

MONTHLY CLUB BULLETIN OF  
**R C GAUHATI WEST**  
**SARAIGHAT**

Volume: 47, Issue: 7, Jan2026

**Rotary**



**JANUARY IS ROTARY'S  
VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH  
UNITE FOR GOOD**

# RIP FRANCESCO AREZZO'S

January 2026 Message



## More than Job Training

In President Francesco's January 2026 Newsletter, talks about vocational service - the power of bringing together people with unique skills to do good in the world. It reminds us that integrity isn't just about our actions matching our words. Integrity is in everything we do. He says that the Four-Way Test - those four simple questions help us not judge others but guide us toward genuine, effective service. He notes that there are 1.2 billion young people in emerging economies reaching working age in the next decade and only 420 million jobs projected. He says that Rotary support doesn't mean imposing our will. It means listening to local needs, building partnerships, and designing projects that communities can sustain themselves. Francesco is encouraging YOU to ask how your club can address vocational needs in your community. What skills do your members have that could change someone's life? How can your networks open doors for young people? What partnerships can create sustainable jobs? .... Please Read more.....

## More Than Job Training

In a garage outside Salinas, California, young people who are learning to restore classic cars are doing more than developing a skill — they are reclaiming their futures. This training program provides mentorship and, for some, a path away from gang involvement toward meaningful employment. Graduates leave with certifications, practical experience, and hope.

This is what Rotary's Vocational Service Month celebrates each January — the power of bringing together people with unique skills to do good in the world. It reminds us that integrity isn't just about our actions matching our words. Integrity is in everything we do.

The California automotive program has been such a success because it was built on integrity. Members of the Rotary Club of Carmel-by-the-Sea didn't assume they knew what the community needed. They listened. They learned there was a shortage of skilled mechanics as well as a large number of young people lacking job training. They recognized that technical skills alone wouldn't be enough, so they partnered with Rancho Cielo, a nonprofit offering counseling and support services alongside vocational training.

That is The Four-Way Test in action. Those four simple questions help us not judge others but guide us toward genuine, effective service.

Consider our commitment to ending polio. For nearly 40 years, we have promised the world's children we will eliminate this disease. Despite obstacles, we persist, and today we are closer to defeating the virus. Keeping this promise is the very definition of integrity.

The same integrity must drive our vocational service. With 1.2 billion young people in emerging economies reaching working age in the next decade and only 420 million jobs projected, we face a critical gap. Communities long excluded from economic opportunities need our support.

But support doesn't mean imposing our will. It means listening to local needs, building partnerships, and designing projects that communities can sustain themselves.

You have knowledge that can transform lives. Whatever your profession, your expertise combined with Rotary's values creates lasting change. The question isn't whether you have something to offer, it's how you'll use your skills to serve.

This January, I encourage you to ask how your club can address vocational needs in your community. What skills do your members have that could change someone's life? How can your networks open doors for young people? What partnerships can create sustainable jobs?

Let integrity guide you. Let The Four-Way Test light your path. And let the young people in California and the multitudes worldwide who need job skills remind you why vocational service matters. Let us celebrate putting our professional skills to work for humanity with integrity at the heart of everything we do.

Francesco Arezzo

President, Rotary International

# UNITE FOR GOOD

# Message of



**Rtn Krishna Baruah**  
President  
R C Gauhati, West

Dear Fellow Rotarians

Warm greetings and best wishes to all our members and their families for a happy, healthy and purposeful New Year 2026. As we step into the new year with renewed hope and energy, I would like to place on record my sincere appreciation and gratitude to all members for their enthusiastic participation in our regular weekly meetings and various club activities during December 2025. Your presence, ideas and involvement continue to strengthen the spirit of fellowship and service in our club.

Our annual club picnic at the beautiful Chandubi was a memorable event, wonderfully arranged and organized by Rtn Deba Kr Mishra. It truly turned out to be a day full of fun and frolic, providing us a refreshing break from routine. While some members enjoyed boat riding, others relaxed amidst the serene natural surroundings, cherishing moments of togetherness and bonding. I also wish to place on record our heartfelt thanks to Rtn Deba Kr Mishra for his generosity, as the subscription amounts collected from members were handed over to him, which he graciously returned to the club for use in our service projects. Such benevolence truly reflects the Rotary spirit of selfless service.

I am happy to share that about a dozen of our members will be attending the District Conference at Shillong from 9th to 11th January 2026. I thank Rtn Subrata Sarma and Rtn Amal Das, who have been entrusted with coordinating this important programme, and I am confident that their efforts will ensure smooth participation and meaningful engagement at the conference.

January being the Vocational Service Month of Rotary, we have planned to felicitate a few distinguished individuals with Vocational Awards in recognition of excellence and ethics in their respective professions. It would also be most appropriate to organize a career counselling programme during this month, especially to guide and motivate the younger generation. I look forward to the active cooperation and support of all members in making these initiatives meaningful and impactful. Together, let us continue to serve with commitment, compassion and cheer.  
With regards to all.

As we step into the month of January, I take this opportunity to place on record my sincere thanks to those members who have taken the time to appreciate the contents, layout and overall design of our monthly bulletin. Such words of encouragement are a great source of motivation for the editorial team. At the same time, it must be honestly admitted that the editor's owes are many. Appreciation is always welcome, but what can truly help us grow is constructive criticism. Suggestions in written form, with clarity of thought and purpose, can become an added strength of the bulletin and help us move steadily towards improvement.

In our effort to evolve, there has been a conscious attempt to move from a purely conventional format to a slightly "out of the box" approach. While this may not always meet with universal agreement, such experimentation is often necessary to enhance quality, relevance and reader engagement. The editorial team looks forward to more such creative inputs from members, which can help us refine the bulletin further and make it more vibrant, informative and thought-provoking.

Readership, however, continues to be a concern. In many clubs, bulletins gradually turn into albums of photographs, largely because text is seldom read. While photographs have their own value, a bulletin should ideally document ideas, reflections, service initiatives and institutional memory. In this context, it may be worth considering a practice where selected portions of the bulletin, along with important GMLs, are read or briefly highlighted in at least one Regular Weekly Meeting every month. This can encourage members to engage with the written word and appreciate the effort that goes into documenting our activities.

It must be remembered that club bulletins are not merely monthly publications; they are valuable records that add to the history and legacy of the club. Years later, these pages will speak of our vision, our service and our fellowship. With this perspective, I once again invite members to contribute, critique and suggest, so that together we can make our bulletin a meaningful chronicle of Rotary Club of Gauhati West and its journey of service.

**Rtn B C Das Purkayastha**

**EDITORIAL**

# 6 ways to take action during Vocational Service Month

Vocational Service calls on us to empower others by using our unique skills and expertise to address community needs and help others acquire or refine skills and advance their professional opportunities. By bringing together people from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rotary recognizes the importance of all skills and occupations. A vibrant Rotary club reflects the businesses, organizations and professions in its community, embracing diversity in experiences and perspectives.

Your professional life and vocational service go hand in hand. Rotarians have a dual responsibility: represent their occupations within their club and exemplify the ideals of Rotary in their places of work.

January is Rotary's Vocational Service Month, a great time to start leveraging vocational service! How can you take action?

**1. Join a Rotarian Action Group** and support service projects around the world. These autonomous groups consist of Rotarians, family members, and Rotary program participants and alumni with expertise in a particular field. Members advise and collaborate with clubs and districts on service projects. If your expertise fits one of the current 25 Action Groups, contact the groups' leaders to get involved.

**2. Join or form a Rotary Fellowship** related to your vocation. Rotary Fellowships are international groups of Rotarians, family members, and program participants and alumni who share a vocational or recreational interest. There are many vocationally-oriented fellowships such as: Authors and Writers, Editors and Publishers, Health Professionals, Lawyers, Photographers, Police and Law Enforcement.

**3. Volunteer on a service project** and use your vocational skills to serve others. Think about the underlying skills that make you successful in your profession: maybe you have training in some branch of science or medicine, are handy with tools or machinery know how to start a business, have expertise managing finances, or can influence others through public speaking or writing. Use your unique set of talents to make a difference in your community.

**4. Share your expertise** through your district resource network. If you have technical expertise in one of Rotary's six areas of focus, or with project planning and implementation, community assessment, measurement and evaluation, or other important aspects of large scale projects grants, let your district international service chair know. Lend your skills to local clubs and help develop more impactful projects.

**5. Participate in a vocationally-oriented Rotary Friendship Exchange.** Work with your district Rotary Friendship Exchange chair to organize an international, reciprocal exchange between two districts interested in exploring a professional field in a new cultural context. Involve young professionals, and organize activities allowing exchange participants to experience cultural immersion while exploring their field in a new environment.

**6. Join TRF's Cadre of Technical Advisors** The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors is a group of volunteer Rotarians who provide technical expertise and advice to Rotarians planning and carrying out Rotary grant projects around the world. Cadre members review, monitor, and evaluate projects and ensure grant funds are being used properly. Apply online to be considered for the Cadre.



Rotary Peace Fellowships

Each year, Rotary selects up to 130 professionals from around the world to receive fully funded fellowship at our Rotary Peace Centers.



Rotary Community Corps

Funding community solutions to community challenges, Rotary Community Corps unites Rotary members with nonmembers to make positive difference.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

(RYLA)  
RYLA is a leadership development program for young people who want to learn new skills, build their confidence, and have fun. Event range from oneday seminars to weeklong camps

## Happier together

3 key lessons (so far) from the Harvard Study of Adult Development:

- Social connections promote health. People are happier and live longer when they are more socially connected to family, friends, and community.
- Quality over quantity. It's not the number or types of relationships you have; it's the quality of your relationships.
- Good relationships don't just protect our mental health. They protect our physical health, in part by helping buffer stress.

## REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS OF DECEMBER

No Meeting was held on on 4th December 2025  
RWM 2120 dtd 11.12.25:

1. Organised a dental Health Camp at Kalyani Niwas by Rtn. Dr. Ashish Sharma on 27.12.25
2. supporting Individual sponsors to Rotaract Club of Rongali Guwahati & DRR Shivam and his conference team for Navasangam to be held at Guwahati on 19,20,21 st Dec of 2025 from RC Guwahati west
3. Discussion of Organising a Club picnic on 25th Dec 25 at Chandubi Camp initiative by Rtn Deba Kumar Mishra



RWM2121 dtd 18.12.25:

1. Discussion of Proposing a service project for Disease and Prevention month as Dec. at Govt. hospitals.
2. Talks about District dues, RI dues and Rotary News trust dues.
3. Club service project & Family Meet.



RWM 2122 dtd 25.12.25: It was the family Picnic at Chandubi

## CLUB ACTIVITY IN 27 DECEMBER 2025

A dental checkup of inmates of Kalyani Niwas and Ashaneer at the premises of Kalyani Niwas. 45 inmates were checked by Rtn Dr Ashish Sharma. Medicine as well as general awareness were carried by by Rtn Sharma.



On the same day and at the same premise an art competition was also held by the club in association with Architect Forum of Assam. Prizes were sponsored by the forum and distributed there itself. Initiative for this program was taken by Rtn Budhin Borthakur.



# PICNIC OF RC GAUHATI WEST ON 25TH DEC 2025 AT CHANDUBI



As in previous years, the club organised its Family Picnic on 25 December 2025. The event was coordinated by Rtn. Deba Kumar Mishra, as the picnic venue—Chandubi—falls within his district jurisdiction of Kamrup. He efficiently made all necessary arrangements at the Chandubi Tourist Lodge, including breakfast and lunch. The Chandubi Tourist Lodge and the adjoining Chandubi Lake are known for their immense natural beauty and serenity. The pristine lake, with its crystal-clear water, offered an ideal setting for rowing and quiet contemplation, much to the delight of nature lovers. The scenic surroundings, combined with sumptuous food—especially the duck meat served at lunch—made the picnic a truly memorable experience for everyone. Rtn. Krishna handed over the amount collected from the members to Rtn. Deba towards the expenses. However, Rtn. Deba graciously returned the entire amount to be utilised for any of the club's projects. We returned to Guwahati in our own vehicles at around 4.00 p.m., feeling thoroughly satisfied and enriched by a delightful day spent together

## DISTRICT EVENTS

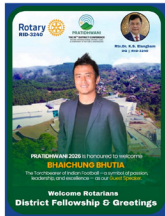
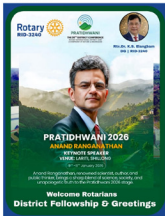
### Events on December 25 (2025)

• Wonderland Carnival 2.0: The Rotary Club of Siliguri Umeed (RI District 3240) hosted a grand festive celebration called "Wonderland Carnival 2.0" from December 25th to 31st, 2025, which focused on empowering women and celebrating their talents.



### Events around January 26 (2026)

• District Conference ("Pratidhwani"): The main district-level event around this time was the District Conference named ""Pratidhwani", scheduled for January 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2026. This major event involves presidents, secretaries, assistant governors, and zone secretaries, and is a key gathering for the district.



## 36th Rotaract Dist Conference Cum Assembly

The Rotaract District 3240 Conference for 2025, themed "Nava Sangam: This was held from December 19-21, 2025, in Guwahati, India, hosted by the Rotaract Club of Dharmanagar and Rotaract Club of Rongali Guwahati, serving as the 36th District Conference cum Assembly for the 2025-26 year.



## CONGRATULATIONS FOR COMING DISTRICT ASSIGNMENTS

Lub members congratulate Rtn Vikram Diswania, Rtn B C Das Purkayastha and Rtn Budhin Borthakur for their district assignments for RY 2026-27.



## RI NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

### United States

Acclaimed chef Vikas Khanna created a children's book, *Festivals at the Bungalow*, with support from the recently chartered Rotary Club of South West Florida District 6960. The club raised \$20,000 from U.S. and Indian Rotarians, other individuals, and businesses to print 2,000 copies of the illustrated book that are being distributed free to Rotary-led literacy initiatives. The book "takes children on a journey across India, showcasing how families come together to decorate, cook, and celebrate," says Priya Ahluwalia, who helped start the club with her husband, Mohit Pohani. "The combination of stories and recipes makes it both educational and engaging, sparking curiosity while fostering cultural appreciation." On 15 August, Rotarians joined Khanna in ringing the closing bell of the Nasdaq Stock Market in New York City to mark the book's publication.



## Rotary Poetry Awards

Presented by Rotary Club of Innovation

### Free Entry 2026

Write a poem - send it in  
Then you have a chance to win  
and to be crowned  
**Rotary Poet of the Year**

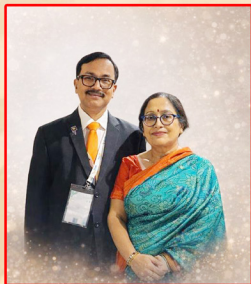
Great prizes, from vouchers to a full Paul Harris Fellowship award announced and presented in Taipei by Rotary International President Francesco

Entry is open to everyone and is free but you can still donate but after April 30th you'll be too late  
goto [www.rotarypoetry.org](http://www.rotarypoetry.org)

## OUR ROVING AMBASSODORS



Rtn Sanjay Agarwal, Rtn Vinita Agarwal and their son visited a Rotary Club at California and exchanged flags.



"R C Gauhati West Rotarian members extend their heartfelt best wishes and a joyous bon voyage to DGE Dr. Ashim Adhikari and Ms. Sonali Adhikari as they travel to attend the Rotary International Assembly (IA) 2026, scheduled from January 11-15, 2026, in Orlando, Florida, USA. This prestigious event marks the District Governor-Elect (DGE) training, and we wish them success and enriching experiences in this important journey of leadership and service."

## GREETINGS OF JANUARY

### Birth Day Greetings

1st Kamal Das  
5th Dipak Kalita  
14th Monotosh Saha  
16th Samir Choudhury

### Wedding Anniversary

20th Jyotirmoy Goswami  
27th Krishna Baruah  
and  
Anuj Paliwal  
28th Budhin and Jinamoni Borthakur  
30th Samir Choudhuri



"Vocational  
Month  
Reflection:  
Businessmen  
work despite  
fever.

Government  
servants get fever just  
seeing work. This is  
reality, not a joke."



Rotary Club of Gauhati West meets every Thursday at 7/7.30 PM at Rotary West Community Hall, Kamarpaty, Fancy Bazar, Guwahati - 1  
President: Rtn Krishna Baruah  
Secretary: Rtn Deepjyoti Das  
Treasurer: Rtn Samir Choudhury  
Bulletin Editor: Rtn (Dr) B C Das Purkayastha  
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