

Pearl River Rotary Club Meeting
December 12, 2013

Pledge led by Raj Mehta

Invocation delivered by Pres. Jim

Guests: Proud papa Ed introduced his sons Andrew & Scott.
Geri Schroeder introduced as our newest honorary member.

Birthday celebrants: Kevin Nulty, Doug Ward, Raphael Castro

Announcements: Share Christmas begins tonight with the float leaving Custom Gardens Land. At 7pm, Touring part of the village, then stopping at the ARC on Central Ave. to distribute gifts. Fri. night the float travels thru the village to Braunsdorf Park to greet all assembled.

Rotaract Club will be having another "Midnite run" in Feb. to NYC. Coats and sweat-Shirts can now begin to be collected.

Hans has 3 "coffee table" Time Life editions of the JFK assassination for sale \$25 each
With proceeds being donated to Pearl River Foundation.

Happy dollars collected by Lauri covered many topics: Frank N. for probably leaving a glove in the Pearl River Rotary bulletin board, club holiday party, Ed Reynolds gathering gifts for his 19 grandchildren, Ed Grant for all the "cheer" to be at his office Fri. night, Mike Piccolo for 7 days at Disney with his family, Jay looking forward to his new hip arriving Mon. 12-16-13, Kevin Nulty was a police officer when the 1st Share Christmas event took place, Raj for Nelson Mandela & Pope Francis having a lot in common and truly embracing "Service Above Self", and of course \$'s for birthdays.

Our speaker today, Dr. Rakesh Shreedhar a surgeon at Good Samaritan Hospital, was introduced by Raj. Dr. Shreedhar described a peoples movement in India called Ekal Vidyalaya. Ekal operates over 51,000 single teacher schools providing education to over 1.3 million students in rural and tribal villages across India. Since 1986, Ekal one-teacher schools have provided basic reading, writing, math, and phys. Ed. Up to third grade. Teachers are local youth specially trained by Ekal. The Ekal Movement helps unite villagers, spark passion for learning among tribal children, curb social evils, and empower villagers to become more self-reliant. Because local resources are used at each school the cost to operate for a year is \$365.00. Ekal has experienced tremendous success since its beginning with 90% of the students continuing their education thru college. More information can be found on the Ekal website: www.ekal.org This was a very informative discussion—thank you Raj for bringing Dr. Shreedhar.

The 4-Way Test was led by Hans from his cell phone.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!!!!

Submitted by: Bob Craig