

## Secretary Report 2019

Navjivan Vadil Kendra was formed with the aim of improving the life-style of senior citizens, and over twelve years we have greatly succeeded in achieving this. And we can say proudly so many other centres have followed our example.

So that all members, and specially the volunteers, can celebrate at ease, we introduced annual lunch and music at VIP Lounge after our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. The annual event nearer Diwali has become highlight of the year and our members look forwards to that program.

The highlight of 2018 was the introduction of short local holidays and enthusiasm with which our members have welcomed them. Many members would like to go on trips but for health or financial reasons do not wish to go on longer overseas holidays. Last year we managed to find a company offering such holidays at reasonable cost and we arranged three trips last year. Trip to Blackpool had 152 members, while trips to Lake District and Isle of Wight had 52 members each time. More members wished to join but lack of accommodation stopped us from taking more. Enjoyment on these trips was enormous. Travelling for hours on coaches with known people was great enjoyment and sitting together for breakfast and dinner while chatting, and then entertainment after dinner provided great joy and fun to all.

However because we had three such trips during summer we failed to arrange many day trips which seem to be less favoured by members in recent years. As usual, we celebrated all the important festivals in Hindu calendar. Holi, raksha bandhan, republic day, independence day, Janmasthan, Ram Navmi, Ganesh Chaturthi, Paryusan, Diwali, Navratri etc. Please forgive me if I have missed out any.

We now have 420 members and a very long waiting list. Our ability to look after our weekly gathering is entirely due to our dedicated volunteers. Right from coming early to arrange serving tables and related work, to serving lunch to as many as 250 members or more, clearing up after lunch is finished, making masala tea for our members and then packing up everything involves lot of work and dedication. We are proud of our volunteers as they perform these duties amicably and without need to ask for help or complain about any mess up. We are proud of our volunteers and I will like to bow my head as a sign of respect to these volunteers.

I have been lucky that over the years all committee members fulfil their duties and responsibilities perfectly and leave no reason for me to ask for anything.

Normally I avoid naming anyone but I feel that I need to mention:

- Prafulbhai Shah who meticulously makes weekly announcements, making sure that every point is covered and also including anything that might interest

members. Later he emails these announcements to all the members for them to note news of the day.

- Prafulbhai also sends out another email with interesting news, jokes, photos and articles and this has become highlight of the week and I am told it is enjoyed by all those who read it.
- Our President Vinod Parekh, who has been in the committee almost from the beginning, and has progressed from committee member to vice President to President, makes me proud. Right from the time he joined the committee he has overlooked all the activities of NVK very diligently. Even after becoming President he carries out all work and specially supervision of the details immaculately. We work very amicably as a team, and I am proud to be working with him. He ensures that every small point is taken care of and gives reminders for things in time that really helps in my work. I hope and wish that he is around for years to serve NVK.
- Since formation of NVK we have had wonderful and varied programs in the afternoon and credit for that goes to our Jasuben Sheth. Her creativity and coming up with new ideas all the time has kept our members interested and entertained all these years. I do not have words to describe her contribution but we can show our appreciation by giving her standing ovation. I also hope that she will continue in the committee and train others to do what she has been doing.
- All the committee members perform their duties diligently and perform whatever responsibilities are allocated to them. I feel proud of our committee members for doing such wonderful work.

As usual Sattavis Pattidar Centre management and staff have been very cooperative and helpful throughout the year and I would like to thank them for their help and assistance whenever needed.

Meera Catering has been wonderful to us and I would like to thank Narendrabhai and the staff from the bottom of my heart. We have total satisfaction with the food they supply and we are grateful to them.

And last, but not the least, thank you to all NVK members for your cooperation, and interest with which you take part in all activities and your regular attendance. If I have in anyway offended anyone or made a mistake in my duties then I ask for your forgiveness.