



FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 29, 2006

Volume: XXXI No. 13; September 27, 2006

THE POWER OF SERVICE

Guest Speaker: Er. Swami Lakshmi Narayanan Ji, from The Vedanta Institute, Pune Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh Time: 7.00 P.M.

THE GSE TEAM FROM R.I.D.3080 TO JAPAN R.I.D. 2800

About Group Study Exchange (GSE) Program

The Group Study Exchange Program is an Educational Program of The Rotary Foundation. The Program involves exchange of teams between two partner Districts in different countries. Incidentally, Rotary exists in 168 countries of the world. Of the 532 Rotary Districts across the world, nearly 550 teams participate in the GSE Program, annually. The Team comprises of a senior Past President with excellent leadership qualities, as the Team Leader. The rest of the team comprises of 4 non - Rotarians (of age group 25 - 40 years), who need to be professionals with excellent academic backgrounds and worthy of being ambassadors of goodwill.

The aim of the GSE Program is to promote international understanding and goodwill, study the facts of culture, professions, way of life and the strong points of the host country. The Team from RI District 3080 (which comprises of parts of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh and the U.T. of Chandigarh) shall be visiting RI District 2800 in Yamagata Prefecture in Japan.

PP Rtn. Sandeep Luthra from Rotary Chandigarh Shivalik shall be the Team Leader. The other members of the Team include Dr. Ajay Sood, Ms. Harpreet Kaur, Ms. Rachna Sharma & Mr. Munish Singal. The Team representing RI District 2800 shall visit India in January 2007.

PROFILE OF GROUP STUDY EXCHANGETEAM

PP Rtn. Sandeep Luthra, Team Leader

Age:38 years

Classification: Structural Designing

Education : Graduation in Civil Engineering with Masters Degree in Structural Engineering

A Rotarian since 1995, PP Rtn. Sandeep Luthra comes from the city of Chandigarh. He is a Charter Member of Rotary

Chandigarh Shivalik and is a past Interactor & Rotaractor. His interests are Multimedia Technology, Music, Architecture & Interiors. Sandeep was adjudged "Rotarian of the Year" in his Rotary District for two consecutive years. He is the current District Editor and responsible for the District Web site. Visiting Service Projects and extending a helping hand, would be his priority. But the biggest priority would be to make friends.

Dr. Ajay Sood, Team Member

Age:38 years

Occupation: Anesthetist

Education : Bachelors Degree in Medicine with Masters Degree in

Anaesthesia.

Dr. Ajay Sood comes from Shimla and is an Associate Professor in Medical College, Shimla. His wife Dr. Nishi is a Gynaecologist. His major interests are Sports, Dramatics & Traveling. Ajay is a past Rotaractor and is actively associated with various service activities in his community. He would love to visit medical & healthcare facilities.

Ms. Harpreet Kaur, Team Member

Age:35 years

Occupation : Software Education

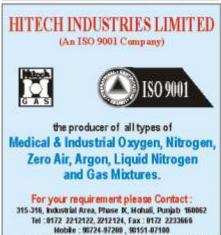
Education : B.Sc (Honours School) in Chemistry, Masters in Computer

 $Applications, MBA \, .$

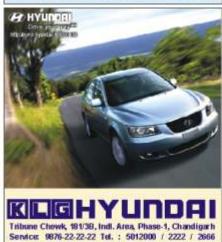
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Harpreet comes from Chandigarh and is sponsored by Rotary Club of Chandigarh. She has worked as a Software Developer and now is co-ordinator of Computer Studies Department in an Educational Institution. She would like to visit educational institutions and places of historical interest. She lists reading & painting as her hobbies.





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E-mail: compositepower@hotmail.com

Ms. Rachna Sharma, Team Member

Age:35 years

Occupation: Teaching

Education: B.Sc., B.Ed., M.Sc. (Zoology), M.Ed., M.A. (English).

Rachna is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chandigarh. She is working as a lecturer in Biology in a major educational institution.

She is a voracious reader with a keen interest in modern post - colonial literature and international affairs. She loves traveling and interacting with people.

Mr. Munish Singhal, Team Member

Age:39 years

Occupation :Lawyer

Education: Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical), MBA,

Bachelor of Laws.

Munish Singhal comes from the city of Chandigarh and is sponsored by Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown. His wife, Dr. Ritu is a Dental Surgeon. He has handled a number of civil and criminal cases and specializes in Commercial Arbitration (Intellectual Property Rights). Munish is involved in providing service to mentally challenged children. He would love to visit the courts and legal firms.



Anniversary Couple R'ann Raj & Rtn. Dr. Col.V.K. Kapoor



Sharing their b'day joys - Rtn.Arjan Singh & PP Dr. Mrs. Vanita Gupta

The GSE Team Leader PP Rtn. Sandeep Luthra gave a multimedia presentation which included his own introduction. He fluently spoke few sentences in Japanese and then translated it in English. This was followed with presentations by the team members, Ms Harpreet Kaur, Ms Rachna Sharma (both from Chandigarh) and Mr. Munish Singhal, who was nominated by our club for the GSE Team. The fourth member, Dr. Ajay Sood of Shimla, could not make it due to a professional commitment.

On behalf of the club, President Dr.Vohra congratulated PP Rtn. Sandeep Luthra for leading the GSE Team and wished them a very happy and enjoyable visit to Japan.

Vote of thanks was given by PP Col.A.J.S. Gill who congratualated PP Rtn Sandeep Luthra for being the Team Leader and thanked him and the members of GSE Team for the very impressive Powerpoint Presentation.





Matching Grant of Rs.9,90,000.00 Arrives for Text Books for the Poor

"It is with a tremendous sense of satisfaction and an abiding faith in the capacity of the Rotary Foundation to do good in the world that I report to you, fellow Midtowners, the arrival of the draft for Rs.9,90,000.00 from the Foundation's office in Delhi, to provide for free text books for the economically disadvantaged children of Chandigarh", said Shaju, handing over the draft to Pres. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra at the regular meeting last week.



This Matching Grant is unique in many ways. It took us the longest time from conception to funding - nearly 16 months! It was way back in June 2005 that the then President Elect Rtn. R.K. Goyal called on Shaju to discuss ways and means of a dream project in literacy. R.K. meticulously conducted a survey of all the Government Schools in Chandigarh and found out that on an average, 8 students in class IX, X, XI and XII found it difficult to afford their text books. The project was to fund text books which will be kept in the school library after the first academic session is over so that the same text books can be recycled at least for the next two years.

Shaju went about contacting friends abroad. For some reason or the other everyone he spoke to, though excited about the idea, had other priorities. Finally we got a partner in the Rotary Club of Gold Coast, Lake Success, New York, District 7250, USA.

This is also the largest project in terms of funding that our club has ever undertaken under WCS.

The third unique feature of the project is that none of us in Midtown had any personal contact in this American Club chartered in 2005. The project got picked up by them, thanks to the power of the internet. Shaju had uploaded the project profile into the website of 'Hands Across the Seas', an informal gathering of Rotarians who have served at their District level in WCS in the past. The first e-mail arrived from one Rtn. Ravishankar Bhooplapur of the New York club, confirming his club's willingness to participate in our project. From then on it didn't take long for everything to fall into place.

It was only on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2006 that Midtowners heard from Foundation Trustee Chairman Louis Vicente Giay that Bhooplapur's portrait was in the Hall of Honour in the RI Headquarters at Evanston for his contribution of US\$ one million!

Our thanks are due to Rtn. Ravishankar Bhooplapur and IPP Massimo Guerrieri of the Gold Coast Club who made it all possible.

We hope to receive Ravishankar in our club in November when he will be in the city to attend the Rotary Zone Institute. Incidentally, he once served as the Secretary of the Rotary Club of Dharwar in Karnataka.

Condolence

Shri Ramesh Chopra, father of R'ann Veena Bindra and father-in-law of PP Rtn. Subhash Bindra, left for his heavenly abode on September 13, 2006 at Amritsar following a brain hemorrhage. He was 72.

We share the family's grief and pray for the departed soul to rest in peace.





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Thank You PDG Subhash Garg

20th September, 2006

Dear President Rtn. Dr.V.J. S. Vohra,

Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown

I thankfully acknowledge receipt of your Club's Bulletins' The MidTowner' dated 8th & 15th September, 2006.

Projects like Eye Donation Camp are very helpful and benefit the needy in our society. Such type of projects should be undertaken in the future too. Keep up the good work and lead the club from the front, always.

With regards.

Yours-in-Rotary,

SUBHASH GARG PDG

Heartiest Congratulations

Rtn. Parveen Khosla & Ann. Rashi have been blessed with a cute li'l baby boy on Sept. 07, 2006.

Our Secy. Rtn. R.K. Luther & Ann. Urmil have become proud *Dada - Dadi* as their son Atul & daughter-in-law Tina have been blessed with a son on Sep. 17, 2006.

Now that calls for celebrations! Let us all wish the 'new comers' a long life.

Here's the untold secret of married life....

A couple was celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. A local newspaper reporter was inquiring as to the secret of their long and happy marriage.

"Well, it dates back to our honeymoon," explained the man. "We visited the Grand Canyon and took a trip down to the bottom on the canyon by horse. We hadn't gone too far when my wife's horse stumbled.

My wife quietly said, 'that's once'. We proceeded a little further and the horse stumbled again. Once more my wife quietly said, 'That's twice'

We hadn't gone a half-mile when the horse stumbled the third time. My wife quietly removed a revolver from her purse and shot the horse dead.

I started an angry protest over her treatment of the horse. While I was shouting, she stared at me with a steady look, and quietly said, 'That's once'.

And we lived happily ever after."

Hurry! Last 3 days to go

Have you registered for the District Conference 2007 "Swadeshe Bhanwantrayam", scheduled to be held at BHEL Convention Hall, Hardwar on 24th & 25th Feb. 2007? If not, please rush your entries to our Office Secy. Mr. V.P. Sharma & avail of concessional registration charges - Rs. 700 (Single) & Rs. 1300 (Couple) - valid only till Sept. 30, 2006.

Post Sept. 30, 2006, the registration charges will be Rs. 800 (Single) & Rs. 1500 (Couple), valid till Dec. 31, 2006.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

Rtn. Parveen Khosla

Rtn. Dr. (Col.) V.K. Kapoor

PP Rtn. Dr. S.K. Sharma



Oct. 01

Oct. 03

Oct. 03



WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

R'ann Veena & PP. Rtn. Subhash Bindra

Sept. 30

R'ann Ranjana & Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi

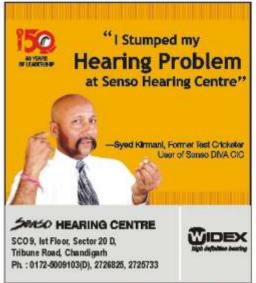
Oct. 02



PUNCTUALITY DRAW:

Won by PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee

THIS BULLETIN ALREADY UPLOADED ON OUR WEBSITE





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