

THE MID TOWNER



BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHANDIGARH MIDTOWN : R.I. DISTT. 3080

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Saroj Jhawar

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D.R. Agarwal

Editor
Ashish Ahuja

Club No. 15228

PROGRAMME

Vol. XXXIII No.25, December 17, 2008

"Club Elections"

Meeting will be followed by Fellowship

Friday, December 19, 2008

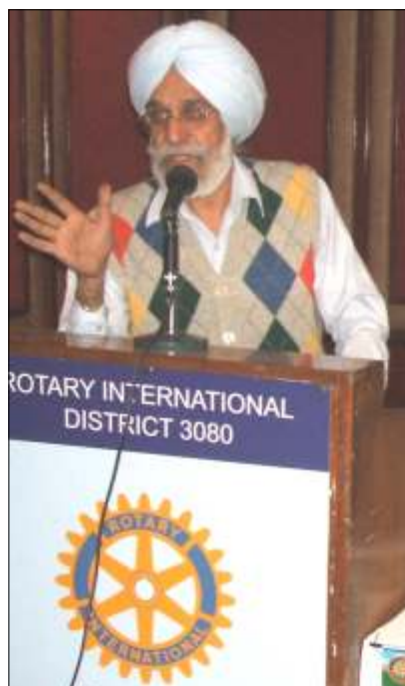
Time: 6.30 PM

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Changing Family Values

Was it Schumacher who said "Small is beautiful"? Maybe he was right after all, considering the way the last Friday's meeting stretched past eight & had to be clamped down considering we were stretched way overtime!

Anyway, it was PE Gurdip S. Deep who said, "By the time you find the solution, somebody has changed the problem." But it was Rtn. Arjan Singh who set the



Rtn. Arjan leads the discussion

ball rolling with a lot of quick thinking on his feet. Having had to volunteer as the lead speaker, he came with an amazing overview of what could be called a perennial problem - Changing Family Values!

Lets face facts - constant thing happening (don't your

kids tell you that all the time ?) But, as they say again, the more things change, the more they remain the same. Maybe family values changed because of the breakdown of the traditional joint family, with kids being sent off to work in far off factories. That included finding a place to live in overcrowded towns & cities - and there you are, a complete change in the dynamics of the family as we knew it then ! Its still happening.....

PP Ajit Gulati came up with some interesting anecdotes of husband swapping (Why should boys have all the fun ?) ! But aren't we parents to blame for that ? Do we actually educate our kids on moral issues ? Or deviant sexual behaviour ? Live-in relationships ?

Rtn. P.K. Verma came with some interesting observations. First, village life. He figured that the lady of the house gets a raw deal all the way, every time. From the moment of her birth till the day of her final journey, the Indian woman never had it good. She was, and still is, supposed to suffer in silence. As a daughter she had to listen unconditionally to her



Rtn. P.K. Verma cuts his B'day Cake - hope he had it and ate it too !

father & other elders, as a young wife she had to be subservient to her husband and his friends & family, and finally, as a mother, she had to sacrifice her all for the kids.

In fact he was surprised to hear in the Puranas (called the Garuda Katha), that the sages of old had declared that if a man was a cheat & deceitful, he would be born a woman in his next life ! He drew value examples from his own family, from his parents in the village, his own here in the city & that of his son & daughter-in-law living in the US.

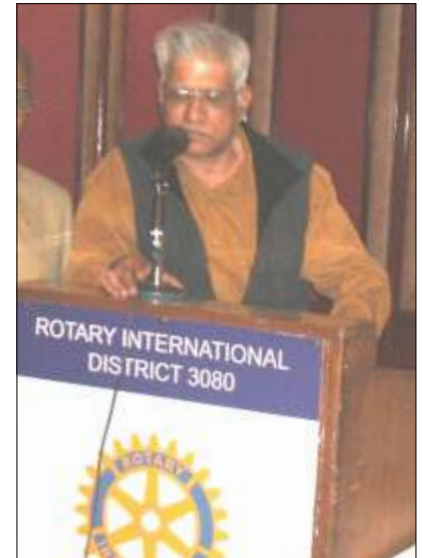
PP Dr. SK Sharma opined that it's the education, followed by the concomitant economic independence & accompanying power that plays spoilsport. A not so successful man, with an educated & demanding wife, and you are asking for trouble - things are bound to change, sooner rather than later !

Rtn. Suraj Handa gave us an insight of the horrific practice of delivering mothers having a pot near the delivery bed – not for saving a trip to the loo, but, believe it or not, the morgue. If the baby just born was a girl, into the pot she would go – forever! And it seems that this inhuman practice is still patent within certain tribes.

IPDG Shaju reminded us that maybe the Punjabis are smarter – they practice a thing called female foeticide with skilled practice, so much so that we have a male to female ratio of 793 girls to every 1000 boys under six years old ! And the incidence is more amongst the educated and in the towns & cities. Surprisingly, its not in the villages !

PP Anil Mehan asked for the solutions. How come things are getting worse in spite of the increased education and development ? Maybe our grandfathers were better off !

Rtn. Deepa Bhar rued the fact that there is no truth in our lives, only deceit, jealousy, hate & pride, and the love of good life. There is no faith or love – which is what makes the world go round. A bit of that inner glow



PP Anil K. Mehan

PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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PE Rtn. Gurdip gives away Punctuality Draw Award to Rtn. Arjan Singh

shall light up not just our lives, but that of the world around us. This inner light of our souls can light up the journey of life.

And finally our Jt. Secy. Ritu Singal shared her views that today, love does not exist. Who has the time? And can it beat selfishness? Even parents are doing things to satisfy their own egotistical needs, they really have no time for their kids!

Ask all the deprived of society, including the terrorist caught alive in Mumbai. It was deprivation and poverty that did him in. He was a prime candidate, as were others like him - homeless, desperate kids looking for a chance to live, to get the bare necessities of life!

Can Society look inwards and try & stem the rot, make amends while it is still possible?

 - PP Pallav Mukherjee

Points To Ponder Upon

- The important thing when you are going to do something brave is to have someone on hand to witness it
- Michael Howard, Prof. of History, Oxford
 - Courage - If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs, it's just possible you haven't grasped the situation
- Jean Kerr
 - If you want to feel rich, just count all the things you have that money can't buy.
 - Today is a gift, that is why it is called "The Present".
 - High society is for those who have stopped working and no longer have anything important to do
- Woodrow Wilson
 - I have learned that one of the most important rules of politics is poise - which means looking like an owl after you've behaved like a jackass
- Ronald Reagan
- Contributed by Ann Maniki Deep

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PP Rtn. Kesho R. Gupta



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Pulse Polio NID

The next NID for Polio Plus is on Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008. Since our Club has adopted the Sarangpur village, where regular classes are being conducted at the Night School for slum children, we would be participating in the Pulse Polio programme in this village for creating awareness & distributing sweets among the children who would be coming for the immunisation.

Let us all get together at Night School, Sarangpur on that day at 10 a.m. onwards & give a final push to the Polio Eradication programme.

Forthcoming Programme

The Mohammad Rafi Nite is an annual feature at the Tagore Theatre, Sec. 18, Chandigarh. This year, it is being held on Saturday, Dec. 20, 2008 at the same venue.

We have invited few artistes from that group in our regular club meeting of Friday, Dec. 26, 2008. It will be a musical evening where these artistes would be entertaining us with Mohammad Rafi songs.

So, let's be present in large numbers & enjoy the songs of yore!



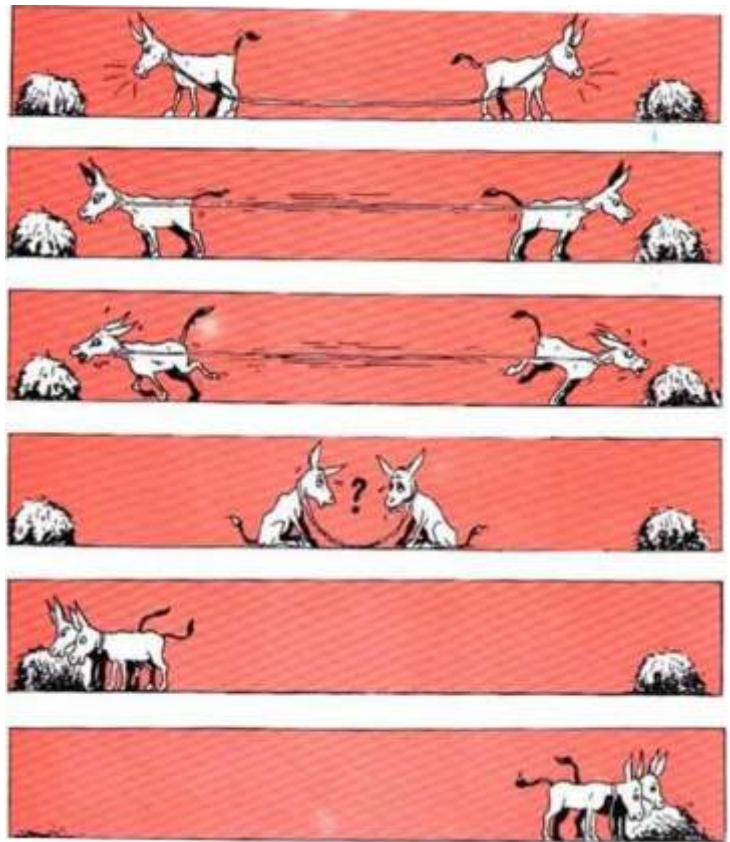
Smile Please!



Son : "Dad, where did all my intelligence come from?"

Dad : "Most probably from your Mom, Son, as I still have mine with me."

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Birthday Greetings

Pres. Rtn. Mrs. Saroj Jhawar

December 20

Rtn. Rajesh Vaidya

December 22

Rtn. Dr. Nitin Mathur

December 23

Rtn. Ravinder Krishan

December 24

Rtn. Vinod Sobti

December 24

PP. Rtn. Kesho Ram Gupta

December 25



Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Arjan Singh



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