



RI Club No. 16149

Date of Charter : August 24, 1964

Official Buletin of Rotary Club of Behala : RI District 3291

R.I. President : Rtn. Ron D Burton

District Governor : Rtn. Rajani Mukerji

President : Rtn. Anjan Kumar Bhowmick

Secretary : Rtn. Jayanta Kumar Mitra

Editor : Rtn. Dr. Siddhartha Chakraborty

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MARCH : LITERACY MONTH

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1781 : Sir William Herschel sees "comet" (really discovered Uranus).
- 1852 : Uncle Sam cartoon figure made its debut in the NY Lantern weekly
- 1900 : In France the length of the workday for women and children is limited to 11 hours by law.
- 1915 : Dodgers manager Wilbert Robinson tries to catch a baseball dropped from an airplane, but the pilot substituted a grapefruit
- 1925 : Tennessee makes it unlawful to teach evolution
- 1930 : Clyde Tombaugh announces discovery of Pluto at Lowell Observatory
- 1935 : Driving tests introduced in Great Britain
- 1997 : India's Missionaries of Charity chooses Sister Nirmala to succeed Mother Teresa as its leader.
- 2012 : Encyclopaedia Britannica announces that it will no longer publish printed versions of its encyclopaedia
- 2013 : Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio is elected as the new pope, taking the papal name Pope Francis
- 2014 : **The 2359th RWM of RC Behala, a Joint Meeting with Rotaract Club of Behala - at regular venue & time.**

UPDATE YOUR DIARY

- 20th March, 2014 : The 2360th RWM of RC Behala at regular venue & time.
- 29th March, 2014 : District Holi Meet at Swabhumi
- 5th April, 2014 : District Talent Search at Rotary Sadan
- 19th April, 2014 : District Leadership Seminar at Rotary Sadan
- 19th April, 2014 : **Official visit by District Governor**
- 26th April, 2014 : *Nababarsha* at Royal Bengal Hall



happy birthdays

17 March : Ann Swapna, W/o PP Rtn. Sudhanya Kr Basu

17 March : Sanandi, D/o PP Rtn. Indu Bhusan Das

Wish you all many happy returns of the day

THE WEEK THAT WAS

5th March, 2014 : Last rites of Shrijukta Kalyani Bhattacharya, mother of Rtn Amaresh Bhattacharya was performed with due honour. Many Club members, led by President Anjan were there to pay last homage.

8th March, 2014 : Celebrating International Women's Day. Our



Club Joined hands with NSS, Jadavpur University and Behala Kriya Sanskritik Mancha at a Special Programme at Sarsuna College at 6 pm. Prof Anupam Dey Sarkar of

Jadavpur University, Prof Dr Chilka Ghosh of Women's Study Centre, Calcutta University, PP Rtn Gobinda Ch Mondal of RC Amtala and our PP Rtn Indu Bhusan Das discussed various aspects of deprivation of ladies and women empowerment. Study materials were handed over to more than 100 financially handicapped girl students.

10th March, 2014 : The *niyam bhanga* of Shrijukta Radha Rani Bhadra, mother of Rtn Sujay Krishna Bhadra was performed with due honour. Many Club members, led by President Anjan were there to pay last homage.

RI President's Message - March 2014



Growing up in Duncan, Okla., USA, I took it for granted that everyone could read. In my own elementary school, not only were we expected to be reading by the age of seven or eight, we were expected to read upside down. We each took turns reading books to the entire class, and of course, if you want to read out loud to a group while you show them the pictures, you can't do it the right way up. All the way through elementary school, we did that every

We meet every Thursday at 6 PM at M.P. Birla Planetarium Auditorium - Visit us at www.rotarybehala.org

week, until it didn't really matter to us which way we were holding the book.

I never thought too much about that skill at the time. But a few months ago, on a visit to a Rotary project in Decatur, Ala., I walked into a first-grade classroom and was asked if I would read a book to a class of six-year-olds. Naturally, I was happy to oblige. I sat down, opened the book they had chosen, and started reading to about 30 little kids upside down, just the way I did it back in second grade.

In a sense, I was doing exactly what I'd learned to do more than half a century earlier. But as an adult, and especially as a Rotarian, I saw that experience in a different way. I was reading to a group of children who were well on their way to literacy themselves. We were sitting in their classroom, in a school where Rotarians came every week to read one-on-one with children who needed a little extra help. There wasn't any question that every child in that room would grow up to be a literate adult. And all of them took that completely for granted as they took it for granted that adults would care enough to read them a book while showing them the pictures, even if that meant reading upside down.

We all know that millions of children all over the world aren't that lucky. That's why we make basic education and literacy a priority in our Rotary service. As we mark Literacy Month in Rotary, we remind ourselves what a gift we are giving when we help a child to read whether it's a child on the other side of the world or right in our own hometown.

Ron D. Burton

President 2013-14

Source : Rotary International
[Courtesy: www.eflashonline.org]

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!



Students in a community supported financially by Rotarians on the banks of the Rio Dulce, Guatemala. They learn to make jewelry for sale through a cooperative of women only

The United Nations highlighted the importance of achieving equality between men and women. "Equality for women is progress for all" is the theme this year.

The director of the UN Population Fund, UNFPA, remember that women and girls continue to face human rights violations. Babatunde Osotimehin shows that one in three women is subjected to some form of violence throughout his life. And thousands of girls worldwide suffer from genital mutilation, despite efforts to end the practice. We in Rotary have the economic and community development as one of our focus areas, and empowering women are among our priorities in this area.

- Rotary Brasil

[Source : eflash_Rotary.com]

MINUTES OF THE 2358TH REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF BEHALA - A JOINT MEETING WITH RC CALCUTTA SOUTH WEST HELD ON 6TH MARCH, 2014 AT MP BIRLA PLANETARIUM AUDITORIUM, KOLKATA AT 6.30 PM.

- ⇒ Club President Rtn. Anjan Kumar Bhowmick called the meeting to order.
- ⇒ Meeting started with National Anthem.
- ⇒ Club President Rtn Anjan welcomed all Club members, the President, Secretary and members of RC Calcutta South West including their esteemed member PDG Siddhartha Sadhan Bose, the Rotaractors and the special guest.
- ⇒ He briefly informed members about our recent activities and upcoming events of the Club and the District, including :
 - ▷ Programme at Sarsuna High School on the occasion of International Women's Day on 8th March
 - ▷ RCC Conference at Jadavpur on 8-9th March
 - ▷ District Holi Meet on 29th
 - ▷ Other programmes in April
- ⇒ He then invited the Guest Speaker of the day - Ex Chairman of Calcutta Port Trust and Ex Member of Parliament Mr. Bikram Sarkar to the dais. He was introduced to the members by Rtn. Kaushik Bhattacharyya.
- ⇒ Mr. Bikram Sarkar then talked about "Lokpal & Bureaucracy", delving into his vast experience as a very senior administrator to discuss the problems of bribery and unholy alliance between some politicians and bureaucrats.
- ⇒ PDG Siddhartha Sadhan Bose, himself a member of RC Calcutta South West proposed a formal vote of thanks to the speaker.
- ⇒ On permission from the Chair, President of Rotaract Club of Behala Rtr. Arijit informed all that the Rotaract Club of Behala has again been selected as the Best Rotaract Club of RID 3291, as declared at the District Conference of Rotaract Club of RID 3291 held on 1st & 2nd of March, 2014. He expressed gratitude for the unstinted support they have been receiving from their parent Club.
- ⇒ He also proposed a Joint RWM next week with them to celebrate the Rotaract Week. The proposal was accepted immediately by President Anjan.
- ⇒ Rtr. Shuvrangshu, their District Secretary, presented tokens of appreciation to three members of our Club who attended their District Conference - namely, Rtns Deepnath Roychowdhury, Kaushik Bhattacharyya (who also judged the competitive debate in the programme) and Soummajit Mukherjee. All members present congratulated the cubs.
- ⇒ Club Secretary Rtn. Jayanta Kr. Mitra conducted usual Club business.
- ⇒ President and Secretary of RC Calcutta South West then conducted their RWM.
- ⇒ After confirming the minutes of 2357nd RWM of RC Behala as published in Maitree dt 06.03.2014 and declaring the attendance, Club President Rtn. Anjan terminated the meeting.
- ⇒ Attendance statistics –
Members : 45. Members present : 15, Other Rotarians : 05, IWC Member : 1, Rotaractors : 03, Guests : 03.