



The Mid Towner

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Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown

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Please do attend

FRIDAY - JUNE 01, 2007

Volume : XXXI No. 48; May 30, 2007

Condolence Meeting

In memory of R'ann Sulochana Ramsisaria

Venue : Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Time : 7.00 P.M.

A Woman of Substance

My friends in Rotary,

She hid her determination behind the twinkle of her eyes. She hid her concern for her immediate & extended family, and the family of Rotary & Inner Wheel, behind the bravado of her words. Her wisdom was evident in her deeds. She had a heart infinitely larger than the delicious "rajkachoris" that she made and served with heart-enveloping warmth. Her capability in multi-tasking would put any management guru to shame.

I talk of course of Sulochana Bhabhi to most, and "Guruma" to Mala & Self. Truly, for us, she was "the one with beautiful eyes".

When we first laid eyes on her, on the evening of our induction into Rotary, in November 1992, both Mala and I were impressed by the lady who flitted about "Sheesh Mahal", ensuring that pre-meeting tea and cake is served to all. Some 8 years ago, when we shifted to her neighborhood, began a relationship of love, which both will forever cherish.

I recall, when we shifted, without any furniture, and mentioned this to her & BL, we confronted an embarrassing situation. In about an hour of our mentioning this, 6 chairs were delivered, by none other than BL himself. When we mentioned that we would purchase some, he insisted, that Mala accompany him, and purchase these, otherwise, he is likely to be answerable to Sulochana.

She helped Mala being accepted in the neighborhood. She invited her to the "kitty" parties, and made sure that she was introduced to all. Quite often, Mala referred problems to her. Lo & behold, there was a simple solution to all of them.

She rarely flinched from giving away something that others needed more than her. The anecdotes are many, and it will be impossible for me relate each one of them.

I am aware that she took upon herself the task of educating several members of her. Today, they are successful people. What greater tribute to her vision.

She was responsible to bring several together in the bonds of love. Ask Kanchan & Baldev Aggarwal, or, even Veena and Chander Mohan Khera. Both will have many tales to tell.

At every event of Rotary, whether at our club, or, others, she was always called upon to prepare and execute the opening ceremony of "lighting the lamp". She did it with such finesse, that it always took your breath away. Be it a Medical Aid Camp, or, the Pulse Polio Day, her snacks and generous serves of tea always vitalized the volunteers. She coordinated the activities at the picnic to near perfection. At home, she looked after her grandchild Aditi, made sure, that Risabh was received after school, served her guests with warmth, and of course, oversaw the needs of the household all at the same time.



When she returned home after her initial treatment in April 2006, I knew she was in extreme pain. But every morning when I visited her before attending office, she always managed a smile, and said "I am better today". Such was her grit. Later, when she was given waist belt to provide support for her fragile bones, it became a standing joke between us, to do the "Boogie Woogie" once she was up and about. She looked forward to my visits every morning, just as I enjoyed the company of both, discussing both important and mundane issues. When she complained that I never shared a "cup of tea" with her, and said so with such authority, I rarely had courage to say no.

She was a woman with strong opinion, and could always state it forthrightly. Yet, it never generated ill will, for she stated it with reason, and without malice.

Even in death, she was considerate. She awaited the inauguration of Alok's new office, and for her granddaughter Niharika's birthday to be over, before she finally succumbed.

Indeed, she was a woman of substance.

Sahibji, the loss of a companion of 45 years is a difficult situation to offering solace.

She gave you wonderful children. Alok, the IITian, with wisdom beyond his age, whose service to his mother was a

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rare treat to watch. To Amita, a mirror of her mother, sharing concerns like she did, Nita, the daughter-in-law, whose constant presence beside her, heightens the belief in "Service". Or, Sandeep, who took upon himself the care of the children, to let Amita visit her mother frequently. And the sweetest grandchildren, who never fail to touch your feet. She has left behind a legacy for you, and all of us, to cherish. It is in this that you will find solace.

My only regret is I could not do the "BoogieWoogie" with her.

Yours in grief,
Indrajeet

Condolences

Our heartfelt condolences to PP B.L. Ramsisaria on the sad demise of Ann Sulochana ji on 26th May 2007. Kirya will be on 6th June from 4 pm to 5 pm at Laxmi Narayan Temple, Sector 6, Panchkula.

Smt. Sarla Devi, mother of Rtn. Viney Aggarwal expired on 27th May 2007. Our heartfelt condolences to the grieved family. Kirya will be on 6th June 2007 from 2 pm to 3 pm at ISKON Temple, Sector 36, Chandigarh.

Global Warming

In the club meeting on May 25, 2007 PP Prof. S.K. Sharma made his grandson, Kanish a Paul Haris Fellow. He then proceeded to give a very informative multi media presentation on Global warming. He said that Global Warming has emerged as one of the most important environmental issues ever to confront humanity in recent times. This has emerged from the knowledge that the concentration of the Greenhouse gases such as Carbon dioxide, Methane and oxides of nitrogen has increased substantially in the earth's atmosphere due to various activities such as power generation, transport, industries such as Cement, Iron & steel, petrochemical, oil and gas processing. It has been estimated that nearly 10,000 million tons of carbon dioxide is emitted every year from the combustion of fossil fuels in India alone.

Concentration of CO₂ in the earth's atmosphere which was about 280 parts per million by volume (ppmv) in 1750, before the Industrial Revolution began, will rise to around 500 ppmv, nearly double the pre-industrial level, by the end of the 21st century. As a result, the global temperature has increased which has resulted in the retreat of non-polar glaciers, reduction in Arctic sea ice extent and thickness in summer, earlier flowering and longer growing and breeding season for plants and animals in the Northern hemisphere (NH), pole ward and upward (altitudinal) migration of plants, birds, fish and insects; earlier spring migration and later departure of birds in the N.H increased incidence of coral bleaching.



The presentation by PP Dr. S.K. Sharma



Vote of thanks to Prof S.K. Sharma by
PP Dr. Balram Gupta

The IPCC, the United Nations' paramount scientific authority on global warming, predicts that: Mean sea level is projected to rise by 0.09 to 0.88m by 2100, but with significant regional variations. The Earth's surface temperatures will rise between 1.8 and 4.0 degrees Celsius (3.2 and 7.2 degrees Fahrenheit) by 2100.

Prof Sharma said that climate change is a serious threat to a country like India, which is dependent on weather for its agricultural output.

- It is estimated that a 2 to 5°C increase in temperature can lower rice yields in India by 20 to 50 per cent and wheat yields by 35 to 60 per cent.
- Disruptions, droughts and floods induced by climate change can also cause great hardship and impose large costs.
- Land loss due to submergence as well as due to salination, increase of flooding of low-lying coastal areas can cause large displacement of population.



After a long illness PP Anil Mehan with Ann Rekha, attended the meeting. We wish him sound health

- A one metre sea level rise could lead to displacement of 7 million persons within the country and submerge half a million hectares of land.

Prof. Sharma said that Rotarians can make significant contributions in reducing the impact of global warming by undertaking projects for the conservation of energy, water & fuel and other energy intensive products. He suggested that Rotary clubs should fix yearly targets of carbon emission reduction targets. If the present trend continues there will be catastrophic changes in global weather leading to miseries in its wake.

Glimpses of Inauguration of our WCS Literacy Project by RI President Elect Wilf Wilkinson on 15th May, 2007



RI President Elect Wilfrid Wilkinson said the project is a perfect example of 'Rotary Shares'



RIPE Wilfrid Wilkinson, DG Dhian Chand and DGE Shaju Peter



RIPE Wilfrid Wilkinson gifts books to a needy student. Also seen in the picture: PRIP Raja Saboo, DPI SK Setia, DG Dhian Chand, DGE Shaju Peter & Dr. VIS Vohra



R'anns Usha Saboo, Joan Wilkinson and Lovy Peter



Satisfaction achieved from the project. R'ann Kund Bala Goyal, Rtn Saroj Jhawar & PP RS Chandgothia



IPP RK Goyal & Pres. Dr. Vohra with Principal Amarjit Kaur, Staff & Students of Govt School at Manimajra

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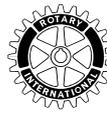
TODAY, 1,700
ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS
OF CLASS 9, 10, 11 & 12
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ARE BEING GIFTED OVER 16,000 TEXT BOOKS
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The world President of Rotary International
for the year 2007-08
Rtn. Wilfrid Wilkinson
shall grace the occasion.

Rotarians Make a Difference.

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We meet every Friday at Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh at 8:30pm.



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15th May 2007

My Dear Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

I wish to congratulate you and all the members of Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown for a wonderful project executed for providing text books for 16,000 deserving and needy students of schools of Chandigarh and around. It shows that under your able leadership the Club is achieving new heights.

By doing continued service to the needy and down trodden we are not only serving to the people in need but also achieving the motto of Rotary i.e. SERVICE ABOVE SELF.

Neelam joins me in congratulating you for this great project. Please convey our congratulations to all the members of your Club.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours

Chetan Aggarwal



PUNCTUALITY DRAW : Won by PP Rtn. Col. A.J.S. Gill

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