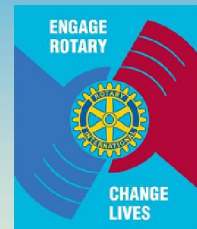


Rotary



R.I. District - 3291

Rotary Club Of Sonarpur



RI President: Ron D. Burton
President: Gautam Ray



District Governor: Rajani Mukerji
Secretary: Debasis Chakraborty

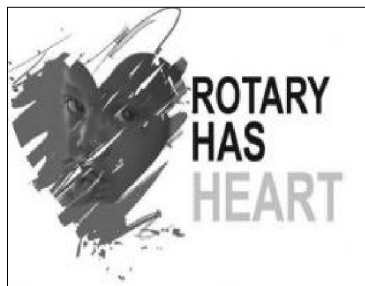
RI Club No. 23960, Club Charter Date 30th June 1986

NO. 20

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3rd January 2014

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Columbia East Rotary Club Partnered with Harvest Hope Food Bank to feed hungry families in our community, and volunteers with the club packed hunger relief boxes on Tuesday, December 17 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

The Columbia East Rotary Club is one of many clubs throughout the southeast participating "Rotary Has Heart," a new program initiated by Rotary International Vice President, Dr. Anne Matthews. "Dr. Matthews is from right here in Columbia and a member of our Columbia East Rotary Club," said Columbia East Rotary President, Rowland Alston.

"To recognize her and kick off the project, we wanted to be one of the first in the Southeast to participate in Rotary Has Heart."

President Alston went on to say, "Putting food on an empty plate, filling an empty stomach, and bringing a ray of hope to families throughout the community is our primary goal for this program. We decided to partner with Harvest Hope because they are a nationally recognized local charity, and we know they can help us reach those families and children in South Carolina most in need."

Rotary's school project spans globe

FORT WAYNE – It was the smile on a thousand faces that made it worthwhile for Jason Daenens.

None of the middle school students knew him, but on that day in October, when Daenens and Rotary Club members traveled to West Africa to see what their club dollars had accomplished, the students had come to offer a thank-you.

New classrooms for a school in a West African country wasn't a project that Daenens thought he could sell. The Rotary Club of Fort Wayne focuses on funding education projects, but mostly at the local level.

Then in 2010, at an annual Rotary Club fair in Ghana, Daenens learned of the need for school books and supplies in Gléi, Togo, a village of about 13,000 people.

"I brought it back to the club with low expectations, and they went for it," said Daenens, the club's vice president.

Rotary International is an organization that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethics and helps build goodwill in the world. The Fort Wayne group has 130 business, professional and community leaders as members.

Togo, a vertical strip of a country, is bordered on the south by the Gulf of Guinea, with Ghana to the west, Benin to the east and Burkino Faso to the north. Its economy is based on commercial and subsistence farming. Today, Gléi's middle school has four new classrooms, with walls where a ramshackle open-air building once stood. The project seemed unlikely from the beginning.

Jane O'Sullivan, a Peace Corps volunteer in Gléi and a member of the Chicago Rotary, was at that 2010 Ghana meeting relaying what the local PTA president told her about needing a school building.

With required education in the country only a decade old, there was no infrastructure for the blooming enrollment, and the village was years away from getting government funding for the school, O'Sullivan said recently by phone.

It seemed an uphill battle. The Peace Corps does not fund construction projects, she said, and neither does Rotary International. It would be up to local Rotary member donations.

By 2011, Daenens had developed a relationship with Rotary clubs in Togo, as well as Rotary Club 1 in Chicago and O'Sullivan. The northern Indiana Rotary district awarded a grant for playground equipment and supplies for the Gléi kindergarten.

In the following two years, the Rotary clubs, together or separately, awarded \$8,400 for textbooks for the Gléi middle school.

Then in February, convinced by Daenens of the project's value, the local Rotary Club made building the new Gléi classrooms part of its centennial observance in 2015. So far the group has committed or spent \$12,500, Daenens said. The Chicago Rotary has provided \$7,500. Along with free Gléi labor, students received a \$50,000 building for about \$20,000, he said.

Fort Wayne Rotarians had helped fight polio in developing nations years ago, but this was a huge departure for the group, Daenens said. It culminated Oct. 22 when those 1,000 students and villagers turned out to welcome Daenens, O'Sullivan and other North American Rotarians attending another West African Rotary fair. It was Daenens' first time in Gléi.

The village went all out with still walkers, singers and dancers to welcome the group. Breaking from French, the official language, students performed skits in English.

Daenens presented a proclamation from Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry that declared Oct. 22 "Children of Gléi Day" in Fort Wayne. Seeing no doors on the middle school, some of the other Rotarians offered \$1,800 to fund them. And the Rotary Club of Lomé-Lumière, Togo, pledged to build two more classrooms. With a new school to attend and textbooks to

read, school attendance has grown from about 600 to 880, according to the Rotary Club of Fort Wayne.

"The students were incredible," Daenens said. "That's one of the biggest takeaways from this project."

O'Sullivan credits the Fort Wayne Rotary for the project's success.

"I think Jason and the International Services Committee in Fort Wayne have really done the yeoman's share of the work in terms of project management and communication and stewarding the funds and making sure everything stays on point," she said.

"It's all about humanity," Daenens said. "To come in friendship and to discuss their needs with them and then go about meeting those needs. There are few things more powerful in life."



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

Upcoming District Event

✚ 'Aikatan', District Conference 2013-2014 at SWABHUMI ON 11TH & 12 January 2014

Minutes of Meeting

Meeting no. 1212

Dated 20.12.2013

In the absence of President Rtn. Gautam Ray, Vice President & President Elect, Rtn. Sanjay Dasgupta calls meeting no. 1212 to order
National Anthem led by Rtn. Santanu Ghosh
Vice President welcome Rtn. Hitendra Nath Chaudhury from Rotary Club of Calcutta Lansdown.

Minutes of the last meeting confirmed

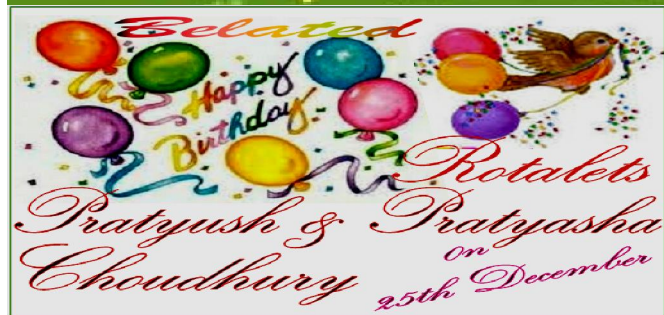
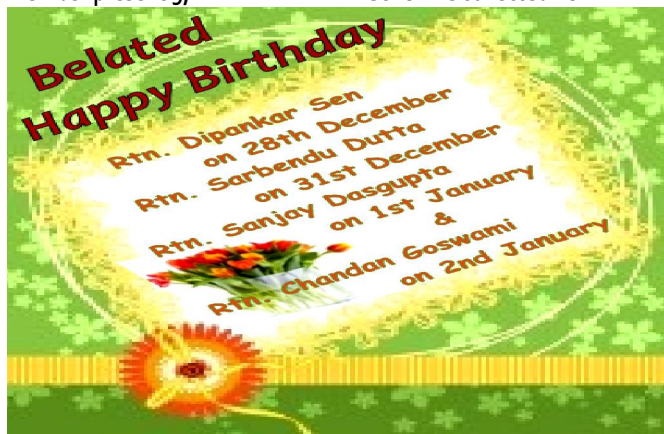
Discussions

- ✚ Rtn. Sanjay Dasgupta given thanks to all member for hole hearted participation in Woolen Garments & Tiffin packets distribution programme at Ashram Anandam, Sonarpur on 15th December"2013.
- ✚ Members discussed about the preparation of the programme & finalized about the distribution of Swing Machine project partially supported by District Grants to be held on :
4th January " 2014 : At Ashram Anandam Sonarpur, 24-Parganas(S)
5th January " 2014 : At Janakalyan Samity, Usthi, 24-Paganas(S)
- ✚ Vice-President informed the receipt of Cheque from Eastern India Rotary Welfare Trust against helping grant project no.198 for renovation of School Building at Janakalyan Samity, Usthi and the same was deposited to Bank.
- ✚ After discussion, member present decided to cancel the RWM on 27th December '2013 as a good number of club members will not be available on that date. Next meeting to be held on 3rd January"2014
- ✚ Rtn. Hitendra Nath Chaudhury appeal to all member present to purchase ticket for drama " Thana Theke Asche " by Kaushik Sen & Troupe to be held on Friday dated 7th February"2014 at GyanMandir.

Vice-President handed over the business to the Secretary who announced the receipt of letters, bulletin from neighboring clubs, announced Birthday & Wedding anniversary of Anne, Rotarians & Rotalets, upcoming District events before handing back the meeting to the Vice-President.

There being no other business, Vice-President terminated the meeting.

Member present 9, Sunshine collected Rs. 180.00

*Upcoming Club event*

✚ District Grant Project, 'Distribution of Sewing machines' at Ashram Anandam, Sonarpur on 4th January 2014

✚ District Grant Project, 'Distribution of Sewing machines' at Janakalyan Samity, Usthi on 5th January 2014

Rotary Club of Pune to re-build Uttarakhand village

Anjali Jhangiani KP, Pune, Dec 19 2013

Inspired by a saying 'Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime,' the Rotary Club of Pune Riverside has undertaken a project to rehabilitate people of Parodi village in Uttarakhand, which was devastated by floods earlier this year.

Jitendra Palande, President, Rotary Club of Pune Riverside, said members of the club had visited Parodi, a village 32 km from the tourist hotspot Mussoorie, on October 2 with a vision to build a school in the village.

"When we spoke to villagers, they said they require houses more than anything else. We discussed the matter with our members and decided to rebuild the village," he said.

The team re-visited the village a few days later with supplies of blankets, water filters, chalk boards for the makeshift school, and other necessities. The team also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the villagers to allow them to measure and record the contours of the land where the village can be re-built.

"The village was surrounded by huge limestone rocks that stumbled down after the cloudburst. Fortunately, the villagers had sensed tragedy in advance and had escaped to mountains. Though they saved their lives, they lost their belongings. It is important for us to provide them with some means to earn a livelihood," said Palande.

With the help of city-based architect Narendra Dingle, the club has made a model of the proposed village with 120 houses of 500 sq ft each. A building for Gram Sabha and a school will also be constructed as part of the project. The plan also includes internal and service roads, electricity and water supply, drainage system and a functional waste disposal system.

The total cost of the project estimated by the club adds up to Rs 7 crore and is expected to be completed in two years. To raise the amount, the club will organise various campaigns in colleges and other educational institutions, corporate offices and public areas other than organizing cultural and entertainment programmes.

Their campaign 'Pune builds Paroda' is aimed at involving general public in the charity.

"Every individual who donates Rs 100 will get a badge which reads 'I helped build Paroda' or 'Pune Builds Paroda'. It is also a nation building exercise," said Palande.

Will it build Goodwill & Friendship?

Is it the Truth?

4 Way Test

the things we think say or do

Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

Is it Fair to all concerned?