



Breakfast Chatter

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



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Weekly Bulletin





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This week's speaker



Mr. Bobbi Chettri of Asian Trekking will talk about upcoming events in Khumbu this season.

Calendar

Date	Theme
June 12 th	Mr. Bobbi Chettri (see above)
June 13 th	 <p>First District Awards and Recognition Ceremony of District 3292 will be celebrated on Saturday, June 13, 2009 at 3:00pm at the Soaltee Hotel Crown Plaza, Tahachal, Kathmandu. The Registration fees is Nrs. 2000/- for Clubs in Kathmandu Valley and Nrs. 1500/- for Rotary Clubs outside the Kathmandu Valley.</p>
June 19 th	<p>Charter President Dr. Roop will talk on the topic of Vipassana meditation, which means to see things as they really are. Vipassana is one of the most ancient techniques of meditation. It was rediscovered by Gotama Buddha more than 2500 years ago and was taught by him as a universal remedy for universal ills. This non-sectarian technique aims for the total eradication of mental impurities and the resultant highest happiness of full liberation. It's purpose is healing, not merely curing of diseases, but the essential healing of human suffering.</p> 
June 21-24 th	 <p>100th Rotary International Convention, Birmingham, England.</p>
June 26 th	<p>Chirag Bangdel</p> <p>Artist, poet, teacher, radio DJ and so much more says his grandfather Lain Singh Bangdel has been a great source of inspiration to him. He will talk to us on this occasion about the contemporary art scene in Kathmandu – perhaps read a poem – and share some of his most recent works with us.</p> 

The Middle East crisis takes on a personal face



Kai Bird an American Pulitzer Prize-winning author and columnist was Mid-Town's speaker last week. Mr. Bird, who is best known for his biographies of political figures, was born in, Oregon, USA, but, since his father was a U.S. Foreign Service officer, he spent his childhood in Jerusalem, Beirut, Dhahran, Cairo and Bombay. He was an associate editor and columnist for *The Nation* magazine and has written several biographical works including: *The Color of*

Truth: McGeorge Bundy and William Bundy, Brothers in Arms (Touchstone, 1998), *The Chairman: John J. McCloy and the Making of the American Establishment* (Random House, 1992) and *Hiroshima's*



Shadow: Writings on the Denial of History and the Smithsonian Controversy (1998), which he co-edited with Lawrence Lifschultz. Bird and co-author Martin J. Sherwin won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* (Knopf, 2005).



Mr. Bird now lives in Kathmandu, with his son, Joshua, and his wife Susan Goldmark, (Nepal's country director for The World Bank). On this occasion, he talked to us on the topic of his



upcoming memoir about the Middle East. Mr. Bird read the Prologue of this new book and explained how both the *Nakba* (for Muslims in the Middle East – the day of the catastrophe i.e. creation of Israel) and the *Shoah* (the holocaust) have very deep personal resonances in his own life.

Korean, Greek Rotarians mark a first in polio eradication

By Joseph Derr Rotary International News -- 3 June 2009 (adapted)

The photo shows members of an 18-member multidistrict Korean team administer oral polio vaccine during an NID in Meerut, India. Photo courtesy of Yun Jin Lee/The Rotary Korea



A team of Rotarians from Korea and one from Greece became the first from their respective countries to volunteer during a National Immunization Day (NID), which occurred 1-2 March.

Working with local teams from numerous agencies, the volunteer groups administered drops of oral polio vaccine to children in two regions of Uttar Pradesh during a massive immunization campaign that targeted all children under age five in the country.

In Meerut, the 18-member multidistrict Korean team walked house to house to help ensure that every child was immunized. Team leaders said that this year's RI theme, Make Dreams Real, was the motivation behind volunteering for the event.

"Taking part in the NID was an extremely rewarding experience for our team. We did something very positive and tangible for the final push to eradicate polio worldwide," says Ju Hwa Jeong, governor of District 3690, who led the Korean volunteers to India. "Our team was pleased to be the first group of Korean Rotarians to take this kind of action, inspired by RI President Dong Kurn Lee, who has inspired not only Korean Rotarians this year but the worldwide membership to eradicate this terrible scourge."

While the Korean volunteers tackled the streets of Meerut, a 22-member team from District 2470 (Greece) worked in Moradabad and its environs, going door to door to administer vaccine to all young children.

Greek team leader Hara Papadaki, of the Rotary Club of Pendeli, said one of the most successful moments of the NID was when the team immunized 56 children all at once in the Moradabad railway station.

She said the NID was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. "I am proud for the contribution of Greek Rotarians to the global effort for making India a polio-free country."

Papadaki added that the trip to India would not have been possible without the support of Mary Delivoria, governor of District 2470, and Yogesh Mohanji Gupta, governor of District 3100 (India).

"Until polio is eradicated worldwide, every child remains at risk," said Katerina Kotsali, a member of the Pendeli club. "Though we are close to reaching our goal, we must continue our efforts until each and every child is protected against the tragic consequences of this disease."

Rotaracts plan for '09-'10



Rotaracts Plan for a Dynamic Year Ahead

The Breakfast Chatter caught up with Mid-Town's intrepid Rotaracts who were busy sharing their

upcoming plans with President-elect **Rtn. Subarna**. Rotaract 'mom' **Rtn. PP Lekha** was close at hand to provide valuable input. Meet the team (from left to right) **Samir** (Rotaract Club Service Director elect), **Kishor** Acharya (Secretary elect) and **Anil** Shrestha (President elect).

Our new group of Rotaracts also enjoyed meeting this week's speaker Mr. Kai Bird. Let's hope that we continue to see more of our Rotaractors at breakfast meetings. Mid-Town wishes its Rotractors all good luck with their hard work and for continued success in the coming year.



Visitors and guests



Once again Mid-Town was glad to welcome a number of visitors and guests. From left to right Mr. Narayan Mishra, (Rtn Onuora), Ms. Neeva Pradhan, Rtn. Lisa (oops! maybe not a visitor?!), Ms. Bobbi Thami, Ms. Shanti Mishra and Mr. Ishwor.



Please send information/suggestions/photos for the next volume to:
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