



HAMPTON ROADS MALAYALEE ASSOCIATION

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HRMA Update

The new Committee of HRMA took position during the Annual General Meeting held in January 2021 under the leadership of Nisaraj Dharmarajan (President HRMA). The tenure of this committee is for a period of 2 years and has 12 members serving on the Board. For the year 2021, *** families subscribed to HRMA Membership

Despite the current Pandemic Situation, HRMA was able to conduct events and activities during the past 6 months that benefit the society at large and our community members. We joined hands with Hague Pharmacy to obtain Covid Vaccine for our community members falling under Phase 1A and 1B categories. We also organized a Fundraising Campaign to help India battle against Covid 19. HRMA is also proud to announce that we are the winners for the Clean the Bay Day photo contest with Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

This year HRMA ventured into conducting sports events and activities specifically beneficial to the Kids and Youth in our community. We are sure you will enjoy these events and thank you for your wholehearted cooperation to help us serve you better.

Clean the Bay Day

HRMA in association with Chesapeake Bay Foundation volunteered for the "Clean the Bay Day" to help clean, protect, and make our shorelines even more beautiful by picking up litter. One of the most rewarding aspects of Clean the Bay Day is the ability to make a difference together with the people we love. Thank you to all the 38 volunteers for the difference you made on Sandbridge Beach by participating in the "Clean The Bay Day" Campaign. HRMA is grateful for all the Youth Club members joining us in our efforts to create a positive change and make an impact. Together we can take steps toward clean water, clean air, and sustainable resources for all. One of the highlights for the event was the food prepared by our own committee members. Kappa and Chutney was provided by Biju Abraham, Prajeesh Shekhar and delicious Chicken Sandwich was prepared by Chanchal Rachel. HRMA is also proud to announce that we are the winners for the Clean the Bay Day photo contest with Chesapeake Bay Foundation.



**This photo won
the "Clean the Bay
Day" Photo
Contest conducted
by Chesapeake
Bay Foundation**

Youth Club

HRMA is proud to have launched the Youth Club which will include a wide range of activities catered for all children under 21. HRMA aims to provide children with access to volunteering, social opportunities and supporting them to express their ideas. HRMA held our Youth Club Inaugural Meet via zoom on Saturday, May 15th from 5:30PM to 6:30PM. We have 38 Youth Club Members registered and all our members had fun meeting each other. HRMA has actively involved the youth members in all the association's relevant activities such as Clean the Bay Day and Tennis Tournament. Youth Club Leaders are planning for fun summer activities for this year. We hope this program can be fun and a learning experience, providing leadership opportunities and bringing positive change to the children's lives. Thank you to all the parents for their support and we would like to take this opportunity to introduce our Youth Club Leaders:



Sports

HRMA conducted P. V. Chummar Memorial Ever Rolling Tennis Tournament on Saturday June 12th, 5pm to 10pm at Greenbrier Park Tennis Courts (1009 Greenbrier Pkwy, Chesapeake, VA 23320), 1st time HRMA organizing a Tennis Tournament. A fantastic evening honoring the memory of P.V Chummar. 32 players participated in the tournament.

The tournament suited all players including beginners. It was run as an A-B-C-D drop-down event so it catered to A players (experts), B players, C players and D Players (beginners). The tournament format was doubles and was played as mixed gender. There were father/daughter team, mom/son team, father/son team and mom/daughter team.

Every team got to play a minimum of three each one set matches, regardless of their match result (win or lose). Conducted 4 separate finals (A, B, C or D bracket), and Trophies were awarded to the winners and losing finalists in each bracket. Winners from A bracket (father/son team joy & George Kannarkat) won the 2021 P.V Chummar memorial ever rolling trophy. Another highlight of the tournament was to see the team of 12 year old Abhinav Prajeesh & mom Smitha Prajeesh being runner ups of D Bracket.

Many volunteers from HRMA community came together and worked as a team towards the success of conducting the tennis tournament. It was great evening of fun, friendship and competition!



COVID - 19 Relief Fund

COVID's second wave severely affected India, especially the State of Kerala. HRMA organized a COVID-19 Fundraiser Campaign to help fight the battle against COVID-19 and collected \$1600 which is equivalent to Rs 106,750 (One Lakh Six Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty). All the raised funds from this campaign were transferred to the CMDRF account towards the ' Chief Ministers Disaster Relief Fund. This was possible only because of the tremendous support, invaluable dedication, and commitment of our community to this Campaign.

Malayalam Class

HRMA started a new batch for Malayalam Class on May 1, 2021. The aim is to introduce the kids to a fun and interactive learning experience of Malayalam Language. Due to the Covid situation, the classes are held online fortnightly. 14 kids from our community grabbed this opportunity and enrolled for the new batch of Malayalam Class.

Malayalam Class for Senior batch has 9 students on roll and they are following the Grade 2 syllabus prescribed by the Kerala State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT)

Neil Krishna Ajith appreciated by India Book of Records

HRMA congratulate Neil Krishna Ajith, S/O Ajith Valsan and Anjaly Ajith for receiving the India Book of Records Award 2021. He was selected for this award for reciting all the elements of the periodic table, 40 states of USA, 28 states of India, alphabets from A to Z, reverse alphabets from Z to A, counting from 1 to 100 in English and Malayalam at the age of 2 years and 8 months.



Achievements

Ann Elizabeth Cherian daughter of Vishakh Cherian and Anu Thomas achieved

a) Science Fair - 1st in York County, 1st in TideWater (state level), moving on to "Broadcom Masters" National level competition this fall! Ann will be representing her school at the national level as part of this competition. This is a rare and great achievement as only 10% of national science fair project are selected for this opportunity.

b) She also received "All A Honor Roll" and "Clipper Leader Award" from school for academic excellence and for being a good citizen.

Kids Corner

Summer in my Dreams

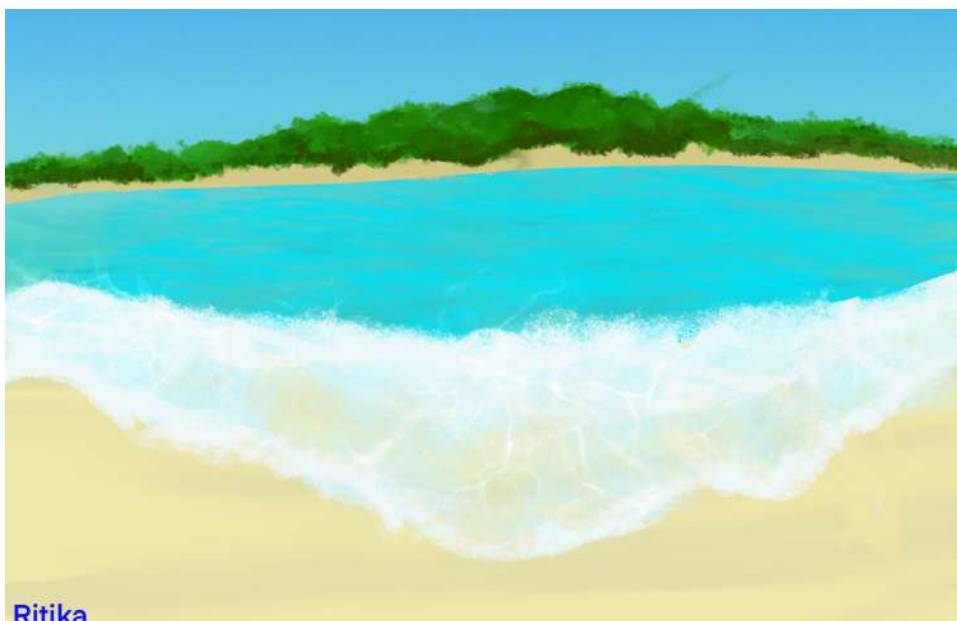
The seafoam crashes into the sand,
The children laugh and play,
It's like I'm in a wonderland,
Where the sea turtles slowly drift away.

Water - clear as crystal,
I held the sun on my palm.
As the wind sings its whistle,
the shore is blissful and calm.

They run in the sand barefoot,
The seabirds are soaring high,
Cause having fun is such a treat,
In the middle of July.

We ate our popsicles,
Enjoying the fairytale.
And riding our bicycles,
On the enchanting flower trail.

- by Ann Elizabeth Cherian, Grade: 7



Digital art work
Ritika S Nisaraj, Grade 5





A pencil drawing and painting by Anamika Anil

