



THE MID TOWNER

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

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Programme: - Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2007 Vol. XXXII Nos. 24 Dec., 12, 2007

THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Speaker: - Mr. Shekhar Singh,

Founder member and former convener of the National Campaign for People's Right to Information.

Venue: - Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Time: - 6.30 PM

BLINDNESS IS AVOIDABLE & TREATABLE

The Club Meeting of 7 Dec was dedicated to the subject of eye-care with particular reference to community eye-care. Dr. S Sood, Professor and head of the Department of Ophthalmology, Government Medical College and Hospital, Sector 32, Chandigarh was the Guest Speaker. Dr. RK Bansal, and their team of dedicated doctors, technicians, staff and students who were also present in the meeting, ably assisted him. It was an impressive presentation with a very elaborate slide show.

Rtn Dr Jawahar Luthra introduced the guest speaker and also gave the details of the eye camp that was held on 3 and 4 Nov 2007 and the surgeries done thereafter at the state of the art operation theatres of the Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Sector 32 Chandigarh. Dr Luthra said that all the patients that underwent the surgeries have regained good vision and are very happy.

Dr Sood is a post graduate from the Govt. Medical

College Rohtak and did his Post Doctorate Fellowship in Vitreo Zetina at Henry Ford Hospital Detroit USA and at the University of Southern California Los Angeles, USA. He has a vast teaching and academics administration experience. He joined Govt. Medical College Chandigarh in 1999 and has a special dedication and interest in Community Ophthalmology. To this end, the support and assistance that Dr. Sood and his team rendered in the eye camp that our Club and our Innerwheel Club, in collaboration with the Rotary Clubs from UK held in Nov 2007 were exemplary and noteworthy.



Dr. Sunandan Sood

Dr Sood, in his presentation, emphasized that Community Ophthalmology consists of treating blindness and preventing blindness through reaching to the people who are more liable to lose their vision. The thrust is to the low-income group of people who need help to avoid and treat blindness.

He said that the focus is on eye camps in the needy

Notice: - Please note the change in the date and day of the next weekly meeting. The normal weekly meeting of Friday, 14 Dec 2007 has been preponed to Wednesday, 12 Dec 2007, at 6.30 PM, at Hotel President. It will be a joint meeting with the Chandigarh Management Association.



Memento for the Speaker



*Memento for the Happy Anniversary Couple
by Dr. Mrs. Pratima Sood*



Memento for Dr. R.K. Bansal

communities, schools to check the students for any eye problems, eye-donation awareness and allied issues. He, further, explained that people who need glasses but ignore the need suffer from partial blindness and they need to be helped to start using glasses.

He explained the causes of blindness in India as Cataract (44%), Uncorrected glasses (16%), Glaucoma (Kala Motia) (8%), and other diseases and factors (32%). Treatable causes of blindness are cataract and the need for glasses, and preventable causes of blindness are Glaucoma and Corneal Opacities. He further emphasized that it is necessary to diagnose glaucoma and corneal opacities early enough to treat them successfully and thus prevent blindness. For this purpose, it is necessary to go to the eye specialist every now and then and get the eyes checked up for causes of blindness so that necessary timely treatment is possible without any complications.

The normal symptoms of cataract are multiple images of the moon or distant objects, painless gradual deterioration of vision, difficulty in driving at night due to the effects of glare. In case of cataract, early treatment consists of prescribing glasses, but ultimately, surgery is the only answer. Surgery in make-shift operation theatres at camp sites is not allowed and must not be encouraged.

Glaucoma is caused by the pressure in the eyes increasing beyond the normal limits of 10-21 mm Hg, and it is best treated when detected in its early stages.

Dr Sood explained in detail the organization and the functioning of the National Programme for the Control of Blindness, which aims at controlling, all treatable and avoidable causes of blindness. The Government authorities from the administrative district level upwards implement the programme. For this programme to be effective it is very important that the

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NGOs are fully involved in the programme. Rotary can play a major role in implementing this programme in association with the Government authorities and the relevant health departments and the eye departments of the hospitals in the area. He explained the organization of the programme in detail and exhorted the Rotarians to work for the success of the programme.

The emerging causes of blindness are the diseases of Diabetes, Hypertension and AMD. Concluding the talk, Dr Sood encouraged the Rotarians to help the needy to see this beautiful world in all its glory bestowed on it by the Almighty.

The Rotary Spirit of Giving

Rtn Rajesh Vaidya, in spite of his illness, has contributed two more computer systems to the National Handicapped Council

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ON ROTARY FAMILY MONTH

December is family month, a time when we pay special attention to our emphasis on the family of Rotary. When I speak about this, I'm often asked to explain just what the family of Rotary means and why it's included as an emphasis.

When you put the family of Rotary idea next to such enormous needs as nutritious food and clean water, it might seem much less important. After all, as Rotarians, we're here to help everyone and look out for all those who need us. We don't just look after our own that's not what Rotary is about.

As Rotarians, we do have a great responsibility to make sure Rotary's good work doesn't end with us. Rotary does so much that is so important in so many ways: providing water to the thirsty, food to the hungry, medical care to the poor and sick, education to the illiterate. It's been doing that for more than 100 years now.

But if we focused all our attention on nothing but that lifesaving and life-altering work, then that work would eventually come to an end. Rotary would die out in a generation if we did not also pay attention to the health of our own organization our members, our clubs, and those who will join our clubs in the years to come.

One reason I've always felt so at home in Rotary and with the idea of the family of Rotary could be that I come from a large family myself. I'm one of 10 children six girls and four boys. But as big as my family is, it's nothing compared with Rotary. We're not just 1.2 million Rotarians in 32,000 clubs. We're 250,000 Interactors, 170,000 Rotaractors, 150,000 Rotary Community Corps members and, in the last year alone, about 8,000 young people in Rotary Youth Exchange. And, of course, we also include the spouses, widows and widowers, and children of Rotarians. Altogether, the family of Rotary is well over two million strong.

Our family is strong because it's close, and because it's always forming new ties. We need to ensure that Rotary keeps growing in all the branches of our family. We should always be looking for and inviting qualified men and women to join our clubs.

Wilfrid J. (Wilf) Wilkinson
President, Rotary International

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on 06 Dec 2007. He is diligently working to help the challenged young boys and girls to get working computer skills so that they have good avenues of employment. Thank you Rtn Vaidya for your spirit of giving and setting an example for other Rotarians to emulate your example of giving.

PP Rtn Dr Balram Gupta proposed the Vote of thanks and, on behalf of the Club, presented a memento to the speaker of the day, Dr S Sood. At the end of the meeting, Dr Pratima Sood presented mementoes and certificates to all those who supported the eye camp in Nov 2007.

Gainful employment for the challenged

IBM, a well known global computer behemoth, has approached our IPP Rtn Dr VJS Vohra, to help them recruit suitable challenged persons with the required skills to join their work force.

Mid-Towners and honorable readers of this Bulletin are requested to look for suitable candidates with the

necessary skills, and who are challenged, and introduce them to our IPP Dr Vohra (98140 06829).

Blood Donation Camp-23 Dec 2007

A Blood Donation Camp will be held on 23 Dec 2007 at Village Khuda Ali Sher from 9 AM to 1 PM in collaboration with the local Youth Club and the Village Panchayat. Midtowners who are not attending the "Bon-voyage" at Roop Nagar are requested to attend and lend a helping hand. It is aimed to collect 100 units of blood at the Camp.

District Governor's annual visit to the Club

DG Rtn Shaju Peter is scheduled to visit the Club on 18 Jan 2007. President Rtn Sandeep Sandhu asked all the office bearers of the Governing Board of the Club and the Chairpersons of the Club Committees to get all the details of their areas of responsibility for the Club Assembly for the briefing of the District Governor.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Rtn P.K. Verma	Dec. 18
Rtn Sanjay Bansal	Dec. 18
PE Rtn Mrs. Saroj Jhavar	Dec. 20



PUNCTUALITY DRAW

Won by IPP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra



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