

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

R.I. President
Wilfrid J. Wilkinson

District Governor
Shaju Peter

President
Sandeep Sandhu

Secretary
Atul Grover

Editor
Col AJS Gill

Programme: - Friday, August 3, 2007

Vol. XXXII No. 5 August 1, 2007

“Helping our Children be Comfortable Exam Time.”

Speaker : Rtn Raghunandan, Author of Book “Unleashing your Child’s Executive Potential.”

Venue: - Hotel President, Sector 26, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh.

Time: - 7 PM

President Rtn Sandeep Sandhu is Installed

Chief Guest of the Installation Ceremony, **Dr. Farooq Abdullah**, Member Parliament, arrived at the CII Auditorium dot on time and mixed with the Midtowners and the guests freely with a bewitching friendly attitude.

Mr. HK Dua, Editor-in-Chief The Tribune, the Guest of Honour, had that ever-present broad smile for one and all.

The Sergeant-at-Arms and the Master of Ceremonies, PP Rtn Capt Kahlon called the 31st Installation Meeting of the Club, to order and requested the audience to rise for the National Anthem. The respective Sergeants, PP Rtn RK Goyal and PP Rtn Capt Kahlon put the collars of honour to the District Governor and the President 2006-07 Rtn Dr. VJS Vohra

At Lighting the Lamp Ceremony, the MC, aptly remembered Late Ann Sulochana Ramsisaria who was always at the forefront to organize the lamp ceremony.

PE Rtn Saroj Jhavar welcomed the esteemed guests. Ann Moon Sandhu and Ann Sonal Grover presented the welcome bouquets to the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour respectively. Ann Sarabjit Bawa and Ann Sangeeta Singla welcomed DG Rtn Shaju Peter and Ann Lovy Peter with bouquets. Ann Archana Mathur presented the welcome bouquet to AG Rtn Baldev Aggarwal.

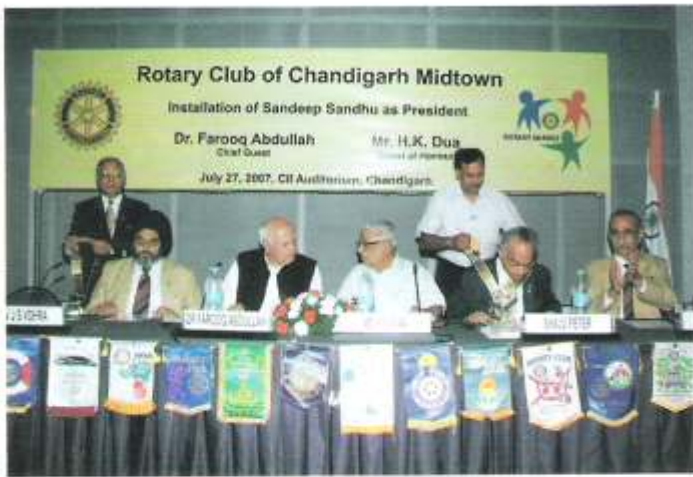
President (2006-07) Dr. Vohra explained the service and fellowship activities of the Club in the year 2006-07. He emphasized the projects to help the challenged children



Grand reception for the Chief Guest



The Chief Guest & The Guest of Honour with the Midtowners



The DG and The President (2006-07) being Collared with Honour



Welcome Bouquet for the Chief Guest by Ann. Moon Sandhu



Lighting the Lamp



Welcome Bouquet for the Guest of Honour by Ann. Sonal Grover

of Saket, the eye camp at Saharanpur with the funds from the Rotary Club of Wollaton Park, and highlighted the presence of RI President Wilfrid J Wilkinson and Ann Joan Wilkinson at the inauguration of the prestigious literacy project of the Club, donation of books to the needy students of all the schools in UT Chandigarh, a major project conceived in the year 2005-06 by the then President RK Goyal and the then DGE Rtn Shaju Peter. Dr. Vohra thanked one and all who helped him in his efforts to serve the needy in the community and fellowship in the Club and wished the Team 2007-08 a glorious year.

MC read out a message from the DGE Satish Saluja wishing the Team 2007-08 a successful Rotary Year.

Thereafter was the event of the evening, the Presidential Collar was changed from Dr. Vohra to Rtn Sandhu and Rtn Sandeep Sandhu was formally

installed as President in the august presence of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Mr. HK Dua.



The event of the Evening-Change of Presidential Collar

PP Rtn MS Kahlon introduced President Sandhu whose proud parents, father Brig Narinder Sandhu MVC and Mother Mrs. Harinder Sandhu were present. He



Secretaries hand/take over the Club Charter



The dias with MC PP Kahlon on the Mike.



Hall full of Audience



The President with the Chief Guest

described President Sandhu as a highly qualified person with an Engineering Degree in Electronics and a Masters in Business Administration. He also informed the audience that President Sandhu is an amateur golfer of national and international fame and has many a laurel in national and international tournaments.

The President, in his address, enumerated and explained the details of the projects planned in the year 2007-08. To the projects already mentioned in our bulletin, The Midtown, Issue No. 2, the President added to further activate the Club's Micro Loan Project started in the Rotary Year 1995-96. This WCS Project was possible with the efforts of PDG Rtn Devinder P Kalra and Ann Anuradha Kalra, who, in 1995-96, introduced the then President Lakshmi C Khanna of Rotary Club of Milano Sud-Est Italy in a special gathering of Rotarians of the Milano Sud-Est Club in Delhi, to the then President and Secretary of our Club and there started an association of

the two clubs which continues. President Sandhu detailed the Club Projects for the Year 2007-08 i.e. Mobile Diagnostics Chamber for the handicapped, Membership Growth, District Conference 22-24 Feb 2008, Two blood donation Camps, Medical Camp in collaboration with the RC Wollaton Park UK, organized by PP Rtn Mohan Khera and a Team of Doctors from the Wollaton Park Club, Sewing and Embroidery Centre, Motor Mechanic Training Capsule, On going Night School, started during the Presidency of Dr. Vanita Gupta in 2000-01, The Micro Loan Project with a plan to increase its corpus to Rs. 25 lac, Family Exchange with UK in Dec 2007 and May 2008, and Contribution to The Rotary Foundation @ 100 \$ per capita membership of the Club.

He introduced the governing council of the Club, the Club Board, and said that he feels proud of the fact that DG Rtn Shaju Peter is on the Board. President Sandhu



The Club Board (2007-08) with the Dignitaries



Memento for IPP Rtn. Dr. VJS Vohra



Interest-Free loan to Ms. Anu Sharma by the Chief Guest



Interest-Free loan to Ranjit Singh by the Guest of Honour

presented a memento, on behalf of the Club to IPP Dr. Vohra. The President introduced one new member Rtn Manmohan Singh and Ann Paramjit Kaur, a home coming to both of them as Manmohan was a member of our Club some years ago. In the bargain President got the Sponsor Recognition Pin from the District Governor. Two

Honorary Members were inducted, Past President of Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in India Ann Anuradha Kalra and our own Rtn Suraj Handa. For Rtn Anuradha, it is a homecoming too as she was our Honorary Member in 1995-96. Two Micro Loans were also distributed, one to S Ranjit Singh for dairy farming and Ms. Anu Sharma for

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Address by Rtn. Anuradha Kalra



A Golf-Gift by Rtn. Anuradha Kalra to the President

garments trade. Thereafter two PHFs were recognized, Dr. Shalini Malhotra, daughter of our PP Rtn Kesho Ram Gupta, and Biser Kaur Jauhar, daughter of our Rtn Munish Singh Jauhar.



Past President of Association of Inner Wheel Clubs in India, Rtn Anuradha Kalra, in her thanksgiving and

congratulatory address, said that she was delighted to come back as a member of the Club and promised that she would make all efforts to attend as many meetings of the Club as possible. She wished Bobby (President Sandeep Sandhu) a successful 2007-08, full of service to the needy. She also advised Bobby that in spite of the big demands on his time, he should continue to enjoy golf and for this she presented him a golf memento. As a recognition of the presence of the VIPs in the meeting she recited a poem, her own composition, which goes as follows: -

आज मधुर बेला आई है
 'संदीप' और 'Moon' की रोशनी चँहूँ ओर छाई है
 'फारुख जी' आए है,
 'दुआ साहब' भी खूब दुआएं लाए हैं
 'शजु' के क्लब में 'अतुल्य' दोस्ती खिल आई है
 तभी तो चण्डीगढ़ midtown की
 'मनमोहिनी' छवि सबको भाई है।

DG Rtn Shaju Peter, in his address, reminisced about the time, some 12 years ago, when he made Sandeep into a Rotarian Sandeep Sandhu. He compared the Indian slogan "Unity in Diversity" to a very similar situation in the internationality of Rotary. He explained that the current Rotary theme "Rotary Shares" has been thought of by the RI President because of the Rotarians' willingness to share their time, expertise and resources with the needy of the world. He promised full support to the Club President and thereby to the Club in their efforts to serve the needy.


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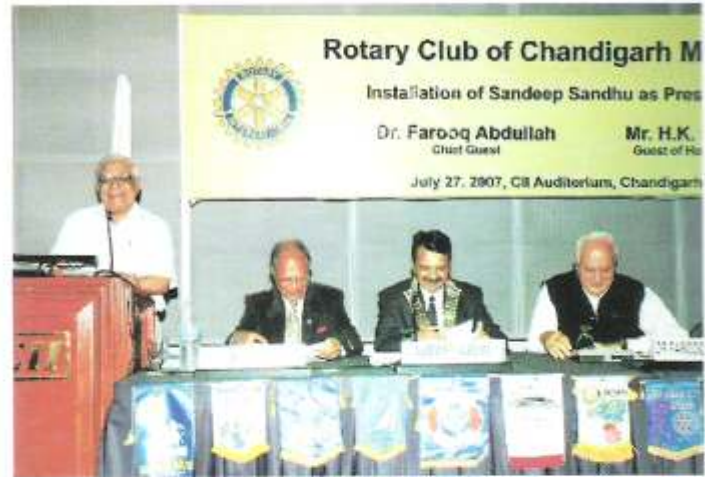
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PP Rtn. Dr. Vanita Gupta introduces the Guest of Honour



Address by the Guest of Honour Mr. H.K. Dua



Address by the Chief Guest Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Member Parliament

PP Rtn Dr. Vanita Gupta introduced the Guest of Honor Mr HK Dua, Editor-in-Chief The Tribune. She said that Mr Dua is an old friend of the Club and he was an Honorary Member of our Club in the year 2005-06 when PP Rtn RK Goyal was the President of the Club. She described him as a very forthright media personality but with a broad and friendly smile always on his face. Dr. Vanita credited Mr Dua for bringing credibility into the news. She profusely thanked him for joining the meeting of the Club and said that it is always educative and a pleasure to listen to Mr. Dua.

Mr HK Dua Editor-in-Chief The Tribune, addressed the meeting in a very relaxed manner and removed all the stresses and strains of the Installation proceedings. He thanked Dr. Vanita Gupta for introducing him and saying all the good words about him. He eulogized Dr. Farooq Abdullah for his commitment and untiring efforts to solve the various tricky issues facing us. He said that if our

Governments had listened to him when he was the Chief Minister J & K, all the current problems facing the state would not be there.

Mr. Dua narrated an incident when he was attending a meeting of the Delhi Golf Club, but was not a member of the Club. The Club Patron Mr. Dharam Vira IAS chaired the meeting. A lady sitting next to Mr. Dua asked him about his handicap and Mr. Dua replied that his handicap was that he was not a member of the Club. After many repetitions of this statement that his handicap was that he was not a member of the Golf Club, Club Patron Mr. Dharam Vira suggested to the participants to remove the handicap and make Mr. Dua a member of the Golf Club and that is how he became a golfer. He further added that now he saw the power of the golf association when Dr. Abdullah made it a point to attend today's meeting in spite of the harrowing experiences of his air journey to Chandigarh.



Memento for the Chief Guest



Memento for the Guest of Honour



A BIG Thank You and Invitation for Dinner by the President

The Editor-in-Chief advised that the Rotary should plant more trees and include the girl-child in their literacy programmes.

Rtn Deepa Bhar was to introduce the Chief Guest Dr Farooq Abdullah and she prepared for it in Urdu

language with Urdu couplets composed by her. But due to the constraints of time available to the Chief Guest, this part of the evening's programme was skipped. Therefore the President requested Dr Farooq Abdullah to address the Midtowners and the guests.

Be a Bharti(Indian) First and Remove The Divide between People

Dr Farooq Abdullah started his address with a very vivid description of his adventurous and frightening air journey from Srinagar to Chandigarh due to the very inclement weather that also caused a big delay by a few hours before his flight touched down at Chandigarh. The plane hit an air pocket en-route that caused a sudden loss of altitude and even the airhostess shrieked, but all heaved a sigh of relief when the plane touched down at the Chandigarh airport.

He talked about truth that it is bitter and it causes troubles in the present set up of the world but with Allah's grace truth always prevails. He appreciated the Club's achievements and plans for service to the community as spelt out by IPP Rtn Dr VJS Vohra and President Sandeep Sandhu. He also appreciated the role of Rotary in the world on eradicating polio and particularly in India during the floods in Andhra Pradesh. Generally people are ready to give for a cause but they are afraid whether what they give, will reach where it is needed or will it be pocketed en-route. He advised the Club to donate medical equipments to the hospitals as they are generally short of critical equipments. Dr Abdullah cited an example of giving and its outcome. He said that out of the grants available to him, he released Rs, 30 lac to a hospital in J & K to buy a critical piece of medical equipment. Eight months there after the equipment has not arrived because the private doctor's influence who own this type of equipment in their clinics and are afraid of loss of business if the hospital gets the equipment and the greed and corruption of those who are responsible to procure the equipment.

The Chief Guest wondered whether he would see the India dreamt by the leaders and people of the years after independence. That dream has eluded us. There is poverty and hunger and hatred and enmity, which is

seeping into the thoughts of us Indians and is pulling the country to strife. Let us all work to stop this rot, let us not brand communities on the actions of a few, and let us not put hatred amongst people. Religions do not divide people, they teach the followers to be an "Insaan" first. The esteemed Leader spoke from his heart when he said that let us Be Bharti First and remove the Divide between People whether it is the economic divide or the religious divide. All faiths lead to the same goal, so why this Divide, he asked. He further advised that when Rotary goes to schools, it should spread the spirit of Indian ness, tolerance and a corruption-free India.

Dr Farooq emphasized that India wants peace with all our neighbors and the world. He quoted the present Prime Minister who said that let us make the L of C the line of peace and that borders cannot be changed but they can be made irrelevant. He also quoted the erstwhile Prime Minister Bajpai who, at the time of the Indian nuclear test, said that the test was not a show of strength for aggression but a show that we can defend ourselves.

India does not want to capture territory, he explained, and cited the examples of our military help to Bangladesh, Maldives and Sri Lanka. We want peace, we want a prosperous and happy India and let us all work for that.

The address was received with a thumping bout of prolonged applause.

The Chief Guest left for Delhi immediately after his address as he was scheduled to reach Sirinagar in the morning.

Special Request

There is a special request from the President Rtn. Sandeep Sandhu that Anns. & Children should attend the Club meeting on August 3. The talk by Rtn Raghu Nandan will be very beneficial and educative to the parents as well as the children.

Rtn PK Verma proposed the Vote of Thanks and said that we are lucky to have had the opportunity to hear the words of wisdom twice from the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour, as this is their second visit to the Club. He thanked everybody and he also mentioned that Rtns TL Verma and PE Saroj Jhavar sponsored the event.

Ann Indu Vohra, on behalf of the Club, presented a memento to the Guest of Honour, Mr HK Dua Editor-in-Chief The Tribune.

The President adjourned the meeting after expressing all-encompassing thanks.

Birthday Greetings :



Rtn Ashish Singla

August 03

Rtn Deepa Bhar

August 09

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