

THE MID TOWNER



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

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Editor
Ashish Ahuja

Club No. 15228

PROGRAMME

Vol. XXXIII No.32 February 04, 2009

" Picnic "

Venue: Ravindra Farms,
Kot Billa, Panchkula

Please note change in
Date, Time & Venue

Sunday, February 08, 2009

Time: 11.00 AM

Pulse Polio Campaign - In The Last Push

Since the Pulse Polio NIDs were to be held from Sunday, Feb. 1, '09 till Feb. 3, '09, there could'nt have been a better time for PDG J.P.S. Sibia, Chairman - Polio Plus Committee, RID 3080, to visit our Club last Friday and deliver a motivational talk about the subject to us Rotarians.

While introducing PDG Sibia, PP Capt. Moni Kahlon spoke about his academic, professional as well as Rotary achievements. He described him as very learned PDG who will be representing our Distt. 3080 at the Council of Legislation in USA next year.

At present the world is in favor of eradication of polio because the epidemiology and the transmission cycle of the disease make it amenable to eradication. Polio usually strikes children under the age of five. It can cripple the spinal cord and brain, causing paralysis and even death. It is transmitted through food or water contaminated by the faecal matter of an infected person.

But polio cannot be battled only on the medical front. It includes psychological support for the victim from his/her family and from a society where many look down upon patients.

PDG Sibia brought forth the fact that since this dreaded virus was in its final stages, an element of



complacency or "fatigue" seemed to have set in our minds. Complacency, because we are quite near to our objective of eradicating polio from India & fatigue, because of the fact that our efforts as a nation to eradicate polio, have been on since 1988. So there is a strong need for determination & a renewed commitment towards the cause.

Many of us remain focussed only on our localities where we might not have come across any case of polio, and so one hardly takes any initiative to explore other areas where cases of polio or even its awareness might not be reaching. We Rotarians must get the word out that if we don't eradicate polio now, the risk of deadly and crippling polio outbreaks will continue to threaten the world's children.



Happy Anniversary - Pres. Saroj & PP Ajit Gulati (but where're their spouses !)



B'day Boy Rtn. Suraj Handa



Rtn. R.K. Luther - Very Punctual !

Secondly, although the NID booths are installed at most of the places ensuring almost 100% coverage, there are places like bus stand, railway station & construction sites where one can find a lot many children of porters, labourers, etc. to whom the polio vaccine may not have reached. So we Rotarians can identify such localities around us and thus, be a local guide for the teams of workers who go from house to house to look for children who missed the Pulse Polio dose on the previous National Immunization days. Rotarians can also play an important role in working with health workers, pediatricians and others to find, report and investigate cases of acute flaccid paralysis in timely manner (ideally within 48 hours of its onset)

Another important aspect of the Polio Eradication programme emphasised by the learned speaker is to spread as much awareness about it as one can. The biggest challenge is to dispel misconceptions and misunderstandings related to the oral polio vaccine in the poor communities, which ultimately results into repeated refusal of parents to let their children be administered the dosage. They feel that the vaccine may do some harm or make their children ill. Rotarians should, therefore, actively involve

themselves with health workers for educating & spreading the word that :

- Even sick and newborn children are to be given Polio drops. These drops are in addition to routine immunization doses.
- These drops are completely safe and are of highest quality.
- Repeated doses provide additional protection.
- Routine polio vaccination at birth, 6 weeks, 10 weeks and 14 weeks of age is also essential.

Also, if any of the non - Rotarians have been involved in polio eradication efforts such as NIDs or have had personal experiences with the disease, they must be invited to speak at the Clubs. After hearing a firsthand account, many people will understand the threat the wild poliovirus still poses to children in certain areas of the world.

The voluntary efforts made by us may be a vital factor in ensuring the success of the Polio Eradication Program. If we commit ourselves to reach every child, polio will soon be history.

PP Rtn. Ajit Gulati proposed the vote of thanks on behalf of the club to PDG J.P.S. Sibia while the Punctuality Draw award was won by Rtn. R.K. Luther.

PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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Glimpses of Distt. Governor's Visit to our Club's Projects on Jan. 24, '09



DG & First Lady arrive at Hotel President



Distribution of First Aid Kits to the 12 students of Home Care Nursing



DG, accompanied by Ms. Sonia Channi, Principal of Sikhya School, appreciates paintings by students



DG addresses the children of Sikhya School



Distribution of spectacles by the First Lady

DG Rtn. Satish Saluja, in his e-mail to Pres. Saroj, has strongly appreciated our Club's projects. Excerpts :
 Visit to the Home Care Nursing Project :- " This project has been running very successfully for years now. A kit consisting of B.P. Apparatus, Stethoscope, thermometer & other needed instruments were given to all the trainees. The trainees are also given vocational training in candle making etc. I was happy to learn that after training of one year the home nurses could earn upto 6,000/- per month. A very nice project for the women empowerment."

Visit to Sikhya School :- "Beneficiary of Current Year's WCS Project, wherein you would be giving 36 computers. I am so happy that your club has taken this wonderful decision to help such an organization meant for educating the slum children & Make Dreams Real for them."

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Think Simple to Solve Complex Problems

1. When NASA began launching astronauts into space, they found out that the astronauts' pens wouldn't work at zero gravity (ink wouldn't flow down to the writing surface). It took them one decade and \$12 million to solve this problem. They developed a pen that worked at zero gravity, upside down, underwater, on practically any surface including crystal, and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300 degrees C.
2. A 50 feet long trailer having 48' wheels got stuck while entering a midtown tunnel in New York because it was approximately 2.5 feet taller than the height of the tunnel. The fire department and the state department of transportation spent the whole day searching for a solution, to no avail. Then a child, aged about 9 years, asked his father, 'Why can't they take out the air from the tyre tubes? The height will automatically come down.'

Moral: Always look for simple solutions. And learn to focus on solutions, not on problems.

If you look at what you do not have in life, you don't have anything. If you look at what you have in life, you have everything.

Contributed by PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra



Birthday Greetings

Rtn. Mrs. Davinder K. Singh
PP. Rtn. Trilochan S. Anand
Maj. Gen. Rtn. A.S. Kahlon

February 06
February 07
February 09

IPDG Shaju speaks at Panchkula



Invited by President Pradeep Aggarwal, IPDG Shaju addressed the Rotarians of Panchkula at their regular weekly meeting on Wednesday, January 28, 2009. January being the Rotary information month, he chose to speak on the structure of Rotary International and how it enables Clubs and Districts all over the world to deliver service to their target communities. The Power Point presentation was followed by an engaging question answer session and later, South Indian platter. None could have had dinner at home!

Among the visiting Roatarians was PP B.L.Ramsisaria from the speaker's home club.

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

R'ann Neerja & Rtn. Anil Nagpal
PP. Rtn. Dr. Vanita & Dr. B.C. Gupta
R'ann Manju & Rtn. Jawahar Jain
R'ann Sarabjit & Rtn. J.S. Bawa



February 08
February 09
February 09
February 10

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Raj Kumar Luther



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