



Breakfast Chatter



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

July 15, 2008 Weekly Bulletin Volume 3 of '08-'09

Speaker of the Week



Dr. Shanta Dixit,
Founder and Director of the Rato Bangala School

About the speaker:

Dr. Dixit completed her doctorate in Public Health from Columbia University, New York in 1990. In the early 1990s she was among the first people in Nepal to be involved in AIDS awareness and in helping AIDS victims in Nepal. She is co-founder of the Rato Bangala School and its present Director. Both she and her journalist husband are active and involved members of civil society; she presently serves on the board of some dozen NGOs involved in the education and health sectors in Nepal.

Calendar

Date	Theme
July 18 th	Dr. Shanta Dixit on " <i>Public Private Partnership: Adding Value to our Primary Education</i> "
Aug. 1 st	Installation of Mid-Town Board for 2008-09 (details to follow)
Aug. 2 nd	Inter-city meeting on Membership and Retention (details to follow)
Aug. 15 th	Short talk by Rotary Exchange Student Chiemi Shrestha
Sept. 19 th	No Friday meeting.
Sept. 21 st	Brunch meeting. Former Mid-Towner Rtn. Larry Meek and 20 members of his present Rotary Club will be in Nepal. Let us plan to welcome them with typical Nepali hospitality! (details to follow)

Rotary Rules

Did you know?

Attendance Requirement for all Rotarians: Meeting the minimum attendance requirement is your responsibility as a Rotarian. The benefits of attendance are:

- Fosters fellowship among club members
- Provides opportunities to meet new people and reconnect with long-time friends
- Keeps you current on club, district, and Rotary International news and events

As explained in the **Standard Rotary Club Constitution**, each member needs to meet the following requirements:

- Attend or make up at least 50% of your Rotary club meetings in each half of the year.
- Attend at least 30% of your club's meetings in each half of the year.
- A member may not miss or fail to make up four consecutive meetings.

In next week's Breakfast Chatter read how you can make up for missed meetings.



Photo: Rotary Exchange Student Chiemi Shrestha with President RR, PP Rtn. Jyotsna and Mid-Town Chair of the Rotary Foundation Rtn. Saroj.

Congratulations to Chiemi Shrestha who has been selected as Mid-Town's Rotary Exchange Student for '08-09, and a hearty 'thank you' to all the Rotarians-on both sides of the world who did the needful to make this happen.

Chiemi will be hosted by the *Rotary Club of Walkill Valley*, New Jersey. PP Rtn. Mani was hosted by this same Club some years ago. Chiemi may follow in his footsteps and also become an outstanding Rotarian!

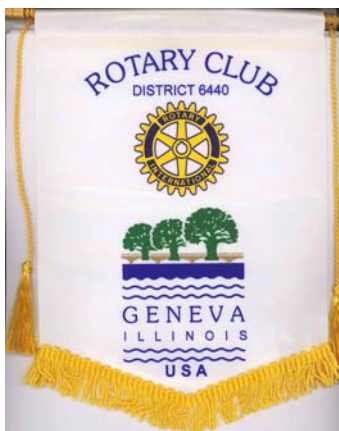
Chiemi heads to New Jersey in mid-August but before that, she will give us a short presentation at one of our Friday morning meetings. All of Mid-Town's good wishes for a successful year in the US are with her.

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Assistant Governor Rtn. Dr. Anil Shrestha (of the Rotary Club of Kathmandu West) attended the Mid-Town Club Assembly Meeting on July 11th. He reminded Mid-Towners of Rotary's 'Gift of Life' programme which provides free health care services to child heart patients.

Dr. Anil listened to the Club's plans for the year and said that newer clubs had much to learn from such a well-established club as Mid-Town. He wished Mid-Town a successful year '08-'09 and promised to visit again later in the year.

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PP Rtn. Ambica brings us greetings from Geneva, Illinois, USA.

Are you travelling? Will you be visiting other Rotary Clubs?

To find another club, use Rotary's online Club Locator or the Official Directory see www.rotary.org. Mid-Town flags can be obtained from Mr. Dahal. Be sure to ask the club secretary of the visited club to sign a card or note as proof of your attendance. A signed document ensures that your club gives you attendance credit. Please make sure to bring back Rotary flags from Clubs that you have visited to share with the Breakfast Chatter.

Korean march promotes Rotary

By Susie O. Ma, Rotary International News (adapted)

11 July 2008



Kwang Heum Baek, 2007-08 governor of District 3630, led 5,000 Rotarians on a 374-mile trek through Korea to promote Rotary. The march raised US\$718,000 and drew 458 new members. *Photo courtesy District 3630* District Governor Kwang Heum Baek wasn't too proud to peel off his sock and show his blisters after he and more than 5,000 Rotarians trekked through Gyeongsangbuk-do Province in Korea to promote Rotary.

A resounding success, the effort drew new club members, raised money, and generated positive press coverage for Rotary. Rotarians in District 3630 marched relay-style through the province every weekend from July through December 2007. Baek, the

district's 2007-08 governor, was one of only 11 Rotarians who walked the entire 374 miles. Along the route, participants donated their time, money, and resources to communities in need, providing free medical care, coordinating blood drives, and money for scholarships.

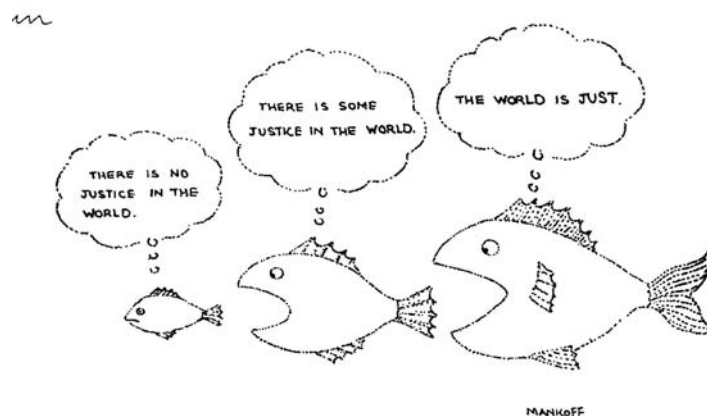
The march generated US\$718,000 and drew 458 new club members. (During his term, 700 new members joined clubs in District 3630, Korea's largest district, with 106 clubs and 6,018 Rotarians, according to Baek.)

This innovative approach to promoting Rotary was Baek's brainchild. Though his primary aim was to raise awareness about the organization and increase membership, he also wanted to inspire Rotarians to demonstrate Service Above Self. The march was covered in local and national newspapers and on radio and television.

Generating excitement about the event was Baek's greatest challenge, he says. Club members were initially reluctant to take on such an immense project, so he relied on support from past district governors and rallied Rotarians to the task. In the end, the effort was wildly popular.

"The march began in the middle of a hot summer. Rain or shine, we walked and were greeted by Rotarians with a great deal of enthusiasm," Baek said. "Their enthusiasm is the driving force of District 3630."

Mid-Town Humour



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

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