



# The Midtowner



**Bulletin of Rotary Club of Chandigarh Midtown: R.L. District 3080**

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[www.rotarychdmidtown.org](http://www.rotarychdmidtown.org)

Club No. 15228

**R.I. President**  
Ron D. Burton

**District Governor**  
Rakesh Aggarwal

**President**  
Deepak Sood

**Secretary**  
Dr. Rita Kalra

**Editor**  
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra



Volume XXXVIII No. 26 Dated: December 24, 2013

PROGRAMME

## Christmas and New Year Celebrations

The Fancy Dress theme for the Meeting is Discovering India. Each couple/ family will be given 2-3 minutes interesting games and several prizes to be won

**Chief Guest:**  
Santa Claus

**Meeting will be followed by cocktails**

Friday, December 27, 2013

Time: 6.30 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

## Club Elections

In our regular meeting on December 20, 2013 Chair, Club Elections Committee, PPRtn. Prem Anand declared the election results. He said, "I congratulate our club members for maintaining the sanctity by unanimously electing the board of directors for Rotary year 2014-15. I congratulate President Deepak Sood and PE R.T.P.S. Tulsi for keeping the dignity of our club."



PP Rtn. Prem Anand

PP Prem Anand informed that he received two nominations for President for Rotary year 2015-16 from Rtn. Amarjit Singh and Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan. He also received an email on 16 December from Rtn. Amarjit who wrote, "I would like to thank the Rotarians of Chandigarh Midtown who have inspired,

encouraged and supported me to file nomination for the position of President 2015-16, especially PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra and PP Harish Sethi for proposing and seconding my name. It has been understood that Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan has also filed her nomination for the same position. Keeping in view her seniority and maintaining the tradition of our club of not having elections, I withdraw my name from the contest."

Prem said, "I congratulate Amarjit for this act of withdrawing in a graceful manner. Please give three cheers for Amarjit."

PP Prem Anand declared the following as unanimously elected to the board 2014-15, under leadership of Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi;

1. Director PP Rtn. R.K. Luther, Proposed by: PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee and Seconded by: PPRtn. Gurdip S. Deep
2. Director Rtn. Dr. Col. V.K. Kapoor, Proposed by: PP Rtn. Harish Sethi and Seconded by: Rtn. R.P.S. Gulati
3. Director Rtn. Salil Chopra, Proposed by: PPRtn. R.K. Luther and Seconded by: Rtn. Salil Bali
4. Director Rtn. Ashok Puri, Proposed by: Rtn. Arjan Singh and Seconded by: President Rtn. Deepak Sood
5. Director Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua, Proposed by: PP Anil K. Mehan and Seconded by: PPRtn. B.L. Ramsarisaria

6. Treasurer Rtn. Arjan Singh, Proposed by: President Rtn. Deepak Sood and Seconded by: PPRtn. Gurdip S. Deep
7. Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali, Proposed by: PDG Shaju Peter and Seconded by: Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi
8. Joint Secretary Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia, Proposed by: PP Rtn. Pallav Mukherjee and Seconded by: Rtn. Sundeep Sawhney
9. Vice President Rtn. Dr. Mrs. Rita Kalra, Proposed by: PDG Shaju Peter and Seconded by: Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi
10. President RY 2015-16: Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan, Proposed by: PP Anil K. Mehan and Seconded by: PPMrs. Saroj Jhawar

In addition to above, PDG Shaju Peter and President Deepak Sood will be part of the board. Sergeant-at-Arms will be



Board of directors 2014-15 of Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown with Chair, Elections (standing 3rd from left)

appointed later by the new board.

In his address President Deepak Sood said, "I would like to appreciate Vice President Rtn. Amarjit Singh for withdrawing his candidature for making the way for Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan to take the reins of our club for the Rotary year 2015-16. Kanan ji has vast knowledge of Rotary world as she has travelled across the globe on Rotary assignments with Past District Governor Rtn. Yoginder Diwan. I congratulate President Nominee Kanan Diwan." He added, "My heartiest congratulations to the new Board and I am sure that our dynamic leader President Elect R.T.P.S. Tulsi and his team will take our club to new heights."



Symbol of continuity, strength and commitment to serve L-R: President 2013-14 Rtn. Deepak Sood, Secretary 2013-14 Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra, President Elect 2014-15 Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsı, Secretary Elect 2014-15 Rtn. Salil Bali and President Nominee 2015-16 Rtn. Kanan Diwan

## Rotary South Asia Literacy Summit



L-R: R'ann Indu Vohra, R'ann Lovy Peter, PDG Manpreet Singh Gandhoke, Rtn. Poonam Gandhoke President Rotary Club Mohali, PDG Arun Sharma and PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

PDG Shaju Peter and PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra sharing pleasing moments of the Summit

On December 14 & 15, 2013 Rotary South Asia Literacy Summit was held at Hotel The Ashok, New Delhi with 1100 delegates participating from India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh for the common mission of promoting Total Literacy and quality education in South Asia. Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown was represented in the Summit by PDG Shaju Peter, R'ann Lovy Peter, PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra and R'ann Indu Vohra.

PDG Shaju and Dr. Vohra shared their wonderful experience of the Summit in our club meeting on December 20, 2013 through an interesting powerpoint presentation.

Addressing our club meeting, PDG Shaju Peter said, "On January 13, 2014 India is going to be declared officially as polio free. The success we had in polio eradication has given impetus to the Literacy program. Once the world is free from polio in the next couple of years, Rotary International may take illiteracy

eradication as one of its main programs to have a 100 % literate world." Shaju pointed out that the literacy rate in India is poor as compared to other nations. In the Summit PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, talking about Indian states, announced Kerala as almost 100% literate state, and to recognize the Rotarians of Kerala asked them to rise. Shaju said Kerala being his home state, it was a great moment for him, and he proudly rose along with other Rotarians from Kerala!

Shaju said every Rotary Club in India and South Asia will have Literacy committee beginning right now. Shaju said we have to concentrate on literacy programs. In next Rotary year Shaju would be Chair of the eLearning Committee of our District.

Shaju was full of praise the way the Summit was organized by PRID Shekhar Mehta. Shaju also talked about the fantastic speech given by the Pakistani Education Minister from province of Sind, Mr. Nisar Ahmed Khurho, who had literally moved everyone to tears. He was the

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**PP Rtn. T.S. Anand**

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*R'ann Lovy Peter presents Summit kit to President Deepak Sood*



*Rtn. Kanan Diwan presents birthday gifts to R'ann Santosh and PP Rtn. Dr. Kesho Ram Gupta, who made announcement of donating Rs. 10 lakh for starting a school under the name NEEV BMCT*

only speaker of the two day summit who received a standing ovation. Sam Pitroda, Advisor to Prime Minister of India was also to give us a talk through the net connection from Chicago but it did not work, and it was satisfying to know that the fault was not in Delhi, but in Chicago! One of focus area of Sam Pitroda is e Learning education.

Dr. Vohra had started his presentation when he called the meeting to order, by playing video of the same National Anthem that was at the Summit, by differently abled deaf and dumb children. Later he showed another meaningful video of the Summit, 'Tan Tan Tan Ganti Baje School Ki', a great message under the aegis of Right to Education Act

(RTE).

The Advisors of the Summit included PRIP Raja Saboo as Chief Advisor, PRID Sudarshan Agarwal, PRID NK Panduranga Setty, PRID Sushil Gupta and PRID Yash Pal Das who also gave their valuable message on literacy. The South Asia Committee is headed by PRIP Kalyan Banerjee who initiated the Literacy program in a Summit in Nepal during his tenure as RI President. RI Director P.T. Prabhakar is the Convenor, and PRID Shekhar Mehta is the Joint Convenor.

Kabir Bedi, the well known actor from Bollywood was one of the keen attractions of the Summit who gave his balanced views about literacy. Chief Guest, Dr. M.M. Pallam Raju Hon'ble Union Minister – HRD highlighted the various programs and initiatives of Govt., as Operation Black Board, National Literacy Mission (NLM), District Primary Education Program, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), and Right to Education (RTE), started in the year 2009, mandatory for Governments to provide free and compulsory education.

E-Learning Initiatives offers education through technology using computer, projector and education software to make education an enjoyable experience. Reading gives 40% impact, teaching creates 56% impact and audio visual media creates 95% impact on the minds of students.

Under School Development Programs Rotary clubs will create model schools. The T-E-A-C-H program is about Teacher Support, E Learning, Adult Literacy, Child Development and Happy Schools



*President Deepak Sood presents birthday gift to PP Rtn. Saroj Jhawar*



*Rtn. Vinod Sobti received birthday gift from President Deepak Sood, PE R.T.P.S. Tulsi and Secy. Dr. Riita Kalra*



*President Deepak Sood presents punctuality award to Rtn. Sundeep Sawhney*

## *PP Dr. V.J.S. Vohra examines the last polio victim of India at the Summit*

PDG Shaju Peter also referred to presentation of Ruksha in Rotary South Asia Summit, along with her parents. She is the little girl from Howrah, the last polio victim in India. He said, "After the event Dr. Vohra walked up to the girl and had a look at her feet and found that some correction is to be made for her foot deformity, and advised exercises, and to go to a Rehabilitation Centre in Kolkata

for orthotic treatment and physiotherapy. It was a pleasing moment for me to see this happening."

Shaju further informed that a commitment was made with the consent of PRID Sudarshan Agarwal to send Ruksha to Himjyoti School at Dehradun. PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, on behalf of Rotary, handed over the commitment papers to her parents.

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## 93 units at Blood Donation Camp in Khuda Alisher



Rotarians and RCC members

Rotary Club Chandigarh Midtown was represented by President Rtn. Deepak Sood, Rtn Ashok Puri Director Vocational Service, PP Rtn. Vinod Jawa and R'ann Pushpa Jawa. President Deepak Sood gave a cheque of Rs. 5000/- to President of Youth Club, in presence of RCC President Bhupinder Singh.

Rotary Community Corps of Khuda Alisher, along with their Youth Club and other partners organized Blood Donation Camp in Main Gurudwara, Khudha Alisher on 22nd December 2013 from 0900 hrs to 1400 hrs. Despite the cold weather; men, women and young people of this village and nearby places showed lot of enthusiasm by participating in this blood donation camp.

Ninety three donors gave their blood for this great cause, as gift of life to the ailing patients. All blood donors were honored with token of appreciation and certificates. This Blood Donation Camp has been a great success with the professional efforts of team of doctors and technicians from Govt. Multispecialty Hospital, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

### Acknowledgment with thanks

#### Donations for Club Projects:

Rtn. Vinod Sobti

Rs. 1000/-

#### Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Sushma Kamra

December 29

R'ann Nirmal Nagra

December 29

R'ann Bir Gulati

December 31

R'ann Dr. Joginder Mukherjee

January 01

R'ann Nita Manaktala

January 01

R'ann Manjit Sethi

January 02

### Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Harbans S. Bajaj

January 01

Rtn. Balraj Singh

January 01

### Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Maniki & PP Rtn. Gurdip S. Deep

December 27

R'ann Archana & Rtn. Dr. Nitin Mathur

December 27

R'ann Manpreet & Rtn. Dev Jeet Singh

December 28

### Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Sundeep S. Sawhney



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