

# **AACEG E NEWS**

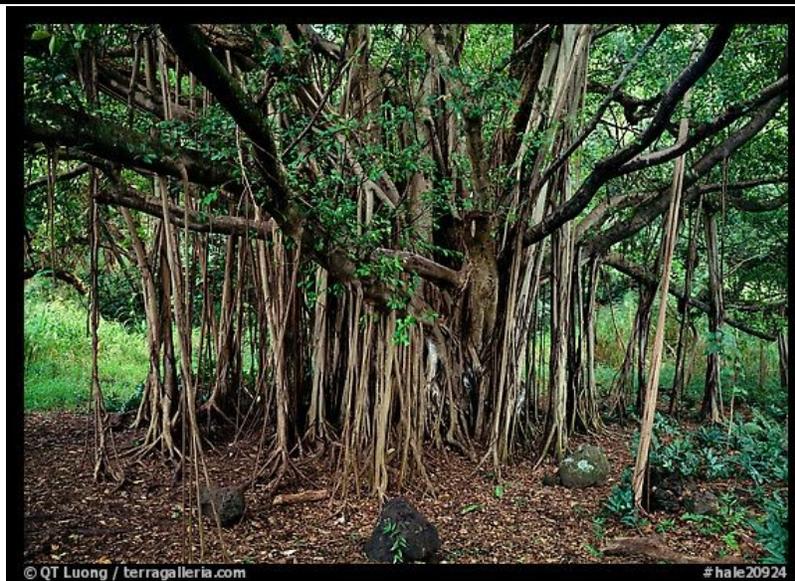
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## **FIFTY YEARS AFTER**



(The 1959 batch of College of Engineering, Guindy organized a reunion to mark the occasion of their fiftieth year of graduation. The details are given elsewhere in this issue. The introduction to the Souvenir published by them is reproduced – Editor)

When we joined College of Engineering, Guindy in 1955, there was never a thought about what we will be doing fifty four years hence, much less how India will be faring. Possibly we were worried about our job prospects when 128 of us completed our coursework in 1959. In retrospect both fifty niners and India have done extremely well. Most of us have attained the top rungs of our particular job ladder and can now be termed affluent. India, just free from colonial shackles and suffering from predictions of a bleak future at the time of our graduation, is now a confident nation, predicted to take its natural position in the coming decades as a super power, whatever that means. Our contribution, along with other Guindy engineers is significant in this transformation.

All of us, 42 civil engineers, 21 electrical engineers, 58 mechanical engineers and 7 telecommunication engineers had little difficulty in obtaining suitable positions on completing our courses in 1959. Quite a number of us shifted from one job to other in the first few years, Guindy graduates being a relatively precious commodity. It is interesting to note the approximate numbers of our classmates employed in different sectors –government organizations in different states -32, central government – 9, public sector organizations – 19, railways – 6, army/air force – 4, education – 8, private organizations – 19, own concern – 14, abroad – 8 and non engineering work/family business – 4. More than sixty percent of us were in the government or government related organizations. A significant number of us had stints abroad pursuing higher studies or in employment and both.

A number of our class mates are now employed even after retirement, thanks to booming economy of India. Most of us have adopted small family norm. The children have generally performed well in their academic career and are now in good positions. Engineering is their favored profession. Very few have joined government service. Most of them are employed in private organizations and a large proportion of them are residing abroad. While a few of us are thinking about the marriages of grand children, there are some whose children are yet to marry. With the break up of joint family system and the children, ever mobile, looking for better prospects in India and abroad, the family of most of us now consists of husband and wife only.

It is difficult to speculate what the future holds for us in the coming years, considering the rapid changes in living conditions. However the quality of our life in the past five decades was much better than what we expected after graduation. Let us hope that same trend continues in the coming years. Anyway we will be meeting during our Diamond Jubilee Reunion and we can compare notes.

S.V.Ramaswamy -1959 batch

### **REUNION OF CEG 1955 BATCH**

The 1955 batch of CEG, accompanied by their spouses, had a joyous reunion during January 21 to 23, 2009 at Hyderabad.

The first day was spent in exchanging information about the class mates. After robust singing by acclaim, *Singamassay Paruppamasay* was adopted as the group song. There was a concensus on Mahabalipuram as the location for Reunion 2010, it was decided to seek broader consultation wth all the class mates. Homage was paid to the departed class mate Shri H.S. Shanker Prasad OF Telecommunications branch.

On the second day the group went sightseeing. They visited Chowmahalla, Char Minar, Shiparamam and Necklace Road,. A gala dinner was hosted by Shri Harishchandra Reddy, (1954 batch ) Chairman Green Park Hotels. The transport was Provided by Shri Murthy (1945 batch)Chairman, Murthy's Institute of Technology.

On the third day, the class mates bid farewell after breakfast. The group photo was ready by then. They vowed to meet as a larger group in 2010 and also visit their Alma Mater.

(Based on a report by D.V.R. Vithal, 1955 batch)

## **GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF 1964 BATCH**



The 1964 batch of College of Engineering, Guindy celebrated the fiftieth year of their entering CEG on January 24 and 25, 2009. About 75 class mates along with their spouse and children attended the celebrations. The class had a strength of 240 at the time of graduation. The 1964 batch was the first batch of five year integrated course.

The celebration extended over two days. They spent the first day at a beach house at Kalpakkam. The function was held on the second day at Alumni Centre. They have contacted a large number of their teachers and there were a large number of them present at the function on January 25, 2009. A souvenir was released on the second day with photographs of class mates, "then and now".

Prof. Panchanathan, the octogenarian Professor of Soil Mechanics was the Chief Guest at the felicitation function on January 25, 2009. He complimented the Alumni for their active involvement in a number of programmes organized by CEG Alumni Association such as Career Guidance, Endowment Lectures and Scholarships to meritorious students. A number of senior faculty members who taught the 1964 batch also spoke.

Prof. Jayaprakash Narayan, President of CEG Alumni Association, College of Engineering, Guindy stressed the need to enhance the image of the Alumni Association. He requested the 1964 batch students to contribute liberally to Building Fund. Hence 1964 batch are planning to contribute substantial amount out of their contribution for additional facilities at Alumni Center.

The class mates assembled after lunch break. The programme of self introduction by each class mate present evinced a lot of interest. This was followed by a dance programme. The programme concluded prior to Tea break.

The participants received a memento before they bid farewell. The group photo taken prior to commencement of morning session was ready by the time they dispersed.

(Modified from the report by M.J.Damodaran, 1964 batch)

## **GOLDEN JUBILEE REUNION OF GUINDY 1959 BATCH**



Fifty niners and their spouses at the Golden Jubilee Reunion at GRT Bay Resort

The class mates of CEG 1959 batch celebrated their fiftieth year of graduation on February 25, 2009. Fifty two of the class mates attended the reunion and the total attendance was 84 including spouses. Five of the fifty niners have come from abroad (4 from USA and 1 from Singapore), 15 have come from cities outside Tamil Nadu, 6 have come from cities in Tamil Nadu and 26 of them have come from Chennai.

The class mates assembled at Alumni Centre, CEG at 8.00 AM on Wednesday, February 25, 2009. They were presented with a souvenir and a memento immediately on arrival. The souvenir contained the photos of all the 128 classmates at the time of graduation and also the present photos of class mate and the spouse of about sixty class mates. The breakfast was served at the Alumni Centre. After breakfast the group left for Temple Bay Resort at Mahabalipuram in three buses at 9.30 AM.

The class mates introduced themselves in an interesting programme that lasted from about 11.00 AM to 1.30 PM. A significant number of class mates have not met each other since they left the portals of CEG. After a sumptuous lunch, there was an interesting games and entertainment programme which involved participation by all those present. It concluded at 5.30 PM. Then the participants departed for CEG where a working dinner packet was waiting for them on arrival.

S.V.Ramaswamy – 1959 batch

## **ALUMNI DAY 2009**

Alumni Day, 2009 was celebrated on Marc 22, 2009 at Vivekananda Auditorium. There was good attendance consisting of about 60 Executive Committee members and their spouses, about 150 Alumni and their spouses and about 60 students.

The Registration started at 4.00 pm and the participants fortified themselves with high tea before participating in the sports events at College quadrangle. Saravanan and his enthusiastic band of student volunteers organized a variety of interesting events such as, letter formation, jig saw puzzle, word game, hitting the stumps, throwing the ring couple cricket which tested the mental and athletic abilities of the assembled guests. There were a large number of noisy participants whose ages varied from five to eighty.

The meeting started at 6.30 pm and Jai Prakash Narain President, AACEG welcomed the gathering., The presedential address was delivered by Mannar Jawahar, Vice Chancellor, Anna University. Adhiraj, Vice President, AACEG then introduced the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest, .Arcot Ramachandran, former under Secretary General United Nations – Habitat delivered the Alumni Day address. Karunakaran, Dean In-charge presented felicitation messages. The Endowment Awards were then distributed to the CEG Students for their outstanding performance in studies and sports by the Chief Guest and Vice Chancellor. A special gift was presented to Panchanathan, 1945 Batch, who was the oldest alumnus participating in the function. The Alumni Day sports prizes distributed by Dean In-charge and President AACEG. Sakthinathan, Secretary AACEG proposed vote of thanks.

G.Sakthinathan  
Secretary, AACEG