

Issue No. 1497

Date: 22 Falgun 2079 / 6 March 2023

<p><u>Today's Programme:</u></p> <p>Business Meeting (On zoom)</p>	<p><u>Congratulatory Events</u></p> <p><u>Birthdays:</u> Nil</p> <p><u>Wedding Anniversary:</u></p> <p>Rtn. Shiva K. and Tika Pradhan – 3 March Rtn. Nirmal K. and Bijaya Pradhanang – 6 March Rtn. Ramesh L. and Shova Maskay – 6 March Rtn. Siba B. and Mithila Rajbhandary – 8 March Rtn. Nabin B. and Sunita Maharjan – 8 March</p>
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Minutes of Meeting No. 1843

Date: 15 Falgun 2079 / 27 February 2023

- President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan called the RCP's Meeting No.1843 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
- Guests welcomed by the President: Awardees of the RCP's Vocational Service Awards - Dr. Shankar M. Rai and Ms. Sangita Pant; 4 Rotaracts from the Rotaract Club of Patan; 22 members and 3 spouses; and 14 guests for the Vocational Service Awards.
- The last meeting minutes were reviewed and adopted.
- 'Happy News' Contributions:
 - Rtn Sunil Gupta – for 'Happy Birthday' (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Piyush B. and Ramita Bajracharya – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Pushkar M. and Rita Shakya – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary' and a previous ha.ba (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Bharat N. and Meera Joshi, and Rtn. Kuldeep R. & Meera B. Tuladhar – for 'Happy Wedding Anniversary in absentia (ha.ba).
 - Rtn. Yagya B. Shrestha – for the grand success of his and his spouse Mary's 50th Wedding Anniversary celebrations with the participation that included the RCP family & his daughter's family from the USA (NRs. 5,000).
 - Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi – for today's programme and participation of his friend Mr. Shyam Thapa (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtn. Ganga R. Gautam – for the very successful leadership training programme of Headmasters of the RCP's PEEF supported schools conducted last week (NRs. 500).
 - Rtns. Matsyendra L. & Chandralekha Kayastha (NRs. 1,000), Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 500), and Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang (NRs. 500) – for today's Vocational Service Awards programme.
- Other Contributions:
 - Rtn. Bishwa B. Sharma contributed NRs. 5,000 to the RCP Members' Fellowship Fund for her daughter's grand success in the MRCP programme in London, U.K. and being a Consultant Psychiatrist.
 - For contributions/pledges by RCP members to the Kirtipur Hospital, please see next page.
- Rotary Information:

Rtn. Pushkar M. Shakya informed about the planned handover of 2 wheelchairs to the Ward Number 3 Chairperson of Lalitpur District for people with disability sponsored by him.
- Before the adjournment of the meeting, by the President, Secretary Rtn. Khadak S. Bisht announced: happy news contributions of NRs. 13,400 (NRs. 11,000 to the Sunshine Fund and NRs. 2,400 to the Operational Fund of the RCP), and the meeting attendance of 1 visiting Rotarian, 15 guests, 4 Rotaracts, 22 members, 3 spouses and 10 make-ups.

Summary of Rotary Club of Patan's 12th Vocational Service Awards Programme

President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan welcomed the awardees and all the participants to the RCP's annual Vocational Service Awards programme and Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi conducted the programme.

Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi briefly introduced the RCP's annual vocational service awards programme. The RCP's vocational awards committee, coordinated by him, has Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang and Rtn. Rabendra R. Pandey as members.

Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang gave a brief summary about the awards. This programme started in 2010-2011 with awards to up to three outstanding professionals every year. This is the 12th programme. From this year two awards (Certificates and NRs. 25,000 each) will be given to honour the selected awardees in the Rotary's five areas of focus for social service. He also encouraged the RCP family to suggest names of suitable candidates for the future year awards.

Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi welcomed this year's two awardees Dr. Shankar Man Rai and Sangita Pant for their outstanding contributions to the society in the 'Health' and 'People with Disability' fields respectively.

Dr. Shankar M. Rai - Rtn. Prakash introduced Dr. Shankar M. Rai a renowned professor of Plastic Surgery at National Academy of Medical Sciences and a Plastic Surgeon at Nepal Cleft and Burn Centre, Kirtipur Hospital. Currently, he is also the Country Director of ReSurge International in Nepal. After completing his studies, training and professional Fellowship programmes by 1997-1998 in Nepal and the USA, Dr. Rai established the Plastic Surgery Unity at the Teaching Hospital in Nepal. From then on, he has been devoting his service for the 'Cleft' and 'Burn' patients programmes in various capacities with national and international partners. He and his team has been providing comprehensive care to poor people in all aspects of these areas including the establishment of a skin bank in the country with the support of America Nepal Medical Foundation and ReSurge International. He has been recognized for his humanitarian work nationally and internationally with several awards and decorations.

Ms. Sangita Pant – Rtn. Nirmal K. Pradhanang introduced Ms. Sangita Pant. She has a MA in Humanities and has devoted her life in humanitarian social work for the benefit of and to uplift people with disabilities. Despite losing a hand, she has worked as a Programme Manager in the Shanti Sewa Griha (German supported NGO), a Teacher, and as the President of the NGO 'Disabled Centre', Nepal. As a Founder President of the NGO 'Entire Power in Social Action (EPSA)' since 2010, she has been working for the training of people with disabilities for self-reliant economic activities in handicrafts with great success. EPSA has already acquired several properties and supported 5000 people in economic activities. Ms. Pant has been awarded and decorated by several entities in Nepal and abroad and has been recognised as a 'Women Entrepreneurs of the year 2021' in Nepal.

Following the introductions, Rotarians Bijaya L. Shrestha and Chandralekha Kayastha welcomed them with flower bouquets and President Shiva K. Pradhan, Rotarians Kedar B. Shrestha and Matsyendra L. Kayastha presented the awards with certificates to Dr. Shankar M. Rai and Ms. Sangita Pant.

Both the awardees thanked the Rotary Club of Patan for this recognition and great honour, which they very much appreciated. They also spoke briefly about their current work and focus.

Dr. Shankar M. Rai briefed on a new effort to provide free bed for 50 days to poor burn victims at the Kirtipur Hospital with the award funds provided by the Rotary Club of Patan, and also suggested the possibility of additional generous support in this endeavour. In this context, the following Rotarians from the RCP announced additional contributions:

- Rtn. Bijaya and Gabriele Mallapaty for 100 days (NRs. 50,000)
- Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi for 365 days (NRs. 182,500)
- Rtn. Santa K. Shrestha for 365 days (NRs. 182,500)
- Rtns. Matsyendra and Chandralekha Kayastha for 50 days (NRs. 25,000)

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Patan family, Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi thanked the awardees, sponsors, and all the participants of this '12th Vocational Service Awards' programme to make it very successful. President Rtn. Shiva K. Pradhan concluded the session with his own words of thanks and invited everyone for a reception.