

Tung Feng

VOL. 49 No.7

29th Aug 2001

What Happened Last Week

President Stephen welcomed all to the 6th General Meeting of this Rotary, and extended a warm welcome to Assistant District Governor, Peter Tse. Rtn. Tony Lui also invited Rtn Rudy to introduce his guest, Heron Chan.

President Stephen welcomed back PP. Long John Kwok from his travels. Rtn Ates sang a belated birthday song for Long John.

President Stephen then announced that he would be in Japan next week to put his son into University. He would use the opportunity to visit our sister club, Osaka-Jonan.

President Stephen announced that next year's RYLA camp would take place in Feb next year. Each Rotary Club in the District could nominate 2-4 people from 17-25 years old. He encouraged members to see who would be suitable from amongst their relatives. Rtn Kishu also endorsed this as a top programme for youngsters.

President Stephen announced that the District Foundation seminar would take place on 8th Sept from 9:00 a.m. He encouraged all new members and office-bearers to attend. The Club would pay for registration fees and the lunch places.

President Stephen clarified the guideline that if a Typhoon No 8 signal was hoisted up to 9:00 a.m. on a General Meeting day, all Club members could safely assume that the meeting was cancelled.

Rtn Kishu introduced the speaker, Ms Jamie Cheung, from the HK Institute of Education. Ms. Cheung gave a talk on Physical Education at Tertiary Level in HK. She described the HKIE mission for sports development as promoting:



THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

香港東區扶輪社週報

Club 4350

District 3450

Chartered on 6 April, 1954 by Charter President PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

- * physical wellness
- * physical health of staff/students
- * sense of belonging

She also introduced us to the sports facilities of the HKIE, and described the steps used to promote the use of sports facilities.

Rtn Kishu pointed to the better results achieved at international level by China, and asked why the HKSAR was poor in sports in comparison. Ms. Cheung pointed out that HK students were under heavy academic pressure, and that potential athletes had no career path to follow.

President Elect Chris Howe thanked the speaker in the traditional manner.

The Sgt.at Arms report revealed a collection of \$2,030 HK and attendance by 20 members.

President Stephen concluded the meeting with a toast to Rotary International coupled with TST East.

Rotary Information

"We either grow or begin to die," President King tells RI conference

Rotary International President Richard "Rick" D. King's first presidential conference of the year played to an enthused capacity crowd of 541 Rotarians from 76 districts and provided a strong boost to Rotary's Global Quest, the ambitious membership growth campaign launched in July. At the end of the 10-12 August meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Rotarians left the Hilton Toronto committed to specific membership goals for their districts, with targeted net increases ranging from 4 percent to 49 percent.

If all 54 districts that set goals at the conference succeed, the result would be a total membership increase of more than 18,000 Rotarians, a 13 percent hike over their current combined membership. And if the same growth rate is applied to all 103 districts within the conference's "catchment area" — roughly, eastern Canada and the United States east of the Mississippi River — the total net gain would approach 30,000 members.

President King minced no words in describing the seriousness of the membership issue during his opening keynote address. "I believe the organization is at a critical crossroads," he said. "Over the last 12 years, 1.3 million people have left Rotary. We like to think that we were gaining membership every year, with the exception of three recent years in a row, but the truth of the matter is that we've been losing members from existing Rotary clubs for a dozen years. And but for those few new clubs (chartered) every year, we would be in a very sorry state, like many organizations similar to Rotary. And so we either have to do something about it, or we will begin to die."

Committee explores strategies to attract young members into clubs

During a two-day meeting at RI World Headquarters, Evanston, Illinois, USA, the 2001-02 New Generations Membership Development Committee explored and discussed various strategies to attract young business and professional men and women into the ranks of Rotary. The committee was established to develop a plan of action and approach for the recruitment of younger members into clubs.

"Joining Rotary is life-altering," said Jared Brown, who works in commercial development in Clearwater, Florida, USA, and currently is the local administrative leader for the 42 clubs and 2,042 members in the Clearwater area. "I think Rotary has so much to offer for my generation as well as the next." Commenting on the widely held view that young people are not interested in joining service clubs such as Rotary, Susanne Wetzel of the Rotaract Club of United Nations, New York, said, "It's not that young people don't want to serve, they just don't know what's available." Originally from Germany, Wetzel explained that in many parts of Europe Rotary club membership is cherished as a status symbol and many young people consequently think that they don't fit the picture of a Rotarian. "[But] Rotary has lots of potential. Rotary should offer lots of different clubs — some with a younger membership, some with an older membership."

"The trick is to figure out how to get someone to give Rotary a chance. All you can do is to challenge them to give it a chance. After a while, they'll realize it's a tremendous organization," said Andrei L. Danileko, a 34-year-old Russian Rotarian, who is founder and president of the non-profit International Fund Russian Farms. "It's critical for people of my age group to get involved. The Global Quest should go on no matter who is president. New membership is part of Rotary's life. Once we reach 1.5 million members, I don't want the priority to shift. RI should never be satisfied by its numbers."

Weighing in on this issue, RI President Richard D. King said, "Worldwide, our membership is growing. We are continuing to look to young business and professional men and women to take roles of leadership in the future. As societies and communities' needs change, Rotary will change to meet those needs."

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

A man went to the police station and asked to speak to the burglar who had broken into his flat the night before.

"You'll get your chance in court," the desk sergeant told him.

"No, no, no!" replied the man. "I want to know how he got into the house without waking my wife. I've been trying to do that for years!"

Here's one for the golfers to be careful of:

Roger and Charlie emerged from the clubhouse to tee off at the first hole, but Roger looked upset.

"Anything the matter?" Charlie asked.

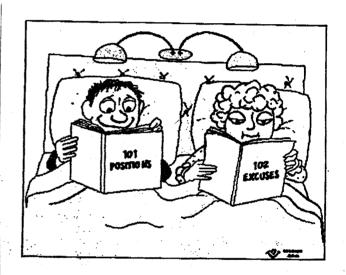
"No, it's just that I can't stand the club pro," Roger replied. "He's just been trying to correct my stance."

"He's only trying to help your game," Charlie said.

"Yes, but I was using the urinal at the time."

A little wisdom:

- Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.
- If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.
- It is easier to get forgiveness than permission.
- If you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip.
- Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.



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Club postal address: P.O. Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong

Club website: http://www.rotary.org.hk/hongkong-island-east

Make-up cards to Club Secretary: Ms Annie Ng

c/-Li, Tang, Chen & Co., 10/F, Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2827 8663 (ext. 176) Fax: (852) 2827 5086

Bulletin Editor: PP Rob Fielding Tel: (852) 2194 6349

Fax: (852) 2194 6701



Ms Jamie Chan of HKIEd speaking on Tertiary Physical Education in HK.



Who are the "handsome" three?



Rtn Ates, PP Andrew and ADG Peter.



PP John, Ms Chan & Pres. Stephen



Rtn Kishu, PP David Li, & PP Desmond.



Rtn Jason, Rtn Malcolm and PE Chris.



Pres. Stephen welcomes the home coming of PP Long John.



Rtn Kishu asks for our nomination of eligible speakers to the program committee.



PP John receives his birthday gift.



Mr Heron Chan (guest of Rtn Rudy) enjoys the company of Rtn Paul Chan.



PP Hubert, Rtn Raymond and Rtn Tony.



Rtn John Yau and Rtn Dennis Killis.