

The Mid Towner



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

R. I. President
John Kenny

District Governor
Chetan Aggarwal

President
Gurdip S. Deep

Secretary
Ritu Singal

Editor
PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Club No. 15228

PROGRAMME

Volume XXXIV No. 17

October 21, 2009

State Governance

Guest Speaker: Mr. Dharam Vir, IAS
Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana

Please note change
to winter timings,
that is, 6.30 P.M.

Friday, October 23, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh.

Milano - Midtown Scholarships

This programme was initiated last year when Rtn. Lakshmi Khanna of Milan visited us. The outline of the programme is that it is a ONE to ONE programme. ONE Rotarian from Milan would undertake to fund the studies of ONE Indian scholar to the extent of \$ 1000 per year. The conditions are that it is for female students who are studying sciences at the graduate level. The students have to be necessarily from under-privileged background and her study would be funded for the entire 4/5 years of the engineering / medical degree.

Initially two scholarships were awarded and this year another two have been added with the promise that yet another two will be added next year and the year after. That would take the total to eight scholarships in three years. After the commencement of the programme it was thought desirable that Chandigarh Midtown should also join in to the extent of funding 25% of the cost of the scholarships. Meanwhile, our job would be to identify the students and mentor them and monitor their progress.

Last year we selected two girls, one each from UIET and CEC. Both have done very well in their studies and Khushbu, the girl from CEC, has given admirable results. In January this year some friends of mine from Seattle were visiting our club, coincidentally on the same day that we were announcing the scholarships. That evening Sarah and Tom Sykes of Seattle, USA handed



Rtn. Arjan Singh talks about scholarship programme

over \$1000 for yet another scholarship to be awarded to a scholar to be selected by me.

After this yet another instance of generosity comes to mind. Rtn. Stefan Widegren of Milan was visiting here in November last year along with his wife Lotten. On meeting Khushbu whose studies they are funding, they realised that she was handicapped for the lack of a computer. Immediately they committed \$1200 for a laptop for the girl. It is this spirit of giving that I want to commend to you.

There are many people out there who are in need and a little help from us can send them on their way. The gift from us is relatively small but it can be a life changer for the recipient. All of us have received in plenty, is it not time that we became givers?

I invite all Rotarians to join this most worthy and noble effort. It will be in the fitness of things if each Rotarian



Lakhbir Singh gets a cheque from President Gurdip S. Deep. Lakhvir is our latest micro loan beneficiary, a security guard at the Golf Club and runs a provision store with help of his wife in his village near IT city.

Khushbu is in final year of her civil Engineering at Chandigarh Engineering college. This is the second year she is being awarded a scholarship. Her academic record during the previous year has been exemplary.



Manmohan Singh receives scholarship funded by Sarah & Thomas Sykes of USA, is first year student of Electronics at Chandigarh Engineering College.



Shilakha is the second recipient of our scholarship of Rs. 25,000/- . Studies Computer Science Engineering at UIET in first year.



Scholarship recipient Naina Dhiman is first year student of UIET, studying IT. A resident of Kurali she commutes to Chandigarh daily.

were to adopt a scholar and not only fund his studies but also mentor him through until that person is ready to face life.

And it does not have to be only engineering or medicine studies. A humanities or science course at PU can be funded with a grant of Rs. 10 to 20,000 per year.

With that fond hope I ask you all to join into a most

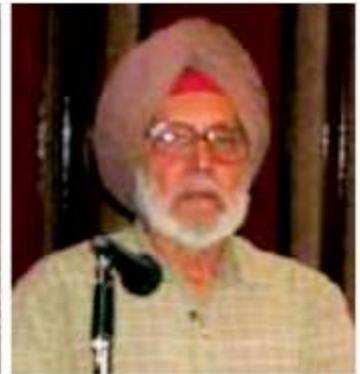
worthy and useful programme. All it requires from you is a little bit of money and a little bit of time to steer a youngster through to a productive and brighter life.

--- Vice President Rtn. Arjan Singh
Chairman Scholarship Committee

Quarterly Performance Review – Business Meeting

In comparison to the attendance record created in the last meeting to celebrate diwali, the meeting on October

16, 2009, just a day before diwali, was in complete contrast when a respectable number of passionate



President Gurdip S. Deep, PDG Shaju Peter, Rtn. P.K. Verma and Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon not only reviewed the performance but also put forward their valuable suggestions.

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Rotarians assembled for a business meeting at Hotel President to review the quarterly performance during the current Rotary year.

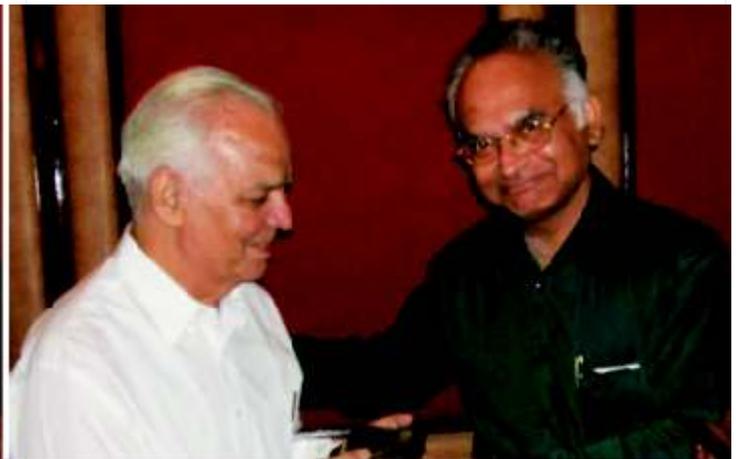
President Gurdip S. Deep said it is necessary that the Committee Chairmen should be empowered and we should expect them to bring results. President Gurdip said, "Board of Directors meetings have moved on smoothly." He added that the club meetings have been reasonably successful and well attended specially the last club meeting! The President gave more focus towards the projects in the coming months. He said we also need to look into the finances for our projects.

Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon, Director International Service, said we shall host a GSE team from USA. We also intend to select a member for the outgoing GSE team for which advertisements have been published in the news papers, and there have been seven young people who have already responded. With reference to President Gurdip's letter to Past Presidents, there has been a response for consideration as GSE Team Leader. The General also talked about various other activities in the pipeline.

PDG Shaju Peter talked about the Rain Harvesting project, which as Shaju puts it, has already seen many

ups and downs!

By the time we completed the MG application procedure, TRF had exhausted their funds. The only alternative was to make up the deficit of \$ 10,700 through additional DDF allocations or scale down the project accordingly. Shaju took up the matter first with District Governor Chetan Aggarwal who instantly agreed to allocate an additional chunk of \$ 6000. Shaju then rang up President David Moore of Rotary Club of Madison (District 7980, USA), our matching grant partner with a request to fund the remaining \$ 4700 from his District. David mailed on October 6, 2009 to say that things were moving in the right direction, but subject to confirmation, which Shaju got through another mail on October 9, 2009 when our club was celebrating Diwali in last club meeting and Shaju was in Hanoi, Vietnam. Now we have the full funding of \$ 24900 in place. However, Shaju said, "I would like to remind our club members we have the responsibility of raising \$ 3000 towards our contribution to the project." So let us put our heads together for a fund raiser, and the project would be through. We have already identified 8 Government Schools for this project. Chaired by PDG Shaju the Committee has PP Ajit Gulati and PP R.K.Goyal as members.



PDG Shaju Peter gives anniversary gift to Rtn. Arjan Singh and Rtn. Om Prakash bags the Punctuality award

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Rtn. P.K. Verma, Director Club Service, said that due action has been taken regarding attendance and improvement has been seen on this account. Five more members are being inducted in October and their names stand approved by the Board of Directors. PP Dr. Balram Gupta, Chairman Programme Committee was

complimented for making the club meetings interesting and vibrant. There was also word of appreciation for PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra, Editor of our weekly bulletin, which is coming out regularly and simultaneously being uploaded on our club website.

New Member Orientation Programme

The first District Level New Member Orientation Programme for RI District 3080 Zones 2, 3, 4, and 5 will be conducted on Sunday, November 8, 2009 at the Rotary District Headquarters, # 107-A, Sector 18-A, Chandigarh between 10 am and 4 pm. For this purpose we shall describe anyone who has joined Rotary in the current Rotary year or the last Rotary year as a new member.

Registration has been fixed at Rs. 500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only) to cover cost of Refreshments, Meals and Literature for participants. Advance Registration is to be sent to respective Assistant Governor/Chairman PP B. L. Ramsisaria or host club by Cheque/DD in favour of the Host Club, "Rotary Club of Chandigarh", along with details of participants, including Name, Classification, Year of joining Rotary, and the Name of the Participant's

Club.

For further details members may contact Chairman, District New Member Orientation Committee, PP B.L. Ramsisaria on Cell No.: 0-9316334400.

Intercity on The Rotary Foundation

Rotary Club of Dehradun is hosting the Intercity on The Rotary Foundation on Sunday 25th October 2009 at Hotel Viceroy Inn, Saharanpur Road, Dehradun.

Registration charges: October 1st to 24th: Single Rs.600 Couple Rs.1100. (Please register with Office Secretary V.P. Sharma). On-the-Spot Registration: Single Rs.650 Couple Rs.1200

Wedding Anniversary Greetings

R'ann Moon Inder & PP Rtn. Sandeep Sandhu October 24
R'ann Madhu & Rtn. Rajesh Vaidya October 26
R'ann Hariti & Rtn. Chiranjiv Singh October 28

Birthday Greetings

Rtn. T.L. Verma October 24
Rtn. Balbir Singh Channi October 26



Punctuality Draw :

Won by Rtn. Om Prakash



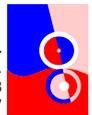
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