



Rotary
CLUB CHANDIGARH



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3080

Open Hand

WEEKLY CLUB BULLETIN OF ROTARY CLUB CHANDIGARH | ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3080 | INDIA

CHARTER 15227 | CHARTERED ON 10TH MAY 1958

ISSUE 29 | 20 JANUARY 2025

HOME CLUB OF RAJENDRA K SABOO
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
1991-92

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
2024-25

RAJPAL SINGH
DISTRICT GOVERNOR
RI DISTRICT 3080

JATINDER KAPUR
CLUB PRESIDENT

PREM MOHINDRU
CLUB SECRETARY

Celebrations on Lohri

The Rotary Club Chandigarh celebrated the festival of Lohri with great enthusiasm and warmth during its Monday meeting, which fell on 13th January. This special occasion brought all members together, enhancing and strengthening relationships within the club while fostering a sense of unity and togetherness. The meeting was called to order, marking the beginning of an evening filled with festivity, joy, and camaraderie.

The event commenced with a brief explanation of Lohri, its cultural significance, and the traditions associated with the festival. Lohri, known as the harvest festival of North India, especially Punjab, is a time for thanking nature for a bountiful harvest and seeking blessings for prosperity. To make the session interactive, an engaging quiz about Lohri was conducted, which added a fun element to the evening and kept everyone involved. Members eagerly participated, answering questions about the origins of Lohri, the rituals, and the importance of the bonfire, making it an enjoyable and enlightening experience. The highlight of the celebration was the ceremonial lighting of the Lohri bonfire, a moment that brought everyone together

in the true spirit of the festival. This auspicious ritual was led by PRIP Rtn. Raja Saboo jee and President Rtn. Jatinder Kapur. As the flames flickered, members gathered around, tossing sesame seeds, peanuts, and rewari into the fire, symbolizing the offering of gratitude and prayers for happiness and prosperity. The warm glow of the bonfire set the perfect ambiance for the evening. Adding to the celebratory spirit, Rtn. G.P. Mallik set the mood with the traditional Lohri song "Sunder Mundriye", which was met with enthusiastic participation from the audience. This was followed by a melodious performance by Rotarian Mona Dhiman and Rotarian Mrs. Khanna, who sang a beautiful Lohri song, filling the air with warmth and joy.

The musical celebration continued as Rtn. Santosh Gupta and Rtn. Dr. Roma Uppal took turns singing melodious songs, making the evening even more delightful. The entire venue resonated with music, laughter, and cheerful conversations. Members swayed to the music, clapping and singing along, creating an atmosphere of unity and camaraderie.

The spirit of Lohri was further enhanced with the traditional treats of popcorn, moongfali (peanuts), and rewari, which were relished by all attendees. The crunchy snacks were enjoyed as everyone shared stories, laughter,



memories of past Lohri celebrations.

A special mention must be made of the lavish and delicious festive feast, generously arranged by President Nominee Rtn. Teena Virk. The exquisite spread of traditional delicacies, including makki di roti and sarson da saag, added to the festive charm and ensured that everyone left with happy hearts and full stomachs. The food was a perfect blend of flavors, bringing a sense of nostalgia and warmth to the evening.

As the evening progressed, members expressed their gratitude to the organizers for putting together such a well-coordinated and enjoyable event. The joyous gathering was a reminder of the

strong bonds shared within the Rotary family and the importance of celebrating traditions together. The Lohri celebration was not just about festivity but also about strengthening relationships and building deeper connections among members.

The Lohri celebration at Rotary Club Chandigarh was indeed a splendid evening—one filled with laughter, music, camaraderie, and delicious food. It was an occasion to remember, reflecting the true essence of togetherness and joy that Lohri brings. The club looks forward to continuing this beautiful tradition in the coming years, strengthening the spirit of unity and festivity.

Rtn. Sartaj Lamba



NEXT MEETING

PDG Rtn Praveen Goyal talks to us on Recent Visit to Srilanka on 27th January, 2025 at Rotary House at 6 pm.

WE MEET EVERY MONDAY AT ROTARY HOUSE AT 6:00 PM

-Rotary Club Chandigarh, in association with Rotaract Club of Chandigarh distributed 40 blankets in sector 20 computer market to those who were sleeping in the corridor of the market in the early hours of morning. Despite the thick fog and early hours, our rotaractors showed extraordinary dedication and compassion. These blankets were donated by our Rtn Harvinder Kaur Babbi ji.



-In a heartwarming gesture of kindness and community spirit, the student members of the INTERACT CLUB AKSIP 45 Smart School organised a donation drive to spread joy and positivity. The initiative was driven by the values of sharing and caring, as students came together to extend their support to Chandigarh



Child and Women Development corporation. The donation drive witnessed enthusiastic participation, with students and faculty contributing generously to make a difference in the lives of children in need.

-A pious 11 Kundiya Yagya was organised in the portals of Sanatan Dharam Temple, Sector 15 , Chandigarh by the staff, NSS unit and the students of INTERACT CLUB of DAV Model School, Sector 15, Chandigarh to mark the beginning of New Year. Mrs Anuja Sharma, Principal of the school emphasised that the main purpose of Yajna is to awaken the consciousness of students towards Indian culture and Vedic rituals. She wished all present with her warm wishes for Indian New Year. Acharya Ramesh Shastri- discussed the importance of yagya for the purity



of universe. After the sacred yajna, the teachers of the music department, along with the students, recited a

mesmerizing bhajan . NSS Volunteers and students of Interact Club distributed the community langar.



-Rotary Club Chandigarh, in collaboration with Viraasat -e- Karmayogi, distributed blankets to the needy street vendors with families, in different sectors of the Tri-City on 14th January, 2025. This is the first drive for distribution out of 100 blankets which were donated by Rtn Harvinder Kaur Babbi ji for distribution to the needy. Rtr Sanyam Yadav took the initiative under able guidance from *Rtn. Teena Virk.



-On 16.1.2025 we carried out Food packets distribution to TB patients at four TB dot centers. We had good response despite of the rainy weather. Persons attended from Rotary Chandigarh. Rtn Jatinder Kapoor Rtn Prem Mahindru Rtn Gurvinder Saggu Our Satpal as usual was excellent support in taking care of the logistics and other arrangements. The doctors and support staff from the civil dispensaries helped in calling the active patients to the dispensaries. TB dot centers visited sector 38, 45, 32 and Kajheri. Diet kits distribution to TB Patients 233 foods packets have been delivered to the 4 centers in civil dispensary sectors 38, 45, 32 and village Kajheri. We plan to do formal distribution tomorrow on 16th Jan 25 as under:
Sector 38 - 9.30am Kajheri - 10 am Sector 45 - 10.30am Sector 32- 11am



-Lohri celebrations at Rotary Bal Bahar sector 8 Chd.IW PP Sunila Garg provided Lohri sweets for the kids.



CELEBRATIONS

Birthday Greetings:

20 Jan	Rtn Subhash Kohli	9814009232
21 Jan	Rtn Abhitesh Singh Sandhoo	9872700011
22 Jan	Rtn Dr Rajinder Kaur	9815330911
22 Jan	Rtn R K Taneja	9814128466
22 Jan	Rtn Manan Gupta	9876028770
23 Jan	Rtn Harpreet Chahal	9915715704
23 Jan	Rtn Ravinder Gupta	9876829724
23 Jan	Rtn Atul Gandhi	9872531109
25 Jan	Rtn Dr Bhavneet Bharti	9914208327

Anniversary Greetings:

20 Jan	Rtn Ankit Aggarwal & Aarohi	9478877977
21 Jan	Rtn Amit Jain & Nidhi	9814125627
24 Jan	PP Prof Paramjit Singh & Harjit Kaur	9814469688
26 Jan	PDG Praveen Chander Goyal & Basu	9814143499

Annual Fund

Your gift to the Annual Fund helps Rotary and Rotaract clubs take action today to create positive change in communities close to home and around the world. Your contributions help us strengthen peace efforts, fight disease, provide clean water and sanitation, save mothers and children, support education, grow local economies, and protect the environment.

The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund includes SHARE, the World Fund, and our areas of focus funds. The Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative asks all members to donate to the Annual Fund each year and take part in at least one Foundation project or program each year. Annual Fund – SHARE Through the SHARE system, contributions to The Rotary Foundation are transformed into grants that fund local and international humanitarian projects, scholarships, vocational training teams, and more. At the end of every Rotary year, contributions directed to the Annual Fund- SHARE from all the clubs in the district are divided between the World Fund and the District Designated Fund (DDF), after 5% is deducted for operating expenses.

At the end of three years, your district can use the DDF to pay for Foundation, club, and district projects that your club and others in the district choose. Districts may use up to half of their DDF to fund district grants. The remaining DDF may be used for global grants or donated to PolioPlus, the Rotary Peace Centers, or another district. District officers are encouraged to monitor their district's DDF availability and activity by viewing the SHARE Contribution Detail Report and Available DDF by District

Report through the Reports page of My Rotary. District leaders can also donate DDF to The Rotary Foundation to use in any of several ways, including supporting Rotary's effort to eradicate polio or

supporting projects through various funds. District leaders, please complete our online form to donate DDF. If you have any questions about your DDF, write to us at share@rotary.org.

Annual Fund World Fund

The World Fund provides the necessary funding for our highest-priority activities around the globe. Although 47.5% of the donations directed to Annual Fund SHARE are applied to the World Fund automatically, you can also choose to direct your entire gift to the fund. The Foundation uses the money to pay for grant and program opportunities available to all Rotary districts.

Annual Fund Areas of Focus

Annual Fund contributions that are directed to the Foundation's areas of focus count toward a club's annual giving goal and per capita giving calculations. They are not included in a district's SHARE calculation and do not increase its DDF.

Ways to support our Annual Fund

Give your annual gift

You can direct your Annual Fund contributions to SHARE, the World Fund, or one of Rotary's areas of focus. All of these contributions will be spent on sustainable, lifechanging Rotary projects.

Annual Fund donor recognition

All Annual Fund contributions count toward the following recognition opportunities:

- Every Rotarian Every Year
- Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member
- Paul Harris Fellow
- Paul Harris Society
- Major Donor
- Arch Klumpp Society

NEWS

-Congratulations to our District Peace Chair Rtn. AP Singh Dhiman on becoming an IEP Ambassador. He joined a group of 5000 IEP Ambassadors in over 140 countries advancing peace and undertaking positive peace initiatives. Wish him best of luck in peace initiatives.

-President Rtn. Jatinder Kapur have been declared excellent President for the month of December, 2024 in the district 3080 by DG Rtn. Rajpal Singh. This was based on the excellent leadership to lead from the front and executed number of projects in the community.



-A video channel for District 3080, Rotary for Peace, on YouTube. Members are requested to subscribe to this channel. There shall be uploading more video content here. This channel shall be used for Live Streaming of the first Rotary Peace Summit of District 3080 on 6th February and subsequent events promoting peace.

With Best Compliments from
Rtn Jagesh Khaitan

KUANTUM PAPERS LTD.
MANUFACTURERS OF
HIGH QUALITY WRITING & PRINTING PAPERS

W1A, First Floor, Tower A, Godrej Eternia
Plot No.70, Industrial Area, Phase 1, Chandigarh
Tel: 0172 5172737

GREWAL EYE INSTITUTE
GEI
The Most Trained Vision Care Center

Bringing future of Eye Care to Tricity

SCO: 168-169, Sector 9C, Chandigarh - 160 009 (INDIA)
+91 172 5056969 | www.gei.co.in | info@gei.co.in

Pravah

The training program of Assistant Governors and Assistant learning facilitators of District 3080 for the rotary year 2025-26 under the leadership of DGE Rtn. Ravi Parkash was organized in Colombo from 16th. January, 2025 to 19th. January, 2025. The whole arrangement was done at Hotel Cinnamon Lakeview, Colombo Sri Lanka with name of the program as "Pravah" be the flow wherein more than 120 members of team participated in the event. The journey started on 16th. January, 2025 with the arrival of all delegates in Colombo in the morning with breakfast served on the way to Hotel. After settling all the delegates for stay in Hotel, a lunch was organized in a Restaurant followed by a city tour to various local attractions.

17th. January, 2025 was the day for the business sessions wherein the inauguration program was modulated by Rtn. Mujeeb Malik and Rtn. Ajay Madan, District Learning facilitator, who address the participants on the purpose of the event. All the delegates were well dressed as per the dress code with beautiful jackets and ladies' spouses in the beautiful sarees gifted by first lady Rtn. Shalini. District Governor elect RID 3220 Rtn. Delvin Pereira expressed his views on the role of Rotary in eradication of Polio across the globe and the service projects undertaken by the Rotarians with focus on the economic upliftment and community development. District Governor elected Rtn. Ravi Prakash RID 3080 shared his vision for the year 2025-26 in his address to the participants. He unfold his agenda for the year which include Women health, water and hygiene, environment, increase in the membership in the District by 1000 with more women participation, contribution towards The Rotary foundation by half million and enhancing the public image of Rotary in the community.

The chief guest of the event was PRIP Rtn. K R Ravindran who shared his words of wisdom with the participants. In his address he stress on the time management of the event which create the interest of the participants. He quoted as "If you are disagreeable to some points One should put before the others the disagreeable points in an



agreeable manner". It will not only settle the issue but also create the lifelong bonding besides the issue of creating a politics. In rotary, every member is equal but one must follow the protocols for maintaining the discipline in the organization. In rotary we come together, reason to stay together for the cause to serve our community. One should not mess-up the family or business with responsibility in the rotary but to manage the same by assigning the priorities. With these words he appreciated the DGE Rtn. Ravi Prakash for the well-designed programme and released the handbook for the information to AG and ALF.

The program was well participated by RI officers who shared their experiences during their leadership in district 3080 which include Rtn. Dr R S Parmar who spoke on the projects to be taken by the clubs which create impact in the community and Rtn. Manmohan Singh shared his views on the contribution made by the members towards the rotary foundation. All AG's and ALF's were awarded the certificate of participation. In the afternoon session there were breakout sessions separately for AG's and ALF's together with discussion on the case studies.

18th. January, 2025 was the day of excursion for the delegates which includes trip by ferry to cinnamon gardens, water sports, play in the beaches and shopping in the malls. The

delegates got the opportunity to meet and get to know each other which will excel the enjoyment while working for the community and formation of teams at club levels. The day concluded with a gala dinner on the Cruze. 19th. January was the day of travel, where all the delegates return to their respective homes after taking the good memories.

-Rtn. Anil Chadda

