

## Rotaract Recruits 25 New Members



Rotary's commitment to youth was evident from the earliest days of the formation of the International Association of Rotary Clubs.

By the early sixties Rotary International had formed a committee of five Rotarians, one each from Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America and Southwest Pacific, who developed Interact, a service club for youth in the age of 14-18 years, modeled on Rotary, with a teacher and a Rotarian as advisors.

As this concept grew in popularity, Rotary noticed a gap in the chain of service. Rotary's answer to this was Rotaract. It was designed for youth between the ages of 18-30 years who desired to serve their community, the needy, with high degree of commitment and ethical standard and seeking fellowship with like-minded, but who did not yet qualify for membership of Rotary.

It is with this same level of dedication and commitment that the Rotaract Club of Chandigarh Midtown operates. After the loss of several members who graduated as Engineers from the Chandigarh College of Engineering and Technology, they went about a recruitment drive on Saturday, August 28, 2010.

Preparations began several weeks prior to the event when President Shivender Parmar and Secretary Anchit Walia exploited their own talent and those of the remaining members, raising funds by teaching "Robotics" at St. Kabir's Public School. With the funds they raised, they approached fellow Midtowner Lalit Azad to print a brochure including an application form for Rotaract Membership. These were sold to prospective members. For one, it was a wise decision for long term return. Secondly, by selling them they made a statement - "good things do not come cheap".

They were in a quandary where to hold their recruitment drive, when the parent Club through their Sergeant-at-Arms PP Indrajeet Sengupta came to their rescue. "Banga Bhavan", in Sector 35 was booked cheaply.

The recruitment drive was publicized through posters and through club's FB page. Neha Chopra, District Rotaract Representative, Ruchika Sharma, IPP of the Club, and Varun Jain, a working professional and an IIMA student were invited to conduct the interview and two rounds of group discussions before selecting twenty-five of the sixty who applied. Even those who could not qualify, highly appreciated the high standards of the interview and GD's.

Those selected are from SGGs Khalsa College, Sector 26; S.V.I.E.T., Banur; Rayat College; I.E.T. Bhaddal; CCET, Sector 26.

You will get to meet these bright young men and women on Friday, September 17, 2010 at their installation in our regular Club meeting.

## Article 370 – Should it be abrogated?



Mr. P.C. Dogra was introduced by PP Pallav Mukherjee as an ex-Army officer, who joined the Indian Police Service with vast experience both in the Police and BSF. He spent a majority of his service years in Jammu & Kashmir, which qualified him to articulate on the subject. On 26th of October 1947, when the state was attacked by the Pakistani regular and tribal forces, Maharaja Hari Singh sought the help of India and signed an instrument of accession to India, similar to the ones signed by the rulers of other states.

However, the official Indian position was that the people of the state of J&K acting through the constituent Assembly was to first endorse the accession to India and then determine the constitution of the state and the jurisdiction of the Union of India. The Security Council's Resolution of 1948 to hold a plebiscite was an additional factor. Jawahar Lal Nehru's affinity for the land of his ancestors was a determining factor for temporary transitional insertion of Article 370 till the accession was ratified by the Constituent Assembly.

It ordained that no law enacted by the Govt of India would apply to till approved by the State Legislature or

the Governor during the President's rule. It has had no chance of revocation. This provision has been misused by the ruling political elite for building their empires, without the provisions of wealth tax, urban land ceiling act, the gift tax applying under article 370. There is a dual citizenship. Indians are not automatically the citizens of J&K. The state has separate constitution, separate flag. It was and is a clever strategy to keep the state away from the national mainstream. This suffocates the very idea of India. It keeps alive the unwholesome legacy of two nation theory. It has been misused to build a political oligarchy. And though there has been a dilution in the provisions of this Article both politically and constitutionally, yet for the healthy uniformity in the nation he felt that it should be abrogated.

The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Amarjit Singh, Joint Secretary.

## ARC Shaju at the Membership Seminar of 3070

Invited by DG Manmohan Jerath, ARC Shaju spoke at the Membership Development Seminar of 3070 hosted by the Rotary Club of Hoshiarpur Midtown at Hoshiarpur on Sunday, August 22, 2010.

3070 has over 3200 Rotarians in 107 clubs. Speaking to the 140 delegates, Shaju complimented the District for the exemplary performance of membership growth last year of nearly 16%. "The only challenge you have is that you have far too many clubs with less than 20 members," said Shaju inviting the attention of the presidents of small clubs to a target of minimum strength of 20 by July 2011.

The Power Point presentation on 'Membership Challenge 3070' was well received by everyone present.

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## Hundred Percentors of August 2010

The following are Hundred Percentors of August 2010

Pres. Prem Anand  
 Mrs. Davinder K. Singh  
 Dr. I. S. Dua  
 PP Dr. Balram K. Gupta  
 Ravinder Kapur  
 PP Pallav Mukherjee  
 PP . B. L. Ramsisaria  
 AG Dr. S. K. Sharma  
 Vinod Sobti  
 PP R. S. Chandghotia  
 Mrs. Kanan Diwan  
 R.P.S. Gulati  
 Maj. Gen. A. S. Kahlon  
 PE . Raj Kumar Luther  
 PDG. Shaju Peter  
 PP. Inderjeet Sengupta  
 Amarjeet Singh  
 Deepak Sood

## Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

The RYLA program began in Australia in 1959, when young people throughout the state of Queensland were selected to meet with Princess Al-exandra, the young cousin of Queen Alizabeth II. The Rotarians of Brisbane, who hosted the participants, were impressed with the quality of the young leaders. It was decided to bring youth leaders together each year for a week of social, cultural, and educational activities. The RYLA program gradually grew throughout all the Rotary districts of Australia and New Zealand. In 1971, the R.I. Board of Directors adopted RYLA as an official program of Rotary International.

Each summer thousands of young people are selected to attend Rotary-sponsored leadership camps or seminars in the United States, Australia, Canada, India, France, Argentina, Korea and numerous other countries.

## Ladakh Disaster Relief Fund

In an extra-ordinary generosity shown by members of this Club and some others outside it, on the fervent appeal made by Sergeant-at-Arms PP Indrajeet Sengupta, funds to finance our commitment for the unfortunate victims of the August 6 cloudburst has been completed. Many of you must have seen the news item showing PRIP Raja Saboo delivering the first load of relief material to the Indian Air Force for delivery to Leh. PP Charanjit Singh, District Secretary, PP Arvind Mehan and Secretary Hassan Mejie have arrived in Leh to coordinate Rotary D 3080 Relief operations, and have sent in their first report.

PE Raj Kumar Luther	~ 5000.00
Munish Jauhar	~ 2100.00
Dr. Sanjay Kalra	~ 2100.00
R. T. P. S. Tulsi	~ 2100.00
PP Sandeep Sandhu	~ 2100.00
Surjit Kumar	~ 2000.00
Atul Grover	~ 1100.00
PP Harish C Sethi	~ 1000.00
PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra	~ 1000.00
Parveen Khosla	~ 1000.00
Suresh Dhawan	~ 1000.00
Ravinder Kapur	~ 1000.00
Vinod Sobti	~ 1000.00
Dr. Sudhir Tewatiya	~ 1000.00
Amandeep Syali	~ 500.00

## WCS MG 71129

All equipment for drilling bore well for the Rainwater Harvesting Project was shifted on August 31, 2010 to Government Model Senior Secondary School, Sector 47 D, Chandigarh, on completion of the work at Government Model Senior Secondary School, Sector 46D.

One up, seven to go!

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## Soiree for Spouses

### Extravaganza Expected

At the time the last issue of Midtowner was in print, the ladies of the Clubs' Cultural Events Committee were in session wisely counseled by Lovy Peter and chaired by Malabika Sengupta at the residence of Anita Kapur.

While the program itself is no surprise as mentioned in the enclosed circular, there appears to have a sense of mystique about it, for the variations in the program are a secret.

What is not a secret is that the Cocktails following the program is hosted by PDG Shaju Peter in celebration of his achievement in mastering the French language; and, the high tea served simultaneously is being hosted by Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra to celebrate her spouse Dr. Sanjay Kalra's birthday; Anita & Ravinder Kapur, who celebrate their wedding anniversary this week; and Indu and President Prem Anand who celebrate their wedding anniversary in the forthcoming week.

The program will commence at 7 pm and conclude by 8 pm, followed by the prize distribution.

## Mother and Child Care



As announced in a previous issue, this club at the initiative of Director Community Service, had adopted to carry out a monthly "Expectant Mothers Care and Child

Nutrition" Project. Early in August, she had delivered ` 5000.00 worth of Calcium Tablets found in short supply at the Mauli Jagran Civil dispensary catering to Economically Weak Sections.

Last Tuesday, she, PDG Yoginder Diwan, First Lady Indu Anand and Malabika Sengupta were at the dispensary delivering another similar-valued consignment of Calcium tablets donated generously by Priya & Saurabh Sengupta, daughter-in-law and son of Malabika & PP Indrajeet Sengupta. In addition, Mrs. Kanan Diwan had arranged for "Soya Vadi", sponsored by Vice President Ritu Singal, repacked into 1 Kg packets for the under-nourished children of this area. To guard against mis-utilisation, the exercise of distribution was repeated last Saturday, and will be continued each Saturday, the day children are treated.

## A Tribute to Teachers

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. That's exactly what teachers do for us.

PP Capt. M.S. Kahlon has proposed to President Prem Anand to honor members and their spouses who are teachers, or, who have been teachers. His proposal has been accepted by President Prem and such teachers will be honored on Friday, September 10, 2010.

Don't be surprised if you receive a call from PP Capt. Manmohan Singh Kahlon to attend the forthcoming meeting.

Hurrah for the teachers!

## Greetings

### Birthday of Rotary Ann's

Neerja Nagpal



September 13

### Birthday of Rotarians

B B Bahl



September 13

### Wedding Anniversary

Anita & Ravinder Kapur



September 10

Asha & D. K. Gupta

September 13

### Punctuality Draw

Won by Amarjit Singh

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All correspondence to the Editor :  
PP Indrajeet Sengupta | E-mail : in.seng@gmail.com, Mob. 094172 50422

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