

Francesco Arezzo
RI President 2025-26Dr. Kameswar S. Elangbam
District Governor RID 3240Chandana Das
President, Rotary Club of Shillong

Brief note on the regular meeting of RC Shillong held on 1st Aug 2025

Members greeted Rtn S R Sen and Rtn (Dr.) Debashish Das on the occasion of their birthdays. Rtn Kishen Tibrewalla introduced his guests, Mr. Nandakishore Singh and Mr. Sidharth Sinha. Report on commemoration of ORS week at Children Hospital was given by IPP Rtn. Amit Saraf. The Outdoor Assembly to be held at Wood Stock on 10th August 2025 was finalised and Rtn Sarad Bawri was requested to organise the entertainment part who will be assisted by Rtn Paramvir Singh and Rtn. Jashoda Chettri. The distribution of sports shoes and garments in Seng Khasi School were discussed. PP Santaram Joshi spoke on his journey as a teacher - which was followed by Rtn Osmand Nongbri and Rtn Shyam Singhania who spoke on teachers and their influences. PDG Debashish presented the update on the proposed Global Grant Project aimed to provide 5 Dialysis machines to KJP Robert Hospital for which International Partner in RID 3020 has been identified.

Larry A. Lunsford selected to be 2027-28 Rotary International President



Larry A. Lunsford, a member of the Rotary Club of Kansas City-Plaza, Missouri, USA, is the selection of the nominating committee to become Rotary International's president for 2027-28. He will officially become the president-nominee on 15 September if no other candidates challenge him.

A certified public accountant, Lunsford spent seven years working for Ernst & Young before joining a family-owned business, Bernstein-Rein Advertising, in 1990. He is currently executive vice president and chief financial officer for the Bernstein group of companies. He has held positions on the boards of the Kansas City Spirit Festival and the Variety Club as well as serving as director of a local bank and treasurer of the Epilepsy Foundation for the Heart of America. He has also served on Truman State University's alumni and foundation boards and received the university's Distinguished Service Award.

Lunsford joined the Rotary Club of Kansas City-Plaza in 1991 and has since served as district governor (2001-02), RI director (2013-15), and trustee of The Rotary Foundation (2021-25, vice chair 2024-25). He has been a member of RI committees, including the Executive Committee (chair 2014-15), Membership Growth Committee (chair 2016-18), and Nominating Committee for President of RI (chair 2023-24). He also has served on The Rotary Foundation's Executive Committee (chair 2023-24), Finance Committee (chair 2022-23 and 2024-25), and Participant Experience Committee (chair 2023-24).

Lunsford has been awarded The Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award, The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service, and the RI Service Above Self Award. He and his wife, Jill Lunsford, have two children and one grandchild. They are Major Donors, Bequest Society members, multiple Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation, and Sustaining Members.

Mr Ramesh Chandra Chaudhuri (1917 - 1986) -

A Daughter remembers her parents : [Credit: Ms Anurekha Barkakoti nee Chaudhuri]

A lawyer by profession, late Ramesh Chandra Chaudhuri was the Charter member of Rotary Club of Guwahati which was founded by late Justice Sarju Prasad, the then Chief Justice of Guwahati in the year 1957.

Late Sailendu Nath Phukan, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India, wrote in a tribute to Chaudhuri that 'The Rotary Movement became his medium of expressing his spirit of social service. It won't be incorrect to call him a pioneer of Rotary movement in entire North-east, the District 325 at that time included West Bengal too.'. Of course, the District 325 then also included Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

Ramesh Chaudhuri was the first Assamese to become the Rotary District Governor for the term 1976-77.

Under his leadership, the Rotary clubs flourished as he became an ambassador of goodwill in the true spirit of a Rotarian. He travelled widely to mandatorily visit all the clubs of the district where he was warmly received along with his wife, Late Lakhimi Chaudhuri, a prominent writer and social worker in her own right.

While at Shillong, on his appointment as the Law Secretary of Assam Legislative Assembly, he was actively involved with the Rotary Club of Shillong in the sixties. He was a Paul Harris Fellow.

As a lawyer, he was well known for his proficiency and was appointed the Advocate General of Nagaland in 1972.

He was actively involved in Assamese theatre as acting was his passion and hobby. Gardening was also his area of interest and he was known for growing exotic roses.

His family consisted of his wife (who passed away in 1998), a son (who retired as the MD of Guwahati Refinery, and passed away in 2011) and four daughters who are married and well settled in their lives.

He was a man of many virtues and fondly remembered by all from various walks of life who knew him.

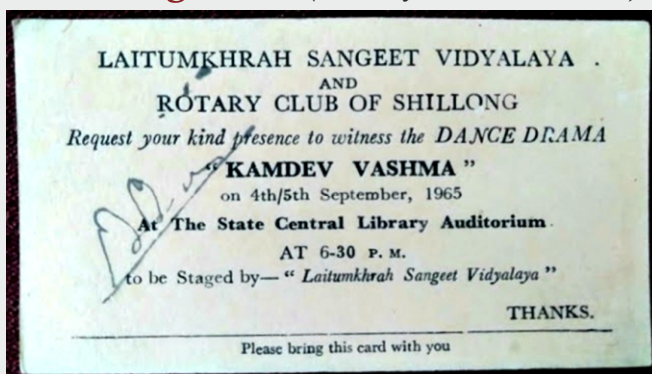
This is evident in their writings about him in a centenary-commemorative book 'Ramesh Chandra Chaudhuri ek durlobh byaktitto' where he is also hailed as a man for all seasons, an endearing personality of head and heart.



Photo: Mr Ramesh Chandra Chaudhuri & Mrs Lakhimi Chaudhuri)

Down Memory Lane

RC Shillong in 1965 (Courtesy: Rtn Sarad Bawri)



Rotary and World Peace:

Rotary International has a long history of promoting peace and has been actively involved in post-war reconstruction and humanitarian efforts. During World War II, Rotary focused on planning for peace and supporting the formation of the United Nations. Following the war, Rotary clubs in various countries played a role in rebuilding communities and fostering international understanding. Currently, Rotary is actively involved in supporting Ukrainian refugees and providing humanitarian aid in the region.



GREETINGS

Rtn (Dr.) Debashish Das celebrated his birthday on 7th August. Rtn (Dr.) Rakesh Puri celebrates his birthday on 9th August.

The Club wishes you both good health and happiness.