



東風



TUNG FENG

香港東區扶輪社週報 THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

Last Week's Proceedings (13th Oct., 2004)

Visiting Rotarians

- Prof. Dr. Martin Puetz of R/C of Bad Bergzabern, Germany
- PP Meggy Tseung of R/C of Peninsula Sunrise

Visiting Guests

- Mrs. Anastasia Puetz, wife of Rtn. Prof. Dr. Puetz,
- Mr. Joseph Ng introduced by President Rudy
- Ms Grace Lo, (guest of our speaker)
- Ms Marcial Aw, recommended by our sister club, Vancouver China Town, Canada

Sergeants-at-Arms - Our red box is richer by a collection of \$540.00 to-day.

Programme for next week - Club Assembly to be chaired by PE Robert Lai.

Highlight of the day

- Director Eddy Wong presented our speaker, Mr. Raymond Tong, who is the legal director of Rockwill HK Limited and had been a practicing solicitor for 18 years. He was admitted as a solicitor by the Supreme Court of Hong Kong in 1985 and subsequently enrolled as a solicitor in England and Wales in 1989. Mr. Tong specializes in corporate/commercial matters, handling mergers, takeovers, asset acquisition and transfer with concentrated practice in conveyancing, estate succession and probate matters. His topic is Planning through the drafting of a valid will.

The Speaker

- Mr. Tong started by asking a simple question but not simple at all. Why make a will? He illustrated the following ten points as logical answers. There are many reasons why it is a good idea to have a Will.

1. I don't want the government or anyone else to decide on my behalf;
2. To save my family expense and delay after I've gone;
3. To make sure my family does not fight or argue over my estate;
4. To appoint a guardian for my children;
5. To make financial provision for my children's education, ongoing maintenance and guardianship;
6. To make provision for my parents or other elderly or handicapped relative in the family;
7. To prevent my home being sold while someone in my family still needs it;
8. To look after my live-in partners;
9. To help others through a legacy to charities and
10. I do not want to think about what happens when I die, but if I do not, others could suffer.

Anybody can draft a Will, but must remember, it requires (2) Two independent witnesses.

My second question is where do you keep the Will? It is important to keep your Will in a safe place and more importantly, your executors should know where it is. In Mr. Tong's company, they safe keep your Will at a storage vault provided by Guardforce Security, a subsidiary of the Chubb Group. You and your executors will each receive a personalized identification card that is bar-coded for easy tracking and retrieval of your Will, as and when you needed it. All Wills are also bar-coded throughout to prevent tampering. You should review your Will every year and after any major life change such as getting married, separated or divorced, having a child or moving house.

When someone dies without a will and friends left behind could suffer financially and from many inconveniences, apart from the grief they have to deal with. In the event of an appointed executor passing away or no longer able to act, the inconveniences could even be greater.

If somebody dies intestate, it often takes an average of 18 months to obtain probate and in some cases, much longer. In the meantime, assets or bank accounts could be frozen. In case where a valid Will which has been written, signed and properly witnessed, normal length could be cut down to only six to eight months.

When someone dies without a Will their estate, all their assets and belongings are distributed according to the laws governing intestacy. The problem is that the distribution may not fulfill their wishes.

For information, Estate Duty is levied at escalating rates contained in Schedules to the Estate Ordinance. The applicable Schedule at present is set out below :

Person dying on or after 1st April 1998

Exceeding	Not Exceeding	Percentage
	HK\$7,500,000	Exempt
HK\$7,500,000	HK\$9,000,000	5%
HK\$9,000,000	HK\$10,500,000	10%
HK\$10,500,000	HK\$10,500,000	15%

Vote of Thanks

- A vote of thanks was given by PE Robert Lai, who, in conclusion, said that "There is a Will, there is a way."

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned in good time with a toast to RI coupled with the name of the Rotary Club of Bad Bergzabern and R/C of Peninsula Sunrise.

Group Photo

- As usual, a group picture was taken with our speaker, visiting Rotarians and guests to be inserted in our club bulletin.

District News

No.1

During the Rotary Foundation month, a 30-minute Foundation Programme Talk in Cantonese will be held at Hotel Miramar, Nathan Road, Kowloon on 8th November 2004 at 6.30 p.m. during the regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Tsuen Wan.

The speaker will be PP Kenneth Chow, chairman of the Annual-Giving Sub-Committee of the District Rotary Foundation.

The cost for meal is HK\$275.00 per person. Please inform PP John Kwok before the 3rd November 2004 in case you wish to participate.

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No.2

District Vocational Service Luncheon Meeting.

Guest Speaker : Mr. Anthony Noeh, SC, J.P.

Topic : High Ethical Standards at Work Places

Date : Thursday, 21st October 2004

Time : Registration - 12.30 p.m.

Meeting - 12.50 p.m.

Venue :

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Harbour Room, 3rd floor /Chater Road
Central, Hong Kong.

Lunch Fees : HK\$300 per head

Note: Due to the popularity of the event, bookings will only be confirmed with payment on a first-come-first-served basis.

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No.3

Rotary Centennial Cup Race.

Rotary's 100th birthday will be on 23rd February 2005. The Happy Valley Racecourse will be specially decorated that evening and the Hong Kong Jockey Club will dedicate one special cup race to commemorate Rotary's Centenary. The host club committee has reserved a special box for Rotarians and their guests.

Date : 23rd (Wednesday) February 2005 from 7.00 p.m.

Venue : 3rd and 4th floors, Happy Valley Stand, Happy Valley Racecourse (exclusively for Rotarians and guests)

Attendance : 400 persons minimum guaranteed

Price : HK\$500 per person with International buffet and unlimited serving of House wine, beers, orange juice and standard soft drinks.

R.I.P.

It is with sorrow to announce the death of Madam Tong Wai Chun, beloved mother of our President Rudy Law, on 15th October 2004 due to illness. Funeral service will be published at later date when finalized.

Members of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East extend to President Rudy their heartfelt condolences and sympathy towards his bereavement.

Photographs of Our Meeting on

13th October, 2004



Mr. Raymond Tong, Dir. of Rockwill HK Ltd, talking to us about the drafting of a valid will.



(L to R) PDG Uncle Peter, Guest speaker Mr. Raymond Tong, & Pres. Rudy.



(L to R) Hon Sec. John Kwok , Prof. Doc. Martin Puetz (Bad Bergzabern, Germany) & his Rotarianne Anastasia .



Prof Dr. Puetz exchanging club Banners with Pres. Rudy.



PE Robert promoting our IPP's Night party.



PP Maggie Tseung (Peninsula Sunrise), "mysterious" member, guest Ms Marcia Aw, PDG Y.K., PE Robert, Mr. Joseph Ng, guest of Pres. Rudy & PP Stephen.



(L to R) Ms Grace Lo , guest of the speaker, Rtn Raymond, PP Tim, Rtn Dr Tony, Unknown guest. & Dir



Eddy.

(L to R) PE Robert, Mr. Joseph Ng, PP Stephen, PP Hubert, & Ms Marcia Aw.



Group Photo of PDG Uncle Peter, Pres. Rudy & visiting Rotarians and guests on 13th October, 2004.

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