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The Midtowner



Club Number : 15228

Bulletin of Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown: R.I. District 3080

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Kalyan Banerjee

District Governor
Manpreet Singh

President
Raj Kumar Luther

Secretary
Amarjit Singh

Editor
Dr. V. J. S. Vohra

Volume XXXVI No. 29 Dated: January 17, 2012

PROGRAMME

Solid Waste Management

Guest Speaker: Rtn. Parveen C. Goyal, Advocate
Past President, Rotary Club Chandigarh

Friday, January 20, 2012

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Let's all be in Bangkok in May

On January 13, 2012 the club meeting started with President R.K. Luther wishing Happy Lohri to all. Those present in the meeting danced in festive mood and lohri songs were played through the laptop by Harleen, daughter of Secretary Amarjit Singh. Rewrhi, groundnuts and popcorn was served. President Luther requested all our members and their spouses to be present during District Governor's visit to our club on January 27, 2012. He also welcomed AG Rajneesh Gupta, who had a meeting with our board of directors, just before the club meeting.

The President handed over the proceedings to PDG Shaju Peter, who had a very impressive Audio Visual Presentation for Rotary

convention, Shaju said there are great shows at the Convention. The registration fee is US\$ 195 per head upto 1st March 2012. But this does not include the meals and events for which you have to pay extra. Total expenses including airfare, hotels etc. will be less than Rs. 50000 per person.

Shaju then went on to show an attractive video presentation of RI President Kalyan Banerjee's invitation to Bangkok Convention. (This can be seen on the internet at;

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6Kmr1Wv_40&feature=player_embedded)



Rotarians and R'anns dance during Lohri celebrations

International Convention at Bangkok on 6-9 May 2012. Shaju said, "District Conference is an assembly of Rotarians of a particular District. Just as it is for Rotarians of the District, Rotary Convention is an assembly of Rotarians, once in a year, for the entire world of Rotary."



PDG Shaju Peter

Shaju stated that generally RI convention has an attendance of about 20000, but the one at Japan in 2004 was the highest with 38000 Rotarians. As large number of Indian Rotarians are likely to be in Bangkok, this figure is expected to be 35000, or may be, a record will be created! Giving details of the

This video shows RI President Kalyan and his wife, Mrs. Binota Banerjee personally welcoming us to Bangkok. It also shows the many attractions that one would see while visiting the Bangkok convention. Bangkok is a vibrant, dynamic city which is full of life and it is the principle destination for world travelers. There are gleaming skyscrapers, world class hotels, cuisines, thrilling entertainment and very friendly night life! Shopping here is the best in Asia. Getting around Bangkok is easy by train, boat, taxi and one of the most favourite one, the 'tuk tuk'. Thai food is delightful. Bangkok is also a very spiritual city and has a glorious past. It is a home to the Buddhist temples, magnificent palaces, sacred shrines and many other cultural and historical creations. Thai people are friendly, easy



going and polite.

Truly, Bangkok is a land of thousand smiles. This convention is going to be an unforgettable experience. RI President Kalyan Banerjee and Mrs. Binota extend a warm invitation to all Rotarians to celebrate the spirit of Rotary in Bangkok.

Continuing with his presentation Shaju talked about two major events of the convention, that is, the grand opening ceremony on the first day and the closing ceremony on the third day. In between there are celebrities of the world as speakers to inspire you. Shaju said Bollywood will also be there and may be even Amitabh Bachhan! One of the major events at Bangkok would be 2½ hours of cultural show on heritage of Thailand.

Shaju also gave glimpses of previous RI conventions which he had attended, including the last one in 2011 at New Orleans. Shaju said, “Bill Gates spoke for 40 minutes on polio and the major chunk of his presentation was on India, where we have done a tremendous job.” Amidst a thunderous applause, Shaju added, “Today, incidentally, we are celebrating 365 days of polio free India.”

Shaju also displayed a picture of a very large 'House of Friendship', which is one of the main features of any convention. Shaju said, “This is the place where you have your meals from hundreds of food stalls. There will also be large number of shops from the local market.” You need not go to the Bangkok market for shopping as every commodity would be available here. House of Friendship will be an utmost impressive atmosphere you ever experienced. A wide variety of well known restaurants

in Bangkok will serve you with a mouth-watering food. This place will also have many Internet Cafes, or you can bring your own communication device for a free WiFi here.

Shaju concluded his presentation with another video presentation by RI Director Yash Das. It is titled, 'Why you need to be in Bangkok in 2012!' which can be seen on internet at; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sWSAkKEHQ>. RID Yash says, “As a Rotarian the only place where you can truly experience the internationality of our organization is at an international convention.” He highlights the reasons for attending the 2012 convention in Bangkok. Our own RI President Kalyan Banerjee will preside over this convention. RI Convention has never been held so close to India. It also has the lowest registration fee for any international convention which has never happened in the past. We should honour and show the commitment of Rotarians of India in the year when RI President is from India, and therefore we need to be there in good numbers. We need to show our solidarity with our RI President Kalyan. It will also be an experience of meeting Rotarians of 160 different nationalities, and get a taste of what Bangkok has to offer you.

Shaju's exciting and a motivating presentation generated lot of interest amongst those present at the meeting and it is hoped that at least 50 Chandigarh Midtowners (25 couples) would be in Bangkok in May. (For more details please contact PDG Shaju and also visit; <http://www.rotaryconvention2012.com>). Here you can also register for the convention.



AG Rajneesh Gupta presents birthday gifts (L-R) to Rtn. Mohinder Singh, R'ann Indu Luthra and punctuality award to PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia

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PDG Shaju Peter presents a memento to AG Rajneesh Gupta

Special Rotary tour packages are being offered by travel agents to Thailand and there are also holiday packages which includes Malaysia and Singapore.

AG Rajneesh Gupta urged Rotarians for their support to The Rotary Foundation. He appreciated the large number of registration from our club for the District Conference but expected it to be 100 percent.

Showing keen interest in Shaju's presentation, the AG was hopeful that good numbers of Rotarians of Chandigarh Midtown would attend the Bangkok RI Convention.

Appeal by our DGN 2014-15 Candidate T.S. Anand



PP T.S. Anand

PP Rtn. T.S. Anand in his brief address in the club meeting on January 13, 2012 said, "I and my wife Preety, have started on a new journey which commenced on 1st October as we retired and sold our business and now we are relatively free to pursue something different. We are going to be more actively involved in Rotary and I am extremely grateful to Chandigarh Midtown for proposing my name as a candidate for DGN."

He added, "I hope I will not only do justice to this job and responsibility, but will also bring lot of laurels to our club." He thanked "the star of our club", PDG Shaju Peter and other members for the support.

In the District Conference on 11-12 February 2012 the Nominating Committee will decide who is going to be the DGN 2014-15.

Being a serious contender, Tochi, as he is fondly known to us all, needs lot of physical support from members of our club, and he made an appeal that we should have 100 percent attendance at the District Conference. PDG Shaju instantly responded, "Everyone of us should be there at the District Conference."

Supporting Shaju's presentation on Bangkok convention, Tochi said, "Let us set a target of 50 from our club for the RI Convention." Hopefully, this target is going to be achieved, and we are likely to be in large numbers, not only in the District Conference, but also at the Bangkok convention!

Eye Check up Camp

An Eye Check up camp was organised in Hamari Kaksha at Govt. School, Sector 7, Chandigarh on 12, 13 and 14 January 2012 for the children of age group from 5 to 14 years, sponsored by Inner Wheel Club of Chandigarh Midtown. 130 Children were examined by Rtn. Dr. Jawahar Luthra, Ophthalmologist of CMC Chandigarh. Medicines were provided partly by Sanjivni Medical & Educational Trust. Refreshments, including a bottle

of milk was given to each child by the President Inner Wheel Chandigarh Midtown Mrs. Uma Gupta. Some of the children had very low vision and few had Vitamin A and D deficiency.

There was an active participation by the IW members PDC Neeru Khattar, PP Deepa Sahib Singh, PP Patinder MB Singh, PP Indu Luthra and Manju Rekhi among others.

Medical Camp at Sikhya School

As already reported in our bulletin No. 27 a Medical camp will be held at Sikhya School in Sector 46, Chandigarh where 600 students are to be examined in the camp to be held on two days, 18th January and 24th January 2012 from 9 am to 2 pm. Our

Doctors who would be examining the students would be PP Rtn. Dr. Vanita Gupta, Rtn. Col. Dr. V.K. Kapoor, Rtn. Dr. Nitin Mathur and Rtn. Dr. Anureet Kaur. For eye check up we are going to have Rtn. Dr. Jawahar Luthra

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Lohri Celebrated with Kids of Orphanages



PP Gurdip S. Deep and Rtn. Dr. I.S. Dua (extreme right) dance with Rotaractors and the kids

Rotaract Club Chandigarh Midtown celebrated Lohri on 11th January 2012 with the kids of several orphanages at Dusherra Ground, Panjab University. Lohri songs were also sung and Rotaractors also played various games with the kids from the orphanages - Kartar Aasra, Bal Niketan and Shishu Greh.

Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua and PP Rtn Gurdip S. Deep represented our club to grace the occasion with their presence. Prof. Dua helped the Rotaractors to organize the event with all the possible support.

Amar Ujala and Fashioners also supported Rotaract Chandigarh Midtown to give joy of this festival to the kids. A half page report of the event was also published in the newspaper the next day. The celebrations concluded by presenting lohri gifts to the kids.

Ann's Column Joy of Serving God By: Ann Sudha Puri

“To serve God is to serve others”, and this saying holds even more true when the service involves the giving of ourselves to the children, the little ones who have been forgotten and forsaken. As we lovingly give of ourselves to these children and strive to make their lives a little more comfortable, little more fuller it is our lives that change, it is our hearts that are lightened. Their love, affection and their contagious smiles encourage and affirm that what we do does make an impact.

And isn't that what we all strive for – to do something meaningful with our lives, something that can have far reaching

consequences. And nothing can impact this world more than changing the lives of children who have no voices but who if given a helping hand will grow up to be our voices.

“All children belong to all of us.” And inherent in that is the responsibility of every adult to take care of every child. So let us all come together to provide for all these children, do what we can to equip them for better life and help them reach their highest potential. If we are able to do so, we would have served God to the best of our abilities.

Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Susan Nath  January 20

Birthday of Rotarians

PP Rtn. Devi Prasad Khandelia  January 21
Rtn. Amit Jain  January 21

Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Sarita & Rtn. P.K. Vasudeva January 24
R'ann Purnima & Rtn. Deepak Sood January 24
R'ann Monika & Rtn. Chitranjan Aggarwal January 25

Punctuality Draw

Won by PP Rtn. R.S. Chandgothia

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