

Issue No. 1556

Date: 7 Jestha 2081 / 20 May 2024

Today's Programme:

Regular Weekly Meeting

Congratulatory Events

Birthdays: Nil

Wedding Anniversaries: Nil

Minutes of Meeting No. 1901

Date: 31 Baisakh 2081 / 13 May 2024

1. President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal called the RCP's Meeting No. 1901 to order with 15 seconds of 'Silent Invocation' for world peace, health, and happiness.
2. Guests welcomed by the President: Guest speaker Dr. Sanjib Shrestha; AG for RY 2024-2025 Rtn. Suresh Acharya; Mr. Bharat B. Shrestha; Rtn. Maheswar B. Shrestha; GSSA Awardee Mr. Kiran Nepal; Mr. Anil Raghuvanshi, Rtn. Barsha Joshi, and former KEEA Awardee Ms. Mandira Shrestha from Child Safe Net; Dr. Sujata Dongol with daughters Ms. Lakchhyata Twanabasu and Ms. Krisangi Twanabasu; and Mr. Hom Nath Aryal, ADSon.
3. The last meeting minutes of the RCP were reviewed and adopted.
4. Happy News Contribution Pledges:
 - Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty (NRs. 1,500) and Rtn. Gabriele Mallapaty (NRs. 2,000) – for 'Happy Birthday' of Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty, their 'Happy Wedding Anniversary', and the success of RHD screening trip.
 - Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka – for 'Happy Landing' from Malaysia and for getting a new car (NRs. 1,000).
 - Rtns. Matsyendra L. Kayastha (NRs. 1,000), and Chandralekha Kayastha (NRs. 1,000) – for their participation in today's meeting after some time.
 - Rtn. Jamuna K. Tamrakar – for his enjoyable trip to 'Lo Mathan' and 'ha.ba.' of his 'Wedding Anniversary' (NRs.1,000).
 - Rtns. Bishnu P. Sigdel (NRs. 500), Khadak S. Bisht (NRs. 500), Rabendra R. Pandey (NRs. 1,000), and Prakash R. Regmi (NRs. 500) – for a successful trip on RHD screening to Siraha & Janakpur including fellowships.
 - Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal – for the above and for today's guest speaker and Child Safe Net guests (NRs. 500).
 - Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha – for the participation of nephew Mr. Bharat B. Shrestha who has been in the USA for the last 60 years, and for having today's guest speaker (NRs. 1,000).'
5. Other Contributions:
 - Ms. Lakchhyata Twanabasu (19-year-old daughter of Dr. Sujata Dongol) handed over a contribution of NRs. 15,700 to the RCP's PEEF programme. She received a silver award from the Duke of Edinburgh International for her good marks in grade 12 studies at Sanskriti International School, Kathmandu, and made many bookmarks to raise these funds.
 - Today's Guest Speaker Dr. Sanjib Shrestha handed over a contribution cheque of NRs. 200,000 to the RCP's PEEF programme. He has been a major donor who had earlier contributed NRs. 500,000 to this programme.
6. Rotary Information:
 - Rtns. Khadak S. Bisht and Prakash R. Regmi briefed on the successful Global Grant Project RHD screening trip of the RCP and Nepal Heart Foundation Team to Siraha and Janakpur during 9 to 12 May 2024. During this 3rd round of field visits, the eighteen-member team covered eight schools and screened about 4000 children (ECO screening of 1000 and clinical screening of 3000) with some sixty positive cases including three cases of surgery being referred to Kathmandu. In addition to the RHD screening, the team covered talk programmes on lifestyle and structural heart diseases for public awareness.
 - Rtn. Suresh Acharya from RC Kopundole introduced himself as the Assistant Governor for the RCP during the next Rotary Year 2024-2025.

- Mr. Anil Raghuvanshi introduced himself and his team from Child Safe Net working to raise awareness on online child safety. The RCP's KEEA Awardee of 2017, Ms. Mandira Shrestha also informed about her efforts in this regard in collaboration with the RCP.
7. Graduate Studies Scholarship Award (GSSA): Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty briefly introduced this programme of the RCP. Sponsors Rtns. Matsyendra and Chandralekha Kayastha handed over 2023 award of NRs. 14,000 to Mr. Kiran Nepal as his second year's award that was delayed due to the late start of his third semester graduate level education in engineering.
 8. Before the adjournment of the meeting by the President, Secretary, Rtn. Shiv P. Khemka announced: happy news contribution of NRs.11,500 (50% of NRs.5,750 each to the RCP's operational and sunshine funds), NRs. 6,800 for attendance to the operational fund, and the meeting attendance of 12 guests, 20 members, and 8 make-ups.

Summary of talk programme by Dr. Sanjib Shrestha on 'Moral Crisis for Medical Doctors in the USA'

President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal welcomed Dr. Sanjib Shrestha and Rtn. Bijaya Mallapaty introduced him. Dr. Sanjib Shrestha (son-in-law of Rtn. Kedar B. Shrestha) is a philanthropist. He and his wife Soni Shrestha have been contributing significantly to the Rotary Club of Patan's PEEF scholarship support programme, and other social causes in Nepal.

Dr. Shrestha graduated from Armed Forces Medical College in Pune, India. During 1993 to 1995 he worked in Nepal in the Army and Kathmandu Nursing Home. In 1995, Dr. Shrestha went to the USA for residency at the New York University Hospital, did his Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic, and worked in Mississippi and Virginia in Primary Care, Emergency, and Urgent Care till 2022.

Dr. Shrestha made his remarkably interesting oral presentation on the moral crisis of medical doctors in the USA, which he himself had experienced during his long medical career in the USA from 1995 to 2022. He was very much touched by an article published in the New York Times in June 2013 highlighting this issue.

The corporatization of health care has changed the practice of medicine, causing many physicians to feel alienated from their work. In the current healthcare system, doctors in the USA can afford to give very short time to their patients, spend a long-time doing data entry work, worry about meeting the commercial targets of U.S. health plans instead of focussing on care of the patient. This includes fighting with insurance companies about paying for necessary services and working with their patients through an increasingly complex healthcare system.

Many doctors are leaving the USA despite very handsome pay due to this moral dilemma of care versus commercialisation of the healthcare business. Many, particularly working in primary, emergency, and urgent care, are burnt out with excessing work, lack of sleep, stress, and, compared to other countries, a high percentage of doctors even commit suicide not being able to cope with this pressure and corporate greed.

Dr. Shrestha would like to align the interests of doctors and their patients, so they can go back to why they became doctors: to care for their patients. He is seeing that the opportunity to serve in countries like Nepal is morally more satisfying than in the USA.

Following an interesting Questions/Answers session, on behalf of the RCP, Rtn. Prakash R. Regmi gave a 'Vote of Thanks' to Dr. Sanjib Shrestha. He also added his own experience and problems in the medical service sector in Nepal. President Rtn. Mahendra S. Rawal concluded the session with his own words of thanks and presentation of a token of appreciation to Dr. Shrestha.



May the Laugh Bug Bite You 😄😄😄😄😄

In the public library, a man with his new library card questioned the pretty librarian.
"Do you mean to say," he asked, "that with this card I may take out any book I want?"

"Yes," she answered.

"And may I take out record albums, too?"

"Yes, you may."

"May I take you out?" he ventured.

Drawing herself up to her full height, she replied, "The librarians, sir, are for reference only."