



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 16 | 21 OCTOBER 2024

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

Developing a Bonsai Art

The Rotary Club's weekly Monday meeting hosted a captivating session led by Gen Bewli, a seasoned expert in bonsai, cacti, and succulents. The talk focused on the art of bonsai creation, from foundational techniques to advanced practices, offering Rotary members an insightful dive into this ancient Japanese horticultural art.

Gen Bewli began his talk by explaining the principles of bonsai, emphasizing patience, precision, and a deep understanding of plant life. He discussed the philosophy behind bonsai, which is not only about cultivating miniature trees but also about finding harmony between art and nature. Through this, he illustrated how bonsai creation fosters a profound sense of calm and creativity in practitioners.

Gen Bewli provided members with an in-depth look at the methods and techniques essential to bonsai creation. He covered topics such as:

-Selection of Suitable Plants: He focused on the varieties of plants that thrive well as bonsai, including both deciduous and evergreen types. Special emphasis was given to species like juniper, pine, and maple, as well as unique varieties of cactus and succulents that can be creatively shaped into

bonsai.

-Pruning and Wiring Techniques: Members were introduced to the art of pruning branches and leaves to achieve the desired shape and balance. Wiring techniques were demonstrated to shape and direct the growth of bonsai trees delicately.

-Soil and Potting Requirements: Gen Bewli explained the importance of using the correct soil composition, highlighting soil aeration, moisture retention, and drainage. He advised on pot selection, explaining how choosing the right pot enhances the aesthetics and stability of the bonsai.

-Watering and Maintenance: Attendees learned about proper watering techniques, emphasizing that overwatering is a common mistake. He shared tips for monitoring the bonsai's health and maintaining optimal growth.

Gen Bewli expanded the



discussion to include bonsai-like creation with cacti and succulents. He pointed out that these resilient plants offer an exciting alternative to traditional bonsai due to their unique growth patterns and minimal water requirements. Members were fascinated to learn how succulents can be shaped into miniature landscapes, each with distinct textures and forms.

To demonstrate the beauty and diversity of bonsai, Gen Bewli presented a few rare specimens

from his collection. These plants showcased different styles and techniques, inspiring members with their intricate designs. Each bonsai was a living artwork, with its own character and story, reflecting Gen Bewli's expertise and dedication.

Beyond his personal bonsai journey, Gen Bewli spoke about his significant contributions to the local community. He shared details of his work in establishing bonsai and cactus gardens at the Botanical Garden and Raj Bhawan in Chandigarh. These gardens have become iconic spaces, attracting visitors who appreciate the beauty of miniature plant landscapes. Through a series of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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

NEXT MEETING
Colonel Retd. Dr. Rajinder Singh
Psychiatrist and a veteran of
Indian Army talks to us on **Drugs
De-Addiction** on 28th October at
Rotary House at 6 pm

पावन पर्व मनाओ सखी री... मंगल दीप जलाओ सखी री....

आसपास चारो ओर जहां तक नजर जाती हो- टिमटिमाती नन्हीं लौ जैसे आसमान से उतारकर चारदीवारी पर करीने से सजाई हुई तारों की पक्तियां, दिशाओं में फैली इक भीनी तैलाक्त गंध, सुनहली पीली रौशनी से दीप्त मुंडेरी और आतिशबाजी से हार कर किसी कोने में सिमटी अमावस की काली रात।

तब दीवाली के आगमन की सूचना तो महीनों पहले कागज़ कलम के बिच आने वाले फतिगों से मिल जाती थी और नुक्कड़ गली से गुजरते नधुनों में समा जाने वाले 'चुना-पोचारों' की मिली जुली महक बरबस ही उनपर मोहर लगा मन को उत्साहित कर जाया करती थी।

यूं तो सभी त्योहारों का अलग मजा पर दीपावली को पसंद करने की सूची मेरे लिए थोड़ी लंबी है। बचपन की याद करूं तो कुम्हारीन बांस की टोकरी में दिया दियरी सजाये आँगन में आ जाया करती थी फिर गोल गोल नक्काशीदार पायों और ताखों की सफाई कर तेल में भीगी कपड़े की बाती से बने दिए और हवा की जंग में आखिरकार जीत दिए की ही होती।

आँगन के कोने में- चापाकल, सिलबट्टे, घर की पीछे वाली खिड़की और हर चौखट पर पूरब-पश्चिम मुख से दीपक सजाना मैंने कैशौर्य की दहलीज पर सीखा और साथ ही चौखट पर भिगोया चावल पीस अल्पना भी। तुलसी चौरा पर "शुभं करोति कल्याणम..." फिर अनार चरखी फुलझड़ी और कढ़ी पकौड़ों के साथ समीक्षा।

जैसे जैसे बरस बीते ... दीवाली का मतलब हर कोने की सफाई- घर की भी और मन की भी। स्वस्तिक कलश से सजे मिट्टी के घरोंदे, लावा-लड्डू वाले कुल्हिया-चुकिया संग गूँजती गीतमाला और इन सबके बाद प्रसाद के लड्डू, खील बताशे, सगुन के सिक्के और आतिशबाजी वाला शोर।

रूप बदला किरदार बदले और तब एहसास जिम्मेदारी का- सुवसित पूजा घर से स्वादिष्ट रसोई तक और रंगोली तोरण से सजी दहलीज से रस्म रिवाजों वाली परम्पराओं तक। कभी "दीवाली मिलन" में दोस्तों की महफ़िल तो कभी रिश्ते नातों का प्यार भरा साथ।

समय बदला, बरस की करवट के साथ आज चारदीवारी पर तीसी तेल वाले दीयों की जगह बल्ब झालरों ने ले ली, कागज पर छपकर फर्श पर चिपकी रंगोली में ना चौरठ का खुरदुरापन और न आलते हल्दी का रंग। 'मिटटी का लेवा' लगा टूटी ईट से सजा घरोंदा जिसके दीवारों पर 'गेंड' से लिखे नाम का क्रम अग्रज अनुज की महीन मर्यादा को बालमन तक पहुंचाने के लिए पर्याप्त था थर्मोकॉल और कार्डबोर्ड के दूधिया सफेदी में खो गया। आँगन से 'जांत' गए और कुल्हिया से आकार- लावा लड्डू की मिठास तो अब कंठ तक भी नहीं पहुँचती। कागज के कंडील की जगह प्लास्टिक के "डिसेंट" वन्दनवारों ने ले ली, और पैर बढ़ाने की जगह उंगलियां चलने लगीं। बावजूद इन बदलावों के कुछ जो नहीं बदला वो है हमारे मन की दशा। मिटटी का दिया या बिजली का बल्ब नहीं मन-अमावस का कलुष तम मिटाने को तो आत्मज्योत की रौशनी ही चाहिए; मन के कोने से जब हम अपनी कुत्सित भावनाओं का गुबार धो डालेंगे तब खुशियों की आतिशबाजी से रोम रोम आनंदित होगा, तब अभिमान की लंका जलेगी और अवसादित अवध-गात पर नन्हें आशा-दीप रौशन होंगे और तब सार्थक होगी #दीपावली की प्रासंगिकता।

सुमधुर स्मृति के दहलीज पर प्रयत्न-दीप की प्रण-शिखा से भावी-क्षितिज रौशन हो... इसी कामना के साथ प्रकाशपर्व की मंगल कामना।

स्नेह-तेल में भीगी बाती से जगमग दीवाली की रात
लक्ष्मी गणेश का पूजन आतिशबाजियों के साथ।

नेहा नूपुर

Ann. Neha Nupur wife of Rtn. Shray Kumar, a newly inducted member of our Rotary family is a distinguished Hindi writer. In her first meeting with us, she offers to write on the festival Diwali.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Developing a Bonsai Art...

photographs, Gen Bewli took attendees on a visual tour of these gardens, revealing a carefully curated collection that serves as a sanctuary for bonsai and cactus lovers.

Gen Bewli also introduced his books, which delve into the art and science of bonsai, offering guidance on techniques, plant care, and bonsai philosophy. These publications are a testament to his dedication to spreading knowledge and promoting bonsai art. Rotary members found his books to be valuable resources that could help them begin or advance their own bonsai practices.

As the session concluded, Gen Bewli extended a warm invitation to the Rotary Club members, encouraging them to visit the Bonsai Garden at the Botanical Garden in Chandigarh. He expressed his hope that by witnessing the beauty and tranquility of the bonsai garden firsthand, they would feel inspired to incorporate bonsai into their lives and appreciate its timeless artistry.

Gen Bewli's session left the Rotary members with a deep appreciation for bonsai as a blend of horticulture and art. His talk illuminated the patience, dedication, and skill required to cultivate bonsai, and attendees departed with a renewed enthusiasm for engaging with nature through this meditative practice. His invitation to explore the gardens promises members an opportunity to experience the art of bonsai in its most refined and accessible form. Rtn. Ashwani Chopra hosted the fellowship in the evening during the meeting and the meeting was adjourned with vote of thanks by Rtn. Vinod Kapoor.



News

-Rtn. A P Singh adjudged as Rotarian of the year 2024-25 from Rotary Club Chandigarh for first quarter in District 3080 by District Governor Rtn. Raj Pal Singh.

-Rtn. Prem Mahendru adjudged as Secretaries of the year 2024-25 from Rotary Club Chandigarh for first quarter in District 3080 by District Governor Rtn. Raj Pal Singh.

Investiture Ceremony of Interact Club MDAV, Sector 22 A



Maharishi Dayanand Adarsh Vidyalaya, (MDAV) Sector 22A, Chandigarh organized Investiture Ceremony of Interact Club, on 19th of October 2024, in their school premises. Incoming Interact Club President, Purneet spoke about her vision of social commitment in the coming year. Students welcomed all with a beautiful song followed by a patriotic song, a Pahari dance by a primary school child was awesome. Yoga showcased in a group performance was superlative.

Rotary Club Chandigarh, President Rtn. Jatinder Kapoor addressed the students and encouraged them to work towards, cleansing inner and outer atmosphere and space. Principal Smt. Neelam Sharma was well assisted by Interact teacher incharge, Smt. Suruchi and other staff members in organising a superb program. PDG Praveen Goel, Director youth Services Rtn. Teena Virk, Secretary Prem Mahindru, Rotary Ann Seema

Mahindru, Joint secretary Arun Aggarwal, School's SMC Chairperson Rtn. Vinod Kapoor and Committee member Rtn. Nidhi Vinayak, graced the occasion with their presence.

Awareness of Breast cancer

On the 18th of October, Sahayta Foundation, in collaboration with ROTARACT CLUB LEGIS SOCIAL, ROTARACT CLUB CU, Rotaract Club Chandigarh Himalayan, and ROTARY CLUB CHANDIGARH, successfully held a Breast Cancer

Walkathon to raise awareness and support for breast cancer research. The event was a key part of the global Pink October initiative, drawing enthusiastic participation from the community, dressed in pink to show solidarity in the fight against breast cancer.

The Chief Guest Prof. Sushmita Ghoshal, Professor and Head of the Department of Radiotherapy & Oncology at PGIMER, addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of early detection and awareness in combating breast cancer. The event was headed by Rotaract Prini Datta and Rotaract Harsha Makkar under the able guidance of Club President Rtr. Riya Sood. Special thanks are extended to ROTARY CLUB CHANDIGARH, President Rtn. Jatinder Kapoor, Secretary Rtn. Prem Mahendru and Rtn. Teena Virk, Director Youth Services, for their invaluable support. Their combined efforts contributed to the event's success.



CELEBRATIONS

Birthday Greetings:

- 25 Oct Rtn Dr Rana Sandip Singh 9803036602
- 27 Oct Rtn Suditi Jindal 9988000902
- 27 Oct Rtn Vanita Talwar 9814921000

Anniversary Greetings:

- 26 Oct Rtn Col Guljit Singh Chadha 9815104205 & Gurneet Kaur

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

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

Mission on Adult Literacy in Palghar by RC Bombay

The greatest joy of being truly empowered - 30,000 adults achieve functional literacy in Palghar with Rotary Club of Bombay When Tarabai's grandchildren became adolescents, conversation with them ceased dramatically. After all the grandmother was illiterate and the grandchildren somehow thought it was meaningless to indulge in banter with Tarabai.

Now suddenly, all that has changed. A functionally literate Tarabai can not only write her name, affix her signature but also fill in pay in slips and withdrawal slips at her bank. She can travel to the adjoining villages by bus to meet her relatives without mixing up the bus numbers. Importantly she is now able to maintain simple arithmetical household accounts with her recently acquired accomplishments. Tarabai's self-esteem has gone up several notches and even at the age of 65 she feels empowered and happy that the conversations with her grandchildren has improved dramatically and that she is no longer dependent on others for doing simple things which we as literates take for granted.

Not only this, her entire family, son, daughter-in-law and their children now look at her with respect and pride. This is the transformational change RC of Bombay is bringing to Palghar



District of D3141. There are approximately 5-6 lakh adult illiterates in Palghar and we have taken a pledge to eradicate this and make it a 100% literate district in the next 2-3 years.

It was an amazing sight to behold as the beneficiaries, Preraks and akshar saathis recalled their experiences with beaming smiles and exhilaration writ large on their faces. The exultation, josh, dignity and fervor was palpable and throbbing through the entire audience. Dressed in their finest and colorful sarees, these women pledged to make this movement a revolution amongst all the villagers to eradicate this scourge of illiteracy. Rarely have I felt so elated, motivated, satisfied and inspired of having achieved something so significant.

Thanks to our cooperating organisation,

Diganta Swaraj Foundation led by Shradha and Rahul Tiwrekar, programme conductor Jayu (a double Master's graduate achieved as a tribal woman - indeed a rare feat), 375 Preraks, 15,000 akshar saathis, 30,000 beneficiaries and countless other volunteers this programme was conducted flawlessly.

With the help of Rotary India Literacy Mission whose superbly designed module we are now following for this entire project - Rotary Club of Bombay is committed to expanding this project across India with others. The only real stumbling block to getting close to 100% literacy are this section - the adult illiterates - as the government is doing a tremendous job in educating our children. The cost of educating a single beneficiary varies between ₹150-200 per adult depending on area to area. We at RC of Bombay are prepared to join hands with any Club in any corner of India to help implement this project. I'm looking forward to you reaching out on Sandip.agarwalla@rotary3141.org Onwards and forward to making India Totally Literate!

-DG (22-23) Sandip Agarwalla, D3141, Rotary Club of Bombay

Cadre of Technical Advisers by Rotary

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers is a network of Rotary members who work to increase the impact of projects funded by The Rotary Foundation. They use professional expertise and technical skills in Rotary's areas of focus and financial auditing to help members plan projects, submit stronger grant applications, and implement effective monitoring and evaluation activities. The Cadre includes more than 500 members from 75 countries who speak more than 80 languages.

Cadre advisers are part of Rotary's district resource networks. In addition to the technical and regional expertise, they are regularly learning about the latest grant requirements and policies, advising techniques, elements of sustainable projects, and approaches to monitoring and evaluation. When a Cadre adviser provides guidance on planning and implementation, the most common result is a high-quality, sustainable project.

They serve Rotary members as:

Consultants who offer clubs and districts guidance on:

- Understanding Rotary's areas of focus
- Designing community assessments
- Considering cultural and environmental factors
- Planning and implementing projects
- Evaluating a project's technical feasibility
- Incorporating elements of sustainability
- Developing monitoring and evaluation plans
- Using strong financial management practices
- Navigating the global grant application process

Evaluators appointed by The Rotary Foundation to:

- Review applications for Foundation funding
- Conduct site visits to evaluate the quality, sustainability, and management of approved activities funded by the Foundation through global grants, district grants, corporate social responsibility grants, disaster response grants, Programs of Scale, the Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, and other initiatives and partnerships
- Oversee how Foundation funds are spent through financial reviews and audits
- Make recommendations to help Rotary staff members and Trustees make informed decisions about programs
- Offer guidance to project sponsors on how to address any challenges and make changes to have a larger impact
- Learning facilitators at grant management seminars, club meetings, Rotary institutes, district conferences, and other Rotary events that involve topics in which they have expertise
- A Cadre adviser will generally visit a project site during the evaluation and auditing process. These visits usually last three days, with the Foundation paying associated travel costs for the adviser. During a visit, the adviser:
 - Collects information by observing the project site and meeting with project sponsors, community members, cooperating organizations, and others involved in planning and implementation to gain a comprehensive understanding of the project

- Summarizes their findings and discusses specific recommendations and resources with project sponsors at a feedback meeting
- Aims to promote transparency, collaboration, and learning among Rotary members and the community
- In development and implementation of the project by Rotary club, they are the best source.

