



# Breakfast Chatter

Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town  
District 3292, Club 26776, Chartered 08 Nov. 1989



October 7 <sup>th</sup> 2009		Weekly Bulletin	Vol. 14 of '09/'10
This week's speaker			
Dr Pabita Rayamajhi			
Calendar			
Date		Theme	
		Inauguration of the "Drinking Water Project" in Lele.	
October 9 <sup>th</sup>		Chief Guest is District Governor, <b>Rtn Ratna Man Sakya</b> Members are kindly requested to attend. The bus leaves Hotel Annpurna at 9.45 a.m.	
October 16 <sup>th</sup>		Ms Mahima Shrestha, daughter of Rtn. Mahendra Shrestha. Topic will be communicated in subsequent edition of the Bulletin	
Faces from the 1000 <sup>th</sup> meeting of KTM Mid-Town			









Best wishes to Peter & Kay as they return to the US



## RI News

### Historic Moments: Women in Rotary

By Susan Hanf and Donna Polydoros

Rotary International News -- 1 October 2009

---

**The 1989 Council on Legislation vote to admit women into Rotary clubs worldwide remains a watershed moment in the history of Rotary.**

"My fellow delegates, I would like to remind you that the world of 1989 is very different to the world of 1905. I sincerely believe that Rotary has to adapt itself to a changing world," said Frank J. Devlyn, who would go on to become RI president in 2000-01.

The vote followed the decades-long efforts of men and women from all over the Rotary world to allow for the admission of women into Rotary clubs, and several close votes at previous Council meetings.

The response to the decision was overwhelming: By 1990, the number of female Rotarians had skyrocketed to over 20,000.

Twenty years after the Council on Legislation's vote, Rotary has nearly 188,000 female Rotarians. Women have served in leadership positions as high as the RI Board of Directors and The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees. (Watch a [video](#) about women in Rotary from *RVM: the Rotarian Video Magazine* volume 4, issue 3)

## **Timeline of women in Rotary**

### **1950**

An enactment to delete the word *male* from the Standard Rotary Club Constitution is proposed by a Rotary club in India for the Council on Legislation meeting at the 1950 RI Convention.

### **1964**

The Council on Legislation agenda contains an enactment proposed by a Rotary club in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) to permit the admission of women into Rotary clubs. Delegates vote that it be withdrawn. Two other proposals to allow women to be eligible for honorary membership are also withdrawn.

### **1972**

As more women begin reaching higher positions in their professions, more clubs begin lobbying for female members. A U.S. Rotary club proposes admitting women into Rotary at the 1972 Council on Legislation.

### **1977**

Three separate proposals to admit women into membership are submitted to the Council on Legislation for consideration at the 1977 RI Convention. A Brazilian club makes a different proposal to admit women as honorary members.

The Rotary Club of Duarte, California, USA, admits women as members in violation of the RI Constitution and Standard Rotary Club Constitution. Because of this violation, the club's membership in Rotary International is terminated in March 1978, only to be reinstated in September 1986.

### **1980**

The RI Board of Directors and Rotary clubs in India, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States propose an enactment to remove from the RI and club constitutions and bylaws all references to members as *male persons*.

### **1983-86**

In a lawsuit filed by the Duarte club in 1983, the California Superior Court rules in favor of Rotary International, upholding gender-based qualification for membership in California Rotary clubs. In 1986, the California Court of Appeals reverses the lower court's decision, preventing the enforcement of the provision in California. The California Supreme Court refuses to hear the case, and it is appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

### **1987**

On 4 May, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that Rotary clubs may not exclude women from membership on the basis of gender. Rotary issues a policy statement that any Rotary club in the United States can admit qualified women into membership. The Board "encourages all clubs in the U.S. to give fair and equal consideration to candidates for membership without regard to gender." The Rotary Club of Marin Sunrise, California (formerly Larkspur Landing), is chartered on 28 May. It becomes the first club after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling to have women as charter members. Sylvia Whitlock, of the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, becomes the first female Rotary club president.

### **1988**

In November, the RI Board of Directors issues a policy statement recognizing the right of Rotary clubs in Canada to admit female members based on a Canadian law similar to that upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

**1989**

At its first meeting after the 1987 U.S. Supreme Court decision, the Council on Legislation votes to eliminate the requirement in the RI Constitution that membership in Rotary clubs be limited to men. Women are welcomed into Rotary clubs around the world.

**1990**

As of June, there are about 20,200 female Rotarians worldwide.

**1995**

In July, eight women become district governors, the first elected to this role.

**2005**

Carolyn E. Jones begins her term as the first woman appointed as trustee of The Rotary Foundation, serving from 2005 to 2009.

**2007**

In July, 63 women begin terms as district governors. Women are members of 25,227 clubs around the world. There are 177,859 female Rotarians.

**2008**

Catherine Noyer-Riveau begins her term as the first woman appointed to the RI Board of Directors. She will continue to serve through June 2010.

**2009**

There are 187,967 female Rotarians worldwide. Sixty-three serve as district governors.

---

## ***Mid-Town Reflection***

### ***Women Vs Men***

Women: Women have strengths that amaze men.

They carry children, they carry hardships, they carry burdens, but they hold happiness, love and joy.

They smile when they want to scream. They sing when they want to cry. They cry when they are happy and laugh when they are nervous.

Women wait by the phone for a "safe at home call" from a friend after a snowy drive home. They are child care workers, executives, attorneys, stay-at-home moms, biker babes, and your neighbors.

They wear suits, jeans, and they wear uniforms.

They fight for what they believe in.  
They stand up for injustice.

They walk and talk the extra mile to get their children in the right schools and for getting their family the right health care.

They go to the doctor with a frightened friend.  
Women are honest, loyal, and forgiving.

They are smart, knowing that knowledge is power.  
But they still know how to use their softer side to make a point.

Women want to be the best for their family, their friends, and themselves.

Their hearts break when a friend dies.  
They have sorrow at the loss of a family member, yet they are strong when they think there is no strength left.

A woman can make a romantic evening unforgettable.

Women come in all sizes, in all colors and shapes.

They live in homes, apartments and cabins.  
They drive, fly, walk, run or e-mail you to show how much they care about you.

The heart of a woman is what makes the world spin!  
Women do more than just give birth.

They bring joy and hope.  
They give compassion and ideals.  
They give moral support to their family and friends.

And all they want back is a hug, a smile and for you to do the same to people you come in contact with.

MEN: Men are good at lifting heavy stuff.

*submitted by Nick Dudish*

Please send information/suggestions/photos for the next volume to:  
Breakfast Chatter editor: Onuora Daniels at email:  
onydaniels@yahoo.com