



Editor Speaks....

It gives me immense pleasure to write the 4th issue of the Christdent's newsletter "Crossroads."

As I write this last issue of the news letter for the year 2007-08, I hope the endeavour keeps on advancing with the same enthusiasm and spirit with which it was revived last year.

At this time I also would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Abi and Dr. Noshy for all their valuable support throughout. Also, I would like to thank the editorial team for all their help.

I hope you enjoy reading it.

Kunal Swani

*Dr. Kunal Swani
(Editor in Chief)*

PG CONVENTION

Indian Society of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry (ISPPD) All India PG Convention is being organized by our college from 6th to 8th March 2008. The conference will commence on the 6th of March with pre-conference courses in the morning at CDC, Ludhiana. The 5 courses to be discussed are : Optimum Esthetics, teaching methodologies, conscious sedation, twin-block and cosmetic dentistry. The same evening will witness the inauguration ceremony at the Majestic Park Plaza.

Mr. Avinash Chander, Chief Parliamentary Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, Punjab has consented to be the Chief Guest of the inaugural session & Mr. S.S. Walia, Registrar, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences is the guest of honour.

Guest lectures will be held on 7th & 8th of March 2008. The elimination round of the quiz will be held on 7th and the final rounds on 8th March 2008. The banquet is organised on the night of 7th March 2008.

The closing ceremony of ISPPD will take place on the 8th of March 2008.

Evening Speciality Clinics



Our college started the "Evening Speciality Clinic." It was put into action from the 16th of August 2007.

Possibly the 1st of its kind by a dental college in India, the specialty clinic offers a chance for all patients to come for treatment even after the normal working hours are over. The clinic has its timings from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm, thus allowing working men and women who find it difficult to take out time and bring themselves or their school going children for dental treatment during the college's normal working hours.

The facilities offered at the Evening Speciality Clinic include Cosmetic Fillings & Prosthesis, Smile Enhancement, Dental Implants, Root Canal Treatment, Advanced Gum Care, Comprehensive Care for Children, Orthodontic Care, Oral Cancer Surgery & Counseling and much more.

As a follow up on this initiative a new specialty clinic area was opened on the 3rd of December, 2007, which has state of the art facilities which can compete with any international facility.



IDA UPDATE



The All India Dental Students conference was organized by IDA and held at Govt. Dental College, Amritsar from the 2nd- 4th of Nov. 2007.

CDC sent its team of achievers to participate in sports, dance, dental quiz, scientific paper presentation and declamation. The team was headed by Dr. Naveen Joseph.

We won the major chunk of the sporting events. Our sports team comprised of Dr. Ashwin, Vikas, Karan, Simran Singh, Simrata, Lincy, Navpreet & Dr. Upasna. We won 1st place for the men's 4x100 relay and 1st place for the women's 4x100 relay. Gaurish Babbar participated in the shot put event. Amit Williams participated in the discus throw event. But our star for the sporting event was Lincy Mathew who won all her

sport events. She was judged the Best Female Athlete and was awarded the trophy by Health Minister Mrs. Laxmi Kant Chawla.

Our top rankers were sent to represent CDC for the Dental Quiz in which we came in at first place. Our team members were Dr. Supneet Singh Wadhwa, Puneet Kaur Pandher, Supreet Kaur & Navraj.

In the Dance category, we won the group dance coming in First for our scintillating performance by dancing to the foot tapping number 'Chingamasam' which was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The dance team comprised of Dr. Ashwin, Dr. Sonia, Centina, Dr. Upasna, Alex, Hanna, Joe and Abhilash.

The scientific paper presentation was a very competitive session in which Dr. Kunal Swani was greatly appreciated for his paper entitled 'Dental implants - An alternative to conventional prosthodontic treatment modalities.'

Jaspreet Kaur also faced stiff competition in the Declamation session. The efforts were commendable. The participants received participation certificates for a performance well done. The team utilized this golden opportunity to meet and interact with other dental students belonging to different regions of India.

At the end of the 3 day event, CDC was awarded the 'Best College Trophy' for their overall outstanding performance amongst 59 competing colleges with much larger contingents than our team of 22. Kudos to the participants who have indeed brought laurels to our college.



Convocation

The college is holding its convocation on 25th March 2008. For the 1st time the programme will be conducted along with the MBBS and Nursing graduates. On 24th of March there will be a get together with the graduates as well as the official launch of the college alumni association. The alumni association will act as a platform for interaction between the alumni, the current students & staff. All alumni students are requested to join.

We are all looking forward for the event and the alumni launch.

MISSION WORK UPDATE

The main aim of the establishment of our college was to provide the poor and the needy with basic oral health care services. So far down the lane, CDC graduates have been posted to various such places.

A few of those share their experiences with us.

My two weeks stay in Landour ultimately was one in which I had gained a lot in terms of experience and courage getting to meet so many people from all over India and abroad. Even though the much awaited snow fall never came, I left the slopes of Mussourie with many memories within me.

...Dr. Sherin

Being the only dentist working in a mission Hospital setup makes you depend on God all the more, makes you careful as you work with patients and makes you an achiever in many ways, dealing with unexpected situations and cases. Well to sum it up the experience is worth it, the new friends and Hospital memories is something I'll cherish always.

....Dr. Sarah Christopher

One month of stay in a small peripheral mission hospital in Uttaraula, U.P. may well have been a turning point in my life. Even with the poorest of the poor and amidst all problem, this Hospital survives on faith and hope in God alone. The values of faith, happiness and confidence in his grace will remain with me all my life as will the memories of this small and beautiful place.

....Dr. Charis Chandy Joseph

AN EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME

Having completed my Internship in dec 2005, I was a little apprehensive of the bond that was going to follow. I was sponsored under Emmanuel hospital association. EHA has a mandatory rule that every candidate has to do a certain period of compulsory orientation programme in one of their units.

Soon after two months of training in the dental department at Raxaul (Bihar), I got posted at Chhatarpur christian hospital in Madhya Pradesh. There was a steady inflow of patients. Slowly, I got a hang of the local Bhundelkandi dialect. One would find quacks at every nook and corner known for their scrupulous acts. Besides that, there were few local dental clinics around the hospital. The Prerna project of the Community health department would organize weekly dental camps and health education for the villagers regularly. On the whole, it was a nice learning experience.

Dr. Teena Thomas
(Batch of 2000)

Dr. Harold Jones, an Oral Pathologist and the Vice Dean of Manchester University had been visiting CDC on a regular basis till 2001 and was actively involved in the teaching process of the college as well as Bible study. He helped providing the college library with the British Dental Journal since 2001.

This is what he wrote in his letter to the college....

I was delighted to hear and to be reassured that the BDI continues to reach you regularly. I shall continue to send it for as long as I am able.

I have the happiest memories of my visits to the CDC. Afterwards, I continued doing a little voluntary teaching in Thailand and Kenya but no longer undertake this work. It was such a privilege to be able to meet and hopefully, help so many people, but age defeats us all in the long run, although I do miss the CDC, and Ludhiana.

We pray that God will continue to bless CDC so that it will always bring blessing to India that I came to love so much.

Harold Jones

- ◆ Dr. Ruhamah is posted to Christian Hospital, Nowrangpur, Orissa.
- ◆ Dr. Reena Chacko is posted to Evangelical Hospital, Khariar, Orissa.
- ◆ Dr. Reejo is posted to Matisation Memorial Hospital, Hapur, U.P.
- ◆ Dr. Elias is posted to Padhar Hospital, Betul, M.P.
- ◆ Dr. Binsy is posted to St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi.
- ◆ Dr. Diana is posted to Mission Hospital, Attapadi, Kerala.

On an urgent e-mail request from E.H.A. disaster management and mitigation unit asking for help in the Raxaul flood relief at Bihar, Dr. Abi Thomas sent Ashwin Sakharia, Jerry Mammen and George Chacko for the same. Three staff nurses from the College of Nursing were also sent. We stayed at Duncan Hospital in Raxaul and worked for a period of 2 weeks, operating mainly in the heavily flooded, East Champaran Distt. of Bihar. The level of misery and human suffering, we witnessed there really touched us. Entire Villages were cut off by flood water inaccessible except by rickety boats. Houses were flooded by water, people were starving due to lack of work and loss of crops. Diseases were Rampant; Hepatitis, Typhoid, Skin Infection, just to name a few. We were involved mainly with packing of relief packages containing necessary food grains, oil etc. and transporting them to these flooded villages & distributing them. We also conducted medical camps by ourselves treating diseases to the best of our abilities. After coming back we can very truthfully say that this Unique Experience was a very life changing one.

CDC
Team for
BIHAR
FLOOD
RELIEF
16-31 Aug 07

Inter Batch Fest

Christian dental college hosted its annual intra-collegiate fest named "CALYPSO" from 18th-28th January, 2008. The fest included various events in the category of sports, literary and cultural. The sports category included events like cricket, basketball, volleyball, chess, carom and badminton. All batches (including first years to final years), interns and faculty members took part in the fest with great enthusiasm. On one hand the interns emerged as the champions of volleyball and on the other hand the principal (DR. ABI) and vice principal (DR. KOSHY) took the staff team to a glorious victory in badminton. The literary section included events like essay writing (Hindi & English) and debate. The debaters from various batches fought over the issue of Lalluji and the Indian railways but the intern team bagged all the prizes including best team, best debator and the best interjector. The essay writing focused on individual's opinion regarding the role of teachers and parents in the failure of the child and the education system. The cultural section included events like soap carving, pot painting, rangoli, face painting, song and dance events. Soap carving ranged from a sculptor's imagination of an igloo to carving the GODS. A beautiful blend of colours were used by students on the pots to portray an array of themes according to one's imagination. Rangoli made by the various batches also depicted a fantastic intermingling of colours with thoughts expanding from LORD GANESHA to UNITY IN DIVERSITY to REASONING OF THE VERY EXISTENCE OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. The social issue of racial discrimination battled its way to victory. Face painting was indeed a tough event both for the participants as well as for the judge but nonetheless the first years won the event portraying the elements of nature. On the 26th of January was organized the "ENGLISH SONG NIGHT" named 'SOUND OF MUSIC.' Singers from all spheres first years to staff participated in the singing competition. Though the English song night couldn't generate much enthusiasm amongst the crowd it was compensated by "HINDI SONG NIGHT" named, "MERI AWAAZ SUNO." All batches sung in the events categorised as solo, duet and group. Sharon of the intern batch was the best singer of both the evenings which was acknowledged by both the overwhelming response of the crowd as well as the judges. Singers from the batch of 2nd years also performed quite well. The events concluded with the most awaited event of the inter-batch the "DANCE NIGHT" which was named "FOOTLOOSE." Participants performed under the categories of Indian and western dances spanning over solo, duet and group performances. Classical dances by first years swayed the gathering. An Indian group performance on a medley of old songs by the final years won the hearts of many. Bhangra performance by the third years was one of its kind. Western solo performances were highly entertaining and so were the duet and group performances. Whatever the points tally may say, the whole event was a delightful experience that added a little spice to a monotonous life.

Promoting Oral Health Through Mobile Dental Services

The Community Dentistry department of our college, embarked upon a plan to provide comprehensive oral health coverage to all sections of people, especially deserving ones living in remote-rural areas of Ludhiana, Moga, Ferozepur, Sangrur Ropar, Nawanshahar, Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar and Kapurthala which included education, promotive, preventive, curative and oral rehabilitative services through a fully equipped Mobile Dental Van since 1984. Due to strenuous efforts of Dr. Abi M. Thomas and based on the reports of the project carried out by the institution in association with the ICMR on periodontal health of people in Punjab, a state of the art Air-conditioned Mobile Dental Van equipped with three dental Units and other related facilities is being pressed in to service very shortly. With the introduction of this 2nd Mobile Dental Van even remote areas of the adjoining states can be covered.

During the preceding years 236634 people were provided dental treatment. Nutritional guidance and Dietary advice to the people has been an integral part of this programme.

Since 2001, 956 sets of dentures have been delivered to poor people worth Rupees 36 lacs out of which 299 sets of dentures worth more than Rupees 12 lacs have been provided during the year 2007.

The community Dentistry department of CDC is actively involved in the social welfare of the senior citizens and had launched a smiley project. Under this project, artificial dentures are delivered free of cost directly to poor, elderly people, at their door-steps through the financial help extended by local voluntary agencies.

Special Clinics to provide free treatment for the poor patients is now open daily @ CDC

Dr. Charis Chandy Joseph of the batch of 2002 was awarded the "Pierre Fauchard Academy" Scholarship (India section) on 6th January 2008 for his outstanding achievements as an under graduate student.

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