



The Midtowner



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

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Club No. 15228

R.I. President
Ron D. Burton

District Governor
Rakesh Aggarwal

President
Deepak Sood

Secretary
Dr. Rita Kalra

Editor
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXVIII No. 32 Dated: February 04, 2014

PROGRAMME

**Daaman Sahib ka Kalaam - an evening of Shayeri with
Mr. D.S. Bali, Sr. Advocate**

**The meeting
will be followed
by fellowship**

Friday, February 07, 2014

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Visit of Rotary Friendship Exchange Team from RI District 2490 (Israel)

In our regular meeting on January 31, 2014 we had Rotary Friendship Exchange team from RI District 2490 (Israel). President Deepak Sood said, "It is my privilege to welcome the Chief Guest, District Governor Nominee David Hilton on his first visit to our club." His wife Ann Patricia could not come as she was not well, and we wish her good health. Deepak also welcomed the team leader PP Mark Zober, his charming wife PP Marilyn Farber and other members the RFE team. He also acknowledged the presence of IPDG Manmohan Singh, Ann Rajwant, PDG Yoginder Diwan, Rtn. Kanan Diwan, PDG Madhukar Malhotra, Ann Neeru Malhotra, our own PDG Shaju Peter, who attended a Rotary Club meeting in Israel 15 years ago, Ann Lovy Peter, Assistant Governor Sarbjit Singh and Ann Parkash Kaur.

RFE District Chair, PP Harish Sethi gave a brief review of the RFE to our District by giving a powerpoint description of our important cities, that is, Chandigarh, Anandpur Sahib, Kurukshetra, Panipat Mussoorie, Shimla and Dehradun. He also talked of RFE team's visit from our District to Israel in May 2013 who had enjoyed their wonderful hospitality.

By telling us some jokes, with all the medical benefits of a loud laugh, Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra prescribed the much needed best medicine, the laughter! Jokes apart, she had some important announcements as well, urging our Rotarians and Anns to register for the District Conference at Dehradun on 01, 02 March 2014 as we need to be there in large number. Those who have not yet registered are requested to contact her immediately. Reviewing the projects done so far, Dr. Rita said, "Under the able guidance of our President Deepak Sood we have performed

well in all avenues of service."

PP Mark Zober highly appreciated the Home Care Nursing project and the Aasra Sarai at GMCH-32 which the RFE team had visited. He was so impressed that he even offered jobs for US \$ 1000 for nursing students in Israel.

Introducing the members of his team, Mark was happy to point out that Zipora and Sasson Meir, are from the same town in Kerala which is PDG Shaju Peter's home town.

Talking about Israel, Mark said 137 Israels would fit in India! There are 55 Rotary Clubs having 1,200 members. 3 Languages in Israel are Hebrew, Arabic and English. The present District Governor is Rtn.



PP Mark Zober and PP Marilyn Farber



DGN David Hilton



PP Harish Sethi

Shaul D'Angeli. Mark also showed us slides of some famous places in Israel like the Dead Sea and Bahai Gardens in Haifa. Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, is largest city with a population of 801,000 residents over an area of 48.3 sq miles. Mark also briefed us of other cities and Rotary Clubs in Israel.



RFE team with, sitting L-R: PP Harish Sethi, DGN David Hilton, PP Mark Zober, President Deepak Sood and Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra



PP Mark Zober presents a certificate of honour to President Deepak Sood



DGN David Hilton presents a birthday gift to Rtn. Maj. Gen. Hardev Singh



PP Mark Zober presents birthday gift to Rtn. Mrs. Davinder K. Singh. Looking on are President Deepak Sood, First Lady Purnima Sood and Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra



Rtn. Zipora Meir exchanges flags with President Deepak Sood



President Deepak Sood presents memento to DGN David Hilton



DGN David Hilton presents punctuality award to Rtn. Sundeep S. Sawhney

Mark expressed his gratitude to all the hosts for their hospitality, PP Harish Sethi, PP T.S. Anand, Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon and PE R.T.P.S. Tulsi. He said, "Hospitality of Chandigarh and in India is outstanding." He concluded his vibrant presentation with, "Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram, Patit Pawan Sita Ram....."

DGN David Hilton was introduced by PDG Shaju Peter as a Rotarian in forefront of Rotary social activities. He is the member of the oldest Rotary Club in the District, Dehradun, which has produced three Governors consecutively, the current Governor, the Governor Elect and the Governor Nominee. David had graduated with English (Hon.) from Delhi University and post graduation from Panjab University in Chandigarh. He runs Schools in Dehradun. In 2010 he received

National Award to Teachers from President of India and another prestigious award in 2011 from Jagadguru Sankaracharya.

In his address DGN David Hilton applauded Israel for earning a position of respect and for the defence for its principles in spite of the many problems it has faced. He also praised our country as secular land which welcomes all people, and a country that gives recognitions to the minorities. He said the cultural and friendship exchanges that we as Rotarians have helps us to learn from each other, and bridge the boundaries that divide us, to bring us together as nations. He hoped that the RFE team would take back wonderful memories of our District and our country.

Rotary Friendship Exchange Team members:

Mark Zober and Marilyn Farber are Past Presidents. Mark was born in Pittsburg, PA in 1944 and Marilyn was born in Los Angeles, CA in 1945. Mark has been living in Israel, off and on, since 1972. Mark and Marilyn moved here permanently in 1999. They both joined Rotary

while they were living in Mongolia, in 1996. They joined the Jerusalem Rotary Club of Jerusalem shortly after arriving in Israel, in 2000. Mark's classification is Social Service Administration and Marilyn's is Public Health. Marilyn was President of the Jerusalem Rotary Club in

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PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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The RFE team visit Home Care Nursing Project with Rotarians of Chandigarh Midtown



PP Harish Sethi, R'ann Manjit Sethi, Vice President Amarjit Singh, Rtn. Sundeep Singh Sawhney and PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra accompany the RFE team to Timber Trail

2006-07 and Mark was President in 2009-10. They are both very active in Rotary International, as members of the Cadre of Technical Advisors. Mark is the Technical Coordinator for the Future Vision Focus Area, Peace and Conflict Resolution. Marilyn has been sent to Kenya and Turkey as part of the Cadre, and Mark was sent to Gujarat and Maharashtra States in India. They love travelling, and have spent extensive time volunteering in India and Kenya. After retiring from their careers in Management and Epidemiology, respectively, they embarked on a new career – Israeli Licensed Tour Guides. Marilyn is Immediate Past President of the Tamar Chapter of Hadassah-Israel.

Shaul and Bella Cohen were born in Tunisia, Shaul in 1942 and Bella in 1947. They are both Past Presidents of the Ramla Rotary Club (near Tel Aviv) and active at the District level. Classifications: Shaul is retired accountant & Bella is Retired educator. They both immigrated to Israel as young children (Shaul was 7 and Bella was 4 years old). They have been living in Ramla, Israel since arriving in the country. Ramla is located on Israel's central lowland, midway between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. They say, "Our city has been absorbing immigration from all corners of the world and we, as Rotarians help them assimilate in the society, embrace the immigration challenges and with any support they require." They are orthodox/observant Jews.

Zipora and Sasson Meir: Zipora is a member of the Ramla Rotary Club. Classification: Zipora: Finance and Sasson: travel. Sasson Meir aged 70 was born in Kerala, married to Zipora. They have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Graduated from Kerala University. Migrated to Israel over 40 years ago. Worked about 40 years in El Al Israeli airlines as supervisor in reservation dept. Hobbies – reading and travelling. Zipora Meir, aged 65, married to Sasson, living in Ramla, Israel. Born in Kerala, migrated over 40 years. Ramla Rotary Club– in charge of Cub International Service. Graduated from Kerala University in economics and political science. Occupation – Deputy Chief Dealer Mizrahi Bank Tel Aviv, Mizrahi London. Israel discount bank Tel Aviv – foreign exchange dealing room. Jerusalem post news

paper, Tel Aviv - editorial secretary. Voluntary services in the Indian embassy, also traveling in and out of Israel. Hobbies – reading and travelling. Sasson is retired from ElAl Airlines.

Habib and Lamis Gandor: Habib, 69, joined Rotary in 1983. He is married to Lamis. They are Christians and live in the village of Rama in the Galilee. Habib was President of the Rotary Club Rama three times, and was the Assistant Governor of the Galilee region. Before retirement he worked as a builder and restorer of antiquities, especially the columns at the Beit She'an Roman Theater [famous archeological site]. In addition, he was the deputy mayor of Rama for five years. Now that he is retired, he loves gardening, working in his olive groves, and walking. Habib and Lamis are the owners of a pharmacy "Nariman Pharmacy." Lamis manages the pharmacy, and enjoys helping to raise their grandchildren. Habib and Lamis have three sons, the oldest is a pharmacist and the twins serve in the IDF (military). They also have three girls: a pharmacist, a secondary school teacher, and a dietician. They also have 6 adorable grandchildren.

Tova Yedidia is a new member of the Beer Yaakov Rotary Club in south central Israel. She was born in 1940 in Hungary. Classification: Senior Civil Servant. Born during the Holocaust, Tova and her family were very fortunate to survive. The family immigrated to Israel when she was 16. She graduated from Haifa University studying sociology & history and later received a Masters degree in Informal Education. Tova worked for the Nation Social Insurance Institute retiring as the Community Service Department Director. In her retirement years she is very active as a volunteer in many community service organizations. She is also an enthusiastic world traveller and has visited India in the past. Tova has a son who is a professor at UCLA and daughter who is a financial manager.

Ronit Zafir is a member of Beer Yaakov Rotary Club for many years. She served as President twice. She is an architect, works most of the time in landscape design. Her hobbies are painting and art work.

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Rotary Quiz won by Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown

Congratulations to PP B.L. Ramsisaria and Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra, who represented our club and won the first prize in the Rotary Quiz organized by Rotary Club of Chandigarh on 27th January 2014. PP

Praveen Goyal was the Quiz Master. The prizes were distributed by Assistant Governor Ajit Singh Gulati.



Assistant Governor Ajit S. Gulati presents the first prize to PP B.L. Ramsisaria and Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra. Looking on are Rotary Club Chandigarh President Hassan Singh Meje, Secretary Desh Deepak Khanna and PP Praveen Goyal



The winning team, PP B.L. Ramsisaria and Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra share the trophy with President Deepak Sood and other Chandigarh Midtowners in our regular meeting

Acknowledgment with thanks

Fellowship on January 31, 2014 sponsored by:

Rtn. Maj. Gen. Hardev Singh

PP Rtn. Ajit S. Gulati

Rtn. Salil Bali

Rtn. Dr. Anureet Kaur

Donation for Club Projects:

Rtn. Mrs. Davinder K. Singh

Rs. 1100

Sponsorship for Radhika, a needy girl, fee for BCA:

Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia

Rs. 7000

Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Raj Kapoor

February 10

R'ann Madhu Vaidya

February 12



Birthday of Rotarians

PP Rtn. Trilochan S. Anand

Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon



February 07

February 09

Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Neerja & Rtn. Anil Nagpal

February 08

PP Rtn. Dr. Vanita Gupta & Dr. B.C. Gupta

February 09

R'ann Manju & Rtn. Jawahar Jain

February 09

R'ann Sarabjit & Rtn. J.S. Bawa

February 10

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Sundeeep S. Sawhney



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