



Breakfast chatter



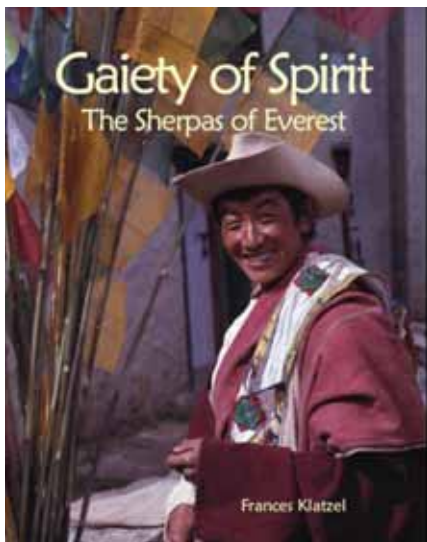
Weekly bulletin of the Rotary Club of Kathmandu Mid-T own
District 3292, Club 26776, Chartered 8 Nov. 1989; 'Best Club' in Nepal 2009/2010

Jan. 14th-20th 2011

Vol. 28 of '10/'11

Speaker for January 14th

From Sherpa culture to social work



Writer, photographer, researcher, publisher, and naturalist **Frances Klatzel** first lived for many years in the 1980s amongst the Sherpa people in the Khumbu region of Nepal.

She helped the Rinpoche of Tengboche monastery create a museum of Sherpa culture. She will describe Sherpa culture and discuss how tourism and technology have simultaneously enhanced and changed their culture.


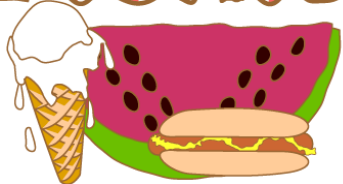



Frances will also talk about her own realizations in more recent years about the issues of poverty and exclusion that led to her to co-found a small organization to assist poor and excluded people.



from Rotary International



The Rotary motto **Service Above Self** conveys the humanitarian spirit of the organization's more than 1.2 million members. Strong fellowship among Rotarians and meaningful community and international service projects characterize Rotary worldwide.

calendar	
date	theme
<h2>January – Rotary Awareness Month</h2> <p>In January, Rotary International observes Rotary Awareness Month. Throughout January, Rotary aims to increase awareness about its work locally, nationally and all around the world.</p>	
14 Jan	<p>First day of Magh, Magh Sankranti, is possibly the coldest day of the year. On this day in Nepal people eat 'chakku', 'gheeu' and sesame seed treats to keep warm and to ward off the cold.</p> <p>Keep warm – better weather is in store!</p> <p>According to Wikipedia: Sankranti is a harvest festival celebrated in many South East Asian Countries. Makara Sankranti has special geo-agri-economical significance - is about transition of Sun into Capricorn on its celestial path. This is significant considering in the Winter Solstice marking a gradual increase in the duration of daylight hours. The day on which the sun begins its journey northwards is referred to as Makara Sankranti. In Sanskrit Sankramana means "to commence movement" and so the name.</p> 
14 Jan.	The speaker for this meeting will be author Frances Klatzel (see above)
21 Jan.	Club Assembly (sorry, no guests on this occasion)
29 Jan	<h2>PICNIC</h2>  <p>Mid-T own Picnic at LU BU</p> <p>A fun time for all – bring your family and friends. There will be games and activities as well as a good hike up to see how the saplings that mid-Town planted last year are doing. Remember to sign up.</p>
5-6 Feb	<p>Peace Conference at Lumbini</p> 
25 Feb. (tentative)	 <p>Mr. Pasi Koistinen, CEO of Ncell will talk about how Ncell plays an important role in developing the telecommunication infrastructure and services in Nepal, contributing to the future prosperity of the country and its citizens. During 2009, Ncell more than doubled its mobile network which now covers more than 60 percent of Nepal's population.</p> 

Last week's speaker



Mid-Town was happy to welcome **Ms. Sangeeta Singh** of the Bagmati Action Plan.

Ms. Sangeeta spoke to us of the good work that this project is doing to ensure that the Bagmati clean-up project is technically sound, financially feasible, and socially acceptable.

Mid-Town wishes her all the best in this very ambitious, 16 billion Npr undertaking.

Fellowship



Old-time friend of Mid-Town, Rtn. Remy, presented a check for 640€. A big 'thank you' and a hearty applause from Mid-Town.

Rtn. Neeva is now a full-fledged Paul Harris Fellow. PP Ambica did the honors of pinning her and presenting the PHF certificate. Mid-Town is now VERY VERY close to being a 100% PHF Club.





Rotaracts are now well passed their winter exams and were happy to join Mid-Town for some happy fellowship.

Visitor Claudia (from Italy, right) told BC of the happy visit she has had in Kathmandu – she said that the Kathmandu sunshine and warm hospitality helped to dispel the cold.





Mid-town in ramkot



RC Borken - Germany has been associated with RC KMT for the last two decades. On 7 Jan. 2011, Mid-Town and Rtn. Remy Einhaus of RC Borken headed out to Ramkot where they visited the Sita Ram HS School.



Rtn. Remy inaugurated the new Computer Lab, funded by RC Borken for Rs. 5, 91,000.

The RC KMT members with the School staff in the new computer lab.

Group photo with the part of the scholarship girls.

Dear Pratap,

thank you very much for the pictures and also for arranging the nice the inauguration of the new Computer Lab. I am happy that this can now be used for the students and I hope the student will benefit from it a lot.

It is nice of you, that you remembered sending the photos.

Wishing you all the best.

With kind regards, from good (c)old Germany to the "Top of the World"

Remy and also from the Rotary Club Borken

Mid-town news



Rt. Navyo and **Rtn. Amar** helped to organise the field trip to Lele with PE Rt. Giorgio Martini (RC Villorese, Milan, Italy) and his family. Here they were able to award scholarships to four students (2 boys and two girls) of outstanding academic achievement.





The program as attended by Mid-Towners and by Lele folk including **Kamala Shrestha** (center grey and white jacket) who was the main mover and shaker behind the basketball court project.



RC Villoresi presented scholarships for 20 economically disadvantaged students with stationary and school uniforms. They also presented merit scholarships (cash prizes of Rs. 5,000 each) for the Top Boys & Girls of Class 11 and 12 of the (10 + 2) classes.

Here the Rotarians inspect the computer room donated on a previous occasion. The students are making good use of the computer room and everyone gets a turn – will the next Bill Gates be from Lele???





More than 120 senior citizens (over age 75) received blankets on this occasion – good heavy blankets manufactured in Bhaktapur. – on cold winter nights they are sure to be saying a quite prayerful thanks.



It was not all work and no play – Rotarians also know how to have a good time! the visitors from Villorresi celebrated with a typical Nepali meal at Hotel Dwarika's – note the beautiful hostesses in their colourful Newari costumes. PP President Ambica is seen above acknowledging the vote of thanks. Three cheers to the guests RC Villorresi.



Sad news

In memoriam of a great Rotarian

We, in RC KMT, are all deeply saddened and shocked by the sudden passing of PDG **Tehmas Manekshaw** who inspired a generation of Rotarians in the Spirit of Giving. His life embodied the true Rotary ideals of "Service Above Self", may his selfless role in The Rotary Foundation. continue to motivate us all.

His active participation on the Polio program was also an exemplary case of self dedication in which we can all be very proud of.



Our thoughts are with his family in this moment of grief and our prayers for the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Pratap Malla
President RC KMT



The photo left shows Tehmas R. Manekshaw, Nepal PolioPlus Committee Chair, reviews the immunization history of local children at a polio vaccination booth inside the Maisthan Temple in Birgunj, Nepal. April 2008



Mid-town news

A great way to start the New Year.

Rtn Neeva of RC KMT ran a refresher course for the AoL (Art of Living) Course at Dhulikhel. Pres Pratap reports that, "We ended the present year and started the New Year - doing the Art of Living: Yoga, Praberchan and Meditation !!. the climax was in "Sewa" in which the party attended a program for the Senior citizens of Dhulikhel. on 1 Jan 2011 - a good way to start the new year."

The uniqueness of this regular weekly Saturday program is that the Senior citizen assemble at the "Geeta Mandir" for a get together, organized by the local community for "bhajan " & a free mid-day meal. On 1 Jan 2011, **Rtn Neeva** presented a check of Rs 50,000 from her family fund "Daya" foundation. Being President of our Club on such an emotional gathering, as fellow Rotarian, on behalf of RC KTM Mid-Town Pres. Pratap joined in by presenting cash of Rs. 5,000 to support one Saturday free meal for the 200 senior citizen.

The experience was one of deep satisfaction to see



the old generation, laughing and dancing in which everyone took part !!.





District news

Peace Conference at Lumbini



Rtn Rajan Raut Secretary: Peace Conference Committee tells us that the **Peace Conference at Lumbini** will take place 5-6 February 2011. Rotary International President Elect, **Kalyan Banerjee**, will be inaugurate the conference.



- **February 5th** The event will be celebrated beginning with the opening of the Nat'l Table Tennis tournament organized by RC Patan Durbar Square at 8 AM.
- Departure to Bhairahawa for Lumbini 10:50AM Arrival at Lumbini and lunch 1:00 PM
- Inauguration of Peace Conference 2:30- 4:00 PM
- Peace conference II session at 4:30 – 6 PM
- Reception Dinner and Cultural program (courtesy Nepal Tourism Board)
- **February 6th** Sightseeing to cultural and heritage sites around Lumbini Peace conference continue simultaneously up to lunch time and then departure for Kathmandu



Kalyan Banerjee, a member of the Rotary Club of Vapi, Gujarat, India, since 1972, is the 2011-12 president-nominee. Banerjee has served Rotary as a director, Rotary Foundation trustee, committee and task force chair, International Assembly group discussion leader, president's representative, and district governor. The chair of the Southeast Asia Regional PolioPlus Committee, Banerjee has served as a member of the International PolioPlus Committee for many years and has attended international meetings with the World Health Organization and UNICEF in that capacity. Banerjee is a Major Donor, Benefactor, and Bequest Society member, and has been awarded the Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service and its Distinguished Service Award. Banerjee believes that, "Rotary needs to become the preferred organization for today's generation to join and participate in, to make the world better and safer and happier." Banerjee's wife, **Binota**, is a social worker and Inner Wheel club member. The couple have two children and four grandchildren.

Mid-Town Picnic at LUBU



Mark your calendars –
Jan 29th - Picnic at LUBU



- Rtn. Buddha and Rotaracts will provide fun and games.
- To work up an appetite Mid-Town will take a short trek up to the location where we planted trees last year – bring your trekking shoes
- If you can share your transportation please inform **PP Joystna** at :ktm@arbex.wlink.com.np
- Please remember to sign the sign-up sheet.
- Family and friends welcomed and encouraged to attend!!!!

Happy new year -- with a newari twist



The lighter side of phone humor



Last week Pres. Pratap was caught red-handed (and on camera) with a ringing mobile – sorry, no amount of good humor could escape the watchful ears of the sunshine collectors!



"Thank you for calling. Please leave a message. In case I forget to check my messages, please send your message as an audio file to my e-mail, then send me an SMS to remind me to check my e-mail, then call back to remind me to check my SMS."

Please send information/suggestions/photos for the next volume to:

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