WEEKLY BULLETIN VOL. 47 No.10 8th Sept., 1999

Act with
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Credibility
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YEAR 1999-2000

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Our 46th Year of Rotary Service Chartered: 6th April, 1954 by Founding President, the late PDG (Uncle) John Yuen



What Happened Last Week

President Desmond opened the meeting by extending a special welcome to visiting Rotarians, IPDG Anthony Hung, PP Lesley Soltay, and PP Peter Tse.

PP Tim then took charge of introducing and welcoming the other visitor and guests:

PP Lee Fatt Shcon (Brunei)

Ian Hasel

George Von Kriegsheim Ron Banks Rosalyn Kong

There were two very important birthday celebrations this week: PDG Uncle Peter and PP Edwin. They chose PP David Li to lead the singing. The only mishap to the celebrations was that President Desmond forgot to bring along their presents, so they got an IOU instead.

PDG Uncle Peter gave the only announcement for this meeting. He said that he'd attended an Intracity meeting last Friday which was devoted to the issue of declining membership in the District. DG Dipo had invited a past Director of RI, Richard King to address the meeting, given its importance. One of the themes he spoke about was "Who Touched You?" which refers to the sponsor who introduced each of us to Rotary. Many of us may forget who was the President of the Club in the year we were inducted, but we never forget who proposed us. Richard King therefore urged all existing Rotarians to 'touch' others who are our friends and colleagues, and give them the opportunity to join and share Rotary.

To recruit new members is not the only duty of the President or the Chairman of the Membership Committee, but it is the duty of each and every member, especially those who have not yet done so. It is never too late, so let us all start now and bring in friends to show them what Rotary is all about.

Richard King also listed 20 reasons for joining Rotary and requested all in attendance to tick five of these they thought were most important. This was his list:

Friendship

Personal growth and development

Citizenship in the community

Fun

Citizenship in the world

Entertainment

Family programs

Development of ethics

Prestige

Absence of "official creed"

Business development

Leadership development

Continuing education

Development of public speaking skills

Assistance when travelling Development of social skills

Vocational skills

Cultural awareness

Nice people

The opportunity to serve

After Uncle Peter's address, Sgt Lewis informed members that there were 20 members present at this meeting and \$1,200 had been donated.

The speaker for this week was Rtn Rudy who addressed members on the leadership role taken by our Club in providing assistance to the victims of the earthquake in Turkey. Rudy provided a brief history and some facts about the Rotary organization in Turkey, and it appears that there are now about 190 clubs in that country. He said that the recent earthquake measured 7.4 on the Richter Scale and it had devastating consequences because it was centred in densely populated areas. The city of Golchuk, one hour's drive from Istanbul, suffered heavily. It has been estimated that one third of GDP has been destroyed and about 20 million people have lost loved ones and their homes. He illustrated some of the destruction using Over Head Transparencies.

Rudy reported that HKIE, in consultation with Rtn Ates, has taken a leadership role in this District in a very practical way by shipping much needed shelter to Turkey. This has taken the form of 500 tents and 1000 mattresses to make life a little more liveable for those who are homeless. Due acknowledgment should go to Cathay Pacific which transported the items free of charge; and to HACTL which waived charges for processing at the airport. Of the \$131,000 donated by our Club members so far, \$107,500 has been spent. [Great credit should be given to Rudy and the other few members of our Club who have been chiefly responsible for these donations and the work in organizing the purchase and despatch of the relief supplies; and to IPDG Anthony for his valued coordinating role in the District - Ed.]

To close the meeting, President Desmond proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Brunei.

Rotary Information

Philippines Potarians take school to youth

In keeping with RI's emphasis on literacy, the Rotary Club of Waling-Waling (Davao), Philippines, aids out-of-school youth with our ongoing projects in the Davao City area. The projects target street children, working teens who cannot attend school, and young children of working families.

The Lingap Centre for street children provides boys between the ages of five and 16 a home environment as well as basic education, helping them get started in a view life. Assistance from District 2790, Chiba, Japan, enables the seven-year-old project to accept about 40 children from the streets each year. More than 1,000 have been served so far. In 1996, the Rotary club established a modest library for the students.

Another project, the Slum Improvement Resettlement (SIR), has a functional literacy program for youth betwen the ages of 13 and 21 who cannot attend school because they have jobs. Classes held on Sundays allow them to continue their education. Rotarians meet fees for tuition and materials of the 40 to 50 students a year. The Philippines Department of Education, Culture, and Sports contributes teachers and expertise in legal matters. The project is entering its eighth year of operation.

The high school scholarship project is an extension of the SIR functional literacy program. To qualify, students must exhibit leadership skills, good moral character, and high grades. Last year's program produced three high school scholars.

The latest literacy project is a day-care centre for the children of working parents in the Tibungco Resettlement Area. The Japan Rotarians joined in for this project as well, funding construction for the building that serves as the centre, and the Waling-Waling (Davao) club pays staff salaries. Support for this newest undertaking comes from the city mayor's office, which has granted all the required permits as well as referrals for assistance from other local government units.

The Waling-Waling (Davao) club's functional literacy programs "will continue for as long as necessary to provide the youth a better chance of attaining the desired changes in their lives," said Rotarian Giovanna McKay. "Hopefully some will rise, some will succeed, and some will become highly productive members of their society."

Rotary Information

Interactors inspire others to walk for children

After two years of successful fundraising, the Interact Club of National Experimental High School (NEHS) in Taiwan isn't content to rest on its laurels. The club's annual walkathon held at the school has collected more than US\$35,000 for the Centre for Mentally Challenged Children, and the enthusiastic Interactors have pledged to continue the special event every year.

The main objective of the walkathon was to increase awareness of the needs of mentally challenged children. As its popularity grew, however, the walk earned notoriety inside and outside NEHS, helping Interactors recruit new members and secure donations. Participants now range from students, teachers, and parents to interested members of the community.

The walkathon takes place on a carefully marked track on school grounds. The track features rest stops every 850 feet (250 meters) where walkers can break for water and soft drinks. Trying to beat their distance from the previous year, some participants made it as far as 14 miles (23 kilometers) during the walkathon's two-hour time limit.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Hsinchu Northwest, Interactors organized the entire fundraiser by themselves, including publicity, marking the route, and using the school's public-address system to play music during the walk.



LAZIGS FOR 75E WEEK:

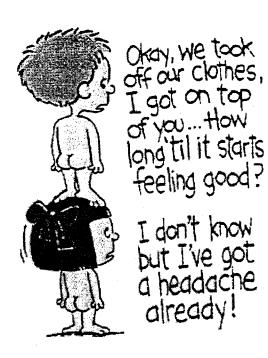
A woman and a man are involved in a car accident; it's a bad one. Both their cars are totally demolished but amazingly, neither of them are hurt. After they crawl out of their cars, the woman says, "So you're a man, that's interesting. I'm a woman. Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but fortunately we are unhurt. This must he a sign from God that we should meet and be friends and live together in peace for the rest of our days."

Flattered, the man replied, "Oh yes, I agree with you completely!"

"This must be a sign from God!" the woman continued, "and look at this, here's another miracle. My car is completely demolished but this bottle of wine didn't break. Surely God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune." Then she hands the bottle to the man. The man nods his head in agreement, opens it, drinks half the bottle and then hands it back to the woman. The woman takes the bottle, immediately puts the cork back in , and hands it back to the man.

The man asks, "Aren't you having any?"

The woman replies, "No, I think I'll just wait for the police ..."



Club's postal address : P.O. Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, HK Make-up cards to : Miss Elsa Li, Rm 1021 Sun Hung Kai Centre, 30 Harbour Road, Hong Kong. Fax : (852) 2827 5086 Bulletin Materials to Rtn Rob Fielding Fax (852) 2774 5067

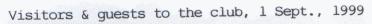
Vol.47 No.10 8/9/1999 Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East meet each Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in Excelsior Hotel. Club 4350 - District 3450 of Rotary International



Rtn Rudy reports on HKIE contributions to earthquake relief in Turkey



PP Edwin keeps company with visitor, PP Lee Fatt Shoon (Brunei)









PDG Uncle Peter: "I won't let Pres. Desmond forget he didn't give me a birthday present".



PP David Li congratulates the birthday boys PP Edwin & PDG Uncle Peter

PP John, IPDG Anthony, PDG Uncle Peter & RTN Rudy present HKIE relief to the Consul General for Turkey Hon. Tarik Yalvac



Earth Quake in Turkey (1)

Wreckage of houses in the epicentre of the massive 7.4 Likert-scale Turkey earth quake.

