



Rotary Club of Sonarpur

Rotary District : 3291



PRESIDENT :
Santanu Ghosh

SECRETARY:
Sajal Kumar Dutta



RI PRESIDENT:
Kalyan Banerjee

DISTRICT GOVERNOR
Angshuman Bandopadhyay

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Rotary news in brief from around the globe

The Rotarian -- May 2012

Rotary clubs around the globe have many things in common, including a commitment to service. All year long, clubs are taking action to make a difference in their communities. Here's a roundup of recent club activities worldwide:

Bolivia

Five for Water, a clean water effort started in 2010 by Bill Prost, of the Rotary Club of Cape Girardeau, Mo., USA, recently installed eight wells in Bolivia. In partnership with Green Mountain Coffee, the initiative sells fair-trade, organic coffee to U.S. Rotary clubs, which use it to raise funds for their own projects; more than 300 clubs are participating. With the proceeds from the sales to clubs and other contributions, Five for Water has raised \$184,000 for water projects, benefiting more than 50,000 people in 10 coffee-producing countries.

Canada

The Rotary Club of Campbell River Daybreak, B.C., aims to boost numeracy – the ability to understand and work with numbers – through an educational DVD titled *I Love When We Count*. The club worked with the local school district to produce the video, and a grant from the district helped fund the project. The DVD teaches parents how to help children up to age six use math in their everyday lives. Seven Rotary clubs in three districts have bought 1,512 copies from the club since 2008 and distributed them free to local families.

India

At a November meeting of the Rotary Club of Chandigarh Mid Town, Peter Burleigh, U.S. ambassador to India, presented the seventh scholarship in a program started by the Rotary Club of Milano Sud-Est, Italy, for female engineering students. Jyoti Chowdhary, whose parents died when she was seven years old, will receive an annual stipend of US\$1,000. Chowdhary's grandparents, who raised her on a modest pension, encouraged her studies; she recently ranked highly on the All India Engineering Entrance Examination. At the meeting, which 200 Rotarians attended, Burleigh also delivered a speech on the massive growth of India's economy, titled "Asia Rising – What It Means to the USA."

New Zealand

Rotary clubs worldwide came together to raise NZ\$70,000 to help the Christchurch branch of St John Ambulance replace equipment that was used after a 6.1-magnitude earthquake hit the Christchurch-Lyttelton area in February 2011. More than 180 people were killed and another 1,500 injured in the quake. RI President-elect Sakuji Tanaka presented the check in December.

Sweden

Rotarians from 16 clubs in Italy, Latvia, Russia, and Sweden gathered in September for the fifth Multi-Club Workshop, hosted by the Rotary Club of Malmö International. Swedish and Italian clubs established the three-day event in 2006 as a way for Rotarians to have fun, network, and find humanitarian projects they could work on together. Through the workshop, club members have implemented 10 projects valued at US\$142,000. At the September event, club representatives decided to sponsor three projects to help children in Latvia and Russia.

Thailand

In Nakhon Pathom, unskilled, minimum-wage laborers often cannot afford to buy necessities for their families; more than 1,000 children ages 5 to 16 in the region do not have shoes or socks to wear to school. With support from international donors, the Rotary Club of Pra Pathom Chedi has raised enough funds to provide more than 500 students with these items.

USA

Sarah Robinson, a member of the Rotary Club of Old Town, Maine, understood the hardships of cancer patients who have to travel several hours for radiation treatment: She had an inoperable brain tumor. Robinson, who died in December at age 26, dreamed of building a place for patients to stay free of charge near the Lafayette Family Cancer Center in Brewer – and her Rotary club was determined to make that happen. To raise money, club members decided to build and sell a house in their town. Construction began in October, entirely with volunteer work and donated funds and materials. The land was contributed by another club member, Thomas Thornton Jr., who has since died of cancer. The single-family house is expected to be completed and ready for sale this spring.

Uganda

On 1 December, World AIDS Day, a group climbed Margherita Peak – the highest point in Uganda and part of the range known as the Mountains of the Moon – to raise US\$25,000 for Rotarians for Fighting AIDS: A Rotarian Action Group, and African children who have lost their parents to the disease. The hike was part of an initiative led by the Rotary Club of Coolamon, Australia, which aims to raise \$250,000 by World AIDS Day 2012. The club organized a climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in 2007.

DISTRICT 3291 UPCOMING EVENTS

1. May 26: Inter City Meet on Future Vision at Rotary sadan at 3pm. Major changes in TRF funding to be discussed.
2. May 26: District Drama at Gyan Manch from 6.30pm
3. 9th June : Rotaquiz at Rotary Sadan from 3 to 6.30pm
4. 16th June RCC District Award Ceremony at Rotary Sadan from 3pm to 6.30 pm

Minutes of the Meeting

Meeting no 1053

Dated 18.05.2012

President called meeting no. 1053 to order.

National Anthem led by Rtn. Sripati Pradhan

Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

Discussions:

- President informed the club that the papers relating to the case of financial support for getting the 1yr. 4mth. Baby Rikta Tarafdar to be operated for a heart disease, has been submitted to Rotary India Heart Foundation for necessary support.
- President and the members of the club discussed the Club Bye laws and finalized the same.

President announced the receipt of bulletins from neighboring clubs, and upcoming District events before handing back the meeting to the President.

Having no other business, President terminated the meeting.

Members Present: 8 Sunshine Collected : Rs. 160/-

LESSON OF TIME:::

When a bird is alive...It eats Ants,
When the bird is dead... Ants eat the bird!
Time & Circumstances can change at any time.....
Don't devalue or hurt anyone in life.
You may be powerful today... But Remember,
[Time is more powerful than you!!!
One tree makes a million match sticks...
But when the time comes...
Only one match stick is needed to burn a million trees...
So be good and do good.....

Impassable road can't stop malaria fighters

The Rotarian -- May 2012

"Malaria was rampant, and severe disease was not unusual," recalls Physician Michael W. Felz, a member of the Rotary Club of Augusta-West, Georgia, USA.

Since 1997, Rotarians Against Malaria in Papua New Guinea (RAM-PNG) has been responsible for the nationwide program to distribute long-lasting insecticidal nets. In addition to providing a physical barrier, the nets thwart malaria by poisoning mosquitoes, which are killed on contact by the insecticide embedded in the fibers.

In May, working with RAM-PNG and with financial support from his club, Felz and a local friend, Andrew Pine, delivered 900 nets to the village of Mamuane in an epic journey that almost ended when a rocky, rutted mountain road became impassable.

"We were fully stuck – in the middle of nowhere, in the dark and chilly downpour, with 100-pound bales of nets that no man could carry on foot to Mamuane in that slick, sticky mud," Felz says.

Pine sent word to his friend Luke Wembi, principal of the nearby Tunda Primary School, and soon after daybreak, a chattering company of 80 barefoot students arrived. Each child shouldered several individual nets wrapped in plastic.

"And off they went, carrying lifesaving mosquito nets up the slopes, over the ridges, between the tall weeds, down the valleys, and through the mud, on the two-hour trek to Mamuane." In December, Pine reported back about the village: "We don't have malaria anymore."

Receiving a new heart from Gift of Life

By Susie Ma, The Rotarian -- May 2012

The seven-year-old star of an award-winning Indian film earned his role not because of a screen test, but a medical test.

Rishikanta, who had two holes in his heart, underwent open-heart surgery, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Imphal, in 2009. Last year, his story, titled *Heart to Heart*, won for Best Science and Technology Film in the National Film Awards, India's equivalent to the Academy Awards.

"Miracles do happen," says executive producer Radhesyam Oinam, a member of the Imphal club. At a September ceremony, India's president, Pratibha Devisingh Patil, presented him with the honor.

The genesis of *Heart to Heart* was Imphal Rotarians' decision to document one of their projects: providing treatment to children with congenital heart defects whose families couldn't afford corrective surgery. More than 180,000 babies are born with such defects annually in India, and one-third require treatment within their first year. Members of the Imphal club, located in the far northeastern state of Manipur, raised funds to send children to New Delhi, 1,500 miles away, for surgery. "Pediatric heart care is costly and rare in Manipur," Oinam says. Open-heart surgery costs about US\$5,000 – an impossible sum for a family like Rishikanta's, who survive on \$25 a month.

In September 2009, the first three children underwent operations through the project, and as of August 2011, the club had sponsored 47 recipients. Last year, Gift of Life in Delhi, part of an international organization founded by Rotarians to provide free medical services to children with heart conditions, began sponsoring youth from Manipur. Participating hospitals provide the surgeries at half the usual cost.

The 37-minute film is helping the club spread the word about congenital heart defects. "We had no intention of winning awards or anything of the sort," Oinam says. "We wanted people to know what we were doing."

Vicky Wallace, of the Rotary Club of Lake Elsinore, California, USA, saw a screening in 2009 while she was in Imphal for a district conference. "When the movie was over, several people came forward and committed funds to help with more surgeries," she recalls. "I was never more proud to be a Rotarian."

The film, which was released in 2010, also has increased awareness of Rotary in India. "In Manipur, we are known as 'the heart people,'" says Pramod Kumar Chhabra, president of the Imphal club. "It has improved our image in our state."

The club's relationship with Rishikanta did not end with his surgery. Before the procedure, his illness kept him from attending school, but today, the Imphal Rotarians are sponsoring his education. Chhabra reports that the young student is earning good grades.

Four Way Test

Is it the TRUTH ?

Is it FAIR to all concerned ?

Will it build GOODWILL and better
FRIENDSHIP ?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned ?

**GLOBAL
POLIO ERADICATION
INITIATIVE**



every last child