

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. 48 Dated: June 03, 2014

PROGRAMME

Community Co-Existence

Chief Guest: Ms. Payal Sodhi

Founder Trustee, People for Animals, Chandigarh

Friday, June 06, 2014

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Club Assembly - The Rotary year ahead

On May 30, 2014 President Rtn. Deepak Sood handing over the meeting to President Elect Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi, said that he would take our club to greater heights in Rotary year 2014-15. Rotary is known for its continuity and smooth change of baton throughout the Rotary world, right from Rotary International to club levels.



PE Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi

PE Tulsi complimented President Deepak for the wonderful year and leading our club effectively with real good and meaningful projects and activities during the year. He gave his plans for the year ahead, and quoted his mother Mrs. Baljit Kaur Tulsi;

Deyi ja jo kuch vi tere kol hai, Tan, man, dhan bhav mitha jiya bol hai.

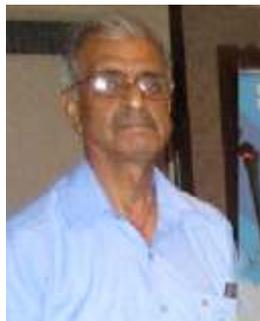
Translating this to English, it means, "Keep giving whatever you can, physically, mentally, materially or

even sweet words." The President Elect ensured a contribution of US \$ 130 per Rotarian, and the above couplet of his mother will certainly inspire every Rotarian of our club to achieve all the targets. He said he would get the funds from other sources too, including from his brother, Past President of our club, and now Member of Rajya Sabha, Mr. K.T.S. Tulsi.

India has been declared officially as polio free. The success we had in polio eradication will take us to the Literacy program. Once the world is free from polio in the next couple of years, Rotary International will take illiteracy eradication as one of its main programs to have a 100% literate world. Therefore, literacy program that Rotary International would be taking up after polio eradication will be of utmost importance. Under School Development Programs Rotary clubs will create model schools. There will be a **T-E-A-C-H** program which is about **T**eacher Support, **E** Learning, **A**dult Literacy, **C**hild Development and **H**appy Schools.



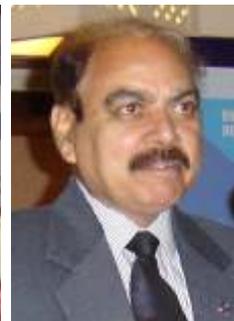
PP Rtn. R.K. Luther, Director Vocational Service



Rtn. Ashok K. Puri, Director Community Service



Secretary 2013-14 Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra speaking on behalf of Director Youth Service Rtn. Salil Chopra



Having the above in view, PE Tulsi emphasized on Literacy projects that our club would be initiating in the year ahead.

He said we shall abide by the guidelines as given by our District Governor 2014-15, Rtn. Col. Dilip Patnaik, and the activities will start from July 01, which is Annapurna Day, and this will be celebrated by giving meals on this occasion, starting from breakfast at Aasra shelter in GMCH-32, Chandigarh. Lunch and dinner will also be served at two different mandirs. It will be a very satisfying way to start the new Rotary year!

PE Tulsi also invited the directors of board 2014-15 to give their plans for the incoming year.

PP Rtn. R.K. Luther, Director Vocational Service was happy to be back to this avenue of service. He would continue with some



PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep speaking on behalf of Director International Service Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua



PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee speaks on behalf of Director Club Service Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor





President Elect Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsı and President Rtn. Deepak Sood present wedding anniversary gift to R'ann Indu & Rtn. Dr. Jawahar Luthra



PE Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsı presents birthday gift to R'ann Sudha Puri. Looking on are Rtn. A.K. Puri, President Rtn. Deepak Sood and Secretary Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra



President Deepak Sood and Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra present punctuality award to Secretary Elect Rtn. Salil Bali

on-going projects and activities like Home Care Nuring, Refrigeration & Electrical training, Sewing & tailoring, and would also start some new ones. The RVTCs (computer centres) would be further strengthened. Vocational excellence would be recognized by giving awards to persons for exemplary service to community.

Rtn. Ashok K. Puri, Director Community Service talked about blood donation camps, medical camps, eye camps, disability empowerment, Aasra Shelter in GMCH-32, Night School, Sarangpur, environment protection, and to monitor and support all our ongoing projects. We also intend hosting RYLA for disabled children, for which President Deepak Sood offered all support, being member of the District RYLA committee.

Secretary Dr. Rita Kalra spoke on behalf of Director Youth Service

Rtn. Salil Chopra, who before leaving for RI Convention at Sydney held a meeting on 28.5.2014 of the Counsellors, Chairs and members of the committees under him to give his plans for the year. Our Rotary Community Corps (RCC) would be involved in the projects at grass root level. 2 of our 3 RCCs are managed exclusively by disabled persons. There are also plans to have more Rotaract and Interact clubs, and training courses in school and colleges in addition to working out projects on the guidelines suggested by Rotary International and District. There will be memorial debates for which the details are being worked out.

PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep speaking on behalf of Director International Service Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua, talked about Rotary Friendship Exchange program, which gives Rotarians and their families the opportunity to host and visit Rotarians around the world. In addition to experiencing other cultures and making lasting friendships, an exchange provides a strong foundation for carrying out other international activities and service projects. Other projects would be micro loan & scholarships, Rotary Foundation and identifying international partners, as necessary.

PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee spoke on behalf of Director Club Service Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor. Known for his humor, Pallav gave all present the laughter dose, his idea being to make the meetings interesting so as to have good attendance. He talked of getting more members to the meetings, even if one has to pick them up from their homes. Membership retention is very important. Each one keep one! Under Club Service there are about 12 committees, and Pallav summed it up by insisting on the 'push', that is required for all the Rotarians to activate these committees!

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Condolences

Mrs. Vimal Narula sister of PP Harish Sethi passed away on 24th May 2014. Prayers for the noble soul was held on 27th May 2014. Our deep condolences to the bereaved family on this irreparable loss.

Career Guidance Seminar



Rtn. Maj. Gen. Hardev Singh addressing the class X students at 3rd Career Guidance Seminar for 250 children at Govt. High School, Vikas Nagar, Mauli Jagran, Chandigarh. Looking on are Rtn. Rekha Sawhney, Rtn. Dr. Harinderjit Kaur and Secretary Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra, who conducts a campaign on Polio awareness, showing a film for the children to collect funds

Rotary International Convention at Sydney, Australia 1 to 4 June 2014 Australian Government commits \$100 million for Polio eradication



New South Wales Premier Mike Baird welcomes Rotarians at the Opening Plenary of RI Convention

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced \$100 million AUD commitment to End Polio at the Opening Plenary of RI Convention

www.eflashonline.org : Rotary International Convention at Sydney Olympic Park, Australia, one of the world's best facilities for a convention had Rotarians from all around the world set the new Guinness World Record for the most number of flags flying simultaneously anywhere in the world at 219.

As Rotary members from around the world filed into Allphones Arena for the opening ceremony of the 2014 International Convention in Sydney, they were greeted by news that the Australian Government will commit \$100 million over five years to help eradicate polio.

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Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott and New South Wales Premier Mike Baird were on hand to address the convention and assure Rotary members of Australia's commitment to their cause. PM Abbott has been at the center of attacks in recent days for his proposed federal budget, but he walked out to a standing ovation. "I don't normally get such an enthusiastic welcome," he quipped after



Australian cricket star Brett Lee at Sydney Convention: Set up music therapy center in India for children

the audience returned to their seats. "I just hope there are plenty of Australians out there."

"Please do not

applaud the Australian Government for what it does," Abbott added. "Applaud yourselves for what you do."

Before Abbott delivered his remarks, he met with Rotary International President Ron Burton, General Secretary John Hewko, and other senior leaders. They implored him to build on his country's fiscal commitment to polio with additional leadership, specifically in polio endemic countries. The prime minister was receptive, asked questions, and said he looked forward to continue building pathways toward a healthier world. Burton presented him

with a few gifts, including his presidential tie.

RI President Burton delivering the keynote address, spoke passionately about Rotary's inability to get a fair return on its monetary investments into Youth Exchange, RYLA, Rotaract and Interact.

"I would submit to you that we fail to adequately capitalize on our investment [to those programs]," he added. "It's our own fault. We need to start treating our New Generations as family and welcome them all into Rotary before we lose them."

Burton has invested a great deal of his time in the last two years to youth programs, helping to ensure Rotary prospers well into the future.

"The bottom line is that Rotary's future – its very survival – is up to us," he said. "We can get up out of our chairs and really make something happen."

He went on to applaud Rotary members for their work to eradicate polio in India, which reminded him that if Rotary members can do that, "they can do anything."

From our District: Rotarians and their spouses who participated in the international convention, included PRIP Raja Saboo and PRID Y.P. Das. Our club has been represented by Rtn. Salil Chopra, R'ann Renu Chopra and Rtn. Sundeep Singh Sawhney, and on their return we shall share their wonderful experience.

PDG Shaju Peter and R'ann Lovy had to cancel their bookings for Sydney at the last moment due sudden demise of a near relative at Cochin. Our deep condolences to the bereaved family.

Wedding Anniversary

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|
| R'tnn Preety & PP Rtn. Trilochan S. Anand | June 08 |
| R'ann Sudha & Rtn. Ashok Kumar Puri | June 09 |
| R'ann Joginder & PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee | June 10 |

Acknowledgement with thanks

Rtn. Dr. (Mrs.) Shashi Jain US\$ 150
GMSSS, Manimajra US\$ 50

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Salil Bali



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