



Rotary Club Of Sonarpur

R.I. District - 3291



RI PRESIDENT: RON D. BURTON

PRESIDENT: GAUTAM RAY



DISTRICT GOVERNOR: RAJANI MUKERJI

SECRETARY: DEBASIS CHAKRABORTY

RI CLUB NO. 23960, CLUB CHARTER DATE 30TH JUNE 1986

NO. 11

VOL : XXVIII

20th September 2013

What the Rotarians did to help put an end to polio

ALANNA MITCHELL, Special to The Globe and Mail Sep. 13 2013

It's tempting to say it all started with Imelda Marcos. But that's not quite true – it started with a group of businessmen with a connection to the Philippine first lady. About a quarter-century ago, Rotary International, a service club that now has 1.2 million members worldwide, decided that instead of only hosting lunches or building tennis courts, it wanted to take on a more serious, global challenge.

One of their members thought about polio: The disease had once made hundreds of thousands of people sick, leaving them paralyzed or breathing through horrifying "iron lungs," and in many cases eventually killing them. But vaccinations changed all that – for those who could get them.

The Rotarians decided that they could get help to more people, using their massive volunteer power. They persuaded Ms. Marcos (who knew the wife of one of their members) to back mass immunizations and set to work. Within a few years, her country was polio-free.

The group still was not satisfied, however. So they did something even more audacious: They created a partnership between a private network of volunteers and a public health initiative.

It was audacious because, back in 1988, world health officials pledged to eradicate polio. When the Rotarians first approached the World Health Organization to be a hands-on partner, they got the cold shoulder.

But as Robert Scott, a Canadian doctor now in charge of Rotary International's polio efforts, recounts, when the group raised \$247-million (U.S.), "the interest increased."

Eventually, Rotary International became an equal partner in polio eradication along with WHO, Unicef and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In the process, it also created a new model copied by the likes of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. (Mr. Gates is also a self-professed fan of the Rotarians.)

The Rotary's partnership was not just about raising money, though, although it has done that in spades – \$1.2-billion (U.S.) so far. As Bruce Aylward, another Canadian physician and the assistant director-general of polio eradication and emergencies for WHO, explains, the organization also contributed through passion and focus.

"They brought single-mindedness, continuity, diligence and generosity that has helped keep the whole initiative on track," he says.

So much so that an end to the disease may actually be in sight – one estimate puts the timing at just 16 months away. Certainly, the numbers so far are impressive: Billions of children have been vaccinated; the record is 175 million in two days in India. Last year, there were only 223 reported cases of polio.

But Dr. Scott is not resting on his laurels. In developed countries, there is ongoing tension between health officials and parents who do not believe in vaccinations. And there are still countries elsewhere in the world at great risk, putting "the virus only a plane ride away," he says.

Violence also keeps many volunteers from doing public work. "There are huge areas in northern Pakistan we are not able to reach," he says.

Still, at the age of 80, the Cobourg, Ont., doctor keeps going to the field – no matter the dangers.

"The last time I was in [Karachi] in March, I was vaccinating children with a man with an AK rifle protecting me." But as he says, "I saw such lovely children, and I vaccinated them."

When a Rotarian gets his mind on something, it's hard to turn him away.

Rotary clubs donate to India school



ELKO — In addition to local, regional and national projects, Rotarians establish goals for global projects. Rotary Club of Elko, Desert Sunrise has established a project in India as one of its International Service Goals, said International Service Chair Sarah Sweetwater.

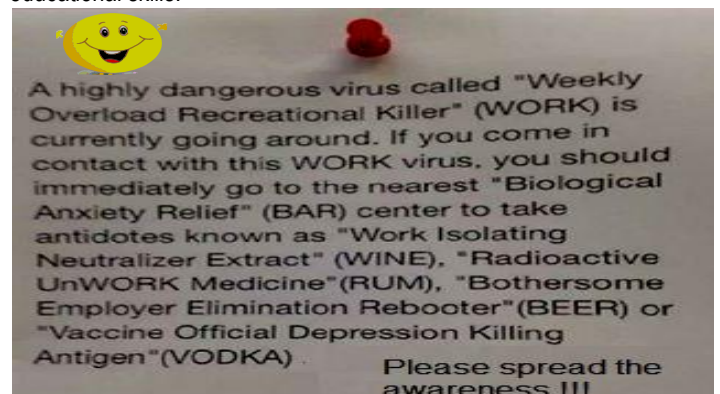
After volunteering at Akshay Prantishthan, a school for the "differently abled" in February 2013, Sweetwater also visited the Ranghpuri Centre in a slum neighborhood outside New Delhi. This school is being established through funding from Rotary clubs in Delhi, Canada and Elko.

The initial donation of \$1,350 from Rotary of Elko, Desert Sunrise increased with a \$500 donation from the Rotary of Elko, Noon Club and \$150 from the Barry Bahkta family. Sweetwater's roommate in India, Norma Davis, enlisted \$2,000 from her own Rotary Club to assist in this project.

Akshay Pratishthan operates two vocational centers, imparting beauty culture, cutting and tailoring courses for the underprivileged girls. Ranghpuri caters to students, offering vocational courses such as computer, remedial education and spoken English. Maids who come to the colony in the morning have some leisure time before they start the work again in the afternoon or evening sessions.

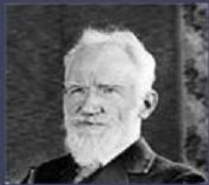
During this leisure time, the girls are motivated by social work trainees to join these courses. The students are able to enhance their livelihood and also their dignity of self. The building space has been donated to run these courses with very limited equipment. Aruna Dalmia, director of Akshay, has announced that girls who want to learn cycling and self-defense courses are welcome. Akshay is providing the bicycles free of charge.

There are other partners helping make this school successful, such as the MCKS Food For Hungry Foundation of India. These partnerships make education possible for children in slums where schools are not present. There are also more efforts to encourage girls to further their educational skills.



We meet every Friday, 7.30pm at Hotel Park Palace, 49/2, Gariahat Road, Kolkata 700019

QUOTE



"Peace is not only better than war,
but infinitely more arduous"

George Bernard Shaw

Minutes of Meeting

Meeting no. 1203

Dated 13.09.2013

President Rtn. Gautam Ray calls meeting no. 1203 to order

National Anthem led by Rtn. Samir Kr. Ray

Minutes of the last meeting confirmed.

Discussions

- President thanked members for their participation and successful completion of Micro credit project at Janakalyan Samity, Usthi.
- President apprised members about the submission of Completion report of HG 0162 with EIRWT and acceptance of the same by the authority subject to submission of supporting documents.
- President apprised members present that the new helping grant project submitted to EIRWT is to be taken up in their next meeting.
- President enlightened the members present about the status of yet to be sanctioned, District Grant for Sewing Machine distribution project.
- In view of the ensuing festive season, President discussed with the members present about clothes distribution programme. Members resolved to distribute new clothes to only the school children of Ashram Anandam. Similar project at Janakalyan Samity has been kept in abeyance.

President handed over the business to the Secretary who announced the receipt of letters, bulletin from neighboring clubs and the upcoming District events before handing back the meeting to the President.

There being no other business, President terminated the meeting.

Members present: 10

Sunshine collection: 200

Centre to brief NGOs on foreign funding rules

By Yatish Yadav - NEW DELHI Published: 19th September 2013 09:43 AM

Concerned over violations of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has launched outreach programmes to sensitise Non-Governmental Organisations on the rules and provisions of the Act governing foreign funding.

The ministry will organise an outreach meeting in Andhra Pradesh on September 20, where 200 NGO registered under the Act will be briefed by the officials of the MHA and Ministry of Finance.

In July, the MHA served show-cause notices to 2,479 NGOs from Andhra Pradesh for not filing the statutory FC-6 Form. Annual returns filed in FC-6 Form detail the foreign contribution received in exclusive bank accounts and specifics of the transactions for bona fide welfare activities. In 2011-12, Andhra Pradesh received Rs 1,180 crore in foreign aid, the third highest in the country.

Officials of the Ministry of Finance will give a presentation on modalities of inward remittance through banking channels and rules and notifications related to the Foreign Contributions Regulation Rules, 2011.

"The seminar would be an interactive session to enable participants to exchange views on the subject," an MHA statement said.

The MHA has prepared a software programme so that any foreign aid transaction without the required FCRA licence, can be notified to the ministry within 30 days.

Health Point

Natural Remedies for Acidity



1. Gently sucking a piece of jaggery until the acidity subsides.
2. A glass of cold milk gives instant relief from the problem.
3. Chewing of few basil leaves keep acidity gas and nausea at bay.
4. Eating plenty of cucumber, banana and watermelon keeps away acidity.
5. Drinking coconut water gives relief from acidity.
6. A fresh mint juice after every meal gives relief from acidity.
7. Yoghurt gives instant relief from acidity.
8. Chewing ginger helps subside acidity.
9. A mixture of 1 tablespoon honey, 2 tablespoon natural apple cider vinegar before meals may avoid acidity.
10. Sucking cloves relieves acidity.
11. Intake of 2 tablespoon of white vinegar along with meals prevents acidity.
12. Tea and coffee intake should be replaced by herbal tea consisting of supermint and licorice.
13. Stained juice of boiled cumin seeds effectively treats acidity.
14. A daily drink of cabbage juice checks acidity.
15. Drinking a glass of water in empty stomach keeps acidity away.
16. Drinking half a glass of butter milk with one tablespoon coriander leaf juice mixed into it is an effective home remedy for acidity.

Upcoming District Event

RLI at Rotary Sadan on **Sept. 22, 2013**

40th District Rotaract Installation on **Sept. 22, 6.30pm** at Rotary Sadan

RCC Mega Health Check up Camp at Rotary Sadan on **Sept. 29, 2013** at 8 am

President, Secretary & AG meet at Rotary Sadan on **Sept. 28, 2013, 6.30pm**

Diwali Meet on **Nov. 9, 2013**

Dronacharya award for danseuse

By Express News Service - CHENNAI Published: 18th September 2013 09:44 AM

The Rotary Club of Madras East conferred the Dronacharya award, instituted to recognise exemplary teachers, to Rhadha, an exponent of the Vazhuvoor tradition of Bharatanatyam. She was the star pupil of the renowned Nattyacharya Vazhuvoor Shri Ramaiah Pillai and has performed extensively in India and abroad with her illustrious elder sister Kamala.

Rhadha's career as a performer spans more than five decades. She has been awarded several titles for her contribution to this art form. A few among them are Kalaimamani from the Government of Tamilnadu and Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for excellence in the field of Bharatanatyam conferred by the Government of India.

