

Friendship Bulletin

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Saturday, 20th February, 2021

President : Alope Kumar Kanodia

Secretary : Amar Kumar Malhotra

Editor : Ajay Khanna

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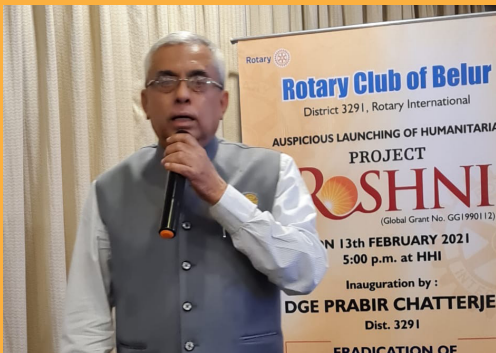
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The Project "ROSHNI" was inaugurated by DGE Prabir Chatterjee at a grand ceremony on 13th February, 2021 at Hotel Hindusthan International in the presence of team from Susrut Eye Foundation, guests and our members.



Project Roshni



Today's

GUEST SPEAKER



Anju Saini MD (A.M.)

Mind Therapist and Tarot Card Counsellor

Topic: E-Value

With a vision to touch everyone's life and spread unconditional love in the society, Anju Saini started her journey toward spirituality in 2004 as a Tarot Card Reader and a Reiki Grandmaster and gradually expanded her horizons by doing a rigorous study on the conscious and subconscious mind. Today she is an internationally renowned Tarot Card Counsellor, Clinical Hypnotherapist, Past Life Regression Therapist, an NLP Practitioner, DMIT Consultant.

Also, as an EAP (Employee Assistance Program) Trainer, she has created a module for assisting employees of a company/organization, on their emotions and mind, in order to ensure their positive mental health.

She is the business associate at Global Minds Academy, trainer at Atmabhan Academy, National Managing editor of Reiki Council of India, franchise owner of Global Minds Academy, Motivational coach and a trainer.



Meet India's very own Solo Woman Traveller

Miss Nidhi Kurian from Kochi is on a nationwide tour to experience first hand how safe the Country is for women. She is in Kolkata currently as part of her tour.





Today- 20th February, 2021 was a great day for Rotary Club of Belur. We inaugurated 3 Wash Stations, 6 Toilet Stations for girls, 4 Urinals, 2 Drinking Water Stations with filtration plant and Sanitary Napkin Vending Machine at Bantika Girls High School, Pandua Hooghly, under **WASH IN SCHOOLS (WINS) - Global Grant Project no 1869981**. The school had very thoughtfully organised the event with poems dance and wash pledge in a planned manner. The Teachers were in full attendance along with school management committee members and the headmistress. Almost 200 students of standard 9 and 10 attended the inauguration function. Rotary Belur was represented by President Alope Kanodia, Secretary Amar Malhotra and Rotarian Amitabh Mohan and were also accompanied by project coordinator Alok Parma alongwith Hrishikesh.

**STOP
PRESS**



Minutes of 2431st E- RCM of Rotary Club of Belur held on 13th February, 2021 at 5pm at Hotel Hindusthan International.

The 2431st Regular club meeting was called to order by President Alope Kanodia at HHI. He requested the members to rise for the national anthem. Invocation to God was offered by Rtn H K Prasad who involved other members to recite Hanuman Chalisa together.

Rtn President Alope updated the members with current working of the club while Secretary Amar who followed him announced the Birthdays, Anniversaries and other club business.

More than 34 members and spouses, and RCM.

The launching of our project "ROSHNI" was successfully conducted. Rtn Vishnu Dhandhanian briefed the members about the project. DGE Prabir Chattejee was the guest of honour who inaugurated "Roshni". He shared his thoughts and vision with the club.

Eradication of Avoidable Blindness, which would cover 50000 people in 50 villages at total cost of 51,500 dollars. It is joint initiative with Rotary Club of Singapore and Rotary Club of Salt lake (south). Our cooperating organisation is Susrut Eye Foundation, Saltlake. There after team from Susrut under leadership of Rtn Shib Shankar Bagchi, administrative head of Susrut, gave presentation on the working of the project.

Alope invited PDG Ravi Sehgal to conclude the evening. He enlightened us how Project Roshni took shape and the vision behind the project. He mentioned our dream is to win over eye problems in Bengal. With no other business the meeting was terminated by President Alope who called upon all present to join for snacks, tea and fellowship.

Rtn Alope Kanodia, President Rtn Amar Malhotra, Secretary

Excerpts of Leadership in Uncertain Times - RI President Holger Knaack's address to the Virtual International Assembly on 1 February 2021

He mentioned that it is a pleasure to address this International Assembly. After San Diego last year about great changes underway in the world and its affect on Rotary in profound ways, True enough world soon showed how dramatic change can happen far more quickly than anticipated and. become more difficult for people everywhere, with more people than ever needing help.

He felt it wasn't a year of loss only as has also been a year of new opportunities as well. Social media and online connections have become more important. And most of us meet virtually. With a new global village has emerged with new social rules.. Today, physical distance is required. But it is giving way to a whole new closeness.

In 2021, with new vaccines and treatments, he was of the opinion that world will start to return to something closer to normal albeit a different normal we have no choice but to embrace this age. Going forward, we need to prepare carefully for unanticipated events. Adapting to the future also means connecting truthfully to ourselves.

The Four-Way Test is such an important tool for doing just that, because it requires us to use self-reflection he mentioned as we can continue to ask ourselves: Am I being honest? Am I doing the right thing? That is important. One cannot trust their own eyes, but we know ourselves and our motivations.

We are proud of Rotary's five core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership. These values form the basis for our organization he said. Even if we have to make major changes today and in the future, we should not change our values. But to be a community built around those values, we must represent them in their entirety. Tolerance is once again becoming a critical issue in the world, and Rotary's core value of diversity has never been more important and thus he was pleased

to have formed a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force and taken strong steps to ensure that Rotary meets and exceeds the diversity goals that has been established. .

He emphasized that leadership can make a tremendous difference, and nothing will help us deliver our diversity, equity, and inclusion goals better than making them our personal commitments. He felt it was high time for Rotary to act on Environment and it is so important that we make an all out effort to emphasize environmental concerns in our programs and service projects. Young people — Rotaractors included — expect us to take clear positions on environment issues and also want us to show leadership, with vision and solutions.

Rotary has faced these challenges by showing greater care for each other with our clubs taking on an important mentoring role for members with businesses who are struggling through the pandemic. And we have learned that renewed focus on each other is often an important service work that we can do. Despite all that we have been through and all of the rapid change we have endured, we are surviving this crisis and becoming stronger he said.

He was of the opinion Rotary is not just a club that most of us join. It is an invitation to endless opportunities. It opens opportunities to service, most notably in our historic project to end polio. And it opens opportunities for all of us to live a richer, more meaningful life, with friends around the world, based on our core values.

As Rotarians, he felt we are blessed to take on leadership roles in this moment for our organization. Now is your time. Now is our moment. If we hesitate, it will pass us by. Everything we do opens another opportunity for someone, somewhere.

Source: Rotary International



CLUB EVENTS

28th February, Sunday - Eye screening camp: Venue- Aikatan Charitable Dispensary, B. T. Road, P.O. Khardah, Dist.- North 24 Parganas, Pin- 700117, RCM of 27th February has been merged with this project visit.

7th March Sunday Inauguration of Chandannagar Sarda Sadhan Girls High School: 2 girl toilet blocks with 6 urinals, 2 latrines each, One Drinking Water Station with 6 taps, RCM of 6th March has been merged with this project.

13th March Saturday RCM



20th & 21st March, Saturday and Sunday District Conference and our RCM of 20th March has been merged with the District Conference.

27th March, Saturday - Club Holi Meet

Anniversaries

-  **Manish and Srabani Bahety**
on 21st February
-  **Kishan and Sangita Kejriwal**
on 21st February
-  **Kailash and Kabita Tekriwal**
on 22nd February
-  **Shashi and Minoo Seth**
on 24th February

Birthdays

-  **Animesh Roy** on 21st February
-  **Radha Krishna Bubna** on 26th February

Excerpts - Engagement and Retention - John Hewko, RI General Secretary and CEO Addressed the Virtual International Assembly on 3 February 2021



He said unfortunately, coronavirus until that day, has changed life for all of us, having claimed lives and destroyed livelihoods. Thereby, forcing most of us to reflect not only on our personal priorities, but also on Rotary's mandate over time.

According to him the two major turning points in Rotary's history that clearly stand out are:

- 1. Is the creation of our 3-H Grants program, designed to carry out large-scale service projects in the area of health, hunger, and humanity.*
- 2. And is the creation of PolioPlus.*

However he felt in the world of COVID-19, it would be surprising if a Rotary member questions the value of our polio initiative, or doubts the worth of large-scale, more sustainable projects and grants because the fact is the concept of transforming health and well-being of others on a huge scale is now part of Rotary's DNA. Yet at the time these ideas were conceived, they were considered almost revolutionary and were the subject of intense, intense debate.

Ultimately, there is a clear need to adapt our policies and outlook to the changing world we live in. He thanked decisions of the RI Board, the Foundation Trustees, and the Council on Legislation for launching the 3-H program thus ending a 55-year prohibition against corporate programs in Rotary.

The foresight of that decision — despite strong, strong opposition — is hugely significant in evolving our thought process about Rotary's future today. Without 3-H, there would be no PolioPlus. In fact, our history would have been very, very different. Thanks to PolioPlus, 19 million people who would otherwise have been paralyzed are walking today. And thanks to PolioPlus, Rotary's stature on the global stage has been elevated to a level we could never have dreamed of without it.

In the same way as the 3-H and PolioPlus programs were clear turning points in Rotary's 20th century history, this year of coronavirus is a test of Rotary's ability to adapt in the 21st century he said.

Most Rotarians feel that Rotary should be more responsive to new ideas and change. Furthermore, he mentioned 60% of respondents in our strategic surveys thought

that enhancing participant engagement was one of the most important priorities. Given the pandemic and the threat it presents to community cohesion and all membership organizations, this priority is even more pressing.

He was of the view, that it is the newest members who are most prone to leave Rotary. And why do they leave? According to data there are a number of reasons:

- a) The club environment and culture*
- b) The cost or time commitment,*
- c) Unmet expectations.*

Therefore the key point to remember is: Engaged members stay with Rotary and through Rotary they can accomplish great things. Besides the variety of service opportunities to engage members today is even greater than it was what it was a decade back. So there really is something for everyone at Rotary.

He was of the opinion that it is vital to help plan the experience of new members from the moment they express an interest in joining a Rotary or Rotaract club. In this regard, new members must be given clear roles from the beginning.

He gave an example of The Rotary Club of Central Ocean in New Jersey, USA, which implemented a "Bring Your Own Project" approach to give new members immediate ownership of something important to them. The club was able to complete 9— 9 — service projects in the first half of one Rotary year and thereby engage and retain its newest members.

Additionally to engagement at the club level, we should not forget the fellowships and Rotary Action Groups, which connect members across the world who share a passion thereby promote the personal and professional growth opportunities available through our Learning Center and our partnership with Toastmasters.

To recap:

- First — to retain and engage our membership, we must understand why they joined our organization, and then fulfill their expectations.*
- Second — think about how new members can make an immediate impact by giving them ownership of projects that are of interest to them.*
- And third — promote the personal and professional growth opportunities available through our Learning Center and our partnership with Toastmasters.*

Source: Rotary International