



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

Feb. 11th - Feb. 17th 2011

Vol. 33 of '10/'11

Dinner meeting Sunday February 20th



Rtn. HE VP Dr. Alex Spachis and wife Eleni kindly invite
RC Mid-T own for a dinner meeting on
Sunday February 20th at 7PM
at their home in Nag Pokhari.

The occasion is to have a joint meeting with the Rotarians and accompanying visitors from **RC Athina Lycavittos (Greece)**. More than a dozen doctors accompanied by their friends and spouses will be visiting Kathmandu from Athens. The doctors have come to Nepal to volunteer in a joint **Mid-Town/Lycavittos** health camp in NawalParasi at the end of February.



LYCABETTUS HILL in Athens is really a limestone rock reaching almost 1,000 feet into the crystalline Athenian sky. In the evening, the top half is floodlit, and from the Acropolis it looks something like a giant soufflé. By day, it's a green-and-white hill topped by the white church of Agios Georgios.)



International Assembly inspires Rotary leaders to embrace humanity

RI President-elect Kalyan Banerjee announces the 2011-12 RI theme during the International Assembly in San Diego, California.

By Joseph Derr Rotary International News (adapted)

The next class of Rotary district governors emerged from the 2011 International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, with new ideas, skills, and friendships that will help them lead during the 2011-12 year.

RI President-elect Kalyan Banerjee began the week by inspiring the 530 governors-elect to *Reach Within to Embrace Humanity*.

"In order to achieve anything in this world, a person has to use all the resources he can draw on. And the only place to start is with ourselves and within ourselves," he said.

Throughout the week, the incoming district governors took part in training sessions led by past Rotary leaders. Wyn Spiller, one of 40 training leaders, said the discussion groups produced many new ideas, such as forming "buddy clubs" by pairing a club that is strong in member retention with one that is struggling. "We also discussed having a mobile training team of Rotary experts in a district who can come to the clubs," Spiller said.








RI President Ray Klinginsmith elaborated on those values during the final plenary session.







"Service, fellowship, integrity, diversity, and leadership are our core values, which I prefer to call our Rotary DNA," Klinginsmith said. "Those traits are what distinguish us from other organizations. There is no doubt that we can help our club leaders to *Reach Within to Embrace Humanity*, and to make the world a better place, because we have been doing it for more than 100 years, and we do it better than anyone else in the world."



PP Ambica attended the International Assembly in San Diego and told Mid-Town that participants exchanged information and ideas with other governors-elect from around the world and created bonds that will foster future projects and a lifetime of friendship and fellowship. **PP Ambica** addressed the spouses at this international meeting and was the first Rotarian from Nepal to ever do so. Her talk was well appreciated and she also had a good opportunity to meet and spend time with the President Elect **Kalyan Banerjee** and his spouse Binoda.

A hearty congratulation to PP Ambica for tirelessly helping to increase the profile of Nepal in Rotary and elsewhere. Danyabad from all of us.

calendar	
date	theme
<p>February – World Understanding Month</p> <p>“Fear and Hate Must Go! And they will go when nations have goodwill based on understanding” – <i>Paul P. Harris, Founder</i></p>	
14 Feb.	 <p>Happy Valentines</p> 
15 Feb.	Prophet Muhammad's Birthday Mawlid al-Nabi (12 Rabi 1)
18 Feb.	No MEETING TODAY – meeting postponed to Sunday Feb. 20th (see above)
20 Feb.	 <p>Joint meeting with RC AT HINA LYCAVIT T OS</p> <p>A short meeting followed by dinner hosted by VP Rtn. Dr. Alex Spachis at his home in Nag Pokhari (next to Geet Ghazal) 7 PM. Please remember to let Rtn. Alex or Pres. Pratap know if you will be attending the dinner.</p>
21 Feb,	 <p>International Mother Language Day is an observance held annually on 21 February worldwide to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.</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 citizens. During 2009, than doubled its mobile which now covers more percent of Nepal's population.</p>  <p>and its Ncell more network than 60</p>
26-27 Feb.	<p><i>Peace Conference at Lumbini</i></p> <p>(anyone interested i attending please contact PP Ajay)</p> 

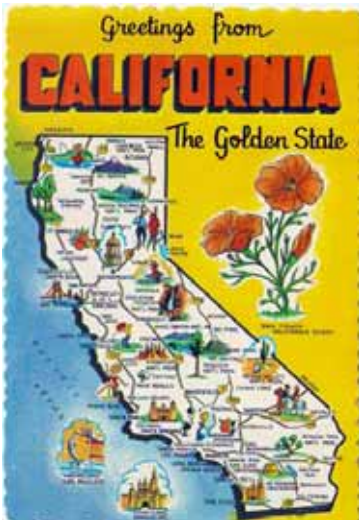
27 Feb.	<p>Major Health Camp in Nawalparasi – in collaboration with RC ATHINA LYCAVITTOS from Greece. Anyone interested in joining please contact VP Alex. or Rtn. Pabitra.</p> 
5 March	<p><i>Tibetan New Year - Losar</i></p> <p>Losar, the Tibetan word for New Year, is composed of two characters: Lo, which means "year"; and Sar, which means "new". The celebration of Losar can be traced back to Tibet's pre-Buddhist period. At that time, Tibetans were followers of the Bon religion, and held a spiritual ceremony every winter. During the Bon celebrations, people would burn large quantities of incense on a certain day of the year (not on the lunar new year, as it was not in vogue in Tibet at that time) in order to appease local spirits, deities and protectors. When Buddhism arrived in Tibet, the older "heathen" ceremony of Bon was simply incorporated into the Buddhist tradition of Tibet, becoming the Buddhist Losar festival. The Buddhist Losar festival originated during the reign of Pude Gungyal, the ninth King of Tibet.</p> 
8 March	<p><i>Mardi Gras</i> means "Fat Tuesday." Traditionally, it is the last day for Catholics to indulge—and often overindulge—before Ash Wednesday starts the sober weeks of fasting that come with Lent. Formally known as Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras has long been a time of extravagant fun for European Christians. In fact, some people think Mardi Gras celebrations have their source in the wild springtime orgies of the ancient Romans.</p> 
11-13 March	<p>'Gift of Sight' eye camp in Hetauda. This annual eye camp is held with the support of the RC Garden City Singapore. Rotarians and friends interested in attending please contact PP Mani.</p>  
13-24 March	<p>Mega Health Camp Bandipur – Rotarians and friends interested in attending please contact Dr. Lekha.</p>
April 8-11	 <p>Rotary District Conference District 3292 Nepal Theme: Commitment to Serve Venue: Nepal Army Officer's Club, Tundikhel, Kathmandu, NEPAL</p>

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY:

There is no greater mistake than the hasty conclusion that opinions are worthless because they are badly argued.

-Thomas Huxley, biologist and writer (1825-1895)

Last week's speaker



The Charter President of RC Rajdhani **Rajendra B. Shrestha** told of his experiences last year when he headed the GSE Team from Nepal to **RI District 3292-Southern California**. This was a wonderful educational, vocational, cultural, and fun-filled trip. Which took place from April 19 to May 18, 2010. The team



consisted of 4 young Nepali professionals: Dr. Rikesh Tamrakar (sponsored by **RC KTM Mid-Town**), Sarana Shrestha, Prativa Maharjan and Rotaractor Srijan Shrestha.. The team brought back many fond memories of Southern California and especially of the families and the Rotarians they met during their one month long trip. The hospitality was full of warmth mixed with ample amount of wit, humour, and celebration.



Group Study Exchange – what is it?

The Rotary Foundation's Group Study Exchange (GSE) program is a unique cultural and vocational exchange opportunity for businesspeople and professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 who are in the early stages of their careers. The program provides travel grants for teams to exchange visits in paired areas of different countries. For four to six weeks, team members experience the host country's culture and institutions, observe how their vocations are practiced abroad, develop personal and professional relationships, and exchange ideas.

Fellowship



This week Mid-Town was happy to welcome **Prof. Baidiya** of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) (photo below). Prof Baidia is cousin to **Pres. Pratap** and has been a professor of industrial engineering in Rio now for several decades – he was in Nepal on his annual visit to family and friends.



A THOUGHT FOR TODAY:

It is impossible to enjoy idling thoroughly unless one has plenty of work to do. There is no fun in doing nothing when you have nothing to do. Wasting time is merely an occupation then, and a most exhausting one. Idleness, like kisses, to be sweet must be stolen.

-Jerome K. Jerome, humorist and playwright (1859-1927)



NID news

Rotarians, Rotractors and friends joined hands for NID



Our brave Rotractors, headed by **PP Dr. Lekha, PP Anand, and Rtn. Buddha**, were out at Nag Dungha at 5 AM on Saturday February 12th for the 13th Nepal Immunization Day (NID).

The were cold but cheerful as they stopped cars and busses to inquire if there were any cildren on board who needed to be



immunized. At the last count they were immunizing children at the rate of approximately two per minute! For a total of almost **700 immunizations!**

Children in transit are an often forgotten segment of the society when it comes to immunization – Mid-Town can be justly proud of its Hanumans on this day. Congratulations to all who participated.





The parents were most grateful and often profusely thanked the volunteers telling them that they were indeed providing an excellent service for the society.



Our tired but happy volunteers took time out for a tea break at the Tribhuvan Memorial Park – the NID was also a wonderful opportunity to network and to get to know each other. A big congratulations to **PP Dr. Lekha**, **PP Anand** and **Rtn. Buddha** who were coordinators for our Rotaractors.

The grandchild of **PP Dr. Lekha** and **PP Anand** was also vaccinated on this day.





Pres. Pratap and volunteers administers vaccine to young children.

Rtn. Amar took part in NID in Koteswor where his own grandchild was vaccinated and **VP Rtn. Alex** was present at the NID in Surket (photos in next edition of BC?).

Congratulations to everyone who participated.

On the lighter side



How the Google Chrome logo was made

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

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