



Breakfast Chatter



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

July 22, 2008

Weekly Bulletin

Volume 4 of '08/'09

Topic of the Week



What is RYLA? Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is one of Rotary International's nine structured programs designed to help clubs and districts achieve their service goals in their own communities and in communities abroad, fostering fellowship and goodwill in the process. RYLA events are intensive training programs for youth ages 14-30. A seminar, camp, or workshop, generally 3-10 days in length, organized by Rotarians at the club or district level. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards RYLA's goals are to: demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth and to provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders as well as to encourage leadership of youth by youth. RYLA publicly recognizes young people who are providing service to their communities. Come on Friday and find out more...

Calendar

Date	Theme
July 25 th	PP Ajay is arranging a special speaker on RYLA
Aug. 1 st	Installation of Mid-Town Board for 2008-09 (details to follow)
Aug. 2 nd	District Membership Seminar 2008 <u>Venue:</u> Lalitpur Party Palace, Lalitpur Bishal Bazar, Pulchowk, Lalitpur <u>Registration:</u> Rs.500/- per person (inclusive of breakfast and lunch) <u>Time:</u> Registration and breakfast 8:30 am - 9:00 am at the venue <u>Plenary and discussion sessions :</u> 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (+tea break) <u>Lunch:</u> 1:00 pm <u>Host Clubs:</u> RC Mahabouddha and RC Patan Durbar Square
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 California Rotary Club will be in Nepal. Let us plan to welcome them with typical Nepali hospitality! (details to follow)

Rotary Rules

Did you know?

That you can still receive attendance credit if you cannot attend you club meeting*. *(Article 9, Section 1 of the Club Constitution)

- Attend a meeting of another club
- Attend a meeting of a Rotaract or Interact club, Rotary Community Corps, or Rotary Fellowship and attend certain district or RI meetings
- Participate in club-sponsored event or service project
- Attend a club board or service committee meeting with authorization of the club board
- Participate in an E-club meeting for at least 30 minutes (Article 9, Section 1 of Club Constitution)

You can make up at Rotary clubs all around the world, which allows you to:

- Meet a new group of Rotarians
- Observe how another club operates
- Share information about your club
- Make international contacts for club projects



Dr. Dixit, our guest speaker last week, explained in her talk that the curriculum of Rato Bangala strives to nurture each child's social, emotional, physical and cognitive development. Based on Bank Street School for Children's Development Interactionist approach, Rato Bangala has been able to develop a curriculum that is suited to the Nepali context. Classroom lessons and field trips are carefully planned to maximise learning in all areas and to motivate students to learn the skills of inquiry, observation and experimentation. Student projects are designed to maximise reading, writing and math skills. Throughout the school year, a conscious and careful balance is maintained between independent, small and large-group activities.

She also explained about Rato Bangala's Partnership in Outreach Programme which was established in 2003, and is launching a structured programme to help bring quality education to Nepali children in other parts of Nepal. This programme is run by reserving a portion of the tuition fees for this purpose. After feedback from the parent body and senior students through a structured questionnaire, the programme was launched in five districts: Dhading, Makwanpur, Lalitpur, Myagdi and Dailekh. The specific focus for the programme in the selected schools of the districts mentioned above are as follows: a) provide teacher training, b) provide training to educational leaders, c) provide scholarships to needy students to go to the selected schools, d) help schools improve their physical facilities, and e) provide a limited number of full scholarships to under-privileged children at RBS. The Rato Bangala School has initiated this project with full support from the government's Department of Education, and is being helped by the concerned District Education Offices.

Dr. Dixit can be contacted at: The Rato Bangala School, P.O. Box. 202, Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur, Nepal, rbs@mos.com.np, <http://www.ratobangala.edu.np/school.htm>

Mid-Town Rotaract News

Mid-Town's intrepid Rotaracts have been busy again! On Saturday July 12th, 2008 PP Anjana Manandhar coordinated a rally in Danda Pauwa with Mid-Town Rotaracts and volunteers from the Jyanti Youth Club of Ramkot.

The rally was held to help promote awareness of the needs of the less fortunate and also to show how recycled paper can be made into briquettes that can be used for cooking. At the end of this successful morning they had collected almost 200kgs of rice for the Shanti Sewa Griha in Gaushala (where food is cooked daily for the less fortunate) and had collected a whole van full of recyclable paper.



In usual Mid-Town Rotaract style they showed how raising community awareness can also be quite a lot of good fun. Here Rotaracts are shown enlisting the help of the Ramkot Koyokosin Karate Dozo-Danda Pauwa and of Mr. and Miss Teen candidates.



Welcome Back Lotti!

The Breakfast Chatter hears that long-time member Lotti Weise is back in Kathmandu. Mid-Town sends all of their best wishes and looks forward to welcoming her back on Friday mornings!

Congratulations to Mid-Town

For bagging the first prize for Promotion of the 4-Way Test, and 3 second prizes for Membership Growth, Inter-Club Relation and Rotary-Rotaract Relation at the Rotary District Awards 2008 for RI District 3290. Keep up the good work.

Rotary News from China

Rotarian in right place at right time after China quake

By Susie O. Ma (adapted) Rotary International News -- 10 July 2008

Bill Chiang was working on his laptop the afternoon of 12 May when his 19th-floor apartment in Chengdu, China, began to shake. Despite his initial fear, Chiang said he was in the right place at the right time. A charter and honorary member of the **Rotary Club of San Francisco Golden Gate**, he, along with members of the Rotary clubs of



Honorary Rotarian Bill Chiang with a young earthquake survivor in Sichuan Province, China. *Photo by Bill Chiang*

Beijing and Shanghai, has been an integral part of Rotary-related efforts to help victims of the earthquake in China's Sichuan Province. Because of Rotarians' work, **ShelterBox** and **LifeBox**, two disaster relief organizations with Rotary ties, have been able to ship aid containers to the region. Shelter Box was also able to obtain the visas required to send a disaster response team to the area. "Bill has been great with on-the-ground organization, including providing access to interpreters, organizing transport, and all the paperwork.

Chiang, who has lived all over the world, has been in Chengdu for two years volunteering for organizations that provide reconstructive surgery to children. He said he was probably the most mentally prepared person in the city when the disaster hit because of his previous earthquake experiences. When he left his apartment after the quake ended, Chiang took bottled water, money, his passport, and a radio. Others were not so prepared. People were in the street without shoes, totally rattled and running for cover with each aftershock, he said. When he was allowed back into his undamaged building nine hours later, electricity and the Internet were still working, and only a few things in his apartment had broken.

Most of the buildings in Chengdu city are new and sustained little damage, but touring hard-hit areas elsewhere with ShelterBox team members underscored how lucky he was. It "makes you feel what life is all about - anything can happen at any moment," he said. "I get emotional when I see children and old people who are totally emotionless, zombied out." The most chilling image, he recalled, was a group of about 30 soldiers marching in two columns, wearing all-white clothing and masks. They were responsible for handling dead bodies. "It sent chills up my spine," he said.

Chiang is upbeat about the future, though. Before the quake, there was concern that China's younger generation was becoming too materialistic and selfish, he said. But the disaster seems to have galvanized everyone. "This earthquake has shown how a society can be positively impacted by people working together," he explained.

Chiang said he looks forward to when his Chinese friends can become Rotarians. Though there are Rotary clubs in Beijing and Shanghai, only foreign-passport holders are allowed to join until the government approves regulations for international organizations. Chiang told an interested government official about Rotary. "He said he wanted to be a Rotarian and asked how he could join," Chiang recalled proudly. **"It was a Rotary moment."**

Mid-Town Humour

High gas prices??!



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

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