

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. 1457**Date: 2 Jestha 2079 / 16 May 2022**

<u>Today's Programme:</u> 5 th Club Assembly	<u>Congratulatory Events</u> <u>Birthdays:</u> Nil <u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u> Rtns. Bijaya and Gabriele Mallapaty – 14 May
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1804**Date: 26 Baisakh 2079 / 9 May 2022**

1. President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa called the regular weekly meeting number 1804 via Zoom to order with 'Silent Invocation' of 15 seconds for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guest welcomed by the President: Guest Speaker Mr. Rajendra N. Suwal from World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Nepal.
3. The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. Contributions/pledges for 'Happy News':

- Rtn. Jeevan K. Shrestha – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 500).
- Rtn. Kuldeep R. Tuladhar – for 'Happy Birthday' in absentia (ha.ba.).
- Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000).
- Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey – for winning the seniors charity Golf tournament award at Gokarna (NRs. 1,000). He added that they raised NRs. 15 Lakh for social service through this charity tournament.
- Rtn. Santa K. Shrestha – for the successful hosting of the 'Srimat Bhagwat Saptaha Gyan Mahayagya' in Bandipur (NRs. 7,000). He appreciated the participation of about ten members/spouses of the RCP and informed that the programme would also be shown on the TV (date to be announced).

On behalf of all the participants from the RCP family, Rtns. Kedar B. Shrestha, Ganesh R. Shrestha, and Shiva K. Pradhan thanked the family of Rtn. Santa K. Shrestha for the success of the grand event, the outstanding organisation and hospitality, and the special opportunity provided to the RCP family.

- Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Ramesh L. Maskay (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan (NRs. 500), and Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal (NRs. 500) – for the above.
5. Rotary Information:
 - President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa briefed on the following:
 - Request for nominations for the Chairperson of NRCL for RY 2022-2023 from interested Past Presidents of NRCL clubs by 24 May 2022.
 - District award and recognition ceremony for 2021-2022 being held on 25 June 2022 at Hotel Yak & Yeti (Details to follow).
 - Request for hosting of visiting Rotarians from Thailand as a Rotary Friendship Exchange Programme by 10 May 2022. The programme will be for 7 days from 20th May 2022.
 - 5th Club Assembly of the RCP being held on Monday, 16 May 2022.
 - Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan informed about the District Training Assembly (DTA) being held on 21 May 2022 at DAV school, Dhobighat, Lalitpur, and requested all Club Officials/Chairpersons of Committees to participate. Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary added that the Grants Management Seminar will also be held on 22 May 2022 in which at least one member from each club must participate to be eligible for global grant projects.
 - Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey briefed on the RCP's prompt support to the appeal from South Asian Federation of Golfing Rotarians (SAFGR) for food items to the needy in Sri Lanka during this period of severe economic crisis

there. On behalf of the RCP, he thanked all the contributing members, and Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty for arranging the transfer of funds. Within a week, the RCP was able to contribute NRs. 299,400 for this cause, which was very much appreciated by the Rotary Club of Colombo West. He also read out the thank you note received from the Sri Lankan Rotary Club.

6. Salutation: By IPP Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang - Rotary Club of Chandpur, Bangladesh; Chartered: 1974; and Members: 53. District: 3280, Clubs: 158, and Members: 4415. He also gave some highlights on Chandpur, Bangladesh, and the Rotary there.
7. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Joint Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht summarized: contributions of NRs. 13,500 to the Sunshine Fund of the RCP, and the meeting attendance of 1 guest speaker, 24 members and 5 make-ups.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by PP Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary

Q. What is the time frame for selecting nominee for District Governor?

A. Not more than 36 months and not less than 24 months, prior to the day of taking office.

Q. Who first stated the phrase which was later adopted as Rotary Motto "He Profits Most who Serves Best."

A. Rtn. Art Sheldon from RC Chicago, who made a speech in 1910 Rotary Convention that included the statement.

Q. What was the first community service project undertaken by Rotary and in which year?

A. It was a public toilet outside Chicago's city hall in 1907.

Summary of talk programme given by Mr Rajendra N. Suwal, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Nepal on 'Bird Watching Experiences'

President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa welcomed Mr. Rajendra N. Suwal from WWF, Nepal who was contacted through Rtn. Pushkar M. Shakya. Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal introduced him as an eminent personality of Nepal in his field.

Mr. Rajendra N. Suwal has a M.Sc. in Zoology and has been the Head of Partnerships Development in WWF, Nepal since 2017 where he has been working since 2014. He has been a professional working in the field of wildlife, biodiversity, and conservation since 1995, and during 2004-2014 he was the Owner, Eco Tourism Specialist and Naturalist/Bird Tour Guide, Nepal Nature.com Travels. Mr. Suwal has done extensive research and consultancies and published several books on a wide variety of subjects related to biodiversity, birds, animals and wildlife and their habitat, conservation, tourism, and environment. He has also led and coordinated many nature and culture filming expeditions in Nepal.

Mr. Suwal is a founding member of Bird Conservation–1982, Ashoka Fellow 2002, member of several Crane specific groups, member of Lumbini international scientific committee/UNESCO, member of Nepal Zoological Association and several other professional affiliations.

Mr. Suwal made an extensive presentation, with the support of power point, showing his wide experience in birds, wildlife, their habitat, and conservation highlighting its specific conditions in Nepal. Through a rich album of photographs, he narrated the stories of his involvement and achievements during his professional life from early nineties. His research and consultancies have taken him from Terai to the hills and mountains from the east to the west of Nepal.

Mr. Suwal showed several photographs and narrated his expeditions and filming with various international productions such as BBC of crane migration, honey hunting, rhino conservation, eagle migration, golden eagle attacking crane migration, naturally Nepal – a wildlife and bird watching tour, and arial filming of Mt. Everest, Red Panda, Musk Deer, Himalayan Munal, and Blood Pheasants.

Among the many tours he coordinated, he was also the official bird tour guide of former President Jimmy Carter during his visits to Nepal in 2008 and 2013 visiting Shivpuri, Nagarjun National Park and Phulchowki, respectively. He was proud to have received a personal note of thanks and friendship from President Carter in August 2015.

Following an extensive Q/A session, on behalf of the RCP, President Rtn. Mahendra B. Thapa gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Mr. Rajendra N. Suwal for his impressive presentation mentioning that the vast topics would require more time and further presentation in the future.