seventeen Rotary Clubs; District 323 has seventy clubs. Rotary in India is much involved in community work.

District 323, for example, carried out a successful program to immunize 3.17 million children for red measles. He regarded this as a fore-runner, and perhaps an inspiration, of the PolioPlus Campaign of Rotary International.

Mr. Shetty also told us about India. It has a history which goes back five thousand years. It now has a population of 800 million, which makes it the second largest nation in the world. He described the geographic, the ethnic, the linguistic and religious diversity in India and detailed the great progress which has been made in India since it gained independence.

He then introduced the members of the Group Study Exchange Team, four young women dressed in their bright-colored saris. Three of them are married, one is single. One is an Office Administrator, one a college professor, one a dance teacher, and one an Advertising Professional.

Host Study Exchange Team From India



INDIAN VISITORS — Visting in Georgia through a Rotary International program are left to right, Vijayalakshmi S. Iyengar, Daksha Raghunath, Uma Brasad, and S. Akhila. (News Photo/Carolyn O'Quinn)

By CAROLYN O'QUINN
Community Life Writer

The Rotary Clubs of Jekyll and St. Simons Islands were hosts earlier this week for a group study exchange team from a Rotary District in India. The team, here for a four-day visit, consisted of four young women and their two chaperones.

The group landed in Augusta then traveled to Statesboro and to Savannah where Daksha Raghunath performed a solo dance, requested by the district governor for a Rotary District Conference. Mrs. Raghunath is a professional dancer trained in classical dance and a principal of an elementary school.

Vijayalakshmi S. Iyengar is an assistant professor of nutrition at Siet College in Madras, Tamil Nadu, where she teaches undergraduate students and post-grads. (Madras is the name of the town and Tamil Nadu is the name of the state.) She also represented her state in softball and cricket. Although she stood first in her entire state in nutrition, she can only teach in India with her degree in nutrition. She is presently pursuing a degree in education which will enable her to teach in other countries.

Uma Brasad is an office administrator in a C.P.A. firm. She holds a master's in English, a degree in education and a diploma in the teaching of English as a foreign language.

She is also an accomplished creative writer. The BBC World Service London has broadcast her stories and her work has been published in the National Daily Hindu, a major Indian newspaper.

S. Akhila holds a pre-doctorate degree in advertising and a course in business management and plans to own her own advertising agency five years from now. The "S" is the first letter of her father's name. In southern India where the four women are from, many people don't use last names. The first name is not as personal as it is in the U.S., hence she is called Akhila by her friends and family.

The four are all vegetarians and although they lauded their hosts'

hospitality, they did admit that the food they've eaten while in the U.S. was a little bland. Even a luncheon at the prestigious Jekyll Island Club had very little fresh chili peppers, ginger, garlic, mustard seeds or curry.

The women said the 80 degree temperatures in the latter part of the week suited them perfectly and reminded them of home, but the stormy weather experienced earlier in the week was uncomfortable.

The team visited various business and schools along with trips to Jekyll Island, Hofwyl Plantation and the Mary Miller Doll House, where they named a life-sized Indian mannequin "Sita," for a heroine of the epic *Ramayana*.

Commenting on matrimonial prospects in their country they said

that women who worked in banks were the most sought after for brides. There is a matrimonial column published each Sunday in the newspaper which parents read closely.

"It is customary for a woman to get an undergraduate degree then she is married off," commented Akhila. "She doesn't fall in love, the parents arrange the marriage."

During their month long stay in America, the Indian guests were hosted by various Rotary Clubs throughout Georgia's Rotary District 692. The exchange program began earlier this year when a Georgia Rotary team, including Glynn County resident Sandra Davis, visited India.

The Rotary Foundation Group Study Exchange is an educational

program designed to provide outstanding young men and women with opportunities for studying another country, its people and its culture, according to Gil McLemore, Jekyll Rotary president.

"The program generates international understanding by allowing people of different countries to meet, talk and live with each other in a spirit of fellowship, getting to know each other's problems and aspirations, and developing warm friendships," said McLemore. "They came as visitors and left as friends."

Drs. Hamsa and Sindhu Thota of St. Simons were hosts for the chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. K.V. Shetty, and Tom and Jane Sarcona of Jekyll and Lew and Sara Sobke of St. Simons were hosts for the four young women.

2 MAY

2 MAY 89



JIM WETHERN, BOB ADAMS,
ROD GARRETT & MAC MCGINNIS



9 MAY

Tommy Stroud introduced Bayla Tomlin, who is President of the Interact Club at Frederica Academy. She spoke briefly about the activities of the Interact Club.

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9 May



9 MAY 89

job is to work with Congress and the Regulatory Agencies in Washington. She spoke on the subject: "The Washington Scene- The Savings and Loan Crisis." A transition is taking place in Washington. President Reagan, being an outsider, was confrontational in his approach to the Washington establishment. President Bush, having been a part of the Establishment, is more inclined to work with it. The difference is seen in President Bush's approach to the Savings and Loan Crisis which confronted him immediately when he took office. This is a crisis of capital, a crisis of Deposit Insurance and a crisis of management. To tackle the immediate problem, the Director of the FDIC was given authority to take over insolvent institutions and to try to find buyers for them. President Bush has worked with Congress to devise legislation which will deal with the long-term problem. This legislation will allow the FDIC to address problem situations earlier, will require Savings and Loan Institutions to maintain a higher level of capital, will allow more institutions to buy Savings and Loans and will inflict greater penalties for fraud.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM:

John Edwards, Program Chairman for May, introduced his daughter-in-law, Christine P. Edwards, to be the speaker. She is Vice-President of Sears Financial Services and Assistant Counsel at Dean Witter and Company. An important part of her



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JIM BOUND
DON WRIGHT
MORZIE HOVEN



PAT DONAHOO
MORGAN STAPLETON
JERRY ADAMS



JACK KURSCHNER
(NEW MEMBER)
⊕
VIC MACHIN



16 MAY 89

The speaker was **Sam Hall Flint**, former public Service Commissioner, former Quaker Oats executive and present member of the Conrail Board. He spoke on "The Conrail Saga."

Conrail is a publicly-owned railroad which serves the Northeast from

the New England States to St. Louis. Six railroad systems in the Northeast, including New York Central and Penn Central, went under because of poor management policy, unduly restrictive government regulations and the transfer of industries from the Northeast to the Sun Belt. Congress created Conrail to pick up this service and appropriated money to rehabilitate the lines. It began operation in 1976 and in the first five years lost \$1.5 billion. Then President Carter deregulated the railroads and L. Stanley Crane was chosen as CEO of Conrail. Conrail made a profit in 1981 and by 1986 all debt had been wiped out and it was no longer depending on government subsidy.

Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis set out to dismantle Conrail. He finally agreed not to do this if the railroad maintained a certain level of profitability, which it did. Secretary of Transportation Elizabeth Dole put Conrail up for sale and was ready to accept an offer to buy at a price which was far less than the value of Conrail.

Congress blocked this sale and agreed to put Conrail stock up for public offering. This sale was so successful that Conrail was able to reimburse the United States Government for part of its contribution to Conrail.

Conrail is now a vital and efficient railroad line serving the Northeast.

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the subject, "Pitfalls of New Business - How Communities Can Help." He explained how the city of Huntsville has made remarkably rapid growth in recent years and has changed from a cotton town to a town of high technology entrepreneurs. He learned from his own experience that an entrepreneur with a good idea for a new product or a new service often does not have the business experience to equip him to produce and market that product or service. He can be helped by the advice and guidance of persons who have had business experience, like members of Rotary Clubs. There are two ways for a city to expand its employment opportunities. One is to recruit industries from the outside. The other is to start new businesses locally. If the latter really get established, they are likely to be more permanent because the decision makers live in the city and want to remain in the city. To help new businesses in Huntsville, Reeves and some associates organized the Alabama Entrepreneurs Association. It gives entrepreneurs an opportunity to meet together regularly to share needs and problems and to get in touch with mentors.

Vice Chairman Vic Machin presided in the absence of Chairman John Law. He presented the Program Chairman for the Month, John Edwards, who introduced as speaker for the day Richard Reeves, son of our Member Richard F. Reeves, and Co-Founder and Chairman of the Board of General Digital Industries, Inc. of Huntsville, Alabama. He spoke on



30 MAY 89

Susan Respass, Assistant Business Editor of The Florida Times Union gave a fine talk on gathering and publishing business news. She said that contrary to popular belief, each story doesn't have two sides. It has dozens of sides. The struggle is to condense these several views into one story that will still fit in the newspaper and be readable.

The Times Union has some 180,000 circulation with 15,000 in Georgia. They are always looking for Georgia stories for both Georgia and Florida readers. There are some fifteen reporters on the business staff and while this section of the paper is growing, it may never reach the size of the sports section.

Many stories come from the several wire services, but these are often cryptic summaries which require research and follow-up. One of the best sources of tips is the real estate agent who is often the first to

know about a new business moving into town. Breaking a story before the Chamber of Commerce is ready to announce it, however, can cause some friction.

Among other sources of business news are the insurance industry with constantly changing regulations, grocery chains with increasing competition, small business where many success stories begin, mergers and takeovers, and changes in economic indicators such as interest rates and housing starts.

Ms. Respass said that one of the best sources for stories on Georgia business news comes from people like us, and she reminded us that the Times Union has a toll-free number.

Unfortunately, business news also includes failures, bankruptcies and liens. Labor relations are often difficult to report and tedious court dockets are hard to follow.

Ms. Respass gave us a fine insight into today's challenges of reporting the business news.



6 JUNE 89

Program Chairman **Tom Sayer** introduced **Sandra Davis** as our speaker. **Sandra** was selected from 26 other applicants to be Rotary International Group Exchange Student to visit Madras, India.

She described her 6-week trip as a life-changing experience. India, a country of 800 million is a land of contrasts. It has wealthy along with many poverty level citizens. She described India as a country that on the whole is interested in helping itself - doing for itself as opposed to sitting back and waiting for others to help solve their problems. She described in detail the benefits achieved by Rotary International and in particular from Polio Plus.

Regarding street traffic, anything goes, from autos to bicycles to cows, pigs and dogs can be found on the streets of India's cities as a means of conveyance. An interesting observation was that hospitals have different religions on separate floors. Also India places heavy emphasis on education.

Sandra concluded her remarks with an interesting slide show presentation and said that India welcomes a visitor and sends back a friend.

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June



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