



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Virtual Meeting

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FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
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UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Feb 23: Malcolm Kennedy Rotary Foundation	Mar 02: Mayor Mike Morden Development in Maple Ridge	Mar 09: Rick Howard Maple Ridge Foundation
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OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING:

President **Clint Callison** presided.

Guest Speaker: Shashaka Vangari (friend of Chili)

About our guest speaker:



Shashanka was born and raised in Hyderabad, India. He graduated from Acharya Nagarjuna University. Hyderabad is the capital of southern India's Telangana state, and is a major center for the technology industry.

(It is also home to many upscale restaurants and shops, and the tallest buddha in the world.)



He moved to Canada in 2002, and to Maple Ridge with his wife and two children in 2018. He likes to travel and taste different cuisines. He is also active in sports, including cricket, badminton, table tennis and volleyball. While in India and here in Canada, he has been an active community volunteer and fundraiser for various charities.

Shashanka's career

Shashanka has worked for several Pharma companies over the years, and currently for Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc. which is an American pharmaceutical company based in Boston best known for its development of Soliris [a drug to treat a rare life-threatening disease of the blood]. The company is also involved in immune system research related to autoimmune diseases.

His job description is "GxP Compliance, Inspection Readiness & Management".

[GxP is an acronym that refers to the regulations and guidelines applicable to life sciences organizations that make food and medical products such as drugs, medical devices, and medical software applications. GxP is a collection of quality guidelines and regulations created to ensure that bio/pharmaceutical products are safe, meet their intended use, and adhere to quality processes during manufacturing, control, storage, and distribution.]

In other words, he says, his main job is to make sure that in the manufacturing of pharmaceutical products, they are in regulatory compliance and meet the quality requirements of the various jurisdictions where they are marketed. This also includes making sure that the products are safe and that their characteristics are properly disclosed. In the development of pharmaceutical products, it also means giving advice on what is the next step in the process of having them tested and marketed. The companies he works for is heavily involved in cancer research, and his main focus presently is on oncology that deals with prostate cancer, and renal cancer.

When asked whether cancer research is coming close to finding a cure, he answered in the negative, saying that there are many variants of cancer which are always changing; and while there are pharmaceutical products that help, there is no cure on the horizon.

Happy and Sad:

Mark Forster said he has lots of rum cake, and any of us can come by his house for some. [He also offered a couple of bucks to help **Eric** with his "Boris Johnson" hair cut.]



Eric said he would take up Mark's offer [about the rum cake, not the hair makeover].

Ineke Boekhorst (who with **Peter** helped deliver Valentine gift bags to seniors) said the seniors were very appreciative of them. **Debbie McRae** as well as **Sharon Kyle** and her granddaughter **Mackenzie** also helped with this project which involved a number of community organizations. The project got front page coverage in the local News, which read in part:

Community groups from all over Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows are banding together to show local seniors they are loved this Valentine's Day. The Seniors Network, Community Services, Salvation Army, the Meadow Ridge Rotary club, and more have joined forces to put together gift bags, and hand-made gift cards for 400 seniors who need a little bit of extra TLC on the holiday of love.

Clint thanked **Adrienne** for her work in putting on the virtual Valentine party on Sunday February 14.

Libby [who apparently enjoyed some wine at the fun fest and came up with this week's quote for the day] was happy she didn't have a headache on Monday.



" THIS IS A MERLOT...I DISTINCTLY ASKED FOR A CABERNET SAUVIGNON! "

Announcements:

Duck Race: Ineke reminded all members to help find sponsors for this year's duck race online 50-50, and to contact either her or Bonnie Telep of the Haney Rotary Club with the names.

Rotaract Online Bingo - February 26 at 7:30 PM - only \$10 – watch for an email with contact particulars. Help support the Rotaract Club!

Today's Quote:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson