

## SPECIAL SUPPLIMENT ISSUE

6th September, 2005

## 80th Birthday of PDG Peter Hall

PDG Uncle Peter Hall turned to 80 this September. Our club made a special occasion to celebrate this event by organizing a Birthday Party for a dedicated Rotarian in our District 3450.

The function was held on the 6th September 2005 at the Hong Kong Country Club. The participants were mostly our own members and spouses with a few ex-members and friends, occupying six tables of Chinese cuisine at 12 persons each table.

Promptly, we started the ceremony by a welcome speech conducted by President Eddy Wong, He said "Welcome you all to Uncle Peter Hall's 80th birthday celebration. I am Eddy Wong, President of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East. Thank you for joining us in this joyful event. The warm and respect that all of you hold for Uncle Peter is amply demonstrated on this auspicious occasion, and the entire Hong Kong Island East takes enormous pride in help organizing it."

All of us know Uncle very well. But not all of us have seen pictures of his younger days. Uncle has kindly shared with us the many photos and I now present to you through video presentation.

President Eddy continued to say "Uncle has been a Rotarian for 45 years having joined our club in 1960. Then club president 4 years later. He was District Governor in 1981-82, so a PDG for 23 years. His active participation in Rotary activities is well-known, and this has taken him to all corners of the earth."

That was certainly down Memory Lane. PDG YK Cheng who has been instrumental in organizing this celebration has joined Uncle Peter in the last 23 years of the journey. I will now ask YK to say a few words.

In response, PDG YK addressed the gathering. "Thank you President Eddy, for asking me to say a few words on this auspicious occasion.

We are here to-night because somewhere some place along the line we were each seduced by Uncle Peter Hall to remain in Rotary or even to appear at the 1st tee at 7.00 a.m. on Sundays. We are inspired by his striking universality, and he encouraged us to open our eyes and look at the world differently. He taught us, and he made us wiser, broader, and better Rotarians and persons. Though we were initially attracted to Uncle by his knowledge of Rotary, our continuing admiration of him derives not only from his intellect but by his character. Uncle's devotion to the causes which he has professed to admire is thoroughly matched by his warmth to his family, friends, and fellow Rotarians. He is always available, and 232342 remains the most "frequently dialed" meaning harassed telephone number in District 3450. I, for one, have never known a more devoted mentor.

At Hong Kong Island East, Uncle made everyone feel welcome and appreciated. At a time when punctuality is defines as 1.00 p.m., Uncle is always there by 12.30 p.m., circulating, smiling and engaging those who have arrived, and works at loosening people up. Indeed, his generous spirit reaches out to Rotarians of all ranks.

Uncle's passion for justice, compassion for all things human, and humility in the discharge of his responsibility afford an example to us all. I know that I can speak for every member of our Club that I count it a privilege of my life to have shared Rotary with him.

It was Isaac Newton who said that if I have seen far, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants. This is a very apt comment on how science, and indeed the whole of civilization, is a series of incremental advances, each building on what went before. Starting with Uncle John Yuen, Island East blessed with giants, such that junior Rotarians like myself in the years ensuing are able to rest in the shades of the trees which giants like Uncle Peter had planted. We salute Uncle Peter: thank you for providing us a road map, and for lighting the way.

Almost a year ago, then President Rudy and I were talking about our club's membership. Owing to a decline worldwide, and Island East is of no exception, we were to focus more on each and every member! Not only were we looking at their months and dates of birth, we could now spend time on their years of birth. We are happy that we picked up Uncle's year of birth! We started planning this celebration, and as President Eddy has said, the response from our fellow members has been overwhelming. The interesting thing about Hong Kong Island East is that of our 2 PDGs, one attends every meeting and the other not any meeting. By that I mean it was never easy planning activities behind Uncle's back.

We spoke to Uncle in January this year about the celebration. He was very modest. We did assure him that though \$ and time will invariably be involved, all of this will pale into insignificance when we think of the meaning of this celebration. We are overjoyed that Uncle has since acceded to the prayers of our request, and I am delighted that we are able to congregate here to-night in total conviviality.

Members and friends, thank you for joining us. All that is left for me to say is that I know the Almighty will grant Uncle health and strength to celebrate many more birthdays, with satisfaction to himself, and advantage to whatever he wishes to do.

Happy Birthday, Uncle Peter."

As a tradition, a Birthday cake with 8 lighted candles was ushered in place when PP John Kwok was leading to sing the birthday song both in English and Chinese joined by all present.

Two big longevity buns were ready for presentation to the birthday boy by his grand daughter and grandson. Simultaneously, Uncle Peter was invited to address the audience. His speech is annexed hereunder.

"I am more than happy and honoured to be here for the celebration of my 80th birthday, organized by my club - The Rotary Club of HK Island East, under the supervision of the chief architect PDG YK Cheng with his committee members.

I do not deserve such a great honour, but since it is a two fold occasion, I consider it an excellent idea. Why 2-fold?

Firstly, it is a fellowship and friendship gathering and secondly, it is in line with the Rotary motto of Service Above Self to name a community service project in my name. I shall leave it to IPP Rudy to explain in detail of such an intended project at a later stage.

I am not going to drag on further, as we are having a lengthy programme ahead. I just wish to express my appreciation to the organizer, PDG YK Cheng and his committee members, viz., President Eddy Wong, PP Andrew Chen, PP CY Fu, PP Henry Chan, IPP Rudy Law, PE Paul Chan and Hon. Sec. Andy Wong.

Most important of all, is the participation of each and every one of you which makes this celebration a memorable and successful party.

Once again, I thank you all."

During dinner, entertainment programme was introduced by solo singing started with

Mrs. Teresa Fu (in Chinese) PP John Luk (in English) PDG Moses Cheng (in English).

There were 2 birthday gifts for Uncle Peter presented by PP Andrew Chen and PP Hubert Chan.

Before IPP Rudy explained the Uncle Peter Hall Community Service Fund, another video presentation was shown, exhibiting Peter Hall and the Community Service. IPP Rudy began to illustrate such fund. "As PDG YK has mentioned earlier, the Rotary Club of HK Island East has decided to set up a fund in Uncle's name. This was extremely well received and I am grateful to the Board of Directors for an initial donation to get things going. Past presidents Hubert Chan, Andrew Chen and John Kwok contributed generously at HK\$50,000 each. I am very much overwhelmed this morning when I received the news that Anastasia, Teresa, Isabel and Emily have together generously contributed HK\$80,000 to match with the number "80". Yes, let us give them a big hand. We are ever so grateful.

Support by members and guests are also overwhelming and to-day the Fund has almost reached the HK\$400,000 mark. Let me assure you that the money is thankfully received and it will be faithfully applied.

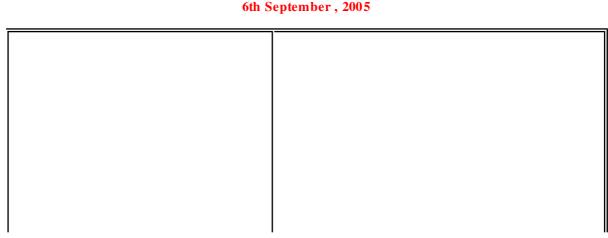
As you all know, identifying a major project or devising the finer details take time. I will certainly keep you all informed of its development.

And while I am holding the microphone, I too would like to congratulate Uncle for a very Happy 80th Birthday.

At around 11.00 p.m., President Eddy wrapped up the celebration by saying "Members and guests, it has been a great evening and I thank you for making it happen in such a memorable way. Many of our members have worked very hard to ensure its success and their names are printed in to-night's menu. And, of course, to all of you for joining us this evening. See you all again at Uncle's 90th birthday."

## Photographs of our meeting

on





Pres. Eddy Opened our Celebration of Uncle Peter's 80th birthday.



PDG Y.K. welcomed everyone to the party.



Uncle Peter thanked everyone who came to the party.



PP's Hubert and Andrew showing the two gift to Uncle Peter while Pres. Eddy looking on.



PP Andrew shown here with a happy Uncle Peter with his four lovely daughters, (L to R) Theresa, Emily, Anastasia, and Isabel.



Another Photo of the happy Uncle Peter with his four daughters and his granddaughter admiring the two Longevity Peaches.



Group Photo of Uncle Peter with his club members on 6th of September, 2005.



Group Photo of all those who were at the party on 6th of September, 2005

## **New Membership Proposal**

In accordance with Article V of our Club Constitution and Article XI of our By-Laws the board has approved the proposal of the following person to be admitted to our Club as Active member



Name: Norman T.L. Lee

Rotary Name: Norman

Classification: Information Technology-Solution Development & Distribution

Nationality: USA

Birthday: 24th September,1961 Wife's Name: Isabel Hall

Employer: Union Cash Register Co., Ltd

Job Title: General Manager

Business Address: Unit 1612, Peninsular Square, 18 Sung On Street, Hunghom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Office Tel: 2333-0101 Office Fax: 2764-1769 Portable: 9425-7203

Email: norman\_lee@ucr.com.hk

Residence Address Flat B, 8/f, Evelyn Towers, 38 Cloud View Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Home Tel: 2561-7313

Home Fax:

Proposer: PDG Peter Hall

If no written objections to the proposal, stating reasons are received by the Board from any members of the Club within seven (7) days from the date hereof, the above proposed member shall be considered duly elected to membership, subject to payment of club fees.

Dated:12 September, 2005

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