



2014-15

The Midtowner



Weekly Bulletin of Rotary Chandigarh Midtown

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R.I. District 3080

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R.T.P.S. Tulsi

Secretary
Salil Bali

Editor
Dr. V.J.S. Vohra

Volume XXXIX No. 32 Dated: February 03, 2015

PROGRAMME

Felicitations Gala

In Honour of the Visit of

Rotary International President Nominee 2016-17

Rtn. John F. Germ

Hosted jointly by: Rotary Clubs of Tricity of Chandigarh, Panchkula and Mohali

Monday, February 09, 2015

Time: 6.00 p.m.

Venue: Hotel Taj, Sector 17, Chandigarh



Indo - Rwanda Partnership and the Role of Rotarians

In our club meeting on January 30, 2015 we had Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda as the Chief Guest to talk to us about Indo - Rwanda Partnership and the Role of Rotarians. We also had the gracious presence of Past RI President Raja Saboo as the Guest of Honour. The High Commissioner was accompanied by his wife Mrs. Pauline and 2nd Counsellor Mr. Mucyo Rutishisha. PDG Rtn. Yoginder Diwan, PDG Rtn. Manpreet Singh and President Rtn. M.L. Gupta of Rotary Shivalik also graced the occasion.

organizations. He was also a researcher and Assistant Lecturer at the National University of Rwanda. He holds a masters degree in Development Policy and Planning from Cornell University and a Bachelors degree in Public Administration from the National University of Rwanda. Mr. Rwamucyo was awarded 2012 Diplomat of the year from Africa by Diplomat Magazine in London.

Addressing the gathering Past RI President Raja Saboo said, "I am extremely happy to be in this club after a long time." He talked of Swatchh Bharat and stated that first we need to understand our own self. It requires just one person to open the door. But it requires a team work or thousands of people to keep that door open.

PRIP Raja shared his memorable experiences of the medical missions of Rotarians of India to Rwanda and other African countries to serve the needy persons there. He also thanked the Government there for giving opportunity to Rotary to serve in their country. He talked of African countries which are far less developed than India. He said that African countries are having good resources but they have been suffering due to the colonial dominance. He talked of the Rwandan genocide of 1994 in which over one million people were butchered in 100 days. He pointed out that every African country, "has its own beauty, culture, language, traditions, and if you think in their own terms of development then very soon Africa is going to rise. Rotary has realized that." African countries should not be seen as downtrodden, seeking for help. For this reason Rotary has a program known as 'ROTA' - 'Reach out to Africa' or 'Rotary Africa', to build



High Commissioner
Ernest Rwamucyo

The Chief Guest was formally introduced by Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua, our Director International Service. Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo is the High Commissioner of Rwanda to India. He is also accredited to Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Prior to his appointment to India, Mr. Rwamucyo was High Commissioner of Rwanda to the United Kingdom and Non-Resident Ambassador to Ireland. He has extensive experience working on development and poverty reduction policies in Sub-Saharan Africa. He worked with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in New York as Policy Advisor on the Millennium Development Goals. Before joining UNDP, he worked for the Government of Rwanda as Director-General for Economic Development Planning in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. He was also Director of Strategic planning and Poverty Reduction Monitoring in the Ministry. He worked at Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF) Secretariat as head of Economic Planning before joining Rwanda's Ministry of Finance. Mr. Rwamucyo has been Chair and member of Board of Directors of Several Public and Private enterprises and non-governmental

organizations. He was also a researcher and Assistant Lecturer at the National University of Rwanda. He holds a masters degree in Development Policy and Planning from Cornell University and a Bachelors degree in Public Administration from the National University of Rwanda. Mr. Rwamucyo was awarded 2012 Diplomat of the year from Africa by Diplomat Magazine in London.



Past RI President
Raja Saboo



L-R: Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, PRIP Rtn. Raja Saboo, Mrs. Pauline and Mr. Mucyo Rutishisha are given floral welcome by President Rtn. R.T.P.S. Tulsi, PDG Rtn. Shaju Peter, R'ann Ranjana Tulsi and Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali



R'ann Lovy Peter presents a gift to the High Commissioner of Rwanda Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo



President Elect Rtn. Mrs. Kanan Diwan presents a gift to Mrs. Pauline, wife of the High Commissioner of Rwanda

awareness among Rotarians on the compelling needs of the continent. PRIP Raja Saboo concluded his talk on an inspiring note by forecasting, "Africa is the continent which will give Rotary a new movement, a new direction, a new opportunity; and that is where the future lies."

In his address the High Commissioner of Rwanda Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo said he had met Prof. Dua in Nagpur, and when he came to know that he is from Chandigarh he remarked, "I have a connection with Chandigarh and special friendship with Mr. Saboo and the wonderful Rotarians that have been going to medical missions in Rwanda." He also thankfully acknowledged the treatment of 30 poor children from Rwanda, having heart ailment, whose lives have been saved under the heart line project of Rotary Club Chandigarh. As High Commissioner his job is to build stronger

relations between India and Rwanda. There is a special relation between India and Rwanda. Trade between India and Rwanda is growing. There is a large number of Indians settled in Rwanda who are successful entrepreneurs and professionals.

The High Commissioner said, "As Rotarians you can build stronger connections. Rotarians have a special position and they have played a vital role in cementing and further strengthening this vibrant cooperation." He also referred to our Rotary District's medical missions, initiated by PRIP Raja Saboo, to serve the community in Rwanda and in other African countries, which has been a very practical application of 'Service Above Self'. He said, "Rotary has a very powerful purpose of bringing together business and professional leaders to provide humanitarian services and encourage high ethical standards. I look upon an entrepreneur or an investor



High Commissioner of Rwanda Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo presents birthday gift to Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali



Wedding anniversary gift to PP Rtn. Mrs. Saroj Jhwar & Mr. Sita Ram



High Commissioner presents wedding anniversary gift to Rtn. Mrs. Suman & Mr. Naresh Gupta



Projects during the week by President Rtn. Ravi Tuli



Announcements by Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali



Rtn. Prof. Dr. I.S. Dua introduces the Chief Guest



Formal vote of thanks by Rtn. Dr. Balram K. Gupta



Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo presents punctuality award to Rtn. Rajinder Rai. Looking on is Secretary Salil Bali

Rtn. Vinod Sobti

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PP Rtn. T.S. Anand

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who is a Rotarian from whom I can expect much more because they would do things ethically. They can be a very important asset to have stronger connection between India and Rwanda. This is a very powerful network." He remarked, "The partnership between the Rotary Clubs in Chandigarh in Rotary District 3080 in India and Rotary District 9150 in Rwanda is very exemplary through personal commitment and vision of Mr. Saboo."

Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo talked about the genocide of 1994 killing one million people in 100 days. He said, "It was the inhuman act of destroying ourselves. It was the most tragic period in our history. The country was destroyed. The fabric of our society was destroyed, and the country was almost a failed state." Though they had a history of colonial policy of divide and rule, they took the blame on

themselves. He explained, "We accepted to take the responsibility for the mess that had happened. We realized that we killed our own neighbours". He added, "Rwanda has since recovered. Today the country is peaceful. It is stable and the economy is growing strongly."

PP Rtn. Balram K. Gupta thanked Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, High Commissioner of Rwanda and his wife Mrs. Pauline and Past RI President Raja Saboo, for their gracious presence in our meeting. He expressed our gratitude to Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo for the wonderful three dimensional presentation in regard to Indo - Rwanda Partnership. He also thanked PRIP Raja Saboo for his tremendous contribution in building up this relationship through the medical missions to Rwanda.

Obligations and Privileges of Rotary Membership

As a guest speaker in a recent meeting of Rotary Chandigarh Shivalik PDG Shaju Peter explained that as Rotarians we have certain Obligations and Privileges. The most important privilege is the Fellowship. This is what Paul Harris had in mind when he got his three friends together in Chicago on 23rd February 1903, and his aim was to meet and know each other better. Rotary gives an opening within the Club, other Clubs in the city, Clubs in the District, Clubs in the Country and Clubs all across the world, connecting us globally. Exchanging greetings on festivals, birthdays or wedding anniversaries brings us together, and promotes fellowship.



Serving somebody who is not as blessed as you are, is an amazing experience and this is what Rotary is all about. It gives one opportunity to enhance and also to propagate the ethics of one's profession as everyone comes from different back grounds. Shaju pointed out that the most important thing what one shares in Rotary is

'Three Ts' - Time, Talent and Treasure.

PDG Shaju stated that every Rotarian's duty is to help increase the membership of their respective clubs. It is sad that 1.2 million strength of Rotary has not increased. However, it is matter of pride that India's membership growth is the best, whereas Japan and America have serious problems of the drastic decline.

Welcome our new Rotarian

Dr. Anil Kumar Malhotra



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(R) : Flat No. 401, GHS 85,
Sector 20, Panchkula - 134117
Phone (O) : 9780887043
(R) : 0172-4016568
Mobile : 9256537933
Email : anil1951@gmail.com
D.o.B : 17.06.1951
Wedding : October 01
Member from : 16.01.2015
Positions held : Member
Spouse : Dr. Aneeta
Vocation : Doctor
D.o.B : May 07
Children : Ankur (S)
Anjuri (D)



Our Signature project and other activities

On January 29, 2015 the team for **new Interact Club** at Manimajra was installed in the presence of Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali, Director Youth Service Rtn. Salil Chopra and Rtn. Rekha Sawhney. An orientation of the team was also conducted. Rotaractors too gave a presentation on the responsibilities of members of Rotaract and Interact Clubs.



A talk on **traffic awareness** and road sense was conducted in Govt. Model High School in Manimajra and Govt. Model High School in Sector 29-A, Chandigarh by Rtn. Salil Bali, Rtn. Salil Chopra and Rotaractors. Introduction to Rotary, Rotaract and Interact was given, and a course was conducted by Rtr. Daksh, Rtr. Shivani and Rtr. Garima. The concept of 'Green India Clean India' was also explained to large number of students who took part in this program.

On January 30, there were 110 students who participated in **Swachh Bharat** Swaasth Bharat program in Govt. Model High School, Sector 29, Chandigarh. Mr. Rajesh the Principal inaugurated the event. Students vowed to change their attitude.

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The cricket match

A **Cricket match** between Rotaractors and children of Night School, Sarangpur was well organized by Rotaract Chandigarh Midtown on 1st February. Even our Secretary Rtn. Salil Bali had shown his cricketing skills while playing in the match. The youngest boy of our Night School was playing so well, that he deserves to get professional training. Rotaractors distributed sweets and biscuits to children. Others present to witness this wonderful event were Rtn. Ashok Puri, DCS and Mrs. Indra Sharma, teacher of the Night School.



Creation of Class Room Libraries in our Adult Education Centers by VP Rtn. Dr. Rita Kalra and DCS Rtn. Ashok Puri at Jagatpura, Nayagaon, Zirakpur, Faida and Kundan School Sector 46, Chandigarh

Birthday of Spouses

R'ann Raj Kapoor
R'ann Madhu Vaidya

February 10
February 12

Birthday of Rotarians

Rtn. Mrs. Davinder K. Singh
PP Rtn. Trilochan S. Anand
Rtn. Maj. Gen. A.S. Kahlon



February 06
February 07
February 09

Wedding Anniversary

R'ann Neerja & Rtn. Anil Nagpal
PP Rtn. Dr. Vanita Gupta & Dr. B.C. Gupta
R'ann Manju & Rtn. Jawahar Jain
R'ann Sarabjit & Rtn. J.S. Bawa

February 08
February 09
February 09
February 10

Punctuality Draw

Won by Rtn. Rajinder Rai



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Rtn. Sanjay Bhatia

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