



The Midtowner

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

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Sakuji Tanaka

District Governor
Manmohan Singh

President
Ritu Singal

Secretary
Ashok Puri

Editor
Dr. V. J. S. Vohra

Volume XXXVII No. 16 Dated: October 16, 2012

PROGRAMME

Pet HealthCare ----- The Right Way

Chief Guest: Dr. C.B. Singh

Senior Consultant Vet.

Friday, October 19, 2012

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

The Impact of Digitization on Media

In our club meeting on October 12, 2012, Chief Guest Dr. Dinesh Kumar, Associate Editor, The Tribune, Chandigarh was introduced by PDG Shaju Peter as Rotary World Peace Scholar (2004-2006), sponsored by Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown. Dinesh Kumar is a journalist with over 25 years experience in the profession. His past assignments include Resident Editor of The Times of India in Chandigarh, Defence Correspondent of the Times of India in New Delhi and Punjab correspondent for Indian Express. He began his career by reporting on terrorism in Punjab from the mid 1980s to the early 1990s. He has two MA's from



Dinesh Kumar

England – an MA in Security Studies from the University of Hull and an MA in Conflict Resolution from University of Bradford. He has researched his doctoral thesis for a Ph.D on India's Military Power at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. He has been a Research Fellow at University of Maryland (US) and done an advanced course in Journalism from University of Westminster in London. He had got the British Chevening Scholarship – once each in 1996 and 1999; the

Maryland Fellowship in US Foreign Policy Making in 1997 and the Australian International Postgraduate Research Scholarship.

In his address Dinesh said, "My association with this club goes back to 2004 when I was selected for Rotary peace scholarship which took me on a splendid journey to England where I did my masters in conflict resolution." He had earlier addressed our club on 2-3 occasions and other clubs abroad, and acknowledged Rotary as a fantastic organization of members who have a commitment.

Speaking on the impact of digitization on media, Dinesh pointed out that the changes have been phenomenal. He said 25 years ago typewriters and telex were the equipments that were being used and transmitting stories was a very lengthy and time consuming tedious process. But now technology has changed everything and things are being done instantly in a totally different manner.

The digitization has brought about a total transformation the way we communicate now. In 1990s internet had come. There was a revolution in communication and information technology and we could see things right in front of us on computers. We have emails to communicate within seconds. It does not matter where you are in the world, you can send messages across geographical borders in no time.

Dinesh said, "There is also an invasion of privacy. The information comes right into our bedrooms," referring to television, internet and mobile phones. He added, "Google came up in 1998. All you have to do is just type a few words and you get the information instantly."

He gave some historical facts, "It took 40 years for the radio to reach to an audience of 50 million. TV took just 15 years to reach 50 million viewers. It took only 3 years for internet to reach first 50 million. In 1995 number of internet users was 20 million. That rose to 400 million in the year 2000. Now we are looking at a figure of two billion people using internet, with over a billion websites."

Telephones took 130 years to reach one billion subscribers, and mobile phones took just 15 years to reach 2 billion!

There has also been an adverse impact with the information flowing in so easily. It needs to be regulated and authenticated, though there is not much change in the basics of journalism. Dinesh insisted on cross checking the information and giving a responsible report.

There was immense interest generated and Rotarians had a very lively inter active discussion on the subject.



During her recent visit to New Jersey, Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Shashi Jain exchanged flags with Rotary Club of West Orange, which she presents to President Ritu Singal



Thanking Dr. Dinesh Kumar for his talk, and recalling our long association with him, PP Harish Sethi presents a memento to him



Dr. Dinesh Kumar and President Ritu Singal present birthday gift to PP Rtn. Prem Anand



Dinesh Kumar, President Ritu and Secretary Ashok Puri present birthday gift to Rtn. Amarjit Singh



Rtn. Dr. Anureet Bhatti gets birthday gift on behalf of her husband Mr. Raj Karan Bhatti, and also bags punctuality award



Dinesh Kumar presents birthday gift to Rtn. Viney B. Aggarwal



Dinesh Kumar presents birthday gift to R'ann Pritpal Gulati



Wedding anniversary gift being presented to R'ann Ritu & Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia

Vocational Service

In the club meeting last Friday, Director Vocational Service PP Rtn. Prem Anand gave a detailed report on this important avenue of service. In the Sewing & Tailoring Centre we now have 25 students, and they are being trained to make frocks, blouses, pajamas etc. For Refrigeration and Electrical training at Khuda Ali Sher there are 20 students. For Home Care Nursing we have 15 girls.

For Vocational Awards, Prem said, "Members of this Committee are on the job, and we will organize this in our club meeting."

He added, "For Vocational Guidance for handicapped, PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra is working on it, and he is also trying to make an Interact Club for disabled students." Sponsoring a student for RYLA - Lakshaya for Special Children is also being planned.

Two more projects are in the pipeline which will be finalized soon.

RYLA - LAKSHAYA for Special Children

Rotary Club Chandigarh Central will host RYLA for "Special Children", which is a challenging task inspired by DG Manmohan Singh, who has requested that all clubs should sponsor at least one "Special Child" from their area. Brief details of the program are below:

Dates : 3rd - 5th November 2012

Charges of sponsorship : Rs. 1800/- per participant

Note : Special arrangements are made for accompanying attendants

Venue : INDIRA Holiday Home, Sector 24, Chandigarh

For any additional information, please contact Rtn. K.K. Walia, Chairman RYLA - LAKSHAYA (M: 9872376800, 8054578638). E-mail Id : kkwalia@gmail.com

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New Membership Orientation Zonal Meet

New Member Orientation Zonal meet of Zone 1, 2, 3 & 4 held at Sip 'N' Dine, Sector 7, Chandigarh on 30th Sept. 2012, hosted by Rotary Club Roopnagar, was presided over by District Governor Manmohan Singh. PDG Maj. Som Dutt, PDG Dr. R.S. Parmar, PDG J.P.S. Sibia, PDG Shaju Peter, PDG Madhukar Malhotra and Assistant Governor Prabhjit Singh also graced occasion.

President R.C. Grover of host club welcomed about 30 Rotarians from different clubs of these zones. A video presentation was given

by PDG Dr. R.S. Parmar. PDG Shaju Peter and PDG Madhukar Malhotra explained the important aspects of Rotary and Rotary Foundation. PDG J.P.S. Sibia also gave important tips on how to become good Rotarians. DG Manmohan Singh emphasized on Rotary values and service to Communities through Peace.

Dr. Mrs. Usha Bhatia, a new Rotarian of Host club proposed vote of thanks, with a hope that such seminars would be held every year and also at club level. (Report by Secretary Ashok Puri)

Micro Loan and Placement of our Scholarship girls

Rtn. Arjan Singh informs that a microloan of Rs. 30,000/- has been given to Babu Lal of Mauli Jagran Colony for setting up a small business. He will be buying two popcorn machines and selling popcorn from his house. He has been referred by one of our earlier borrowers.

Sharing good news on our scholarship girls, Arjan said, "Shilakha

and Naina Dhiman who are studying engineering at UIET have been placed in jobs during campus interviews. Shilakha has been placed with Infogain, a large company with 11,000 employees in US and India. Naina has been placed with Aricent which is an equally big and credible company. Our best wishes to the duo."

Greetings and Appreciation for our Bulletin from Pakistan

From: Suhail Ahmad <almaab@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown weekly Bulletin
To: "Gurdip S.Deep" <deepgs@yahoo.com>
Date: Friday, 12 October, 2012, 5:09 PM

Dear Gurdip Bhai,

Warm Greetings,

Many thanks for sharing weekly bulletin of RC Chandigarh Midtown. It's beautifully designed and carries useful information on your clubs weekly programs, activities of Rotarians, projects and other Rotary information. I am much obliged for your comments on your Lahore visit. I hope we will be meeting again soon at Chandigarh or at Lahore. I would like to invite you and Behn ji at our district Conference being scheduled on 6-7, April 2013 at Pearl Continental Lahore. I am sure you would enjoy it.

Please convey my best wishes and regards to the Club President, members and your Family.

Kind regards,
Suhail

PDG Suhail Ahmad
2013 COL Rep
2013 District 3272 Conference Chairman
Governor 2000-01

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BP Godrej Lifetime Achievement Award to PP Dr. S.K. Sharma

Our hearty congratulations to PP Prof. Dr. S.K. Sharma who has been conferred with the BP Godrej Lifetime Achievement Award by the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers (IICChE), one of largest professional body of Chemical Engineers in the Asia. Its membership includes IPRIP Kalyan Banerjee, Mukesh Ambani, Adi Godrej, and all those connected with chemical engineering profession. Earlier eleven recipients of this award include Prof. M.M. Sharma, Dr. R.K. Mashelkar, Prof. L.K. Doraiswami, Prof.

G.S. Ladha, Dr. R. Kumar etc.

Prof. Sharma is the Past President of IICChE. The above award has been conveyed in a letter to him by Mr. P. Vijayaraghvan, President IICChE and CEO & MD of Larsen and Toubro, who said, "You have been decorated with countless awards, accolades and felicitations from many quarters but this one carries a mark of gratitude of thousands of chemical engineers of our country." The award carries an amount of Rs. 1.00 lakh, a plaque and a citation.

The 3rd annual GrayCell Technologies Exports Blood Donation Camp

GrayCell Technologies Exports in conjunction with Blood Bank Society Chandigarh, is organizing a blood donation camp on Monday the 22nd of October, 2012 in Open Space adjoining

Neelam Theatre Sector 17-E, Chandigarh. Owner of GrayCell, Rtn. Munish Jauhar said, "Do something amazing on that day. Save a life. Give blood!"

Seminar on Women Empowerment

A Zonal Seminar on Women Empowerment was organized by Inner Wheel Club Chandigarh Midtown on 13.10.2012 at YWCA, Chandigarh. Mrs. Indu Luthra and her team organized a grand show with over 150 audience. Rotaract Club of Chandigarh Midtown led by President Christina Alexander presented a

melodious group song based on the topic. The skit depicting age old traditions was beautifully presented by girls of YWCA. Rtn. Dr Rita Kalra Director New Generations was the guest invitee on the occasion.

President Ritu Singal's Facet of Peace - Step 12 : Let us not conclude anything in haste

To support her thought on peace, 'Let us not conclude anything in haste', President Ritu Singal narrated a story of a person who lost the only horse he had. A few days later the horse returned, accompanied by 6-7 more horses. Then his son had a fall while training a horse and became disabled. But he was not prepared to

jump to conclusion in haste to accept any sympathy or congratulations from the villagers. Finally, the king recruited all young men to fight a war, and all of them were killed. But this person's son, being disabled, was spared by the king and he was the only young man who was alive!

Acknowledged with Thanks!

For Rotary Foundation:

Rtn. Amarjit Singh

US \$ 100 (Rs. 5400)

Donations for Club Projects:

Rtn. Viney Aggarwal

Rs. 2100/-

Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia

Rs. 2100/-

PP Rtn. Prem Anand

Rs. 1100/-

Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Preety Anand

October 19

R'ann Monika Aggarwal

October 21

R'ann Meena Mahajan

October 24

R'ann Paramjeet Sihota

October 24



Birthday of Rotarians

PE Rtn. Deepak Sood



October 20

Rtn. T.L. Verma

October 24

Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Patinder & Rtn. Maharaj Baksh Singh

October 19

R'ann Parveen & Rtn. Arjan Singh

October 20

R'ann Vandana & Rtn. Ajay K. Gupta

October 20

R'ann Moon Inder & PP Rtn. Sandeep Sandhu

October 24

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Dr. Anureet Kaur Bhatti

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