

ललित धारा

RI District 3292**Club No. 23126****Chartered: 29 August 1985****President: Mahendra Thapa Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty Past President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha****Issue No. 1446****Date: 16 Falgun 2078 / 28 February 2022****Today's Programme**

Talk Programme on 'Peace and Conflict Resolution' by Guest Speaker, PP Rtn. Hom Kanta Chaulagain, Chair, District Conflict Resolution Sub-Committee

Congratulatory Events**Birthdays:** Nil**Wedding Anniversaries:**

Rotarians Bharat N. & Meera Joshi – 25 Feb., Piyush B. & Ramita Bajracharya – 27 Feb., Pushkar M. & Rita Shakya – 27 Feb., Kuldeep R. & Meera Tuladhar – 29 Feb., Bijay & Rajani Bajracharya – 2 Mar., & Shiva K. & Tika Pradhan – 3 Mar.

Minutes of Meeting No. 1793**Date: 9 Falgun 2078 / 21 February 2022**

1. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa called the regular weekly meeting number 1793 to order virtually by Zoom with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Inner Wheel Mithila Rajbhandary.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Contributions/pledges for 'Happy News':
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang – for 75th 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 5,000 to Sunshine Fund and NRs. 2,500 to Operation Fund).
 - Rtn. Suraj Pradhan and Rtn. Lila B. Baniya – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - Rtn. Yagya B. and Mary Shrestha – for '49th 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Rabendra R. & Chandra Lekha Pandey – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' in absentia (ha.ba.).
 - Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal – for the ongoing preparations of the International Women's Day celebration, successful learning of bicycle riding, and Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang's birthday (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa – for Rotary's 117th Anniversary, and Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang's birthday (NRs. 500).
5. Other Contributions: Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty announced the receipt of a contribution of **NRs. 500,000** to the RCP's PEEF programme (NRs. 150,000 to the TF and NRs. 350,000 to the PF) by Sarswati Govinda Foundation. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this amount is half of the Foundation's pledge for this year. On behalf of the Rotary Club of Patan, Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha noted 'special thanks' to Sarswati Govinda Foundation for this contribution despite the difficulties of the ongoing pandemic.
6. Rotary News/Information:
 - Rtns. Lalita C. Thapa and Pushkar M. Shakya briefed on the successful completion of this year's distribution/selection of the RCP's PEEF scholarship support in Kitini and Phulchowki schools.
 - President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa informed about Rotary's Paul Harris Membership Challenge 2022 coming to end on 23 February in the Rotary Zones 4, 5, 6 & 7. He also informed interested members to join a public interest litigation talk programme by Mr. Bal Krishna Neupane being hosted by RC, Thamel during their weekly meeting at Hotel Shanker at 8 a.m. on 22 February 2022.
 - Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang briefed on the ongoing preparation of the Global Grant Project application for Mirge with a budget of US \$54,000, which is being completed shortly.
 - Rtn. Maheswari Bisht Rawal briefed on the progress with the preparations for the 8th of March International Women's Day 'Cycle Rally' with all the partners under the coordination of Lalitpur Metropolis. It was also agreed that the RCP President invite all the NRCL clubs to join.
7. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Jamuna K. Tamrakar - Rotary Club of Bari, Italy; Chartered: 1934 and Members: 146. District: 2120, Clubs: 54, & Members: 2683. He also provided brief highlights of the country and the city of the club.
8. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Joint Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: contribution pledges of NRs.9,500 (NRs. 7,000 to the Sunshine Fund and NRs. 2,500 to the Operations Fund of the RCP), and the meeting attendance of 23 members, 1 Inner Wheel and 5 make-ups.

Rotary Club of Patan's Celebration of 'Rotary's 117th Anniversary Day – 23 February'

The Rotary Club of Patan celebrated 'Rotary's 117th Anniversary Day – 23 February' which is known as 'World Peace and Understanding Day' during its weekly regular meeting of 21 February 2022.

The celebration was divided in two parts, first with Rotary Question/Answers moderated by Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht and the second on learning and experience sharing on success stories moderated by Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty. Due to time constraints, speakers could only talk on some examples of notable events in general and during their Presidency in particular.

Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary (President RY 2003-2004) mentioned the establishment of NRCL (Network of Rotary Clubs of Lalitpur) and starting the practice of club salutations and Rota Quiz that continues. He also flagged the fund-raising for the RCP's PEEF flagship programme of scholarship support (NRs. 48 Lakh by now through his efforts). Other initiatives were the provision of computers, support for libraries and toilets as well as furniture by his spouse to the PEEF supported schools. During his Presidency his spouse was also the President of the Inner Wheel Club.

Rtn. Chandralekha Kayastha joined Rotary in 2008-2009, the same year when Nepal got its own Rotary District and became the RCP President in 2017-2018. She is also the first lady President of the RCP, and her team also won the District Rota Quiz competition as well as three other awards for service projects. She recalled how happy she was to find the Chepang community in Chandibhanjyang using the plates donated by her during a visit to the project site at a later date.

Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa mentioned that the administrative workload as the President (2019-2020) gave less time for creative work. As the 3rd consecutive lady President of the RCP, and a Rota Quiz team member, the RCP won the competition for the 3rd consecutive time and got to keep the award 'Cup'. She highlighted the opening of an Interact Club and several successful projects and lessons learned during their execution. She was also a District Trainer in 2016 before being a President (not the norm).

Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang was President (2020-2021) when he could not have any physical meeting during his entire tenure due to COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this, he is proud to have several service projects successfully completed and new ones initiated, and also raised substantial funds of NRs. 19/20 Lakhs of contributions internally for service projects.

Rtn. Matsyendra L. Kayastha (Charter Secretary and President 1987-89 and President a.i. 2014-2015) is very pleased to continue active participation and recalled how his contribution of NRs. 5,000 in 1991 initiated the RCP's flagship programme of PEEF scholarship support that continues with great success. Rotary also expanded his professional networking as his company has designed several houses of the RCP members, and he is proud to have introduced several members including the Mallapaty couple to the RCP.

Rtn. Keshab B. Mathema (President 2007-2008) is very pleased to continue with the RCP since over two decades and is much inspired with the service projects done by the RCP. In particular, he mentioned the success of the PEEF scholarship support programme particularly in supporting girls quoting the famous saying that educating a girl is equal to educating the whole family. He would like to see projects on the critical area of 'Environment'.

Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha (President 2009-2010) joined the RCP in 2002 but took a break of 2 years when he was the Nepalese Ambassador to the USA. During this time, he helped Rotary/Nepal's efforts to establish its own District that became a reality in 2008-2009. He is proud to be a member of the RCP, which he considers as a top club in Nepal with dedicated members with high honour and respect. He missed the fellowship events during the current pandemic but promises to revive them soon.

Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht presented the milestones with the establishment of the RCP (1985, 3rd club in Nepal but chartered as 4th), District 3292 (2008), Rotary South Asia Office (RISAO, 1984), The Rotary Foundation (TRF, 1917) and Rotary International (1905).

Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty highlighted Rotary as doing good in the world with a record of achievements - a global movement of peace, tolerance, and "service above self." He also flagged several challenges Rotary faces such as - the need of exemplary leadership of volunteer professionals, centralization vs. decentralization in Rotary, and other structural issues.

The moderators and the President thanked all the speakers and participants noting the success of the celebration of the 117th Anniversary of Rotary. As time was not adequate for further deliberations in one session, it was noted that it would continue in future meetings.