

THE MID TOWNER



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

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Editor
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Club No. 15228

PROGRAMME

Vol. XXXIII No.9 August 27, 2008

"Rotaract Club Installation"

Chief Guest : Ms. Shriya Singh,
Miss Tourism International 2006

Friday, August 29, 2008

Time: 7.00 PM

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

The Budget Session



Treasurer Rtn. Ashish Singla & PP B.L. Ramsisaria
presenting the Club's budget

Citizen, most people think that it is up to the Sarkar to take all decisions, and apply it on the poor junta! So the Business Meeting went without a hitch, with various proposals getting the nod soon enough.

Or, looking at it another way, the smooth passage of the Finance Bill for the current Rotary year could be attributed to the long experience of mentor PP B.L. Ramsisaria & the inputs of Treasurer Ashish Singla. Although Ashish started off with the presentation, we soon had PP B.L.R. explaining to us the micro details & other nuances of the various proposals in the Club Budget for the year.

To start off with, every new entrant will continue to pay Rs. 11,000/- as Admission Fees plus Club Subscription for a quarter. This includes RI & Distt. dues and magazine subscription. The annual club dues are Rs. 9,500/- , with an additional Rs. 1300/-

(approx.) this year to match the contribution of the Bill Gates Foundation to the RI. The amount is calculated at \$30 each for every Rotarian on the planet payable for the next three years! This money will go towards the RI Pulse Polio program, of which India is a major beneficiary.

In case you didn't know, you are paying \$24 (approx. Rs. 1000/-) yearly for the RI magazine (Rs. 360/- for Indian edition), Rs. 350/- for the Distt.dues,

Rs. 1600/- for the various compulsory functions that we have,

Rs.520/- towards Club Sunshine and Rs.1000/- towards some of the club projects. If the total does not work out, then you have to ask the Treasurer Ashish to explain ! It is also proposed to spend more than Rs. 40 lakhs on Community Service projects.

Let's hope you are going to show up at the Club meeting this week!

- PP Pallav Mukherjee



The B'day Boy, IPDG Rtn. Shaju Peter

The Farmer's Puppies

A farmer had some puppies he needed to sell. He painted a sign advertising the 4 pups and set about nailing it to a post on the edge of his yard. As he was driving the last nail into the post, he felt a tug on his overalls. He looked down into the eyes of little boy.

'Mister,' he said, 'I want to buy one of your puppies.'

'Well,' said the farmer, as he rubbed the sweat off the back of his neck, 'These puppies come from fine parents and cost a good deal of money.'

The boy dropped his head for a moment. Then reaching deep into his pocket, he pulled out a handful of change and held it up to the farmer.

'I've got thirty-nine cents. Is that enough to take a look?'

'Sure,' said the farmer. And with that he let out a whistle. 'Here, Dolly!' he called.

Out from the doghouse and down the ramp ran Dolly followed by four little balls of fur. The little boy pressed his face against the chain link fence. His eyes danced with delight.



As the dogs made their way to the fence, the little boy

noticed something else stirring inside the doghouse.

Slowly another little ball appeared, this one noticeably smaller. Down the ramp it slid. Then in a somewhat awkward manner, the little pup began hobbling toward the others, doing its best to catch up....

'I want that one,' the little boy said, pointing to the runt. The farmer knelt down at the boy's side and said, 'Son, you don't know that puppy. He will never be able to run and play with you like these other dogs would.'

With that the little boy stepped back from the fence, reached down, and began rolling up one leg of his trousers.

In doing so he revealed a steel brace running down both sides of his leg attaching itself to a specially made shoe.

Looking back up at the farmer, he said, 'You see Sir, I don't run too well myself, and he will need someone who understands.'

With tears in his eyes, the farmer reached down and picked up the little pup.

Holding it carefully he handed it to the little boy.

'How much?' asked the little boy. 'No charge,' answered the farmer, 'There's no charge for love.'

The world is full of people who need someone who understands.



-Contributed by PP Harish C. Sethi

PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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Energy & Architecture

Energy, or rather the planned usage of it, is of paramount importance in today's world. In fact the national slogan should be - Save Energy, or tomorrow there will not be enough for you to ask!

Let's face it - the energy crisis is here upon us!

Ask our Finance Minister, for whom this energy crisis is the cause of sleepless nights. In fact almost anybody & everybody not just in India, but the world over is rueing this massive rise in energy costs.

So where do Architects & Planners come in on all this? Right from the beginning, if you ask!

Take our energy guzzling towns & cities. Take Chandigarh, for example. Just for the record, we irresponsible citizens of this most advanced city in the country consume a mere four lakh litres of petrol & diesel to run around the town to office, or maybe shopping.

That works out to Rs. 160 lakhs average everyday! Add the towns of Manimajra, Chandimandir, Panchkula, Zirakpur, Mohali, Kharar, etc. & we should be burning up Rs. 500 lakhs or Rs. 5 crores of fuel a day!

Now let's take Electricity.

How much is your house consumption? 20 - 30 kw ? Or more? How about the quarter million houses in this city ? Add the load of the offices, the shopping centres, the schools, the colleges. How about the new energy guzzlers -the shopping malls, the multiplexes?

Way back when the states' reorganization took place, the city consumed a mere 350,000 units of electricity a day. Today, that measly figure has bloated to 55 lakh units per day! Multiply with an average of Rs. 4/-

& you get Rs. 220,00,000/- worth of electricity consumed everyday!

Add the figures of oil & electricity and you get Rs. 7,00,00,000/- of energy consumption per day!

And these are the figures for just one city in this country - Chandigarh !

So this is where we architects come into it. Because our building byelaws are relics of an era when they would rather dictate the size of a room or a toilet & chimney, and thickness of a wall or the sizes of CI pipes for the sewerage & drainage systems - unlike other developed countries where the stress is on minimising energy consumption by specifying insulation & lighting levels.

The multiplexes & shopping malls consume a minimum of 4-5 megawatts of energy each, most of it during the day when solar energy levels are at their peak! Why cannot we design our buildings to use less energy?

Use solar heating & solar air conditioning, use some of that 10,000+ lumens of light that the sun is sending us, when all we need indoors is just a few hundred!

So let us start with a quantum jump let us throw out the old, obsolete & restrictive building byelaws made by the English in an era long gone, and put into place byelaws that are in sync with the needs of this ICE (Internet, Communication & Energy) age & those that take care of that profligate consumption of scarce earth resources.

- PP Ar. Pallav Mukherjee,

President, Architects Association of Chandigarh

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Tree Plantation At Mullanpur

So which is the tallest tree on the planet? A truck can, and does drive through its trunk!

Or the fastest growing plant on earth? How about half a meter everyday? And which is the tallest plant (actually a weed) on the planet? They grow up to several meters high!

What's "bhindi" called in English? Who started the Red Cross movement?

These and a whole lot of similar easy (?) questions marked the Tree Plantation drive in the campus of the GMSS School in Mullanpur Garibdas last week. Not many in the crowd managed the chocolates which were given as prizes for the answers including the teachers! PPs Col. AJS Gill & Pallav Mukherjee were the Quiz Masters.

In spite of the hot & humid weather, our President Saroj Jhawar had collected a posse of dedicated

Rotarians Rtn. Ashok Sharma, PP B.L. Ramsisaria, Secy. D.R. Aggrawal, Rtn. Vinod Sobti, Col. Gill & yours truly.

The entire exercise was made possible through the good offices of Dr. B.C. Gupta, spouse of our erstwhile PP Dr. Vanita Gupta, who partnered us with the Principal Conservator of Forests (Punjab) Mr. B.C. Bala, who was the Chief Guest for the day.

Lots of photographs with the kids, who were in their NCC uniform, or in their Red Cross tunics, or just in their school uniforms, made up for proof of plantation. The kids were divided into groups for the maintenance of their plants.

Anybody wanna sponsor some chocolates? Or a movie for ten kids who best maintain the plant for the next few months?

- PP Pallav Mukherjee.

I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the sea-shore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

- Sir Isaac Newton.

Birthday Greetings



Rtn. Vijay K. Gupta

August 29

PP. Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee

September 02

Rtn. J.S. Bawa

September 03

PP. Rtn. Harish C. Sethi

September 04

Wedding Anniversary Greetings



R'ann Sonal & Rtn. Atul Grover

September 01

R'ann Paramjit & Rtn. Manmohan

September 02

R'ann Pritpal & Rtn. J.S. Puri

September 04

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