



## **Rotary International President's July Message:**

Dear fellow Rotarians,

July 2008

The beginning of the Rotary year is always an exciting time, with new club and district officers, a new theme to work with, and a renewed sense of purpose for our service projects. The beginning of this particular Rotary year is, of course, especially exciting for me as I look forward to meeting Rotarians throughout the world and seeing firsthand the many remarkable projects you are carrying out.

In planning how your club, and each one of you, can Make Dreams Real this year, I ask you to consider the millions of children who never even have the chance to dream. Every day, more than 26,000 children under the age of five die from preventable causes. As appalling as that number is, it is a decrease from the figure of 30,000 that first caught my attention and spurred me to bring this matter of grave concern to Rotarians.

UNICEF's State of the World's Children 2008 report states that "by 2006, the most recent year for which firm estimates are available, the annual number of child deaths globally fell below 10 million, to 9.7 million, for the first time since records began." I would guess that some of the improvement in child survival rates can be directly attributed to Rotary projects that have been successfully addressing problems related to health, hunger, water, and literacy for a number of years now. So I asked myself: "What would happen if 1.2 million Rotarians focused their service efforts on keeping even more children alive?"

I think we already know some of the answers. If Rotarians provide insecticide-treated bed nets, fewer children will succumb to malaria. If we dig wells and address sanitation problems, more children will have clean water to drink and more hygienic surroundings. And if Rotary clubs carry out effective nutrition projects, we can save some of the almost five million children who die each year from undernourishment.

UNICEF estimates that fully two-thirds of the 9.7 million deaths in 2006 were preventable. With Rotarians working to provide vaccines, oral rehydration therapies, accessible health care for mothers and newborns, and other relatively simple interventions, I'm confident that many more babies will not only survive but go on to live healthy, productive lives. Let's Make Dreams Real by giving these children the chance to grow up and have dreams of their own.

Dong Kurn (D.K.) Lee  
President, Rotary International

### **Announcements**

#### **Sunday 27 July :**

Visit to AAA, Paushi for preparations for the EYE CAMP scheduled for 23-24 August 2008.

#### **Saturday, 2 August :**

Mother & Child Health Workshop at Rotary Sadan. Seminar at 4pm, Registration at 3:30pm for Rotarians & guests.

## **Inter-City Meet on "Make Dreams Real"**

contributed by Rtn. Amitava Dasgupta

The first Inter-City Meet hosted by the Rotary District 3291 was held at G D Birla Sabhagar amidst a nearly full house audience entertained by a wonderful starter theme dance presented by Interactors.

Issues which were discussed included Mother and Child Health and Hygiene, Primary Education, Child trafficking, Drug abuse and Child Labour.

Ms Paromita Suharto, WHO Representative to India highlighted the WHO initiative in India mainly as advisory to planning commission, research, identify critical areas that require immediate action, policy making and working out strategies to Central Government of India.

Ms Sandhya Bajaj Member National Commission for protection of Child rights acknowledged the contribution of the good work of Rotary and committed to propose Rotary to be part of the National Commission for Protection for Child Rights. She also stressed the importance and obligations of a mandatory Social Audit. She observed on the life of children of con mates where either or both of the parents are in Jail custody. Child trafficking for cheap labour, drug peddling and sex workers were the other poignant issues discussed.

Rtn. PDG K. Chandramohan raised the issue of Child Labour and the pivotal decision of scaling down the age recognized for Vocational training courses to Class I-II levels rather than Class VIII. Rtn Prabhat ji & Rtn. Tapan Gooptu stressed on identification the root cause for Child labor and the Governments proactive role in legislation as well as proper enforcement of Law such that at least primary education can be provided to one and all.

Rtn PDG Shri Shekhar Mehta conducted a perfect brainstorming session with exclusive participation of the key speakers as well as Rotarians in the audience as well as Interactors present in large numbers.

Rtn PDG Shri Chandramohan ji raised the inadvertent issue of any or every Rotary Club having to wait for 3 yrs and submitting audited balance sheets for a customary approval from MOHA still not considered as NGO due to constitutional rights and obligations where as other recognized NGO lower in expertise and capability are invited to participate in Government programs.

Interactors from DPS Mega City Public School raised the issue of parents forcing children to participate in realty shows a major concern where children can't accept failure leading to depression and even major psychological trauma cases. They also raised the significant issue of Government initiative in counseling the parents of those who force them to child labour. Ms Bajaj complimented that definitely the Government is on keen lookout and working out directives for children participating in realty shows.

Representative from the UNICEF State Chapter solemnly welcomed Rotary initiatives and participation as Partners in Service.

It was a perfect conclusion with Interactors from St James School presenting a skit on Child Labour and prizes were given out for the poster n essay competition with "Make Dreams Real" as the theme.

DG Rtn. Nayantara Palchoudhuri reiterated our commitment and endeavors all to "Make Dreams Real" and Earth a better place to live in.

## **Know Rotary** – An extract from the Standard Rotary Club Constitution

### **Article 6 : Meetings**

#### Section 1 — Regular Meetings.

(a) Day and Time. This club shall hold a regular meeting once each week on the day and at the time provided in the bylaws.

(b) Change of Meeting. For good cause, the board may change a regular meeting to any day during the period commencing with the day following the preceding regular meeting and ending with the day preceding the next regular meeting, or to a different hour of the regular day, or to a different place.

(c) Cancellation. The board may cancel a regular meeting if it falls on a legal holiday, including a commonly recognized holiday, or in case of the death of a club member, or of an epidemic or of a disaster affecting the whole community, or of an armed conflict in the community which endangers the lives of the club members. The board may cancel not more than four regular meetings in a year for causes not otherwise specified herein provided that this club does not fail to meet for more than three consecutive meetings.

#### Section 2 Annual Meeting.

An annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held not later than 31 December as provided in the bylaws.

### **Samuel wrote ...**

Water water everywhere

Not a drop to drink.....

Millions homeless men women nude line the lone way of solitude

Where people gather themselves built a half foot and one cane structure

Babies underneath and above that a half feet cloth and everything undone...

Eyes red looking for food the thin and lean frame struggle with equally hungry dogs  
wander....

They have stopped crying the infants their mother's breast can give them milk no more...the  
cows lap up the sheaves of straws left strewn down for drying....

There are people living who live for others ...they bring food when the stars twinkle million  
lit up the sky.....

They gulp down the hot hotchpotch served and teardrops that have long dried up for Hope  
and a silent Prayer.

### **Midnapore ...**

Rtn. Amitava Das Gupta

## **Minutes of 107th RWM cum 3<sup>rd</sup> Installation Meeting of RCCR**

held on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2008 at MV Ahalya at 12:00 noon.

- 1) Master of Ceremonies, Rtn Chirabrata invited the dignitaries to the meeting.
- 2) IPP Prakash called the 107<sup>th</sup> RWM cum 3<sup>rd</sup> Installation Meeting to order.
- 3) National Anthem was sung.
- 4) IPP Prakash addressed the house, apprising members of the various highlights. He thanked members for their support and co-operation and emphasized that due to Teamwork RCCR could bag its first award for J4U.
- 5) Hony. Secretary 2007-08 Rtn. Sanjay gave a brief report of the club activities under different avenues of service during the Rotary year 2007-08.
- 6) MC introduced our 3<sup>rd</sup> President Nihar.
- 7) IPP Prakash formally installed President Nihar, handing over collar, hammer and gavel of the club to him.
- 8) President Nihar gave his acceptance speech wherein he thanked Prakash for the excellent work done during his tenure. He elucidated his plans for the coming year.
- 9) President Nihar then introduced his Board of Directors and handed over the plan.
- 10) DG Nayantara was welcomed by First Lady, Rinky.
- 11) President Nihar welcomed all the PDGs, ZRs, ZS, District Officials, Presidents & Secretaries of the clubs, Family Members and all the guests who had attended the Installation.
- 12) Our new member, Dr. A.N. Sen was introduced in absentia, to DG Nayantara.
- 13) Hony Secretary conducted his club business. Secretary, Mausam also acknowledged the efforts of the outgoing Secretary, Sanjay and made due secretarial announcements
- 14) DG Nayantara addressed the meeting where she stressed on the goals of the coming year.
- 15) Vote of Thanks was given by PE Srijit.
- 16) President Nihar terminated the meeting and requested all to join for fellowship and lunch.
- 17) President Nihar and Secretary Mausam were felicitated by the visiting Presidents and secretaries.

Members present: 11,  
District Officials, Visiting Rotarians, Guests,  
and Other Club Secretaries and Presidents: 32

PP Rtn. Sameer Kothari carried our club's good wishes to R. C. Gangtok South, R.I. D. 3240 while attending their RWM on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008.

### **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

17<sup>th</sup> July : Rtn Manas Rawat