



# GMC Global Eye



Official Newsletter of  
Gandhi Medical College  
Global Alliance

## Editorial

Venkatakrishna Rao Bodavula (GMC'92)

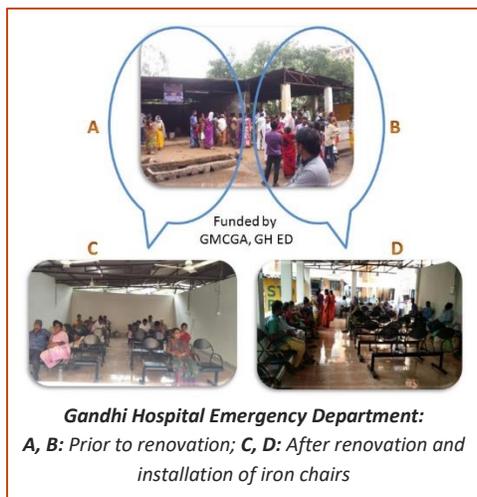
"I will give you a talisman. Whenever you are in doubt or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test. Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Then you will find your doubts and yourself melting away."

— Mahatma Gandhi

I am settled in the USA and am practicing Hand Surgery in St Louis, Missouri. Recently I visited Gandhi Hospital, and called Mr. Gunaranjan of YouSee Foundation, which is working for the betterment of Gandhi Hospital. He took me on a tour of the OPD and the Emergency Department (ED). The conditions I saw there were appalling, unhygienic and chaotic. The patient attendant waiting area in front of the ED

was in a dilapidated condition... mud floors, no chairs.... It was used as a shelter by beggars, abandoned, old and dying patients (A, B).

After coming back to US and discussing with GMCGA, we decided to help renovate the waiting area.



Mr. Gunaranjan was able to get the government to repair the building. After this renovation, 36 three-unit iron chairs

were donated by GMCGA (C,D). The new waiting area was inaugurated as part of Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations on Oct 2, 2016. The facility is now being managed by Seva Bharathi and YouSee Foundation with round-the-clock staff to maintain the hall and provide information and assistance to the waiting attendants.

The GMC 1992 batch is planning on meeting this year. We are motivating our batch to take up a project for the betterment of the NICU, PICU and ObGyn ICU at GH with the help of our classmate Dr. Sailakshmi who runs EKAM Foundation. I request all batches celebrating class reunions to likewise consider designing and executing a class project dedicated to GH and GMC.

I have been blessed to receive a free and excellent medical education. We have an obligation to give back to the people and community which supported us. I hope to participate in more projects with the help of GMCGA.

## President's Message

*Ravinder Surakanti (GMC'65)*

Every successful organization endeavors to accomplish the objectives it envisions at the time of its formation. One of the primary missions of our alumni association has been to enhance and complement the educational activities at our alma mater. Alumni Education Center (AEC) was established for that very purpose.

Over the past decade numerous educational activities were held at the AEC. We achieved our most important milestone on December 14, 2016. The Gandhi Alumni AHA International Training Center was officially inaugurated by Dr. B. Karunakar Reddy, Vice-Chancellor KNR University of Health Sciences and Ms. Liza Douglas, National & International Programs Director,

American Heart Association. BLS and ACLS courses were offered by local instructors and US faculty- Dr. Murthy, Dr. Dwaraknath, Dr. Florence, and Mr. Dennis. A group of us took advantage of staying in the well-appointed faculty rooms while avoiding the daily commute to the training center. During the ten-day training marathon, 150 Provider and 19 Instructor candidates were successfully trained and certified.

In January, Dr. Venkata Bodavula planned and coordinated "Airway and Mechanical Ventilator Management" workshop with Drs. Rajsheker Kollipara, Kiran Y Ghanshyam and Maheshwar Reddy. The training was well received and much appreciated by over 50 attendees. I wish to express my appreciation and gratitude to all the alumni who have contributed to the success of these programs. It has been a gratifying experience.

I would like to encourage and welcome alumni who are interested in participating in educational activities, during their visit home. GMC Global Alliance can coordinate with our sister organization GMCAA in Hyderabad to facilitate and organize the program through our CME subcommittees.



*The legendary staircase of GH, now in the Alumni Education Center, GH*

## Projects

*Srini Vasan Sundarum (GMC'81)*

**Bhojanamritha Program** - The Sivananda Society has built a shelter adjacent to the Gandhi Hospital for relatives of patients who are admitted to the hospital. It is being efficiently run by Seva Bharathi. It is a much needed resting place for relatives of indigent patients who come to the city to take care of their loved ones. The building is primarily a shelter; there are no kitchen facilities etc. It is currently serving about 200 people a day. During the Diamond Jubilee celebration of Gandhi Medical College, a few alumni visited the shelter and decided to provide one meal during the lunch time. Seva Bharathi has pledged to meet 25% of the funding. It costs about \$30,000/year to provide a lunch for 200 people. This program was started in July 2014. The

meals are being provided by the Hare-Krishna Society, who also serve meals at Schools, Hospitals and the Municipal Corporation.

We have 20 donors who have pledged to donate \$1,000/year for at least next 5 years, sufficient to support the current program. Our goal is to make it a perpetual program by establishing a Trust Fund. Presently, the Trust Fund has about \$35,000 due to a generous contribution from one patron. He has also pledged to match up to \$50,000 dollars in donations made towards the corpus fund. If 20 more sponsors come forward (totaling to 40 donors), to donate \$1000 / year for the next 10 years, along with special donors, the goal of reaching \$300,000 is easily attainable, ensuring its sustainability.

- K Murali Rao (GMC'63)

### Emergency Department Improvement

**Project Update:** *We are making great progress!!!* The Emergency Department (Casualty) at GH needs lot of improvements. GMCGA is supporting our partner's efforts to improve the patient management in the Casualty. Patient's attendant waiting facility was refurbished. Administration has implemented major changes in the work flow in the Casualty. Several PGs are posted and investigations are done there. It is no longer a mere triage area. Airway management training program was held for PGs on January 17. With the help of '81 batch ventilators and monitors were bought. A portable X-ray machine needs to be installed. The hygiene and ambience needs to be improved. The class of '81 pledged \$75,000 towards initiation of this effort. There is a need for more funds.

- Alok Agrawal (GMC'81)

## Treasurer's Report

K. Murali Krishna Rao (GMC'63)

**Donations Received: \$113,280**

**Expenditures: \$117,560**

Major Categories:	Donations	Expenditure
Emergency Dept. Improvement	30,677	32,400
AHA International Training Center	34,000	16,000
Meals Program	20,000	20,600
Roshni	2,000	15,000 (\$8000 carry over from last year)
GMCAA (maintenance of AEC)	-	15,000
Premier Solar (solar panels on AEC)	-	6,000
Scholarships	5,000	5,000
Website (Meritel and new website)		3,750
Atlanta Regional Meeting	-	2,450
Souvenir (Inaugurations of AHA ITC)	1,000	2,000
Current Assets: JP Morgan Chase Bank	- \$55,350	
Scottrade (Invest. Acc)	- \$32,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>- \$87,350</b>	

*The final figures do not include some checks received late in December  
They will be included in 2017 budget).*

**Project Utilization Ratio including non-recurring expenses:**

$$(113280-9700)/113280 = 91\%$$

**Project Utilization Ratio excluding non-recurring expenses:**

$$(113280-4,000)/113280 = 96\%$$

## Calendar of Events

- July 28-30, 2017  
**25<sup>th</sup> anniversary Reunion 1992 batch**  
Lahari Resorts, Hyderabad
- Sept 15-17, 2017  
**GMCGA Annual Meeting**  
Dallas, Texas
- Sept 14, 2017  
**GMC Foundation Day**  
Alumni Education Center  
Gandhi Hospital, Hyderabad

## Obituary



**Dr. Nasreen Ather (GMC'83)**

(Aug 15, 1963 - Oct 10, 2016)

Assistant Professor of  
Pharmacology, Osmania Medical  
College, Hyderabad

Dr. Nasreen was a compassionate and soft-spoken physician. A gold medallist, she initially completed DGO and then went on to do MD Pharmacology. She was well loved and respected by her colleagues, friends and students. Her husband, Dr. Ather, recently retired as Associate Professor of Ophthalmology in May 2016. They have three wonderful children and a granddaughter. Her youngest son is studying in Gandhi Medical College and is gold medalist. She took great pride in her family's achievements.

- Sangeeta Agrawal ( GMC'83)

# Activities

Aruna Vallabhaneni (GMC'81)

## Seva Mela - connecting people to service (October 1-2, 2016):

The Seva Mela, an annual event aims to create awareness and public participation in social service activities. About 100 non-profit organizations come together to display their activities. This year Seva Mela was organized at our Alma mater and supported by GMCGA. Basic Life Support training sessions, blood donation camp and free hearing screening for elderly were held. New initiatives like support services for Emergency lab, Swacch Gandhi Hospital initiative, volunteer blood donation coordinator service, biomedical equipment bank service, and patients' attendant waiting facility were inaugurated by the health minister Mr. C. Laxma Reddy.



- Alok Agrawal (GMC'81)

## Reunion GMC 1970 Batch

**November 4-6, 2016:** The GMC class of '70 gathered for their 2<sup>nd</sup> reunion at Ramoji Film City Hyderabad. About 44 members including spouses participated in the reunion. The event started with a 5 minute update of the events in each of our professional and personal lives. We then showcased our talents in a "Ramp-walk" and a group "Tombola" play that was really fun for everyone. In the evening we had a cocktail reception and dinner on the lawns of Sitara Hotel with live music entertainment until midnight. The next day we explored the sights and sounds at RFC theme park, and had lunch at Sitara. A colorful "grand-finale show" lasted well into late evening. On the final day, we had a few talks including a 20 minute presentation by Dr. Prabhakar Sharma about the various activities of GMCGA.

Everyone present appreciated the efforts by GMCGA for the growth of GMC and GH facilities. Many expressed interest in becoming members and participating in alumni activities. This was followed by a two hour karaoke program and concluding remarks. Overall it was a very happy celebration of revisiting with fellow classmates filled with fond memories.

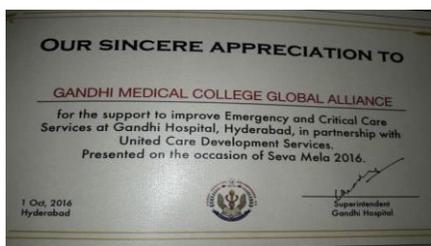


- Sharma S Prabhakar (GMC'70)



### Bhojanamritha:

Daily free lunch program for attendants of Gandhi Hospital inpatients staying in the Sivananda Shelter Home.



### Certificate of Appreciation:

Awarded to GMCGA by Superintendent of GH, on the occasion of Seva Mela, 2016



### Annual GMCGA Meeting:

The annual meeting was held in Chicago from Sept 23-25, 2016.