

# WELCOME

## **DG JONES**

## **TO OUR CLUB**

**ON 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2003** 

What Happened at Our meeting on 3rd September, 2003

Acting Pres. Rudy opened the meeting by welcoming Rtn Benny Ratnani from Rotary Club of HK Northeast. He then asked PP John to introduce his guest Ms. Chan Kit Mui who will help us to upgrade our Web Site.

Next PP J.L. made an appeal for support for the Opera Hong Kong Inauguration Fundraising Gala Concert. They are going to present a debut concert at the Lyric Theater, Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts to celebrate its inauguration. The date will be 18 October, 2003. The Chairman of the Opera Hong Kong is PDG Moses Cheng. The internationally acclaimed Hong Kong tenor, Warren Mok, and a group of arts and culture enthusiasts founded this organization. PP J.L. then presented to us an appeal letter and sponsorship form from PDG Moses appealing for sponsorship of this concert.

Then the Acting Sergeant-At-Arms's report was made by from PP Li who announced a very lucky amount collected of \$1,300 which included the birthday boys PDG Uncle Peter & PP Stephen's donations. Well done PP Li.

#### Club Assembly

Acting Pres. Rudy started the Club Assembly by asking International director Laurence to report on their activities. Director Laurence reported that our sister dub Osaka Jonan has sent us some details about the RI Convention to be held there from 21st -25th May, 2004. He will distribute more information through our web site in the near future.

Acting Pres Rudy then announce communication have already been received from two of our sister club regarding our 50th Anniversary celebration namely Westwood Village & Makati North. He hopes to receive further response from the other clubs soon.

Next Rtn Heron gave a report on the Vocational Service. He said one project they are working on and it is about the Victoria Park School for the Deaf. He reported that this school would be closed in about two years time. But the committee is working on trying to change the structure of this school because there is less and less need for this specialized school and the government will not support it any more. So the committee is trying to get support from other organizations such as HKEDS to join in to extend the life of the school.

PP John then reported on Club Service. He talked about attendance of the club. It was not good. There are three members whose attendance is zero. He talked to one member and he said he wanted to quit the club. But PP John persuaded him to think not quitting and he reply that he will think about it further. The other two will be contacted later to find out what is the problem. He then reported that there is good news also. We have six or seven members who are 100 per centers. He congratulated them for a job well done and encouraged them to keep it up.

Next, he brought up the problem of membership and asked what the problem was. The suggestions after spirited discussions where the following:

- (1) PP Andrew publicity for our significant projects. Let's get some press coverage of our 50th anniversary, projects & pass achievement out to the general public.
- (2) PP Tim membership. He suggested getting 15-20 new members to revitalize the club. Personally he plans to bring one member in. (We suggest to get PP Tim to head the membership drive / campaign) Can we ask other members to match his action? PE Rudy volunteers to get one new member as well.
- (3) PP J.L. social activities. He suggested VP Robert to organize a joke night, dean & dirty before September or October. In all he suggested more small social activities to get more members to participate on a more personal level.

(4) PP Li - cultivate small core group for member activities. Can we formalize a few sub-committees; and get members to join in - with target dates / deliverables.

- · 50th anniversary project + centennial project + Rotaract club summer visit to Zhaoxing school (under PP Hubert + Jason + Andy)
- · Souvenir programme + April celebration (under Rudy + VP Robert)
- RI convention + Osaka Jonan visit + Rotary Foundation / PHF recruitment (PP Stephen + Eddy)
- · Web site improvement in 3 phases Sept / Dec /April (under PP John + Laurence)
- · VPSD + vocational caring project (Paul Chan + Heron)
- · New Member drive (PP Tim + PP Li)

Clark made a very good suggestion to form groups of our club members to strengthen our induction process. After we invite a prospective member we never follow up with a good plan to get them into our club.

PE Rudy then told us that next week's program would be the DG Visit & encourage all members to attend. He then closed the meeting by proposing a toast to RI International coupled with the Rotary clubs of Kew Garden & HK North East.

#### **Rotary Information**

#### **Rotary World Peace Scholars**

At our Roary Foundation Seminar held on 30th August 2003, we touched on the above subject. Below is a piece of news clippings from the Rotary World which is worth repeating.

Each of the 70 individuals who will study at the Rotary Centers for International Studies in peach and conflict resolution during 2003-2005 has a good reason for studying international relations and peachmaking. Among this second class of Rotary World Peace Scholars with particularly persuasive motives are Shakeel Ahmed and Jihan Anastas., from the conflict areas of Kashmir and the West Bank, repectively.

Shakeel Ahmed grew up without his father, who was separated from the family for 40 years after the 1947 partition of India and division of Kashmir. Today, Ahmed is a professor of Kashmir studies at his alma mater, Punjab University in Lahore, Pakistan. He has also helped p-rovide social services to Kashmiris affected by the ongoing turmoil.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lahore Cosmopolitan (District 3279), Ahmed will study in Duke University's International Development Policy program at the Rotary Center at Duke University-University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, U.S.A. He writes that his fervent goal is to contribute to "an amicable solution" to the conflict in Kashmir, "Where countless women and children keep getting separated from finally units."

Palestinian Jihan Anastas, who studied interior design in France, has operated her own design firm in her native Bethlehem since 1998. She says her real passion is to help design a "just and durable solution" to the Palestinian-Isreali conflict. "Sooner or later, all conflicts must be resolved at the negotiating table," she affirms.

Anastas has gained experience since 1997 as a municipal councilor in Bethlehem. The first women named by the Palestinian Authority to fill such a post, she started a nursery school and has promoted the status of working women. Sponsored by District 1680 (France), she will hone her skills at the Rotary Center at the University of Bradford, England.

Selected in a world-competitive process, the second class of Rotary World Peace Scholars comes from 30 countries, including, for the first time, Belarus, Estonia and Kyrgyzstan. Forty percent of the scholars hail from low-income countries. Two-thirds are women.

#### Joke & Cartoon

young Indian guy moves to Montreal and goes to a big department store Looking for a job. The manager asks, "Do you have any sales experience?"

The kid, "Yeah, I was a salesman back home". Well, the manager liked >the young man, so he gave him the job. "You start tomorrow. I'll come down after we close and see how you did, but let me give you a bit of advice. If a customer comes looking, say, for toothpaste, you might suggest for him a toothbrush, or shaving cream etc. you get the idea?"

"Of course, "the young man said.

His first day on the job was rough but he got through it. After the store was locked up, the manager came down. "How many sales did you make today?

The kid says, "One"

The manager groans, "Just one? Our sales people average 20 or 30 sales a day. How much was the sale for?"

The kid says, "\$101,237.64." The manager exclaims, "What? \$ 101,237.64? What did you sell him?"

The kid, "First I sold him a small fish hook. Then I sold him a medium fishhook. Then I sold him a larger fishhook. Then I sold him a new fishing rod. Then I asked him where he was going fishing, and he said down at the coast, so I told him he was going to need a boat, so we went down to the boat department, and I sold him that twin engine Chris Craft. Then he said he didn't think his Honda Civic would pull it, so I took him down to the automotive department and sold him that 4X4 Pajero."

The manager says "You mean a guy came in here to buy a fish hook and you sold him a boat and truck?!"

The kid, "No, no, no, he came in here to buy a box of Kotex for his wife and I said, "Well, since your weekend's already screwed up, you might as well go fishing."



### Photographs of Our Meeting on 3rd September, 2003



Acting Pres. Rudy welcoming the members to our club Assembly. Not asleep but thinking.



PDG Unde Peter & Hon Tres. Clark at the left head table.



At the right head table were PP Li, PP Andrew & PP Tim.



We have two birthday boys today and they were PDG Uncle Peter & PP Stephen here getting their birthday present & being serenaded to by our club's best singer, Signor Pavaratti Luk



(L to R) Rtn Benny Ratnani(HKNE), Rtn. Heron, PP's Stephen, & J.L.



Our new web page designer Ms. Chan Kit Mui in discussion with our web advisor Dir. Laurence.



Two John's pictured here in mutual admiration in the Rotary spirit of course, what were you thinking?



Group Photo of our meeting of 3rd September, 2003 which included our loyal members with PDG Unde Peter,
Acting Pres. Rudy, visiting Rotarians & guest.

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