#### WEEKLY BULLETIN VOL. 47 No.11 15th Sept., 1999

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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 visitor, PP Rand Hillier from RC Pollsbo, Washington, U.S.A.

He was followed by Rtn Stephen who welcomed the other visitors: Lim Yew Keng (Petaling Jaya, Malaysia) John Lees (Hong Kong) Solomon Lee (Kowloon East)

There was only one exchange of banners: PP Rand Hillier from Washington exchanged his club's banner for one from HKIE.

It was then time for the birthday boys and PP John Luk and Rtn Stephen stepped forward to receive their congratulations (and gift) from President Desmond. This was followed by presentations of IOU gifts to PDG Uncle Peter and PP Edwin who missed out last week.

PE Tajwar then reminded members of the dinner to be held the following evening at the Hong Kong Golf Club, Deepwater Bay. This would begin with a game of golf for the President's Cup, followed by a meeting of Directors, then a Club Assembly, and finally the dinner.

President Desmond made a second announcement to inform members that this was the last meeting for Rtn Robin Hearder who is retiring to Sydney in Australia. Robin said that he would be continuing his involvement in Rotary in Sydney and would be doing the rounds of clubs there to see which one fitted his tastes. He also said that he was honoured to be a member of HKIE because he found members to be particularly accepting and friendly. Because he has a son working in Hong Kong, he will be returning regularly and will make-up at this Club. In appreciation of the good times he enjoyed with this Club, Robin presented President Desmond with a cheque for the Club's Turkey disaster fund.

Sergeant Paul next informed members that \$1,570 had been donated to the Club and 26 members were present for the meeting.

IPP C.Y. chose to give some facts about District 3450 membership figures as his Rotary information this week. For Hong Kong and Macau, the membership situation is now becoming alarming. The following statistics illustrate the position:

YEAR	District 3450 Clubs Members		HK Area Clubs Members		Macau Area Clubs Members	
1995-96	43	1816	38	1676	5	140
1996-97	46	1930	41	1767	5	163
1997-98	47	1939	42	1779	5	160
1998-99	48	1911	42	1734	6	177
1999-00	48	1731	42	1584	6	147

It is apparent that the District membership numbers have been in negative growth for a couple of years and this requires urgent attention to turn it around.

DG Dipo has set a very modest goal this year: a net gain in membership of 5% (including chartering one new club). PDG Vincent To, however, is much more ambitious. As Rotary approaches the Millennium, he aims for 2,000 members in District 3450 so that, instead of being "a Y2K bug", we can be proud to call ourselves "the M2K Team."

President Desmond made one final announcement: He attended a Rotaract Academy at the Baptist University during the last weekend. He said it was a stimulating experience and Rotarians can learn much from these young people.

Finally, Rtn Malcolm introduced the speaker for the day: Mr. Lars Petersen, Sales Manager of the Porsche Centre in Hong Kong. Mr. Petersen began by providing some interesting statistics on motor vehicles in Hong Kong: There were 22,500 new car registrations in HK in 1999 and a total of 499,399 cars on the road here. As far as Porsche is concerned, there is one Porsche for every kilometre of road in HK. [So, how many are there? Ed.]

Mr. Petersen showed a variety of slides of the various models over the years, followed by a short video made to advertise this renowned vehicle. He claimed that the prices range from \$688,000 to \$2 million and invited members to come and have a test drive at any time. This offer was rejected by Flicker unless a luscious blonde was thrown in too.

Mr. Petersen was thanked by Rtn Chris Howe for his interesting illustration of the mystique of Porsche.

To close the meeting, President Desmond proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Pollsbo, U.S.A.

# Rotary Information



#### Rotaractors respond to disaster in Turkey

Rotaractors near and far have mobilized in an effort to help in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Turkey. While Turkish Rotaractors have taken an active role in communciations and distributing needed supplies, a U.S. club has organized an effort to collect badly needed goods for shipment to the area as soon as possible.

"All of the Turkish Rotaractors are working very hard," wrote Mehmet Onarcan, national chairperson of the Turkish Rotaract Multidistrict Organization, in an e-mail message distributed to Rotaractors worldwide. Onarcan said that Rotaractors have been busy collecting supplies and distributing them in areas ravaged by the earthquake.

Turkish Rotaractors have also been called upon to help publicize the Rotary effort around the world.

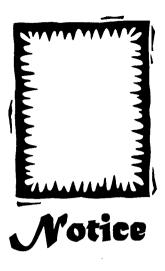
"We have been given an important role by Turkish Rotary's Disaster Relief Committee," Onarcan said. "We are primarily responsible for all the communications on the Internet, so the Rotarians will be distributing the news, messages, helps lists, or other information via us."

In the United States, the Rotaract Club at the United Nations, New York, New York, has been collecting donated goods at drop-off sites in the nearby New Jersey cities of Bayonne and Hoboken. According to Alisa Applegate, task force leader of the club's disaster-relief effort, the call for clothing and other items elicited a quick, enthusiastic response.

"Hundreds of local businesses and individuals are gladly displaying informational flyers and helping with donations," Applegate said. "The Bayonne and Hoboken communities are responding in force, and people are happy to have a way to help after this disaster."

#### Rotary world welcomes 162° country

With the chartering of the 27-member Rotary Club of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on August 31, the number of countries with Rotary clubs has risen to 162. The Rotary clubs of Friedrichshafen, Germany, and Albertville-Conflans, France, co-sponsored the new club, whose membership takes pride in being multiethnic and multireligious.



#### **UPDATED:**

Team's attendance records for the week of the  $1^{st}$  September. They are:

Team	Team Leader	Ratio	<u>%</u>	Month of Aug 99	M/Ups
1	Hubert Chan	2/7	29	60.71	3
2	Peter Hall	2/7	29	67.86	5
3	John Kwok	4/7	57	53.57	0
4	David Li	5/8	63	34.38	2
5	Kishu Narain	3/8	36	40.63	0
4	Taiwar Shadikhan	3/7	43	57.14	0

This is the end of the month performance in August 1999. You will note that the two teams who made the minimum are 1 & 2. Do you know why? BECAUSE these two teams have make-ups of 3 and 5 times which brought their attendance up to the minimum. So now you see the importance of making up your missed attendance.

### LAZIGE FOR THE WEEK:

A vampire bat came flapping in from the night covered in fresh blood and parked himself on the ceiling of the cave to get some sleep. Very soon, al the other bats smelled the blood and began hassling him about where he got the blood. He told them all to piss off and let him get some sleep.

They still kept hassling him, persisting on finding out where he got the blood until finally he gave in. "Okay, follow me, you annoying bastards," he said, and flew out of the cave with hundreds of bats in hot pursuit. Down through the valley they went, across a river and into a forest of trees. Finally, he slowed down and all the other bats excitedly milled around him

"Now, do you see that tree over there?" he asked.

"Yes, Yes, Yes!!" the bats all screamed in a frenzy.

"Good," said the first bat, "Because I bloody didn't!!"



On a recent visit to John Kwok's home, this is what I found.

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

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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

## President's Report

Dear Members,

I am sorry to have skipped last month's report because I was too busy workwise.

I shall now bring you up-to-date with various matters.

At the  $2^{nd}$  board meeting on  $5^{th}$  August 1999, most of our club's donation for this year have been approved. The board has also approved a donation of HK\$3,000.00 for "Hong Kong Our Home Youth Jamboree" and HK\$5,000.00 towards RYLA leadership training program.

Regarding the Turkish Disaster relief effort, Rtn Rudy has already up-dated you at one of our regular meeting. I would like to thank Rudy in particular for the tremendous efforts he has put in to co-ordinate the delivery of the tents. No doubt, Ates will give us a report when he comes back.

Uncle Peter, PP John Kwok, VP Stephen and myself attended the Membership Development Intercity Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> August. The key speaker was Mr. King (nicknamed "King Kong") who sang, joked and talked on the serious topic of Membership development.

On Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> September, I attended the Rotaract Academy (at Baptist College organized at Rotaract Club of HKIE. It was a function designed to inform Rotaract members of what a Rotaract Club was about. Our Rotarian Joseph was one of the key speakers, so was a rotarian Roberto from Macau. In between the speeches, there were games designed to increase one's knowledge of Rotaract as well as fellowship amongst the participants. To be honest, I have not had such fun for a very long time and it was a revelation to me as to what is lacking in our club.

"FUN" is what we are lacking. Without it, only the die-hards will attend, membership will continue to fall and whatever meaningful projects we are still doing will have to be dropped due to lack of support from members. I have raised this point at our Club Assembly on 9/9/99. The general reservation would appear to be that as we are a club of diverse racial and cultural background and age spectrum, it would be hard to devise a function which will be fun for all.

No matter how hard it is, we must find ways to make our regular meetings and fellowship functions more FUN.

I am asking you, dear members, for your ideas as to how we can make our regular meetings and fellowship functions more enjoyable to you. As fun is inversely proportional to level of responsibility, the younger members of your family may give you some good ideas.

Please fax me your reply to 28104923 or e-mail it to me at "desmond@wicheung.com.hk" before 4/10/1999.



Speaker, Mr. Lars Petersen: "I'm German-I've not heard of that word 'discount'"



Pres. Desmond making amends: 100 birthday gifts to PP Edwin & PDG Uncle Peter





Pres. Desmond presents birthday gifts to Rtn Stephen & PP John



Pres. Desmond bids farewell to Rtn Robin Hearder

Vistors to the Club, 8 Sept., 1999



Exchange of banners with P.P. Rand Hiller (Washington, USA)







The happy crowd at the HKIE dinner, 9-9-99

Spouses who kept a keen eyes on their partners at the HKIE dinner

The HKIE golfing elite: Contestants for the President's cup



