

Last week's Proceedings -

25th August, 2010

President Heman called the meeting on time and invited all members to observe a minute of silence for the eight victims of the Manila hostage tragedy happened on 23 August 2010. He then rang the bell in memory of our PP Cedric Astbury (1971-72) and Mariam Moosdeen, wife of PP Baker Moosdeen (1976-77) whom passed away on 18 August and 22 August 2010 respectively. After that, Pres. Heman extended his warm welcome message to all in particular PP Tim Lui, PP Hubert and Rotarian Kenny Chan.

President Heman then made the following announcements:

- The Intercity Meeting was held successfully on 17th August at Holiday Inn Golden Mile, and over 440 Rotarians and guests attended. Uncle John led the march in of the dignitaries, DG Jason and RI Pres. Ray and Club Presidents. He also received a certificate from RI President for his contributions as Major Donor.
- District Rotary Foundation Seminar will be held on 4 Sept at Regal HK Hotel. It will be a full day program this year. District has invited AG Dr. Josephine Wong, D3480, Taiwan to talk about Matching Grant. Members, especially new members are urged to attend. Please contact our HS Jonathan for registration.
- District Sports Carnival for Children to be held on 25 Sept, the project is led by DGN Kenneth Wong and they are looking for Rotarian to participate such as mending of game booths and cash donation.
- Rotary Information Centre Update meeting was held with the 23 Clubs in July and the result towards further explore the possibility of a new site of RIC is positive. District has prepared a questionnaire for circulation to all members to solicit views from members, and will be distributed shortly. The deadline for return of questionnaire is 30th Sept. Please return to HS Jonathan when completed.
- Thanks to Vocational Service Chair Jason and Rtn. William Wong, our Vocational Visit was held on 21st August, visiting Dialogue-in-the-Dark in Mei Foo followed by a fellowship dinner at Fu Lam Seafood Restaurant. Service Chair Jason was invited to give a briefing on the visit. Please also see the separate report by Jason in the Rotary Potpourri section of this bulletin.
- Sept 3 is our Uncle Peter's Golf Tournament and fellowship dinner. We now have around 20 members and guests participating in the golf game, and close to 30 members and guests in the fellowship dinner gathering. The fellowship dinner gathering will convene at 7pm at CCC, Happy Valley . Please register with PE Eric if you have not done so already.
- Community Base Rotaract Club of the Rotary Club of HK Island East has been re-activated with four new board members and they have held their first board meeting on 19 August with the support of Pres. Heman, Advisors PP Andy, PE Dr. Eric, PP Rotaract Club HKIE Mimi Lau and Immediate Past Internal VP (Rotaract Club LNU) Kathy Lam. After the board meeting, PE Dr. Eric hosted a Japanese gournet dinner with all the new board members and advisors. Please the photos in this bulletin for their joyful moments.

SAA PP Rudy reported the red box donation of HK\$1,300 and thanked all the contributors.

PP Rudy then formally introduced the luncheon speaker - Mr. Charles Lam as his long time friend, when both of them served in the HK Shue Yan University mentorship programme. Charles is an MBA and CFA by professional training, who started his real estate investment career from SHKP in the early 1992, then joining a few international investment firms such as AIG before he ventured into the China investment market, from Ping An Insurance. Currently Charles runs the North Asia Operation for Pramerica real estate investment - as an investment arm for the Prudential America

- Pramerica Real Estate Investors ("Pramerica") was the real estate investment management business of Prudential Financial, Inc. of the United States, managing US\$25 billions gross assets in their head offices, although a U.S. company, major funds are from Europe and Germany.
- Pramerica started investing in Asia since 1994, and now managing funds investing in the major markets of Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, China, and India. They have more than 70 associates operating in offices in Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo, with gross assets under management in Asia of US\$6.7 billion as of March 31, 2010. Their largest portfolio is both in Japan and Singapore, over US\$2 billions individually, and the rest spread over a few new developing countries. The business opportunity is of course rising from the emerging market such as from China, Pramerica had a plan for their Beijing office soon.
- His topic was "Life after a market crash in 2007 from a fund manager perspective":
- Threat when Charles just signed a buy-sell contract agreement for Nanjing investment project in late 2007, then the world went into a chaos, after AIG, Bear Stearns and many more competitors being bailed out or merged into other financial institutions. The future outlook was uncertainty.
- Adjustment when the fund managers still received a bonus for their past performance (before the crash) yet they were asked to tighten their belt and trimmed down the head counts in view of the rainy days in Year 2008. The travel expenses and the wine and dine were more scaled down accordingly.
- Gearing Up when the investment market situation was tough, the funds managers were active in the business conferences in 2008 and 2009, to do more networking, meeting both client investors and industry practitioners to do scouting for investment opportunities, they needed to see and to be seen.
- Performance Pramerica Asia had more than 50% source of funds from Germany and Europe, their investment projects in 2010 were mostly in Asia. To provide the IRR for 10% and more, many future investment projects would be from the emerging markets, notably in China and in those economies which would be more resilient and likely to lead recovery in the Asian region.
- Mr. Lam also shared the Porter's Five Forces and the past 5 years' trend of the industry competition i.e. Foreign vs Domestic and he ends his presentation with his motto "Impossible is nothing".

After a few round of questions and answers, Pres. Heman presented a souvenir to Mr. Charles Lam and PP Laurence made a note of thanks to our speaker in our usual Rotary manner. Pres. Heman then announced that our speaker for next week would be our member, Mr. William Wong who will conduct a Vocational talk.

There being no other business, the luncheon meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm and Pres. Heman proposed a toast to RI coupled with Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East. All participants were invited for a group photo.

Rotary Potpourri

Sakuji Tanaka is the Choice of RI President (2012-2013)

Sakuji Tanaka, a member of the Rotary Club of Yashio, Saitama, Japan, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2012-13. Tanaka will become the president-nominee on 1-October if there are no challenging candidates.

Currently a trustee of The Rotary Foundation, Tanaka chaired the 2009 Birmingham Convention Committee. His other service to Rotary includes RI director, regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, district governor and member of the Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force, the Permanent Fund Committee for Japan and the Future Vision Committee.

Tanaka established an endowed Rotary Peace Fellowship, and he and his wife, Kyoko, are Paul Harris Fellows, Benefactors of the Permanent Fund and Major donors. He is a recipient of RI's Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Distinguished Service Award.

Tanaka and Kyoko have three children and five grandchildren.

On 21st of August, 18 of us from The Rotary Club and Rotaract Club of HKIE, families and guests visited the Dialogue in the Dark exhibition in Mei Foo, Kowloon.

Arranged by Dialogue in the Dark (DID), a social enterprise founded in Germany, the exhibition was no ordinary event. The exhibition was conducted in completely darkened rooms. Aided by a walking cane and led by the ever-helpful visually impaired guide, participants spent 75 minutes walking through the exhibition, living the life of a blind temporary.

Our guide became the sighted, and the sighted became the blind. We strolled through a park, took a ferry ride, shopped at a local market, went to the movie theatre and ate at a café. We were taught how to confront with everyday situations, like finding a trash can in a park, locating a bench in a park, crossing a street or buying a drink at the store.

We felt completely helpless without the benefit of sight. Fortunately, our guide gave us a sense of orientation and taught us how to appreciate our environments with our other senses. By placing ourselves in the care of our guide, we began to question our assumptions and prejudices of those who are often assumed to be weak.

The exhibition changed our mindsets of disability. For many of us, Dialogue-in-the-Dark was not only a pitch-black exhibition that lasted for 75 minutes, it was a life-enriching training of diversity of a lifetime.

After the visit, President Heman, Vocational Chair Jason and the participants held a sharing session with DID's representatives, Matt and CK.

Matt, a sporty looking young man who had lost 80% of his eyesight, related some of his experiences when growing up visually impaired, e.g. how he initially took his deteriorating eyesight for granted, how his teenage friends would made fun of him and how he found ways to deal with the bad feelings by actively participating in sports.

While the DID exhibition helped us understand some of the issues/problems the visually-impaired would have to deal with in their daily lives, Matt's real life story truly inspired us to take good care of our eyes and to think positively when facing adversity.

Following the visit, a fellowship dinner was organized in Fu Lam Restaurant where we were joined by Dir Kevin, his wife and daughter.

District Rotaract Advisor's Forum was held on August 28, 2010

PE Eric and Dir Anthony attended the District Rotaract Advisor's Forum. During the Forum, DR Chair PP Wendy Mung expressed her warm welcome to all participants and expressed that the Forum was to enhance the communication between District and all Advisors.

New Generations Committee Chair PDG Peter Wong revealed that he would like to see the expansion of community base Rotaract Clubs could further recruited more members to nurture the future leaders for the society.

Advisors PDG Tony Wong reminded all advisors to be alert to remind their Rotaract Club must be registered as Society under the Hong Kong Law and provided Insurance to cover their events. In addition, the protection of youth such as sex harassment must be strictly complied with as zero tolerance policy was applied to this issue.

During the sharing period, PE Eric announced the reactivation of community based Rotaract Club under Hong Kong Island East so that the LNU Rotaract Club members have the option to join back Mother Club's community base Rotaract Club to further serve the community.

Electronic Make-up Questions

Name:
Email:
1. A minute of silence was held at the start of meeting for what purpose $\ensuremath{\text{?}}$ Ans)
2. The Bell was rung at the start of meeting in memory of whom $\ ?$ $\mbox{Ans})$
3. Who were welcomed back by Pres. Heman ? Ans)
4. How many participants have attended the Intercity Meeting held on 17th August ? $\ensuremath{Ans}\xspace)$
5. What was the Red Box Collection today and who was our SAA $$? Ans)
6. When will our Uncle Peter Golf Tornament be held this year ? Ans)
7. Who was our speaker for the luncheon meeting today and what was the topic $\ ?$ Ans)
8. Our likely RI President for the year 2012-2013 is coming from which Rotary Club ? Ans)
Submit
_

Joke

Subject: Bar Joke

Two men, one American and an Indian were sitting in a bar drinking shot after shot.

The Indian man said to the American, 'You know my parents are forcing me to get married to this so called homely girl from a village whom I haven't even met once.' We call this arranged marriage. I don't want to marry a woman whom I don't love... I told them that openly and now have a hell lot of family problems.'

The American said, talking about love marriages... I'll tell you my story. I married a widow whom I deeply loved and dated for 3 years. 'After a couple of years, my father fell in love with my step-daughter and married her, so my father became my son-in-law and I became my father's father-in-law.

Legally now my daughter is my mother and my wife my grandmother. More problems occurred when I had a son. My son is my father's brother and so he is my uncle. Situations turned worse when my father had a son. Now my father's son, my brother is my grandson. Ultimately, I have become my own grand father and I am my own grandson.. And you say you have family problems...

Photographs of our meeting

on

25th August, 2010

25 August, 2010 Luncheon Meeting Photos



PDG Uncle Peter Hall, Guest speaker - Charles Lam & Pres. Heman Lam



PE Dr. Eric Chin, Rtn. Tony Loy & PP Uncle John Kwok



PP Andy Wong, Dir Kevin Leung & Rtn. Kenny Chan



Rtn. Teresa Ho, PP Laurence Chan & PP Rudy Law



PP Eddy Wong & Rtn. William Wong



Dir. Jason Chiu & PP Eddy Wong



Dir Jason Chiu reported the Vocational visit to Dialogue in the Dark



PE Dr. Eric reported the first Rotaract Club board meeting held successfully



PP Rudy Law introduced the guest speaker





Guest speaker Charles Lam gave us a talk about "Life after an economic crash in the World"



to thank Mr. Charles Lam



Pres. Heman Lam presented a photo in action PP Laurence Chan gave a vote of thanks to the speaker



Group photos with members & guest speaker



(L to R) PDG Tong Wong, PP Wendy Mung, PDG Peter Wong and PE Dr. Eric Chin at the Rotaractor Advisor Forum



Pres. Heman Lam & PE Eric Chin



PE Eric Chin chaired the first Rotaract Club of HKIE new board meeting





Dinner photos with all the board members and guest. (L to R) PP Andy Wong, PE Eric Chin, Pres. Heman Lam, Guest - Mimi Lau, Kathy Ng from Rotaract Club of LNU, Hon. Sec. Suki Yan, PE Sophia Zou, Pres. Knox Tang & Hon. Trea. Angus Yiu



Vocational visit to the Dialogue In the Dark



Group dinner at Fu Lam Restaurant in Mei Foo

previous home

