



# ROULETTE OF LIFE

Take your chances





# CONTENTS

*Term Newsletter*



## INTRO

- Editor's Desk
- President's Desk
- Toastmasters International
- Daffodils Toastmasters Club
- 36th Executive Committee
- DCP Status
- Leadership Desk

## ARTICLES

- Members Articles
- Mentor Mentee Corner
- Straight From The Heart - Poem
- FAQ About Toastmasters
- Humor Musings
- Getting Personal With CK
- Educational Sessions - Takeaways

## SPECIAL MOMENTS

- Special Meetings
- Club Achievements
- Initiatives
- Landmark Moments



## MORE ABOUT DAFFODILS

- Intra Club Achievements
- Contest Winners
- Daffodilians Sharing Knowledge
- Incoming Committee
- New Members

## CREATIVITY CORNER

- Mandala Art
- Digital Art
- Whatzit
- Comic Strip

## GALLERY

- Gallery And Celebrations
- Thank you

# EDITORS DESK



Life is full of chances. Some we choose to take and some we choose not to.

I am someone who finds it challenging to make a choice. I contemplate on it, weigh the options, do a comparative analysis, only to check what choice yields the best result for me. You may have been in a similar situation too. Deep inside, we know the best choice for us, but we hold ourselves back. More often than not, it's not the choices,

**TM Amrutha Chandroth** but the outcomes that we fret and worry.

There are times when life doesn't give you any choices. No straight answers either. It's in such situations, I have realized, life leaves no room for us to choose, but forces us to take a chance and create a choice for ourselves.

In a roulette game, the maximum one can get on a pair of dice is the number 12, but to land those numbers you still need to throw the dice! That thought sparked the idea for this terms Newsletter – Roulette of Life – Take your chances.

Life keeps going around, like the roulette wheel. You can place your bet and step into the game, or you can choose not to be a part of it. It's your choice!

As the Vice President - Public Relations of Daffodils Toastmasters Club, my team and I have ensured you have a delightful and pleasant read. This is your chance to fill your lives with articles, stories and insights of educational value!

## EDITORIAL TEAM



For a wheel to keep moving, it is essential that it is moved in the first place. And for the wheel to move, we must take action in the form of chances.

Winning and losing are like the top and bottom of the wheel. So, forget about winning and losing, focus on taking chances and learning from those chances to keep you going forward. The wheel of your life will move forward automatically!

### *TM Vaibhav Chintakunta*

As children, we are adventurous and dare to do the impossible. As we grow up, there are voices that constantly putting down our dreams. This dampens our adventure soul, making us stay in our comfort zone.

If you ever want to see your potential, you must bring back the adventure spirit in you, by playing the game of life and taking chances. Maybe it won't work out. But seeing if it unravels will be the best adventure ever.



### *TM Jagadeeshwaran R*



# PRESIDENTS DESK



**TM Umanath KT**

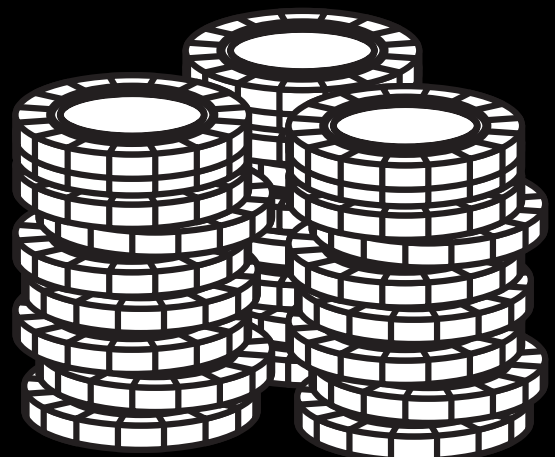
Dear friends, our curiosity was bigger than our fears when we were kids. As we grew up, we also learnt about the risks of life. We started to choose security over happiness.

Our concept of normality crushed every time we saw someone taking a risk. A world of possibilities repeatedly opened up our minds. The power of the unknown always amazed us. But why should we be normal when we can be extraordinary? Our choices are our treasures. Every time we have a choice in front of us, we are looking at that treasure which can take us closer to our dreams.

As a committee, our journey this term was a result of such a choice. We didn't want to be on a secure ordinary path, we embarked on our own extraordinary path. To delight our members with the beauty of the unknown. We did our best to make every week the best week. Many of our team's achievements required going outside of our comfort zones. No matter the outcome, either way, we grew through the process and became more resilient and confident. Better yet, building those skills helped us in setting new horizons.

Dear members, I am extremely happy and proud to present the newsletter of our term -Roulette of Life.

Go ahead and take your chances!!!



# TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL



## *WHERE LEADERS ARE MADE*

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of clubs. Headquartered in Englewood, Colo. The organization's membership exceeds 3,64,000 in more than 16,200 clubs in 145 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators, and leaders.

### **Toastmasters International Mission:**

We empower individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders.

### **Toastmasters International Core Values:**

Integrity  
Respect  
Service  
Excellence

Whether you are new to the world of public speaking or are a seasoned speaker, Toastmasters help you hone your skills. With time and practice, you're sure to see improvement in your ability to communicate and an increase in your confidence!

# DAFFODILS TOASTMASTERS CLUB



Club Number: 1766 | Area C4, District 92

Daffodils was conceptualised by its charter members who were a financial consultant, a laparoscopic surgeon, an orthodontist, entrepreneurs in the software services, chemical and forestry sectors, an HR professional and a banker!

The club secured its charter i.e. its official recognition from Toastmasters International on 12th June, 2003 and has gone from strength to strength since then!

Daffodils has the right mix of youngsters and seasoned members, making it the ideal place for learning coupled with fun. Brimming with energy and camaraderie, Daffodils is one of the oldest clubs in District 92. We take pride in ourselves because we are “More than a Club!”

*The Club’s Mission: Creating a warm, receptive environment where one can acquire the poise and confidence to address an audience. To help each other bloom and become better people.*

*Our biggest testimony comes from the Executive Director of Toastmasters International, DTM Daniel Rex who termed Daffodils, “The Best Club In the World”.*

## Location

No 9, Fourth Floor, Dr. K.P Nayak's Residence, 1st Cross,  
Sampige Road, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560003

Meeting Time: Saturday, 6 PM - 8 PM



@daffodilstmc



daffodilstoastmastersclub@gmail.com



/daffodilstoastmasters/



daffodilstoastmasters.com



#SettingNewHorizons

# Committee July-December 2020

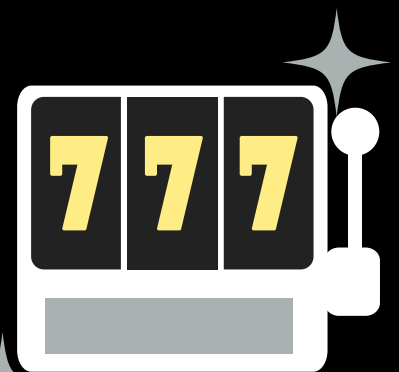


IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT    SERGEANT AT ARMS    VP PUBLIC RELATIONS    VP EDUCATION    PRESIDENT    VP MEMBERSHIP    SECRETARY    TREASURER  
 Shriyanka    Shrinivas    Amrutha    Aashish    Umanath    Mahesh    Sahana    Abhishek

The 36th Executive Committee, a bunch of excited and energetic souls took charge of Daffodils Toastmasters Club on 4th July 2020. The Installation Officer was our club member, TM Shwetha Mahesh, currently serving as Area A4 Director.

The Installation Ceremony was attended by dignitaries from the District, guests and fellow Daffodilians. For the first time ever, the Installation Ceremony of our club was virtual!

President - TM Umanath KT  
 VP Education - TM Aashish Mukund  
 VP Membership - TM Mahesh Rao  
 VP Public Relations - TM Amrutha Chandroth  
 Secretary - TM Sahana Shenoy  
 Treasurer - TM Abhishek Rai  
 Sergeant At Arms - Shrinivas Dotihal  
 Immediate Past President - TM Shriyanka Rao







# DCP STATUS



The Distinguished Club Program (DCP) includes 10 goals that a club should strive to achieve each year, using the Club Success Plan as a guide.

00001766 Daffodils Toastmasters Club		
<b>Club Alignment</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Goals</b>
Region <b>13</b>	Base <b>66</b>	Goals Met <b>5</b>
District <b>92</b>	To Date <b>60</b>	Distinguished <b>5</b>
Division <b>C</b>	Required <b>20</b>	Select Distinguished <b>7</b>
Area <b>04</b>	20 members or a net growth of 5 new members	President's Distinguished <b>9</b>
<b>Chartered 6/12/2003</b>		

Goals to Achieve		Goal	To Date	Status
<b>Education</b>				
1	Level 1 awards <i>All Pathways education awards must be submitted in both Base Camp and Club Central.</i>	4	5	✓
2	Level 2 awards <i>All Pathways education awards must be submitted in both Base Camp and Club Central.</i>	2	2	✓
3	More Level 2 awards <i>All Pathways education awards must be submitted in both Base Camp and Club Central.</i>	2	0	2 Level 2s needed
4	Level 3 awards <i>All Pathways education awards must be submitted in both Base Camp and Club Central.</i>	2	0	2 Level 3s needed
5	Level 4, Level 5, or DTM award <i>All Pathways education awards must be submitted in both Base Camp and Club Central.</i>	1	0	1 Level 4, Level 5, or DTM needed
6	One more Level 4, Level 5, or DTM award <i>All Pathways education awards must be submitted in both Base Camp and Club Central.</i>	1	0	1 more Level 4, Level 5, or DTM needed
<b>Membership</b>				
7	New members	4	4	✓
8	More new members	4	10	✓
<b>Training</b>				
9	Club officers trained June-August	4	7	First Training Period Achieved
	Club officers trained November-February	4	0	Second Training Period 4 needed
<b>Administration</b>				
10	Membership-renewal dues on time	Y	1	✓
	Club officer list on time	Y	2	

Daffodils is well on its way to securing the status of President's Distinguished Club!!

# LEADERSHIP DESK

## MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 92 DIRECTOR



### DTM Boopathy Sankar

*"The art of taking chances can be converted into a science by practice"*

Life throws at us different opportunities, like a Roulette Wheel. It could be a job opening, a relationship, or financial growth. We take chances based on our biases like age, gender, religion or experience. How do we convert the art of taking chances, into a science?

Ten years ago, I was looking for additional non-professional development opportunities. I stumbled upon Toastmasters, a chance indeed. On day one, I was provided an opportunity to speak on a Table Topic. I was nervous initially even though it was a fairly simple topic. I felt comfortable after delivering my first table topics. The General Evaluator lavishly praised me for taking the topic and completing it.

That moment of taking a chance paved the way in Toastmasters. There is no turning back. Every week I could speak & receive feedback. This has been helping me in my professional and personal growth so far.

After associating with MNCs for nearly seventeen years, I took a chance to join a startup. This ability to take a chance would not have come if I had not practiced the art of taking chances in Toastmasters. The habit of taking chances, in a table topic or volunteering for service can be developed. Converting the art of taking chances into a science, is possible with practice. Toastmasters is a wonderful place where it is normal to accept failures and encouraged for taking chances.

Daffodils Toastmasters is a great place, where many members have demonstrated their Communication and Leadership skills by taking chances at the right moment. It is heartening to note that, this club has been continuously supporting and empowering individuals in taking right chances in their Toastmasters Journey. Are you ready to take a chance in your Roulette of Life?



## MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 92 CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR



**DTM Sagnik Biswas**

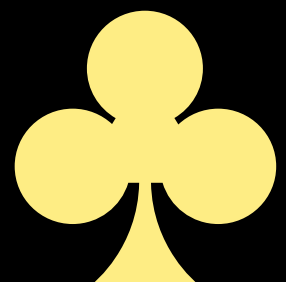
*"Probability and luck bow  
to the grit of people"*

The roulette machine is based on luck and probability. As I sat down to write, my partner in crime was delivering a TEDx where she noted there are two kinds of people - window openers and door knockers. Window openers view the situation from the confines of their houses. On the other hand, door knockers are risk takers. I was a window opener till the age of 17.

A particular night in 1st year changed my perspective. I was supposed to sing a song at a karaoke night. 2 stanzas down the road, I forgot the lyrics. Now, the old me would have said thank you and left. While the new me was shameless enough to "consult" my mobile. It was accompanied by a few laughs and comments, but the (so called) nightingale sang till dawn broke.

From then, I have never said no to anything. I was at best, average in most, but I kept coming back. Take your chances. You might find a supporting voice, a friendly shoulder and some comments. But at least you can tell yourself, I grew. Take a chance on yourself. Feel that voice in your head and the churning pit in your stomach, and then take another. Trust me, it only gets better, if you give it time. Probability and luck bow to the grit of people.

I wish you a great spin at the roulette of your life and of course, a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New year!



## MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 92 PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR



*"Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind. Not only do words infect, egotize, narcotize, and paralyze, but they enter into and color the minutest cells of the brain"*



### DTM Rishabh Mehta

*"Communication rests on the shoulder of powerful words"*

Rudyard Kipling didn't just compare words to drugs, he also described the ability to use words to change the way people think and feel, just as drugs. Communication rests on the shoulder of powerful words. But then an excess of them does not help.

Our choice of words or even lack of it, can redefine what we wish to convey. There is so much more than being just loud while communicating. It is about making your listeners flow and imagine and read between the words. Our words are the biggest gamble that we place our bets upon. And probably, the only bet where we get to choose the multifold of how much our wins or losses would be.

Today, as I write this article for the members of Daffodils, I wish that the club continues to keep providing a platform to fine-tune one's words worth. I truly hope that the club continues to foster a sense of friendship amongst the members and most importantly, help every single individual to grow and become a better version of themselves. Best Wishes!



## MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 92 DIVISION C DIRECTOR



**DTM**  
**Divya Rajvanshy**

*"The only thing constant  
in life, is the time we get  
each day"*

As the year end sets in, there is a rush at my workplace for not just completing the current targets but also setting new ones for the next year.

This reminds me of the extensive 2020 plans we made last year, none of which worked out because of the pandemic. But we persevered and adapted. We made the best use of the situation at hand. The only thing constant in life, is the time we get each day. What we make with those 24 hours is the Roulette we play with life.

Do we want to continue doing the same things? Or do we try doing something different where we take risk and be ready to face the outcome. Toastmasters is that perfect playground.

No matter whether you win or lose, you will always be lauded for your efforts. Let us make sure once we are out of these unprecedented times, we look back fondly remembering all those new things we tried out and evolved to our best version!

I am delighted to see Daffodils Toastmasters Club already leading the way with their constant innovations and new flavors in each club meeting.

## MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 92 AREA C4 DIRECTOR



The Art of parenting is a beautiful element. However the execution was always endured with Mom. Moms is always referred as our first teacher, friend, well-wisher, lover and what not?

A mother's love endures through all. Unfortunately, most of us are not taught to express the same love towards our Dads.

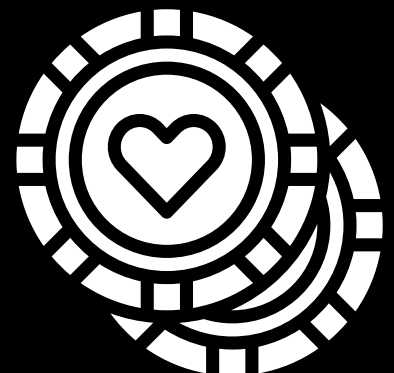
For centuries, dads have been known to have taken a back seat in the expression of their love and in taking an active part in their parenting. Life is a Roulette wheel, in this new epoch, today's dads have been more involved in the parenting of their children.

They are learning that changing a nappy, attending to the baby and playing a game of peekaboo, do not come up with gender-specific competencies. So take your chance now and express your love and gratitude to both Mom and Dad.



**TM Ratish Viruthi  
Mohandas**

*"Express your love equally  
to mom and dad"*

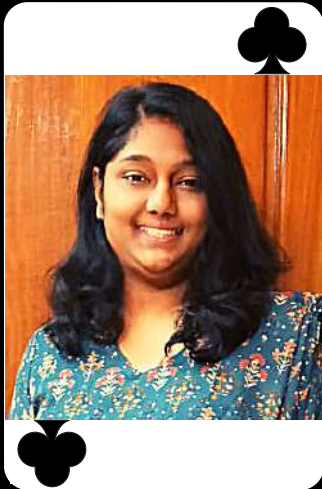




# ARTICLES FROM DAFFODILIANS



## TAKE THE PLUNGE



**TM Sandhya**

An incident in my life, made me realise the meaning of the word limitless. I went scuba diving in Lakshadweep with my friends. My friends wasted no time, dived straight in. I was the only one in the middle of the sea. It was like a Life of Pi situation. Good heavens there was no tiger with me! One of the guards asked me to jump with the scuba apparatus. At that moment, I summoned all the courage and plunged into the sea. After a few minutes, it was magic! Underneath the sea, was a whole new world. I was awestruck by the marine life. I touched clam shells and seahorses. I encountered different species of fish and corals that were so colourful.

There are two kinds of people in this world. One with a limited mindset and the other with a limitless.

With a limited mindset, you can be on the boat like I did. Or you can take the risk and have a limitless mindset. So friends, leave the baggage of fear, backpack your courage and take the plunge. You will see the wonders of life that hold for you.

## ONLINE OR OFFLINE



Change is the only constant in life. I have experienced this several times and the pandemic is just an example. From taking sessions in a classroom full of young minds to taking classes with hundreds of students virtually. Now, what do you call this - online or offline?

I have had to explain some concepts a few more times just to ensure that the students in the remote corner of India are not deprived of the learnings than their counterparts, who have better connectivity. In fact, I have become busier than before.

When we were told officially to start taking classes on zoom, I was excited. Having had the experience of conducting online meetings, I thought it would be easy, but boy, was I surprised!

First few days were spent in, "Hello!", "Can you hear me?", "Can you see me?", "Please mute your mic". I spent time educating students on online etiquettes. Narendra Modi, M.S. Dhoni, Talaiva, Messi were a few names on zoom, and Zoom bombing was something I had to get used to initially.

But now with MS teams application, things are a lot smoother, as the professor is in control of the session. the students too have matured.

I have realized the internet makes it an equal playing field. You may be rich or poor but the online education system does not distinguish anyone. It's all in your hands now. If you are serious about your life and career, you will be focused, sincere, and committed towards learning and growing, with or without switching on the video, i.e. online or offline!



**TM Harsha E**



## TAKE CHANCES TO GROW



**TM Shreenidhi  
Madhusudhan**

*Why don't you try working out?*

*No. Accept me as I am.*

This is something I always would reply.

This pandemic made us shift from regular to online classes. Sitting for continuous hours was something I never wanted ever in my life. I would get up from my workspace with knee and back pain. For someone who loved walking in the corridors with students and long hours of teaching, this shift wasn't easy.

How do I make up to it? I needed to walk. I needed to do it but in a way that I would do it everyday. I began working out. Sweating and stretching weren't easy. Days passed and now there isn't a day I don't workout.

Working out wasn't easy. I had to take chances and make choices. But I did realise only taking chances can help mold the way I think about myself. From "accept me as I am", I started to believe in, "expect me to take chances and to fail/grow"

## DAFFODILS, IS THE BEST CLUB IN THE WHOLE WORLD!



**DTM Dr. Ram  
Jayaraman**

My wife and I were considering moving to Malleshwaram, Bangalore upon retirement in the USA. Having lived in the US for 40 years, we were sceptical as to how we would adjust to the different lifestyle in India. Fellow Indian Americans were even more sceptical!

It was then that we decided to play "Roulette" with our lives! We decided to move and we hit the jackpot! Not only did we have very little difficulty in re-adjusting to living in India, I discovered Daffodils in Malleshwaram! I couldn't ask for anything better. This gave me the great opportunity of mentoring several young Toastmasters in Bangalore.

The warm camaraderie, tremendous love and affection showered on me by dear Daffodilians has very deeply touched me. Daffodils has given us a deeply loving and large family of "nephews", "nieces", "children" and "grandchildren". We do count our blessings through Daffodils, every day of our lives. Thank God for making me a part of Daffodils, THE BEST CLUB IN THE WHOLE WORLD!



## WORK FOR ME IS WAR AND A GAME



Once, I was asked, “Sir, if you get another chance in your professional life what would you choose?”. Without thinking I said, “I am ready to re-live the life of a construction engineer all over again”

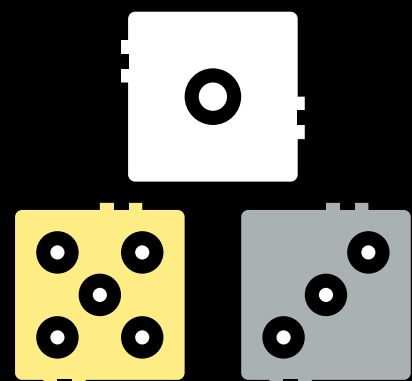
Having a night out at a construction site as a young site supervisor to being an entrepreneur at 50’s, I loved all the chances. My profession was my choice, all that happened after that choice was because of chances I took.

Life always begins with one step outside of your comfort zone. I seldom do the same things twice in the same manner, I bring in variations, curiosity leading to experimentation has always led me to the right side of the chances.

Work for me is war and a game. I believe that the outcome is due to effort and not choices or chances that we take. Tossing a coin is taking chances, yet you get to play the game. I put my best effort in the game.



**TM Nagesh  
Ramamurthy**



## WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY

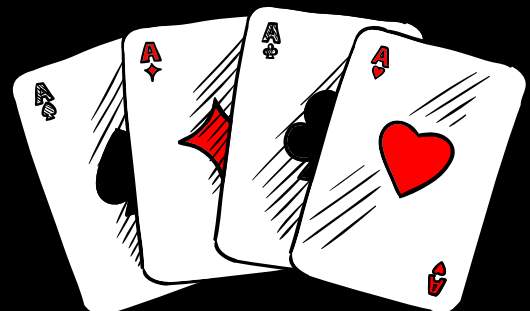
**DTM Usha Iyengar**

Anyone who sees Daffodils Toastmasters Club today will say, "What a vibrant Club". When I joined Daffodils in 2003, it was a fledgling Club. Five months after joining, I became the VP-PR. There weren't many Toastmaster Clubs back then. The other established Clubs were of the opinion that Daffodils may not survive.

However, the executive committee of the Club decided otherwise. To attract new members, we needed to be creative. As the VP-PR, I went to Deccan Herald nearly every week so that they published in their 'In the City today' column where and when Daffodils Toastmasters Club was meeting.

Fortunately, Deccan Herald did not charge anything. I also decided to publish Newsletters every three months. The Newsletter was in those days a hardcopy which we tried to share with anyone who was interested in knowing about Toastmasters.

We also tried to shore up the Daffodils membership by recruiting family members to join Daffodils. At one point six of my family members had joined Daffodils. As is evident from the above - where there is a will there's a way and Daffodils was taking roots slowly.



## A FISTFUL OF LUCK



**DTM**  
**Dr. Ashok Nayak**

I always believed more in luck than in merit and hard work. A fistful of luck is far better than bag full of gold. Right from the time of my birth, luckily I did not have to make any conscious choices in this roulette of life till I became a doctor, as everything was laid on a platter to me. Everything fell into pieces till then. Then came a day when I had to make a choice for my career- or rather take chances. I had three options:

1. Go abroad - take difficult examinations and go far away from my family, friends, and country for good.
2. Continue as a MBBS doctor, open a clinic and make plenty of money and take life easy.
3. Take up post-graduation - slog hard and wait for the fruits with patience.

I chose the 3rd option. Again, there were many choices of subjects depending upon my interests, prospects of making money, getting fame ,name etc. etc. The main choice for me was to take up either medicine or surgery. Although I was eligible to get both the seats on merit, I choose the latter although medicine had more demand, required intelligence and less efforts, I chose surgery as I felt it was more rewarding. It gives you the recognition, higher remuneration, and it puts your skills to test I thought. Looking back, I feel in this roulette of life, my very first decision to become a surgeon was the right one and the chances this field provided me in life were so many! Just to enumerate a few :

1. Academics - I became a professor of surgery in various medical colleges.
2. Professional - I performed thousands of surgeries in various setups from 1980 till date.
3. Social service - having a hospital to serve the poor and needy where I could treat both medical and surgical cases.
4. Social status - I became a president and member in various professional bodies like The Surgical Society of Bangalore. I was also lucky to be blessed with a loving and enviable family, a dream car & home, a satisfying job etc.

Ultimately I feel my very first independent decision in this roulette of life to become a surgeon was the right one and it reinforces my belief that life is nothing but based on luck.



## MENTOR MEMENTEE CORNER



I feel fortunate to have Shwetha Mahesh as my mentor, who is spending her valuable time guiding and coaching me. She has taught me to:

### 1. Say yes first, and then figure out how later.

I would avoid something unless I knew exactly how I was going to do it. I was apprehensive if I could juggle the role of the SAA and my professional workload. My mentor Shwetha encouraged me and said the unknown was nothing to fear. She asked me to ask myself, "Do I believe enough in myself to be able to figure it out?"



### TM Shrinivas Dhotilal

*"Do you believe enough in yourself to be able to figure it out?"*

### 2. Establish short- and long-term goals.

Shwetha encouraged me to set both short and long term goals. Short term goals were easy to accomplish and long term goals helped me to take the right decision in my daily activities.

### 3. Train myself to be an extrovert.

I was an introvert and would keep to myself. In order to get rid of nervousness, Shwetha asked me to cheer and encourage anyone who was going on stage. This extroverted nature created quick and easy friendships.

These 3 invaluable lessons have helped me in my professional and personal life. What you have learnt from your mentor?

## STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART - POEM SEGMENT



**TM Keshav N**

### “Student of Life”

Life is my school,  
I am a student at every stage.  
Each day a new classroom,  
Each moment a new page.

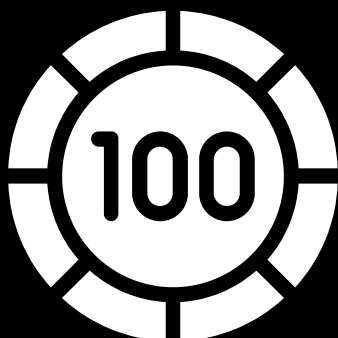
My mind is the blackboard.  
The experiences are my daily lessons,  
I erase a few and re-write a few,  
To keep growing with the essence.

My beliefs form the theory,  
My actions become the test.  
Explorations are the playground,  
When I play, I learn the best!

My decisions are the examination.  
The result is always a mystery,  
There’s always something to learn from it,  
After that, it’s just history.

My conscience is the monitor.  
My daily growth is my progress sheet.  
The Quest for success is ever so challenging,  
Cause it is the self with which I compete.

As a genuine student of life,  
I always try to be appropriate.  
Each second of my being,  
I begin to appreciate it.



## FAQ ABOUT TOASTMASTERS A SPECIAL BY VP MEMBERSHIP



**Guest:** How long does it take to become a great speaker?

**Me:** Speaking is a journey not a destination.

**Guest:** How are leaders made at Toastmasters?

**Me:** The art of communication is the language of leadership.

**Guest:** I think effective communication skill is a born talent & limited to a few. Isn't it correct?

**Me:** No. Communication works for those who work on it

**Guest:** Why is listening given so much importance for communication development?

**Me:** We have two ears and one mouth, so that we listen twice as much as we speak.

**Guest:** How does one effectively communicate?

**Me:** Effective communication is 20% what you know and 80% how you feel about what you know.

**Guest:** Why is feedback important?

**Me:** Feedback helps you refine, remodel and recast your elements of good communication.

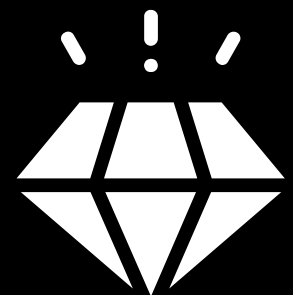
**Guest:** I desire to join Toastmasters, is that going to make me a great speaker?

**Me:** Desire changes nothing, decision changes something and determination makes everything.



**TM Mahesh Vittal  
Rao**

*"Communication works for those who work on it"*





## HUMOUR MUSINGS



### FAKE IT TILL YOU MAKE IT



A few months ago, I registered for the club level humorous speech contest. I had 3-4 weeks to prepare.

Week 1 : Watched Netflix Tv shows.

Week 2 : Watched YouTube videos.

Week 3 : Watched a blank paper with nothing on it.

I decided to back-out. However, I didn't want to give up, so I began writing. At the end, it was worse than the script of "Hum saath saath hai". I was tempted to check for ideas on the internet. It was drizzling outside and my mom gave me a hot cup of kashaya that opened up my senses. For the next hour, I forced myself to write without editing (and censoring). Though, I couldn't complete my speech, the efforts sparked an idea, which 'lit' (pun-intended) won me the contest.

I stumbled upon a technique, called - "Fake it till you make it". Fake your act, until your act becomes real. You will lose momentum, but continue to work. Eventually you will reach a point where the act becomes natural and real, that's when your authentic self-shines. As an aspiring public speaker, I've realised that faking it is the best way to learn.



**TM Anish D'Souza**

*"Faking it is the best way to learn anything"*

## KEEP SPINNING



You know how they say in roulette “all in or nothing?”. Being the only child, my parents bet everything on me, hoping their gamble would pay off and God would improve their chances (mine actually) of winning.

While my parents were spinning the wheel, I was busy playing poker. Bluffing through the bad cards dealt to me and trying to make a winning. I had an ace up my sleeve, my urge to succeed. I struggled through Engineering and took a chance to start a career in sales. The money in the pot was less and I wanted a raise. I skipped several jobs from HR to Ad agency to IT partner sales to services.

In hindsight, it all turned out for the best. 2020 has been a great year. I read my first novel, I started a sales community on LinkedIn called Sale-Connect, took off on my entrepreneur journey and also found happiness too.

I knew when to hold, when to fold. The cards on the table seemed to be perfect for what I had been dealt with.

I don't know if the chances will pay off, but seems like a winning hand. My parents are willing to spin the roulette wheel. This time I have rigged the spinner and all the numbers on the spinner are their (my) lucky numbers.

So keep spinning!



**TM Abhishek**

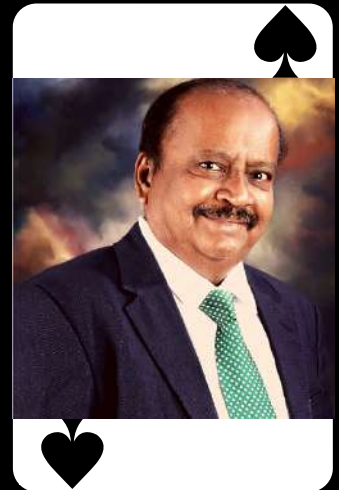
*“Know when to hold,  
known when to fold”*

## GETTING PERSONAL WITH CK



DTM T Chendil Kumar or fondly known as CK is a corporate trainer, passionate public speaker and a 5 time TedX speaker. A guest faculty at IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Indore, IIM Udaipur and IIM Shillong. CK graced our meeting at Daffodils by conducting an educational session: 'Humorists are not born'.

Let's hear a bit more about CK.



**DTM T Chendil Kumar**

*"Humorists are not born!"*

**Q1: You have been a TEDx speaker and a keynote speaker. How different is your approach handling two different public speaking opportunities?**

CK: Both TEDx and keynotes are based on themes. While a TEDx audience is a mix of several interests and age groups, keynotes are aimed at a specific profile of audience, like corporate or voluntary organisations.

**Q2: What would be in your opinion, the top 3 skills essential for acing a negotiation?**

CK:

- a. Tough negotiators believe in the dictum, 'if I can provoke you, I can control you'. So, you need to be emotionally balanced to counter the other party's tricks and tactics.
- b. Focus on a mutual-gains approach by cultivating questioning skills to understand what lies behind their objections and anxieties. Learn to ask open-ended, reflective and hypothetical questions.
- c. Develop a communication style that is soft on the person and tough on the issue.

**Q3: In your vast experience as a corporate trainer, what is the one question that is invariably posed to you?**

CK: "I have a great command of the language and am an excellent public speaker. Can I become an effective trainer?". On a serious note, "How to deal with a difficult colleague or a superior?"

**Q4: To what extent can humour be used as a tool for influencing others?**

CK: Used judiciously, humor can break ice, build rapport and improve likability which enhances your ability to influence.

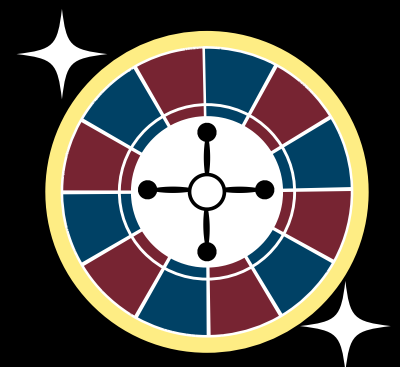
**Q5: One myth that you would bust, when it comes to speaking humorously.**

CK: Humorists are born!

**Q6: Your blog on communication, leadership and even travel has benefited readers immensely. How has blogging helped you personally, in your speaking and leadership journey?**

CK: Initially, blogging was a medium through which I expressed my interests on various subjects. Gradually I realised many of my readers started taking my writing seriously and were looking forward for tips and techniques. I realised the impact when my blog was listed in the world's top blogs on public speaking by Guy Kawasaki. Sadly, I did not keep the momentum as I succumbed to the charms of Facebook in which I received instant gratification. However, I've revived my blogging and write fairly regularly now.

CK has been a well wisher of Daffodils for several years now. We wish his bond with Daffodils gets stronger with each year.





# EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

## KEY TAKEAWAYS



**Mr. Samuel Eddy**  
**Founder Curator of SAM**  
**(Science Art Management)**

### Session: Communication & Leadership in the Present Day World



Main elements of leadership communication:

1. Set specific goals. It harnesses the power of the subconscious mind.
2. Goals should be aspirational and attainable.
3. Appeal to emotions.

Types of leadership:

1. Servant - Be serving rather than be served.
2. Horizontal - Build on people's strength.
3. Transformational - retain only products/ services that transform lives.
4. Innovative - do not be archaic.

### Session: The World Championships of Public Speaking - An Emotional & Intellectual Journey



Key ingredients for the winning speech:

1. Is your speech worthwhile to share and hear?
2. Is your speech accessible to your audience?
3. Risk taking - reinvent to make oneself an effective speaker, using different styles.
4. Would you pay to watch yourself?
5. Would you make a good ambassador for the Toastmasters organisation?
6. Don't get lost in the game - do not copy/ imitate others.
7. Credibility - state personal experiences.
8. Winning or serving? Balance between passion and perfection.
9. Be a speech artist. Bring love in your speech.



**DTM Mark Hunter**  
**World Champion of**  
**Public Speaking, 2009**



## KEY TAKEAWAYS



**TM Kyle Murtagh**  
*District 71 Champion of  
Evaluation Contest 2020*

### Session: How To Win An Evaluation Contest



- Hook  
Keep it humorous or profound.
- Strengths  
Focus on speech delivery (voice, body language and eye-contact)  
Focus on content (facts, figures, and story)
- End with a bang.  
Bring in the wow feeling.  
What you say in the last, lasts with your audience
- Recommendations  
Articulate the problem, demonstrate with solution.

### Session : Humourists Are Not Born



Contest winning tips:

1. Have a nice story and a great theme
2. Perfect grammar is not mandatory
3. To be in the race is a grace
4. Have a good sense of observation
5. Build momentum in the beginning
6. End with a memorable quote
7. Add more self-deprecating humor
8. Do not memorize the speech
9. Inculcate PHP - Point-Humor-Point



**DTM Chendil Kumar**  
*TedX Speaker, Guest  
faculty at IIMs*



## KEY TAKEAWAYS



**TM Kwong Yue Yang**  
*Second-place Winner in the World Championship of Public Speaking (2011, 2014)*

### Session: Top 5 Mistakes Speakers Make

1. They worry about the audience, instead focus on the message.
2. Do not be too dramatic while you are speaking, instead be natural.
3. They telegraph their message, instead keep audience interested by using misdirection.
4. They preach too much to the audience, instead look for non verbal cues to see your message is delivered.
5. People are too focused on winning, instead focus on delivery of the message and connect.

### Session: Own the Stage

1. You-focused language - use more of you/your to connect to the audience. The number of I's should be the same as the number of you's.
2. Have conversations in dialogues - audience find it difficult to connect emotionally to past tense. Bring the audience to present to connect intensively.
3. Paint a picture in words, use all of VAKS - visual, Auditory, Kinesthetic and Smell.
4. Avoid sameness - have vocal variety throughout the speech.
5. Avoid stepping on thoughts - what matters is not the speech but what the audience thinks about your speech. Crave feedback to do a better job to the next audience.



**TM Darren LaCroix**  
*World Champion of Public Speaking, 2001*

# SPECIAL MEETINGS



## Virtual installation

On the 4th of July, 2020, Daffodils witnessed the first-ever virtual installation in the presence of dignitaries from the district, distinguished guests, and fellow Daffodilians. The 36th Executive Committee of Daffodils were installed and they kick started their term with the theme: Explore. Engage. Evolve.

## Independence day

Daffodilians were engaged on social media by having a Trivia Night, that truly set the tone for the celebrations of Independence Day! Club members came dressed as their favourite freedom fighters and paid tribute to the leaders who fought for our country and discovered the true meaning of freedom and leadership.

## Division C Special

This mega event witnessed over 180 registrations and the highlight being a keynote address by TM Kwong Yue Yang on "Top 5 Mistakes Speakers Make". The event was hosted by Daffodils Toastmasters Club. 19 Clubs of Division C came together with 15 role takers taking stage. It was truly one of a kind Division Meet!

## Deepavali and Children's day special meeting

Deepavali is incomplete without lights and sparks! Children's day is incomplete without fun and creativity! At Daffodils we ushered in the festivity of Deepavali and Children's day by having a fun activity on social media by completing a picture of a spark. A fun filled meeting was organised with the theme - Love, Light and Laughter with members of Daffodils sparkling in ethnic wear.





## Halloween

As if the year wasn't scary enough already, we at Daffodils celebrated Halloween with the theme - 3Cs - Candies, Candles & Corpses, dedicated to all things spooky and ghostly. We donned ourselves with creative hats, put up scary, eerie faces, truly Halloween style!

## Linkers meet

On the World Television Day, two of the oldest clubs in the district came together for one of a kind linkers meet. DeeJay's Toastmasters Club and Daffodils hosted a memorable meeting. Role takers included the Presidents of the clubs, speakers and evaluators. Senior members of both the clubs shared their loved memories of the club and their associations.

# CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS



1. Beat the Covid- Golden Gavel Award for 2019-2020 (A PQD Award)
2. Firebolt Award (A Membership Award)
3. Smedley Award (A Membership Award)
4. New Petal Award (A Membership Award)
5. Super 7 Award (A PQD Award)
6. 11th DCP Award (A PR award)

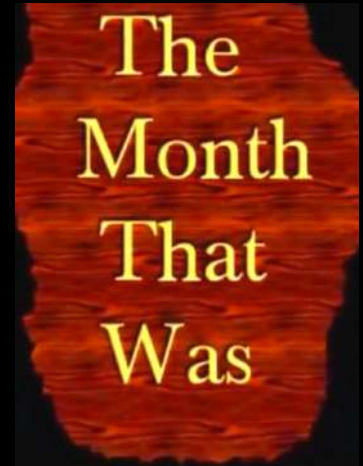


# INITIATIVES



## The Month That Was

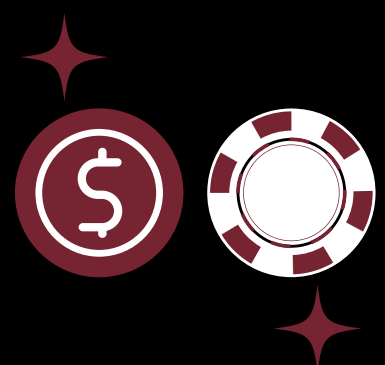
A monthly initiative by the VP Membership team, to recap the moments we cherished together in the month and highlight the same through videos. This initiative ensured the highlights of the month was beautifully summarised in a few seconds. It surely helped keep track of the growth of members, their achievements and contributions.



## Myriad of Memories



A weekly initiative launched by the Secretary team. Memories can teach us life lessons, skills and abilities. At the end of it, it makes us feel happy and entertained. When you ponder on your memories at Daffodils Toastmaster Club, it brings a smile on your face. This initiative surely took our members down their memory lane.



## Daffodils Mentoring Program - Step Up

An initiative launched by the VP Education team. It aids members who have shown considerable progress in their Toastmasters journey to take up mentorship and also encourage them to involve more and grow as a Toastmaster.



The purpose of the program is to develop and grow new mentors with the guidance of senior mentors at Daffodils.



## SpeechCraft - Sparkle

# SPARKLE

SEEK.SPEAK.SHINE



A seven week online speechcraft program organised by Daffodils Toastmasters under the guidance of TM Mahesh Vittal Rao. Sparkle aimed to help aspiring speakers to learn the basics of speech delivery and make

an impact. 15 Speechcrafters enrolled for the session. We had over 10 Educational Sessions that were truly value additions to our energetic and enthusiastic Speechcrafters, who blossomed into confident speakers at the end of their journey.



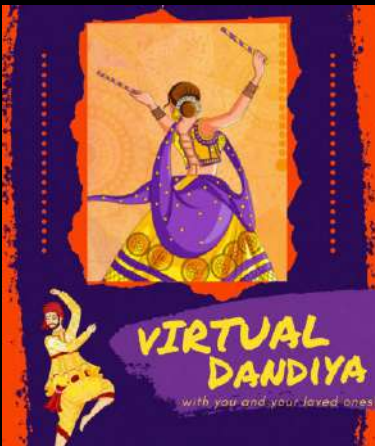
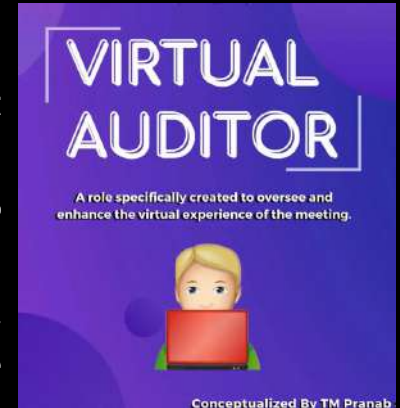


# LANDMARK MOMENTS

## Virtual Auditor

A new role conceptualized by TM Pranab Singh, introduced at our club meetings, uncovers the best practices that enhance or possibly hinder a speaker's virtual presence by making note of the virtual setup of the speakers & the meeting in general. With meetings going online, aspects like audio, video, background, etc. play a pivotal role. The report of the Virtual Auditor will then be shared when called upon by the General Evaluator.

You can find details of the role here - <https://bit.ly/VirtualAuditor>.



## Virtual Dandiya

Dussehra is all about festivities. The PR Team wanted to capture this essence and make members rejoice the festive atmosphere when they confined in their homes. Post the regular meeting, members were asked to come dressed in ethnic wear for a Virtual Dandiya! You read it right! Two groups had a dance face off to some groovy and traditional music. Members danced with their hearts out, making the first ever virtual dandiya a great success!

## 1000 Instagram followers

531 were the number of followers on Instagram at the start of our term. The PR team had promised to have a stronger social media presence going ahead! The PR Team was joyous to share they reached a landmark number on Instagram with 1000 followers! Every single comment, a hit on the like button or effort to share a story has contributed to this success.





# MORE ABOUT DAFFODILS



## INTRA CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS

Toastmaster of the month award winners:

(July) - TM Shreenidhi Madhusudhan  
 (Aug)- TM Shwetha Mahesh  
 (Sep)- TM Shreenidhi Madhusudhan  
 (Oct)- TM Shwetha Mahesh  
 (Nov)- TM Manoj

Mentor of the month award winners:

(July) - TM Madhusudhan  
 (Aug) - TM Pranab Singh  
 (Sep) - TM Madhusudhan  
 (Oct) - TM Madhusudhan  
 (Nov) - TM Madhusudhan



## CONTEST WINNERS

### CLUB LEVEL WINNERS

Humorous speech contest:  
 Winner - TM Anish D'Souza  
 First Runner Up - TM Ekta Anand

Evaluation contest:  
 Winner - TM Shreenidhi Madhusudhan  
 First Runner Up - TM Pranab Singh  
 Second Runner Up - TM Madhusudhan

### AREA C4 WINNERS

Evaluation Contest Winner - TM Shreenidhi Madhusudhan

Humorous speech contest - 1st Runner Up - TM Anish D'Souza

### DIVISION C WINNERS

Evaluation Contest Winner - TM Shreenidhi Madhusudhan

Humorous speech contest - 1st Runner Up - TM Anish D'Souza

**Daffodils is also the home club for Division C Mentor, TM Pranab Singh & Area A4 Director, TM Shwetha Mahesh**

## DAFFODILIANS SHARING THEIR KNOWLEDGE



### TM Shwetha Mahesh

- Installation Ceremony Officer
- Area A4 Director and Organiser, Area A4 Champions Table
- Presenter for the role of Secretary at TLI and Club Officers Training Program
- Instagram live interview for Area A3

### DTM Nikhil Rao

- Keynote at Noida Toastmaster Club, District 41

### TM Deepali Dwarakanath

- PR Chair for Emprach 3.0
- Presenter for the role of VP - PR at TLI and Club Officers Training Program
- Selected for Leadership Development Program (LDP)

### TM Pranab Singh

- Area A4 Panel Discussion Moderator
- Division C Mentor
- Education session on story telling at Samsung Toastmasters Club
- Keynote on The Pillars of Leadership at Utthishta Toastmasters Club
- Interactive Q&A at IBM synergy Toastmasters Club
- Guest speaker at Tivo Talksters
- Educational session of Evaluation at Amadeus Mic Drop
- Keynote session at Christ Toastmasters Club
- Instagram live interview for Area A3

### DTM Usha Iyengar

- Division O President's Distinguished

### TM Khush Chandawat

- Division A PR Head

### TM Sirilatha Ramnath

- Educational session on pathways at State Street India Toastmasters Club

### DTM Kumaran M Pethi

- Education session on story telling at Garden City and SDMCET TM Club
- Keynote at Wordly - Wise Toastmasters Club
- Area A2 Café, Panel moderator
- Training Session on the art of storytelling, Division C&E, District 116, Qatar

### TM Shreenidhi Madhusudhan

- Education session on evaluation at SDMCET Toastmaster Club
- Presenter for the role of President at TLI and Club Officers Training Program
- Keynote at Trancend Toastmasters Club on Why Toastmasters
- Educational Session of Evaluation at Loyola Toastmaster Club
- Keynote address at Tarento India Toastmasters Club

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JAN-JUN 2021



VP EDUCATION

TM DEEPALI DWARAKANATH



PRESIDENT

TM AASHISH MUKUND



VP MEMBERSHIP

TM KESHAV NAGANATHAN



SECRETARY

TM SANIDHYA VIJAYAWAT



VP PUBLIC RELATIONS

TM JAGADEESHWARAN R



TREASURER

TM SANDHYA KRISHNAPPA



SERGEANT AT ARMS

TM NAGESH RAMAMURTHY



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

TM UMANATH K T

New leaders who will be at the helm of affairs at  
Daffodils Toastmasters Club.  
Executive Committee of Daffodils, for the term January  
to June 2021

# NEW MEMBERS



Anup Kalyan Shetty

Sandhya Krishnappa



Joytiranjan Pattnaik

Saubhagya Kumar



Manu Kumar Abhuday

Shishir Jain



Nagesh Ramamurthy

Srinidhi V



Prajwal Sneyoy

Zubera Khan



Amrutha BM

Krushna Behra

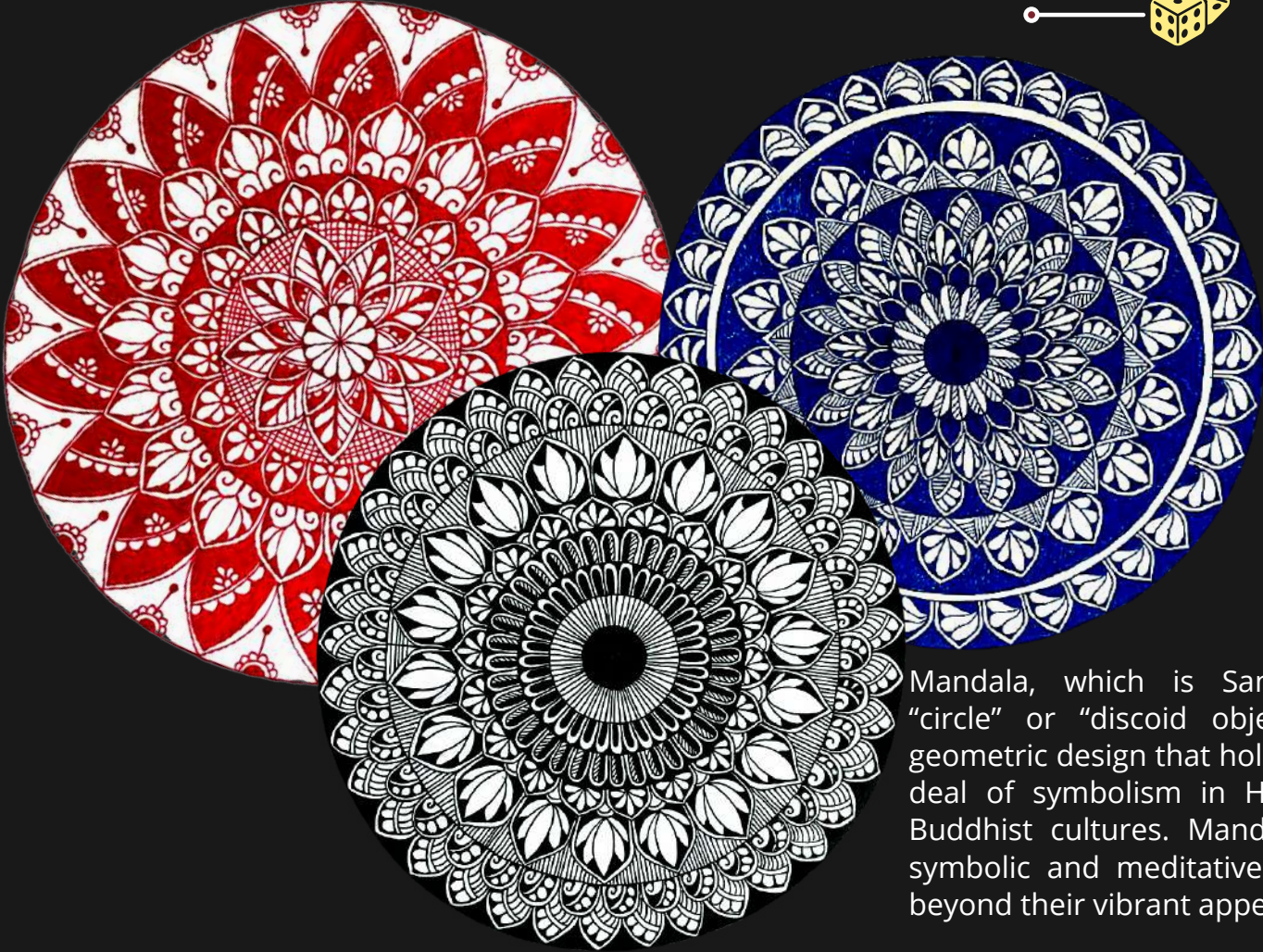






# CREATIVE CORNER

Mandala Art by TM Shriyanka Rao



Mandala, which is Sanskrit for "circle" or "discoid object," is a geometric design that holds a great deal of symbolism in Hindu and Buddhist cultures. Mandalas hold symbolic and meditative meaning beyond their vibrant appearance.

Digital Art by TM Kishan Kumar



Digital art is an artistic work that uses digital technology as part of the creative or presentation process. Since the 1960s, various names have been used to describe the process, including computer art and multimedia art. Digital art is itself placed under the larger umbrella term New Media Art.



# WHATZIT?!

1.

GRA[V]ITY

2.

anianananani

3.

WORKED



PAID

4.

i4iK94K9

5.

JANOB

6.

BEST

S

POLICY

T

7.

duplicate



# COMIC STRIP



by TM Jagadeeshwaran R

## THE INTROVERT IN ME



### ANSWERS TO WHATZIT?!

1. Centre of gravity
2. An eye for an eye
3. Overworked and underpaid
4. An eye of an eye, a tooth for a tooth
5. An inside job
6. Honesty is the best policy
7. Copy cat



# GALLERY + CELEBRATION PICTURES



Personal hand over of the trophy to our club level winners



Members dressed in their favorite freedom fighter attire



Flowers and love sent to our Division level winners



Ushering Dusshera with goodies and gifts to members

Spreading joy and happiness!



Dancing our hearts out - Virtual Dandiya



Halloween Special!



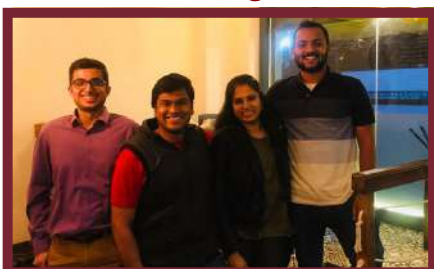
Daffodils Merchandise for SpeechCraft Sparkle volunteers



Post meeting fun at the President's house



Dinner Nights!







Spin the Roulette Wheel,  
Take the Chances,  
Step Into a World of Possibilities!

*Thank!  
You!*



@daffodilstmc



/daffodilstoastmasters/



daffodilstoastmastersclub@gmail.com



daffodilstoastmasters.com