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Dist. Governor

President

Secretary Rtn. R. M. Hazarika

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Editor's Column

Rotary is one of the largest service organisations of the world. It is a great family of 1.2 million members which has been in existence for 109 years now. It has dared to challenge the formidable scourge of Polio

threatening the human society and has emerged with triumphant glory. It has brought a smile to many a face having reached out to communities in distress crying for relief and rehabilitation. Such are its stories that can go on and on. Despite such starling accomplishments Rotary still appears to be remaining a hazy distant silhouette in the mental scape of common people. Perhaps we need a serious introspection.

Have we been able to mass mobilise and enlist the support of a large base of foot soldiers? My thoughts have arisen having looked at both the categories out there - potential untapped members of the community as well as the potential beneficiaries of Rotary services. Is Rotary truly inclusive? Perhaps we need some serious deliberation. There are many well intentioned individuals seeking an opportunity to serve the community. But instances may not be too rare that Rotary does not figure in their mind to be their best option. Does this reflect the Rotary's low Brand Equity? Or, is this the tell tale sign of some sort of a disconnect?

True spirit of service is spontaneous. It is borne out of empathy. It is an acknowledgment of indebtedness to the society/community that has been nurturing us from the womb to the tomb. It is an awakening of the urge of sharing. It is the realisation of the fact that purpose of our life transcends beyond our 'self'. Camaraderie brought forth the urge of service and Rotary was borne.

Rotary is about sharing . Sharing ones' time, resources, experiences - professional or wisdom borne out of rough and tumble of harsh realities of life and ones own intellectual pursuit, for the greater benefit of our fellow brethren in the community. Those of us who have been privileged to be a part of this great organisation well appreciate that Rotary offers us that opportunity to practice and cultivate the noble habit of sharing.

At the risk of sounding somewhat cynical, I, seek an honest answer myself as a Rotarian, as to, are we individually or collectively doing enough to ignite or keep alive that spirit of service generally. I do appreciate that there are exceptions though. But, here my concern is, in an environment where we discover a major paradigm shift in sensitivities and sensibilities of human society perhaps Rotary needs to reinvent itself in order to appropriately respond to the changing scenario.

While weekly or such rendezvous are very healthy as a social practice which needs to be encouraged, this alone, however, does not necessarily seem to excite the cross section of the membership, generally, and the younger segment in particular. Having said that we need to consider several vectors impacting the life of an individual today which are changing in their nature and intensity everyday. So perhaps it will be wrong to interpret

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that human empathy is on the wane. Issue at stake is how we can be innovative in engaging our fellow brethren within and without the Rotary fold in its noble mission. Admittedly the concept of e clubs seem to be a move in the right direction. However, tech savviness of different segments of the community needs to be factored in.

While we all are aware that there are several areas impacting the human development index I feel we need to do more to engage our communities at different levels for designing effective service projects. To achieve that I feel the RCC (Rotary Community Core) route could perhaps be vigorously pursued. To have a wider reach to our communities around, may be, we can think of forming a large number of RCCs under the umbrella of

different Rotary Clubs, covering each municipal ward, villages, Panchayats and Blocks. May be, this will make Rotary more inclusive, particularly addressing those segments who remain shy of directly being a part of a Rotary Club membership otherwise. They can emerge as a large brigade of foot soldiers in furthering the envisioned mission of Rotary.

In this pursuit we also need to train our thoughts on deeper engagement of Rotaract and Interact Clubs. They certainly have the potential of being a major game changer in pursuing the Rotary's perceived goal.

Long live Rotary! May Rotary be in the heart and mind of every human being on the face of this beautiful planet of ours.

Tarun Ch. Bordoloi

The richness of belonging

Posted on August 20, 2014

By Renée Riley-Adams, a member of the Rotary Club of Ashland, Oregon, USA

Recently, I received a blue name badge from my Rotary club. Initially, when a member first joins, my club issues a red badge with a ribbon that identifies them as new members. As we take part in a series of tasks that include things like joining a committee, attending a district meeting, and participating in a club service project, we get our blue badges.

During a short ceremony, I looked out into the crowd, and realized how much these people have become my community. Eating lunch with them every Thursday since last September and hearing about

their children's sports wins, new grandchildren, trips far and wide, and professional achievements, I have a new way of locating myself in this little town of 20,000 people.

In our club we have a fire chief, a policeman, some bankers, a city councilman, several doctors, a few construction guys who have big trucks, an ex-president of a university, a fairly large retired contingent, an accountant who wears bow ties, a designer and many more "classifications." Ashland Rotary is truly a microcosm. The one thing that joins us together? Service Above Self.

At Rotary, I've found integrity, professionalism, an interest in life-long learning, fun, humor, and an intergenerational community. Service Leadership emerges from those whose primary motivation is a deep desire to help others. Unlike leadership approaches with a top-down style, servant leadership instead emphasizes collaboration, trust, empathy, and the ethical use of power.



I plan on working with the Interact Club at Ashland High to help kids learn about leadership and doing for others. I'm excited to be the counselor for our Youth Exchange student who is arriving later this month from Spain. I'll have a hand in presenting Youth of the Month awards. And I look forward next summer to attending the five-day leadership camp for 144 high school juniors from Northern California and Oregon known as Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA).

There is a lot of doing involved to get the most out of Rotary. But there is doing and being. On the "being" side of the

equation is the richness of belonging.

Brené Brown, a researcher and sociologist who gave one of the top five most-watched TED Talks, says: "Belonging is the innate human desire to be part of something larger than us. Because this yearning is so primal, we often try to acquire it by fitting in and by seeking approval, which are not only hollow substitutes for belonging, but often barriers to it. Because true belonging only happens when we present our authentic, imperfect selves to the world, our sense of belonging can never be greater than our level of self-acceptance."

That's what my blue name badge means to me: that I had the courage to present my authentic, imperfect self to this group of human beings. And I was welcomed with open arms. Self-acceptance is a big concept and it may take me a few more years before I can say I truly feel it in my bones. Wearing my new badge on Thursdays is a good way to practice.

(Source : Rotary Voices)

MINUTES OF THE WEEKLY MEETING NO. 1814 HELD ON 15TH AUGUST 2014 AT HOTEL RAJDHANI REGENCY



- 1. President Rtn Paramesh Dev Choudhury called the meeting to order at 0710PM which was followed by the National Anthem.
- At the outset the President extended his Independence Day greetings & welcomed all the Guests, Rotarians, Annes, and Rotarylets. Rtns. S. C. Goswami, Renu Goswami, P. D. Choudhury & Biswadip Barooah introduced their respective guests.
- The Chief Guest Sri Ajay Dutta & Guest of Honour Sri Ram Gopal Harlalka, were invited to the dais. They were felicitated with a Phulam Gamocha by Annes Gayatri Bhattacharyya & Renu Goswami respectively.
- Sri Dutta & Sri Harlalka were introduced by Rtns. S.
 Goswami & Paramesh Dev Choudhury respectively.
- On behalf of the members, Rtn Kaberi Bhuyan & Rtn Tamal Sen felicitated Rtn Subha Brata Sarmah on the occasion of his birthday on 13-8-2014 & Rtn Dilip Sarkar & Lipika on their Anniversary on 31-7-2014 respectively.
- 6. Presidential business:
- President apprised the House that the following activities of the club have been published in the July 2014 issue of the GML 1. Annapoorna Day (1-7-2014), 2. Installation (4-7-2014), 3. RC Nalbari

- Charter presentation (5-7-2014), 4. Zonal Meeting by AG (22-6-2014)
- As part of our celebration of the 68th Independence Day, a General Health Check-up of 33 Staff members of Hotel Rajdhani Regency was conducted by Rtns. Dr. R N Mazumder, Dr Nareswar Sarma on 15-8-2014. President expressed sincere thanks & gratitude to all the participants (Rotarians & Annes) particularly to both the Rotarian Doctors for their yeomen service.
- Literacy Committee Convenor Rtn Renu Goswami along with Rtns. R M Hazarika, Biswadip Barooah, Gayatri Bhattacharyya & PD Choudhury attended a meeting at Rastriya Siksha Sadan School, Ulubari on 9-8-2014 at 1100 AM. Apprised the Principal, Teachers, & Guardians about implementation of our H=Happy School program. School Authority also assured us necessary support & help in this regards.
- It was also decided to have the Inaugural Function of H= Happy School in the Rastriya Siksha Sadan on 16-8-2014 at 11 AM, wherein the remaining school materials such as books, desks, benches, rack, teaching aids, black boards and a cupboard will be handed over to the school authority. Rtn Renu Goswami invited the members to attend the function.
- PDG Arijit Endow called a meeting on 14-8-2014, at 5pm, in St Stephen School, Guwahati to select the software on E-Learning presented by Educom. The

- meeting was attended by Rtns G Bhattacharyya, Renu Goswami, P D Choudhury. Members felt the software would not serve the purpose of the TEACH programme of Rotary.
- Letters to the Principals of several schools with an appeal for collection of books have been given to the members as part of - "A Million Books, A million Smiles" drive. Our club's collection target is 5000 books for Class-I to VIII standards.
- The House was informed that Rtn. Giti Bujarbaruah, Annes. Nandini Dev Choudhury and Mahmuda Begum have registered as Volunteers under the India Literacy Mission.
- On 8-8-2014, Rtns. Dr R N Mazumder, Prashanta Goswami, Bhupen Barkataki, Rajkamal Bhuyan visited RC Nalbari to handover the Rotary Kits & other materials. They also attended the weekly meeting of RC Nalbari.
- President reminded about the ensuing Membership Seminar in Shillong on 24th August 2014, (10AM -0130PM) being hosted by RC Shillong & Orchid City.
- President solicited participation of the members in large numbers at the District Polio Seminar on 31st August 2014, at Siliguri, being hosted by RC Siliguri Mid Town & RC Siliguri.
- President handed over the PHF Certificate & Pin to Rtn Dr Monoj Kr Choudhury.
- In response to Quiz-4: "In Rotary what is 85 Rule," the correct answer has been given by Rtns. Dr R N Mazumder, Sweta Pegu, M C Deka. (Answer: In case of those active members where the aggregate of the years of age and years of membership in one or more Clubs is 85 years or more they may be exempted from the normal attendance requirements.)

- President gave away the pending Weekly Quiz prizes to the winners- Rtns. Sweta Pegu (25-7-2014), MC Deka (1-8-2014), Dr R N Mazumder (8-8-2014) & (15-8-2014).
- To mark the observation of the 68th Independence Day, in a befitting programme comprising of patriotic songs & recitation of poem was presented by Annes, Rotarians & Rotarylets. President expressed sincere thanks to all the participants.
- Reminiscing times during the yesteryear the Guest of Honour, Sri Ram Gopal Harlalka (Charter member), briefed the House about the formation, origin and functioning of RC Gauhati South.
- Chief Guest, Sri Ajay Dutta, Vice President, Patriotic Forum, Guwahati, gave a spirited & inspiring account of our country's struggle for independence recalling the sacrifices & contributions of the great leaders.
- Vote of thanks was offered by Rtn Bhupendra Nath Das.
- The meeting was adjourned at 0820PM.
- Secretarial report: Attendance was as follows:

Rotarians : 30
Annes : 11
Visiting Rotarians : Nil
Rotaylets : 3
Guests : 5

TRF Collection : Rs. 400.00

(An excellent fellowship was offered by Rtn Subha Brata Sarmah on the occasion of his birthday 13-8-2014)

Compiled by : President, Rtn Paramesh Dev Choudhury

Celebration of 68th Independence Day

RC Gauhati South celebrated the 68th Independence Day with a brief, yet, colourful programme. At the outset the President extended his Independence Day greetings & welcomed all the Guests, Rotarians, Annes, and Rotarylets. The Chief Guest Sri Ajay Dutta, Vice President, Patriotic Forum & Guest of Honour Sri Ram Gopal Harlalka. Charter Member, RC Gauhati South, were invited to the dais. They were felicitated with a Phulam Gamocha by Annes Gayatri Bhattacharyya & Renu Goswami respectively.



Having been requested by the President Anne Nandini took charge of conducting the programme. Reverberating melody of patriotic song and recitation of poem by the Annes, Rotarians and Rotarylet set the tone for the occasion.

Chief Guest, Sri Ajay Dutta, gave a spirited & inspiring account of our country's struggle for independence. He recalled the sacrifices & contributions of the great leaders. He urged young generation to come forward & thwart the divisive forces & help in building a new strong India.

This programme was preceded by a General Health Check-up of 33 Staff members of Hotel Rajdhani Regency. This was conducted by Rtn. Dr. R N Mazumder and Rtn. Dr Nareswar Sarma on the same day at 4.00 PM. President expressed sincere thanks & gratitude to all the participants (Rotarians & Annes) particularly to both the Rotarian Doctors for their yeomen service. Active participation of Rotarians, Annes, Guests, and Rotarylets in all the programmes of the club undoubtedly reflect their zeal to "Lighting Up Rotary".

Compiled by : President, Rtn Paramesh Dev Choudhury



General Health Check Up of the staff members of Hotel Rajdhani Regency by the Rotarians (Doctors) on the occasion of the 68th Independence Day.

Report on Inauguration of the Happy School Project in Rastriya Shiksha Sadan LP School, Cherabbatti, Guwahati on 16th August 2014.

A meeting of "Literacy Committee" was held on 20-7-2014 in the residence of Rtn Renu Goswami, Convenor wherein members Rtns. Giti Bujarbaruah, MC Deka, Vikash Bajaj along with P D Choudhury, President, were present to discuss the future plan of action. A short plan was chalked out.

Keeping Rotary India Literacy Mission (RILM) mind, the Happy School Project under the T-E-A-C-H mission was Inaugurated in the Rastriya Shiksha Sadan LP School, Cherabbatti, Guwahati (Estd 1954) on 16-8-2014 in presence of the PDG Rtn Prabhat Kedia, IPAG Rtn Rajkamal Bhuyan, Rtn P D Choudhury President &

IPP Rtn Dr R N Mazumder, 20 Rotarians, namely- Rtns. Monoti Barthakur, T C Bordoloi, S C Goswami, Vikash Bajaj, Dr R N Mazumder, Arman Ahmed, Dr Priyam Goswami, Renu Goswami, Gayatri Bhattacharyya, Hareswar Talukdar, Bhupendra Nath Das, M. C. Deka, Anjana Buragohain, Bhupen Barkataki, Giti Bujarbarhauh; 6 Annes - Kalpana, Reena, Mahmuda, Gauri, Banu, 2 Rotarylets, Diksha Rajkhowa, 2 Guests Mrs. Indira Bardoloi & Dr Tejendra Bardoloi, Ms Anupama Deka- Reporter 'Amar Asom'; Mrs. Kajal Singh, Chairperson, School Management Committee, Mrs. Mamoni Singha, Head Mistress; 3 Teachers; 55

Guardians; Children. The following school items were donated as a part of Happy School Project. 20 pairs of desks & benches (from District TRF account Rs. 52850, Club account Rs. 22650), 1 Almirah by Rtn Renu, 101 Books (31 new books costing Rs 2500 from Club account, 20 by Rtn. Biswadip, 25 by Rtn Arman & Anne Mahmuda, 25 by Rtns. Renu, Gayatri & Giti together), 9 charts (5 by Rtn Giti, 4 by Rtn. Gayatri), 2 Black Boards by Rtn Dr Priyam. President appreciated & thanked all the members for their true Rotary spirit & in making the programme a success. This event has

been reported in 2 Local Assamese dailies, namely, the 'Amor Assam' (18-8-2014) & the Dainik Janambhumi (21-8-2014). The school authority handed over the Minutes of the Meeting written & one appreciation letter to Rotary Club of Gauhati South signed by the Chairperson & the Head Mistress.

We take particular pleasure in acknowledging the support of the TRF (Dist. Grant 2013 14) in accomplishing this initial phase of the project.

Compiled by: Rtn PD Choudhury, President



Rotary India Literacy Mission Inauguration of Happy School Project



Rotary India Literacy Mission-HAPPY School Project Rashtriya Siksha Sadan LP School, Ulubari, Guwahati Images - Before and after initiation of the Project A RC Gauhati South initiative



IPP Rtn (Dr.) R N Mazumder & Rtn. Prashanta Goswami handing over Rotary kits to the President RC Nalbari on 8th August, 2014.

Image of Induction of New Members on 8th August 2014

Report on the Membership Seminar held at Shillong on the 24th August 2014



Membership Seminar at Shillong on the 24th August 2014 and the RC Gauhati South contingent in attendance

A District Membership Seminar, Level-2, was arranged jointly by Rotary Clubs of Shillong & Orchid City, at Pinewood Hotel on 24-8-2014. Weather was lovely & rain added its own flavor. Members attended were - Rtns. P D Choudhury, President, Gayatri Bhattacharyya, Anjana Buragohain, Minoti Barthakur, Vikash Bajaj, Arman Ahmed & Ann Nandini.

Keynote Speech was delivered by PDG A S Venkatesh, RI-3230, on the burning issues of Membership & Retention while PDG Rtn Ravi Narayan Nanda spoke on various issues like "House Maker" as

Rotarian, Conclave of Rotarians, e-Clubs, Satellite Club etc. He also made one Power Point presentation highlighting 6"i's- identify, introduce, invite, induct, inform, ignore not. PDG Rtn. Manas Choudhuri, a versatile speaker, delivered his speech on retention highlighting the factors why member new & old leave Rotary. He gave many tips how to make Rotary lively. Rtn. Swapan Choudhury, DG, spoke with his powerful voice about the Target & Goals of the District & solicited members' contribution in achieving these. Lunch with mouth watering spread was the end of the half-day programme.

Compiled by Rtn PD Choudhury, President

MINUTES OF THE 1815TH WEEKLY MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF GAUHATI SOUTH, HELD ON 22ND AUGUST 2014

- President Rtn Paramesh Dev Choudhury called the meeting to order at 0700PM which was followed by the National Anthem.
- At the outset the President welcomed all the Rotarians, Annes, Guests, Rotarylets present in the meeting & requested their active participation.
- On behalf of the members, President wished Rtn Dr Anil Kumar Mahanta & Navaneeta and Rtn Dr Priyam Goswami & Binode on the occasion of their Marriage Anniversary (16th August) and Rtn Dr Balendra Kumar Das & Rtn Satinder Anand on their Birth Day(20th August) in absentia.
- President informed that the Happy School project under the Rotary T-E-A-C-H Mission was launched

- in the Rastriya Shiksha Sadan LP School, Cherabbatti, Guwahati on 16-8-2014 (Please refer to the Report on this programme). This event has been reported in two Local Assamese dailies, namely, Amor Assam (18-8-2014) & Dainik Janambhumi (21-8-2014).
- ◆ The house was also apprised that the August 2014 issue of the Rotary News has carried the, following activities of our club. 1. Annapoorna Day (1-7-2014), 2. Distribution of Stationery Items to Assam Sishu Kalyan Sadan (21-8-2014)
- President also briefed that the GML, July 2014 issue has carried the following four activities of our club. 1.
 Annapoorna Day, 2.Installation Ceremony, 3. Charter presentation to RC Nalbari, 4. Meeting with the AG, Zone VII.

- President requested the members' presence in the Membership Seminar at Shillong on the 24th August 2014 & the District Polio Seminar, at Siliguri on the 31st August 2014.
- Rtn R M Hazarika briefed the members about the MSME Vocational Training programme. After a lot of interaction & keen interest shown by the members, it was decided to go ahead with the implementation of the Project. He requested the members' participation in identifying the prospective youths.
- On behalf of the members, PDG Rtn Dr Pranab Kr Baruah congratulated & handed over the PHF certificate, lapel pin to Rtn Digendra Nath Barua.
- Quiz no-6: "Rotarians are members of RI- True or False. Answer: "False"? Correct answer given by Rtns. Atanu Kr Chowdhury, M.C. Deka, Anjana Buragohain, Gayatri Bhattacharyya.
- ◆ President announced Provisional Incentives to Rotarians/ Annes/ Rotarylets etc as under- 1. Highest Attendance of Rotarian in Weekly Meetings - 6 monthly & annually, 2. Highest Attendance of spouse of a Rotarian - 6 Monthly & Annually, 3. Highest Attendance of Rotarians in Rotary Service Activities, 4. Highest participation of spouse of a Rotarian in Rotary Service Activities, 4. Highest Attendance of Directors in the BOD Meeting, 5. Rotarian who contributed highest no of news items /articles which were carried in the Rotary News, 6. Rotarian sponsoring highest no. of new members, 7. Rotarians attending the highest number of District events / seminars, 8. Highest contribution to TRF, 9. Becoming PHF, 10.

- 100% Attendance in Club Meetings with 'Make Up'.
- President also requested the members who have not paid their dues, to clear it in August 2014.
- President informed the house that the new member, Rtn Afrida has been selected for Defence Correspondent Course. Members congratulated her.
- President also requested the members to give ideas for the celebration of "Rotary Day"
- A power point presentation on T-E-A-C-H mission was made by Rtn Vikash Bajaj. He explained the various facets of T-E-A-C-H. It was appreciated by the members. President requested him to give a proposal for financial help.
- Vote of thanks was offered by Rtn Prashanta Goswami.
- The meeting was adjourned at 0800PM.
- ◆ Secretarial report: Attendance :

Rotarians : 22
Annes : 7
Rotarylets : 2
Guests : 3

TRF collection : Rs. 250.00

(The excellent fellowship was offered by Rtn Nagen Ch Deka on the occasion of his birthday on 1st Sep)

NB: Corrigendum: MOM WM 1-8-2014, point no. 6.6, to read as under-Efforts of the members in collecting the advertisements for the annual issue of "Udayan" were appreciated.

Compiled by: President, Rtn Paramesh Dev Choudhury



PDG Dr. P K Baruah is felicitating Rtn. D. N. Baruah on being recognised as Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) at the weekly meeting on the 22nd August, 2014

Laugh to a healthy life!

Secret Spot!

Two friends rented a boat and fished in a lake every day. One day they caught 30 fish. One guy said to his friend, "Mark this spot so that we can come back here again tomorrow."

The next day, when they were driving to rent the boat, the same guy asked his friend, "Did you mark that spot?" His friend replied, "Yeah, I put a big 'X' on the bottom of the boat."

The first one said, "You stupid fool! What if we don't get that same boat today!?!?"



(e - version of this Bulletin regularly features in our Club website www.rotaryclubofgauhatisouth.com)