TRICIA TIMES

Autumn Edition 2018 Volume 1| Issue 3| October 2018 Engage.....Educate.....Enlighten



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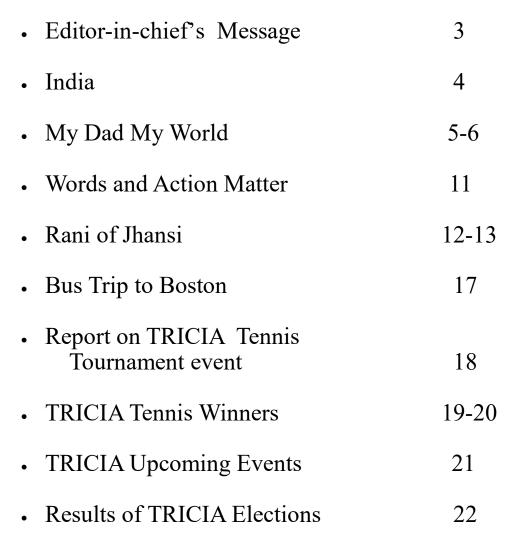


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Editor-in-chief's Message

Dear TRICIA Community,

It's already time for *Tricia Times* to present its third edition with interesting articles and seasonal photographs. TRICIA has been busy organizing varied activities during the last few months. Our community was involved in tennis tournaments where individuals of all ages could participate. For the very first time, TRICIA organized a ladies-only bus tour from Albany to Boston, and the fun this group had is evident in the article shared in this edition. Also, for the first time, Tricia conducted two College Essay seminars (presented by Jane



Editor-in-chief Annu Subramanian

Chen and Annu Subramanian), and these seminars were well attended, followed by one-on-one consultations. Following years of tradition, the annual picnic drew hundreds of enthusiastic members. With lively music, delicious food, and several activities for children and adults, the picnic was a fabulous success.

This edition focuses on the courage of Jhansi Rani, a fun-filled trip to Boston, a touching reflection from a daughter about her father, a thought-provoking essay on Words and Actions, an interesting report on TRICIA's tennis tournaments, and a humbling essay on volunteerism.

Albany is currently enjoying the amber and golden leaves and cooler days of autumn, along with festivals of Navratri while eagerly getting ready for Diwali (Deepavali). Hope the festive season brings you plentiful peace and joy.

Best wishes, Annu Subramanian Editor-in-Chief



INDIA

By: Mihir Randive My Experience Volunteering In India

Sight is something most of us take for granted. But this summer, I got to see first-hand what our sight, our ability to walk, and to hear really do for us. How much we truly take it for granted everyday! The Blind People Association of Vastrapur, Ahmedabad, in India, is an organization that believes in providing equal opportunities to all categories of people with disabilities— a simple but a hard-to-achieve goal. The Blind People's Association is built on the values of not only helping people with disabilities but also allowing them to learn and flourish in the real world, along with other people from around the world.

I started my work at the organization on July 2, 2018. From my first day volunteering at the IT department, teaching kids to learn about computers, I remember only kindness and acceptance. In that school, I was the different one. But none of the kids treated me that way. They talked to me like one of their friends, and the initial feelings of nervousness from when I first entered the school, slowly turned to excitement and happiness. I continued to volunteer at the school for the next 3 weeks.

During my time there, I was taught sign language, as well as bits of braille, which allowed me to communicate with some of the children who were mute and deaf. During my lunch hours, I would sit with some of them and talk to them, learn what they wanted to do, what they wanted to be, where they wanted to visit. Many of them told me about their desires to get a computer-related job in the U. S. and start a new life there. Chanakya, one of the children with a walking disability, whose English-speaking ability far exceeded the others, explained to me that these computers were their way for a fresh start in a country they could only dream about.

When I went to India on July 1st, I was prepared to do something that my family was asking me to do, something I felt obligated to do. But when I went to The Blind People Association of Vastrapur and spent time with kids my age, kids who just wanted to be like me, be friends with me, my whole perspective changed. When it was time for me to leave, a mere twenty days later, I didn't feel as if I had just done some mandatory volunteer work. During my time in India, I had made connections, made friends, learned about how other people lived, and more. It's amazing how even the blind can be so eye-opening.

To learn more about this non-profit organization and to donate, use this link: http://bpaindia.org/





"Only a life lived for others is worth living."

- Albert Einstein



My Dad My World

By: Swetha Patil

We are usually vocal about sacrifices made by our mothers, but we hardly appreciate the effort and risks our fathers take for our upbringing.

Below are the thoughts that I penned down in an emotional letter to my dad on his retirement.

My Dad, My World!

Dad, you are our Rockstar. I am proud to say that Mom is our foundation and Dad, you are our inspiration. You inspire us daily with the amount of energy and confidence you carry.

The following saying is so apt: "Every girl may not be a queen to her husband but she is always Daddy's Princess."

Dad, you are more like a friend than a parent to us; you always made sure that



we felt comfortable enough to share anything and everything with you. You provided us that comfort zone. And we were lucky enough to get everything that we demanded from you. You never said 'NO' and though there were financial issues in the past, you made sure to fulfill all our wishes.

Dad, your career can be related to a rollercoaster ride. You have come a long way, starting from an Assistant Agriculture Officer to Registrar of a prestigious Agriculture University in Bangalore. You are a self-made man and we are very proud of it.

I remember how you struggled to achieve important milestones in your career. You are ambitious, courageous, and strong enough to face any difficult situation in life.

I always wonder how you make things easy even in difficult situations and always carry a smile on your face. Your level of confidence helps us face any issues in life with ease.

We are happy to know that so many people look up to you for advice and guidance in their career; they trust you and believe in you.

Dad, you had a difficult choice to make: to pursue Ph.D. in Russia for four years leaving family behind when we were so young. But you were determined to achieve in

order to progress further in your career. You made that difficult choice and also gave us an opportunity to visit Russia for 6 months. Those days spent in Russia were the most wonderful time of our lives.

We had to relocate from one place to another as both you and mom were working, but you made sure those transfers did not impact our studies. You made sure we got the best education as you always believed that knowledge is power. Money can come and go, but knowledge stays forever and is a great asset one can have. This is a very important lesson you taught us, Dad. And we are very grateful for that.

Your urge to learn something new every day motivates us to be better.

There was a situation when Mom had to visit Denmark in the year 1993 on an official tour for 6 months, and you made sure that not even one day we missed Mom. You took us out every day which resulted in poor academic performances. Teachers did notice it, but we had a great time with you.

I can't forget that day when you were selected as a professor at Raichur University. That move from the State Department to the Agriculture University was a big milestone for all of us; those were the crucial years for you to get into the Agriculture University. You were able to achieve that with all the service and experience you had gained while working in the State Govt.

Joining the Agriculture University helped you to explore in almost all the fields, and you were able to easily connect with the students and farmers. Your urge to come up with new schemes, new agendas, and new ideas for the betterment of students and for farmers' welfare is commendable. Not only have you maintained a friendly relationship with all the staff you worked with. You also guided so many of them who were unsure while seeking employment.

For you, 'Work is Worship.' Your dedication to work is unbelievable. I know that energy comes from the food prepared by Mom.

You got an opportunity to work in Raichur, Gulbarga, and Bijapur Universities. During this period, you explored yourself in all the respective fields and one fine day, you were given an opportunity to take up the Registrar position for a newly established Horticulture university in Bagalkot. That was again a difficult choice to make as that required resigning from your position at the Agriculture University at Bijapur and join Bagalkot Horticulture University. You got this opportunity because of

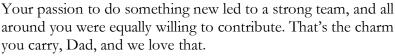


your enthusiasm; also, your talent was recognized, and they knew you could manage the magnitude of responsibility quite early in your career. You always believed that an opportunity knocks on the door once and the moment it happens, we need to grab it. Though there were risks involved, you were confident that you would be able to handle it with ease.

We have closely watched the amount of work you did to help the Horticulture University get recognition in a short span of time, and you laid out a very strong foundation. You established the university to be on par with the infrastructure f the IT companies. You made sure that the University got all the high-tech technologies to



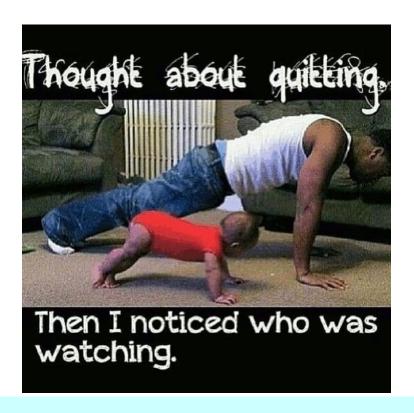
be implemented. I am sure the staff members working under you were equally motivated to see the vast growth in the University under your guidance.



Moving to Bangalore as Registrar of the GKVK Agriculture University was a dream come true for all of us. Yet again, your charm won many people. You lived through it so gracefully. The way people love you is the greatest achievement for us. Dad, I admire your dedication, your passion, and your positive attitude to never give up in life. Dad, we are planning to have a library to display all your achievements and the awards you have received.

To be frank, I don't feel like you are retiring today. I am sure you are going to start something new and very exciting soon.

And last but not least, Dad, you need to spend time with your family before you start any new adventure.

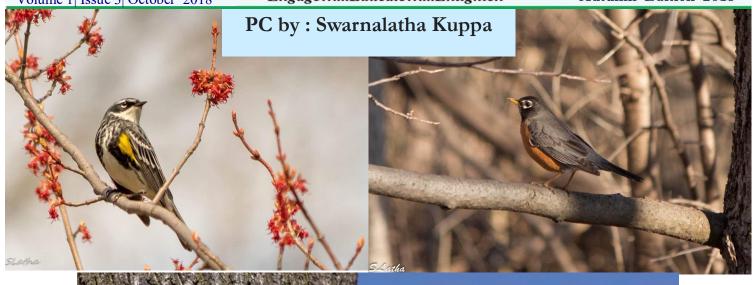








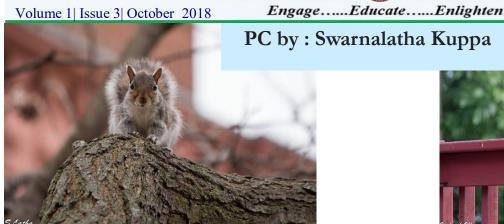








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He Comes

He Creeps



He Finds



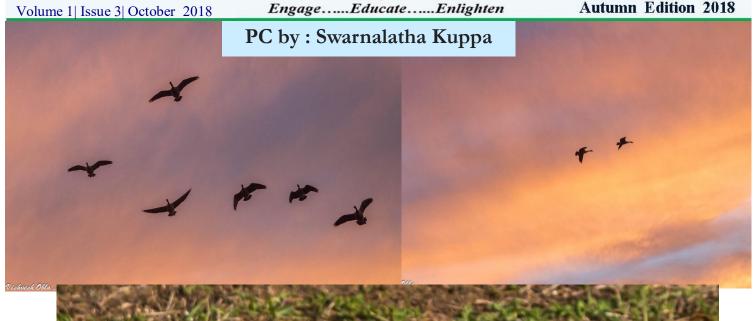
He Falls Asleep





"If you like affection, then about one in three squirrels makes an excellent companion." - Bernhard Goetz

Autumn Edition 2018







Words and Actions Matter

By: Tanisha Muralimanohar 12yrs

I would like to begin by asking you a question. In your opinion, what is the greatest achievement of mankind? Well, I think that our greatest achievement is being able to communicate. The words that we choose while we are communicating represent our personality. So words matter.

According to Student's Dictionary, a word means speech, sound, or symbol used to communicate. Personally, I feel that words are ordinary, but at the same time important and extraordinary parts of speech. I say words are ordinary because they are like the oxygen that keeps our communication alive.

Some of you might be wondering why I called them extraordinary. Well, that is because they have the power that none of our weapons have. The worst a wound that is caused by a weapon can do to you is leave a scar. But the wounds caused by words always stay with you and destroy till the end.

To hurt means to cause pain or injury. There are many ways of hurting a person. The most common way a person can get hurt is by being bullied. The three most common ways of bullying are verbal, physical, and cyberbullying.

When you verbally bully a person, you talk to them in a rude and impolite manner. An example of cyberbullying a person is posting something rude about them on the internet. Physical bullying is physically hurting someone. Since I am a martial art student, I believe that I am one of the chosen ones whose responsibility is to maintain peace and coordination, instead of getting involved in physical bullying and destructions around us.

Let's not bully, or hurt someone. Let's do just the opposite of that; let's heal them. To heal means to cure. Just like the three main types of bullying, there are three main types of healing: verbal, physical, and cyber.

An example of verbally healing a person is politely speaking to them and comforting them. When you

physically heal a person, you bring gifts or help them, even though it is not their birthday or any special occasion. An example of healing someone on the internet is posting meaningful quotes that might make someone feel better.

Remember my opinion about communication as one of our greatest achievements? Well, let's not make one of our greatest achievements a disaster.

Since we are talking about healing a person, I would like to talk about healing a very special person, Mother Earth. Let's keep our environment clean and heal our beloved planet.

THANK YOU!!







Rani Of Jhansi

By: -- Sudhir S. Kulkarni

During the British Raj (1812 AD to 1947 AD), there were many places in India where brave Indians tried to overthrow foreign rule. The Mutiny of 1857 was the first organized armed revolt, concentrated in North India. It took almost 100 years of struggle by brave men and women throughout India that culminated in independence from British rule. In that struggle, one woman stands out and is revered to this day across all of India. Her name is Laxmibai-Rani of Jhansi. Let us take some time to remember her amazing life and contribution to our India's birth as a nation.

Her family's history began in 1812 when the British defeated the Marathas and sent its Peshva (Prime Minister) Bajirao II to exile in Bramhavart (near Varanasi). A few Maharashtrian Brahmin families accompanied the exiled Peshva, including Moropant Tambe. A girl was born to the Tambe family on November 19, 1828. Her birth name was Mankarnika, but her family affectionately called her Manu. At the tender age of four, she lost her mother. Her father raised her in an unconventional way and gave her formal training in martial arts which included horse riding, shooting, and fencing. She grew up with Nanasaheb (son of Bajirao II) and Tatya Tope, who later became famous leaders in the first independence revolt of 1857 against the British.

In the year 1842, Manu married Raja Gangadharrao Newalkar of Jhansi and after the marriage, her husband changed her name to Laxmibai according to Marathi custom. She gave birth to a boy in 1851. Unfortunately the baby didn't survive more than four months. The raja fell sick in 1853, so the couple decided to adopt a boy,



Damodar, as a male heir to the throne. That child was a son of Gangadharrao's cousin and the adoption ceremony was witnessed by a British Political



Officer. On the next day, November 21, 1853, the raja died. Lord Dalhousie, Governor General of India, refused to accept Damodar as the legal heir. He decided to annex Jhansi State to the British Raj. When that declaration was read to Laxmibai, she uttered the famous words, "Main meri Jhansi Nahi Doongi!" (I shall not surrender my Jhansi!).

After consulting a British lawyer, Laxmibai filed an appeal for hearing her case in London, but her plea was denied. She was granted a pension of Rs. 60,000 per year and was ordered to leave the Jhansi fort. She started to spend her days in religious activities as well as giving alms to the poor from the city palace. But she was firm on her decision of not giving up the State of Jhansi to the British.

On May 10, 1857, the Indian war of Independence started in Meerut, near Delhi. The flame of independence from British Raj was spreading mostly in North India. Hearing this, she asked permission from British officials to raise a body of armed men, augmented with some women, for her protection. In June 1857, rebels of the 12th Bengal infantry attacked Jhansi fort. They persuaded the British to lay their arms, and in return, they asked for the treasure and armaments. Infantry rebels did not keep their promise and massacred 50 British officers, along with their wives and children. Rani's involvement in this massacre is still a topic of debate in Indian circles. From August 1857 to January 1858, Rani took control of the fort and there was peace in her state. During this period, upon listening to her advisors, she considered declaring independence from British Rule. She set up a foundry to cast canon to be used on the ramparts of the fort and expanded her protection force to 1,400 strong. A British officer, Sir Hugh Rose, besieged Jhansi fort on March 23, 1858. Rani and her army defended the fort for about two weeks. In the meantime, she sent a message to her childhood friend Tatya Tope to come to her help with his 20,000 men. However, he was not successful in penetrating the British forces. When the British army entered the fort, Rani Laxmibai,

"She is a wonderful woman, very brave and determined. It is fortunate for us that the men are not all like her."



Rani Of Jhansi

By: -- Sudhir S. Kulkarni

disguised as a man and with her son on her back, jumped on a horse and escaped. She and her son survived but the horse died in that jump. Rani joined other rebel leaders, including Tatya Tope, in the city of Gwalior. A British squadron of 8th Hussars, led by Captain Heneage, attacked the Indian rebel force commanded by Rani Laxmibai at the Phool Baag area of the city. In this engagement, on June 17, 1858, Rani martyred her life for India's Independence. Her Samadhi (Memorial) is in Phool Baag of Gwalior.

Statues of Laxmibai are seen in many cities in India. Various Indian institutions for physical education, medical colleges, agricultural universities, and marine parks are named after her. During World War II, Subhash Chandra Bose named a women's unit of his Indian National Army as Rani of Jhansi Regiment. Her life story is depicted in various Hollywood and Bollywood movies as well as in television serials. Noted among them is the first Technicolor movie made in India, "Jhansi Ki Rani," produced by Sohrab Modi in 1953.

In the year 1878, Colonel Malleson wrote in the *History of the Indian Mutiny*, "Whatever her faults in British eyes may have been, her countrymen will remember forever that she was driven by ill-treatment into rebellion, and that she lived and died for her country. We cannot forget her contribution to India!"

Paintings by: Abha-7th Grade



Art Work From Our Talented Kids



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Art Work From Our Talented Kids



Art Work From Our Talented Kids



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Bus trip to Boston

By: Deepa Pradeep

An Incredible Travel Experience -from Albany to Boston



It was the last Saturday of September 2018, early morning sunshine, and our journey began. An amazing travel by bus experience with an extremely enthusiastic bunch of like-minded ladies from Albany.

A four-hour road trip filled with quintessential games like Antakshari, music, having fun teasing friends and interesting gossips while playing with our trip mates. Halfway through the trip, our hungry tummies were making the rumbles. To add extra excitement, delicious Idli, Upma and Chutney were ready. We took a break to satisfy our hunger. We were thrilled by incredible photo shoots throughout the day.

We reached Boston, the largest and oldest city, early in

The weather was the ultimate; beautiful, sunny, but a bit windy, but overall a splendid day. Brilliant views invited us and we loved them at first site.



Then came a cruise and whale watch - an amazing 90-minute incredible cruise of the harbor area. Seated on the port side, we relaxed while seeing the sights, catching excellent commentary



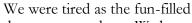
of local historical knowledge, along with humor and public interaction from our passionate guide/staff. Watching Humpback whales and dolphin was humbling. Seeing



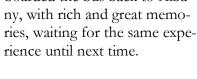
these magnificent creatures in their own habitat impressed us.

Our next stop was Quincy Market, a shopping paradise. Wow, it was a treat visiting this market

along with my companions. Glorious is a word to describe this pleasure. The varied culinary delights in a great bustling area of Boston, street artists entertaining, and historical facts of the market were great and definitely worth a visit.



day came to a close. We boarded the bus back to Alba-



We heartily thank TRICIA team

(coordinators & organizers) for



organizing a joyful trip and appreciate those individuals who worked behind the scenes.



Report on TRICIA Open Tennis Tournament 2018

By: Praveen Karanjkar

The fifth edition of 'TRICIA Open Tennis Tournament' was held on Sunday, September 09, 2018 at Tennis Courts at Central Park, Schenectady, NY.

TRICIA was traditionally and historically conducting cultural and social events. The idea of extending TRICIA's services to Sports domain was conceived in 2014, proposed by Benki, and the result was the first ever TRICIA Tennis Tournament in 2014. The Ping-Pong (Table-Tennis) Tournament was later added to TRICIA in 2016 as requested by Haresh Bhatia.

The first TRICIA Tennis tournament in 2014 was held at Jeff Blatnick Park & Niskayuna High School. The dedicated volunteers had to dry out the wet courts caused by heavy rain on the previous night. The second TRICIA Tennis tournament in 2015 was held at Central Park, Schenectady. The third (2016) and the fourth (2017) were held at private clay courts at Colonie Golf & Country Club, Voorheesville, due to renovation work at Central Park. In 2016, we had to move matches of the second day to indoor tennis courts of YMCA, Wilton Branch, Saratoga Springs, due to heavy rain.

This year we were lucky to get back to Central Park, Schenectady, due to nice weather, which has the highest number (16) of Tennis courts in all public parks of NY state. US Tennis Association (USTA)) and the City of Schenectady have invested lots of money to resurface and renovate these tennis courts at Central Park, Schenectady.

TRICIA Open Tennis Tournament 2018 was a grand success with the participation of more than 120 registrations in U10 Boys, U10 Girls, U12 Boys, U12 Girls, U16 Boys, U16 Girls, Men, Women, and Men 40+.

This tournament would not have been possible without the help of our Coordinators, namely Basavaraj Benki, Ashok Adikoppula, Elangovan Raman, Naga Kalapala, Amritesh Singh, Ravindra Vuppala, Ashotosh Yaligar, Dr. Krishna Hongalgi, Raj Tatavarthy, Dharani Murandi, and Alim Sayed.

Congratulations to all champions and runner-ups and thanks to all parents and participants for their help



"Tennis uses the language of life. Advantage, service, fault, break, love, the basic elements of tennis are those of everyday existence, because every match is a life in miniature." - Andre Agassi



TRICIA Tennis 2018





TRICIA Tennis 2018





TRICIA upcoming events



TRICIA Election Results

Dear Respected Members of TRICIA,

We held elections at HCC on November 3rd and 4th, 2018. We have now concluded TRICIA 2018 Elections for all positions and hereby officially announce the following results.

We thank all the current BOD and EC members, the Candidates as well as the members of the community for their support during this diligent and important process.

Sincerely,

Vijayan Aroumougame, Mukti Sarma, and Madan Bindana NEC, TRICIA Elections 2018

Board of Directors (2019-2021)

Haresh Bhatia

Ram Lalukota

Guryam Singh

Peter Thomas

Executive Committee (2019)

Ashok Adikoppula - President

Smita Jain - Vice President

Elangovan Raman - Secretary

Sudha Datla - Treasurer

Kalpesh Kathiriya

Venu Morishetty

Purti Patel

Moideen Puthenchira

Ved Shravah

Ravindra Vuppala

Engage Educate Enlighten

Precepts of Magazine

What are the proposed release dates of this magazine?

The TRICIA Magazine will be released on the last Sunday of every quarter. The dates for this year 2018 are April 15, Jun 24, Sep 30 and Dec 30.

What's the language for this magazine?

As of now, we are starting with only English language.

What are the deadlines to submit the contents for this magazine?

The deadline for submitting the content is 15th of last month of every quarter. They are March 15, Jun 15, Sept 15 and Dec 15. Your article should be max 2 pages or 1000 words.

Do you publish Ads of businesses? What are the prices for Ads?

Yes. You can promote your local business through our magazine.

Please send your articles/short stories/poems/paintings/pictures/cartoons etc., to magazine@triciany.org, Visit https://triciany.org/magazine/





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