



the PEP

may
2005

A monthly update from the Warsaw Rotary Club

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Rotary Officers:

Ken Locke
President

Cindy Hampton
President Elect

David Jones
*Immediate Past
President*

Katy Hampton
Secretary

Group Study Exchange from India Visits Warsaw Rotary Club

WARSAW, IN – On Friday, April 29, Warsaw served as the last stop on a four-week group study exchange trip to Indiana for five individuals from Tamilnadu, India.

The exchange group was led by Narayanasamy Govindaraj, who is a member and office holder with the Rotary Club in Tamilnadu. The other members of the exchange group (2 women and 2 other men) were not Rotarians. Each team member represented a different profession in their home country including management, child education, engineering, entomology, and business.

As part of their visit with Warsaw Rotarians, the visitors met with Mayor Ernie Wiggins, participated in the Rotary meeting, and took tours of Rohn & Haas, Presby Preschool, Othy, and Kosciusko Community Hospital. The tour stops were intended to expose the visitors to industries and professions that correlated with their own personal and professional interests.

When asked what they were most surprised by during their four-week Indiana tour, they agreed that the independence of women and the elderly surprised them, specifically that both groups drive their own cars. They were surprised to see men helping with domestic chores such as cooking and cleaning; and said they were corrected in their misconception that marriage isn't valued in the United States. Many of the people they met, they said, had been married for many years and valued their families. There is a perception in India that most Americans are divorced.

The visitors were impressed with services for the mentally ill and disabled. They appreciated the relationship between academic institutions and industry, and the way both tried to work together. They said that American healthcare was "amazing," and appreciated how drivers obeyed traffic rules.

Group study exchange members said they learned a lot from their visit to the U.S., but felt that Americans could learn from them too. For example, they were saddened by how lonely the residents of a nursing home they visited were, and said that the elderly are cared for by their children in India.

The purpose of the group study exchange was to share their culture and values to their American friends while learning about the American way of life, not only socially but also ideas that are specific to their professions.

A woman with the exchange group said that ultimately they learned that, "across cultures everyone has the same dreams for their children; and in that way the only difference between us is the color of our skin."

MAY PROGRAM TOPICS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, May 6, 2005
Keith Horn

Friday, May 20, 2005
Jerry Henline

Thursday, May 12, 2005
Dinner & Auction 6 p.m.

Friday, May 27, 2005
Tom Heuer

Friday, May 13, 2005
NO MEETING



THE 4-WAY TEST Of Things We Think, Say Or Do

Is it the TRUTH?

**Is it FAIR to all
concerned?**

**will it build
GOODWILL and
BETTER
FRIENDSHIPS?**

**Will it be BENEFICIAL
to all concerned?**

MAY BIRTHDAYS



May 2
Dennis Burch
Doug Grant
Paul Haines

May 9
Ron Redpath

May 27
William Roberts
Michael Shade

May 29
James McCleary

May 30
Brian Whiteneck

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