



Tung Feng



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18th October 2000

What Happened Last Week

The meeting was opened by President Taj who reported that he and several other HKIE members had just returned from a visit to the Rotary Club of Penang which was celebrating its 70th anniversary. He also advised that they had a good game of golf and he was runner-up, so our members acquitted themselves well.

President Taj then went on to inform members of his present feelings about being their President. He said that, because of the actions of a few, he was not enjoying leading the Club and was contemplating resigning. He had tried to bring in very necessary changes to resurrect the Club and has been opposed all the way. The latest incident over the introduction of a new bulletin cover has brought this to a head.

Rtn Andrew Shek was then invited to introduce the visitors and guest:

- ❖ PDG Moses Cheng (HK North East)
- ❖ PP Pedro Ching (HK Island West)
- ❖ Rtn Frank Weinteid (Kowloon North)
- ❖ Tong Kwan Ho (Stephen Liu)

PP Edwin then rose to address the meeting concerning the current problems. He said that the old bulletin had served this Club well for 47 years, and he himself had participated in its establishment. He said that there was great historical significance in the images used and that these should not be changes for the sake of introducing changes. He welcomed President Taj's decision to return the image of Kung Ming to the cover.

HKIE has been involved as a sponsor for students from the Computer Science Department at CityU, to visit the Singapore Polytechnic to learn more about smart card technology. One of those students, Tong Kwan Ho was a guest of the Club for the meeting to inform members of his activities and to thank us for our generosity in supporting the program.



THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST

香港東區扶輪社週報

Club 4350

District 3450

Chartered on 6 April, 1954 by Charter President
PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

Our guest speaker for the meeting was our own member, Rtn Tony Loy. Tony spoke on the topic of **Genetically Modified Food**.

Currently, the most common genetically modified products are soy beans, cotton, rice, potatoes, tomatoes, tobacco, salmon and goats. After processing, these food sources can find their way into products like bread, icecream, tofu, etc.

Genetic modifications are effected through the introduction of foreign genes into food sources via viral agents. The aim is to improve both the quality and the quantity yield. Some examples are the enhancement of vitamin A in rice to prevent blindness in some impoverished communities; the development of cold-tolerant tomatoes; the creation of salmon which grow faster and to larger sizes, etc.

There are arguments in favour and against genetically modified products. Those for this scientific revolution argue that they have to have US FDA approval; the food is basically the same as before modification; controls are stringent; there are benefits to the feeding of an increasingly impoverished world; and scientists are responsible in bringing about these changes. Countries which give official support to these products are USA, Canada, Argentina and China.

On the other hand, there are those who argue that the quality of the products may be worse; this is not the same as breeding changes as the genetic make-up is changed; there is no information on the long-term risks; there are risks of the genetically modified species leaking into the outside environment; some scientists are motivated more by success and fame, and may not have the interests and safety of people in mind; and there could be adverse effects on religious practices and allergies. The European countries tend to oppose the use of genetically modified products, as do the Green and Environmental Protection groups.

Tony's assessment of the situation: He feels there is an analogy with the development and use of a new drug. It may have initial benefits before detrimental long-term effects are found. Beyond this, there may be a resurgence as the product is used under better controlled conditions. There is probably some wisdom in moving slowly with these products, rather than jumping in and regretting adverse effects later on.

Tony supports compulsory labelling so that potential consumers are aware of the composition of all foods, and they have the right to make a choice. His view is that radical technology such as this must be supervised carefully and be subject to some ethics control and supervision.

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Rtn Tony addresses all the genetically modified members of HKIE.



Sec. Ates & PP's Edwin & Con grace the head table.

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PP Sam looking after PDG Moses, Rtn. Frank Weinstaid & our newest member, Rtn Laurence Chan.



Visitors & guests to the Club, on 11th October, 2000.

VISIT TO THE ROTARY
 CLUB OF PENANG
 ON THE OCCASION OF
 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
 ON OCTOBER 6-9, 2000



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



Welcome dinner was hosted by PDG. Herbert Ho. Front row left to right: PP John Kwok, PDG Herbert Ho, Pres. Taj, Dato PDG William Ng, PDG Peter Hall. Back row left to right, Rtn Willam Lamport, IPP Chuah Ah Bah, unknown, Jonathan Lamport, Dato' Lee Yow Ching, & Dir. Rudy Law.



We had a golf tournament as pictured here with golfers from HKIE & their sister clubs. All together around 25 golfers. Our Pres. Taj made a good showing winning the second highest Stableford points of 32 points. Tell us what handicap they gave you, Pres. Taj --20 ?? **IS THAT THE TRUTH?**



東風



TUNG FENG

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



Their members gathered around their 70th Anniversary birthday cake to share in their joys of the evening.



Our Pres. Taj presenting our gift to their club a gold God of Fortune sitting on a tiger.

LEFT THE CLUB:

Pang Kee Tak (resigned)
Alex Shang (terminated for non-payment of dues)

2000 ROTARY INSTITUTE

RI President, Frank J. Devlin has agreed that the 2000 Rotary Institute for Zones 4(B), 6(B) and 7(B) will be held in Hong Kong from 10-12 November 2000 at the Furama Hotel.

All Rotary members and their spouses are invited to attend.

RI President-Elect, Richard King and RI Past President, Herbert Brown, Chairman of Trustees of the Rotary Foundation, together with their spouses will be in attendance.

The Institute is one of the most important annual get-togethers for RI officers, DGNs and their spouses in our area. It aims to provide Rotary instructions and information as well as to up-date on RI activities.

An Organizing Committee headed by PDG Arthur Au, PDG Peter Hall and PDG Y.K. Cheng has started working in earnest. The Institute program will be thought provoking and lively. Socially, it will offer you an opportunity to meet new friends and renew old acquaintances. (You can view the Institute program on the District website: www.rotary.org.hk)

Our Club will sponsor two official representatives, President Taj and Rtn Chris Howe.

President Taj thanked Tony for his fascinating talk. He then invited the Acting Sergeant, PP Tim to provide the figures for the day: \$800 was donated.

To close the meeting, President Taj proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of HK North East.



Rotary Information

New generations clubs attract young Asians

When time-tested methods of recruiting members failed to attract significant numbers of young professionals and business people into their ranks, some Rotarians in Asia decided to change tack.

They had to grapple with the perception among the younger business generation that Rotary is an exclusive club of rich men who pay stiff membership fees, lunch in 5-star hotels, hold long boring meetings, and play golf for fellowship. Beginning in 1996-97, at the club and district levels, Rotarians in the region began promoting new generations Rotary clubs that accommodate younger Asians' lifestyles.

The idea that Rotary can be relevant to young people and operate inexpensively has found many takers in Taiwan. Many of the 10 new generations Rotary clubs formed there cut costs by holding breakfast meetings in inexpensive hotels and by dispensing with paid staff in favor of doing the office work themselves.

"They render service to the community no less than that of the 'senior' clubs," said Jackson Hsieh, a Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator and past governor of District 3520.

India is another country where new generations clubs have taken off. According to Manoj Desai, a past governor of District 3060, the leadership of former Group Study Exchange participants and of young professionals who have studied or traveled outside India is a major factor in the growth of these clubs.

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

A blond with two red ears went to her doctor.

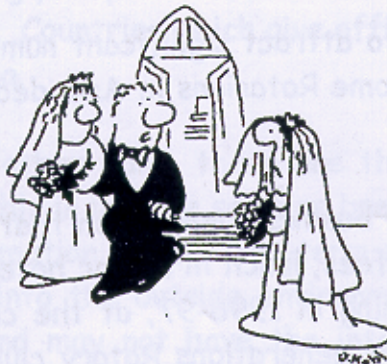
The doctor asked her what had happened to her ears and she answered, "I was ironing a shirt and the phone rang ... but instead of picking up the phone, I accidentally picked up the iron and stuck it to my ear."

"Oh Dear!" the doctor exclaimed in disbelief. "But what happened to your other ear?"

"The son of a bitch called back."

John Kwok's lesson for the week: Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

Here's the second cartoon I promised for the computer geeks:



"Didn't you get my e-mail?"

A police officer pulls over this guy who's been weaving in and out of the lanes. He goes up to the guy's window and says, "Sir, would you please blow into this breathalyser tube."

The guy says, "Sorry, Officer, I can't do that. I am an asthmatic. If I do that, I could have a very bad asthma attack."

"Okay, fine. So, will you come down to the police station to give a blood sample."

"I can't do that either. I am a haemophiliac. If I do that, I'll bleed to death."

"Well, then, we can take a urine sample."

"I'm sorry, Officer, I can't do that either. I am also a diabetic. If I do that, I'll get really low blood sugar."

"All right, then I need you to come out here and walk this white line."

"I can't do that, Officer."

"Why not?"

"Because I'm drunk."

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ROTARY CLUB OF HK ISLAND EAST MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 12: 30 p.m. AT
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