

# THE BREAKFAST CHATTER

The Weekly Bulletin of the **Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-Town** - Volume No. 10/01 for # 840 June, 24<sup>th</sup> 2006

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## DEAR MIDTOWNERS ► FRIENDS IN ROTARY

### Dear friends in Rotary!

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June we had our last club assembly for this Rotary year. It wasn't the heated debate some were expecting but a clear to the point exchange of views, making it one more time clear that Rotary is a voluntary organization based on friendship and doing projects together.

As the incoming RI President Boyd mentioned, the daily work of making a Rotary club good, inviting, and useful is up to every member. So let's look forward to see that this motto is followed also next Rotary year.

This time our RI chapter is focused on the closure of the 101 RI convention in Copenhagen/Malmoe. Under other topic you will find this time a topic on internet. Not as it is on the screen but as it is handled behind the screen.

Hope you will enjoy reading. Until next time,  
**Walter**

## SPEAKERS OF THE WEEK ► OPEN

### THEME

Our next meeting will be on coming Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Mrs. Thapa has reconfirmed after coming back from the US, that she is ready to tell us something on the art scene in Nepal. As most of us know, she is the owner of one of the more active and leading galleries in Kathmandu, Siddhartha Gallery, which has regular new exhibitions. Could be interesting also for our spouses.

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS ► PREVIEW

DATE	SPEAKER	THEME
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Sadhana Shrestha, Ashoka country Representative	Social entrepreneurship

## THE MIDTOWN CLUB ► NEWS AS THE COME IN

### **Rotary World Peace Fellowship** candidates for 2007-09

Please begin the process of selecting Rotary World Peace Fellowship candidates for Class VI (2007-09). Submission of applications for the Rotary World Peace Fellowship should be forwarded to Evanston by July 1, 2006. It is targeted to get overall a pool of 500 applications, which will enable the Rotary Centers Committee to select the top 60 applicants with superior qualifications. For more information please refer to the Rotary Centers website for a timeline:

[http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb\\_scho/centers/application/timeline.html](http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/centers/application/timeline.html)

### **Ramkot Clinic Visit: kindly check the Ramkot Roster for your turn.**

If you have any question, contact Rtn. Dr Rabindra Shrestha (4469063, email: [drrs@wlink.com.np](mailto:drrs@wlink.com.np))

The doctor is Dr. Khagendra Gurung. Mobile No : 98510- 83044 Phone: 4287899

If you have any question, kindly let our fellow Ramkot Coordinator Rtn. Rabindra know.

Doctor is Khagendra Gurung mobile: 9841-231619, residence: 4287899 call him Friday latest.



Above: **RI President-elect William B. Boyd** and his wife **Lorna**

As Rotarians looked ahead to Rotary's 102nd year, the 2006 RI Convention in Copenhagen ended the night of 14 June. This concluded the first Rotary convention to be held in two countries.

The event drew 14,700 attendees from about 140 countries.

After presenting his family and his wife, Lorna, to the audience, RI President-elect William B. Boyd gave an indication of what he targets at. He stressed that Rotary provides an example of how to overcome obstacles of bureaucracy and intolerance through the power of a vast network of clubs and members.

While RI President elect William B. Boyd will continue RI President Stenhammar's emphases of water management, health/hunger and literacy, he will add a fourth emphasis on: family of Rotary.

He stressed that Rotary must keep strengthening existing Rotary club programs and projects.

According to him, the daily work of making a Rotary club good, inviting, and useful is up to every member. "We must make our Rotary clubs and activities welcoming to those of all ages. Club projects can involve family members, and clubs could hold events that are affordable and appealing to all," Boyd said.

He closed by asking all Rotarians to put the coming year's theme, "Lead the Way" into action. "We are not content with the status quo, and we do not look at a problem only to say, 'Someone else will solve it.' We are the ones who ask, why not us? Moreover, we are the ones who must Lead the Way. This is an affirmation of my belief in the power of Rotarians to change the world, one positive act at a time."

One of the keynote speeches during the convention on which Boyd was drawing much in his speech was held by Economist Jeffrey Sachs, who is the special advisor to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and head of the UN Millennium Project, who praised Rotary's grassroots contributions in the fight against poverty. For Sachs

there is a common ground between Rotary's vision and the UN Millennium Development Goals, which outline a bold, global plan for a world free of poverty, disease, and hunger by 2015.

To understand what he was trying to encourage we should use a moment to remember these Millennium Goals.

**Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Hunger and Poverty**

**Goal 2: Education for children everywhere**

**Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women**

**Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality**

**Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health**

**Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases**

**Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability**

**Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development**

Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Have achieved by 2020 a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers  
Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, nondiscriminatory trading and financial system. A commitment, which should include good governance, development, and poverty reduction both nationally and internationally.

Address the special needs of the Least Developed Countries which should include tariff- and quota-free access for Least Developed Countries exports, enhanced program of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries and cancellation of official bilateral debt, and more generous official development assistance for countries committed to poverty reduction

Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing states  
Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable.

In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth

In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries

In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies

### **Quite a sum of goals and targets!**

According to Sachs, our generation is the first in the history of the world that can realistically lead to the end of extreme poverty on the planet in our time. Sachs called the goals the only true route to peace on the planet at a pivotal moment in history. The biggest obstacle in accomplishing the goals, he said, is defeatism on the part of world leaders who do not understand the connection between the goals and global peace and security.

He likened the program's courageous goals to Rotary's ongoing partnership to eradicate polio. "It is your example of action that I use every day to try to convince world leaders, communities, and businesses that we can accomplish these great goals," Sachs said. He praised Rotary's community-based network of Rotary clubs as a model of how to get things done for the good of humanity. Some 78 Millennium Villages in 10 African countries are serving as models for the goals program. He urged Rotary clubs or districts to collaborate with the villages for straightforward projects.

"Rotary is the on-the-ground service provider. It's the one that gets into the villages," he said. "Your demonstrated leadership in putting the drops of vaccine into the mouths of children in all parts of the world is the model of service to bring an end to extreme hunger and disease."

## **OTHER TOPICS**

### **The physical internet**

We have heard a lot along the line of the internet and there included the line of e commerce. What we are seldom aware of is what makes the fast growing e commerce possible. Well let us have today a look at an article in the economist, which gives us a picture of backstage.

"Roaring thrust-reversers rapidly slow the giant MD-11 jet as it touches down on the runway before turning to taxi towards a sprawling floodlit building. Seconds after it has pulled up at the ramp, large doors on the fuselage swing open and people scurry around with equipment. Nevertheless, they are not about to unload hundreds of passengers: instead, the aircraft carries stacks of airfreight containers stuffed with parcels and documents. Soon they will be emptied to join the 300,000 packages that are sorted every hour at the UPS World port.

Every package is automatically photographed, measured and weighed and has the information on its super-barcode analyzed by computers to determine its trajectory along some of the 17,000 conveyor belts. This requires awesome computing power: more data are processed here every 30 minutes than in an entire day of trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Eventually the packages slide down a chute to be placed into a bag or an airfreight container. In addition, before dawn they are off again to complete their journey in another aircraft or in one of a fleet of waiting trucks.

A few hundred miles to the south-west, in Memphis, Tennessee, more landing lights line up across the night sky. This is FedEx's global hub, and for the next few hours, an aircraft will land here every 90 seconds. Every one of them has the company logo painted on its tail. Tractors towing containers and cargo pallets dash everywhere. Documents are automatically sorted in a maze of machines. In one giant building, known as the "matrix", packages zoom around on 300 miles of conveyor belts. Before dawn, all these packages too will have departed again.

As the night continues to travel west, similar scenes unfold at airports in Manila, Taipei, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Guangzhou, Dubai, Cologne, Paris and Anchorage. The goods moving through these air-cargo hubs range from items bought on eBay to vehicle parts, fresh flowers, books, computers, transplant tissue—just about anything imaginable. Even live whales have been "FedExed". In addition, when the night reaches America again, the landing lights once more appear in the sky over Louisville and Memphis.

Frederick Smith, FedEx's chief executive, compares his company's jets to clippers, the sailing ships that once carried cargoes on the trade winds. Mr. Smith pioneered the air-express business in the early 1970s by delivering a few hundred parcels overnight to a handful of American cities using Falcon aircraft the size of an executive jet. At Memphis airport, the parcels were sorted on a table. Many of his contemporaries thought he was mad: who would pay to send packages by air? He almost went bust. Now FedEx has ordered a fleet of double-deck Airbus A380s to help cope with demand. Rival UPS has also placed orders for the huge new Airbus. Neither company wants any seats inside, just space for lots of cargo. If they were passenger airlines, UPS and FedEx would now rank among the world's biggest carriers.

In an effort to re brand itself, UPS is painting the phrase "Synchronizing the World of Commerce" on its 270-plus aircraft and 90,000-plus vehicles, including its distinctive dark brown delivery trucks. It may not exactly trip off the tongue, but it is an apt description of a business that has grown far beyond simply delivering things. Nowadays firms ranging from trucking companies to freight forwarders, shipping lines, air-cargo carriers and post offices are more likely to use the word "logistics" to describe what they do.

Logistics is a military term. As generals know, wars can be won or lost by it even before they are fought. Now companies have to become more involved in planning their own logistics. Under relentless pressure to reduce costs and increase sales around the world, firms are outsourcing operations to subcontractors who can do them better and more cheaply, and moving more of their production and services to lower-cost countries.

Globalization requires greatly increased co-ordination of transport by road, rail, sea, air and now also by an entirely new route to market: the internet. This makes logistics vastly more complex. The job of ensuring that all these things work together is known as supply-chain management. Thomas Freese, an American consultant in this business, explains: "Supply-chain management is an evolution of logistics. Logistics tends to be tactical; supply-chain management is strategic."

Supply chains are becoming not only longer but also more enveloping. Supply-chain management these days can include anything from buying raw materials to managing suppliers, warehousing, operating transport fleets, taking orders, collecting payments, repairing products and even answering the telephone at call-centers. Companies are also outsourcing supply-chain services.

Yet supply-chain management is not just about wringing costs out of a business. It can also be used to increase revenue and boost profits without necessarily lowering costs. Indeed, some companies have re-engineered their supply chains to gain a huge competitive advantage. What has put Wal-Mart ahead of Sears in retailing, Dell in front of Hewlett-Packard in the personal-computer business and Zara ahead of Marks & Spencer in fashion? The market leaders all have supply chains that are more responsive to customer demand, according to Yossi Sheffi, director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Centre for Transportation and Logistics.

Things like transport, purchasing and warehousing used to be considered merely part of the cost of doing business, and were often managed as separate entities. Now they are coming together as a strategic item on the chief executive's agenda. There is a reason for this. "Supply-chain leaders are very aware of how a company runs because they have to deal with all the different components of the operation," says Rick Blasgen, who used to work for a big American food group and now runs the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals.

However, as this survey will show, supply chains harbor dangers too, and managing risk is becoming a pressing issue. A number of alarm bells have started ringing. Most firms have been organizing their logistics to make themselves leaner. Many now carry little or no inventory to save money. Indeed, sometimes their entire inventory consists of what is moving from the factory directly to the consumer in the back of a truck or an airplane. If something goes wrong—and it often does—business will quickly grind to a halt.

Experts worry that some companies do not fully understand the risks of operating very lean international supply chains—or that they choose to ignore them because their rivals are forcing the pace, purchasing critical components from a single supplier to increase their buying power. In fact, some firms do not know who is supplying their suppliers—or even where some of their lower-tier suppliers are based. "

### NOW READY FOR A HEALTY LAUGHTER?

**A woman** was standing in a crowded lift of the hotel she was staying in. When a man got in and accidentally elbowed her in the breast. The man said, "I'm sorry! But if your heart is as soft as your tit, you'll forgive me." so the woman replies, "If your dick is as hard as your elbow then I am staying in room 113."

**Once there was** a millionaire, who collected live alligators. He kept them in the pool behind his mansion. He also had a beautiful daughter who was single. One day, the millionaire decides to throw a huge party during which he announced, "My dear guests, I have a proposition to every man here. I will give one million dollars, or my daughter, to the man who can swim across this pool full of alligators and emerge unharmed!"

As soon as he finished his last word, there was the sound of a large splash in the pool. The guy in the pool was swimming with all his might and the crowd began to cheer him on. Finally, he made it to the other side of the pool unharmed.

The millionaire was impressed. He said, "That was incredible! Fantastic! I didn't think it could be done! Well, I must keep my end of the bargain. Do you want my daughter or the one million dollars?" The guy catches his breath, and then says, "Listen, I don't want your money! And I don't want your daughter! I want the asshole who pushed me in the pool!"

**It seems** God noticed Adam was despondent. So the Lord God said, "Adam, come over here and sit down!". And Adam did so. "Adam," spoke the Creator, "I see your countenance is fallen and you seem to feel rotten and lonely."

Adam said nothing in response. "So," continued the Lord, "I am going to create an alternate person who will be with you!" Adam just looked puzzled but interested. "This person," said the Lord, "will take all the raw and tasteless food that you are currently ruining and will prepare wonderful, spicy, and tasty dishes."

Adam looked grateful. "This person," said the Lord, "will be beautiful to behold and graceful and interesting to watch as she walks." Adam looked thoughtful. "This person," emphasized the Lord, "will be able to satisfy all those dreams that you currently are having!" Adam really looked believed. "And, lastly," said the Lord, "She will obey your every whim and desire and order with cheerfulness." Adam was impressed and finally spoke.

"O.K., Lord, but what is this going to cost me?" "An arm and a leg," said the Almighty. "Well," Adam then said, "What can I get for a rib?"

**John invited** his mother over for dinner. During the meal, his mother couldn't help noticing how beautiful John's roommate was. She had long been suspicious of a relationship between John and his roommate, and this only made her more curious.

Over the course of the evening, while watching the two interact, she started to wonder if there was more between John and the roommate than met the eye. Reading his mom's thoughts, John volunteered, "I know what you must be thinking, but I assure you, Julie and I are just roommates." About a week later, Julie came to John and said, "Ever since your mother came to dinner, I've been unable to find the beautiful silver gravy ladle. You don't suppose she took it, do you?" John said, "Well, I doubt it, but I'll write her a letter just to be sure."

So he sat down and wrote, "Dear Mother, I'm not saying you did take a gravy ladle from my house, and I'm not saying you did not take a gravy ladle. But the fact remains that one has been missing ever since you were here for dinner."

Several days later, John received a letter from his mother, which read: "Dear Son, I'm not saying that you do sleep with Julie, and I'm not saying that you do not sleep with Julie. But the fact remains that if she was sleeping in her own bed, she would have found the gravy ladle by now. Love, Mom." Lesson of the day... Don't Lie To Your Mother.

That's for today and see or hear from you soon. **Walter** and **Navyo**

SEE YOU ALL **COMING FRIDAY** ► YOURS IN ROTARY - CSD RTN. **WALTER** DILLER

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