



GMC Global Eye



Official Newsletter of
Gandhi Medical College
Global Alliance

September - December 2017

Editorial

R.D. Kumar (Ex-President GMCGA, GMC'63)

Volunteer Services at Gandhi Hospital

Gandhi Medical College Global Alliance (GMCGA) has been collaborating with several nonprofit organizations to implement some projects at Gandhi Hospital. The service provided by these organizations is not often recognized or appreciated. One such organization is "You See Foundation." It was founded in 2009 by Mr. Gunaranjan whom I met on my recent trip to Hyderabad.

Guna, as he is affectionately addressed, is highly qualified with M.Sc in Physics and M.B.A. An unassuming man, he has no vehicle and navigates the city on foot and by bus most of the time. He chose to devote his life to serve as a volunteer, instead of pursuing a lucrative career in the corporate world. Gandhi Hospital has been one of the beneficiaries of his pioneering efforts.

I met him at the Gandhi Hospital on the 31st of August and toured the Outpatient and Emergency Departments (ED) with him. I was pleasantly surprised to see the staff interact with him as though he was one of them. They shared their concerns and sought his assistance. An elderly gentleman, who was coordinating the distribution of wheelchairs and stretchers at ED, pleaded with him to arrange for more units. A long queue of family members were waiting patiently for their turn.

Guna has approached several corporations for charitable contributions and succeeded in obtaining grants from Tata Trust to pay for several nurses in ED and I.C.U. Recently a new program was launched to assist the patients and families desperate to obtain needed service in a timely manner. It is a cloud based phone service called "HELP LINE." (PHONE NO. 040395339). Presently the service is averaging fifty calls per day from the public. Interestingly even physicians and nursing staff have contacted the Help Line for assistance. The most frequent reason for contacting the line has been for blood transfusion. Guna informed me that to date they delivered 250 units at no cost.

Currently there are twenty five full time volunteers who work regularly in their spare time and a hundred that offer their time as needed. They come from various walks of life and majority are college educated. In addition about thirty persons are being trained as interns to work at a future date. The efforts of You See Foundation and in particular those of Guna are commendable and worthy of recognition.

In future, we will inform you about our other partner nonprofit organizations such as Seva Bharati and Meenakshi Venkataraman foundations.

President's Message

Ravinder Surakanti (GMC'65)

Dear GMCians,

On the weekend of September 15-17th, GMCGA in conjunction with OGKMTA, held the annual meeting. In the following brief write up I wish to share with you the highlights of the meeting relevant to GMC alumni. At the general body meeting, Board of Directors including officers were elected and or chosen to serve a two year term. Dr. Alok Agrawal will take over the reins as the President and will be supported by a group of enthusiastic alumni who volunteered to join the Board of directors. After much discussion and deliberation by the members, the general body amended the Bylaws to establish Board of Trustees to oversee the functioning of the organization. The Board of Directors will report to the Board of Trustees which will have the final fiduciary authority to safeguard the interests of the organization (The names of the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees are listed in a subsequent section of this Newsletter). In addition, the life time membership to join GMCGA will henceforth be \$100.00 to facilitate greater participation. The amendments to the Bylaws will be uploaded onto the website.

As I look back on my term, I can state with satisfaction that much was accomplished. The Board of Directors took measures to consolidate and place the projects already in progress on a firm footing, to ensure long term success. Notable among them is the BLS/ ACLS program. In a span of one year, from July 2016 through June 2017, seventy two sessions were held to certify over 2000 persons - students, house surgeons and post graduates from Telangana as well as Andhra Medical Schools.

GMCGA from the inception over a decade ago, for the major part, was managed by alumni that joined GMC in the years between 1958 - 1980. By establishing Alumni Education Center as a hub to assist our alma mater, I feel that we have made a significant contribution. I am confident that the new and younger generation of alumni at the helm will take the organization to even greater heights.

Regards

Projects

Srini Vasan Sundarum (GMC'81)

An Appeal for Bhojanamritha Program

Gandhi Medical College Global Alliance (GMCGA), has been providing free hot lunch (200 meals/day) to indigent family members of patients at Gandhi Hospital for 2 years, in collaboration with Sevabharathi. **We have a donor willing to match your contributions up to \$50,000.** We request the local alumni, individuals and companies to join in this effort. It costs about Rupees 10,000 /year (\$150) to provide 365 meals in a year i.e. one meal per day. Donors can choose to fund the following: 1) One meal daily for 1 year – Rs 10,000 (\$150). Two meals daily for 1 year – Rs 20,000 (\$300). 2) X meals daily for 1 year – Rs10,000X (\$150X).

In India, tax deductible donations can be made to Sevabharathi. **Sevabharathi, Secunderabad C/o. Sivananda Shelter Home, Gandhi Hospital, Secunderabad, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500 025. www.Sevabharathi.org** PH+91 701914349 / +91 9704870703. In the US the tax deductible donations can be made to "GMCGA."

- K. Murali Rao (GMC'63), - Alok Agrawal (GMC'81)

My dear GMCian,

Our genesis and journey as healers is inextricably linked to GMC/GH. Nothing warms every GMCian's heart, more than witnessing our alma mater, GMC/GH, thrive and shine like a beacon for future generations. We must be steadfast in our role as patron saints of our sacred alma mater; that which opened, and continues to open, many a door in our lives.

I gratefully thank each one of you, for your generosity and thoughtfulness in sustaining GMCGA's ongoing charitable initiatives. I am confident that you will continue your commitments, both monetary and non-monetary, year after year.

As 2017 draws to a close, I beseech each one of you to open your heart to donate to any extent possible. Please give GMC/GH, our teachers, students and patients, the future and sustainability they deserve.

On behalf of the office bearers of GMCGA, and my fellow editors of GMC Global Eye, I send warm wishes to you and your family, for a peaceful and bountiful 2018!

- Srini Vasan Sundarum, (GMC'81)

Activities

Aruna Vallabhaneni (GMC'81)



The meeting heralded the induction of a younger group of members into the executive committee & changes in the structure of the executive committee and board. Following is the list of new members:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Incoming President: Alok Agrawal

Vice President: Venkata Krishna Rao Bodavula

Secretary: Rajshekar Kollipara

Treasurer: Murali K. Rao

Past President: Ravinder R. Surakanti

Members at Large: Bhoompally V. Reddy, Ramakrishna Sripathi, Ram Pasupuleti, Ravinder Annamaneni, Sita Yerramalli, Nandu Gourineni

Regional Directors: India- Pratap Reddy (President, GMCAA), Maheshwar P. Reddy; United Kingdom: Vijay Kamath

Board of Trustees: Koppolu P.Sharma (Chairman), D. Kumar Ramiseti, D. Sudhaker Rao, Prabhakar Sharma, Santosh Cheela

GMCGA Annual Meeting (September 15-17, 2017)

The GMCGA 11th annual meeting was held in conjunction with the OGKTM annual meeting from Friday September 15th to Sunday Sep 17th at the Westin Galleria in Dallas, Texas. It was a well-attended event. Members at the event voted to make an amendment to the bylaws and create the post of Vice President and also switch the Board of Directors to Board of Trustees, comprising of elected members.

Annual reports from the past president, secretary and treasurer highlighted activities in the past year and presented the current state and status of GMCGA. Incoming President, Dr. Agrawal then presented his vision 2020 in which he put forth his vision and plans for the organization. His progressive vision included a multi-pronged approach to maintaining the projects we have, improving membership and strengthening the organization by utilizing the internet, social media, building relationships/partnerships across the globe with government organizations, NGOs and other non-profit organizations. He also stressed on getting younger members involved while utilizing the wisdom and expertise of senior members.

Updates of the multiple activities and projects of GMCGA in the past year including Bhojanamruta, Roshni, ITC upgrade, Emergency department waiting hall project, Airway & ventilator workshops, BLS & ACLS workshops and other charitable projects were given by the various members involved in these projects. Special guest from India, Ravi Vadlamani of Rotary international, presented his thoughts on the advantages of collaboration with his organization. A brainstorming session of the members of the new executive committee was also held in which several ideas and projects were discussed and Ram Pasupuleti, one of the members at large proposed the project of establishing a pain clinic at our Alma Mater and all the members agreed to discuss this further.

A highlight of the meeting was the felicitation of GMC alumni Dr. Laxmaiah Manchikanti and Dr. Govind Rao for their contributions and presented with distinguished alumni awards. Dr. Manchikanti's monumental achievements in the field of pain management were remembered. Dr. Manchikanti also presented a talk on the topic "Opioid crisis: Use, overuse, abuse." GMCGA members also took part in the election process of OGKTM and discussed collaboration and active participation in the AED project and other charitable projects.

The cultural/entertainment program complemented and completed the excellent meeting.

- *Ram Pasupuleti (GMC'86)*



GMCGA Meeting Sept 2017

Left
Dr. Manchikanti
(3rd from left)
felicitated with
distinguished
alumni award.

Right
Dr. Venkatakrishna
Rao – Vice
President 2018-19



Reunion GMC 1992 Batch

July 28-30, 2017: Gandhi Medical College 1992 batch celebrated their 25th silver jubilee reunion at Pragathi Resorts in Hyderabad. It was a very good turnout with 65 batch mates reuniting from all over the world. It was a pleasant experience meeting the families and kids in a very peaceful and well managed resort. We all got to spend time together joining for all the meals and activities and catching up on old times. The kids surprised us with their performance in singing and dancing. Some of the class singers belted out old melodies like college days. The highlight of the night was Dr. Meher Sultana's (NJ) daughter's dance performance, which was mind blowing. This was the best three days spent with classmates after a long time. Hope to reunite again for another reunion. The positive energy was carried over afterwards in fund raising for one of our batch-mate Dr. Sai Lakshmi (EKAM foundation).



- Venkatakrishna Rao Bodavula (GMC'92)

CME in Nephrology

July 2017: A three hour CME program in nephrology was conducted by Dr Alok Agrawal. Dr. Agrawal gave a talk on acid-base balance and Dr. Prabhakar Sharma on chronic kidney disease with specific reference to the disease burden for India. The CME was organized with the help of Dr. Manjusha, Chief of Nephrology GMC.

Calendar of Events

Save the date: January 6 - 20, 2018

Telangana State CPR training program including CPR, AED, BLS, ACLS, PALS; and instructor course at Alumni Education Center. All GMC alumni invited to attend.

Certified instructors planning a trip to Hyderabad and willing to teach, please contact: **Ravinder Surakanti, MD**
Cell 765-366-0812; Email: rrsurakanti@gmail.com

GMC Foundation Day, 2017

September 14, 2017

Held at the Alumni Education Center, GMC.



Obituary



Dr. B. Shobha Reddy (GMC'67)

(Nov 11, 1949 - Oct 11, 2017)

Dr. Shobha, wife of Dr. B. Pratap Reddy (President GMC Alumni Assn, Hyderabad), passed away peacefully at the Indo American Cancer Hospital. She had a flourishing practice in Kukatpally in Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Family Practice. She was conferred Fellow of College of General Practitioners by MCI. She was a compassionate and dedicated Physician. She is survived by her husband Dr. Pratap, son Sharad Reddy (Electronics Engineer) and grandsons Kiyam and Ronan. We at GMCGA convey deepest sympathy and sorrow to Dr. Pratap and his family.

- R Surakanti (GMC'65)