



Breakfast Chatter



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

August 19th, 2008

Weekly Bulletin

Vol. 6 of '08/'09

Speaker of the Week

Saiya Puska Man

Calendar

Date	Theme
Aug. 22nd	Mr. Saiya Puska Man - Nepal Handicrafts
Aug. 29 th	Dr. Nanda Bdr. Singh will speak on: "Ethnogenetics and Ethnobiology of Six Indigenous Populations in Nepal"
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)

About Rotary

Did you know?

Service Opportunities

Each year, more than 1.2 million Rotarians take part in community service efforts around the world. No two projects are exactly alike, but the issues they address are universal. The RI Board has identified nine key issues of global concern, listed in *A Menu of Service Opportunities*, which provides an overview of each issue, as well as a summary of Rotary's approach, action plans, and resources.

Menu of Service Opportunities

Children at risk

To help the millions of children around the globe who lack safe water, adequate food, decent sanitation, and basic education, Rotarians have dedicated themselves to building schools, immunizing children against polio, and numerous other projects.

Disabled persons

Nearly 600 million people worldwide have disabilities. Of those, nearly 80 percent live in developing countries where access to proper medical care, vocational training, and jobs is limited. Rotarians have worked since 1913 on projects that provide equal access to education, employment, and essential services to those with disabilities.

Health care

Each year, millions die from preventable diseases such as AIDS and malaria, and the death toll from childbirth and waterborne diseases is staggering. Rotary clubs have helped restore families and communities by equipping health clinics and surgeries for children with birth defects.

To be continued in next week's Breakfast Chatter



Chiem Shrestha is Mid-Town's Rotary Exchange Student for '08-09. Last Friday Chiem (assisted by her younger brother, Chisei Man, who kindly co-ordinated the high tech aspects) gave Mid-Town a PowerPoint presentation that highlighted many of the salient features of Nepal and her home town of Kathmandu. Mid-Towners were full of good suggestions for Chiem who will be hosted by the Rotary Club of Wallkill Valley, New Jersey. Chiem departs next week and we look forward to regular updates from her year abroad.

With her comely good looks and her courteous and gracious manner, Chiem is sure to be a great success with everyone she meets. We all wish her the very best for an adventurous and successful year in the USA.



District Membership Seminar 2008

The District Membership Seminar took place on Aug. 2nd at the Lalitpur Party Palace, Lalitpur Bishal Bazar, Pulchowk, Lalitpur. The event which started at 9AM concluded at 1PM with a lunch and fellowship. New members learnt a lot and senior members were happy to coach new members and to renew old friendships – by the happy smiles on these faces we can surmise that a good time was had by all.



Mid-Towners with Special guest PDG Manoj Desai from Baroda/ India. From left to right: Rtn. Jo. PP. Rtn. William, Sec. Rtn. Som, PDG Manoj Desai, PP. Rtn. Lekha, and PP Rtn. Mani.

Highlights from RC Mid-Town's 19th Installation

On Friday August 1st RC Mid-Town celebrated its 19th Installation Ceremony.



Mid-Town's Board of Directors 2008-09 with DG Dr Tika Man Vaidya and AG Dr Anil B Shrestha

The august occasion was graced by the presence of Chief Guest District Governor Dr. Tikaman Vaidya, District Governor Elect Ratna Man Shakya, District Governor Nominee Tirtha Man Shakya, Past District Governor Manoj Desai from Baroda, District Council Members, Assistant Governor Dr Anil B Shrestha and other district officials. Our own Rtn. Govinda acted as MC giving levity at every turn. PP Rtn. Walter thanked all and sundry for his successful year as president 2007-08. A special all-colour souvenir issue of Breakfast Chatter celebrating the Installation was distributed.



CP Dr Roop Jyoti providing Club Charter to President RR Shrestha (left) and PP Dr C Lekha Tuladhar providing bouquet to visiting PDG Manoj Desai (right).

President Rtn. RR said that taking leadership in the club is a big challenge. Challenge in developing harmonious fellowship with Rotarians within and outside the club, challenge in running voluntary organization effectively, challenge in getting professionally busy fellow Rotarians involved in voluntary service activities, projects, challenge in raising funds for various programs voluntarily, challenge in meeting club's targets etc. He said that he would take these challenges as an opportunity, opportunity to develop leadership skills, opportunity



to serve humanity in new dimension, and opportunity to work with friends within the club, with other clubs and outside in Rotary world in Rotary spirit. He went on to say that meeting these challenges would be his responsibility as Club President and that he was grateful to have a big team, with which to share the responsibilities. BC wishes President Rtn. RR and the new Board all the best for a happy and successful year.

President RR Shrestha handing over a souvenir to DG Dr Tika Man Vaidya

Rotary looks to the future

By Jenny Liakmani, Rotary International News (adapted) -- 19 June 2008



Stephen Lewis, co-director of the advocacy organization AIDS-Free World, talked about the heartbreaking impact of HIV/AIDS at the fourth plenary session at the RI Convention.

Literacy, health, and the future of Rotary were in the spotlight 18 June at the fourth plenary session of the RI Convention in Los Angeles.

Literacy

Dolly Parton, appearing via video, talked to Rotarians about her Imagination Library program, which mails a new book every month to children under age five and which Rotary clubs have been helping expand.

"We're active in the USA, Canada, and the UK, and my hope is that every single child in all three countries will be guaranteed that they can have a house full of books," said the country music singer.

Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty took the stage to speak about illiteracy. He stressed the need for Rotarians to continue their work in this area. "Illiteracy not only comes at

a high cost for the individual," he said, "it comes at a great cost to our whole society."

Health

In a powerful speech, Stephen Lewis, co-director of the advocacy organization AIDS-Free World, saluted Rotarians for their indispensable role in polio eradication but reminded them that HIV/AIDS is "taking an indescribable toll, especially in Africa."

Today, 33 million people worldwide are living with AIDS, he said, 23 million of them in Africa. Lewis, a former Canadian ambassador to the United Nations and UN special envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa, called the failure to halt HIV infections during childbirth "heartbreaking. We have drugs that the mother can take to prevent transmission of the virus, but half a million children are still born HIV-positive every year."

Drugs commonly used in the United States, meanwhile, can cut transmission by up to 99 percent. "Why is it that the life of an African child is worth so much less than the life of a Western child?" he asked. "There's something wrong with the world's moral anchor," he concluded. "But there are moments of hope and optimism, and Rotary International is one of those moments."

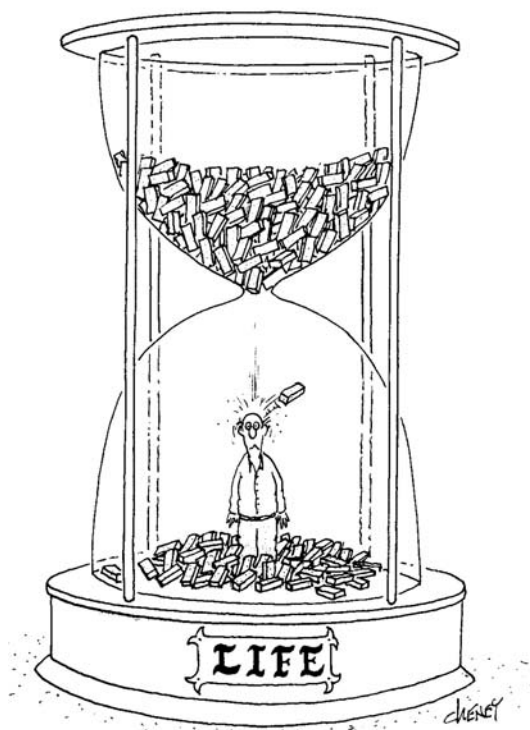
William Asiko, president of the Coca-Cola Africa Foundation, spoke about the importance of partnerships in combating AIDS in Africa. "We [at Coca-Cola] have long been advocates of public-private partnerships," he said. "And our partnership with Rotarians for Fighting AIDS [a Rotarian Action Group] ... is one of which we are particularly proud." He stressed that these partnerships must also address local needs and involve local partners.

The Rotary Foundation

The goals of The Rotary Foundation for 2008-09 were addressed by Jonathan Majiyagbe, chair-elect of the Foundation Board of Trustees. In addition to keeping their promise to the children of the world to eradicate polio, Majiyagbe said, Rotarians need to support the Foundation's Annual Programs Fund and "To refuse to support [the Annual Programs Fund] is like refusing oxygen to a living being," he said. "If every Rotarian gives at least \$100 every year, this translates to more than \$120 million annually -- money that will allow us to provide clean water, alleviate poverty, and fight hunger and illiteracy." Majiyagbe also asked club and district foundations to partner with The Rotary Foundation by committing at least 10 percent of their funds to help fully endow the Rotary World Peace Fellowships program.

Rotary's future

RI President Wilfrid J. Wilkinson concluded the session by speaking about the future of Rotary. "Each year," he noted, "hundreds of thousands of young people around the world participate in our youth programs, developing a relationship with Rotary that we must foster, in the hope that some of them, if not all of them, will one day become Rotarians and be the very future of Rotary."



TAKE NOTE: 27th August 2008

Planet Mars will be the brightest in the night sky starting August. It will look as large as a full moon to the naked eye. This will culminate on the 27th when Mars comes within 34.65M miles from earth.

Be sure to watch the sky on the **27th August** (around 12:30 am). It will look like the Earth has 2 moons !! The next time Mars will come this close is in 2287.
NO ONE ALIVE TODAY will ever see it again

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

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