

THE MID TOWNER



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

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Club No. 15228

PROGRAMME

Vol. XXXIII No.44, April 29, 2009

"Beliefs & Disbeliefs in Astrology"
Guest Speaker : Mr. Madan Gupta 'Spatu'
Renowned Astrologer & TV Personality

Friday, May 01, 2009

Time: 7.00. PM

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Make Dreams Real – Build a Shelter

Fertile brains germinate ideas. Tender hearts help translate them to reality.

When our Charter President Dr. B.D. Gupta's opinion was sought on the possibility of a meaningful project, he was quick to grasp the opportunity to suggest the "Shelter Project" at Sector 32 Government Medical College and Hospital. The idea appealed to our Club Leaders, who after an on site reconnaissance, found it to be meaningful. The plight of the patients and their attendants was indeed heart-breaking.

Sitting out in the open, either in the scorching sun or extreme winter, rain and shine, with their patients, without access to clean drinking water or toilets, is, to put it mildly, most inconvenient.

Thus began an ambitious Club Project. PP R.S. Chandgothia, accompanied Dr. B.D. Gupta all the way to St. Stephens Hospital, Delhi, where a similar shelter had been constructed. A tête-à-tête with the visitors was inspiring. They appreciated the concern, not only of the Hospital, but also the kind-hearted people who donated the shelter there.

On their return, and with the good offices of Dr. B.D. Gupta, a meeting with the Director-Principal Dr. Raj Bahadur was set up. He was very impressed with the idea, and immediately agreed to it. A Government-Rotary Co-operative Project is not the easiest to initiate. Mandatory sanctions, require piles of documentation. On the Club's part the initial activity of creating acceptable detailed drawings began. Modifications to suit the architectural department's requirements were made. Once cleared, it required the administration's clearance. To & fro paper-pushing, constant

follow-ups and naturally, building up a good PR, were an integral part of the exercise.

Finally, the official letter arrived. So impressed were the administrators of the St. Stephens' Shelter photographs, that they defined the shelter



must be its replica!

Fine, said the committee. In fact, there was no other option.

Then began the most difficult effort of Finances. Over past two months, while the demarcation of the site was in progress concurrently, some kind-hearted Rotarians and Citizens of Chandigarh, donated generously, bringing in some funds, though not sufficient enough – Rs. 2.5 Lakhs against a projected



estimate of Rs. 15 Lakhs.

All good deeds attract good Samaritans. When the project was explained to R.K. Luther, he too was impressed. The search began. R.K. Luther is a man of action. Within 24 hours, he set up a meeting between the club's Committee and Mr. Jivan Agarwal of Amravati Builders. Mr. Agarwal is a kind-hearted God-fearing man. He quickly agreed to donate the entire steel structure, designed by Bachtar Singh, Past President of Rotary Central. He provided his services free-

of-cost.

This lifted the spirit, and civil works began a fortnight ago. Obviously, we have a long way to go, merely because of restraints of funding. You could either contribute through the souvenir being brought out on the occasion, or you could donate in kind to finance the project. Quite a novel idea! In any case, the largesse of Midtowners is well known. Do what you would like to, but go ahead and contribute.

Fun is Rotary!



Last weeks' meeting was dedicated to sheer un-adulterated fun - an "Antakshari" competition between Rotarians and their Anns.

Quite expectedly, the Anns stole the show. Leading the Anns were Mala Sengupta, Bir Gulati, with the surprise addition of Purnima Sood. The others, including Mrs. D.K. Singh & Ann Raj Kapoor were heard humming old soulful tunes.

The Rotarians however, put a brave front. Thanks to the efforts of Ravi Tulsi, the lead singer, and our Rotarian President Saroj, who was delightfully on the side of the male-dominated Rotarians. However, it was Om Prakash, who had the last word, reciting a couplet, though, Shaju, informally declared Mala as the "Star of the Evening".

Hon. Rtn. Suraj Handa had tales of yore to tell. Kanta & Suraj were to celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary the next day. Congratulations to Kanta & Suraj!

The Punctuality Draw was won by PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia.

PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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Amandeep Relates His Tokyo Make up

As part of my work, I was in Tokyo to attend business meetings and client discussions. Though I missed my own club's meeting but was fortunate enough to attend another club meeting across the globe in Tokyo. I attended the weekly meeting of Rotary Club of Ebisu, Tokyo (District # 2750) and it was a real pleasure to attend the same.

This was my first trip to Tokyo and therefore, the place as well as language was new to me. But District Governor's office and Rotary club of Ebisu helped me and provided all the required assistance, thereby enabling me to attend the meeting.

Tokyo is a wonderful city and so are its people -very nice, polite and hospitable. They ensured that my food habits / reservations were considered in advance and made the necessary dietary arrangements. A fabulous lunch was served before the start of the meeting.

The meeting took place in the Westin Hotel, Tokyo, which is in a famous place called Garden Place- a tourist site. Rotary Club of Ebisu had a guest speaker, who is considered as National Treasure in Japan and his work is about restoring traditional Japanese art form. He provided detailed information on how traditionally Japanese artisans built

precise tools and created varied art forms by precise amalgamation of metals. The session was very detailed but exemplary.

RC of Ebisu ensured that I had a seat reserved on the table and person who is comfortable in bilingual capabilities (both Japanese and English) is seated next to me. Sakakibara San, who is the Chairman of the Water

Sanitation program anchored by RC of Ebisu at RI convention at Birmingham, helped me with all the translation to understand the proceedings of meetings. RC of Ebisu will be having a booth at annual RI convention to showcase their work.

She also informed me of one of their other current initiative which was around educating the young

children against the negative influences of unwanted online content. I really liked the traditional method of using comic characters to deliver the message as young children can easily relate to it.

Overall it was a very delightful experience for me to attend this meeting and meet members of Rotary family across the globe.



Rtn. Amandeep Syali with members of Rotary Club of Ebisu, Tokyo

Home Care Nursing Project Concludes

The Home Care Nursing Project of our club has successfully concluded with necessary training & education imparted to 12 girls. All these students have passed the requisite examination.

Course Completion Certificates Award Ceremony will be held at Dr. Vikrant Gupta Memorial Foundation, H. No. 223, Sector 15-A, Chandigarh on Monday, May 4 '09 at 10.30 a.m.

Members are requested to attend this function in large numbers.

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PP Rtn. Kesho R. Gupta



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Donations for Shelter Project

The Club is grateful to the following for their generous contributions :

- | | |
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| 1. Rtn. Srirambir Sandhu | Rs. 5,000.00 |
| 2. Rtn. Munish Jauhar | Rs. 10,000.00 |
| 3. M/s. Hi-Tech Point (Rtn. Rajesh Vaidya) | Rs. 10,000.00 |
| 4. M/s. Samrat Ply (I) P. Ltd., New Delhi | Rs. 15,000.00 |
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| 12. M/s. Khandelvia Oil & Gen. Mills P. Ltd.
(PP Rtn. Devi Prasad Khandelvia) | Rs. 51,000.00 |
| 13. The Winsome Foundation, Chandigarh | Rs. 50,000.00 |
| 14. M/s. Manu International
(Rtn. D.K.Gupta) | Rs. 20,000.00 |
| 15. M/s. Northern India Rubber Mills
(Rtn. Jagmohan Lal Mahajan) | Rs. 5,100.00 |
| 16. M/s. Azad Offset Printers Pvt. Ltd.
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| 20. Rtn. Surjit Kumar | Rs. 5,000.00 |
| 21. Mr. Manoj Lakhotia | Rs. 11,000.00 |
| 22. Rtn. Sanjay Singal | Rs. 11,000.00 |
| 23. PP Rtn. Kesho Ram Gupta | Rs. 10,000.00 |
| 24. Mr. Sagar Periwal
(F/o Pres. Saroj Jhawar) | Rs. 50,000.00 |

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

R'ann Sharda & PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia



May 07

Birthday Greetings

Rtn.P.K. Vasudeva



May 07

District Conference - Assembly of Hands -Together

The Distt. Assembly is being held in Shimla at Hotel Peterhoff on Sunday, May 3 '09, from 9.00 am upto 2.30 p.m., beginning with breakfast & concluding with lunch.

Please register in large numbers to enjoy the Assembly together. Registration Charges are :

Rs. 650/- (Single) ; Rs. 1250/- (Couple)

Kindly give your names to our office secy. Mr. V.P. Sharma.

Another Beneficiary of our Micro-loan Project



Maya Tiki, along with her sister-in-law, stitches clothes from home. She lives in a slum colony just outside Chandigarh. For expanding her business she needs one embroidery machine and another sewing machine. We have advanced her Rs. 10,000/- for this purchase.

Punctuality Draw

Won by PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia



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Hon. Rtn. Suraj Handa



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