



ललित धारा

RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

President: Khruschev Shrestha

President Nominee and Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty

Vice-President and Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

Issue No. 1072

Date: 6 Shrawan 2071 / 22 September 2014

Today's Programme:

Session on 'New Generation: Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary and Team

Forthcoming Programme:

29 Sept. - 5th Monday Entertainment Programme
6 Oct. - No Meeting (Dashain Holidays)
10 Oct. - Board Meeting
13 Oct. - Business Meeting

Congratulatory Events

Birthdays:

Nil

Wedding Anniversaries:

Nil

Minutes of Meeting No 1426

Date: 30 Bhadra 2071 / 15 September 2014

1. President a.i. Matsyendra L. Kayastha called the Meeting No. 1426 to order with 15 seconds of 'silent invocation' for peace and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by President a.i. Kayastha: Guest Speaker Mr. Sishir Khanal and Mrs. Swastika Shrestha from 'Teach for Nepal'; Mrs. Ava Shrestha; Mrs. Milu Thapa; Rtn. Shiba B.P. Nepali, RC of Patan South; and Rtn. Binita P. Joshi, RC of Mahabouddha.
3. The last meeting's minutes were reviewed and adopted.
4. 'Happy News' Contributions:
 - Rtn. Dr. Mukti N. Shrestha – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary'.
 - Rtn. Som Paneru – for a wonderful family week-end in the home town of Gorkha and a new resort there.
 - Rtn. Kamal M. Dixit – for decisions to award the 'Madan Puraskar' for the book of Ms. Radha Poudel and 'Jagadamba Shree' award to Mr. Shiva Regmi.
 - Rtn. Santa K. Shrestha – for his re-election as the Chair of Bandipur Radio (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty – for the participation of Rtns. Kiran Shrestha and Satya Pradhan, and friends; and Rtn. Narayan Halwai's work on donor reports to PEEF sponsors (NRs.500).
 - Rtn. Piyush B. Bajracharya – to thank the 'Souvenir' production team for its timely and quality production; and in appreciation of Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi's article in the 'Souvenir' by his spouse (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi – to reciprocate for the appreciation of his article in the 'Souvenir', and a lucky escape from a fall without leg injury (NRs. 500).
 - Rtns Kamal M. Dixit and Rtn. Dr. Prakash R. Regmi also handed over NRs. 5,000 each to the 'Sunshine' fund as announced last week for being the highest contributors to it during the Rotary Year 2013-2014.
 - Rtn. Gautam Shakya – for 'Happy Landing' from Bhutan (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – for a successful 7th AGM of Sinchahiti Cooperatives under his Chairmanship; and for the completion of PEEF distribution of this year (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Kiran Shrestha – to welcome all the friends/guests to the club (NRs. 1,000).
5. Other Contributions: Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha handed over NRs. 10,000 to the Club Trust Fund as committed earlier.
6. Rotary News/Information Sharing:
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty briefed on the progress with the proposed Global Grant for the Chepel Community Development Project and the planned visit there by a RCP Team in November 2014.
 - He also updated on the follow-up with the school in Godamchaur requested by the Board on our support to the district for the NCRL (Network of Rotary Clubs of Lalitpur) activity on literacy. The programme had been undertaken for 3 months, but without much success in terms of participation.

- President a.i. Kayastha informed of the RCP ID cards being distributed. He thanked the team of President Khruschev Shrestha and Secretary Gabriele Mallapaty for this good work. The cards may be collected from RCP Office Assistant, Basant Ale Magar.
 - President a.i. Kayastha also reminded all to celebrate the 'International Peace Day' by joining in the 'lighting of lamps' programme at 6 p.m. on 21 September at the Lagankhel Stupa organized by the Rotaract Club of Patan.
7. Salutation: By PP Rtn. Siba B. Rajbhandary - Rotary Club of Koshigaya, Saitama, Japan; Club ID 13997; Chartered: 1961; Members 81. District: 2770, Clubs: 81, and Members: 2563.
 8. Please see below for a summary of Guest Speaker Mr. Sishir Khanal's presentation.
 9. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President a.i., the Secretary announced: contributions to 'Sunshine' Fund: **NRS. 15,300**; Attendance: members 22, visiting Rotarians: 2, guests 4, and make-up 10

Summary of presentation by Guest Speaker Mr. Sishir Khanal, CEO of Teach for Nepal

Rtn. Som Paneru introduced Mr. and Mrs. Sishir Khanal and Swastika Shrestha, Co-founders of 'Teach for Nepal'. After completing their studies in the USA, they have come back to serve in Nepal. Prior to his current position as the CEO of 'Teach for Nepal', Mr. Khanal worked as the Executive Director of Sarvodaya USA, a non-profit organization that supports the work of the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement of Sri Lanka. In addition to his work in the US and Sri Lanka, he established Sarvodaya Nepal, 2008, and had been involved in the community development efforts.

Mr. Khanal gave an overview of the public education problems of Nepal and what 'Teach for Nepal' is trying to do. While Nepal has progressed a lot with some 96% of 5/6 year olds going to school, 22 out of 100 children leave or do not pass at the end of the school year. Private schools have a passing record of 93% against 28% in public school. Only 12 to 13% have access to private schools. An overwhelming majority of 85% children depend upon public schools where 90% of failures are in 3 subjects – Mathematics, Science and English. Overall, the quality of education in public schools is in crisis. One of the major reasons for this situation is the weakness of teachers. Another alarming statistics Mr. Khanal mentioned was that only 10% of the total population has passed SLC, which points at serious problems of nation building.

Believing that 'Change is possible through leadership', Mr. Khanal co-founded 'Teach for Nepal', which he says is a movement of outstanding university graduates working to end education inequity in Nepal, starting with two years of fellowship teaching in public schools. Currently, about 50 'Teach for Nepal' Fellows are serving in 25 schools reaching 3500 children. 'Teach for Nepal's vision is two pronged – improve the quality of education by providing quality Fellows to teach, and build leadership capacity in those who are selected as Fellows to be lifelong leaders to multiply these efforts. The Fellows assigned for 2 years would involve all - policy makers, schools, community, students, family, and teachers, to build a movement and improve the quality in education. More details about Teach for Nepal are available at their webpage 'www.teachfornepal.org'.

Following a Q/A session, Rtn. Kamal M. Dixit gave the 'Vote of Thanks' to the Guest Speaker Mr. Sishir Khanal on behalf of the RCP with appreciation for his excellent presentation and his and his spouse's dedication to come back from the USA to serve in Nepal. President a.i. Matsyendra L. Kayastha also added his words of thanks before concluding the session.



May the Laugh Bug Bite You 😊😊😊😊😊

An old man goes to the doctor and says, "Doctor I have this problem with gas, but it really doesn't bother me too much. My farts never smell and are always silent. As a matter of fact, I've farted at least 20 times since I've been here in your office. You didn't know I was farting because they don't smell and are silent." The doctor says, "I see, take these pills and come back to see me next week." The next week, the old man comes back. "Doctor," she says, "I don't know what the hell you gave me, but now my farts...although still silent...stink terribly." The doctor says, "Good!!! Now that we've cleared up your sinuses, let's work on your hearing."