

WALTAIR TIMES



Vol. 27 | Issue 3

September 2022



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From the President's Desk



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G. RAMA KRISHNA R-098
98499 99919

Dear members,

It has been an excellent and rewarding month in the club. I sincerely thank all the members for attending all the activities and festivities in large numbers, thus making every event a grand celebration.

The Managing Committee is proud that there have been an overwhelming response of over 20 life memberships, thus far. The Managing Committee members, Editor and Ladies Committee Chairperson are giving their best to keep our members entertained and occupied. The weekends are musical nights of fun and I request members to visit the Club.

It is indeed a great inspiration that despite our varied committees, we all work in unison. Members of the club have an impact on people from all walks of life, as similar values are shared. Let us further continue to advance in equity, fellowship and oneness and keep the 'home away from home' a place we cherish and love to be in.

I wish for every member to enjoy their every moment in the club.

Thanking you,

DR.S.V.H. RAJENDRA

From the Editor's Desk

Come September, we are into the third issue of Waltair Times and I wish to thank members for their response in sending in articles.

September 5, Teachers' Day is a time to recollect mentors who have shaped the lives of students world over. We were able to capture the thoughts of a few teachers.

We are fortunate to have two Past Presidents featured in this issue: His Lordship Justice D. V. S. S. Somayajulu and Dr. N. Suryanarayana (Dhanam). G. Murali Krishna, Founder and M.D. of Fluentgrid Ltd., has grabbed our attention and he appears in this issue. We also have a brief history of the club by John Castellias. I am grateful to the members from abroad, who continue to contribute their memoirs of their time in the Club. Psychologist Dr. Leonora Mohan, delves into an extremely relevant issue - 'Depression'. We encourage parents to motivate their children to write for the Kids' Corner. The cover page depicts World Ozone Day (Sept. 16), to create an awareness among people about the depletion of the Ozone layer. The theme for 2022 is "Global cooperation protecting life on earth".

We congratulate the members and children, who have excelled in their respective fields.

Even as you attend the various activities in the club, we request you to strictly follow the safety protocols always.

I thank the Executive Committee and the team on the Editorial board, for their constant support, in helping me to bring out the 3rd issue.

I once again request members to contribute relevant articles and to render suggestions.

Please send in the articles to sheilajackson753@gmail.com

Sheila Jackson

M. No.: S - 679



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Half Page	21.5 (W)	14 (H)	18.5(W)	12(H)

Hon. Secretary's Message

Greeting and warm wishes,

We celebrated Ganesh Mahotsav with pomp and gaiety. Members thoroughly enjoyed the devotional music and chants for three days. We have fun-filled music weekends and our teams' focus is to refurbish and maintain the Club facilities with good standards. We are looking forward to a host of activities and celebrations for Dussehra and Deepawali. A piece of gyan, "a good club member is one who puts more into the Club than he takes out".

Happy Clubbing.

V.Chandrakanth



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New Members List

S.NO.	MEMBER NAME	M.NO.	CATEGORY	D.O.J.
	Mulagada Dhiraj	D135	Regular Mc	06.09.2022
	M Chakradhar Prasad	C128	Life	08.09.2022
	Mr V Venkata Ramesh	V477	Regular Mc	08.09.2022
	Mr Gopi Bharat	B168	Regular Mc	08.09.2022
	Dr M Bhupesh	B183	Life	09.09.2022
	Mr Robin Luke Jangam	R767	Regular Mc	09.09.2022
	Miss P Dedeepya	D161	Regular Mc	09.09.2022
	Miss G Monica	M355	Associate	09.09.2022
	Mr G Maneesh	M357	Associate	09.09.2022
	Miss A Pravalika	P384	Regular Mc	10.09.2022
	Mr Ch Sai Praneeth	S1372	Associate	10.09.2022
	Mr P Sai Yeshwanth	S1375	Associate	10.09.2022
	Dr Garuda Butchi Raju	B185	Service	10.09.2022
	Mr M V V N Patrudu	V476	Life	12.09.2022
	Mr Vishnu Rohit Grandhi	V479	Regular Mc	12.09.2022
	Miss N B Sreelaya	S1129	Regular Mc	12.09.2022
	Mr C Sai Sampat	S1371	Associate	12.09.2022
	Mr C Pradyumna	P385	Associate	13.09.2022
	Mr Govinda Ravi Kumar	R766	Life	15.09.2022
	Mr L Surya Sai Thoran	S1374	Associate	15.09.2022
	Mr G Akhil Ramakrishna Raju	A407	Regular Mc	16.09.2022

Programmes for October, 2022

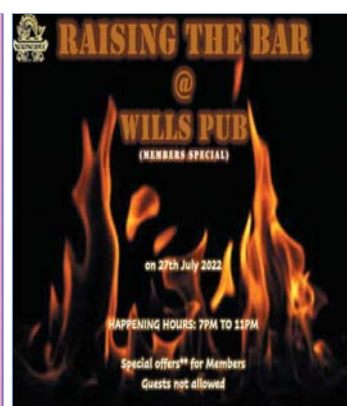
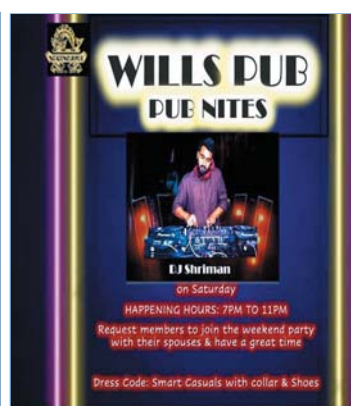
02.10.2022	Sunday	Beer n Biryani with Tambola	12noon
05.10.2022	Wednesday	Dasara Celebrations	
07.10.2022	Friday	Movie	7:00pm
14.10.2022	Friday	Movie	7:00pm
15.10.2022	Saturday	Tambola	7:30pm
21.10.2022	Friday	Movie	7:00pm
28.10.2022	Friday	Movie	7:00pm

Weekend Events- At Wills Pub

Ladies Night	Every month 2nd & 4th Wednesday	7pm to 11pm
Wills Pub Nites	Every Saturday	7pm to 11pm
Seniors Special	Every Sunday	11am to 11pm

Announcements

It is hereby noticed that some members are booking Banquet Halls and other places in the Club without their presence. This is in violation of the club rules and regulations. Please note that a member has to be present during the function/party till the end and completion of the bill.



Beer & Biryani



Super Tambola Winners



Mrs.Sukreeta Menda, W/o. Mr.Deepak Manu Menda (M.No.D-099)



Mr.P.Amarveer (M.No.A-242)



Mr.P.Raghavendra Rao (M.No.R-174)



Mrs.Bina Rao, W/o Mr.Umesh Govind Rao (M.No.U-004)



Mrs.P.Indira Devi W/o. Mr.P.Raghavendra Rao (M.No.R-174)

Snooker Lightening Tournament held on 11-09-2022



Winner-Mr.P.Vinay Varma (M.No.V-191)



Runner-Mr.V.Srijan Babu (M.No.S-896)



Member Honour



Mr. Manish Raj Singhania (M.No. S- 415) has been elected as the President of FADA for the period 2022-24 at Mayfair Lake Resort, Raipur.

Honourable Chief Minister, Mr. Bhupesh Bhagel, graced the event. Federation of Automobile Dealer Association (FADA), is the Apex national body of Automobile Retail industry in India.

Mr. Singhania is the Managing Partner of Ralas Motors. He has been awarded for his contributions to nature and excellence in the automobile sector.

We congratulate and wish him all the very best.

Miss Vedika Kedia (V-376), a regular member of our club, has been unconditionally offered to study M.Sc. in Education (Higher Education) at University of Oxford for the academic year 2022-23. Vedika had completed her schooling from Timpany Schools and has graduated from Lady Shri Ram (LSR) College for Women, New Delhi. She had represented LSR at two international exchange programmes for one year each to National University of Singapore and Sciences Po, Paris before being awarded with the best student prize.

She has completed her Master of Law in China studies from Peking University, Beijing where she submitted her thesis on 'The China Factor in India's participation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Regime'. She has also attended King's College, London Summer School and interned with the Indian Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi.

We are indeed proud of you, Vedika and wish you the very best at Oxford.



Anne Sahas S/o Dr Anne Satish (M.No.S-665) of TIMPANY ICSE class 7, stood the proud winner of the just concluded AITA(All India Tennis Association) CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES 7 Tournament in the Under-12 Boys' Category held at Meadows Sports, Bheemili on 25.8.22. It was a grueling three and a half hours final in the scorching heat where he won 4-6, 6-4, 7-6(4).

Congratulations Anne Sahas. May this just be the beginning of a fabulous career.

State level Meet

It has been a quarter of pride for the club. **Visakha District Modern Pentathlon Association** conducted a its 6th State Championship on 30th & 31st July, 2022. The competition consisted of a triathle and a biathle event for the children also. The Biathle involved a run, followed by a swim followed by a run while the Triathle involved a run, swim, shoot.

The following two children from the Club brought glory by winning medals **Saanvii Vankayala** (Member's name: Raghuram Gupta Vankayala M.No.R-578) won two bronze medals: one for Biathle under 9 category and another for Triathle under 9 category. **Kakarla Ashrita** (Member's name: Sahitya Tummala, M.No.S-875) won a bronze for the Triathle under 11 category.





Mrs.Srikantalahari Sagi (L-47) "Best Career Coach for the year 2022"

Lahari Sagi an MBA, M.Com, LLB, PGC IIMN and FDA IIK graduate is a passionate career guidance counsellor and a mentor. She has worked with various universities and colleges in guiding the students and now is the Principal for Avinash College of Commerce, Secunderabad Branch, to give the Students the best she can offer. She has trained more than 10,000 students towards their Finance careers. She is patient and specializes in counselling and observing the student, understanding the traits of the students and in the process she also counsels the parents to convince them to understand the interest of the student. She helps students choose the right career path. She also has an array of expertise in International programs like ACCA, CIMA, CMA US and CPA US and coaches students to opt for International programs which help them get global exposure. Since she specializes in finance, law and family relations in the process of career building she also progresses on corporate training to build career amidst financial and family stress. Her holistic approach of mentoring has given a different dimension to the student community to choose their dream career.

Congratulations Lahari . We are indeed proud of your achievements.

Potluri Sai Dhanya (daughter of Mr. Pradeep M.No P-241) has participated in many competitions and won many accolades. She has won gold medals in the English Olympiad competition and in the art competition which was held in Dubai last year.

Wishing Dhanya many more laurels as she balances her artistic creativity and academic education.



Darsh Abhinay (S/o. Abhinay & Pratyusha Sharma M.No. P-168) was inducted into the Middlesex County Cricket League's Hall of fame, after he took all 10 wickets in an innings against South Gate CC. With figures of 14.2 -1-59-10, the 17 year- old, Darsh was adjudged player of the week in Middlesex. A grade 12 student of Sancta Maria International School, Darsh had a very good season with the bat and ball for the Club. In the 11 matches that he played, he scored 302 runs with three half - centuries and a highest score of 95 against London Macarbi. He also claimed 24 wickets and took 11 catches.

We congratulate Darsh and wish him a blooming career in cricket.

Laurels in the Pool

The Waltair Club Swimming pool and its summer coaching has always been a favourite amongst parents of young kids. This time, the club has facilitated the presence of a coach for a year round coaching camp instead of just a summer camp. This initiative was heartily welcomed by the parents and it gives the Club immense happiness to report that the children have already started reeling in laurels with what they have been learning. Two swimming competitions were conducted in the recent months. The first was the 3rd CRM Swimming Championship - 2022 that was held by the East Coast Railway Sports Association in June at the RR Aqua Swimming Complex. The children of the club members participated in good numbers and won a total of 7 medals. The medal winners for this event were:



1) **Dhruthy Subhaga Vempati** (Member's Name: Lakshmi Sindhu Dondeti, M. No: L-67) won two medals, a gold in 50m Freestyle and another gold in the 25m Breaststroke.

2) **Mokshaa Nandita Vempati** (Member's Name: Lakshmi Sindhu Dondeti M. No : L-67) won a silver in 25m Freestyle.

3) **Mullapudi Krithik Sai Chowdary** (Member's Name : M Siva Rama Krishna, M. No : S-910) won a Bronze in 25m Breaststroke.

4) **Mullapudi Jasmitha** (Member's Name: Mullapudi Siva Rama Krishna, M. No : S-910 won a gold in 25m freestyle and a silver in 25m Breaststroke.

5) **Mullapudi Jaswin Sai Chowdary** (Member's Name: M Siva Rama Krishna, M. No :S-910) won a bronze in 25m Breaststroke.

The club would like to extend hearty congratulations to the winners and to every child who participated in the competition.

TEACHER'S DAY SPECIAL



"Teaching is a noble profession that shapes the character, calibre and future of an individual" said Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

So true that a teacher's responsibility is not in merely guiding the students to obtain academic qualifications but in aiding to acquire life skills. Coming into this profession by choice and being in it for about four decades I can confidently say there are no regrets, despite the challenges. As a fresh postgraduate from Andhra University with no institutional teaching experience the first demo lesson could have been daunting. However, I faced the challenge and sailed through comfortably.

The very next challenge was to face a group of 120 students, just out of school, with a false notion that college unlike school meant freedom. Then came the task of teaching a Shakespearean text to a mixed group whose language proficiency greatly differed. Nevertheless, one learns to tackle such issues competently

With academic autonomy teaching was more meaningful but with immense responsibility and more hard work.

Every day was an experience. Interaction with students and colleagues was an addition to my knowledge from books. To stimulate the intellect were the academic workshops. Other workshops to help in moulding the students to improve their life skills were also part of this teaching journey. Interest in extracurricular activities gave me the opportunity to encourage students to participate in sports and games, and literary activities. I taught and trained students in basketball and built a team that took part in the inter district and inter university meets. While mingling with students in such activities never did I lose the importance of discipline in the classroom or the campus. At the same time, I was aware of the necessity of kindness and understanding for the well-being of the student community.

As I recall my teaching experience at St. Joseph's College for Women, Visakhapatnam, I am thankful for the conducive atmosphere for the teaching and learning process given by successive Principals and the Management.

K. Janaki Naidu, M.No. N-50

"I have always felt that the true text book for the pupil is his teacher." Mahatma Gandhiji's quote is a very apt for all the teachers and teaching fraternity.

My JOURNEY as a TEACHER started in a peculiar situation. After my Graduation in English Literature, my parents shifted to a smaller town where there was no Post Graduation college. My father advised me to take up teaching in a nearby school till a marriage proposal is finalized. I never wanted to be a Teacher but destiny played a major role as there were no options available those days. I really don't know how I journeyed through my Teaching career to this day. I never realized the importance of a Teacher till the day, my students considered me as their mentor and looked up to me for guidance.

For a while, I enjoyed my job as I had the privilege of earning and the freedom to spend my earnings as I wished to.

This addiction towards financial freedom and self-reliance has paved the way for me to take up teaching a little more seriously. I understood and appreciated the importance given to a Teacher and that was the turning point in my life. With the support of my family, I created a great impact on the students who are now placed in distinguished positions all across the globe. In whichever institute I worked, parents, teachers and the management have always given me a lot of respect and made me want to excel in this noble profession.

Being a teacher means to help enrich children's lives, not just through core educational skills, but also by imbibing responsibility, analytical skills and building self-confidence in the students.

Nothing makes teachers prouder than seeing their students succeed, knowing they have helped inculcate the skills that are needed for the future. You'll find that many teachers relish their teaching career due to the rewarding aspects of the job. As a teacher, you are giving children the skills they need to go out into the world and succeed.

This isn't just when it comes to only academic learning, it can be about making friends, finding the encouragement to present in front of the class or even with some guidance on what to do in the future and aspiring for higher education. You are your student's biggest cheerleader in school, so let them know about it and give them the self-confidence they need to keep going since "Education is for improving the lives of other and leaving your community and world better than you found it." Marian Wright Edelman.

A teacher can make a difference by imbibing the love for learning because "The test of a good teacher is not how many questions he can ask his pupils that they will answer readily, but how many questions he inspires them to ask him which he finds it hard to answer." Alice Wellington Rollins.

Madiraju ValliRamgopal M.No.R-51

Principal, Aviation Institute of Advanced Technology



TEACHER'S DAY SPECIAL

A Time of gratitude - to our Teachers

Joined Visakha Valley School in 1970, six months after the school was established. I stayed on for 30 years as a teacher of Social Studies, Geography and Civics for 8th, 9th and 10th class students. After retirement, I loved being in education, so I continued to work as the Principal of Hindustan Shipyard English Medium school for the next 10 years.

I loved working in both schools, building strong relationships with my co-teachers and students. I enjoyed my time as a teacher. I learnt that students are of all types and it is important to help and teach them about ethical and moral values besides the lessons itself. Many of my students have grown up to have very successful careers and still find time to come and visit me or text me and thank me for helping them. I feel very happy to meet them and see them doing so well.

My message to children of today is to not to complain about their teachers and to see their teachers as a role models. Whatever the teacher says is for their own good and children should learn and grow from it.

Thank you mam, for your invaluable contribution to the students.



Syamala Subba Rao, M.No.S-127



I worked as a lecturer of political science for three years. Along with my family commitments, I pursued my studies and joined as a Principal of public school for 5 years. As a Group Study Exchange member of Rotary International, I was part of a five member team to USA. As part of the tour, we visited many schools and could make a comparative study of Curricula. In 1999, I visited Bangkok for four weeks and got trained in new techniques of Literacy that has helped me to actively participate in Literacy programs conducted by Rotary and State Government. I was instrumental in starting many Adult Literacy centers and focused more on women's literacy. I started my own school in Simhachalam and was very successful in running it. I could help many students in achieving high academic standards. In this long journey of 35 years, I enjoyed my profession thoroughly as a teacher and principal.

I served as Rotary District Governor and during my tenure and after, it was very fulfilling to provide 10,000 school benches in 6 revenue Districts, I was fortunate to have a good team of Rotary members who helped me in providing infrastructure to the schools. My passion is music, reading and teaching.. My message to students is to inculcate the habit of reading books on History, Indian culture and Literature, which will help them to shape their personality as responsible citizens.

We thank you, Mam, for being a source of inspiration, not just to the student fraternity, but to the community at large.

Mrs Chayadevi , M.No. C- 72

A LIBRARY IS A PLACE OF LEARNING

As I am qualified in both Education and Library Science, I got to serve as a Librarian at Visakha Valley School for a long time till my retirement in 1997. The task of the Librarian is not merely to sort and maintain reading materials in an orderly manner, but to encourage its users to read them to gain knowledge. At the school-going age, a library allows expanding their knowledge, as well as, inculcating the habit of reading. In the eighties and nineties of the last century, when digitization has not established itself in school education, books were the main source of learning. I used to handle library periods of class seven and above.

My first task was to make the first-timers sit calmly and read. It used to take some time for the new kids to accustom themselves to the discipline. The second task was to give them a wide choice of books to browse through, from general knowledge to science and geography to storybooks to subject books. Reading books provides not only knowledge but relaxation to the mind. The third task was to encourage them to take home the books they like and read them at home.

I used to encourage them to read classics in English and Telugu so that apart from reading great authors they also improve their literary skills.

As I look back at my stint as Librarian, I feel satisfied that I have added some value to the lives of my students.

I wish all teachers and librarians a HAPPY TEACHERS' DAY.

T. PADMA RAO, MA, B LSC, B Ed, M.No. S- 301

Former Librarian - Teacher , Visakha Valley School



Every institution has members who distinguish themselves in their field of work. When their achievement is singularly so and the first of its kind, the respect it commands and the admiration it deserves is multifold. Presenting a conversation with his Lordship Justice DVSS Somayajulu, Judge in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. I thank Justice Somayajulu for making the time from his busy schedule to respond to questions for this interview for Waltair Times - Sandhya Godey



Waltair Times : Which year did you become a member?

Justice Somayajulu : I became a Member in 1991.

Waltair Times : When were you the President of Waltair Club? Did you hold any other posts prior to that ?

Justice Somayajulu : I was the President, Waltair Club during 2014-15. Yes, prior to that I was a member of the Managing Committee and the Vice President of the Club also.

Waltair Times : Were there any memorable decisions you took as President?

Justice Somayajulu : There were no "memorable decisions" per se but the practice of honouring our Club staff and their families with an Annual Staff Day was cemented. It was started a year earlier, but I feel it was firmly established during 2014-15.

Waltair Times : What would you consider was your biggest challenge as President?

Justice Somayajulu : My biggest challenge as President was the Hud Hud Cyclone and its aftermath. It devastated the City and the Club also. Restoring the services immediately after the cyclone was the greatest challenge. I along with the Committee Members were "hands on" in cutting the branches / sawing them; carting them away; removing the debris and restoring the services. It was a mammoth task as we could not get any outside help either.

Waltair Times : Your favourite memory as a club member?

Justice Somayajulu : There are too many memories and it's tough for one to be 'singled' out. A recurrent pleasant memory is, however, about the resilience of the club staff after the Hud Hud. Despite their personal loss, destruction of their houses etc., they responded magnificently and restored services in the Club immediately after the Cyclone passed. As power, water were cut in the city, the Chambers were fully occupied. A large number of members relied upon the Club kitchen for take away/dining etc. The staff responded magnificently and ensured that all the members were served.

Waltair Times : Favourite club facility?

Justice Somayajulu : The 'Club' itself is my favourite facility - the gym, the yoga Studio, the walking track, the library, the lawns, the camaraderie - the entire experience. Only when you travel to metros do you realise how lucky you are for this island of greenery and joy.

Waltair Times : Most used club facility?

Justice Somayajulu : The walking track, gym and the Club mart for the coffee.

Waltair Times : Were there any legal issues that the Club faced that you helped resolve?

Justice Somayajulu : The Club had a lot of issues about its 'title' to the land plus other minor issues. These were all organised and sorted out. Papers were put in order so that if any challenge still arises it can be effectively met. 'Eternal vigilance' is needed. This was emphasised by me in particular to the Managing Committees that succeeded us. The right of the Club to suspend a Member as per the bye-laws was upheld by the Court, which I believe paved the way for proper disciplinary actions thereafter. This is one of the earliest victories of my legal career.

Waltair Times : Why did you take up law as a profession?

Justice Somayajulu : Law was a conscious choice. A desire to follow the family tradition and especially to follow my hero - my father.

Waltair Times : Your love for books and reading are well known. Three favourite authors and three favourite books.

Justice Somayajulu :

Ayn Rand - Fountainhead / Atlas Shrugged.

Kahlil Gibran - The Prophet

Rohinton Nariman - Discordant Notes

Waltair Times : What kind of cases interest you the most and why?

Justice Somayajulu : I cannot say what interests me most. Any tough legal tangle that requires hard work; research, study, a tough/worthy opponent and a battle of wits - interests me. This is the charm of the legal profession - it is not at all static and you are an eternal student.

Waltair Times : Three things you enjoy in the legal profession and three things that put you off?

Justice Somayajulu : Things that I enjoy in the profession:

- a) The reading, knowledge acquisition and preparation
- b) The Court craft
- c) The alleviation of a person's pain / misery.

Things that I hate:

- a) The proverbial delays
- b) The tricks of the trade
- c) The lack of infrastructure

Waltair Times : A short account of a case (your own or of others) that influenced you as a person?

Justice Somayajulu : A low grade employee sunk his life savings to buy a plot of land. A rich powerful businessman made a claim for the same property. After fighting the case with revenue records etc., we got a decree for a permanent injunction. The property was saved. The same land was mortgaged for a child's education loan. The family is now secure and the child is well educated. The joy of victory and its lifelong repercussions showed me the benefit of the rule of law.

Waltair Times : Three suggestions you would recommend all people to enable a peaceful future.

Justice Somayajulu :

a) Everyone above 45 should execute a registered Will - It costs very little and will save the successors a lot of legal troubles/hassles. A registered will can be the title deed in a sense to the next generation.

b) You should ensure that your personal paperwork is in order.

Eg: Nomination in bank accounts; policies; investments, insurance papers etc., must be in order. Ensure that your spouse and children have access to all your records.

c) You should always comply with the law - ensure your documents are proper; that the house tax, bills are paid etc; that the lease you are giving is registered and so on.

You should always take care of the 'SMALL STUFF' always.

Waltair Times: Your preferred travel itinerary would include

Justice Somayajulu: As a nature lover, I would prefer any place with a pleasant climate; winding roads; hills and thick forests, plus a cosy restaurant that serves good coffee.

Waltair Times : You are the first Judge to be appointed to the AP High Court from a Mofussil Court. This was a proud moment for everyone in appointment?

Justice Somayajulu : A sense of great responsibility (5 words) - since I will be judged very harshly if I fail and the District Court lawyers will be blamed as not

being good enough to be in the High Court.

Waltair Times : As Justice of the AP High Court, you live in Vijayawada. Do you miss Vizag?

Justice Somayajulu : I miss Visakhapatnam enormously. I pine for this city. As someone who grew up in this lovely city and enjoyed myself while growing up - I miss the city; its people; its ethos; culture - in fact everything about it.

Warm Regards

Sandhya Godey

Vizag is a close knit community, and it is with great pride that Waltair Times brings to its readers a success story that has its roots in Vizag with branches growing out to other states in India as well as beyond the boundaries of our country.

Waltair Times : Murali, how would you explain to a layman, what Fluentgrid does?

Murali : Power supply companies must precisely meter the energy supplied, bill them accurately and collect payments in time, while being always responsive to their consumers. Smart cities need to connect various systems across the city in real time, to be vigilant and act immediately to avert crisis, besides planning, executing, and monitoring long term initiatives for continuous improvement in quality of life for citizens. We help them do this more efficiently with our renowned software products and solutions.

Waltair Times : For an onlooker, it seems like nothing succeeds like success. For someone who made this success a reality, apart from sustained hard work and focus on your goals, to what three decisions in the first year of business would you attribute your current success?

Murali : From the very beginning I deliberately stayed away from the IT services business. I always wanted to build and nurture a product-centric technology solutions company.

I wanted my product to solve a problem for a specific industry. BFSI (Banking, Financial Services and Insurance) was the most rewarding sector then and even now. But, I chose to walk the less trodden path of power utilities, to differentiate ourselves and to fill the vacuum in this space. It was a risky bet, considering power utilities were in distress, but I had the conviction that they will turn around with right technology intervention backed by some policy decisions.

These three interconnected decisions that I took in the first year, led us to where we are now. There were tough times and the pressure to revisit my decisions many times, but then we persisted. With all humility I will accept that we made considerable progress on this journey, but I believe we have a long road ahead before we can say we made an impact to this sector.



Waltair Times : Though this next question would be like asking a father to choose a favourite child, could you share three products that Fluentgrid has rolled out and is in use now?

Murali : You made my job easy by asking me to name three. CIS, MDMS and Actelligence are the three key products for us. While CIS is our flagship billing and customer care product for utilities, MDMS is our smart metering product for utilities and Actelligence is the actionable intelligence platform that is used to implement integrated operations center for any business to serve as the foundation for digital transformation.

Waltair Times : By the end of next year, Fluentgrid will be celebrating its silver jubilee, what would be five of your top moments of this electrifying journey ?

Murali : When APEPDCL, the local power utility head quartered in Vizag moved all its consumers to our CIS product and then adjudged as the best utility in the country with the least commercial losses.

- When the Vizag Smart City Command Center became the most complex smart city project to have gone live in the shortest time on our Actelligence platform.

- When 10 million consumers of UP DISCOMs moved to our cloud billing platform, which later went upto 23 million consumers, a world record and a testimony to our execution capabilities and the robustness of our CIS product.

- When New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) became the first utility in the country to go-live with 100% smart meters for all its consumers, powered by our end-to-end smart metering software suite.

- When our Actelligence platform based command & control center implemented for Kochi smart city project played a pivotal role in Covid emergency response.

Waltair Times : Which of the following applies to you

- a) A dream doesn't become a reality by magic. It takes sweat, hard work and determination.
- b) A single dream is more powerful than a thousand realities.
- c) I've had dreams and I've had nightmares. I overcame my nightmares because of my dreams.

Murali : All three!

Waltair Times : When did you become a Waltair Club member and why ?

Murali : in the year 2006, to make new friends and access club facilities.

Waltair Times : Have you participated in any Club event ? Your recollection of it, if you have.

Murali : The one that I fondly remember and enjoyed most was a musical evening with Indian Idol winner Parleen Singh Gill with Club members doing a ramp walk to his live performance. It was organised by Ladies Committee chairperson Sandhya Godey and her team in 2014.

Waltair Times : Behind every successful person, there is a supportive spouse. Your wife Vani was the Ladies Committee Chairperson in 2014-15. How did you support her? and any favourite memory from that year.

Murali : I supported her by not getting in her way...:-). An event that I remember was the race that she and her team had organised.

Waltair Times : Which Club facility do you use the most ? .

Murali : I used to be a regular at the Gym before Covid times. We always look forward to catching up with friends at the club, as it's one of our favourite destinations.

Waltair Times : You are known to support local events and local achievers. Have you supported any Club events ?

Murali : I like sports, so extend whatever little support towards sporting events and towards Gym upgradation.

Waltair Times : What do you like the most and what you like the least about Waltair Club?

Murali : Our Club will stand out for its beautiful environs, excellent facilities and the bonhomie of members.

The yearly process of elections is something I don't look forward to...)

Yea

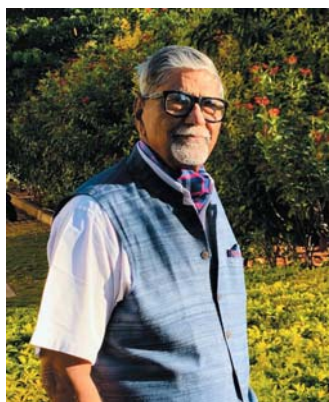
Waltair Times : What is your favourite item on the Club menu?

Murali : There are many dishes that I enjoy and it may not be fair to name just a few! Over the years club has made amazing progress especially on the food menu and the quality. I take this opportunity to congratulate the passionate committees and the consistent leadership over the years that made this possible.

Murali Krishna Gannamani, Founder and Managing Director of Fluentgrid Limited, a company with its global headquarters in Visakhapatnam was in conversation with Sandhya Godey.



A Story for all Seasons:



Dr. Nookala Suryanarayana (Dhanam) M.No.S-041, past President of Waltair Club, walks with us and talks to us in this unique and extraordinary spotlight on one of Vizag's very own. A journey from finding light under a street lamp for completion of his degree to being a beacon of light for finding the city of destiny, is one of courage and sacrifice. In September 1965, a couple of months shy of his 32nd birthday, Dr.N.S.Dhanam became a member of the Waltair Club. Fifty-seven years later, we register his story as one of imagination, hope, and motivation. His reflections chronicle facts and feelings that evoke nostalgia for what was and praise for what has since come. He reminisces about the code of conduct, from dress to etiquette and watching movies on the deck with a portable projector. He adds that snooker remained the main attraction and the fancy dress ball and parade ever anticipated and constantly engaging.

An employee of Caltex Petroleum for many years, Dr.Dhanam twice served as Honorary Secretary and then as Vice President, and eventually as President of our Club in consecutive years. As part of the executive committee, he remembers moving from member to administrator with specific fondness. He took on the joy of past personal experiences and ushered in the moment of a future pleasure for others. He stresses admiration for progress in form and function when asked about changes since his days as President. Today at the age of 88, he shares how much he has appreciated the new generation and new caretakers of the club's great history. In addition to his professional success and personal commitments, Dr. Dhanam has another unique credential that is beyond encouraging to all of us.

When the final bell of the classroom of professional pursuit rang, he chose another class to keep on. At seventy-seven, he enrolled in Andhra University in the MA Program. At the age of 81 earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy. His answer is simple and profound when asked about the reason for his constant pursuit. "Because I can". When queried about the desire to be a continual student, he quotes his son, who often says when your obligations to others finish, your obligations to your dreams remain.

Well-known, much loved, and an inspiration, Waltair Club, is proud of one of its oldest living members.

हिंदी दिवस

हर वर्ष १४ सितंबर को हिंदी दिवस मनाया जाता है । इस दिन भारत के संबिधान ने देवनागरी लिपि में लिखी गयी हिंदू भाषा को भारत की अधिकारिक भाषा घोषित किया था ।

डॉक्टर राजेंद्र सिन्हा ने हिंदी को राष्ट्रभाषा बनाने के लिए लम्बा संघर्ष किया था । इस संघर्ष में उनका साथ, मैथिली सरन गुप्त, काका कलेकर, हजारी प्रसाद द्विवेदी ने दिया था ।

हिंदी दुनिया की चौथी, व्यापक बोली जानेवाली भाषा है । दुनिया भर के लोग हिंदी गीतों और हिंदी फिल्मों को प्यार करते हैं ।

भोपाल में आयोजित एक विश्व हिंदी सम्मेलन में हमारे प्रधानमंत्री श्री मोदीजी ने हिंदी भाषा को इंग्लिश की तरह डिजिटल करने का सलाह दिया है ।

और हम देख रहे हैं हिंदी धीरे धीरे डिजिटल होती जा रही है ।

हिंदी दिवस को मानने का मक़सद ही है की इस भाषा का ज़्यादा प्रयोग हो और इसको सम्मान मिले.

“एक भाषा है आशा भरी, जिसका नाम हिंदी है,

हिंदी केवल जुबान ही नहीं, देश का माथे की बिंदी है”।

अनिता गुप्ता U-21

మన సభ్యులందరికీ తెలుగు భాషా దినోత్సవ శుభాకాంక్షలు ...

ఆగస్టు 29వ తేదికి ఒక ప్రత్యేకత ఉంది. వ్యవహారిక భాషా ఉద్యమకర్త అయిన శ్రీ గిడుగు వెంకట రామమూర్తి పంతులు గారి పట్టినరోజు ఆ రోజు. గ్రాంథిక భాషలో ఉండే పాఠ్యాంశాలను వాడుక భాషలోకి మార్చాలనే సంకల్పంతో వారు ఎంతో కృషి సలిపారు. విద్యార్థికి సులువైన పద్ధతిలో పాఠ్యాంశాలు ఉండాలని ఆలోచించి మనం ఇంట్లో మాట్లాడే భాష, బడిలో మాట్లాడే భాష కంటే వేరుగా ఉండకూడదని ఉద్యమం చేసారు. దీని వలన విద్యార్థులు చాలా స్థలువుగా మాతృభాష నేర్చుకోగలిగారు. మనిషి పుట్టుక తరువాత మొదటగా భాష నేర్చుకునేది అమ్మ ఒడిలోనే, అదే మన మాతృభాష. మన మనసులోని భావోద్వేగాలను బయటపెట్టడానికి భాష అనే ఆయుధం తోడ్పడుతుంది. తెలుగు భాషలోని పద్యాలూ, కవిత్వం, గేయాలు, ఛందస్సు మొదలైనవి వేటికవే సాటి. తెలుగు భాషకు శ్రీ గిడుగు చేసిన కృషి ఎనలేనిది. ఆయన చరస్మరణీయుడు. ఎన్ని భాషలున్న మన మాతృభాష యొక్క గొప్పదనం గురించ చెప్పనవసరం లేదు.

మనం అందరం కూడా మన మాతృభాషను బ్రతికించుకుందుకు మనవంతు కృషి చేద్దాం.

శ్రీమతి చాయా దేవి C-72

WALT AIR CLUB
MANAGING COMMITTEE 2022-2023
PRESENTS

**PRIZES WORTH
Rs. 1 LAKH**

**SUPER
TAMBOLA**

**Snowball Prize
Rs. 20,000/-**

**Date : 15th October 2022
(Saturday)
Time : 7:30 pm**

**Venue :
Centenary Auditorium**

Capt.G.M.Peter - A Memory

03rd October 1932 - 25th October 2021.



Capt. Peter began his life in Visakhapatnam on the 15th of June 1968. Having sailed as a Captain for several years on Merchant Ships, he decided to take up a shore assignment as his children were reaching an age when they needed formal schooling. He arrived in Vizag with his wife Soma and the older two, of his three children. He made Vizag his home, embracing the culture and the people and investing his free time and energy in trying to enrich the city in whatever way possible. He was one of the founder members of the YMCA, the Kerala Kala Samithi, the Merchant Navy Officer's Association (MNOA) and other social organisations.

Capt. Peter became a member of the Waltair Club in 1969 and was involved closely with its functioning's, in many capacities. Having brought about several novel initiatives during his time, he always remained actively involved in the betterment of the club, its facilities and operations. For many a year he remained the voice of Tambola in the Club. He mooted the idea of starting the Senior Citizens Association in Waltair Club in 2014 with the support of past President, Late Mr. A.T. Rayudu, giving a platform for the experienced and seasoned veterans to come together and discuss issues and support each other, and the Club. This has also given the Seniors of the Club an opportunity to remain socially active and involved.

He loved the city of Visakhapatnam (and the Waltair Club) so much that despite most of his family being in Kerala, he asked that his mortal remains be laid to rest in Vizag.

The family of Waltair Club fondly remember Capt. Peter and wish his family well.

Waltair Gymkhana Club

It is said that the Waltair Club was established by the officers of the erstwhile East Coast Railway, East Coast Battalion and other Civilian Officers stationed at Vizagapatnam way back in 1883 in the Book Club. First mention of a club in Waltair is as early as 1856, when there was the Waltair Newspaper Club. In the 1870's and 1880's the Waltair Rifle Club was part of the East Coast Battalion facilities in Waltair. However, planning for the East Coast Railway only started in 1890. The Collector HG Turner first mentions the Waltair Club in resolving grievances of members against the British India Shipping Company in 1887. In 1898 the Waltair Gymkhana Club is reported to have offered a Polo Challenge Cup to be played for by the East Coast Clubs. On 30 June 1904, the Waltair Club was incorporated as a Company under 'The Indian Companies Act, 1882'.

The current club logo may well have its origins as the Waltair Gymkhana Club since the Sea Serpent or Leviathan like sea monster was that club's emblem. This is evident from a silver and blue enamel souvenir spoon offered for sale at a London antique dealer citing 'Hallmarks: The spoon is English sterling silver hallmarked for Birmingham 1911 (Anchor, Lion Passant, Date letter m). The maker's Mark 'L&S' refers to the silversmiths Levi & Salaman.'

The Waltair Gymkhana Club is an early variation of a gentleman's club associated with gymkhana, a British-colonial term for competitive sports, especially those on horseback such as polo. The grounds would be called a gymkhana and the expression was readily adapted by the army and is still in use for a social games-day among military personnel. A variation of such activities is the 'Pagal Gymkhana', which was a traditional family sports day or charity day in a club, with novelty events like tug-of-war, three-legged races and sack races.



Waltair Gymkhana Club Silver Spoon c 1911

Most cities had a club named a Gymkhana Club and to this day, the Calcutta, Bombay, Pune, Oudh, Wellington, and Madras Gymkhana Clubs are listed as affiliate clubs of the Waltair Club.

A similar lapel button for the Waltair Gymkhana Club has the logo of a 'Snipe' and is back-marked Barton Silver, measuring $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Barton & Co was a Bangalore silversmith. This emblem has its origins to the Waltair Gymkhana Golf Club and an anonymous letter written to the Editor of the Madras Mail in 1893 tells the sad tale of the Snipe.

On 17 February 1893 the Madras Mail reported that The Waltair Gymkhana Golf Club was started in 1892, that there were only 6 holes to play. It describes a yawning nullah on the first hole, and a dilapidated bungalow (William Masons House) on the sixth hole. Styles of play are said to be as numerous as the players. The Waltair Club, the article claims, has been puffed up by the idea that it possessed a unique story that one of its members has slain a snipe with a golf ball driven from the tee and has unblushingly adopted as its emblem a snipe rampant. A joker is said to suggest a motto Splendide mendax (Latin for 'untruthful for a good cause') should be added.



The Waltair Club may well have evolved from the Waltair Gymkhana Club and its emblem of the Leviathan like sea monster. And when the next Waltair Club Cup golf challenge was held at the East Point Golf Club, its members could well remember the fate of an unfortunate snipe and their original club emblem.

**Waltair Gymkhana Club
Silver Lapel Button c 1911**

Written by John Castellias whose family belonged to Vizag for 5 generations. Educated at St Aloysius, migrated to Melbourne, Australia in 1966, former General Manager Engineering at Boeing & Qantas Airways, in retirement Lecturers in Aviation Management at Swinburne University, is a Vizag aficionado and contributor to the Waltair Club Coffee Table Book and the Waltair Times.

GANESHOTSAV 2022

Vinayaka Chavithi or Ganesh Chaturthi was celebrated on August 31st this year, all over India. This Hindu festival celebrates Lord Ganesh as the God of New Beginnings and the Remover of Obstacles as well as the God of Wisdom and Intelligence.

Festivals build group cohesiveness and here at Waltair Club, Vinayaka Chavithi was celebrated with great fervour and devotion. With elegant and eco-friendly decorations, our Club wore a festive look and our members attended in large numbers to seek the divine blessings of Lord Ganesh.

C.Nirupama (M.No.C-063)





This Ganesh Chaturthi, celebrations in our Club has brought in a special aura of piousness & sanctity, by virtue of making Supper Gardens as the Sthaan for great Lord Ganesha and the raag, taal of Annamayya Keerthans by Vaishnavi & Varshini and Lalithasahasranama Chants by our Club ladies and others. Celebrations of 3 days were soulfully chanted and this filled the atmosphere with a spirit of gratitude to Lord Ganesha, for his blessings on all our club members and families. Two evenings of Annamayya Keerthans by the girls, supported by masters on Keyboard, Pads & Tabla, was a sheer extravaganza of spiritual melody & synchronicity, that had left the audience fabled and mythical.

Aarathi to the Lord offered by our club ladies on all the 3 days followed by Prashad vitaran was indeed a splendor to each one of us, making the occasion a spiritual grandeur !

Mr.V.Kamaraju (M.No.K-159)

Ganesh Chaturthi workshop:



Waltair Club Ladies Committee hosted a Ganesh Chaturthi workshop for the little members of Waltair Club on the 28th of August 2022. The workshop consisted of two parts - an idol making hour and a Ganesh bhajan learning session. The workshop was a runaway success and saw full capacity. The event was kicked off by Ladies committee chair - Ms. Sakshi Anumolu and also saw the presence of members of ladies committee and enthusiastic parents of the little ones.



The idol making session had the little ones digging their hands into clay under the guidance of clay modeling and visual arts expert - Mrs. Nancy . Mrs. Nancy walked the children through how to make a clay figure from scratch. She followed this up with guidance on how to paint and decorate the figure. The entire activity lasted about an hour.

The second session involved teaching the children a beautiful rendition of "Vinayaka Nee Murthike" by Mrs. Sindhu Vankayala, spouse of Mr. Raghu Vankayala (Membership No. R578).



She enthralled mothers and children alike with her melodious rendition and easy teaching of this very popular bhajana. The children picked it up in a jiffy and were more than happy to practice over and over till they got the intricacies of the melody and the words right.

Between the two sessions, children were treated to a quick round of snacks and juices to keep their energies up. The three hour afternoon saw the children leave the premises with idols in their hands and devotional songs in their mind.



Mrs.Sonal Sarda (M.No.N-266)



Avani Somani (D/o Shrawan and Reena Somani S-608) I am 12 yrs old and I will be telling you a bit about the classical dance form Bharatnatyam and my experience as a classical dancer. I started my training as a dancer at the age of 4.

Bharatnatyam is one of the oldest dance forms in India. Ever since I started dancing, my gurus have helped me in understanding the culture and tradition. Bharatnatyam is the state dance of Tamilnadu in Southern India. It consists of 6 portions Alarimppu , Jathiswaram ,Shabdam ,

Varnam , Padam and Tillana. As a trained classical dancer, I have learnt the art form step by step and I am still learning more at the Visakha Dance Academy.

Dancing has brought me closer to the cultures of India and the dance form. What interests me the most in classical dance is that there is always so much to discover. I really enjoy performing on stage and what I love most about performing is the practice time with the team and applying the gorintaku (mehndi). I remember my first performance , going on the stage, very nervous and coming off stage, enjoying myself.

And I still look forward to training rigorously , and performing In various auspicious places.



MY VISIT TO THE NAVAL DOCKYARD AND NAVAL AIRBASE

Neel Zubin Uppalapati

S/o Mr.Rana Uppalapati (M.No.R-498)



My interest for navy ships started developing when I learnt about the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya. I saw it during the International Fleet Review in 2016. Recently the Presidential Fleet Review and Milan developed my interest to an even higher level. Since then, I have always been fascinated by navy ships and submarines.

I finally got a chance to see the ships up-close when the Indian Navy offered a tour to the INS Shivalik, INS Sindhushastra and INS Dega. We first went to the INS Shivalik. It is a grand ship and is rated the best ship of 2021-2022. The INS Shivalik has a large control room where they fire missiles and control the speed. Its corridors are narrow. The stairs are like ladders. It's powered by a gas turbine. I got excited when I interacted with the captain and the officers

Our next stop was the Indian Navy submarine, INS Sindhushastra. To get into the submarine, we had to go into a hatch down a long ladder. The submarine has long corridors and a lot of pipes. The dining room had milkshakes, lemonade, and cookies, which all of us relished. The torpedoes are big. The sleeping cabin is 3 feet wide and 7 feet high. We saluted all the submariners we met. As we walked through the submarine, our respect for the submariners grew because it's not easy to work in such small spaces for a long time.

Our last stop was the Naval Airbase INS Dega. It has a lot of planes and helicopters, and it is a short distance away from Visakhapatnam International Airport. The planes are used for Search and Rescue operations. My favourite was the plane Dornier 288 which is used for paratroopers and search missions. The helicopters we saw were HAL Chetak, HAL Dhruv and Sea King. There is also a fighter jet called the Hawk. INS Dega is very spacious and open. We could see Indigo and Air India planes taking off and landing at the civilian airport.

This experience was very important to me and I learnt a lot from my trip. I got inspired even more to join the Armed Forces even though I understood that it's a lot of hard work and practice to be an officer.

Helpme, I think I am depressed!

Having been a Counselling Psychologist for more than thirty years, I have observed a rising trend in mental health disorders especially with the onset of COVID. My hope in writing this article is to help the reader recognize the various symptoms associated with mental health ailments and enable them to guide a person in distress in an effective manner, which would ideally culminate in seeking a mental health professional. Truth be told, many a life could have been saved if proactive intervention had been taken at the appropriate time.

While mental health ailments encompass a broad spectrum of conditions, in this article I will be honing in on a silent killer - Depression. I must clarify what Depression really is though. We often mix depression with a low feeling, demotivation or sometimes grief. Medically, depression is a mood disorder that causes a persistent feeling of sadness and loss of interest. It's a Psychological disorder and definitely needs to be addressed.

The word 'Persistent' is key here. When we experience grief due to the loss of a loved one or a relationship break, the emotion is usually temporary. Overtime we tend to associate with the good memories and move on. However, in depression the person affected experiences a crippling state of constant sadness.

So, what causes Depression? Could an event like death, divorce or the loss of employment trigger it? Research has found that when a person links traumatic events of their past and begin to believe a bleak future as a consequence, they slowly spiral into depression. They keep pondering over a feeling of impending doom and are unable to envision a brighter future. In fact, certain individuals are more predisposed to depression than others. I have listed out some of these below:

- 1) Personality traits: Individuals who have a low sense of self-esteem, have trouble with their gender identity or don't have a social circle for the fear of rejection, tend to be more prone to depression.
 - 2) Environment: Individuals who are in constant interaction with someone who is depressed tend to imbibe some of their characteristics. Furthermore, if they are exposed to violence, abuse or are under a yoke of oppression in any form, they are more pre-disposed to depression.
 - 3) Bio chemical reactions: Changes in hormones due to medication, physiological events (pregnancy, puberty, etc) may contribute to depression. Sometime deficiency of certain important nutrients like Vit D can also contribute to it.
- But there is hope. Nearly 70% of the people with depression can easily come out of it by seeking Professional help.

Broadly, mental health practitioners are of two categories:

- a) Psychiatrists, who treat depression through medication i.e., antidepressants, etc.
- b) Psychologists or therapists, who use techniques like Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Dialectical Behavioral

therapy (DBT), etc to help a person overcome their depression.

Now, if you're wondering what really happens in therapy, please continue to read on.

When you contact a therapist (in person or online), a consultation session is usually booked where (in total confidentiality) your problem & situation is discussed. Your therapist will have you express your problem as well your perceptions on it while quizzing you about your sleep patterns, mood swings, appetite, thought patterns, etc. By the end of the consultation session, should you find that you are comfortable with your therapist, your therapist will schedule further therapy sessions based on their assessment of the problem.

While seeking professional help is the ideal approach to tackle depression, here are some steps you could proactively take to help combat it:

- Get some exercise as it releases endorphins that elevate your mood.
- Abstain from alcohol, cigarettes or any substance use.
- Eat healthy and take care of your physical appearance as it boosts confidence and feeds positive thoughts to your subconscious.

If, however, you are a parent and are worried that your child could possibly be suffering from depression, here are some symptoms to identify it:

1. Your child had a lot of friends but now doesn't want to talk to them.
2. He was once active in sports but now no longer wishes to play.
3. He/ She is home almost all the time, addicted to the phone / computer.
4. He was very focused, but now very lost and unable to concentrate on anything.
5. School grades have suddenly come down.
6. Your child who was resilient in the past now tends to break down and cry frequently.
7. Lastly, if he mentions casually about "suicide", this is a red flag. Never ignore it!

While these scenarios do not confirm depression, they are indicative signs and I encourage you not to dismiss it. Instead, listen to the person who is suffering without bias and point them in the direction of a mental health practitioner.

To summarize, Good Mental Health is not a destination, but a process. Nobody can save you but yourself. And YOU are worth saving! It's a war not easily won, but if anything is worth winning, then this is it !

D. Leonora Mohan, PhD., Counseling Psychologist.
(M.No.R-506)

(SPARSH Counselling Centre)



Over the Oceans



I was born and brought up in Vizag, A pakka local. All my schooling there, graduation at St. Joseph's College and Master's at Andhra University (same alma mater as both my parents!). However, it was not until I was in my college that I could enjoy this elusive and secretive club-gang. Like many from our generation, what we will remember club for is the New Year's Eve, the firecrackers, the people, the endless-gossip and the awesome food. But what I will remember the club more for is the sweet after-taste. My wedding in the Jubilee grounds was magical. Fast forward to my becoming a member myself - a privilege we member-kids had back then! We moved to Florida, USA. And when I went back to spend a few months for my second delivery in Vizag, my older son attended preschool there. He 'loved' the club. He spent all his evenings there. He learnt how to swim at the club pool when he was all but 3 years old. We could stay in India for a few years and could visit Vizag every 3 months. Later we moved to California, USA where I settled down with my husband and two sons. After my post graduation in Clinical Psychology, I enrolled in research of Early Childhood Education and now work with training teachers.

My elder son, who took his first swimming lessons at Waltair Club is now in the High School Water polo team at Cupertino High School, California. All the moms ask me how he can swim with such ease, and I get to be the proud mom who gets to boast about his first classes. When I ask my younger son what his wildest wish is, he says he wants a lazy evening in the club lawns sipping fresh-lime and munching on some boiled peanuts after a grueling day at school.

Like I said before, it is the aftertaste of Waltair Club that I feel so warm about. When I lived there, I did not know how it affected and shaped me. Now when I am at foreign shores, I realize that it was Waltair Club that built a sense of community for me. People from various professions and cultures, all mingled and indulged every week in healthy banter, watched movies together, celebrated festivals together and enjoyed the fellowship. Now when I am a mom of two teenage boys, I realize how important it is to have a community of people we know and feel safe community with also a mention to all the affiliated clubs which makes travel in India for us very convenient. It's kind of sad that my sons cannot become members of the Club as an entitlement. But I am sure they will pursue the membership in their own might.

PS: Club still has the BEST fresh-lime soda in the whole wide world.

P.Chaitanya Pallavi (M.No.C-103)

Waltair Club is the place where I have some of my most wonderful childhood memories. I remember joining swimming classes every summer and once I was able to master swimming, I used to go every day. Diving directly into the deep made me feel like I have wings and I could fly, floating up to the surface of the water. I remember waiting to go the club to swim to experience the same feeling every day.

Fridays were extra special days. I get to eat my favourite Chana Bhatara while watching an almost new movie.

Celebrating festivals like Diwali and Christmas were also somethings I longed for in Waltair Club as a child. I remember getting gifts from Santa and dancing in Christmas parties. Getting crackers and watching the most spectacular fireworks display for Diwali eve, every year had become a tradition.

Now I have a two year old and can't wait for him to experience the same magic.



K. Madhavi Sruthi, M-285

VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY.

Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) have exciting potential in the future of gaming, marketing, e-commerce, education, and many other fields. Both technologies are known for their enriched experience that brings together a virtual world and the real one with enhanced, 3-D visuals. Although it can be easy to mix up the two, there are some significant differences.



What Is VR?

Virtual Reality (VR) is the use of computer technology to create a simulated environment. Virtual reality places the user inside a three-dimensional experience.

Instead of viewing a screen in front of them, users are immersed in and interact with 3D worlds.

Simulation of human senses—all five of them—transforms a computer into a vehicle into new worlds.

These immersive simulations can create almost any visual or place imaginable for the player using special equipment such as headsets, hand trackers, treadmills and 3D cameras - for creators.

What is AR ?

Augmented Reality is the technology that allows superimposing a 3D digital image onto a physical environment. Almost any person with a smartphone can get access to augmented reality, making it more efficient than VR as a branding and gaming tool. AR morphs the mundane, physical world into a colorful visual one by projecting virtual pictures and characters through a phone's camera or video viewer.

One good example would be the Flipkart app. The prospect downloads it, scans their space, chooses the furniture/electronics/item in the app, "places" it in the room, and then moves it around to see how it fits.

Where can I use AR?

- on your website— to give users a richer experience of your products. In that case, AR helps relieve prospects from doubts and spurs them to buy.
- in advertising. You can include an AR element in your online, print, or magazine ad. The readers will then be able to scan the item with their phone, study the product page and click "Buy"

How is AR helpful for my business?

Using AR technology, you can:

- increase product engagement
- give buyers more information and confidence
- convert more prospects into buyers
- decrease the return rate by up to 50%.

What's the difference Between the AR and VR ?

The distinctions between VR and AR come down to the devices they require and the experience itself:

- AR uses a real-world setting while VR is completely virtual
- AR users can control their presence in the real world; VR users are controlled by the system
- VR requires a headset device, but AR can be accessed with a smartphone
- AR enhances both the virtual and real world while VR only enhances a fictional reality

Rachita Gupta - G149
Co-Founder, Goldmax Studios

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