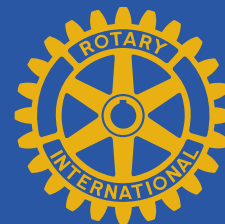


The Midtowner



Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Chandigarh Midtown

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Club No. 15228
R.I. District 3080

2014-15

R.I. President
Gary C.K. Huang

District Governor
Col. Dilip Patnaik

President
R.T.P.S. Tulsi

Secretary
Salil Bali

Editor
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXIX No. 03 Dated: July 15, 2014

PROGRAMME

1. District Awards – 2013-14

By: IPP Rtn. Deepak Sood

2. Glimpses of Sydney RI Convention

Presentation by: Rtn. Salil Chopra and Rtn. Sundeep Singh Sawhney

Friday, July 18, 2014

Time: 7.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel President, Sector 26, Chandigarh

President R.T.P.S. Tulsi's first address at 'home ground'



President R.T.P.S. Tulsi

Our club meeting on July 11, 2014 was the first meeting of the Rotary year 2014-15 in our regular venue, Hotel President, Chandigarh, after an impressive installation ceremony held last week at CII, Chandigarh. President Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi welcomed a guest from Allahabad, PDG Rtn. Pradeep Mukherjee, a friend of PDG Shaju Peter. Later, during fellowship PDG Mukherjee and PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S Vohra together

went down the memory lane to mid 1960s as both of them turned out to school mates of St. Josephs School, Allahabad. Shaju remarked, "This is Rotary, as it brings old acquaintances together after so many years!"



PDG Pradeep Mukherjee conveys the greetings of his District

President Tulsi in his address quoted the guiding principles of Rotary. He said, "To become a worthy Rotarian, it is essential that at the beginning of a new year, we need to recall the Objects of Rotary, the Rotarian Code of Conduct and the Four-Way Test."

The **Object of Rotary** is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- **FIRST:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

- **THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Code of Conduct: As a Rotarian, I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians
5. Not seek special business or professional advantages from other Rotarians

The President not only read out the above guidelines in the meeting, but also distributed attractive bookmarks to remind us to 'Light up Rotary', the RI theme for 2014-15. One should regularly follow these very meaningful principles of life which we can access on the net, and for those who are not net savvy, these are prominently displayed in our Roster of Members.

Union Budget 2014

The three panellists, who analysed the Union Budget 2014 were Dr. Mrs. Upinder Sawhney (wife of Mr. Barinder S. Sawhney, ex-Rotarian of our club), Department of Economics, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Rtn. Gurmeet Singh Chawla (Rotary Club Chandigarh), Director of Master Trust Ltd., Chandigarh and Mr. Sanjay Malhotra, CEO of Tax and Trade Services. We also acknowledge the esteemed presence of Chartered Accountant Mr.

Pushpinder Duggal and his colleagues, who were invited to represent the BJP point of view. It is regretted that they could not participate in the budget discussions due to unavoidable circumstances.

All the panellists gave their views, which represented the mixed feelings of people in general. However, survey in the internet shows



Dr. Upinder Sawhney

G.S. Chawla

Sanjay Malhotra

the Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's presentation. In fact, the FM and his team performed a difficult balancing act between promoting growth and serving fiscal prudence, barely within 45 days of existence of the new government.

Though the Finance Minister tried to give relief to the individual taxpayers, he however stopped short of addressing the concerns regarding other sectors, which were eagerly expecting some relief. With the view to provide relief to small and marginal and the senior citizens, he increased the personal income tax exemption limit by Rs 50,000 from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 2.50 lakh in case of all individual tax payer who are below the age of 60 years. Exemption limit has been raised from Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 3 lakh in the case of senior citizens. There is nothing special for women tax payers and there is no

more votes on the better side!

There are many smiling emoticons on the social media to know the reception given to this first full budget from the Modi Government.



Vote of thanks by Rtn. Atul Grover, who presents mementos to the panellists Rtn. G.S. Chawla, Dr. Upinder Sawhney and Mr. Sanjay Malhotra



PDG Pradeep Mukherjee presents (L-R:) wedding anniversary gift for R'ann Dr. Seemha & Rtn. Rajinder Rai, who also collects the birthday gift for his father Rtn. C.J. Rai, birthday gift to R'ann Parul Bali (looking on is her husband Secretary Salil Bali), and punctuality award to Rtn. Mrs. Davinder K. Singh

The middle class, of course, was well pleased with the small Income Tax reliefs given to them. Most of the critics are from the Opposition, doing their duty by complaining about every aspect of

change in the rate of surcharge either for the corporate or the individuals, HUFs, firms etc.

Investment limit under section 80C of the Income Tax Act has also

Rtn. Vinod Sobti

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PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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been raised from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1.5 lakh which will encourage savings. In further relief to the depositors, the Finance Minister has raised Public Provident Fund (PPF) deposit limit from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs 1.5 lakh per annum.

The realty sector, which has been under pressure for past 2-3 years, is heading for some major gains as there are incentives for real estate investments. The Budget has made purchase of homes more attractive by raising deduction against interest payment on home loan from the taxable income to Rs 2,00,000 from Rs 1,50,000. This will enable the home buyers to reduce his or her tax liability. Increase in tax slabs by Rs. 50000 will further strengthen the common men's hope of owning a home, turning their dreams into reality.

Liberalisation of foreign direct investment (FDI) by raising it to 49 percent from 26 percent will provide the much needed certainty to foreign players and to a sector that has the promise to provide increased commerce and generate employment in the country.

The opening up of 4 additional AIIMS and 12 government medical

colleges is expected to ensure improvement in the quality of medical education and is a step towards covering the shortage of doctors in India. However, it is felt that instead of setting up more establishments, the infrastructure, facilities and working conditions within the existing ones should have been boosted up and upgraded as the present scenario is not so friendly.

To encourage small entrepreneurs, an investment allowance at the rate of 15 percent to a manufacturing company that invests more than Rs. 25 crore in any year in new plant and machinery has been announced. The benefit will be available for three years, that is, for investments upto 31.03.2017. Investment allowance to manufacturing company investing more than Rs.100 crore announced last year will continue till 31.03.2015.

Housewives have been economising on their kitchen expenses, owing to exorbitant prices of essential items, but the government's announcement on packaged/processed food products and edible oil is likely to give some respite to them.

Condolences

We regret to announce the sad demise of our ex-Rotarian Mr. Om Parkash Malik on 11th July 2014. Our deep condolences to the aggrieved family.

Dates changed for 2015 São Paulo RI Convention

Rotary International President Rtn. Gary Huang and the RI Board have changed the dates for the 2015 Rotary Convention in São Paulo, Brazil, to Saturday, 6 June 2015, through Tuesday, 9 June 2015 – starting and ending one day earlier than previously scheduled. The dates were changed because the original opening day (Sunday, 7 June) coincided with one of the city's most popular parades.

Our Rotary Goals

Summary of RI President Gary C.K. Huang's 2014-15 Goals



RI President Gary Huang

1. To Support and Strengthen our Clubs.

This through membership growth by supporting and promoting spouses to join Rotary; strengthening regional membership plans; and having active and involved members.

2. To Promote humanitarian service through The Rotary

Foundation.

Through monitoring the success of the Future Vision program and encouraging involvement in the new approaches to service. We must also continue the focus on polio eradication, and build on the successful RAGs and share their successes with all Rotarians

3. To Enhance our Public Image:

By encouraging every District Governor to hold a 'Rotary Day' event that is supported and focusing all our efforts on ALL Avenues of Service.

Get Well Soon

- PP Rtn. Vinod K. Jawa had a mild stroke a few days back. Was admitted in the hospital for a day. Is feeling better now. We wish him a very speedy recovery, good health and happiness.
- Mrs. Charanjit Kaur, sister of Rtn. Amarjit Singh had recently undergone a surgery at PGI, Chandigarh. We wish her a very speedy recovery and sound health.

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Blood Donation Camp



Rtn. Ashok Puri

Director Community Service Rtn. Ashok Puri informed that our Club along with RCC Khuda Alisher shall be organizing our first Blood Donation Camp of Rotary year 2014-15 in the Gurudwara Campus on 29th July 2014. This Blood Donation Camp shall be held from 9.00 am to 2.00 pm.

All our Rotarians and their families are requested to attend this camp to make it a success.

Other Directors are also requested to make their

announcements by mailing their programs to the Editor. Similarly, all our Rotarians are requested to mail to the Editor any project undertaken by them at personal level or any achievement made by them or their family members.

Year well begun!



Rtn. Salil Bali

Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali said that in the Installation ceremony in the first meeting of the Rotary year, we added two more Rotarians as Rtn. Mrs. Urmil Luther became the first R'ann of our club to become a Rotarian with classification of 'Home Making'. Rtn. Atul Grover made a comeback after he had left our club. He had served as our Secretary in 2007-08.

Salil said, "This complies with the wishes of our District Governor Col. Dilip Patnaik for membership Extension and Retention." Further, as per call given by the DG the first day of the year, that is 01 July 2014, was celebrated as Annapurna day by serving langar to 1100 persons at three venues as reported in the previous bulletin.

Wanted help.....!

IPP Rtn. Deepak Sood has asked for following help;

1. Anil Sharma - kidney patient: Our club extended financial help of Rs. 75000/- to Anil and surgery was performed successfully. The total cost of surgery was approx. 3.5 lac. Governor of Punjab recommended his case to Deputy Commissioner, Chandigarh for financial help. His wife is taking rounds of DC office and the officials are not able to find his file...! The couple has taken loans from individuals, who are asking her to return their money. Post surgery expense on medicines is approx. Rs. 10000/- to Rs. 15000/- per month which is likely to go down after one year.
2. A mother of an 18 years boy underwent Renal transplant and requires help for buying medicines costing Rs 1500/- per week. She has been referred to us by Dr. Mrs Gupta of PGI.

Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Priya Bhateja

Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Atul Grover



July 19

July 23


Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Sudarshan & Rtn. Ravinder Krishan
R'ann Anupam & Rtn. Rakesh Jain

July 19
July 23

Punctuality Award

Won by Rtn. Davinder K. Singh



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All correspondence to the Editor: PP Rtn. Dr. V.J.S. Vohra
Consultant & Certified Clinical Partner, Otto Bock HealthCare India
Sr. Consultant - Artificial Limbs & Orthotics, Nevedac Prosthetic Clinic
MediRehab Systems, 1134 Sector 44-B, Chandigarh-160047
Email: drvsvohra@gmail.com | Mob. 9814006829 | www.nevedac.com

Design & Printed at:
Satyadeep Offset Printers (P) Ltd
292, Industrial Area, Phase II
Chandigarh. Ph.: 4624942
Email: salil.bindra@gmail.com