

THE MID TOWNER



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

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Club No. 15228

PROGRAMME

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"Independence Day Celebrations" *by Children of Theatre Age Group*

Friday, August 15, 2008

Time: 7.00 PM

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

Teej Celebrations

Teej is the festival of swings and rains. This festival marks the advent of the monsoon month of Saawan (July-August). Young girls and women dressed in colorful clothes sing traditional songs in celebration of the advent of the monsoon. This festival is dedicated to the Goddess Parvati, commemorating her union with Lord Shiva.

And when it comes to celebration, nothing held back the zest of Chandigarh Midtowners when they got together at Rajasthan Bhawan last Friday to celebrate Teej with much fun & fanfare. Being essentially a women's festival, it was the Annes, lady Rotarians and the charming daughters / grand-

daughters of the Rotarians who, brightly dressed in ethnic Punjabi attire & adorned with fine jewellery, added exuberance & fervour to the evening.

The function, comprising of dances & folk songs pertaining to saawan, was organized by Ann Bir Gulati, Ann Neena Verma & Mrs. Sheela Aggarwal, daughter-in-law of Secy. D.R. Aggarwal. Looking around, specially at the stage depicting a typical village of Punjab, one could feel the real, almost forgotten Punjabi culture – credit for this goes to Ann Patinder. There was also a competition among the ladies in the categories of Bangles, Mehndi, Paranda & the Teej Queen. The judges were none other than Mrs. Savita Bhatti, wife of ace comedian & satirist



Fun & gaiety - Palak & Saloni Aggarwal, Anyaa Bindra, Inayat Singal & Radhika Aggarwal, with their wonderful performances



Celebrating Teej, the true Punjabi ishtyle - Ann Bir Gulati & her Team

Ann Patinder - The Choorhi & Parande wala ?!

Jaspal Bhatti, and our own Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan. The meeting (or rather Celebration !) started with the National Anthem. Secy. D.R. Aggarwal was back amongst us after a relaxing vacation in the U.S. After the Punctuality Draw, which was won by Rtn. M.K. Handa, the stage was handed over by Pres. Saroj to our club poetess, Rtn. Deepa Bhar. Rtn. Deepa welcomed all in chaste Urdu, reciting a few couplets about saawan & then called upon the participant children one by one, on the stage.

Palak & Saloni, grand-daughters of Secy. D.R. Aggarwal, began the programme with their Rajasthani dance - banna re baaga mein jhoola dala. Anyaa, grand-daughter of PP Subhash Bindra danced to the beats of Hun Maujan hi Maujan. Inayat, d/o Jt. Secy. Ritu Singal, presented a solo dance on the foot tapping music of Kehta hai ye mera dil piya. Then came Radhika, grand-daughter of Rtn. Viney Aggarwal, with her scintillating dance to the melodious tune of Kangna re kangna re.

After the children's mesmerizing performances, it was the turn of the Annes to steal the show, led by none other than Ann Bir Gulati. Her brigade consisted of Ann Veena Bindra, PP Dr. Vanita Gupta, Ann Urmil Luther, Ann Patinder, Ann Neena Verma, Ann Vinny Sachdeva, Mrs. Ashwinder (D/o Ann Patinder) & Mrs. Sheela Aggarwal. These ladies did not need any background music - it was just the dhol, the claps of audience & the voices of ladies themselves, which left the audience enthralled.

Folk dances & songs – jerha aj lya ke deve kanch diyan chhorhiyan, jutti kasuri pairi na poori, kale rang da paranda, sawan da mahina aa gaya - depicting typically Punjabi rustic culture at this time of the year, and choreographed by Ann Bir herself, were aptly performed by the ladies on the stage – much to the amazement of their spouses - hope it rekindled some fond memories ! Little Anyaa Bindra again joined these ladies on the stage with her performance – saun di chadi.

PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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After this thrilling show, Ishani, the elder daughter of Jt. Secy. Ritu Singal, performed Bharatnatyam. Ritu herself, along with Ann Bir, presented a short parody in Punjabi.



Ishani Singal



Suchita & Nitya

The last item was performed by Suchita & Nitya who were beautifully dressed in red

& yellow ghagra & choli.

PP Rtn. Ajit Gulati then took over the stage & requested both the judges to give away the prizes for the competition. As a gesture of encouragement & motivation, a prize was given to every participant child. Among the various categories, Ann Veena Bindra, the most graciously dressed, also bagged the award in the Best Bangles & Mehndi category, Best

Paranda award went to Ann Vinny Sachdeva while the much coveted Teej Queen award went to Ann Bir Gulati. Ann Neena Verma was adjudged as the Runner-Up while a special award - the Teej King - decided by the judges then & there, went to Ann Patinder Singh.

Mrs. Savita Bhatti complimented all participants for the marvellous show put up by them. Upon request by PP Ajit, she kindly consented to visit our Club in one of our regular meetings, along with Mr. Jaspal Bhatti.

Teej gifts were also distributed among all the ladies present on the occasion. These were sponsored by Pres. Saroj & Ann Sandhya Khandelua. Thanks are also due to Rtn. Viney Aggarwal & Rtn. Ashish Singla for sponsoring the delicious snacks - chaat, tikki, chana-poori & the "Teej - special" rabri & maal-pooras - for that perfect ending to the gala evening.

The Rotarians who could not attend, did miss something!

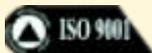


The judges, Mrs. Kanan Diwan & Mrs. Savita Bhatti, with the winners of the evening - Ann Veena Bindra (Best Bangles & Mehndi), Ann Vinny Sachdeva (Best Paranda), Ann Bir Gulati (Teej Queen) & Ann Patinder (Teej King)

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The Intercity at Panipat

Under the leadership of DG Satish Saluja, the first Intercity of the Rotary Year 2008-09 was held at Panipat on Sunday, August 10, 2008. The venue was a beautiful resort called Kohinoor Resort. The intercity was organized by the Rotary Club of Panipat Midtown. The Chairman, Intercity and the members of the Club had made excellent arrangements to ensure that all participants attend the proceedings in comfort.

Our club's delegation, led by Pres. Saroj Jhawar, consisted of IPDG Shaju & Lovy, PP B.L. Ramsisaria, Rtn. Deepak Sood, AG R.K. Goyal, Rtn. Nitin Mathur, PP Pallav Mukherjee, Rtn. Vinod Jawa, PP Moni Kahlon, Rtn. Sompal Malik, PP Dr. Vanita Gupta & Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan.

The theme of the Intercity was "Membership Development and Retention", as the month of August has been designated. The Chief Guest on the occasion was PDG Rtn. Bharat Pandya, Chairman - Membership Development and Retention, Zone V. In his presentation, Dr. Pandya elaborated on the various methods of increasing membership in the clubs and ensuring their retention. His speech was clear, interesting & well-illustrated.

PRIP Rtn. Rajendra K. Saboo encouraged the Rotarians to induct women members in their clubs.

He said that only 15% of the total members in Rotary in the world were women. The figure in India is 9%. In our district 3080, only 5% of the members are women. He also requested them to follow the Rotary ideals in order to set good examples in the community.

PP Dr. Vanita Gupta spoke on "Women in Rotary". Her presentation was applauded. She narrated the history of Rotary and how women were included in Rotary membership. However, out of 33,000 clubs in the world, only 25,000 have women members ! She said that of the very few women who join Rotary, even fewer come forward in leadership positions. This year, in District 3080 there is only one lady Rotarian President and only about 20 leading other District Committees.

AG Rajinder K. Goyal and President Saroj Jhawar were recognized for their effort in recruiting the new members, Mr. Sompal Malik, Mrs. Kanan Diwan & Dr. Anil Singla in the Club, in the month of August 08. The new members were also presented a gift by the DG. All the clubs in the District who had recruited new members were similarly recognized. A total of 193 new members have been inducted in the month of August '08 in the District.

DG Satish Saluja thanked all those present for having made special efforts to attend the Intercity. He requested them to continue their support to the Rotary movement and make their projects fruitful.

- PP Dr. Vanita Gupta

Birthday Greetings



Rtn. Dr. B.R. Jain

August 15

Punctuality Draw

Rtn. Raj Kumar Khattar

August 16

Won by Rtn. M.K. Handa



Rtn. Balraj Singh
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