

ललित धारा

RI District 3292

Club No. 23126

Chartered: 29 August 1985

President: Shiva K. Pradhan Past President & Editor: Bijaya Mallapaty Past President & Assistant Editor: Chandralekha Kayastha

Issue No. 1484

Date: 12 Mangshir 2079 / 28 November 2022

<p><u>Today's Programme:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Regular Weekly Meeting</p>	<p><u>Congratulatory Events</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Birthdays:</u> Nil</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wedding Anniversaries:</u></p> <p>Rtn. Mahendra S. and Ambika Rawal – 26 Nov. Rtn. Keshab B. and Shanti Mathema – 30 Nov.</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1830

Date: 5 Mangshir 2079 / 21 November 2022

- President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan called the RCP Meeting No.1830 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
- Guests welcomed by the President: Dr. Kiran Pradhan who introduced himself as a professional in the Education Sector and presented his work on standardising Nepali language 'Devanagari' writing for children when beginning to learn it.
- The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
- 'Happy News' Contributions:
 - Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000). He also sponsored a fellowship for all the participants following the meeting.
 - Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam – for his 'classification talk' today (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal – for the above and for the participation of his friend as a guest today (NRs. 500).
 - PDG Rtn. Tirtha M. Sakya – for his TV interviews broadcasted by two channels (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan – for the 'Happy Birthday' of Rtn. Ganesh R. Shrestha (NRs. 200).
 - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa – for the above and the 'classification talk' of today (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty – for 'Happy Landing' from Germany (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Bijaya L. Shrestha – for participating in the Inner Wheel conference held in Ahmedabad, India (NRs. 500).
- Other Contributions:
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty informed of a contribution of NRs. 20,000 by Mr. Sumir K. Rimal (a previous speaker to the RCP on Ayurveda and Ayurvedic medicines) to the RCP's PEEF Programme Fund.
- Rotary Information:
 - Rtn. Lalita C. Thapa briefed on the visit to the Kitini school for possible field visit of the RI President. However, the District has informed that another site has already been selected and, therefore, this would not be required.
 - In accordance with the RCP By-Laws, President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan announced the formation of a nominating committee for the election of next Rotary Year's club officials and Board members with the membership of President Elect as Chairperson and current President and Sergeant-at-Arms as members. It was noted to have the election in the 'House' at the meeting of 26 December 2022. Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht refreshed the House with the articles of the RCP By-Laws in this regard.
- Salutation: By Rtn. Jamuna K. Tamrakar - Rotary Club of Tampa, Florida, USA; Chartered: 1914; & Members: 174. District: 6890, Clubs: 46; & Members: 1844. He also gave a summary highlight on Tampa and Florida, USA.
- Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: contributions of NRs. 6,400 (NRs. 4,700 to the sunshine fund and NRs. 1,700 to the operational fund of the RCP), and the meeting attendance of 1 guest, 16 members, and 11 make-ups.

Rotary Questions/Answers presented by Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty

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| Q. Which was the first Rotary club in a non-English-speaking country? | A. RC Havana, Cuba, in 1916 |
| Q. In what city was the second Rotary Club chartered? | A. San Francisco, California in 1908 |
| Q. Name the first Rotary Club in Asia? | A. RC Manila, Philippines, 1919 |

Summary of Classification talk by Rtn. Ganga Ram Gautam

Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam gave his first classification talk since joining the Rotary Club of Patan this Rotary Year with the classification of 'Educationist.' Rtn. Gautam was introduced to the RCP by another Hubert Humphrey Fellow, Rtn. Mukti N. Shrestha. He first gave a background on himself and his family. Born in Galkot, Baglung, Rtn. Gautam and his spouse Mrs. Madhavi Ghimire, who is doing a PhD programme, have a son Himal Gautam.

Rtn. Gautam did his M.Ed. in English Education from Tribhuvan University and PhD in Educational Leadership from Kathmandu University. He also did a M.A. in English Language Teaching at Lancaster University, U.K.; Leadership Fellowship from AIT, Thailand; and Hubert Humphrey Fellowship on Leadership from Boston University, USA. In addition, he is a Echidna Global Scholar of Brookings, USA.

Rtn. Gautam described his transformative journey from Gurukul Sanskrit education to English language teacher education currently as the Director of Open and Distance Education Centre (ODEC), Tribhuvan University at the Associate Professor level. Reflecting on his education, he accorded early learning of Sanskrit from his grandfather and the Gurukul education where the 'Guru' image of a teacher is a symbol of supreme consciousness and cosmic form of knowledge. Guru was a guide, a mentor, a manager and a supervisor, qualities that are not found in today's teachers.

Following his formal education, he has engaged himself in English language teacher education and teacher training in Nepal. He highlighted the current situation as the 'blame the victim' culture with attacks on teachers and teacher educators whereas the system has been failing to emulate the qualities of the 'Guru' image. The education system is rather fractured with ad hoc policy planning and programmes. There is a lacuna in quality standards and pre-requisites to become teacher educators.

Envisioning a hopeful future, he has been contributing professionally as a founding member of Nepal English Language Teachers Association (NELTA) and Teacher Educators' Society Nepal (TESON), as well as through his work with Tribhuvan University, Ministry of Education, and other international networks such as Brookings, LAAGA, and UNESCO.

In his community development efforts, Rtn. Gautam has been contributing to the quality education project in Dhulikhel municipality, integrated community development through Educate the Children (ETC) Nepal, and Girls Education and Empowerment programmes. He hopes to continue contributing to the community development efforts through the RCP.

Reflecting on his journey, he summarised his learning as "being and becoming a professional is an unfinished journey and I am on that journey".

Following an excellent Q/A session, President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan concluded the session on Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam's classification talk to the RCP with sincere thanks on behalf of the RCP family.



May the Laugh Bug Bite You 😊😊😊😊😊😊

